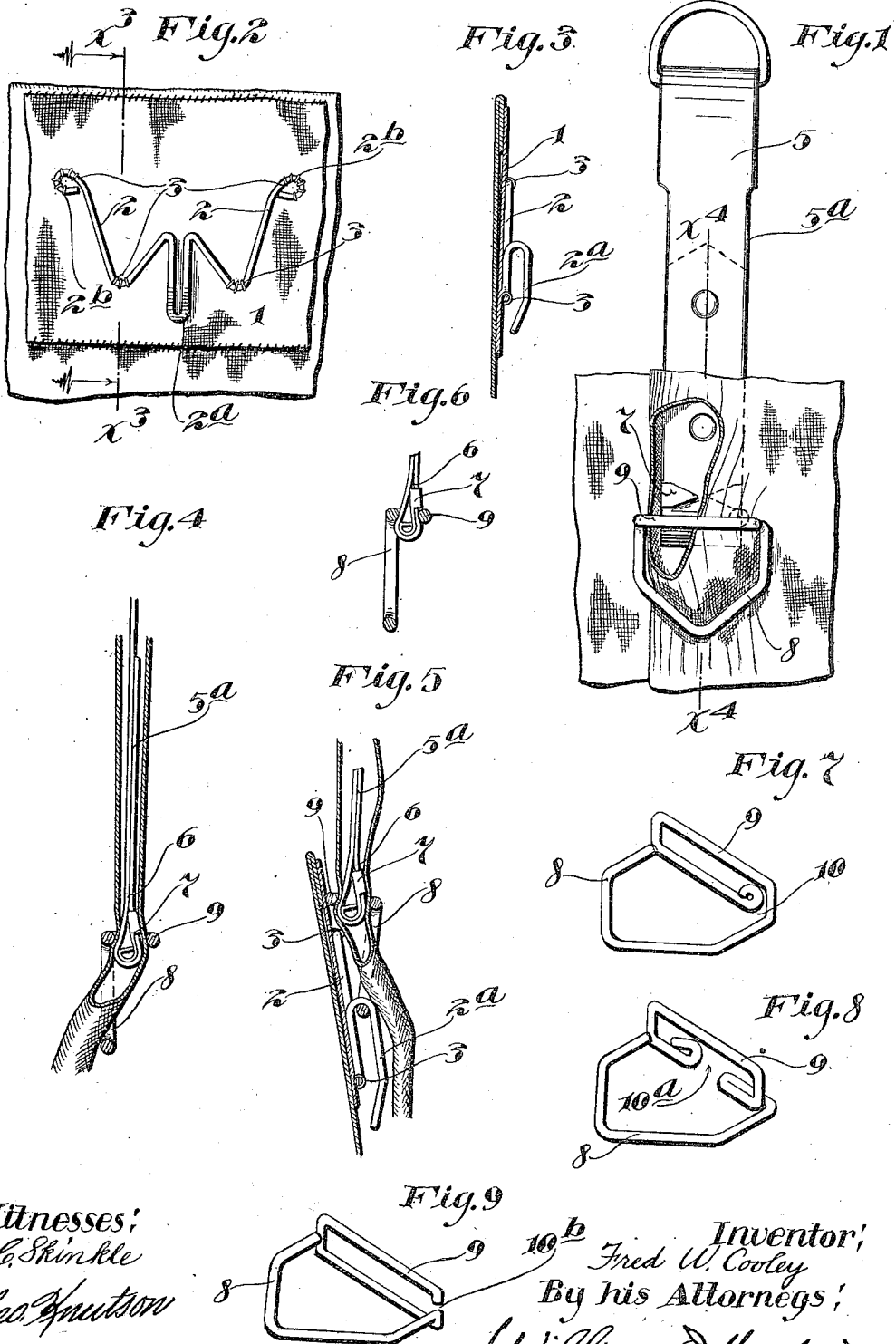


F. W. COOLEY.
 SUSPENDER FASTENER,
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1,041,434.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRED W. COOLEY, OF MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA.

SUSPENDER-FASTENER.

1,041,434.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRED W. COOLEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Minneapolis, in the county of Hennepin and State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Suspenders-Fasteners; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention has for its object to provide an improved form of suspender fastener for use in connection with suspenders that are worn under a shirt and connected to straps or legs of the suspender to the trouser band, which latter is, of course, located outside of the shirt.

To such ends, generally stated, the invention consists of the novel devices and combinations of devices illustrated, described and defined in the claims.

Hitherto, suspenders of special form have been provided with means whereby the straps or legs may be secured to buttons on trouser bands, either through openings in the shirt or by folding of the shirt over the button; but in all of these prior arrangements, whenever the suspender straps are disconnected from the trouser band, they become loose in respect to the shirt, and as the fasteners are located inside of the shirt, they cannot be easily replaced in working position.

