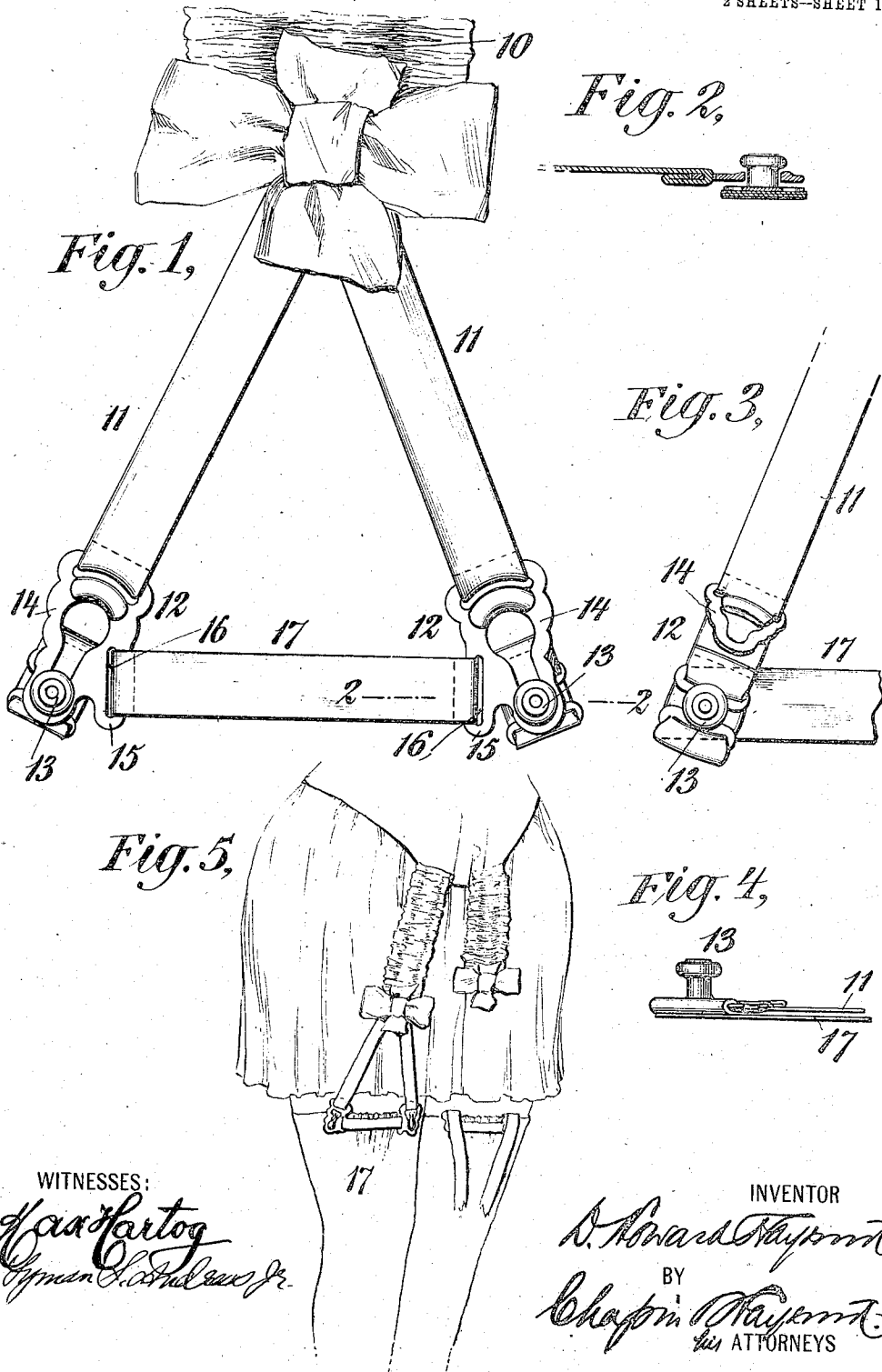


D. H. HAYWOOD.
GARMENT SUPPORTER.
APPLICATION FILED JULY 25, 1908.

942,323.

Patented Dec. 7, 1909.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 6.

