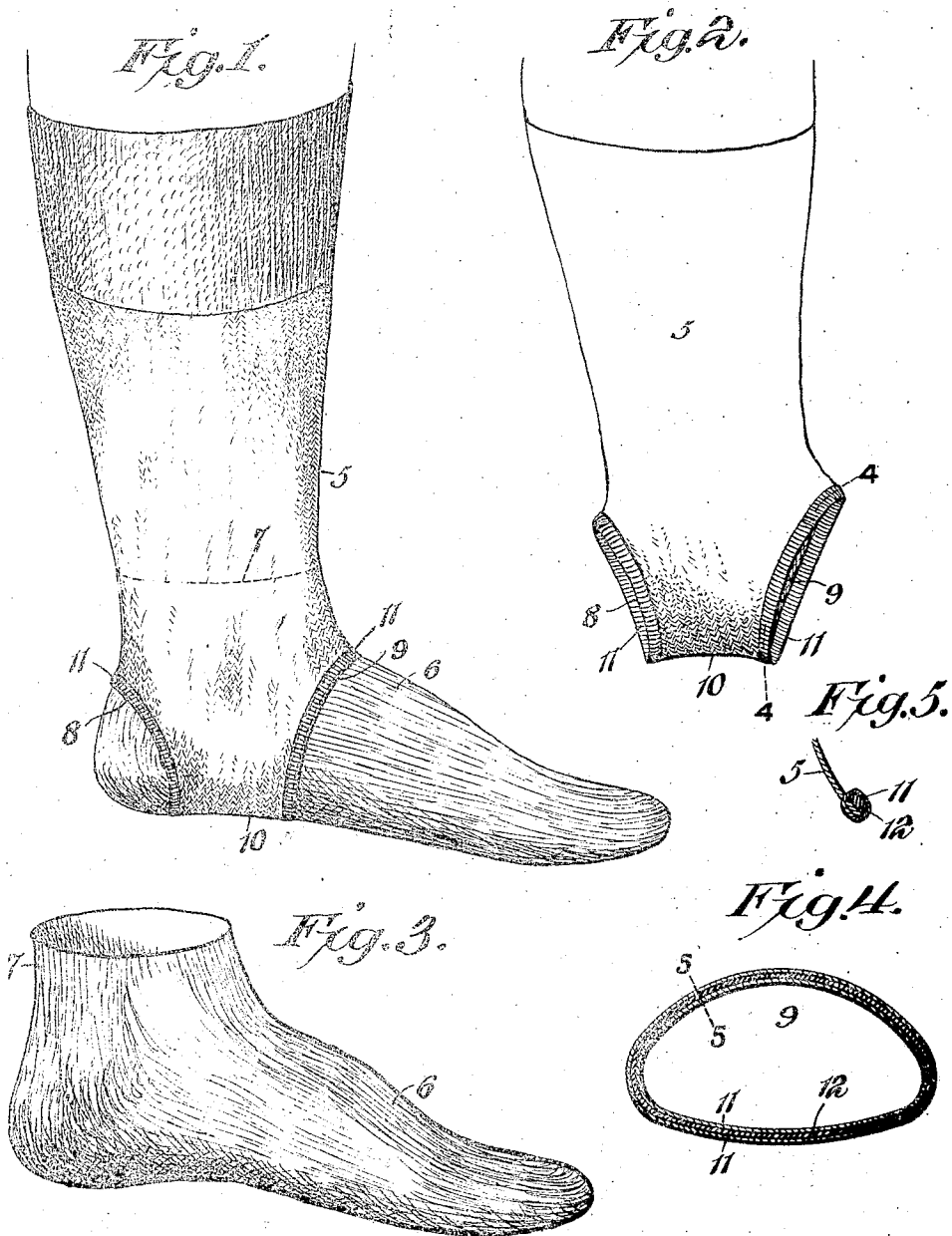


No. 858,006.

PATENTED JUNE 25, 1907.

F. W. LUM.
STOCKING.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 23, 1906.



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STOCKING.

No. 858,006.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 25, 1907.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK W. LUM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Springfield, in the county of Hampden and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Stocking, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to stockings comprising separate parts or sections.

