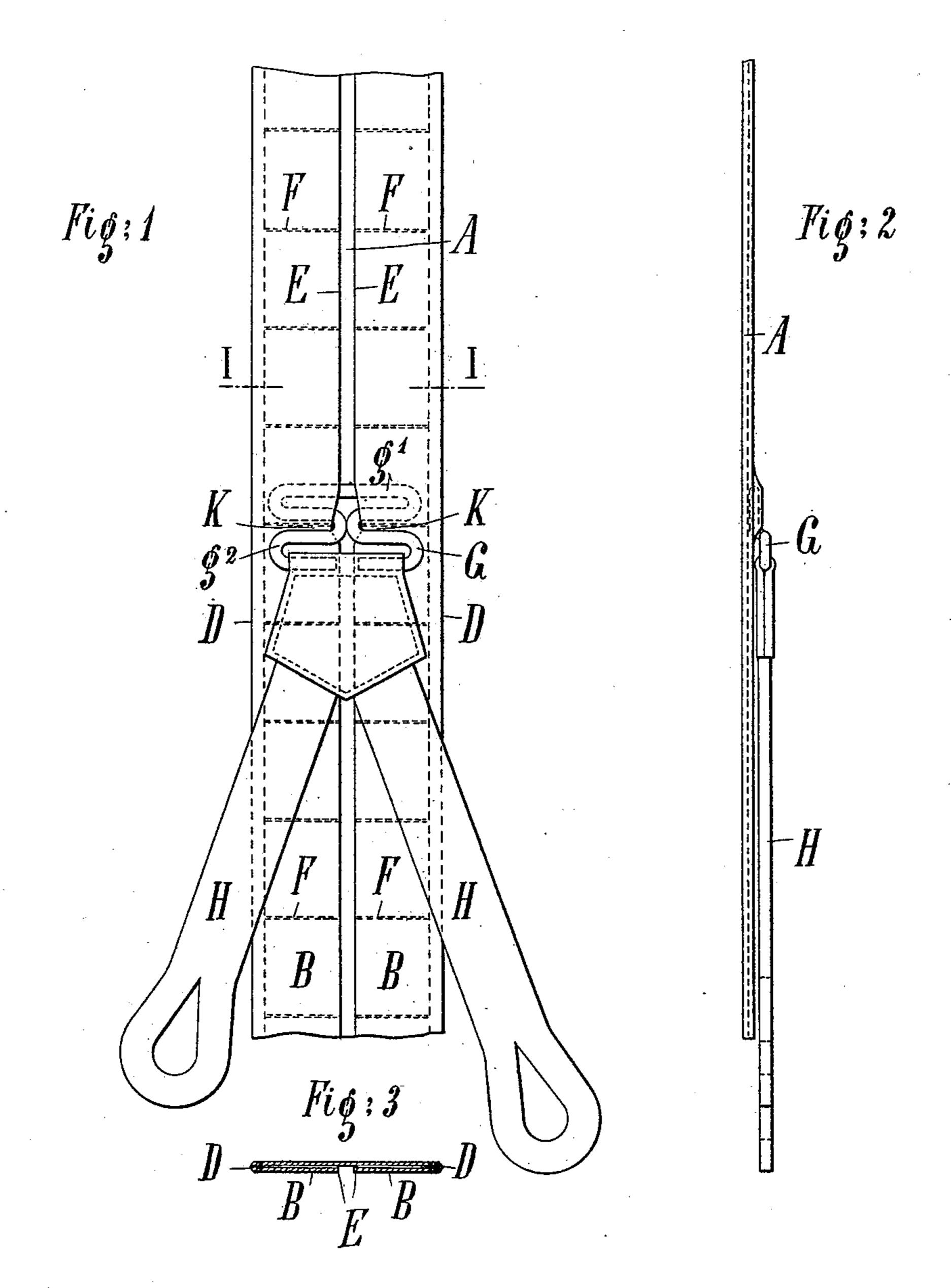
No. 622,349.

Patented Apr. 4, 1899.

## W. HALSTENBACH. BRACES.

(Application filed Sept. 23, 1898.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses;

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Inventor; Wilkelm Jalskenbach

## United States Patent Office.

WILHELM HALSTENBACH, OF BARMEN, GERMANY.

## BRACES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 622,349, dated April 4, 1899.

Application filed September 23, 1898. Serial No. 691,697. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILHELM HALSTEN-BACH, a subject of the Emperor of Germany, residing at Barmen, Province of Rhenish Prussia, Germany, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Braces, (for which a patent was applied for in Austria September 10, 1898;) and I do hereby 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 it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to improvements in braces; and it has for its object to prevent the adjusting-buckle from coming in direct contact with the body, so that it cannot cause any pressure upon the body, but, on the contrary, to have always a layer of the holding strap or belt between the buckle and the shirt below the braces, and at the same time the adjustment—that is, the lengthening or shortening of the strap—shall be made very easy and in such a manner that the holding-strap will never be injured by pins or claws and the like holding means. I attain these objects by the device illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 shows a front view of a part of the new braces. Fig. 2 is a side view. Fig. 3 is a cross-section along line I I of Fig. 1.

As will be best seen from Figs. 1 and 3, the holding or bearing strap of the new braces consists of a combination of one broad or main strap A and two small straps B B, connected 35 each of them in any suitable manner to the bottom strap A at the outer edges D of the latter, whereas the inner edges E of the small straps B, which do not quite meet in the middle, are free. At certain distances in the 40 length of the combined strap the main part A and the two small webs B B are connected together by transverse bindings or joints F, so that small pockets are formed opposite each other and closed at top and bottom and also 45 at the outer edges, whereas in the middle these pockets are open. Now these pockets serve to take up the buckle G, to which the buttoning-straps H are fixed.

The buckle G, which by preference is made to of wire, but which might just as well be stamped out of sheet metal, has a peculiar

shape, like two **W**'s placed horizontal and meeting at their upper sides with the middle and one of the outer legs, the two other outer legs being left open. Between the upper and 55 lower double legs g'  $g^2$  thus formed there is left a free space K, open at both sides, so that the buckle can be stuck upon the strap, as shown in Fig. 1, the free spaces K reaching over the bindings F, leaving the laterally-ex-60 tending legs g' above and the similar legs  $g^2$  below the bindings. To the leg  $g^2$  are fixed the buttoning-straps H.

From the description given and from Fig. 1 of the drawings it will now be easily under- 65 stood how the shifting of the buttoning-strap can be performed conveniently, and from Figs, 2 and 3 it will also be seen that the buckle is always inclosed partly between the straps A and B B and that it is quite impossible for 70 it to come in contact with the body or with the wearing-apparel below the braces.

Having now explained my invention, I declare that what I desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is—

1. In braces for wearing-apparel, the combination of a main strap, two straps somewhat narrower than half the width of said main strap, both attached longitudinally to one side of the same, the outer edge of each narrow 80 strap being attached to one of the outer edges of said main strap, and bindings running transversely across said straps at certain intervals so as to form transverse pockets on each side of the central, vertical line of the 85 main strap having their adjacent sides open and their other sides closed, substantially as set forth.

2. A buckle having a pair of laterally-extended legs g', in combination with a suspen- 90 der-strap which is provided on its face with two series of corresponding transverse pockets opening inwardly and arranged with an interval between the series, each pair of pockets being adapted to receive the said legs, sub- 95 stantially as set forth.

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

WILHELM HALSTENBACH.

Witnesses:
OTTO KÖNIG,
M. E. DINGMAN.