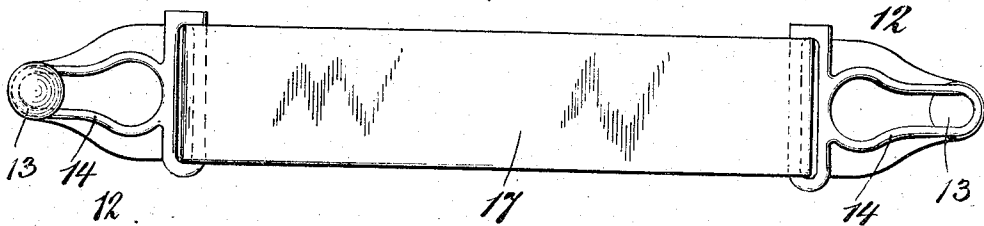


Fig. 7.

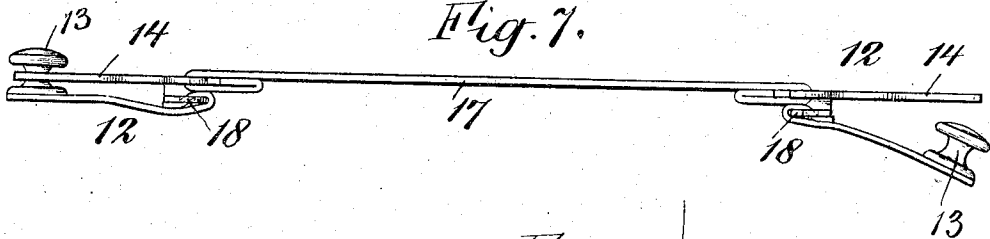


Fig. 8.

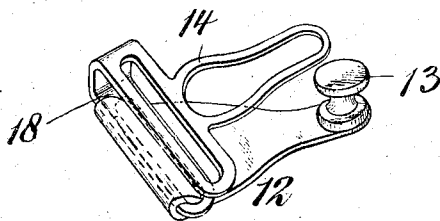
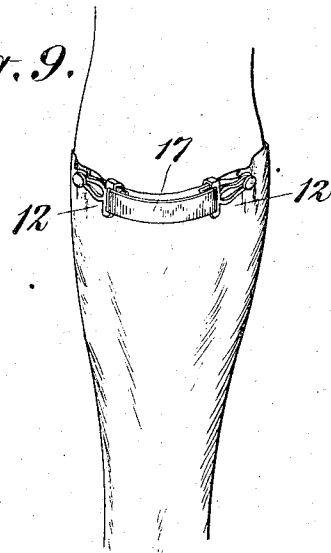


Fig. 9.



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GARMENT-SUPPORTER.

942,323.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DANIEL HOWARD HAYWOOD, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of New York, county of New York, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Garment-Supporters, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part thereof.

My invention relates to improvements in garment supporters, and particularly to improvements in hose supporters.

One of the most popular forms of hose supporters of the present day are those wherein the device is suspended from a belt, or from some other garment,—such as from the lower edge of corsets,—while the lower end thereof terminates in two divergent straps provided with clasps which grasp the upper end of the hose. The body portion of the device, or the divergent straps, or both, are made elastic so as to apply a constant tension tending to pull up the hose and to bear down upon the corset or other garment to which the upper end of the device is attached. There is one serious objection, however, to this style of supporter, popular as it is, and that is the tendency to breakage due to the constant strain which is upon the device. The breakage usually occurs at the junction of the divergent straps of the main body portion of the supporter, though sometimes it happens along the main body portion; but in either case the result is an immediate failure to support the hose, and a tendency at once to drag the hose down, due to the weight of the parts which remain connected to the hose, said parts being now supported only by the clasps upon the upper edge of the hose, and which therefore now hang down from this point. The usual result of a stocking supporter of this kind breaking is the immediate slipping down of the entire hose.

It is one of the objects of my present invention to provide a safety device by which the hose will still be supported even though the aforesaid supporting straps should break, and to this end I provide an elastic connection between the two clasps which engage the upper end of the hose, such elastic connection being arranged to be put under tension when the clasps are applied, and

which will hence serve to act as a garter and support the hose independently of the ordinary supporting device. This elastic member may be connected to the stud elements of the fasteners so as to pass behind the hose, or may be connected to the loop portions of the fasteners and so pass in front of the hose. The latter is the preferred form, because it will tend to press any loop which is formed in the stocking, close against the flesh of the wearer rather than to permit such loop to bulge forward. It will furthermore be understood from the foregoing that the elastic element, with the two clasps, will itself form an efficient garter independently of the suspension straps, so that a second feature of my invention is a garter comprising *per se* an elastic strap and fasteners or clasps at the opposite ends thereof, said fasteners or clasps having means for passing over the edge of the hose, so that one portion of each clasp will be supported at the rear of the hose, and the other at the front thereof.

