(No Model.)

C. S. TERPENING.

TROUSERS FLAP SUPPORTER.

No. 457,682. Patented Aug. 11, 1891.

Fig. 1.

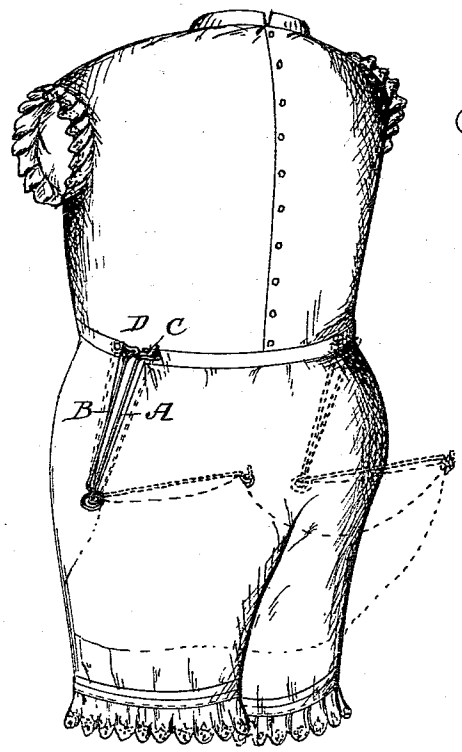


Fig. 2.

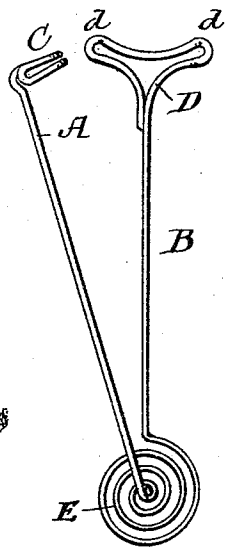
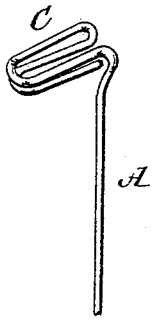


Fig. 3.



Witnesses
Sam'l R. Turner.
Van Buren Hillyard.

Inventor
Charles Sobieski Terpening.

By his Attorneys R. K. & H. Lacey

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES SOBIESKI TERPENING, OF PRESCOTT, WASHINGTON.

TROUSERS-FLAP SUPPORTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 457,682, dated August 11, 1891.

Application filed April 28, 1890. Serial No. 349,706. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES SOBIESKI TERPENING, a citizen of the United States, residing at Prescott, in the county of Walla Walla and State of Washington, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Devices for Fastening and Supporting the Rear Flaps of Children's Trousers; 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.

This invention relates to means for automatically closing the rear flaps of children's trousers, and aims to lessen the labor of those having the care of children, as well as promote the welfare of the child by preventing exposure.

The improvement consists of the novel features, which hereinafter will be more fully described and claimed, and which are shown in the annexed drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the invention, showing its application. Fig. 2 is a side view of the supporter. Fig. 3 is a detail view of the hooked end of the spring.

The supporter, made of a single piece of wire, is composed of two members or arms A and B, which are connected at their lower ends by the spiral E, which is sufficiently large and of a requisite number of turns to obtain a broad bearing against the hips or sides of the child, so as not to do any harm. The spiral E normally holds the free ends of the members or arms A and B closed, and yields to permit the separation of the free ends of the said arms or members when opening the rear flaps of the trousers. The end of the member or arm A is bent to form the hook C, and the end of the member B is bent to form the extended loop D, which has two horns *d d*, the one engaging with the button on the waistband and the other adapted to be engaged by the hook C when the members A and B are together, thereby fastening the flaps.

The supporter is provided in pairs—one for each side of the pants—and is applied as follows: The supporter is attached to the pants, so that its members A and B will extend up parallel with the edges of the side slits, the looped end being secured to the waistband on one side of the slit and the hooked end to the waistband on the other side of the slit. When the rear half of the pants are lowered, the members A and B are separated under tension, and when released the said members will close and carry the said rear portion of the pants up into place. It will be observed that the spiral E comes between the pants and the outer member A, thereby preventing injury to the child, which would surely happen if the parts were reversed. The hook C springs to one side and engages with the free horn *d* of the loop D and serves as a fastener for the flap. Under normal conditions, however, when sufficient force is applied the parts will yield, being elastic, and permit the disengagement of the hook C from the said horn. In that the members A and B are normally held closed under tension, it will be seen that when the rear flap is opened the tendency of the device is to close it. Hence when the said flap is released it will be immediately closed by the springing together of the members A and B.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The hereinbefore shown and described device for closing and fastening the rear flap of trousers, consisting of a wire comprising the members A and B, the coil E, uniting the members A and B and constructed to normally hold the free ends of the said members A and B closed and prevent injury to the child, the hook C at the end of the member A, and the extended loop D, having horns *d d* at the end of the member B, the hook C being adapted to engage with one of the horns *d* to fasten the members together, substantially as described.

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

CHARLES SOBIESKI TERPENING.

Witnesses:

ELLA TERPENING,

F. IBBERSON.