

(No Model.)

C. BURNHAM.
TROUSERS STRETCHER.

No. 572,155.

Patented Dec. 1, 1896.

Fig. 1.

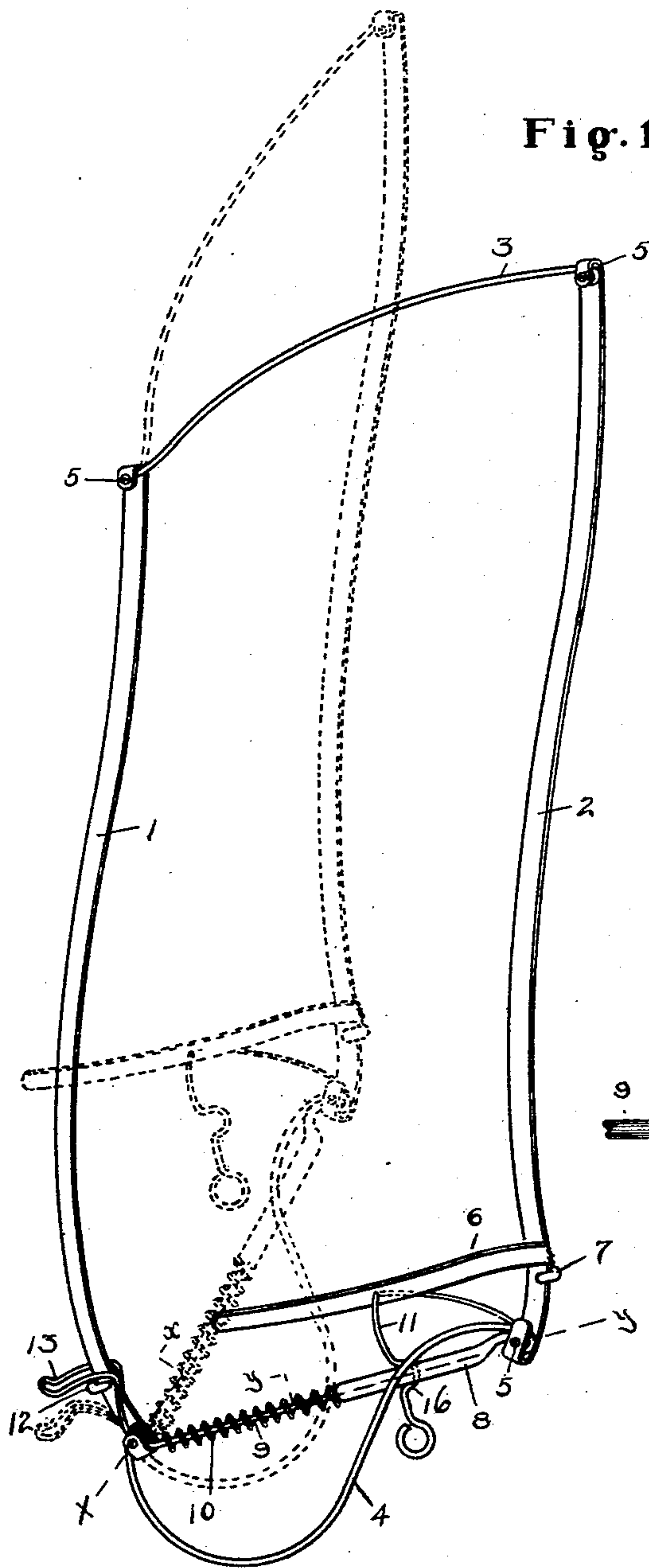


Fig. 2.

