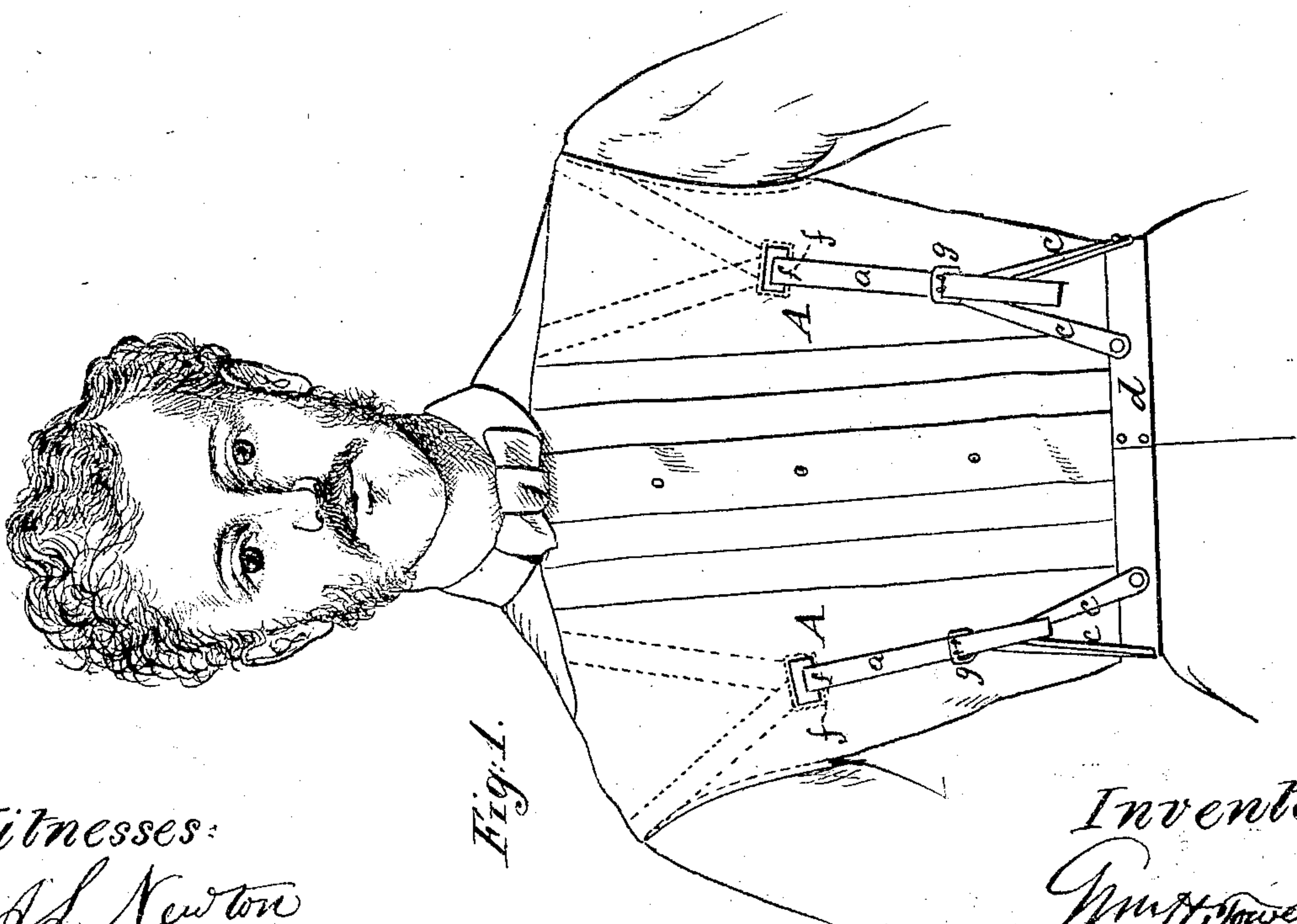
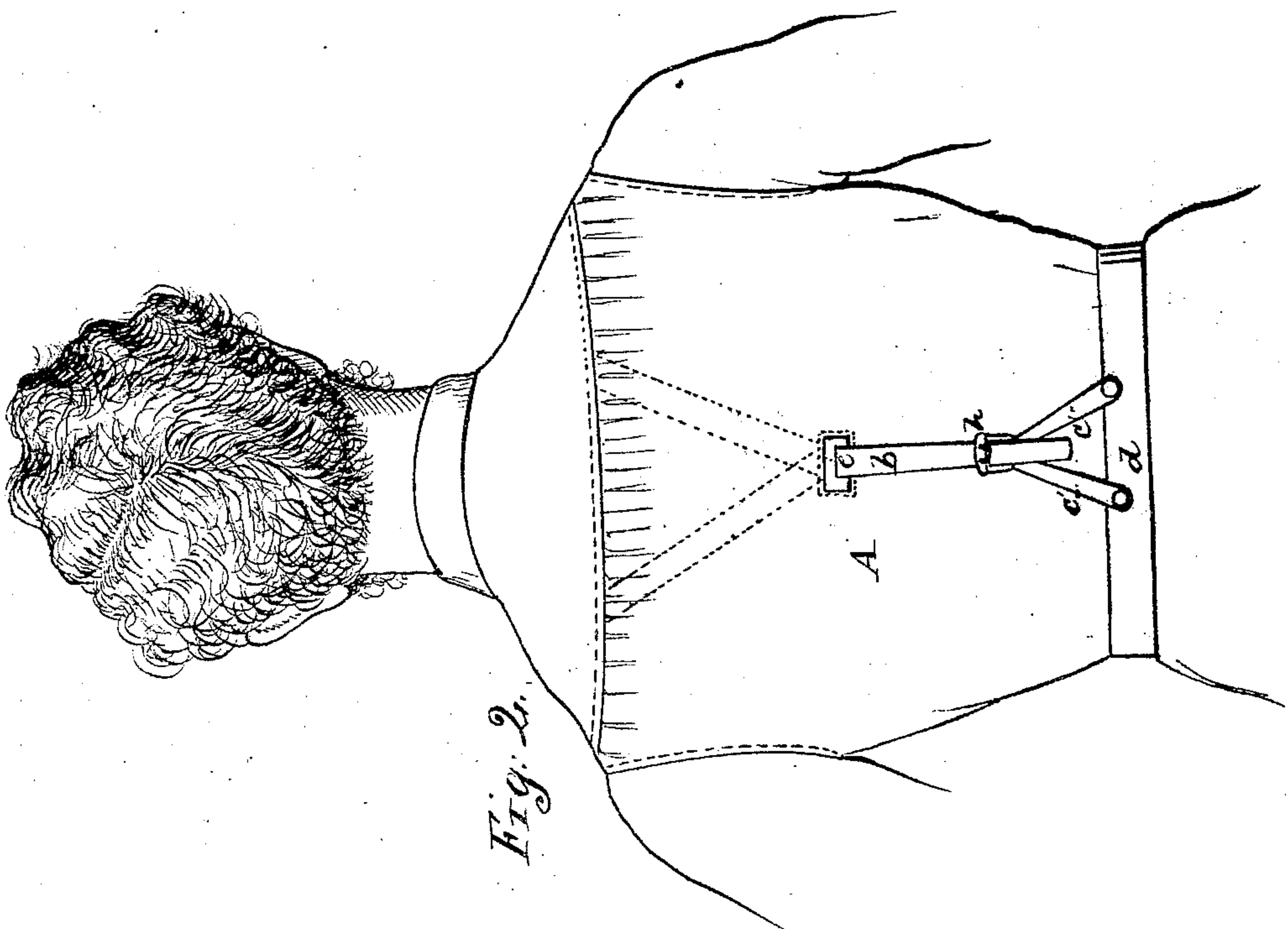


