J. W. SCHLOSS.

COLLAR SUPPORTER.

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1,040,026.

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Fig. 1.

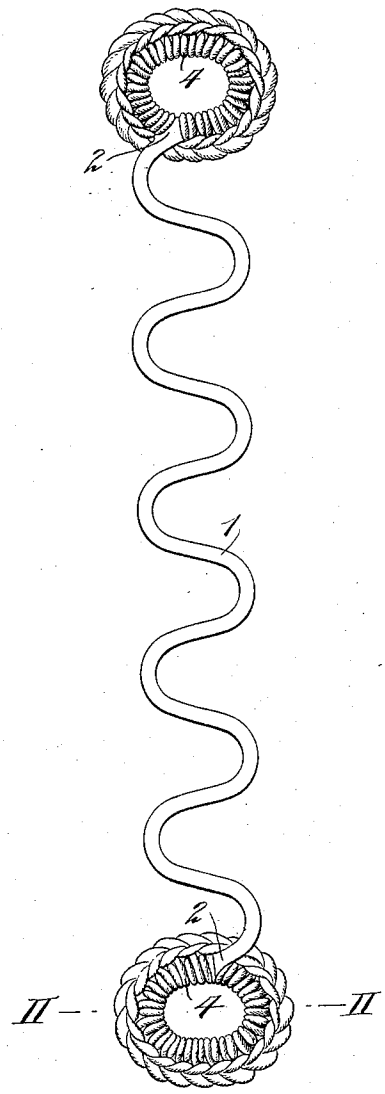
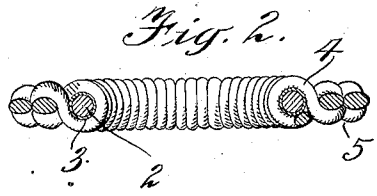


Fig. 2.



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COLLAR-SUPPORTER.

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Application filed November 1, 1911. Serial No. 657,986.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH W. SCHLOSS, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York city, in the borough of Manhattan and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Collar-Supporters, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to garment stiffeners, and more particularly to an improved supporter for ladies' collars and the like.

I am aware that collar supporters formed of looped or bent filamentary material have been presented to the notice of the public; and I am aware also that it is common to wrap a covering of thread upon wire used for this purpose in order to conceal said wire to some measure when in use and to protectively coat or cover the same. I hence do not lay claim broadly to wire collar supporters nor to covered collar supporters; but I have devised a novel stiffener of the type in question in which the cover is preferably applied only to certain portions of the wire or filament and in which the covering material is itself there disposed in a manner particularly adapted for the purpose in question.

In brief, it is the aim of the present invention to so place the covering material upon a stiffener body as to afford excellent protection to the neck or body of the wearer from said wire, while using a minimum quantity of said material; and to further so dispose said material as to facilitate the application of stitches thereto when the device is being sewed to a garment, and also to hold the thickness of said device to a minimum.

These and other objects of my invention will be hereinafter referred to and the novel structure whereby they are attained will be particularly set forth in the appended claim.

In the accompanying drawings which form a part hereof, and in which like reference characters designate like parts throughout the several views: Figure 1 is a front view of a preferred form of collar supporter, drawn to a large scale. Fig. 2 is a detail section taken on line II—II of Fig. 1; the section being drawn to a still larger scale.

The filamentary body 1 of the stiffener is preferably bent or corrugated in a single plane in a well known manner, and is also provided with eyes or rings 2 at its respective extremities. The wire may of course be enameled as at 3 in various colors to match the garment or fabric to which it is to be applied, so that the body 1 may be substantially invisible when in place. This portion of the stiffener, especially when made without sharp bends, does not tend to chafe the skin of the wearer since it lies flat thereagainst and is moderately flexible and elastic. The eye portions, *per se*, however are more stiff and unyielding than the body portion of the device and are furthermore normally so disposed with respect, for example, to the neck of the wearer, when in use, that the skin of the latter tends to loop or fold down thereover when the head is bent sidewise. In other words, I have discovered, for one thing, that the essential points of the filamentary body to be protectively covered, are these ends or eyes, and that normally the body, proper, of the device may be left uncovered not only without likelihood of injury to the wearer, but with actual advantage, since thereby the bulk of the device may be held at a minimum thickness, no covering, other than possibly enamel, or the like, being applied thereto in my preferred form of stiffener. Aside from this improvement in structure and the obvious saving in covering material effected by so curtailing the covering material, I desire particularly to direct attention to the novel manner in which said material is applied to these ends or eyes.

In the preferred form of device, exemplified, thread 4 is wrapped around the sections of wire or rings forming the respective eyes 2; but the wrapping is preferably not such as is usually employed to cover wire but rather is accomplished by crocheting or some analogous stitch, the threads of silk, cotton, or like material, being quite snugly drawn into contact with the wire rings, but being loosely knotted or woven in a flat annulus 5 extending radially beyond each ring and forming in effect an annular cushion, the thickness of which in a radial direction is preferably greater than that of the covered wire ring in a lateral direction. In this manner a soft deep or thick cushion is provided just where it is needed without increasing the thickness of the device beyond that of a thread covered wire.

Had it been attempted to merely wrap several layers of thread around the eye portion in order to produce the end cushion a

bulky and clumsy stiffener would have been the result; but by applying preferably but a single layer of thread, tightly drawn, to the eyes, and crocheting or otherwise forming a soft and preferably quite flat annular cushion therearound, I provide a covering which is free from objectionable thickness and which furthermore is more soft and yielding than mere wrapped thread, or indeed the ordinary woven fabric commonly used for covering purposes of this description. Finally, in securing the stiffener in place the open-work fabric annulus is most readily stitched through; the needle penetrating the interstices thereof with ease and with far greater facility than it could be driven through tightly drawn, wrapped or woven threads, and especially when such wrapped threads are disposed in superposed layers.

While I have described my invention in connection with a particular type of stiffener, it is obvious that the particular kind of cushion ends may be applied to stiffeners having other body forms.

Having described my invention, I claim:

A garment stiffener comprising an elongated resilient body having an eye at each end, and relatively thick cushions of textile material loosely woven around portions of the respective eyes, the cushions extending radially beyond said eyes and being appreciably thicker in the plane of the body than in any other plane.

In witness whereof, I subscribe my signature, in the presence of two witnesses.

JOSEPH WILLIAM SCHLOSS.

Witnesses:
MAURICE ABELS,
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Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."