In order that my invention may be fully understood, I will now proceed to describe certain embodiments thereof, such as are illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and will then point out the novel features in claims.

In the drawings: Figure 1 is a face view of the lower end of a garment supporter, having my improved safety connecting device employed therewith. Fig. 2 is a detail view in transverse section through one of the clasps thereof, the plane of section being taken substantially upon the line 2—2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a detail view of a portion of the supporter showing the safety strap as connected to the stud element of the clasp instead of being connected to the loop element thereof as is shown in Figs. 1 and 2. Fig. 4 is a detail view in side elevation of the stud element and safety strap connected thereto. Fig. 5 is a view illustrating the garment supporter when being worn, the suspension straps of one of the supporters being shown as broken and the hose as retained in position by the safety strap. Fig. 6 is a face view of a garter constructed in accordance with my invention showing it as it may be used independently of the suspension straps. Fig. 7 is an edge view of the same. Fig. 8 is a detail perspective view

of one form of the clasps or fasteners employed, and Fig. 9 is a view showing the garter in use.

Referring first of all to Figs. 1 and 2 the supporter therein shown comprises in general a vertical elastic suspension strap 10, two divergent straps 11, and clasps or fasteners 12 at the end of each of the said divergent straps 11. In general the clasps 12 are of the ordinary type comprising a stud element 13, and a loop element 14, but I have provided the loop element 14 with an extension 15, having a slot 16 therein for receiving the ends of an elastic safety strap 17. The elastic safety strap is connected to the two clasps or fasteners 12 at its opposite ends by being looped into the slot 16 of the extension 15 and secured thereto by sewing in the ordinary way. The method of adjusting the supporter upon the wearer is shown in Fig. 5, the strap 17 being placed under sufficient tension to draw that portion of the hose which extends around the leg at the rear of the points of connection of the garment supporter, taut. The result of this arrangement is that should the suspension elements break, such, for instance, as in the manner shown upon one side in Fig. 5, such tension will be amply sufficient to hold the hose in position.

In Fig. 3 I have shown the safety strap 17 as secured to the stud element 13 of the clasp or fastener 12, in which case the said safety strap will be arranged beneath the hose when the device is adjusted in position instead of the front thereof, as is shown in Fig. 5. The said safety strap will, however, place the same tension upon the hose around the rear of the leg so as to support the hose, as in the manner described in connection with the first mentioned construction.

It will be readily seen that the tension strap, together with the fasteners, forms a complete garter in itself independently of the suspension straps, and can be so used, if desired. In making the device to be so used the loop element of the fasteners may conveniently be arranged in a line with the elastic strap or band 17, and the said loop element may be provided with a lateral extension which is folded over to a position parallel with the base of the loop, as is clearly shown in Fig. 8 of the drawings, the

said folded over portion 18 being arranged to support the flexible connection 19 of the stud element 13. The bending of this lateral extension over to a position parallel to the base forms a U-shaped structure which will readily embrace the edge of the hose, and will hold the stud in a proper position behind the hose to be engaged by the loop element 14.

In Fig. 4 I have shown the garter as employed for supporting a man's hose, the clasps or fasteners being slipped over the edge of the hose so as to laterally embrace the said edge, and the loops and studs then engaged through the garment in the ordinary manner. The proper amount of tension is, of course, placed upon the elastic connection 17, whereby the hose will be properly supported. It will, of course, be understood that this supporter may be equally well applied to the supporting of a lady's hose, and for other garments.

What I claim is:

1. A garment supporter comprising two suspension straps, a fastening device at the end of each said strap, and an elastic connection directly connecting the two said fastening devices.

2. A garment supporter comprising two suspension straps, fastening devices at the ends thereof, each said fastening device comprising a stud arranged to pass to the rear of the garment, and a loop adapted to pass to the front of the garment and to engage the stud through the said garment, and an elastic strap directly connecting the loops of the two said fastening devices.

3. A garment supporter comprising an elastic connecting strap, and fastening devices at the opposite ends thereof, the said fastening devices each comprising a loop which, together with the elastic connecting strap, is arranged to rest upon the face of the garment, a stud arranged to pass to the rear of the said garment and to be engaged by the said loop through the garment, and a lateral connection which connects the loop and stud over the edge of the said garment.

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