(No Model.)

G. BRINTON.

PANTALOONS STRETCHER.

No. 361,260. Patented Apr. 19, 1887.

Fig. 1.

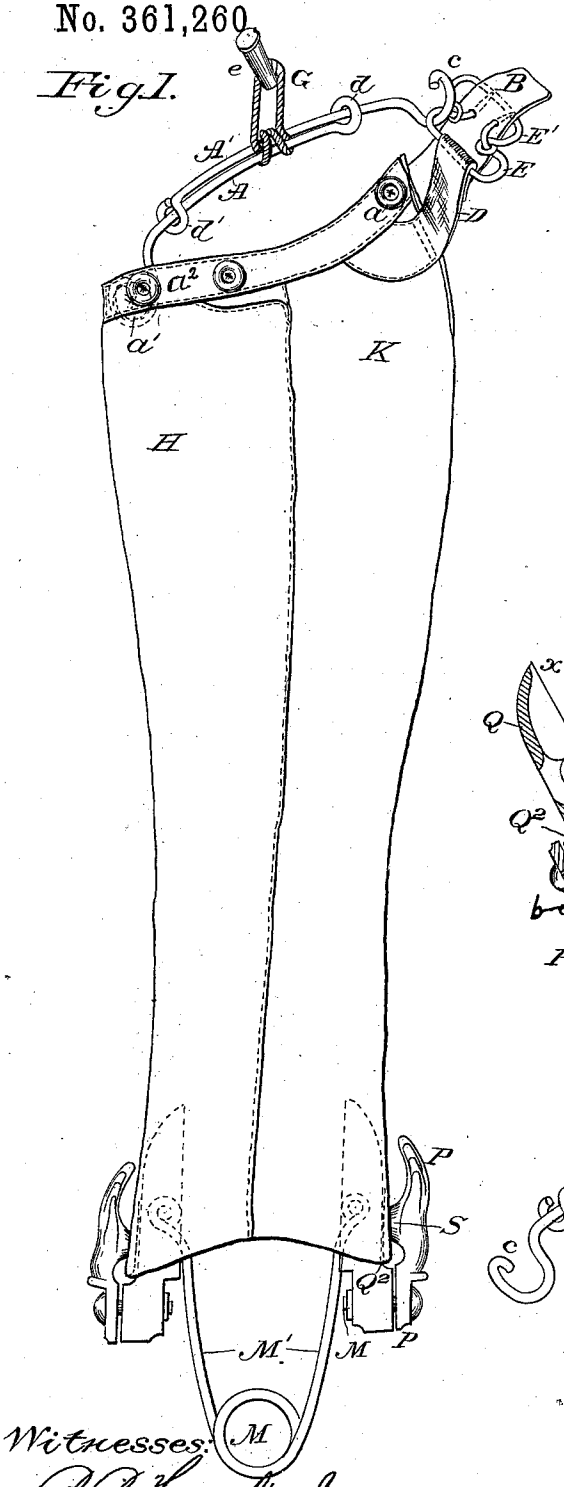


Fig. 2.

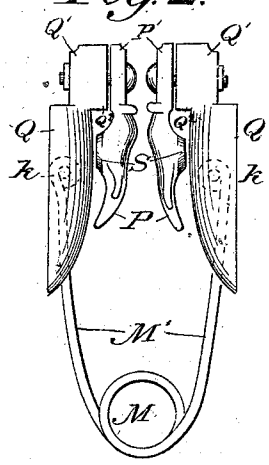


Fig. 3.

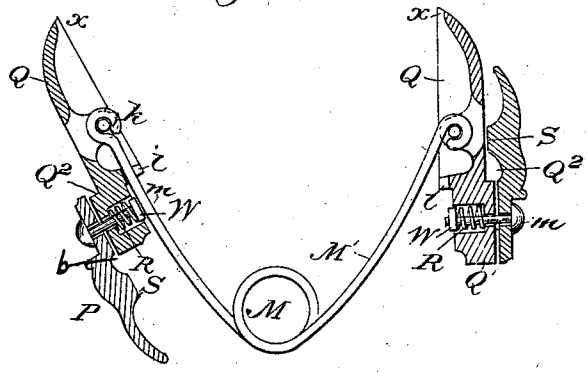
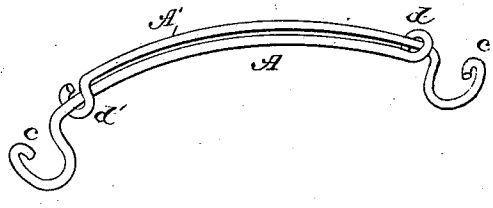


Fig. 4.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE BRINTON, OF HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA.

PANTALOONS-STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 361,260, dated April 19, 1887.

Application filed December 9, 1886. Serial No. 221,147. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE BRINTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Harrisburg, in the county of Dauphin and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Pantaloons-Stretchers and Shape-Restorers, of which the following is a specification.

My invention aims to restore the original shape of the pantaloons-legs below and to remedy bagging at the knees. To effect these results I employ an extensible holder for suspending the garment properly to derive the benefit of weights attached to the legs below to act by the pull-down rightly at the knees to restore their shape.

My said holder distends the pantaloons at the waist, it being a brace that accommodates itself to different sizes of the garment and made of two bars that interlock at all points, the outer end of one bar holding by the front waist-button and the other bar by the buckle-strap, the suspending-cord embracing both bars.

