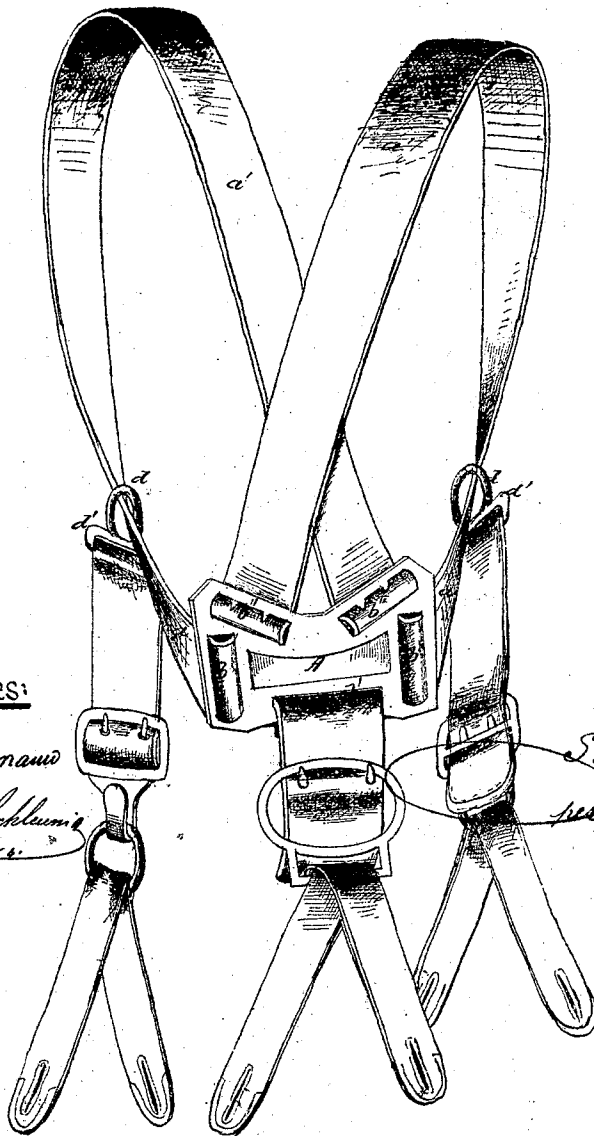


*S. S. Ritter,
Suspender.*

No. 99,478.

Patented Feb. 1, 1870.



Witnesses:

Nicko Hagmann

Fred. K. Schlemm

Inventor:

S. S. Ritter

per Messrs. C. C.

Attorneys.

United States Patent Office.

S. S. RITTER, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

Letters Patent No. 99,478, dated February 1, 1870.

IMPROVEMENT IN SHOULDER-BRACES.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, S. S. RITTER, of the city and county of Philadelphia, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Shoulder-Braces; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, making a part of this specification, in which the drawing is a view in perspective.

This invention consists of various improvements in shoulder-braces, all tending to increase the efficiency of the same, as will hereinafter more fully appear.

In the drawing, the brace is seen as comprising, in one piece of gum-webbing, the back-strap *a a*, and the shoulder-straps *a' a'*, the back-strap being continued under the arm-pits and over the shoulders, and its ends fastened to the upper side of the back-plate.

The shoulder-straps are crossed, as shown, the right strap being fastened in the left loop, and the left strap in the right loop, for the purpose of preventing the back-strap from slipping up toward the neck, in case no rear suspender is used.

The plate *A*, through which the strap *a* passes, is placed at the centre of the latter, so as to come at the middle of the wearer's back. Said plate is provided with end loops *b b*, for the back-strap to pass through,

with a lower loop, *b'*, for the rear attaching-strap *f*, and with two upper loops, *b'' b''*, for fastening the ends of the shoulder-straps. The plate may be of the shape shown, or half round, or oval, or of any other desired form.

The loops *b'' b''* have, in addition to the ordinary cross-bar with which all the loops are provided, teeth *c c*, on the lower side of the upper rail, for the more secure attachment of the shoulder-straps. Similar teeth may be made upon the other loops, if desired.

The front attaching-straps *e e* are connected with the straps *a a*, each, by means of a ring, *d*, and loop *d'*, the former being adapted to slide on the straps.

Having thus described my invention,

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination of the plate *A*, shoulder-straps *a a' a'* front and rear attaching-straps *e e* and *f*, the former being adapted to slide on the shoulder-straps, and the latter attached to the plate, all constructed and arranged to operate substantially as described.

To the above specification of my improvement, I have set my hand, this 26th day of August, 1869.

S. S. RITTER.

Witnesses:

CHAS. A. PETTIT,
SOLON C. KEMON.