T. PAPWORTH.

STOCKING SUPPORTER.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 11, 1907.

901,734.

Patented Oct. 20, 1908.

Fig. 1.

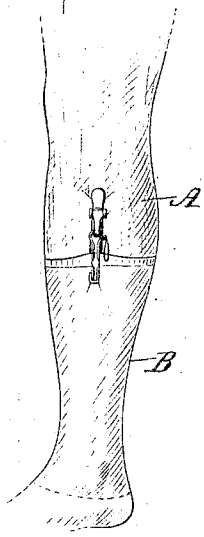


Fig. 2.

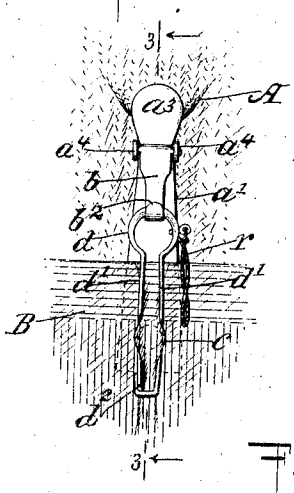


Fig. 3.

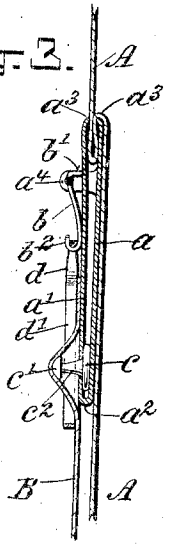


Fig. 4.

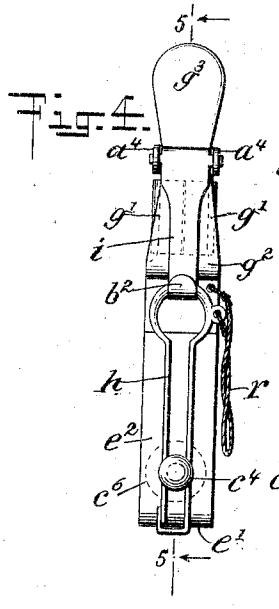


Fig. 5.

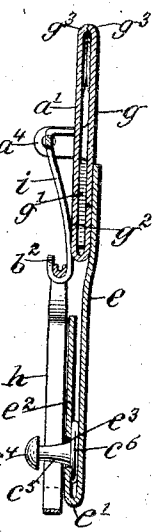


Fig. 6.

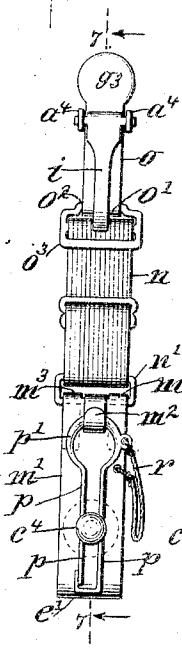
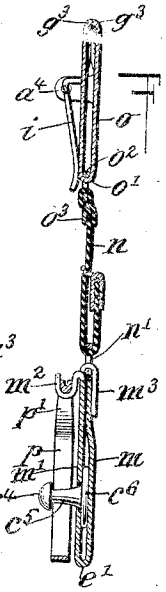


Fig. 7.



WITNESSES

INVENTOR

Thomas Papworth

BY

ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS PAPWORTH, OF PORTLAND, OREGON.

STOCKING-SUPPORTER.

No. 901,734. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 20, 1908.

Application filed September 11, 1907. Serial No. 392,302.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS PAPWORTH, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Portland, in the county of Multnomah and State of Oregon, have invented a new and Improved Stocking-Supporter, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to a class of personal wear, employed for supporting socks or longer stockings stretched taut upon the lower limbs of the wearer; and has for its object to provide novel details of construction for a device of the class indicated, which produce a simple, practical and inexpensive stocking supporter that is comfortable, convenient and reliable in use.

