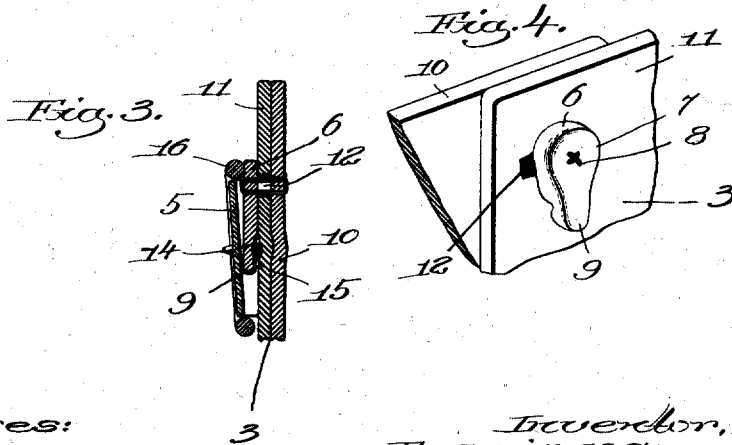
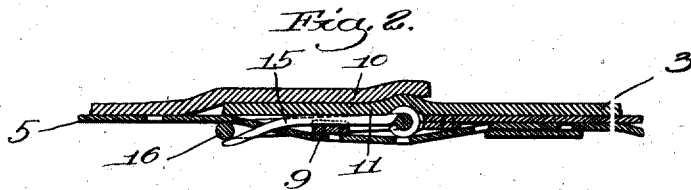
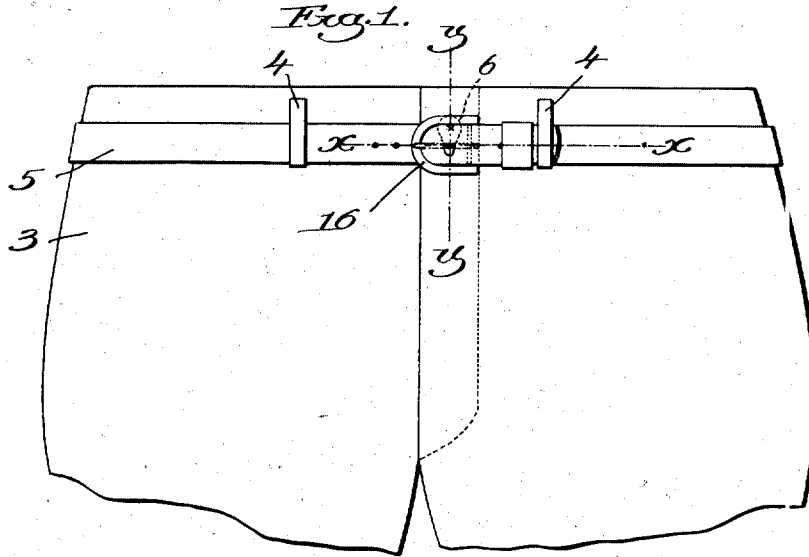


F. H. SPRAGUE.
FASTENING DEVICE FOR TROUSERS.
APPLICATION FILED NOV. 30, 1909.

1,008,441.

Patented Nov. 14, 1911.



witnesses:
Fred. L. Gumbaf.
Joseph M. Ward.

Inventor,
Frederick H. Sprague,
by Henry Augoy. attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDERICK H. SPRAGUE, OF ORANGE, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO
FRANK L. GROUT, OF ORANGE, MASSACHUSETTS.

FASTENING DEVICE FOR TROUSERS.

1,008,441.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Nov. 14, 1911.

Application filed November 30, 1909. Serial No. 530,564.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERICK H. SPRAGUE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Orange, county of Franklin, State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Fastening Devices for Trousers, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawing, is a specification, like characters on the drawing representing like parts.

This invention has for its object to provide a novel fastening device for trousers which is adapted not only to secure together the waist band at the front but is also adapted to interlock with the belt buckle and hold the latter in place.

In the drawings wherein I have shown a selected embodiment of my invention, Figure 1 is a front view of a pair of trousers showing my improvement applied thereto; Fig. 2 is an enlarged section on the line $x-x$, Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is an enlarged section on the line $y-y$, Fig. 1; Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the fastening device.

Trousers which are intended for summer wear are usually made with belt straps under which the belt passes and which are designed for holding the belt in place, and while these belt straps retain the belt in position at the places where they are situated, yet there is always a greater or less space existing at the front of the trousers between the two belt straps on either side of the front opening where no provision is made for keeping the belt in place. This space is where the belt buckle is commonly placed, and if a person is portly there is a tendency for the belt to crowd up above the waist band directly in front at the point where the trousers are buttoned together.

This invention provides a fastening device which is entirely concealed by the belt but which effectively prevents the belt from becoming displaced at the front of the trousers.

In the preferred embodiment of my invention this fastening device is in the nature of a button which serves both to button the trousers together at the waist band and also to engage the buckle and prevent the latter from crowding up out of position.

In the drawings 3 designates a pair of trousers of any suitable or usual construction which are made with the usual belt straps 4 beneath which the belt 5 is passed.

My improved fastening device is in the nature of a button 6 which will preferably have the shape shown in Fig. 4, that is, it is provided with the body portion 7 having the eyes or apertures 8 by which it may be sewed to the trousers in usual manner, and it is also provided with the beak or nose 9 which extends downwardly from the body of the button. The fastening device is sewed or otherwise fastened to the inner edge 10 of the trousers and the outer or overlapping edge 11 is provided with a buttonhole 12 through which the button is inserted for buttoning the trousers together in usual way. When the device is used as a belt retainer, the tongue 15 of the buckle 16 is slipped under the nose 9, as shown in Fig. 3, and this will preferably be done before the belt is buckled, that is, in buckling the belt, the wearer will first slip the tongue 15 under the nose 9 and then insert the end of the belt through the loop of the buckle and place the tongue in the appropriate hole in the buckle.

My improved fastening device is of such a size that when the buckle is engaged thereby the buckle and the belt will entirely cover the fastening device so that it will not be visible.

The engagement of the nose 9 with the tongue of the buckle will operate to securely hold the buckle in position and will counteract any tendency of the belt to slip up over the waist band of the trousers at the front. If desired, the nose 9 may be provided on the back side with the groove 14 in which the tongue 15 of the buckle is received. This groove will act as an additional safe-guard against any accidental displacement of the buckle.

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

A combined fastening device and belt retainer for trousers comprising a button-shaped body provided with holes for sewing it to the trousers and adapted to be passed

through a buttonhole, said body having a downwardly-extending buckle-engaging nose situated in the plane of the body portion and adapted to overlie the tongue of the buckle and provided with a transverse tongue-receiving groove.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my

name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

FREDERICK H. SPRAGUE.

Witnesses:

LENA M. BACON,
EDNA E. JOHNSON.

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