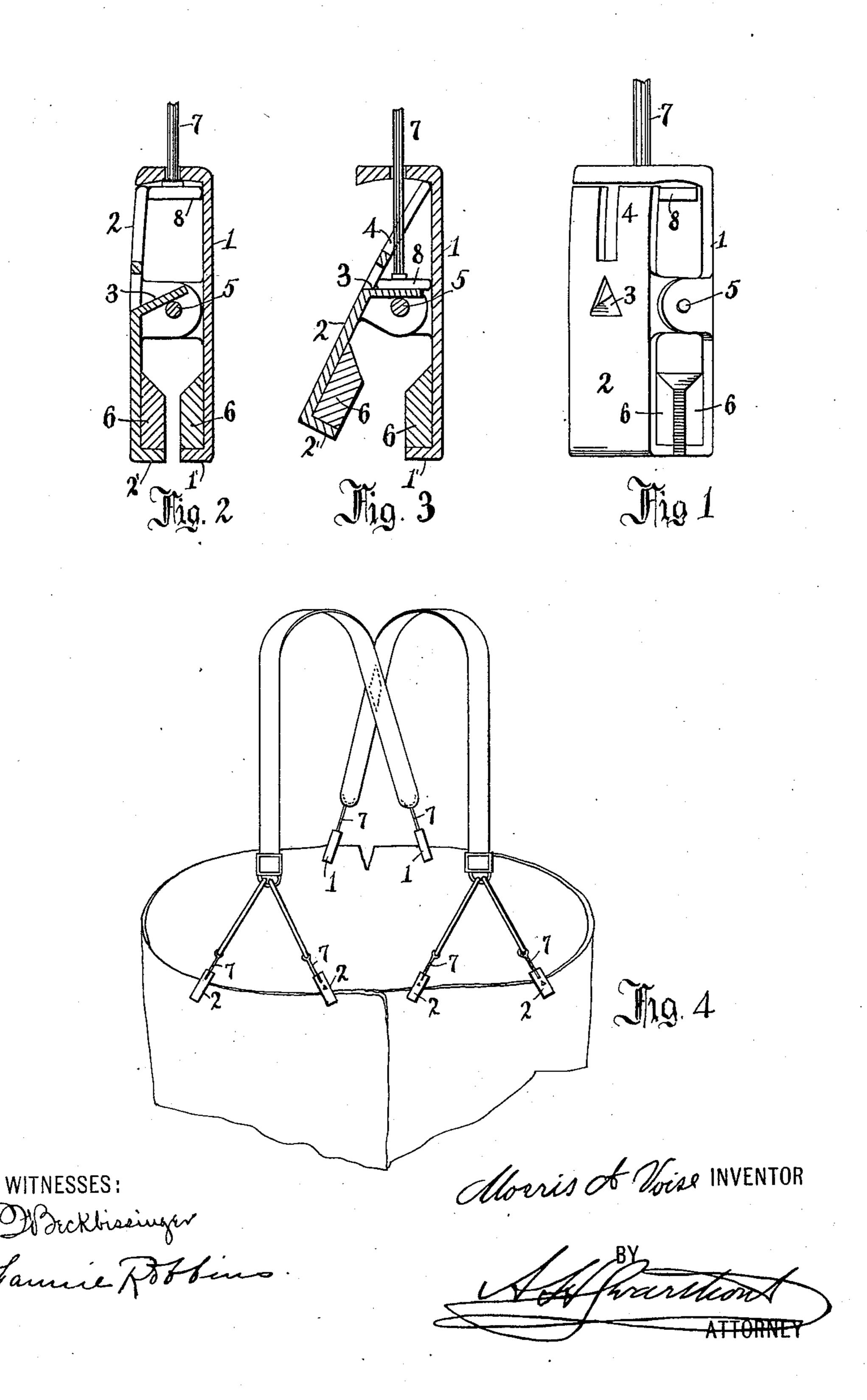
(No Model.)

## M. A. VOISE. GARMENT SUPPORTER.

No. 566,947.

Patented Sept. 1, 1896.



## United States Patent Office.

MORRIS A. VOISE, OF SAGINAW, MICHIGAN.