The principal object is to provide a simple and novel structure composed of separate foot and leg members that can be worn, laundered and interchanged as desired, and will always retain their shape so as to fit the foot properly, and cause no discomfort to the wearer.

While the invention is applicable to various types of stockings, the present embodiment comprises half hose or socks, and in the drawings:—Figure 1 is a perspective view of the members together. Fig. 2 is a detail view of the leg member. Fig. 3 is a similar view of the foot member. Fig. 4 is a detail sectional view on the line 4—4 of Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is a detail sectional view on the line 5—5 of Fig. 4.

Similar reference numerals designate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawing.

In the embodiment illustrated, the stocking comprises a leg member 5 and a foot member 6. The foot member 6 may be of any desired material, and comprises a body portion arranged to completely cover the foot and having an upstanding neck portion 7 that terminates short of the ankle. The leg member 5 may be of any desired length, and is provided in its lower portion with opposite heel and toe-receiving openings 8 and 9, forming a foot-embracing strap 10. This strap, because of the convergent relation of the openings 8 and 9, tapers toward its lower portion. It will be apparent that the openings are of just sufficient size to receive the heel and toe, so that if a low shoe is worn, its upper edge will extend above the tops of the openings, and only the leg member will appear. In order to prevent the raveling of the fabric about the openings, the margins surrounding the same are provided with spaced upwardly divergent bindings 11, and these bindings are tubular in form, constituting continuous housings. In said housings or bindings are arranged elastic clamping or contracting elements 12, preferably in the form of rubber bands or the like

In using the device, the foot member is first placed upon the foot, and afterward the leg member is applied. The clamping bands maintain a snug fit of the lower portion of the leg member on the foot and prevent wrinkling or bunching of the strap, thereby avoiding any cause of discomfort to the wearer. In explanation of this, it will be observed by reference to Figs. 1 and 2 that the elastic clamping bands or elements 12 are not disposed in parallel, but in spaced upwardly divergent relation. Therefore, when placed over the heel and toe, the upper portions of the bands are prevented from moving toward each other by the interposed ankle. The tension of the bands therefore causes them to draw away from each other, and as a consequence, the fabric strap is stretched transversely, eliminating all danger of wrinkling and bunching. Moreover, the bands serve to hold to the foot the front and rear portions of the lower end of the leg member at the upper end of the strap. The tubular bindings perform double functions, inasmuch as they prevent the raveling of the fabric and also act as holding means for the elastic bands. Because of the peculiar arrangement of the openings, either high or low shoes may be worn as already described. This structure permits the employment of comparatively expensive leg members and cheap foot members. The latter may be removed and laundered as often as desired, and may be of undyed material that will not affect the foot. Moreover, it is the foot members that will be subject to the greater part of the wear, and new ones may be employed as often as found necessary without the necessity of new leg members.

From the foregoing, it is thought that the construction, operation, and many advantages of the herein described invention, will be apparent to those skilled in the art, without further description, and it will be understood that various changes in the size, shape, proportion, and minor details of construction, may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

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

1. A stocking including a leg member having heel and toe openings in the opposite sides of its lower end and forming a downwardly tapered foot-embracing strap be-

tween them, and spaced upwardly divergent elastic clamping elements secured to the marginal portions of the strap that surround the openings.

5 2. A stocking including a leg element having heel and toe openings in the opposite sides of its lower end, upwardly divergent elastic clamping elements surrounding the openings, and upwardly divergent bindings
10 for the margins of the leg element about the openings, said bindings enclosing and constituting holding means for the elastic clamping elements.

15 3. A stocking comprising a foot member, and a separate leg member, said leg member having heel and toe-receiving openings in the opposite sides of its lower portion and form-

ing between them a foot-embracing strap that tapers toward its lower portion and is arranged to surround the foot member, 20 spaced tubular bindings for the margins of the strap extending about the openings and disposed in upwardly divergent relation, and continuous spaced upwardly divergent elastic bands located in said tubular bindings 25 and held in place on the leg member thereby.

In testimony, that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

FRANK W. LUM.

Witnesses:

FLORENCE H. LUM,
EDMUND P. KENDRICK.