

E. W. PHILBROOK.

SPRING CLASPS FOR SUPPORTING GARMENTS.

No. 177,882.

Patented May 23, 1876.

Fig. 2.

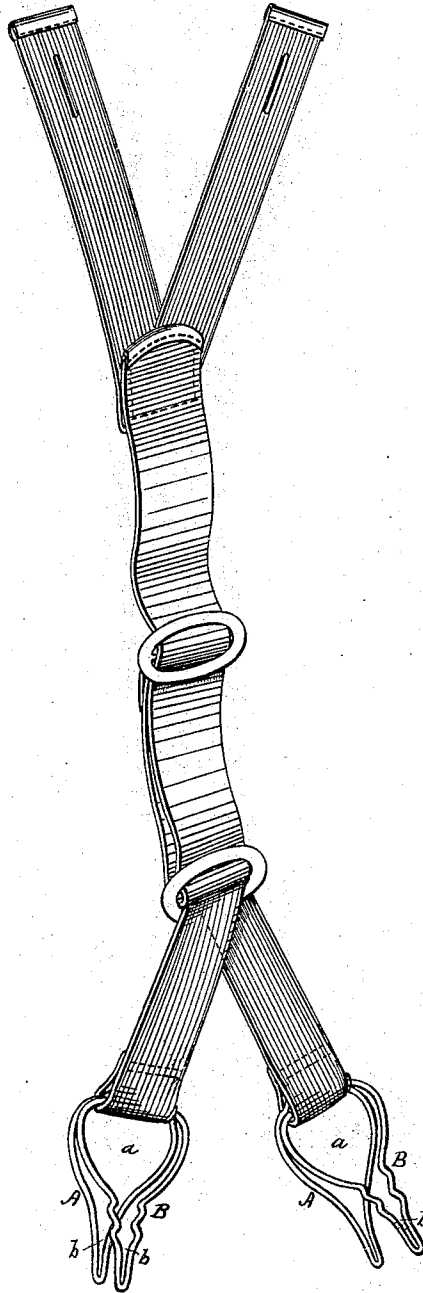
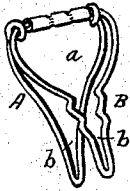


Fig. 1.



Witnesses:

Edw. A. Dick
John H. Edman

Inventor:

Emilio W. Philbrook
by Geo. Tolson & Bailey

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EMELINE W. PHILBROOK, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN SPRING-CLASPS FOR SUPPORTING GARMENTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **177,882**, dated May 23, 1876; application filed April 1, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EMELINE W. PHILBROOK, of Boston, Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Garment-Supporters, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to devices which, while they are adapted to support garments of various kinds, are particularly used as stocking-supporters; and it has special reference to that class of supporters formed of a loop, which, at the bottom, is narrowed, so as to form a narrow slit, in which the material inserted in the broad portion of the loop is drawn and held.

The nature of my invention and the manner in which the same is or may be carried into effect will be understood by reference to the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a device embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a like view of a stocking-supporting strap provided at its lower end with two of the metallic supporters.

The device in which my invention is confined I term a "twin spring-clasp." I make use of two loops, A B, which, at their upper ends, are connected together by a hinge or otherwise, and at their lower ends stand apart, say, about a quarter of an inch, more or less. One or both loops are made of spring metal, so that their lower ends may be brought together. When the pressure, however, is removed, the ends spring apart and reassume their normal relations. Each loop is made broad at the top, as at *a*, and at the bottom is shaped to form the narrow and tapering slit *b*. I form each loop of flattened wire, which bounds with its rounded edges the slit. They may, however, be stamped out of sheet metal. This, however, unless care is taken in making the sheet-metal article, is open to some objection, for the reason that there may be left along the edges of the slit a thin metallic fin or rugged formation, which tends to cut and

injure the fabric drawn into the slit. This should be avoided.

In the present instance the loop A is hinged to the other by having its upper ends bent around the upper rim of B; but, as before intimated, the two may be united in any suitable way, or, indeed, may be formed of a single piece of metal, whether wire or sheet metal, if desired. The spreading apart of the ends can be effected in various ways—for instance, by bending outwardly one or the other at a point in the neighborhood of their point of connection, as shown in the drawing.

I prefer to corrugate one or both of the loops along the upper and wider part of the slit, so that an enlarged fold of the stocking can readily enter and be held in this portion of the slit; but corrugations are not indispensable, and need not be used unless desired.

This supporter is used in substantially the same way as the ordinary supporter of analogous shape. The advantages it possesses are, that each half of the clasp—that is, each loop—takes a separate and independent gripe upon the stocking, thus dividing the tension, so as the more effectually to hold the same, and also to prevent tearing by reason of excessive tension or strain upon one spot, and yet the parts are so arranged that the more strain there is upon the two loops the nearer will they be drawn together and the firmer will be their hold.

Having now described my invention, and the manner in which the same is or may be carried into effect, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The twin spring-clasp having its ends normally apart, and adapted to operate substantially as and for the purpose described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name this 30th day of March, A. D. 1876.

EMELINE W. PHILBROOK.

Witnesses:

S. M. ALLEN,
GEO. T. ANGELL.