(No Model.)

C. P. YOUNG.

TROUSERS CLAMP.

No. 598,459. Patented Feb. 1, 1898.

Fig. 1.

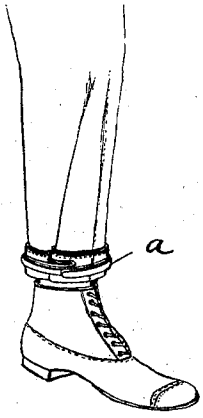


Fig. 2.

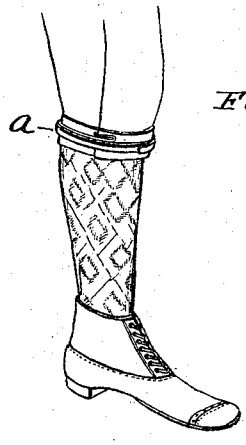


Fig. 3.

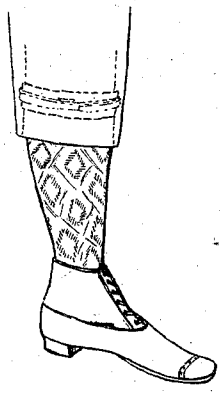


Fig. 5.

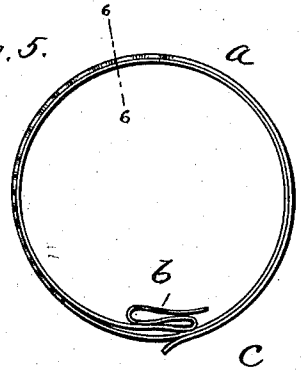


Fig. 6.



Fig. 4.

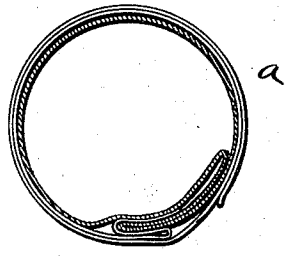


Fig. 7.

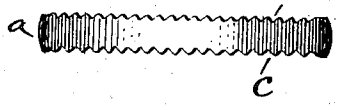
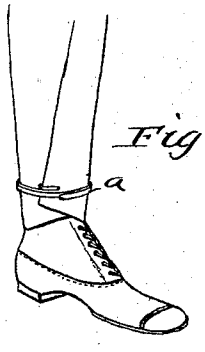


Fig. 8.



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

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES P. YOUNG, OF YORK, PENNSYLVANIA.

TROUSERS-CLAMP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 598,459, dated February 1, 1898.

Application filed June 30, 1897. Serial No. 643,010. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES P. YOUNG, a citizen of the United States, residing at York, in the county of York and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Trousers-Clamps, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figures 1, 2, and 3 represent perspective views showing the manner of applying the clasp when used to convert ordinary trousers into bicycle or golf trousers; Fig. 4, a plan view showing the clamp attached to a trousers-leg, the cloth of the trousers-leg being shown in section; Fig. 5, a similar view of the clamp detached; Fig. 6, a transverse section on the line 6 6 of Fig. 5; Fig. 7, a side view of their clamp, and Fig. 8 a perspective view showing the clasp used to clamp the trousers around the lower part of the leg.

The object of this invention is to provide a simple removable clamp for the use of bicycle-riders in holding the slack fold of their trousers close to the leg while riding; and its essential feature lies in the fact that it is capable of use in clamping the trousers-leg around the leg near the top of the shoe in the ordinary way and also in clamping and folding the ends of the trousers-leg at a point just below the knees of the rider to convert the ordinary long trousers into bicycle or golf trousers, as more fully hereinafter set forth.

The form of device shown in the accompanying drawings consists of a single band *a*, of spring metal, coiled in the manner of a convolute spring. One end of the band is provided with a clasp *b* to clamp the fold of the trousers-leg. The band makes about two complete coils, the coils lying against each other and being made concave in cross-section to keep them in alinement when the spring is expanded. In its normal condition the free end of the spring terminates upon the outside of the outer coil opposite, or nearly opposite, the fold-clasp. The clasp is in the form of a ring, with the coils lying close together, and the fold-clasp *b* is formed by bending back upon itself the inner extremity of the spring-band. Suitable portions of the upper and lower edges of the band are serrated, as at *c*, in order to prevent the clamp from slipping off the trousers-leg.

The manner of using the clamp for converting long trousers into bicycle-trousers is as follows: The lower end of the trousers-leg is first turned or rolled up, then the fold-clasp *b* is engaged in the slack fold of the trousers-leg, as shown in Fig. 1, and then the clasp is spread apart and its free end is passed around the leg, the coils being allowed to come normally together one upon the other. The wearer then simply draws up the trousers-leg over his calf until it reaches the position shown in Fig. 2. Then the loose or surplus part of the trousers-leg is folded down, so as to hide the clamp, as shown in Fig. 3. It will be observed that as the clamp is drawn up over the swell of the calf it will be automatically expanded and the necessary quantity of cloth required to envelop the larger part of the calf will be drawn out from the folded part under the fold-clasp. The clamp being transversely convexed, the coils will open out or expand without slipping off each other as the trousers-leg is drawn up over the calf, and the serrations will engage the cloth of the trousers-leg and prevent the clamp from bodily slipping off the lower edge of the trousers-leg. It will be observed also that the fold-clasp will be closely hugged by the outer coil of the clamp, thereby pressing it against the leg of the wearer and keeping the fold of the trousers-leg in place, permitting the fold to pull out as the trousers-leg is drawn up.

In Fig. 8 the device is shown used as an ordinary leg-clasp, folding and clasping the trousers near the shoe-top. It will thus be seen that the device is capable of serving also as an ordinary leg-clasp, whereby its value to the rider will be greatly increased.

It will be observed that an essential feature of this invention lies in serrating one or both (preferably both) edges of the band. These teeth engage into the cloth of the trousers (the spring action of the band insuring their effective engagement) and prevents the device slipping off the lower edge of the trousers-leg during the action of drawing it up

over the calf, the teeth on that portion of the band covered by the inner coil coming into engagement with the trousers as fast as they become uncovered by passing off the end of said inner coil. If these teeth were not used, a stronger band would have to be employed to prevent slipping off the trousers-leg, which would obviously be seriously objectionable.

It will also be seen that the feature of bending the band in cross-section throughout its length is important in that it serves the purpose of keeping the overlapped coils in alinement as they expand and slide upon each other in passing up over the calf. It is also important that the band be formed into approximately two complete coils in order that there will always be portions of the coils overlapped during passage up over the calf, except of course when used on unusually large limbs. It is essential also that the ends of the band be free in order that it may be opened out and wrapped around the leg.

If the band be strong enough and the teeth effectively formed, it is obvious that the fold-clasp can be omitted.

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

1. A garment-clamp, consisting of a spring-band formed into approximately two circular coils, one lying within the other and both ends being free and said band being bent in cross-section approximately throughout its length, so that the coils will be kept in alinement by being expanded, as and for the purposes set forth.

2. In a leg-clamp for the double purpose set forth, a spring-band coiled upon itself into approximately two coils and having its ends free and one or both edges provided with cloth-engaging teeth and being bent in cross-section approximately throughout its length, so that the coil will be kept in alinement while being expanded, as and for the purposes described.

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

CHARLES P. YOUNG.

Witnesses:
JOS. H. STRAWBRIDGE,
RAYMOND P. SHERWOOD.