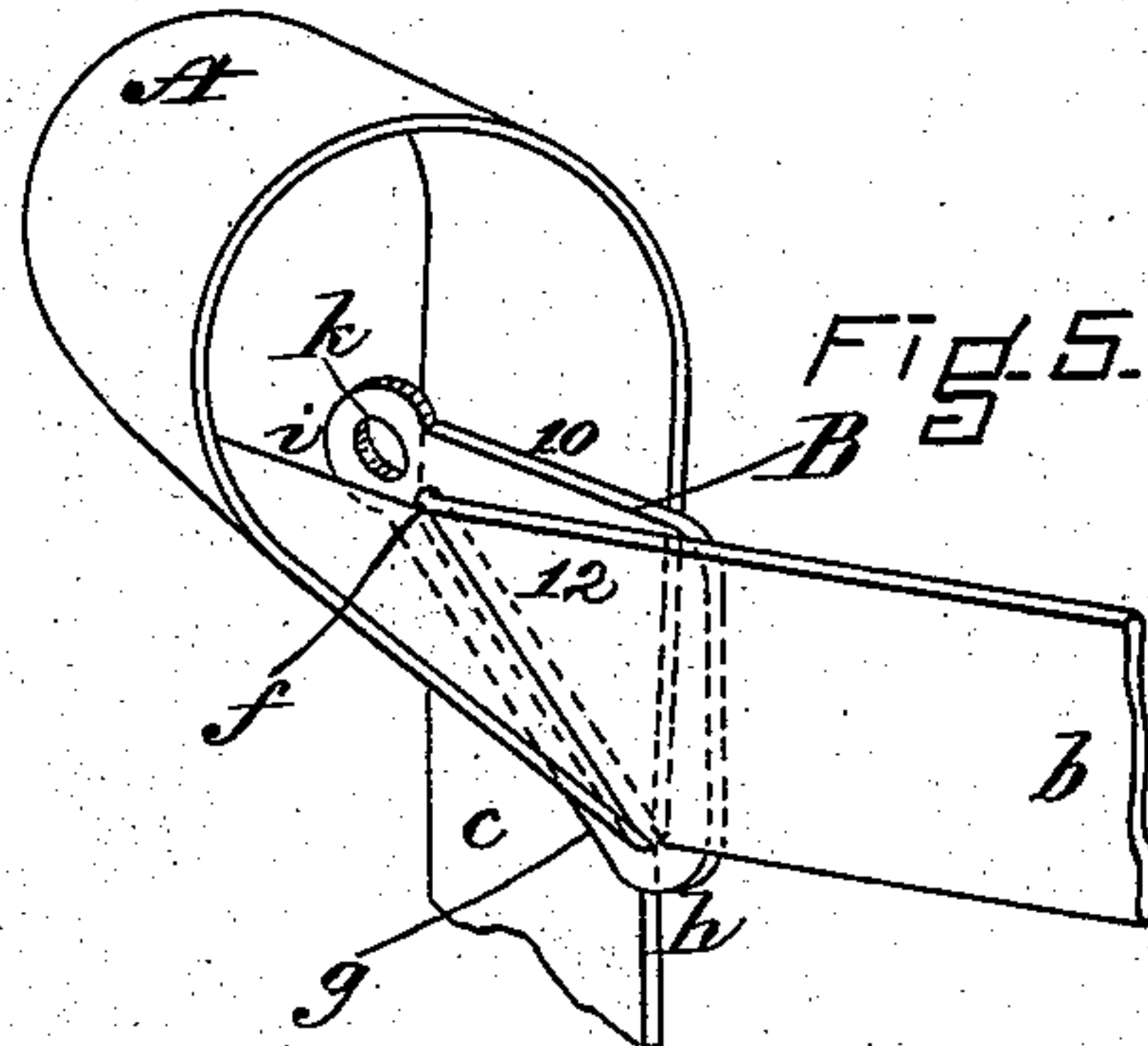