My said weight devices each consists of a spring-bow provided at each extremity with a shaping-block pivoted or hinged to swing upon an axis which is at right angles to the plane of said bow, in combination with a pivoted clamp secured yieldingly upon the outer face of each of said blocks below and adapted to be rotated upon its pivotal bearing for retaining the pantaloons-legs upon said blocks in front and behind by the pinching stress of the clamp. Both the legs being thus weighted, the shape of them will be well restored both below and at the knees, the garment having been previously dampened and allowed to hang until dry, with my said devices applied thereto, the particular features of which will be hereinafter more fully described, reference being had to the following drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my invention applied to a pair of pantaloons suspended by my holder. Fig. 2 is a front view of one of my leg-stretchers folded compactly, as for shipping. Fig. 3 is a vertical section of the same expanded, one of the clamps being reversed relative to the other. Fig. 4 is a front view of my extensible holder.

The same parts are similarly lettered in all the views.

Letters A A′ denote two corresponding round bars formed with the eyes *d d′* at their inner ends, respectively, through and by which the bars are guided upon and interlock with each other, and the outer ends of the bars are formed as oval hooks C, by which one engages the pantaloons inside, right under the front waist-button, *a′*, and the other hook engages the buckle-strap, as shown. After the hooks are thus applied the said bars may be shifted to hold the garment braced from front to rear, and weight added to the garment below tends to keep said arms interlocked at all points. The cord G or other tie inserted between the bars and looped around both serves to add friction, and thus helps to hold them interlocked while they are hung up by the tie on a peg, *e*, as shown.

Each of my pantaloons-leg stretching and shaping devices consists of the spring-bow M, having one or more coils formed at its middle and having its limbs M′ extended, as shown, and attached to the shaping-blocks Q, forming therewith hinge-joints whose axes are at right angles to the plane of the bow. The pintles of the hinges are preferably cast in longitudinal recesses in said blocks, having at the sides of the recesses or slots the lugs or flanges *k*, which serve to guide the movement of said limbs, whose ends are bent to form circular hooks, by which they are joined to said pintles. It is evident that the ends of said limbs may be turned at right angles to the plane of the bow and they inserted in lugs formed on the insides of the blocks as pivots, upon which the blocks may turn as they do upon said pintles. Said blocks are half-oval shells viewed in cross-section, and the rims thereof are notched at *l x*, as shown, to allow said limbs to fold therein compactly for shipping, as shown in Fig. 2.

The lower ends of the blocks Q are formed as outwardly-offset abutments Q′, having upon each a plane bearing outside and a spring-receptacle inside of the abutment. Upon each of said abutments is pivoted the clamp P, formed with a flat wrist adapted to rest upon said bearing and revolve thereon about

its pivotal attaching-bolt *m*, and with a palm or arm adapted to bear against the pantaloons-leg when it is on the block Q, as shown. Said clamp is held to its bearing on the abutment Q yieldingly, to allow said palm to come to its bearing on the cloth without pulling it awry or tearing it, and also to suit different thicknesses of cloth. Said clamp is therefore attached by the pivoting bolt or rivet *m*, inserted through said clamp and abutment so as to take under the nut or washer W on the inner end thereof, the spring R, which is thereby held compressed in a receptacle in said abutment, as shown, thus drawing said palm to its place of duty by elastic tension.

In the act of inserting the leg-stretchers the reversible clamps P are first turned down, as shown on the left of Fig. 3. Then the arms M′ are compressed manually and the blocks Q inserted into the pantaloons-leg up to the offset at the part Q′, and while held in this position with one hand the clamps P are turned up with the other hand and set to pinch the cloth, as desired, by this means attaching the appliance to the said leg. The limbs M′ now being let free, they exert themselves by the spring of the bow and thus stretch the pantaloons-leg from front to rear, the oval form of said blocks at the same time helping to shape it. The weight of the leg-stretching appliances, in combination with my waist-distending holder, already described, serve also to restore the shape at the knees and throughout where bagging is liable to occur.

I do not broadly claim the use of my said holder, for two bars embracing each other through eyes or keepers at their inner ends have before been used; but I am not aware that such bars had their free ends formed into oval hooks and thereby applied to the waist at the front button of a pair of pantaloons and to the buckle-strap of the same for suspending the garment, with special reference to secure the benefit of tension thereon from weights applied to the legs below, as described.

I claim—

1. A spring-bow provided at each extremity with a block pivoted or hinged thereto upon an axis at right angles to the plane of said bow, in combination with a pivoted clamp secured yieldingly upon the outer face of each of said blocks and adapted to be rotated upon its pivotal bearing, for the purpose shown and described.

2. The combination, with the spring-bow M, having the ends of its limbs M′ bent to form eyes arranged in the plane of the bow, of two blocks, Q, each formed with a transversely-arranged hinge-pintle in a longitudinally-flanged recess or slot, and having one of said eyes embracing said pintle and the limb guided by the walls of the recess, and of two clamps, P, each pivoted to the offset-abutment Q′ of said blocks by the bolt or rivet *m*, provided with the part W, bearing on the spring R, whereby the clamp is held against the outside of said abutment by spring-tension and permitted to be rotated thereon, as and for the purposes shown and described.

3. In a pantaloons-stretcher and shape-restorer, an expansible holder adapted at its extremities to engage the waistband about the front button and the buckle-strap near its middle, in combination with two devices applied as weights to the legs of the pantaloons below, each consisting of a spring-bow provided at each extremity with a block hinged thereto to swing upon an axis which is at right angles to the plane of the bow, and of a pivoted clamp secured yieldingly upon the outer face of each of said blocks and adapted to be rotated upon its pivotal bearing for holding the pantaloons-leg between it and said block, as and for the purposes set forth.

GEORGE BRINTON.

In presence of—
D. C. MAURER,
THEOPHILUS WEAVER.