

(No Model.)

C. GREINER.
STOCKING STRETCHER.

No. 501,065.

Patented July 11, 1893.

Fig:1.

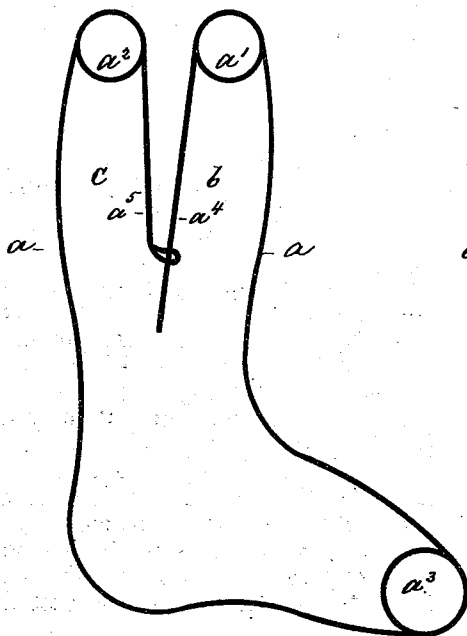
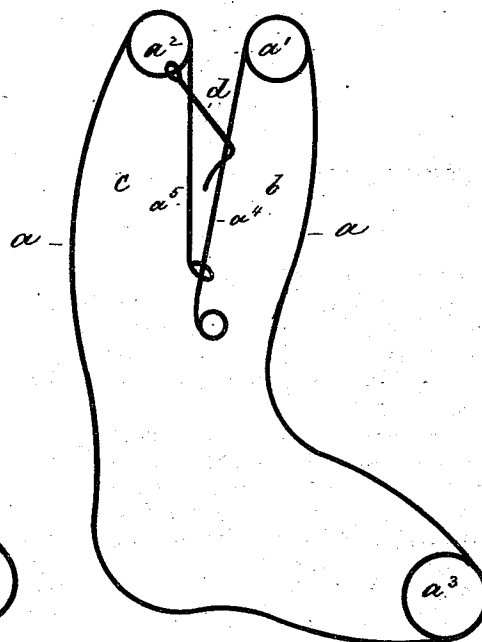


Fig:2.



WITNESSES:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHRISTIAN GREINER, OF MUNICH, GERMANY.

STOCKING-STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 501,065, dated July 11, 1893.

Application filed February 9, 1893. Serial No. 461,551. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHRISTIAN GREINER, residing in Munich, Bavaria, Germany, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Stocking-Expanders, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a stocking expander composed of a length of wire bent into the form of a flattened stocking and designed to shape stockings and to permit them to be dried without shrinking or losing their form.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is an elevation of my improved stocking expander. Fig. 2 is an elevation of a modification.

The stocking expander is composed of a continuous length of wire, bent to assume the outline of a flattened stocking, viz., a leg and foot. The leg of the expander is divided into a front section *b* and a rear section *c*. Each section is coiled at the top to constitute a spring *a'*, *a''*, while a similar spring *a'''* is formed at the toe. The two ends *a''*, and *a'''*, of the wire, form the two inner shanks of the divided leg and they are connected by a slip joint as shown. That is to say, the wire *a'''* is looped around the wire *a''*, so that as the leg of the expander is compressed, the looped wire *a'''*

will be free to slide down upon the straight wire *a''*. The result is, that the expander will always exert a uniform pressure upon narrow and upon wide stockings. It will be seen that when the expander is thrust into a stocking, the divided leg will permit a contraction, while the springs will cause an expansion of the device, so that the expander may be readily fitted into a stocking and will stretch the same when in place.

In Fig. 2, a hook *d* is pivoted to the spring *a'''* and engages the shank *a''* of the expander. This hook prevents an undue stretching of the stocking.

What I claim is—

A stocking expander composed of a length of wire bent to form a spring foot and a spring leg and in which the two free ends *a''*, *a'''* of the wire form the two inner shanks of the leg section and are interlooped to form a slip joint, substantially as specified.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

C. GREINER.

Witnesses:

ALBERT WEICKMAN,
C. MAYER.