W. H. Towers.

Suspenders.

N^o 50289

Patented Oct. 3, 1865.



Witnesses:

J. L. Newton
T. H. Swinton

Inventor:

W. H. Towers

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. TOWERS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN COMBINED SHIRT AND BRACES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 50,289, dated October 3, 1865.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. TOWERS, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Shirt, or a new Improvement in Shirts; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a front view of the improved shirt, showing the whole arrangement of the same; and Fig. 2 is the back view of the shirt.

A represents the body of the shirt; *a a*, the front straps; *b*, the back strap; *c c'*, the waistband-straps; *d*, the waistband; *e*, the slot in the back of the shirt; *f f*, slots in the front of the shirt; *g g*, buckles on straps *c c'*; *h*, buckle on strap *c'*.

Now, in order that others may better understand the nature and use of my invention and be enabled to construct the same, I will proceed to describe its mode of construction and its use and advantages.

I take a common shirt made of any material of which shirts are made. I cut and make the same in the usual way of making shirts, with exceptions which I will now describe.

Referring to Fig. 1 in the accompanying drawings, it will be perceived that there are straps issuing from the slots *f f*, which are buckled onto the waistband straps. Dotted lines will also be perceived on the front of the shirt, passing up to the yoke of the same. These dotted lines represent straps in the inner side of the shirt, which are sewed or fastened on firmly into the seam of the yoke, and are united in one strap issuing from the slot, as seen in the figure. These straps are made of cloth or any suitable material, and may be fastened into the seam at the yoke and left loose to be drawn through the slot; or they may be fastened or sewed to the shirt where the dotted lines mark the same, as far as the slot. The straps fastened to the waistband are like the ordinary suspender-straps, and are made of elastic material, or may be made of any suitable material. In Fig. 2 will also be seen the

dotted lines passing up to the yoke of the shirt, the strap *b*, issuing from the slot *e*, buckled onto the waistband-straps in the same manner as seen in Fig. 1.

The waistband mentioned above of course refers to the waistband of the pantaloons, and these various straps connected and fastened to the waistband of the pantaloons answer the purpose of suspenders. Indeed, this mode of fastening or holding up pantaloons is easier and more convenient than the ordinary mode. The shirt is apt to "hunch up," especially when one is warm; but this arrangement keeps it down smooth, and it keeps the bosom smoothly in its place, and also answers a double purpose by supporting the pantaloons; also, when the straps are unbuckled in front or rear, the straps *a a* or *b* will not be drawn up over the shoulder, as the suspender is liable to be. It also relieves the shoulders from the hot and uncomfortable suspenders, which many are unable to wear at all, and which soon become soiled and unsightly from perspiration or other causes. The strain upon the shoulders of the shirt is even and uniform, and is scarcely to be felt, while the straps attached to the waistband, being made of elastic material, will prevent any undue strain or tear upon the cloth or material.

As to the mode of fastening the straps, represented by the dotted lines in both figures, in the inner side of the shirt, I claim no particular mode of fastening or form of the straps. What are represented in the figures by dotted lines as two straps, and between the dotted lines, may be one entire piece of cloth or other material.

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

A shirt provided with straps intended to take the place of suspenders, substantially in the manner above described, and for the purpose set forth.

WM. H. TOWERS.

Witnesses:

J. L. NEWTON,
T. H. SWEETSER.