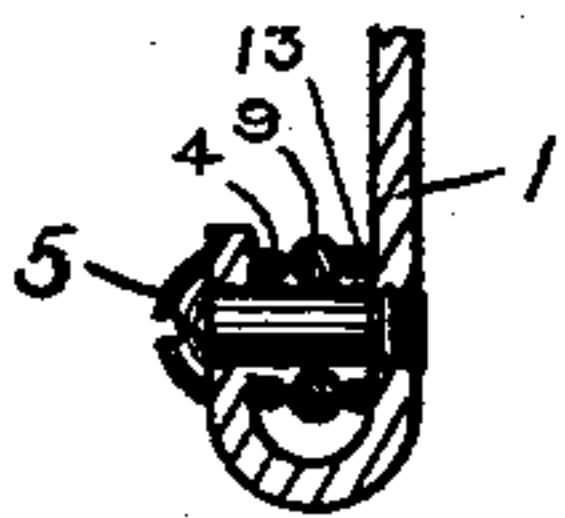
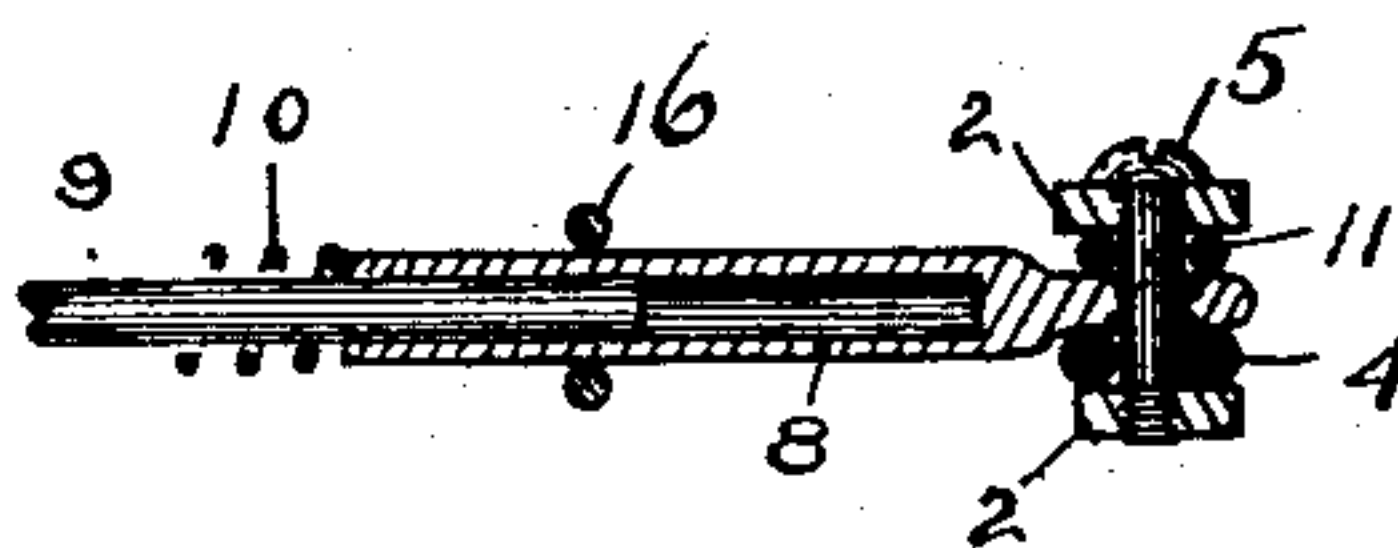


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:
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G. Hillard Pisk.

Inventor,
Charles Burnham
by Charles Holmbeck
his

atty's.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES BURNHAM, OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF
TO LAURISTON L. STONE AND THOMAS L. FOULKES, OF SAME PLACE.

TROUSERS-STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 572,155, dated December 1, 1896.

Application filed June 5, 1896. Serial No. 594,378. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES BURNHAM, of Rochester, in the county of Monroe and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Trousers-Shapers; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and to the reference-numerals marked thereon.

My present invention has for its objects to provide a device adapted particularly for shaping the legs of trousers while being shrunk, but also capable of use as a stretching device for holding and creasing them; and to these ends it consists in the improved construction hereinafter fully described, the novel features being pointed out in the claims at the end of this specification.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a device constructed in accordance with my invention; Figs. 2 and 3, sectional views on the lines *xx* and *yy*, respectively.

Similar reference-numerals in the several figures indicate similar parts.

