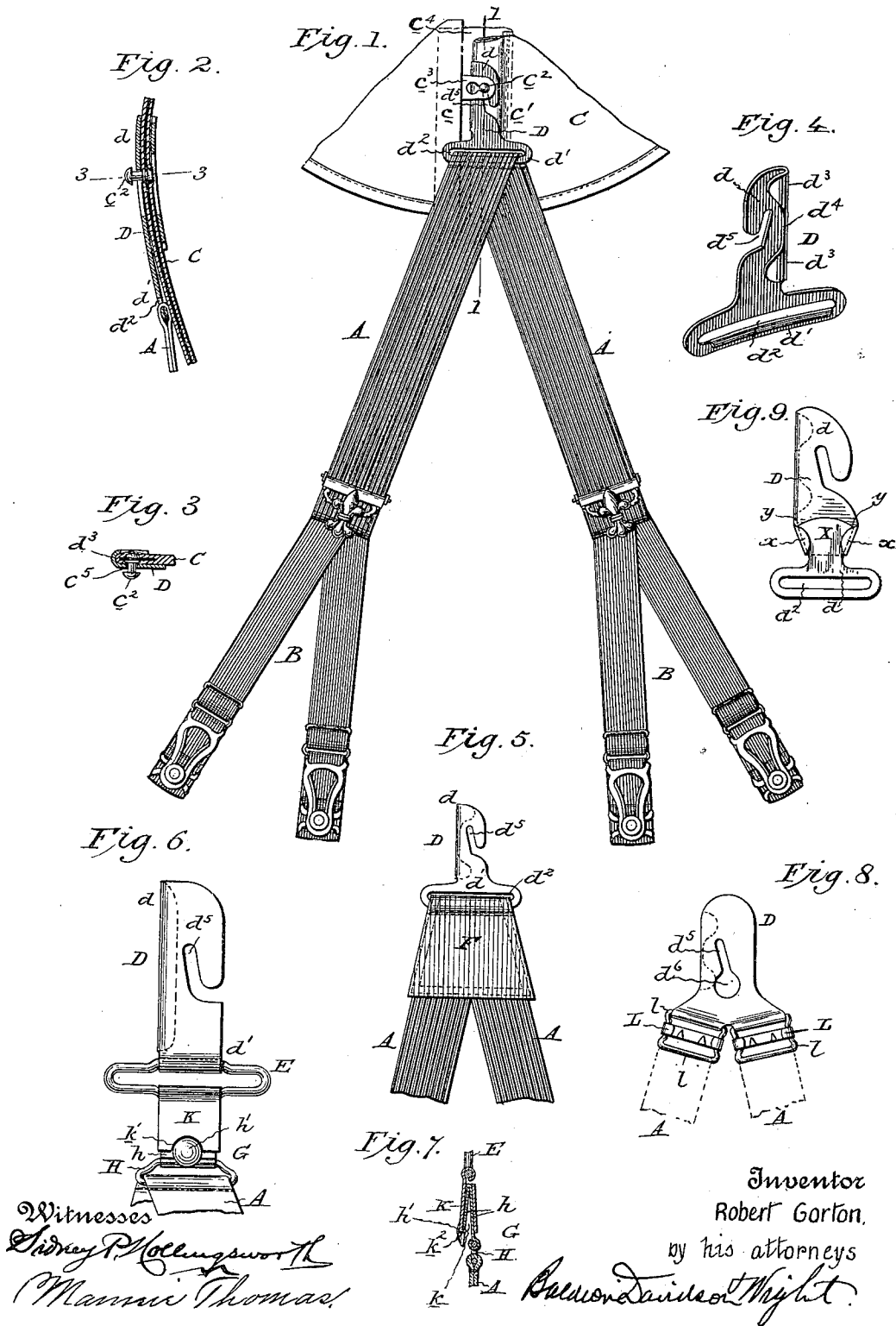


R. GORTON.
HOSE SUPPORTER.

(Application filed Apr. 16, 1900. Renewed Dec. 27, 1900.)

(No Model.)



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT GORTON, OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

HOSE-SUPPORTER.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT GORTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Newton, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hose-Supporters, of which the following is a specification.