My invention provides a fastener which is applicable at the exterior of the shirt, which is adapted to be coupled to the suspender strap, which has a part exposed to the exterior of the shirt for direct application to a coöperating part on the trouser band, and which, when disconnected from the trouser band, will hold the suspender strap secured and positioned in respect to the shirt.

In the accompanying drawings wherein like characters indicate like parts throughout the several views, several forms of the improved suspender fastener are illustrated.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a view in elevation and with some parts broken away showing the improved suspender fastener applied to a suspender strap and to a shirt; Fig. 2 is an elevation showing a hook which is used as a substitute for a button on the inner band of the trousers,

some parts being broken away; Fig. 3 is a section taken on the line $x^3 x^3$ on Fig. 2; Fig. 4 is a vertical section taken approximately on the line $x^4 x^4$ on Fig. 1; Fig. 5 is a view corresponding in the line of its section to Fig. 4, but showing the device connected to the hook on the trouser band; Fig. 6 is a detail view corresponding to Fig. 4 in the line of its section but with the shirt removed; Fig. 7 is a detail view of the preferred form of the fastener shown in Figs. 1 to 6 inclusive; and Figs. 8 and 9 are detail views in perspective showing modified forms of the fastener.

Referring first to Figs. 1 to 7 inclusive, the numeral 1 indicates a trouser band having preferably secured thereto in lieu of the usual buttons, metallic hooks, one of which is shown in the drawings and which is made from a single piece of wire 2, bent to form a down-turned hook 2^a and eyes 2^b, the same being secured to the trouser band by stitches 3.

The numeral 5 indicates one of the straps or legs of a suspender which is adapted to be worn inside of the shirt. This strap 5 is formed at the lower end portion with a loop 6 within which is a metallic expander 7 which forms an enlarged and rigid head at the lower end of the said strap. At the portion marked 5^a, the said strap 5 is more flexible than at any other point, for the purpose which will presently appear.

The fastener shown in Figs. 1, 4, 5, 6 and 7, is formed from a single piece of stiff wire bent to form loops 8 and 9, located in planes approximately at right angles to each other. The loop 9 is elongated transversely of the fastening device and at one extremity has an open entrance passage 10 that adapts it to be forced onto the suspender strap 5 by transversely buckling the parts 5^a thereof and slipping the latter edgewise into the said loop 9 through the said entrance passage 10. The fastener is located entirely at the exterior of the shirt and when it is forced onto the strap 5, as just stated, it will fold the adjacent loose portion of the shirt around the said strap; and then when said fastener is drawn down on the strap and against the expanded head of the lower end thereof, it will be securely anchored to the said strap and will securely hold the said strap secured to the shirt at the proper point. Also, the loop 8 of the fastener will be exposed at the

exterior of the shirt where it may be easily coupled to the hook 2^a on the trousers band. It may, as is also evident, be easily disconnected from the said hook. It is here highly important to note that the disconnection of the said fastener does not change the adjustment of the fastener in respect to the shirt, however, the adjustment of the fastener and of the suspender strap, in respect to the shirt may be easily adjusted or readjusted at will, simply by forcing the said fastener slightly upward on the said strap so as to loosen up the shirt and permits the shirt to be drawn upward or downward, as desired. The highly important feature is that the fastener holds the suspender strap to the shirt when disconnected from the trousers and has a part exposed at the exterior of the shirt for engagement with the cooperating hook, button, or other device on the trouser band. There is no movement of the fastener in respect to the suspender strap when in use, and hence, there is practically no wear on the shirt at the point of application, and the movement and wear takes place between the loops 8 and the loop 2^a which parts are of metal and are adapted to withstand the wear incident to movements of the body of the wearer.

The fastener shown in Fig. 8 is much like that illustrated in Fig. 7, but the loop 9, instead of having its entrance passage adjacent to the same side of the device, is provided with a centrally located entrance passage 10^a.

The fastener shown in Fig. 9 is even more like the fastener shown in Fig. 7 than that

shown in Fig. 8, but its entrance passage 10^b is located at the extreme end of the loop 9.

The fastener described has been put into actual use and has been found efficient for the purpose had in view.

What I claim is:

1. The combination with a suspender strap terminating in an expanded extremity, of a fastener coupled to said strap having a limited downward movement on the expanded end of said strap, and adapted to clamp thereto a loose portion of a shirt folded around said strap, and which fastener when pressed downward on said strap to its limit, tightly grips the engaged portion of said shirt, but which fastener, when slightly raised or loosened on said strap permits the shirt to be moved or adjusted through said fastener while said strap, shirt and fastener are held together and in cooperative relation.

2. The combination with a suspender strap having an expanded end, of a suspender fastener having two loops rigidly connected at an angle to each other, one of said loops being engageable with a cooperating fastening device on a trouser band, and the other loop having an entrance passage adapting it to be coupled to said suspender strap end, and to secure thereto a portion of a shirt folded around the said strap, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

FRED W. COOLEY.

Witnesses:

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