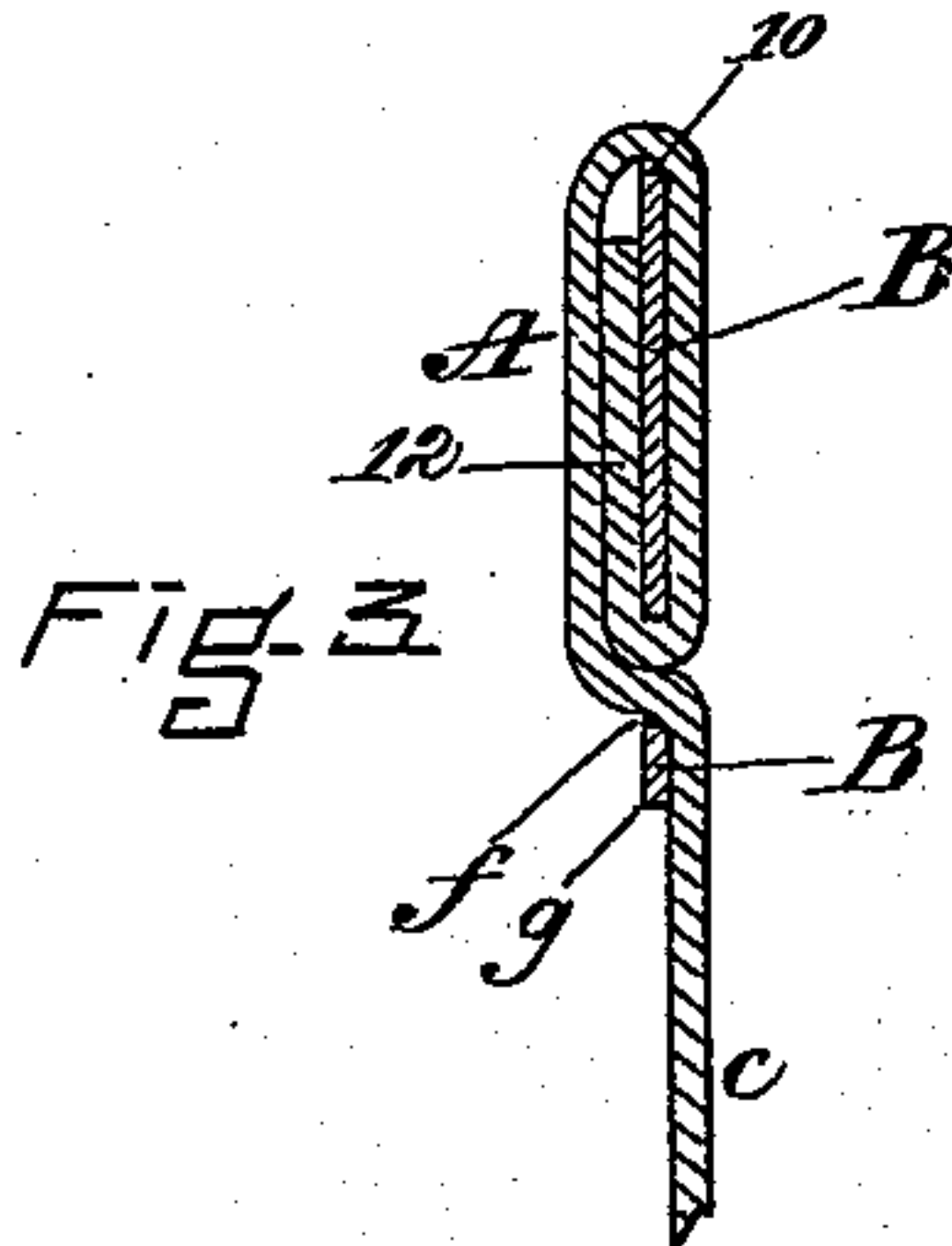
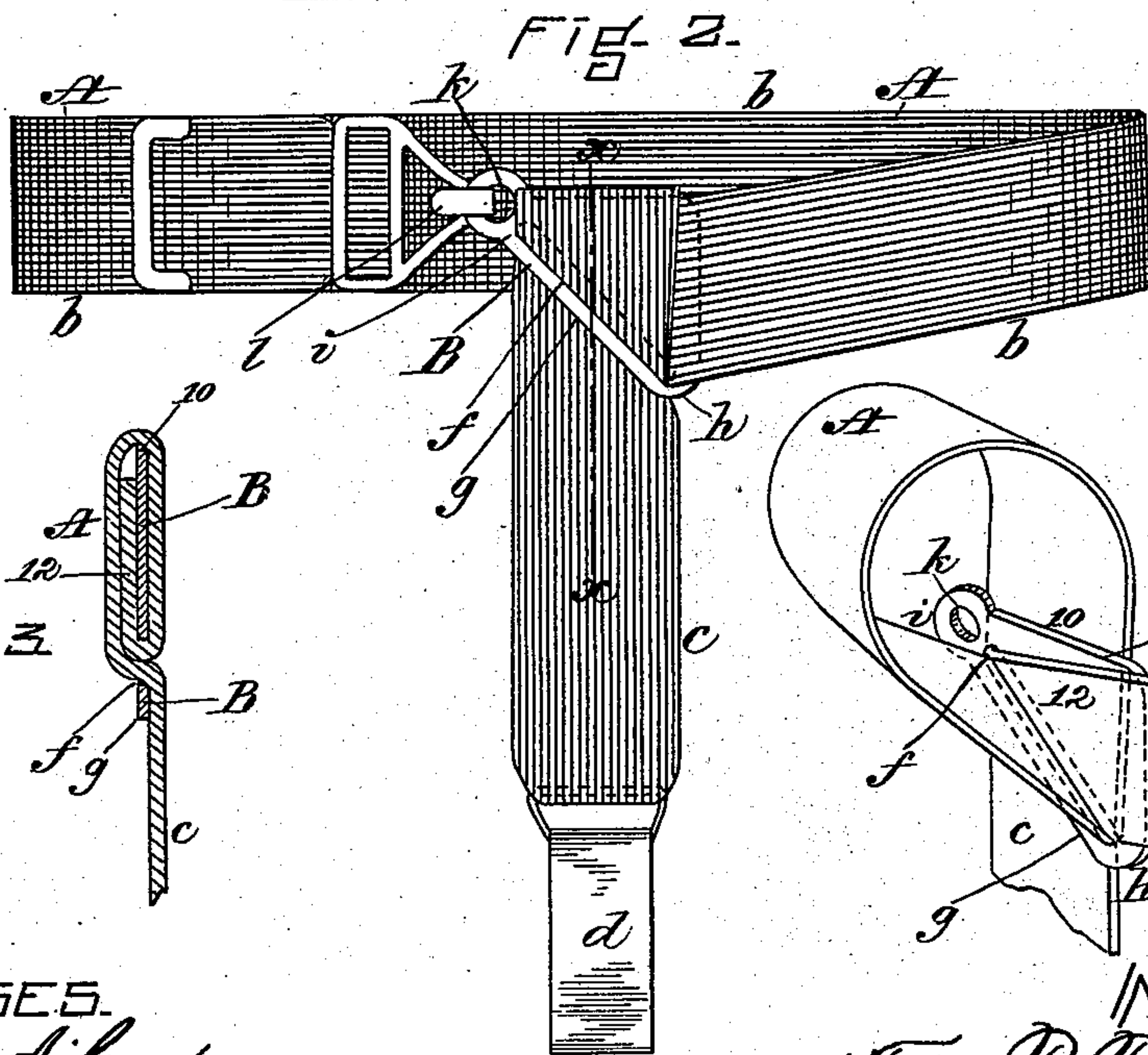