Ladies' hose-supporters are usually provided with devices for attaching their upper ends to the garments of the wearer above the hose. Safety-pins have been commonly employed for this purpose, and these have been secured to either the corset or other nether garments. Such hose-supporters have also been provided with hooks or loops adapted to engage buttons or studs on either the sides or front of the corset.

My present invention relates to hose-supporters in which the securing devices are especially adapted for attachment to one of the fastening devices commonly employed for securing corsets at their front meeting edges; and my object is to provide a device which, while simple in construction, may be easily operated, may be readily applied to corsets of different kinds, will take a firm hold without injury to the corset coverings or fastenings, and will allow the corsets to be fastened or unfastened or opened without detaching the hose-supporters.

In carrying out my invention I provide a device one part of which is adapted to receive or support the suspending strap or straps of the hose-supporter and the other part of which is adapted to lie flat against the covered steel at one of the meeting edges of the corset and preferably to engage one of the lower studs or posts forming part of the corset-fastening devices. The device is also preferably adapted to embrace the edge of that side of the corset which carries the studs and also preferably has a rear portion joined to the portion embracing the edge which lies when in place in rear of the covered steel carrying the posts. The device may be made entirely of sheet metal or for the most part of sheet metal; but if made of one piece of metal it is preferably formed with a wide lower portion having a slot through which the supporting strap or straps extend or to which a pad or other such part applied to the straps is secured. The upper part of the device in such case is formed with a front portion and a rear

portion, the front portion being provided with a slot, recess, or other opening, preferably inclined, adapted to receive a corset-stud and having an inclined wall adapted to bear upon or engage with the corset-fastening, while the rear portion is adapted to lie behind the corset-steel, the construction being such as to embrace the edge of the corset snugly when the stud is within the slot. Preferably the rear portion is cut away or recessed or made narrow, so as to be out of contact with the rear or inner end of the stud or that part of the corset in proximity to the stud, by which arrangement the liability of striking the stud when applying the device is avoided. The exact form of the slot or opening is not important so long as it is adapted to receive the corset-fastening devices. The slot, recess, or opening should, however, be provided with an inclined surface to bear against the fastening device in such manner as to draw the flanged edge of the clasp against the edge of the corset. Instead of forming the device from a single piece of sheet metal I may form the upper part in the manner above described and may attach to its lower end a wire loop for supporting the hose-supporter straps. Instead of forming the lower part of the clasp to which the webbing is attached integrally with the upper slotted part or securing it permanently thereto I may make the lower part detachable, so that the hose-supporters may be disconnected without opening the corset and without removing the upper portion of the clasp therefrom.

There are several features of my invention which are novel and useful in themselves, and I therefore do not wish to be understood as limiting my invention to the combination of all of the features above mentioned or the combination of all of the features hereinafter specifically described.

I will endeavor to point out in the claims the novel features separately considered of the invention for which I desire protection.

In the accompanying drawings I have shown the best way now known to me of applying my improvements.

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a pair of hose-supporters with my improved clasp or attaching device applied and showing also the manner in which the clasp or attaching

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device is secured to corsets. Fig. 2 shows a vertical section on the line 1 1 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 shows a local transverse section on the line 3 3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 shows a perspective view of the preferred form of my improved clasp. Fig. 5 is a front elevation of the clasp, showing a modified way of attaching the hose-supporter straps. Fig. 6 is a front elevation of a modification in which a part of the clasp is formed of sheet metal and the other part of wire. Fig. 6 also shows devices for detachably connecting the webbing with the clasp. Fig. 7 shows a local section on the line 7 7 of Fig. 6. Fig. 8 shows a further modification of the clasp, a different kind of slot being provided and the webbing being attached to the clasp in a different way. Fig. 9 shows a modification in which the lower part of the clasp, or that part to which the webbing is secured, is made detachable.

