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Inventor:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CLOTH HOLDER.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEF PABST, a citizen of the Republic of Switzerland, and resident of Zurich, in the Canton of Zurich, Switzerland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cloth Holders, of which the following is a specification.

There are holders for fabrics and particularly for stockings whereby provision is made of a base plate and a cover between which the fabric is once bent into S-shape and clamped by the partial overlapping of the base plate through the cover. However, such clamping arrangement is not equally satisfactory for thin and thick stockings, the consequence being that the fabric, when a pull is exerted at a place before its S-shaped bend, is liable to slide in the holder.

It is the object of the present invention to avoid this drawback which is attained by the hereinafter described improvements in holders of the type mentioned. According to my invention I make provision on the cover and between the ends thereof of at least one rigid clamping or pressing device, and on the base plate and between its ends at least one other pressing device, all in such a manner, that the pressing device or devices fitted on the cover abuts against or engages the pressing device mounted on the base plate when these parts are in closed position. In this way the fabric is repeatedly bent, that is, it is gripped in more than one place and what is the most important, upon a pull being exerted on that portion of the fabric situated before the S-shaped bend, this bent portion is very firmly clamped by the oppositely acting clamping or pressing devices. The gripping action is hereby all the stronger the greater the pulling action. Thus, a sliding of the fabric, whether the latter be thin or thick, is rendered impossible. In the accompanying drawings:—

Fig. 1 shows a longitudinal section through the cloth-holder;

Fig. 2 shows a plan thereof;

Fig. 3 shows an end elevation of Fig. 1;

Figs. 4 and 5 represent a side view and plan, respectively, of a combination of two such holders forming a pair of ladies' suspenders;

Figs. 6, 7 and 8 are similar views of a combination of two holders forming men's suspenders;

Fig. 9 shows a section of part of the holder in modified construction;

Fig. 10 illustrates another modification, also in section;

Fig. 11 is a plan view of a detail of the holder of a further modification, and

Fig. 12 shows a sectional view of yet another detail modified.

Similar parts are designated by like references throughout the several views.

According to the first construction embodying my invention, Figs. 1 to 3, 1 is the base-plate made of any suitable material, for instance celluloid, horn or metal, and fashioned with two undulations 2 and a rib 3 at one end which extends beyond the height of the said undulations. Part of the base-plate is formed of a slide 4 which, by means of a spring 5, tends to press in the direction of the arrow *x*. 6 designates the cover provided at the lower face with an undulation 7 which forms a rigid clamping or pressing means disposed between the ends of the cover and longitudinally thereof, and two extensions 8 and 9 which are so formed and arranged that they correspond with and are adapted to fit over the undulations of the base-plate.

If it is desired to clamp and hold a cloth or other fabric the latter, with the slide temporarily pulled back, is placed over the base-plate 1 while the extension 8, as shown in Fig. 1 in dotted lines, is pressed beneath the rib 3 the fabric 10 being shaped accordingly. The cover 6 is thereupon pressed down in the direction of the arrow *y*, Fig. 1, the fabric 10 simultaneously being made to take the shape of the undulations. The slide 4 is subsequently released in order to be pressed by the spring 5 over and against the extension 9 of the cover which is thus securely clamped and in turn causes the clamping and holding of the fabric 10. It will be easily understood that instead of one single spring two such springs could be mounted and that the number and form of the undulations could be modified, no special illustrations being necessary.

Following the reference numeral 10 in Fig. 1 the fabric is caused to be bent into S-shape in the known manner. However, at the rear of the undulations 2, 7, 2, 9 the fabric is once more bent and if now a pull towards the left is exerted on the fabric at the place indicated by 10 in Fig. 1, the fabric has a tendency to move the cover towards the right since it is unable to raise said cover. The consequence is that the un-

dulations 2, 7, 2 and 9 are pressed against each other in a right-hand direction thereby repeatedly and firmly gripping the interposed fabric so that a sliding thereof, as
 5 distinctive from known constructions, is prevented. Moreover, the stronger the pull at 10 on the fabric the firmer the gripping action of the clamping means 2, 7, 2 and 9.

When combined as shown in Figs. 4 and
 10 5, the two holders, designated by I and II respectively, are each provided with eyelets 11 which serve to connect the holders by means of an ordinary or elastic band 12 or the like, the said eyelets being integral with the base-plates 1. 13 designates part of
 15 ladies' underwear and 14 part of a stocking. It is hereby of no importance whether the underwear reaches above the stocking, as shown in full lines, or whether it extends below the same, as shown at 15 in dotted lines.
 20 Such a combination of two holders is especially adapted for use as ladies' suspenders and is distinguished from those which are attached at one end of the stays inasmuch as a
 25 holder or, in this case, suspenders according to my invention may be kept shorter and can be applied anywhere, for instance at the front of the thigh where it does not embarrass the movement of the wearer.