The shaper consists generally of two members or rods 1 2, preferably of metal, connected at opposite ends by elastic links or spring-arms 3 and 4, so as to move substantially parallel, as in dotted lines. The members 1 and 2 are preferably curved, as shown, to approximate the shape to be given to the trousers-leg, the pivotal connection between them and the ends of the elastic connecting-links 3 and 4 being formed by bending the ends of the members over and forming eyes on the ends of the links, through which are passed screws 5 or similar fastenings. To the lower portion of the member 1 is secured an arm 6, the forward end extending a short distance forward of the member and being serrated, as shown, the teeth thus formed serving to engage and hold the inner side of the facing or band at the lower end of the trousers-leg to prevent its slipping, and a stop 7 is arranged a slight distance below the serrations to properly position the trousers. The rearward portion of the arm 6 extends toward the member 1, and is provided with a catch for engaging with a telescoping link connect-

ing the lower ends of the members and preventing the approach of the members 1 and 2 toward each other, excepting by the compression of the spring-links 3 and 4. The telescoping link is composed of an outer tubular part 8, pivoted to the screw 5 on the member 2, and an inner part or rod 9, pivoted on the screw 5 at the lower end of the member 1. A spring 10, encircling the part 9 and engaging the member 1 and part 8, assists in keeping the lower ends of the members separate. The spring-catch, preferably employed for locking the parts in the position in full lines, is composed of a single piece of spring-wire 11, having an eye through which the screw 5 on the lower end of member 2 passes, thence extending through an aperture formed in the arm 6, then bent down at an angle to said arm and provided with a recess or bend 16, adapted to snap over the telescoping link 8, as shown. At the lower end of the member 1 is provided a holding device for engaging the lower rear edge of the trousers-leg, said device consisting in the present construction of a projection 12 on the member and a pivoted clamp 13, formed of a piece of wire pivoted at its lower end on the screw 5 and bent around to form the operating end 13, and the two arms adapted to project on opposite sides of the projection 12 and grasp the leg of the trousers, holding it firmly.

When the device is to be used for shrinking and shaping trousers, which is the primary object to be attained by its use, the members are turned to the position (collapsed form) shown in dotted lines, and it is then thrust into the lower end of the leg, the lower forward edge of the leg being against the stop 7. Then the members are brought into the position shown in full lines against the tension of the spring-links and also of the spring on the telescoping link, if one is used. The rear portion of the end of the trousers-leg is placed over the projection 12, and the clamp 13 is turned over and securely holds it.

The members being separated by yielding pressure and the frame being open, the trousers can be easily and uniformly shrunk by the use of water and a hot iron, as usual.

It is desirable that the members be curved substantially as shown in order to correctly

shape the legs, but their exact configuration need not be preserved, but could be changed as desired, and while I prefer to use the clamps and holding devices of the particular form shown at the lower end of the members these also could be varied without departing from my invention.

I claim as my invention—

1. The combination with the two members or rods having holding devices at their ends to engage a trousers-leg, of the links 3 and 4 composed of single pieces of spring metal, pivotally connected at each end to the ends of said members leaving a space between them, and locking devices independent of said spring-links for holding the members substantially parallel but permitting their approach by the flexing of the links, substantially as described.

2. The combination with the two members, of the links 3 and 4 composed of single pieces of spring metal pivoted to the ends of the members leaving a free space between them, the link formed in two parts sliding one upon the other and one connected to each member, and a catch carried by one member and engaging said link for holding the members separated, but permitting them to yield against the tension of the spring-links, substantially as described.

3. The combination with the two members, of the spring-links 3 and 4 pivoted to the ends of said members leaving a free space between

them, the telescopic link pivoted to the members at opposite ends, the arm 6 and the spring-catch thereon engaging the telescopic link, substantially as described.

4. The combination with the two members or rods, of the spring-links 3 and 4 pivoted to their opposite ends leaving a free space between them, the telescopic link, the arm 6, and the wire catch attached to one member extending through the arm and having the portion engaging the telescopic link, substantially as described.

5. The combination with the members 1 and 2, of the spring-links 3 and 4 pivoted at their ends to the members, the stops 7 and 12, the serrated catch on one member, the pivoted catch 13, and fastening devices for holding the members separated, but permitting their movement by the yielding of the spring-links, substantially as described.

6. The combination with the two members or rods, of the spring-links 3 and 4 pivoted to their ends leaving a free space between them, the spur or holding-catch on the lower end of one member, the pivoted wire catch at the corresponding end of the other member, the telescopic link pivoted to the members, the arm 6 and catch on said arm engaging the telescopic link, substantially as described.

CHARLES BURNHAM.

Witnesses:

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