The hose-supporter proper may of course be of any suitable construction. My present invention does not relate to any improvements in this part of the hose-supporter. The straps A and B may be of any suitable material, either elastic or non-elastic. The device D which I employ for attaching the hose-supporter to a corset, may be applied to many different kinds of corset. In the drawings I have shown it applied to a corset C of well-known construction, wherein the front meeting edges $c c'$ are provided with studs or posts c^2 and slotted plates c^3 engaging the studs, the plates c^3 being attached to a strip of steel in the edge of one member of the corset, while the posts c^2 are attached to a strip of steel in the edge of the other member of the corset, as clearly indicated. It is usual to arrange a flap c^4 of suitable fabric in rear of the covered steel which supports the posts or studs and to carry this flap across and behind the edge of the opposite member of the corset, as indicated in Fig. 1. My improved device, as will be seen from an inspection of Fig. 1, is adapted to embrace the covered steel which carries the posts, the rear portion of the device lying between the covered steel and the flap c^4 ; but of course the device may be employed in connection with corsets differently formed.

The clasp D (shown in all its details in Fig. 4) consists of an upper portion d and a lower portion d' . The lower portion is preferably widened and provided with a horizontal slot d^2 , through which the hose-supporting strap A may be threaded. The upper portion has a flat front face adapted to lie vertically flatwise against the covered corset-steel which carries the studs or posts c^2 . This flat portion is provided with a suitable slotted opening d^3 , adapted to receive a stud. Preferably this slot is arranged both horizontally and vertically. It may be inclined, as shown in the drawings, and as there shown it may enter from the side and extend inwardly and upwardly or in an inclined direction. It is not essential that a narrow slot be employed.

Any opening or recess that provides an overhanging portion adapted to rest on the corset-stud or other part of the corset-fastening may be used, provided that the opening or recess has a wall or edge inclined relatively to the line of strain. The front portion is preferably provided with a flanged side d^3 , which is adapted to embrace or lie against the edge of the covered steel carrying the posts, so that when the device is in position, with the flange against the edge of the covered steel and the stud within the slot, as indicated in Fig. 1, the clasp will be prevented from swiveling or wobbling. This is an advantage, inasmuch as it prevents the clasp from getting out of place, and it avoids the liability of undue wear on the corset, which would be caused by the friction incident to a swiveling or wobbling motion of the clasp.

When the clasp is provided with the flanged edge and with an inclined slot, the flanged edge may always be drawn tight against the edge of the corset, whether the stud or post be arranged close to the edge or at varying distances therefrom, and when so placed the flange will be clamped tightly against the edge of the corset. Preferably, also, the flange is prolonged and bent inward to form a rear portion to the clasp adapted to lie behind the covered corset-steel and between it and the flap c^4 . This arrangement still further aids in steadying the device, preventing any liability of moving back and forth, while the side flange d^3 prevents sidewise swiveling movement. The rear ends of the studs c^2 are usually upset at the rear of the corset-steel, and produce a lump or protuberance with which the rear portion of the clasp might engage or against which its edge might abut. In order to prevent this, the rear portion of the clasp may be provided with a cut-away portion or recess d^4 .

The clasp shown in Fig. 4 may be readily stamped out from sheet metal and quickly bent into the proper shape. The edges are rounded or curved, and the metal is, while sufficiently strong, preferably thin, so that it may lie beneath the slotted plate c^3 , as indicated in Fig. 1, so that the corset may be fastened and unfastened without disturbing the clasp. Instead of forming the rear portion with a recess the rear portion may be made narrower, so as to avoid the rear end of the stud, and instead of forming the clasp of a single piece of metal it may have its upper portion formed of sheet metal, as shown in Fig. 6, while the lower portion may be made of wire. In this case the lower end of the upper portion is turned up to form an eye through which the wire forming the loop E may extend and the connection between the plate and the wire may be a pivotal one, permitting the loop to swivel or swing back and forth. Such a movement would not tend to loosen the connection between the clasp and the corset or to produce wear on the corset. Fig. 6 also illustrates a modification in which

instead of attaching the webbing permanently to the loop E it may be connected with the loop by means of a spring-catch G, which may be constructed in the manner shown more in detail in Fig. 7. The webbing is attached to a wire loop H, to which is also attached a spring-metal tongue *h*, V-shaped in vertical section, and which enters a socket *k* in a small metal box K, attached to the loop E. The front wall of the box K is formed with a notch *k'* at its lower end and with inwardly-extending flanges *k*² on opposite sides of the notch. The front plate of the tongue *h* is formed with a handle *h'*. The arrangement is such that when the front plate of the tongue is pressed toward the back plate the tongue may be readily inserted into or withdrawn from the box K. When inserted and pressure is withdrawn from the front plate, the latter will spring forward and lie above the flanges *k*², thus securely locking itself to the box, and thereby securely suspending the webbing from the clasp.