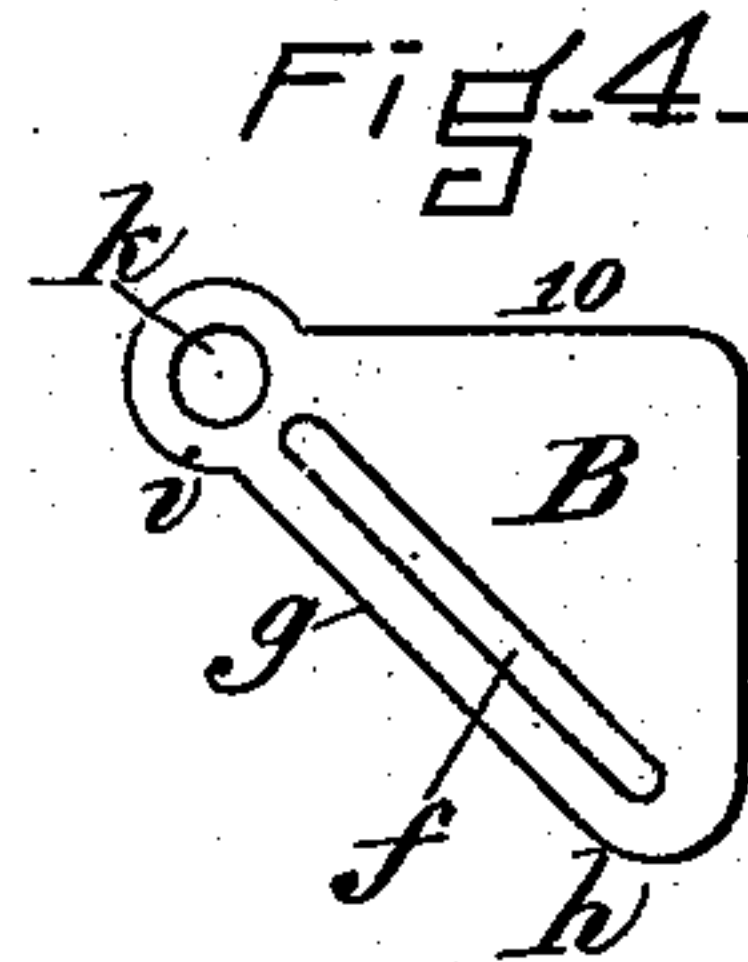