The invention consists in the novel construction and combination of parts, as is hereinafter described and defined in the appended claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a front view of the improvement applied for supporting a stocking from a woven garment on the person of the wearer. Fig. 2 is a similar view to that shown in Fig. 1, enlarged; Fig. 3 is a longitudinal transverse sectional view, substantially on the line 3—3 in Fig. 2; Fig. 4 is an enlarged detached front view of the device showing a slightly changed construction; Fig. 5 is a longitudinal transverse sectional view, substantially on the line 5—5 in Fig. 4; Fig. 6 is a front view showing another modified construction of the improvement, and Fig. 7 is a longitudinal transverse sectional view, substantially on the line 7—7 in Fig. 6.

In the construction of the improvement shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 3, a clasp for gripping fabric is a main feature, comprising two resilient members a and a', formed integral with each other from a flat strip of spring metal, by bending said strip at a^2, and folding said members toward each other.

The free ends of the clasp members a, a' are disposed opposite each other, and bent inward at their transverse edges which are serrated, forming opposed jaws a^3, that are peripherally curved, as shown clearly in Figs. 2 and 3.

Upon the side edges of the clasp member a, near the jaws a^3, two ears a^4, are oppositely formed, that project outward and parallel with each other.

A lever b having a toe b' formed thereon at a suitable angle with regard to the body thereof, is pivoted between the ears a^4, the body of the lever being normally pendent from the ears, and the toe pressed into contact with the clasp member a', thus closing the jaw thereon toward the jaw on the opposite member a.

It may here be explained that the resilience of the clasp members a, a' is such, that if free to do so the jaws a^3 will diverge somewhat from each other, and thus permit the free introduction of fibrous material between said jaws, this divergence being permitted if the lever b is rocked outward sufficiently for the removal of the cam toe b', from contact with the clasp member a'.

Near the return bend a^2 the clasp member a' is perforated, and in said perforation a button-headed stud c is secured, so that the head c' thereon and neck c^2 near it may project beyond the clasp member the stud is mounted upon.

Upon the lower end of the lever b, a hook b^2 is formed that is bent outward and upward.

A locking link is the completing element of this example of my invention, and consists essentially of a strip of resilient metal bent between its ends into open ring form, as shown at d in Figs. 2 and 3.

From the open ring two spaced limbs d' extend, that are normally parallel with each other, and at their ends are connected as shown at d^2, one limb being bent at a right angle toward the other limb and then again bent so as to lap upon the side thereof, said lapped portions being secured together.

In applying the improved hose supporter for service, the jaws a^3 of the clasp members a, a' are engaged with the leg of a pair of drawers A that has been donned by the user of the device, this being effected by first rocking outward the lever b, then introducing a fold of the fibrous material between the jaws a^3 that then are closed by rocking the lever downward as is clearly shown in Figs. 2 and 3.

The locking link that had been detached from the clasp is now engaged with the hose that has been drawn upon the foot of the wearer, by placing an edge portion of said hose B over the head c' and neck c^2 of the

stud c. The head c' along with the engaged portion of the stocking, is passed through the open ring d outwardly and then the locking link is drawn upward, which will cause the neck c^2 and hose material thereon to be gripped by the limbs d' of the locking link, and thus secure said material and the locking link together.

The points of locking engagement had by the clasp-jaws a^3 and stud c with the drawer-leg and stocking, are at such a distance apart that the stocking will be stretched taut if the ring d is hooked upon the hook b^2, this adjustment of the device appearing clearly in Figs. 2 and 3 of the drawings.

In Figs. 4 and 5 a slight change is shown; in this construction an additional detail is provided, consisting of a looped back plate e, that is return-bent at e', thus producing a front member e^2, that is shorter than the back plate. At e^3, near the bend e', is a perforation in the front member e^2, which receives the button-head c^4 and shank c^5 of a locking stud c^6, similar to the stud c. The upper portion of the back plate e is lapped upon the adjacent clasp member g and is thereon secured by flanges or clips g', that are integral with the back plate and are lapped around said clasp member, as is shown by dotted lines in Fig. 4.

The remaining portions of the clasp, consisting of the return-bent forward member g^2 and jaws g^3, are similar to those hereinbefore described, and as shown in Figs. 4 and 5, a locking-link h and cam-lever i, similar to those shown in Figs. 2 and 3, are provided for the modified device, and obviously the application and operation is the same as that of the first described stocking-supporter.