According to the Figs. 6 to 8, illustrating the holders employed as men's suspenders, the holders I and II are connected with one
 30 another by means of an eyelet 11 formed on the base-plate of the holder II, and a buckle 16 which engages with the said eyelet on the one hand and with an eyelet provided in the cover 6 of the holder I on the other hand.
 35 17 represents the part of the pants and 18 part of the socks of which the top fits over the bottom of the pants.

In all these cases the cover, made to lie at one side of the cloth or other fabric and caused to be pressed against the base-plate on the other side of the said fabric, is over-
 45 lapped by the base-plate when in locked position and securely held therein with the fabric.

In place of the slide 4 a trap-plate 19 could be provided, Fig. 9, which is under the control of a spring 19^a, and instead of the undulations on the base-plate as a rigid pressing means a semi-spherical projection 2^a could be arranged, Fig. 11. Furthermore, and referring to Fig. 10, two covers 20 and two
 55 slides 21 might be employed and made to fit over one single base-plate 22 while, if desirable, the base-plate provided with one slide only could be fashioned with two ribs 3 similar to that shown with reference to Fig. 1. In such case the cover would require to be of two parts such as illustrated in Fig. 12 and arranged in the manner of a hinge 23 divided in the middle and adapted to be held in closed position by a flat spring 24.

65 Having now fully described my said in-

vention what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. In a holder for fabrics for use particularly with stockings, the combination of a rigid base plate and a rigid cover, the said
 70 cover in closed position resting over substantially its whole length on the base plate, and the said base plate overlapping one end of the cover thereby bending the fabric lying
 75 between the base plate and the cover into S-shape, at least one rigid pressing device fitted on the cover and between the ends thereof, and at least one rigid pressing device mounted on and between the ends of the
 80 base plate, both pressing devices when in closed position again bending the fabric interposed between the said devices.

2. In a holder for fabrics for use particularly with stockings, the combination of a rigid base plate and a rigid cover, the said
 85 cover in closed position resting over substantially its whole length on the base plate, and the said base plate overlapping one end of the cover thereby bending the fabric lying between the base plate and the cover into
 90 S-shape, at least one rigid pressing device fitted on the cover and between the ends thereof, and at least one rigid pressing device mounted on and between the ends of the base plate, both pressing devices when in
 95 closed position abutting against each other, the base plate and cover in closed position being slightly movable in relation to one another, and the pressing devices owing to a
 100 pulling action on the fabric before its S-shape thus securely gripping the fabric between themselves.

3. In a holder for fabrics for use particularly with stockings, the combination of a rigid base plate and a rigid cover, the said
 105 cover in closed position resting over substantially its whole length on the base plate, and the said base plate overlapping one end of the cover thereby bending the fabric lying between the base plate and the cover into
 110 S-shape, at least one rigid member fitted on and arranged longitudinally and between the ends of the cover and forming a pressing device, and at least one rigid member mounted on and between the ends and longitudi-
 115 nally of the base plate and forming another pressing device, both the said members when in closed position abutting against each other and again bending the interposed fabric.

4. In a holder for fabrics for use particularly with stockings, the combination of a rigid base plate and a rigid cover, the said
 120 cover in closed position resting over substantially its whole length on the base plate, and the said base plate overlapping one end of the cover thereby bending the interposed fabric into S-shape, at least one rigid cross-
 125 rib fitted on and arranged longitudinally and between the ends of the cover and forming
 130

a pressing device, and at least one rigid cross-rib mounted on and between the ends and longitudinally of the base plate and forming another pressing device, both the
5 said cross-ribs abutting against each other when in closed position and again bending the interposed fabric.

5. In a holder for fabrics for use particularly with stockings, the combination of a
10 rigid base plate and a rigid cover, the said cover in closed position resting over substantially its whole length on the base plate, and the said base plate overlapping one end of the cover thereby bending the interposed
15 fabric into S-shape, the other end of the cover being held in closed position by means

of a spring-member, at least one rigid pressing device mounted on and between the ends of the cover and longitudinally thereof, and at least one rigid pressing device fitted on
20 and between the ends and longitudinally of the base plate, both the said pressing devices in closed position abutting and engaging each other and again bending the interposed
25 fabric.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOSEF PABST.

Witnesses:

P. M. AURIG,
J. A. DU BOIS.