(No Model.)

A. C. GREENE, Dec'd.

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GARMENT SUPPORTER.

No. 255,108. Patented Mar. 21, 1882.

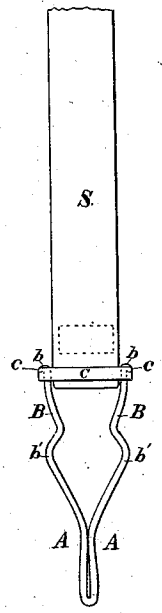


Fig. 1.

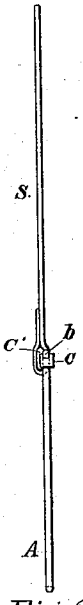


Fig. 2.

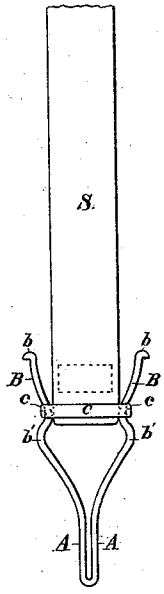


Fig. 3.

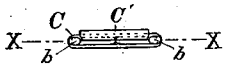


Fig. 4.

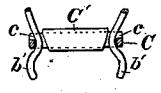


Fig. 5.

Witnesses.

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By his Atty Henry Marsh Jr.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT C. GREENE, OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND; WILLIAM B. WIGHTMAN, ADMINISTRATOR OF SAID GREENE, DECEASED.

GARMENT-SUPPORTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 255,108, dated March 21, 1882.

Application filed June 10, 1881. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT C. GREENE, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city and county of Providence, in the State of Rhode Island, have invented a new and useful Garment-Supporter, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a garment-supporter which is formed of a continuous wire bent at its center to form a clamp with parallel sides, and adjacent to its ends to form a tapering neck, which is embraced by a strap collar or slide, moving which along the neck allows said clamp with parallel sides to open and close to engage or release the portion of the garment inserted in said clamp. The wire at its upper free ends is bent outwardly, and at the narrow portion of the neck has shoulders or bent projections, which, as well as the outwardly-bent ends, form stops for the slide and determine the length of its movement on the tapering neck. The band or slide is provided with recesses on its upper edge, which receive and shut over the outwardly-bent ends of the wire and shield them from contact with the garment. The slide is further strengthened and held in place by a re-enforce, which prevents sufficient backward movement of the wire to free the slide from the outwardly-bent ends. The supporter is attached to the garment by passing the material through the slide and securing it so that it will engage one side only of the slide. The wire is sufficiently soft to bend on itself and sufficiently elastic to throw outward against the slide. It is so bent that in its normal position, when released from the slide or collar, the sides of the clamp will separate. The clamp is closed by moving the slide or collar up along the tapering neck. It is essential that the wire be elastic.

In the drawings, Figure 1 shows the supporter closed. Fig. 3 shows it open and in its normal position. Fig. 2 is an edge view. Fig. 4 is a top view. Fig. 5 is a section on line X X of Fig. 4.

A A is the spring-clamp, between which the material to be held is inserted. B B form the tapering neck, and are provided with the outwardly-turned ends *b b* and the shoulders or bulges *b' b'*. The collar C embraces the sides B B, and is provided with recesses *c c*, which receive and shield the outwardly-turned ends *b b*. It is also provided with the re-enforce C', which strengthens the collar C, and, in connection with the inner sides or edges of the collar, forms guideways for the arms B B, as shown in Fig. 5, and prevents the collar from becoming detached from the arms. The supporter is attached to the garment or elastic or other band S by passing the said band or other material through the collar C and sewing it in the loop of the material so formed, the loop and said collar then moving together vertically along the neck B B, between the outwardly-turned ends *b b* and the shoulders *b' b'*. In case the collar is fastened to an unelastic band, it is evident that the clasp itself will slide up through the collar, in order to open the parallel sides of the clamp A A. The clamp being in its normal position, the material to be held is inserted, and then the collar or slide C is pushed up along the tapering arms B B until stopped by the outwardly-turned ends *b b*, at which time the spring-clamp will have been brought together, so as firmly to retain the inserted material.

Garment-supporters have been heretofore made and sold of unelastic or annealed wire and with a tapering or wedge-shaped slot as a means of holding. Such devices are not new, and I do not claim the same as any part of my invention. Clamps have also been heretofore made in which there are inwardly-turned jaws shut together by a sliding ring and holding the interposed goods by the inward-turned jaws pressing or penetrating the material. Such device is well known, and is in common use in ice-tongs, architects' dividers, calipers, &c., and I do not claim the same as my invention. Prior to my invention supporters have never been known or made in which there is a spring-clamp with parallel sides intended to be brought together to clamp onto the material and hold it until the clamp is released and allowed to separate. The prime object of all other supporters, whether made of annealed wire or of strip metal, has always been to vigilantly guard against any tendency of the sides of the holding-slot to separate or be forced apart, as such opening or

enlargement of the slot would be fatal to their efficiency. Neither do I claim a V-shape clamp, as such device is not new.

In case my invention is to be applied to thick heavy goods, it is best to make the opening between the sides of the spring-clamp larger throughout its length, so that the material can be inserted therein and the sides brought together to clamp it.

What I do claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A garment-supporter consisting of a wire bent in its middle to form a spring-clamp, with parallel sides A A, and adjacent to its free ends to form a tapering neck, B B, combined with a movable collar, C, which opens and closes said jaw as it is moved to and fro along the neck B B between the outwardly-turned ends *b b* and the shoulders *b' b'*, and holding the cloth by the clamping together of the parallel jaw sides A A.

2. In a garment-supporter, a spring-clamp having a tapering neck, B B, provided with outwardly-turned ends *b b* and shoulders *b' b'*, combined with a movable collar, C, provided with recesses *c c* to engage said ends *b b*, and adapted to slide to and fro along said neck between said ends *b b* and shoulders *b' b'*.

ALBERT C. GREENE.

Witnesses:

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