

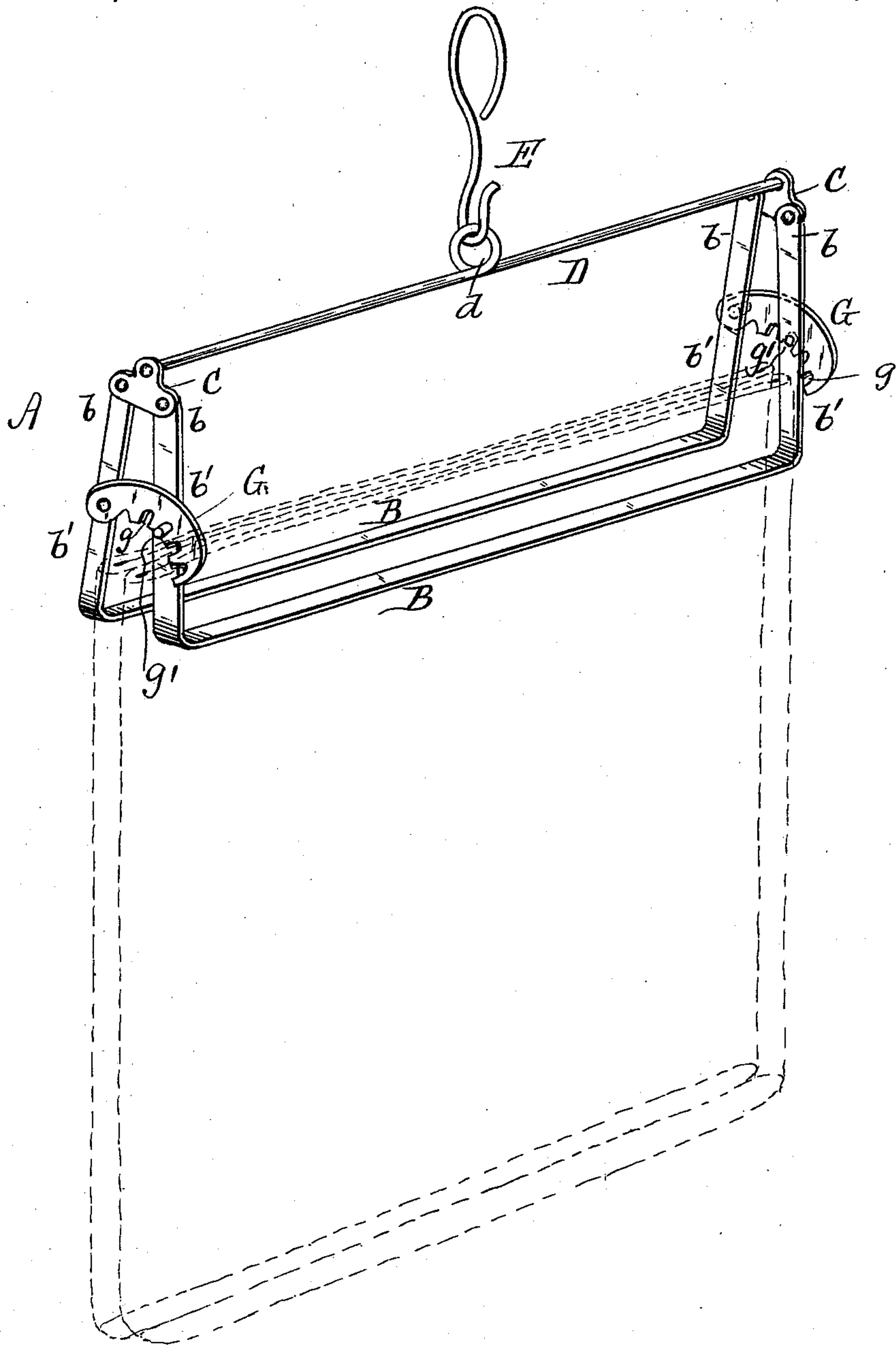
(No Model.)

W. W. ATKINSON.

PANTALOONS OR GARMENT STRETCHER.

No. 384,492.

Patented June 12, 1888.



WITNESSES:

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PANTALOONS OR GARMENT STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 384,492, dated June 12, 1888.

Application filed September 20, 1887. Serial No. 250,214. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM W. ATKINSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Pantaloon or Garment Stretchers, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing, which is a perspective of a pantaloon-holder embodying my improvements.

My invention has relation to a portable pantaloon or garment holder of the form composed of two metal or other frames hinged or connected together and provided with devices for clamping the frames together to securely hold a garment or fabric placed or inserted between them; and it has for its object a simple and economical form of such holder, the frames of which are so connected to one another as to move apart equally from each other from end to end when opened or closed together, whereby any thickness of garment or fabric, or a number of thicknesses of the same within the limit of extent of movement of the frames apart from each other may be inserted between them, and when clamped together they exert an equal pressure upon the garments from end to end of the holder, so that the weight of the garments when suspended exerts an even stretching-pressure from all parts of the holder.

My invention accordingly consists of the novel combination, construction, and arrangement of parts forming a pantaloon or garment holder, as hereinafter described and claimed.

A indicates the holder, composed of two U-shaped frames, B B, of flat metal placed parallel to one another with the thin edges of the frames adjacent to form biting surfaces or edges for engaging the fabric or garment inserted between them. The upper extremities, *b*, of the ends *b'* of frames B are connected or pivoted to links C, which in turn have a central pivotal connection with a connecting rod, D, having an eye, *d*, for a hook or clasp, E.

To the ends of one of the frames B are pivoted, preferably, curved or segmental bars G, having teeth or notches *g* for engagement with pins *g'* on the ends of the remaining frame B, as shown. These bars G are curved or segmental in form, so that their teeth when

brought into engagement with the pins *g'* will frictionally engage therewith and clamp the bars to the pins, and in turn lock or clamp the frames B together. The employment of the links C admits of considerable extent of movement apart of the frames for the insertion between them of a single fabric, or a number of thicknesses of the same, without straining the holder when its frames are clamped together, and, further, of the frames moving apart equally from end to end, so that when clamped together they press or clamp correspondingly from one end to the other. Consequently the weight of the garment suspended from the holder exerts an equal pressure throughout the width of the same to stretch all parts of the same evenly.

As the details of construction of the foregoing-described holder may be varied without departing from the spirit of my invention, I do not limit myself to that shown and described.

What I claim is—

1. A garment holder and stretcher composed of parallel U-shaped frames made of flat or plate bars placed edge to edge and separately pivoted at their ends to links C, a bar, D, connecting said links, and clamping devices at each end of one of said frames for engagement with studs at corresponding ends of the other of said frames, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination of frames B B, having ends *b'*, link-connections C for said ends, segmental or curved notched bars on the ends of one of said frames, and pins on the ends of the remaining frame for engagement with said bars, substantially as set forth.

3. A garment holder and stretcher comprising two parallel frames placed edge to edge and having their ends separately pivoted to links C, a bar, D, connecting said links, and devices at each end of one of the frames for engagement with the other of the frames for locking or clamping them together, substantially as set forth.

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

WILLIAM W. ATKINSON.

Witnesses:

S. J. VAN STAVOREN,
CHAS. F. VAN HORN.