There is no material change in construction of working parts shown in Figs. 6 and 7, as compared with those hereinbefore described as elements represented in Figs. 4 and 5, only a slight alteration being made in the form of the back plate designated by the character m, to adapt it for convenient engagement with an elastic band n. To this end the back plate m is shortened somewhat, and upon the upper end of the front member m' thereof a hook m^2 is formed.

The rear member of the looped back plate m terminates at its upper end opposite the hook m^2, and at each side of the latter a flange m^3 is formed on the front member m' and folded over said upper end of the rear member m.

The elastic band n is doubled, and in the lower bight thereof is held an oblong ring n', that is connected with the back plate m by a loose engagement of the flanges m^3 with one transverse member of the ring, as is indicated in Fig. 7. In the bight o' of the looped lower end of the clasp o, that is similar to the clasp shown in Figs. 4 and 5, a transverse member o^2, of an oblong slide ring o^3 is loosely held, and on a center bar of said slide-ring the bight or upper doubled end of the elastic band n is mounted. The elastic band, by its engagement with the clasp o and back plate m, serves to render the hose-supporter capable of self-adjustment longitudinally, which adapts the same to yield if strain is put upon it by the flexure of the knee of the wearer, said band, when stretched by the pull thereon, contracting to normal length after the leg of the wearer is straightened.

The hook m^2 in this construction of the hose-supporter, receives the open ring p' of a locking link having resilient limbs p that, together with the open ring, produce a locking device, similar to the locking link hereinbefore described.

The locking link that is a leading element of the improved stocking-supporter is preferably connected by a flexible chain or cord r with the clasp or back piece thereon, so that it will be prevented from loss when the device is not in use.

It will be seen that the leading features of novelty had by the improved hose supporter comprise a resilient clasp, a cam lever to close said clasp, a headed locking stud on a portion of the supporter that depends from the clasp, and a locking link having an open ring integral with two spaced resilient limbs that co-act with the locking stud. Furthermore, the invention embodies an elastic band connection between the clasp that grips a garment on the wearer and the means for locking the headed stud upon the leg of a stocking.

Having described my invention, I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent,

1. A stocking supporter, comprising a clasp, a headed stud carried by the clasp, a key-hole shaped link separate from the clasp and adapted to receive the headed stud, and means carried by the clasp for engaging the enlarged upper end of the link to hold it in clamping position on the stud.

2. A stocking supporter, comprising a clasp, a headed stud carried by the clasp, a key-hole shaped link separate from the clasp and adapted to receive the headed stud, and a hook carried by the clasp and with which the enlarged end of the link engages to hold said link in clamping position on the stud.

3. A stocking supporter, comprising a clasp, a headed stud carried by the clasp, a key-hole shaped link separate from the clasp and adapted to receive the headed stud, a hook carried by the clasp and with which the enlarged end of the link engages to hold the link in clamping position on the stud, and a cord or chain connecting the link with the supporter.

4. A stocking supporter, comprising a clasp having a locking lever provided at its end with a hook, a headed stud carried by the clasp and an independent key-hole shaped link adapted to receive the headed

stud and to be engaged with the hook of the lever.

5. A stocking supporter, comprising a clasp having spring members and provided with an operating lever having a hook at its end, one of the jaws being apertured, a headed stud between the members of the clasp and projecting through the apertured member, and an independent key-hole shaped link having resilient members and adapted to receive the headed stud and to be engaged with the hook of the said operating lever.

6. In a stocking supporter, a clasp formed of a resilient plate metal strip bent centrally into two opposed members each having a serrated jaw on its end, ears on one member loosely embracing the other member, a cam lever pivoted between said ears, and having a toe on one end that may be rocked into or out of engagement with the member of the clasp that is between the ears, said lever having a hook on its opposite end, a locking stud carried by the clasp, and a link comprising an open ring and two spaced resilient limbs thereon, which may embrace the locking stud.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

THOMAS PAPWORTH.

Witnesses:
H. W. HOGUE,
F. J. LONERGAN.