

(No Model.)

A. MILLS.
BELT FASTENER.

No. 525,790.

Patented Sept. 11, 1894.

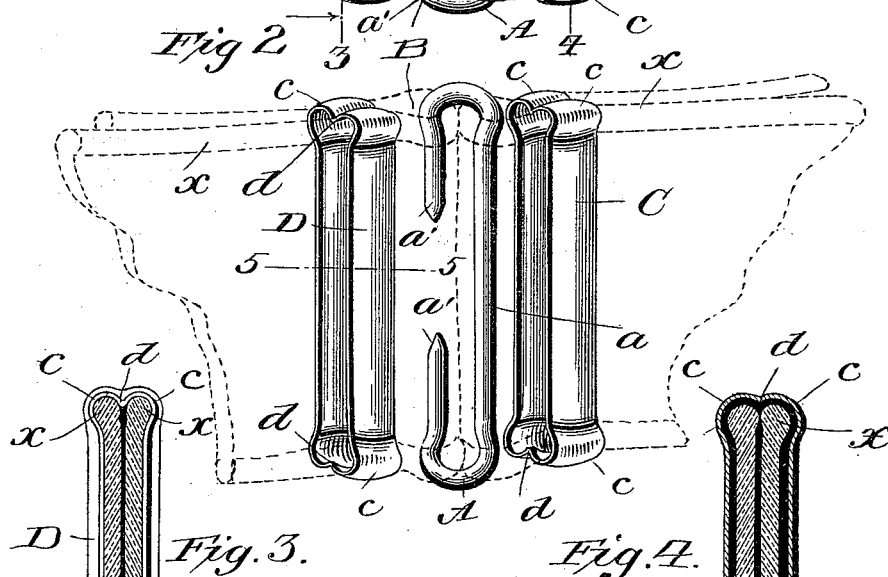
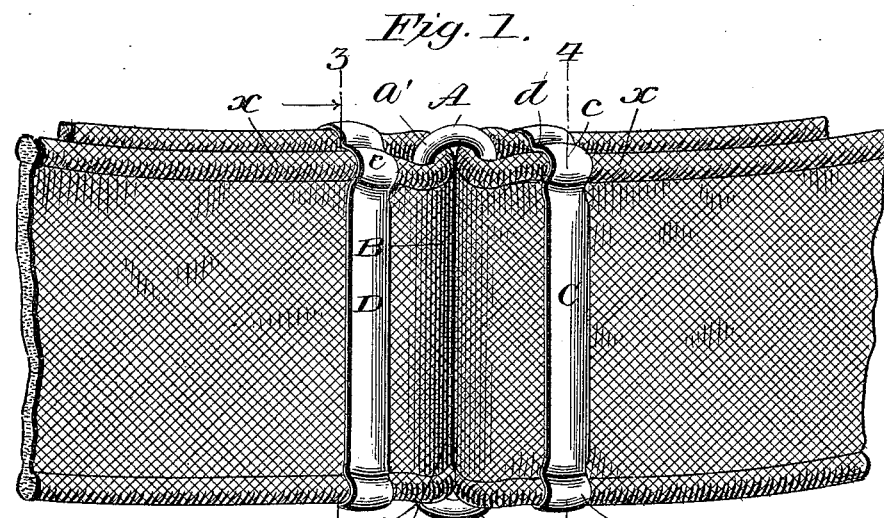


Fig. 5.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANSON MILLS, OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY.

BELT-FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 525,790, dated September 11, 1894.

Application filed July 24, 1894. Serial No. 518,484. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANSON MILLS, of the United States Army, have invented a certain new and Improved Belt-Fastener, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a portion of a cartridge belt provided with my improved fastener. Fig. 2 is a like view of the same skeletonized—the fabric portion of the belt being represented by dotted lines only. Fig. 3 is a section on line 3—3, Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a longitudinal section, and Fig. 5 is a cross section of one of the clasps.

The belt shown in the drawings is that which is known as the Mills woven cartridge belt. The fastener has been devised with more particular reference to its use with that belt but it can of course be applied to and used with belts of other kinds.

The fastener consists of two main parts—the metallic loop A applied to one end of the belt and the pliable pocket B at the other end of the belt. The loop consists of a bar *a* to fasten to the belt, and two legs or prongs *a'*, *a'* one at each end of the bar bent over and toward each other, but of such length that their inner ends do not meet but are separated one from the other by an interval sufficiently great to permit the pocket B to engage and be withdrawn from the legs or prongs through that interval.

The loop A may be attached to the belt in any suitable way. It is conveniently held to the belt by passing the end of the belt about the bar *a* and then providing the metallic clasp C which embraces and can slide upon the two folds of the belt, and thus holds the latter to the loop A.

The pocket B should be made of pliable material, because the structure of the loop A is such that the pocket in being fitted upon or withdrawn from the legs or prongs *a'* must be bent or crumpled up. It is very conveniently formed by folding the end of the belt back upon itself, and then holding together the two parts of the fold by a sliding clasp D, similar to the clasp C. In fastening the

belt, the pocket (its clasp D having been pulled back so as to allow the pocket sufficient pliability) is fitted at one end upon one of the prongs *a'*. It is then bent or folded until its opposite end can be fitted upon the opposite prong *a'*. The pocket then unbends and straightens out, and is held smooth upon both prongs, and the clasp D is then slid up close to the loop A as shown in Fig. 1, so as to bind the pocket upon the prongs or legs *a'*. In this position of the parts the pocket can never get off from the legs. Before that can take place the clasp D must be slid back far enough to allow the pocket to be bent and drawn off from one of the prongs.

The clasps C D are preferably made of sheet metal. To give them the needed stiffness the metal of which they are made is concavo convex in cross section, as seen more plainly in Fig. 5; and in order that they may snugly fit the folds of the belt which they embrace, and hold them at all points they (the clasps) are formed at the ends with enlargements *c* to fit around the selvages *x* of the belt, there being also a central line or indentation *d* in each enlargement corresponding to the dividing line between the two selvages which the enlargement *c* surrounds. This construction of the clasps, assures their even movement upon the folds, while at the same time the latter are held most firmly and tightly in their adjusted position. By the use of these clasps the belt can of course be readily lengthened or shortened as desired, at either end.

Having described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is as follows:

1. A belt fastener comprising a loop A adapted to be secured to one end of the belt, and provided with the inwardly extending prongs or legs *a'*, a pliable pocket B on the opposite end of the belt, to fit upon said prongs *a'* and a sliding clasp D to control the bending or collapsing of the pocket requisite to allow it to be fitted to or withdrawn from the prongs, substantially as hereinbefore set forth.

2. A belt fastener comprising the pliable

pocket B formed by folding upon itself one
end of the belt having selvages *x*, the sliding
clasp D provided with enlargements *c* to fit
said selvages, and the loop A attached to the
5 opposite end of the belt and provided with
the inwardly extending prongs or legs *a'*, sub-
stantially as hereinbefore set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in
presence of two witnesses.

ANSON MILLS.

Witnesses:

MARCELLUS BAILEY,
O. H. FOWLER.