## GARMENT-SUPPORTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 566,947, dated September 1, 1896.

Application filed January 29, 1896. Serial No. 577,241. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, Morris A. Voise, a citizen of the United States, residing at Saginaw, in the county of Saginaw and State of Michi-5 gan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Garment-Supporters; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which 10 it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention is a garment-supporter; and it 15 consists in the peculiar construction, arrangement, combination, and attachment hereinafter described and shown.

Figure 1 is a perspective of the supporter. Fig. 2 is a perspective showing the clasp 20 closed. Fig. 3 is the same section showing the clasp open. Fig. 4 illustrates the appli-

cation of the supporter.

In the drawings, 1 is the body or foundation forming one side or jaw of the clasp, 2 25 being the opposite jaw and pivoted to 1 by the pivot 5. The front end of the jaws have each an inwardly-extending portion, 1' and 2', respectively, which supports and holds a cushion 6 in each of the jaws. This cushion, 30 as will be seen, is for the purpose of giving a longer clasping surface to the jaws, and also affording additional pressure upon the garment clasped.

7 is a rod or plunger entering the body 1 35 of the clasp through the rear end of the body, and has upon its inner end the dash 8, which is of the size of the inside of the clasp between the two jaws, and this plunger 7 is adapted to be moved in and out between the 40 rear end of the jaws up to the pivot 5.

The jaw 2 is provided at its rear end with the central longitudinal slot 4, just large enough to permit the rod 7 to pass into it as the jaw 2 is opened, as shown in Fig. 3, thus 45 allowing the clasp to open to a greater dis-

tance.

3 is a lug cut out of the jaw 2 and bent inward just at the rear of the pivot 5, and is adapted to be engaged by the dash 8 as it is 50 pushed in before the dash reaches the pivot 5 and thereby by the movement of the dash open the jaw 2. It will thus be seen that the

clasp is closed by pulling the plunger rearward and opened by pushing it inward to the extent of its movement, and that when 55 the jaws are closed the dash 8, between their rear ends, holds them closed and rigid, it being impossible to open them or extract the garment to which they may be attached without pushing in the plunger 7.

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Heretofore it has been common in clasps of this general character to hold the jaws closed by a spring, which is unsatisfactory on account of the string losing its tension or some sudden jerk overcoming the resistance 65 of the spring, but with my device it would be impossible to detach the clasp from the garment to which it may be attached without pushing in on the plunger 7, thus moving the dash 8 frontward and allowing the rear end 70 of the jaw 2 to pass down into the space between the jaws when tripped by the dash 8 striking the lug 3.

I do not wish to confine myself to any particular form or construction of the supporter 75 shown, and any change may be made that comes within mechanical skill without departing from the principle of my invention, which, having thus described,

What I claim as new, and desire to secure 80

Letters Patent therefor, is—

1. In a garment-supporter, two jaws pivoted together at about their middle length through lugs thrown out from each for that purpose, and having between their rear ends 85 a plunging rod passing through a hole in a laterally and inwardly extending arm of one of the jaws at its rear end, the arm extending across and closing the opening at the rear end of the jaws, a dash on the inner end of 90 the plunger adapted to be drawn back and forth between the rear ends of the jaws back of their pivotal connection and thereby close and open the jaws, a longitudinal slot in the rear end of the loose jaw adapting it to pass 95 by the plunging rod and thereby permit a wider opening of the jaws, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a garment-supporter, the combination with two jaws pivoted together at about the 100 middle of their longitudinal length through lugs thrown up from the body, and cushions in the front ends of the jaws, of a plunger supported on the rear end of one of the jaws

and adapted to move in and out between the jaws, a dash on the end of the plunger of the size of the space between the rear ends of the jaws adapted to close the jaws by the outward movement thereof, an inwardly extending lug on one of the jaws in the rear of their pivotal connection adapted to be engaged by the dash when pushed in, and thereby open the jaws, substantially as specified.

jaws rigid and having lugs thrown up at about the middle of its length to receive a pivoted movable jaw secured to the opposite side of the pivot, a plunger comprising a rod and dash adapted to move in and out between

the rear ends of the jaws, the plunger supported by the rear end of the rigid jaw being turned up at right angles and having a central orifice through which the plunger-rod passes, the movable jaw provided with a slot 20 4 and with an inwardly-extending lug 3 whereby when the plunger is pushed in it will engage the lug and open the jaw, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature 25

in presence of two witnesses.

MORRIS A. VOISE.

Witnesses:

A. H. SWARTHOUT, FANNIE ROBBINS.