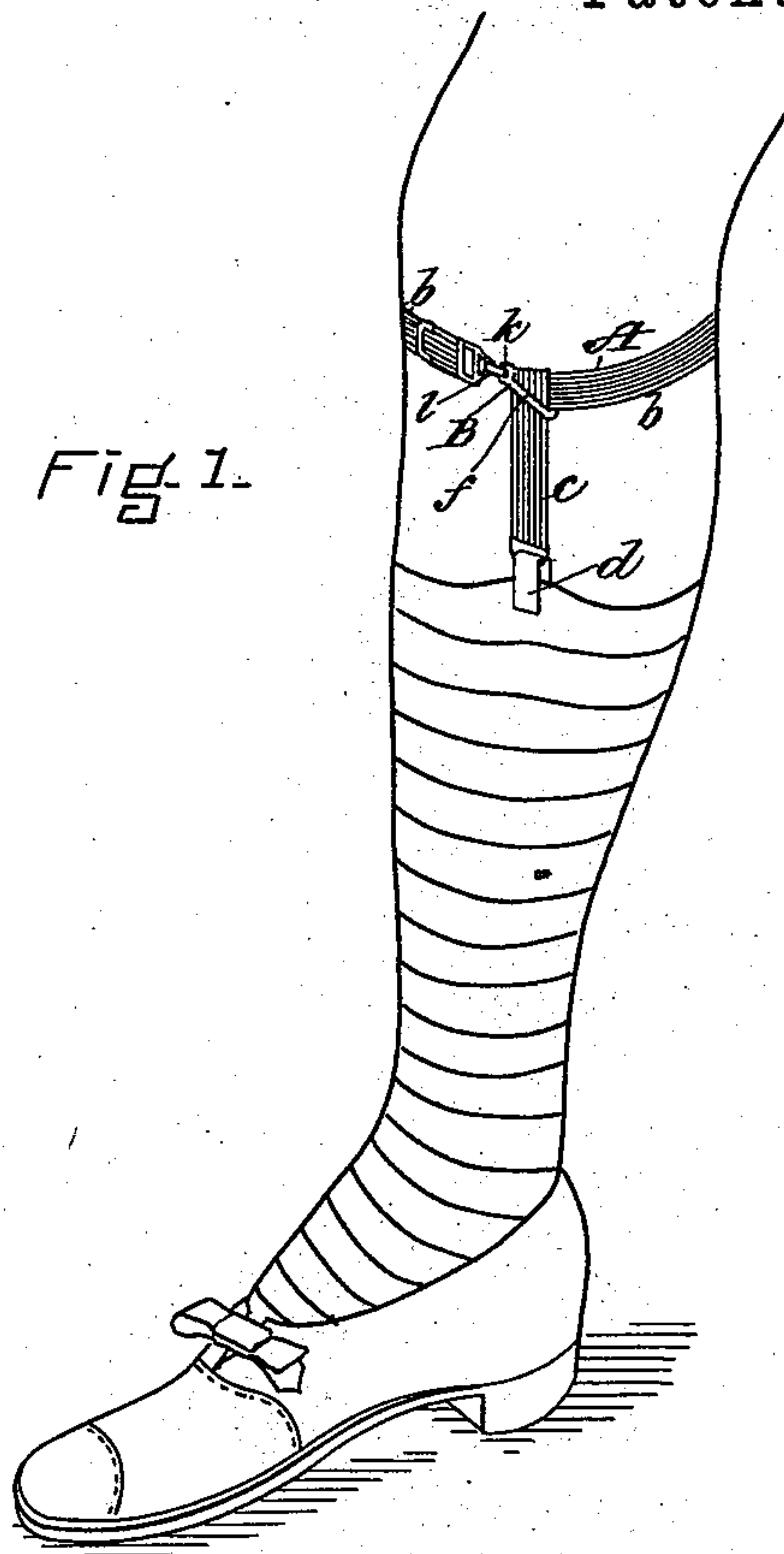


