



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## GARMENT-PRESS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 689,544, dated December 24, 1901.

Application filed January 5, 1901. Serial No. 42,222. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES MILLS DE FOREST, a citizen of the United States, residing at New Haven, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Garment-Creasers, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a garment-press, and has for its object to provide a device for pressing and creasing trousers or other articles of wearing-apparel in which it is desirable to exhibit a fold or crease.

The invention consists in the novel combination, arrangement, and construction of a pair of pressing-plates and an intermediate separating-shield and clamping means for compressing and securing the plates and shield together, with the folds of the garment received between them, as more fully hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a plan view of my garment-press, and Fig. 2 is an edge view of the same. Fig. 3 is a cross-section on the line  $xx$  of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is an enlarged view of one of the holding-clamps. Fig. 5 is a correspondingly-enlarged view of the pivotal bearing of the clamp; and Figs. 6 and 7 are respectively plan and end views of one of the thrust-shoes of the clamping-screws.

Referring to the drawings,  $A A'$  designate the pressing-plates of my improved garment-press, and  $B$  is a separating-shield adapted to be received between the plates, all said parts being of the shape and of a size not less than the size of the leg portion of a pair of trousers. The plates and shield are preferably made of thin wood strips having the grain lengthwise thereof. The plates are strengthened by transverse cleats  $d$ , secured across their ends and centers by suitable screws  $e$ . On the side edges  $f$  of one of the pressing-plates, near the ends and center thereof, are secured the bearings  $g$ , which consist of the half-box  $h$  and cap  $h'$ , both held to the wood by the screws  $i$  passing through the flanges  $i'$  of the parts. In said bearings are journaled the holding-clamps  $k$ , having the circular journals  $k'$ , fitting the bearings, and the overhanging arm portions  $k^2 k^3$ , adapt-

ed to span the pressing-plates when swung around over the same, as shown in Fig. 1. Thumb-screws  $m$  are fitted through the ends of the upper arm portion  $k^2$  of the clamps, and suitable guards or thrust-shoes  $n$  are secured to the pressing-plates adjacent to the cleats  $d$  to receive the impact of the thumb-screws and the corresponding bearing-points  $r$  of the opposite arms. Said shoes  $n$  are preferably provided with beveled edges  $t$  on the sides where the clamps swing upon them, and the central portions  $t'$  of the shoes are made concave or depressed to provide seats to retain the engaging parts of the clamps in place thereon.

Constructed as hereinbefore described and shown, the operation of the press is as follows: The holding-clamps  $k$  being turned in their bearings into positions to bring their arms  $k^2 k^3$  free of the pressing-plates, the leg portions of a pair of trousers may then be placed between the upper and lower plates, with the intermediate shield  $B$  received between and separating said portions. The clamps may then be swung over the plates to the positions shown in the figures and the thumb-screws next screwed down firmly to force the pressing-plates and the shield together and compress the layers of the garment between them. Fig. 2 shows the relative position of the parts after said operation, the two leg portions of the garment occupying the spaces  $uu$  between the pressing-plates and shield. After the garment has remained under pressure for an interval in the machine its folds will appear as regular and sharply-defined creases, which will possess the requisite permanency or durability of form. For trousers that are turned up at the bottom the shield may be withdrawn to correspond with the width of the fold and compensate for the thickness thereof. For the purpose of suspending the device from a hanger in a room or wardrobe a hook  $y$  is secured in one end of one of the pressing-plates. When required, several pairs of trousers may be pressed in this machine at one operation, or, if necessary, a single portion of a pair may be creased, in which case the intermediate shield may be temporarily dispensed with.

The invention is effective and practical and is not confined to the precise construction of

the clamping mechanism, as this feature may be modified by the substitution of wedging or camming devices when preferred.

I claim as my invention and desire to secure  
5 by Letters Patent—

1. In a garment-press the combination of a pair of pressing-plates, a series of bearings consisting of a base-plate and cap secured to the edge of one of the plates, the clamps having the overhanging arms adapted to span the  
10 edges of the pair of plates, and the journals intermediate of the arms, fitted and adapted to turn in said bearings and provided with retaining-shoulders engaging the bearings,  
15 and clamping-screws carried by said arms at one side of the plates, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

2. In a garment-press the combination of a pair of pressing-plates, a series of bearings  
20 consisting of a base-plate and cap secured to the edge of one of the plates, the clamps having the overhanging arms adapted to span the edges of the pair of plates, and the journals

intermediate of the arms, fitted and adapted to turn in said bearings and provided with  
25 retaining-shoulders engaging the bearings, clamping-screws screwed through the ends of the arms on one side of the pressure-plates, and the shoes mounted upon the pressure-plates for receiving the thrust of the screws,  
30 substantially as and for the purpose specified.

3. In a garment-press the combination of a pair of pressure-plates, a series of clamps provided with overhanging arms adapted to span the edges of the pair of plates and having the  
35 portions intermediate of the arms hinged or movably connected to the edges of one of the plates, and clamping means for communicating pressure to the plates from and between the ends of the arms, substantially as and for  
40 the purpose specified.

CHARLES MILLS DE FOREST.

Witnesses:

CHARLES E. ALLING,  
GEORGE L. BARNES.