

No. 893,064.

PATENTED JULY 14, 1908.

C. H. FERRIS.
ANKLE SUPPORTER.
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 19, 1908.

Fig. 1

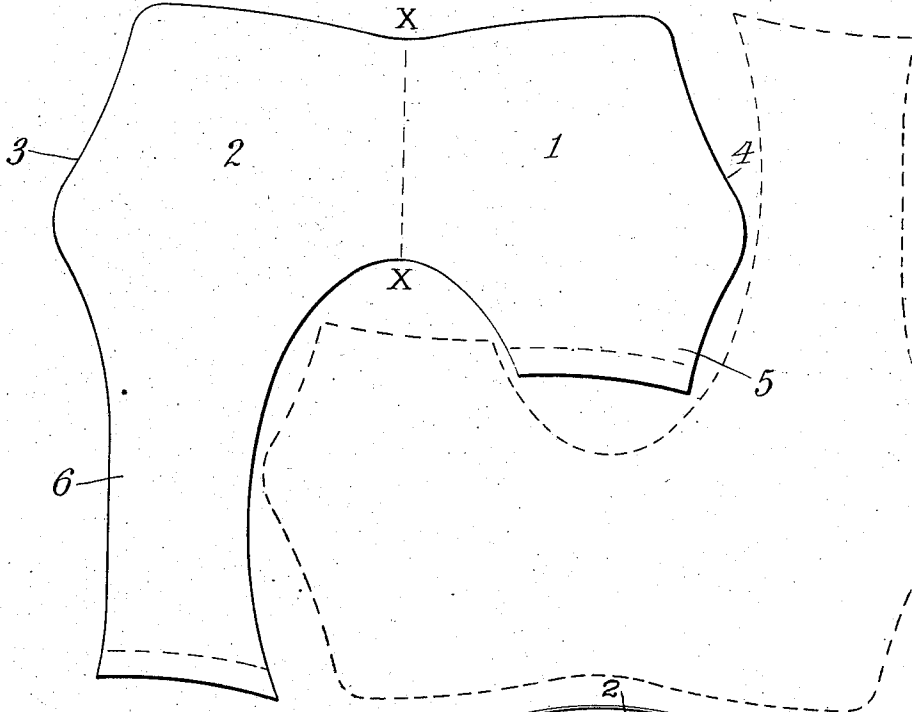


Fig. 2

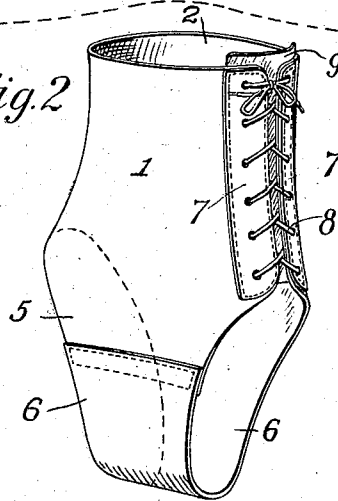
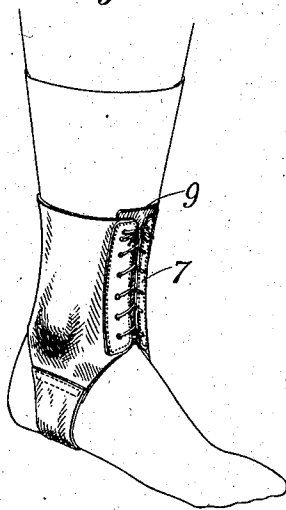


Fig. 3



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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ANKLE-SUPPORTER.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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Application filed March 19, 1908. Serial No. 421,995.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES H. FERRIS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the borough of Brooklyn, county of Kings, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Ankle-Supporters, of which the following is a specification.

The ankle supporter of my present invention has advantages among others as follows: First, it has a single seam located at the side of the foot where it is least likely to cause chafing; second, the seam is likewise located where the supporter is exposed to least tension and wear and consequently the supporter has no tendency to give-way where it is seamed. On the other hand, the supporter is strongest where it is exposed to the greatest tension and wear, which is at the back of the foot. Here the supporter is seamless and consequently has not only the greatest strength, but also is best adapted to prevent chafing of the back of the foot.

In the drawings which show one of the forms which my improved ankle supporter may take, Figure 1 shows in full lines a plan view of a blank from which a supporter within my invention is adapted to be made up, also in dotted lines a similar blank showing how the shape of the blanks especially adapts them to be cut out of the stock in interlocked positions with minimum waste of material; Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the complete supporter; and Fig. 3 is the same shown on a foot.

Describing now my invention with particular reference to the devices illustrated, in the first place, the preferred material for the supporter will be leather, although of course other materials can be used. A blank stamped out in the form shown in Fig. 1 is folded, sewed, and crimped to form the supporter shown in Fig. 2. Thus comparing Figs. 1 and 2 in connection with the following description, the blank is folded on the dotted line $x-x$, along which the supporter is subsequently crimped to conform the back of the supporter to the curve of the back of the ankle or foot. The line $x-x$ divides the blank into two sides, 1 and 2, located respectively at the sides of the foot. The lateral edges 3 and 4 of the blank form the front edges of the completed supporter, adapted to be laced together at the front of the ankle. Depending from the sides 1 and 2 of the blank are legs 5 and 6, one longer

than the other. The end of the longer leg 6 is designed to pass under the arch of the foot and to have its free-end overlap the free end of the shorter leg 5 at the side of the foot, said overlapped extremities being sewed together or otherwise suitably united.

Fig. 3 shows the supporter in its preferred form in place on a foot, and it will be noted that preferably the seam comes between the bottom of the arch of the foot and the protuberance of the ankle bone on the outside of the foot. Thus preferably the supporters are made in rights and lefts, the right supporter having its seam at the outside of the right-foot and the left supporter having its seam at the outside of the left-foot. The reason for preferably locating the seams at the outside of the foot is that here the foot is naturally somewhat hollower than on its inside. However the seams can be located to come at the inside of the foot, because here too the foot is naturally well-adapted to receive the thickened part or seam without chafing.

As already intimated, the back of the supporter is crimped by any preferred means to shape the leather along the line $x-x$ to correspond with the curve of the back of the ankle and the upper heel.

To complete the supporter, combined ornamental and strengthening strips of leather 7 may be sewed to the sides of the blank along their front edges 3 and 4. These strips have eyelet holes through which the lace 8 passes to secure the supporter together at the front of the ankle. A tongue 9 of any usual sort may be provided.

An additional advantage of my present supporter relates to its manufacture, in that the shape of the blanks from which the supporter is adapted to be made permits the blanks to be cut out of the stock with minimum waste of material as indicated in Fig. 1.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. An ankle supporter comprising a strip of material adapted to encircle the ankle with its free ends at the front, said strip at its sides having integrally depending legs, one short and the other long, said legs being secured together at their ends to form a connected loop adapted to be received under the arch of the foot with the joint between the legs located at the side of the foot below the ankle-bone.

2. An ankle supporter comprising a strip

of material adapted to encircle the ankle with
its free ends laced at the front, and a con-
necting loop adapted to be received under
the arch of the foot and permanently con-
5 necting the sides of the ankle-encircling
strip, said ankle-strip and said connecting
loop being seamed together at the side of the
foot below the ankle-bone.

In witness whereof, I have signed my name
to the foregoing specification in the presence 10
of two subscribing witnesses.

CHARLES H. FERRIS.

Witnesses:

T. W. SPRINGMEYER,
JOS. F. O'BRIEN.