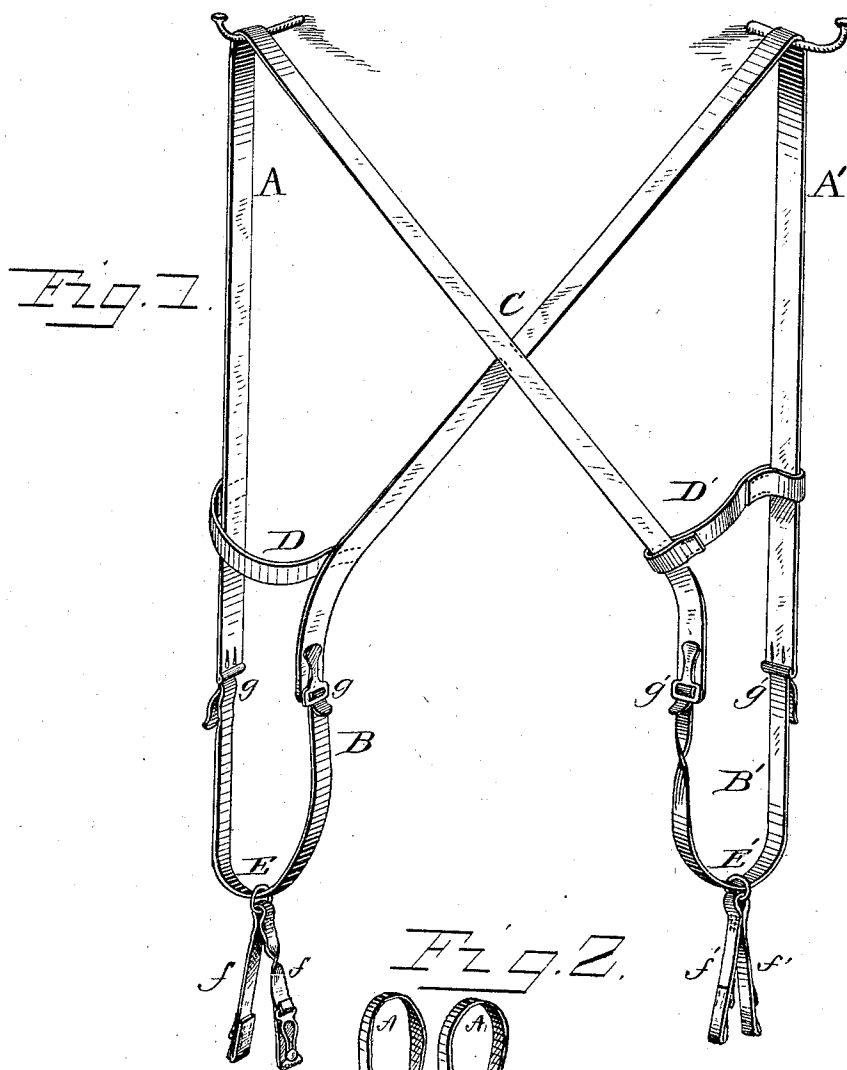


(No Model.)

C. G. FOOTE.
STOCKING SUPPORTER.

No. 257,485.

Patented May 9, 1882.



WITNESSES
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CATHARINE G. FOOTE, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

STOCKING-SUPPORTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 257,485, dated May 9, 1882.

Application filed March 30, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CATHARINE G. FOOTE, of New York, county of New York, and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Stocking-Supporters, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved supporter complete; and Fig. 2 is a similar view, (reduced in size,) showing a modification in the construction.

My invention relates to that class of supporters in which the stockings are suspended from the shoulders instead of from the waist, or by the usual garters, and has for its object to provide for all necessary movements of the upper part of the body without drawing unduly upon the tops of the stockings, to support the weight of the stockings and the tension of the sustaining-straps upon the shoulders, and also to permit changes in the relative position of the straps going over the shoulders without drawing up the stockings.

The invention consists in a novel arrangement of straps passing over the shoulders and crossing each other upon the back, with a single and preferably narrower band or strap secured by its two ends to the respective ends of the former upon each side of the body, in such manner as to form practically an endless strap, as will be explained.

In the accompanying drawings, A and A' are the two upper and preferably wider straps or bands of webbing, which are united at C, at a point upon the back between the shoulders. D and D' are the cross-straps, uniting the straps or bands A and A' at the sides. They are shown as stitched to the bands A A', but may be looped around them, if preferred, so as to adapt them to slide freely up and down.

B and B' are two preferably narrower straps or bands of webbing, that are each passed through rings E and E', respectively, and secured by their ends to the ends of A and A'. They are preferably removably attached by safety-pins or buckles g g, as shown, with their ends adjustable therein.

E and E' are rings, to which are attached the pieces or straps f and f', provided with clasps, buttons, or other suitable fastening devices, adapting them to be attached at their ends to the stockings.

It will be seen that the two straps A and A', with their connecting-straps B and B', form practically an endless strap that can pass back and forth to a limited extent through the rings E and E', yet not in any way disturb the tension of the straps f f', that support the stockings.

It frequently happens that shoulder-straps are slipped out of place by the movements of the body, and are then held out by the superimposed clothing. This change in the position with the usual shoulder-straps for supporting the stockings throws too great a strain upon the latter, and renders the wearer uncomfortable.

I am well aware that stockings have been supported from the shoulders; but in all such supporters, so far as they have come to my knowledge, any change of position of the shoulder-straps results in changing the tension upon the stocking-straps proper, while in my device the endless belt forming the shoulder-straps may change position several inches, and as it slips freely through the rings E E' no change will be made in the tension upon the stockings.

The straps A and A' need not cross each other, but they may be separated, forming two endless straps, one for each shoulder, and each provided with a ring, E or E', in which it can slide, as indicated in Fig. 2.

Any or all of the straps may be made of material more or less elastic, as may be preferred.

Having now described my invention, I claim as new—

1. The shoulder-straps A A', combined with the straps B B', to the ends of which they are united, forming practically an endless strap, and with the rings E E', supporting the straps to be fastened to the stockings.

2. The combination of the shoulder-straps A A' and straps B B', forming practically an endless strap, adjustable in length by fasten-

ing devices *g g*, sliding rings *E E'*, and straps *f f'*, connected therewith, substantially as described.

3. The shoulder-straps *A A'*, in combination
5 with the straps *B B'*, forming practically an endless strap, connecting straps *D D'*, sliding rings *E E'*, and straps *f f'*, substantially as and for the purpose described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

CATHARINE G. FOOTE.

Witnesses:

EDITH A. BOND,
BERNARD J. KELLY.