(No Model.)

F. P. BUTMAN.  
STOCKING SUPPORTER.

No. 377,480.

Patented Feb. 7, 1888.



WITNESSES.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRED P. BUTMAN, OF HOLBROOK, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF, AND EDWARD H. FENNESSY, OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

## STOCKING-SUPPORTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 377,480, dated February 7, 1888.

Application filed December 2, 1887. Serial No. 256,834. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FRED P. BUTMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Holbrook, in the county of Norfolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain Improvements in Stocking-Supporters, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved stocking-supporter applied to the leg of a wearer. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the supporter. Fig. 3 is an enlarged section on the line *xx* of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a plan of the adjustable fastening-plate detached. Fig. 5 is a view illustrating the manner in which the webbing is wrapped around the fold-plate and passed through its slot.

My invention relates to that class of stocking-supporters in which a slotted metallic fold-plate is employed in connection with a single band or piece of webbing which encircles the leg of the wearer, whereby the pendent portion to which the stocking is attached is held securely at a right angle to the leg-encircling portion and made adjustable in length; and my invention has for its object to greatly simplify the construction and cheapen the cost of stocking-supporters of this description without impairing their efficiency and ease of adjustment.

To this end my invention consists in the combination, with a band or piece of webbing which encircles the leg of the wearer, of a fold-plate having a single inclined slot and provided with an eye at one end to receive a hook attached to the free end of the band, the webbing being folded over said plate and passed twice through the single slot in such a manner as to cause the pendent portion to be held securely at a right angle to the leg-encircling portion and be easily adjustable in length, as hereinafter set forth.

In the said drawings, A represents a band or single continuous piece of elastic webbing of sufficient length to form both the portion *b*, which encircles the leg of the wearer, and the pendent portion *c*, to the lower end of which is secured a clasp, *d*, or other suitable attaching device adapted to engage with and

hold the upper edge of the stocking, as seen in Fig. 1.

B is a sheet-metal fold-plate of triangular form, which is provided with a single inclined slot, *f*, parallel with its lower edge, *g*, and extending from the corner *h* to the corner *i*, at which latter corner the plate is provided with an eye, *k*, for the reception of the hook *l*, secured to the free end of the band or webbing A, the plate at the end of which the hook *l* is formed having the usual slots, through which the webbing is passed and by means of which the leg-encircling portion is made adjustable in length in a well-known manner.

In applying the webbing to the fold-plate B one end is first passed up through the slot *f*, and the portion drawn through is then laid over the outer face of the plate and carried off on the right-hand side, as seen in Fig. 5. The other end of the webbing is then carried up against the under or inner side of the plate and folded over its upper edge, *10*, after which it is passed down through the slot *f*, to form the pendent portion *c*, and is then drawn down upon the portion *12*, Fig. 5, lying upon the outer side of the plate, the pendent portion *c* being in this manner caused to assume a position at right angles to the leg-encircling portion *b* and made to lie on the inner side of the lower edge, *g*, of the fold-plate, whereby the wearer is protected against any liability of abrasion from the same.

It will be obvious that the above-described fold-plate, with its single slot *f*, admits of the use of a single continuous piece of webbing, which can be readily loosened and pulled through the single slot to vary the length of the pendent portion *c* in accordance with the length of the leg of the stocking worn, while the peculiar manner in which the webbing is folded or wrapped around said plate enables it to be secured firmly in place with but a single slot, instead of requiring two or more slots, as shown in former patents, thus greatly simplifying the construction and reducing the cost of manufacture. Furthermore, the webbing folded upon the plate in the manner described entirely covers the inner metallic surface, as seen in Fig. 3, thereby preventing corrosion of the same and the consequent liability of the clothing becoming soiled.



The above-described stocking-supporter may be readily adjusted to fit the smaller portion of the leg below the knee comfortably and without requiring any compression to hold it in place, while if the attaching device at the end of the pendent portion *c* should become accidentally unfastened from the upper edge of the stocking the leg-encircling portion *b* would remain in place upon the leg without slipping down thereon.

I am aware that a slotted plate for a stocking-supporter is not broadly new, and that a slotted fold-plate has been provided with an eye to receive a hook attached to the free end of the leg-encircling band. I do not therefore claim such as my invention, the same being shown in the patent of W. W. Anderson, No. 220,692, dated October 21, 1879.

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

1. In a stocking-supporter, the combination, with a band or piece of webbing which encir-

cles the leg of the wearer, of a fold-plate, *B*, provided with a single inclined slot, *f*, the webbing being folded upon said plate and passed twice through the slot *f*, substantially in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

2. A stocking-supporter composed of a single piece of webbing having a hook at one end, combined with a fold-plate, *B*, having a single inclined slot, *f*, and an eye at one end or corner for the reception of the hook attached to the free end of the band or leg-encircling portion *b*, the webbing being folded upon the plate *B* and passed twice through the slot *f*, substantially in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

Witness my hand this 29th day of November, A. D. 1887.

FRED P. BUTMAN.

In presence of—

P. E. TESCHEMACHER,  
H. W. AIKEN.