Another way of detachably connecting the web-carrying part of the clasp to the upper part is shown in Fig. 9. In this instance the upper part of the clasp is formed at its lower end with two ears *x*, which are so bent as to form two inclined recesses constituting a socket. The lower part of the clasp to which the webbing is attached is formed with a shank or tongue X, having inclined sides adapted to fit into the socket *y*. The arrangement is such that the web-carrying part of the clasp may be detached from the upper part by merely lifting the part *d'* and then moving it forward. It may be attached by the reverse movement.

Instead of passing the strap A directly through the slot the strap or straps may be attached to a pad F, as shown in Fig. 5, and the pad may be attached to the slotted portion *d'* or to the loop E.

In Fig. 8 I have shown a construction in which the slot *d*⁵ instead of extending to the side of the plate extends into an enlargement *d*⁶. The enlargement *d*⁶ is such that it may readily pass over the head of the stud, while the slot *d*⁵ is merely large enough to accommodate the shank of the stud. In this figure I have also shown devices for attaching the webbing to the clasp, consisting of toothed bars L, mounted in suitable frames *l* and to which the upper ends of the webbing may be readily applied.

A clasp constructed in the manner before described is extremely simple, while being very efficient. It can very readily be attached to or detached from the corset. When in place it takes a tight hold, which is not liable to be loosened while in use. It can be applied to corsets of various makes and adapts itself to the stud or post whether said stud or post be arranged close to or far from the edge of the corset. As it forms a rigid connection with the corset, there is no liability of wear which would be caused by a swivel-

ing or wobbling connection between the corset and the clasp, and the strain is put directly upon the steel and is to some extent divided between the steel itself and the fastening device secured to the wall.

I claim as my invention—

1. A clasp for hose-supporters comprising an upper portion provided with an opening or recess having an inclined wall adapted to engage a corset-fastening and provided also with a flange on one side adapted to engage the edge of a corset and thereby prevent the clasp from wobbling.

2. A clasp for hose-supporters having an upper vertical portion flanged on one of its vertical edges and provided with an opening or recess having the wall that receives the strain inclined relatively to the line of strain.

3. A clasp for hose-supporters provided with a vertical portion having a flange adapted to lie along the extreme edge of the covered steel portion on one side of the corset, to prevent the clasp from wobbling, and having an inclined slot opening on that side of the vertical flat portion opposite to the flange.

4. A clasp for hose-supporters, having a recessed portion adapted to embrace one edge of the front portion of the corset below the upper end of the recess, and having a portion to which a hose-supporter strap is attached.

5. A clasp for hose-supporters having a strap-attaching portion at its lower end, and an upper portion provided with an inclined slot and also with a side flange.

6. A clasp for hose-supporters, having a recessed upper portion, a side flange, and a rear portion so arranged as to embrace the covered steel portion of one edge of a corset and thus prevent the clasp from wobbling.

7. A clasp for hose-supporters, having a lower portion from which the hose-supporter proper is suspended, and an upper portion having a slotted front part, a side flange and a recessed rear part.

8. A clasp for hose-supporters, having a recessed upper portion adapted to connect with a fastening device of a corset, and a pivoted loop at its lower end in combination with a hose-supporter strap passed through and supported by the loop.

9. A clasp for hose-supporters, having a recessed upper portion and a lower portion detachable from the upper portion to which the webbing is attached.

10. A clasp for hose-supporters, having a recessed upper portion adapted to connect with the corset, and which is provided with a socket at its lower end and a detachable lower portion to which the webbing is attached, provided with a shank or tongue fitting said socket.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name.

ROBERT GORTON.

Witnesses:

GEORGE A. FROST,
JAMES H. TURNBULL.