(No Model.)

E. S. SMITH.

STOCKING SUPPORTER.

No. 438,867. Patented Oct. 21, 1890.

Fig. 1

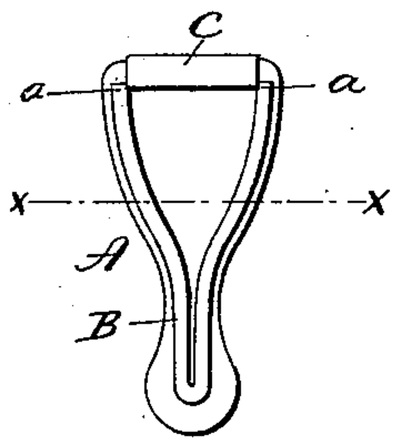

Fig. 2

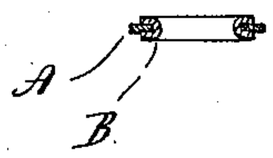

Fig. 3

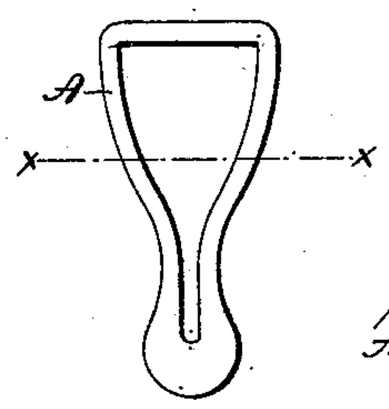

Fig. 4

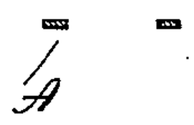

Fig. 5

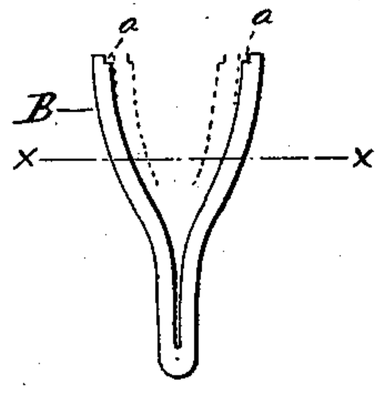

Fig. 6

Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD S. SMITH, OF WATERBURY, CONNECTICUT.

STOCKING-SUPPORTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 438,867, dated October 21, 1890.

Application filed February 24, 1890. Serial No. 341,503. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD S. SMITH, of Waterbury, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented new Improvements in Stocking-Supporters; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, and which said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1, a face view of the supporter complete; Fig. 2, a transverse section of the same on line *x x* of Fig. 1; Fig. 3, a face view of the body with the bushing and clip removed; Fig. 4, a transverse section of the same on line *x x* of Fig. 3; Fig. 5, a face view of the bushing detached; Fig. 6, a transverse section of the bushing on line *x x* of Fig. 5.

This invention relates to an improvement in that class of stocking-supporters which consist of a metal loop adapted to be attached to the end of a strap extending from the garments above, the said loop having an opening through it of substantially V shape, the apex downward, and so that a portion of the stocking or whatever it may be, drawn into the larger portion of the opening above and down into the narrower portion or toward the apex of the V, will be grasped by the contracted portion of the loop, so as to hold the loop in engagement with the stocking—a common and well-known class of supporters. These loops are more generally made from sheet metal cut to the required shape. It is difficult, however, to smoothly finish the inner edge of the loop. To overcome the difficulty arising from rough or unfinished edges, bushings have been applied to the inside of the loop, which will give to the edge a smooth rounded finish. It is to this construction that my invention particularly relates, the object being a simple construction whereby the bushing is readily applied and firmly secured; and it consists in the construction as hereinafter described, and particularly recited in the claim.

A represents the body of the loop, which is made from sheet metal, as seen in Fig. 3, of substantially the usual V shape, there being a transverse bar across the top, to which the suspending-strap may be connected. The body of the loop is flat and preferably of equal thickness throughout, as represented in Fig. 4.

B represents the bushing. (Shown detached in Fig. 5.) The bushing is constructed from a strip of sheet metal, folded into U shape in transverse section, and bent into V shape, as shown, the open edge outward. The width of this open edge corresponds substantially to the thickness of the body A of the loop. The shape and length of the two sides correspond to the shape and length of the two sides of the body, and so that the bushing may be slipped into the loop by contracting or bringing the two sides nearer together, as indicated in broken lines, Fig. 5, until the sides at the upper end may pass between the two sides of the body A. Then the two sides of the bushing are forced apart and onto the respective sides of the body. The bend at the apex of the bushing corresponds to the narrower portion of the body. This bushing, being rounded upon its edge by bending into U shape, presents a round smooth finished edge on both sides and around the apex of the opening in the loop.

To secure the bushing in place and prevent its accidental displacement, the bushing is constructed with a notch *a* upon its inside at each upper end, and then around the transverse bar at the upper end of the loop a sheet metal clip C is placed, of a length corresponding to the distance between the two notches *a a*. The clip is closed onto the transverse bar of the loop and rests in said notches, which interlock the clip and the bushing, so as to prevent the ends of the bushing from approaching each other. Consequently the clip prevents the possible removal of the bushing. The clip also enlarges the bar and gives to it smooth and rounded edges to prevent wear upon the strap.

From the foregoing it will be understood that I do not claim, broadly, a stocking-supporter composed of a V-shaped loop in which the inner edge is provided with a bushing, such construction, broadly considered, being found in United States Patent No. 420,419, granted to me January 28, 1890; but

What I do claim is—

In a stocking-supporter substantially such as described, the sheet-metal body A, having

a V-shaped opening therein, forming a transverse bar across the upper end of the V for the attachment of the strap combined with a sheet-metal bushing of V shape, corresponding to the V shape of the loop, the said bushing in transverse section of U shape, the branches of the bushing set over the inner edges of the opening in the body and extending upward to the said transverse bar, the upper ends of the sides of the bushing constructed with a notch *a*, and a clip C, of a length corresponding to the distance between the said notches *a a*, closed around the said transverse bar and into said notches, substantially as and for the purpose described.

EDWARD S. SMITH.

Witnesses:
R. H. SMITH,
GEO. W. ROBERTS.