No. 660,990. Patented Oct. 30, 1900.

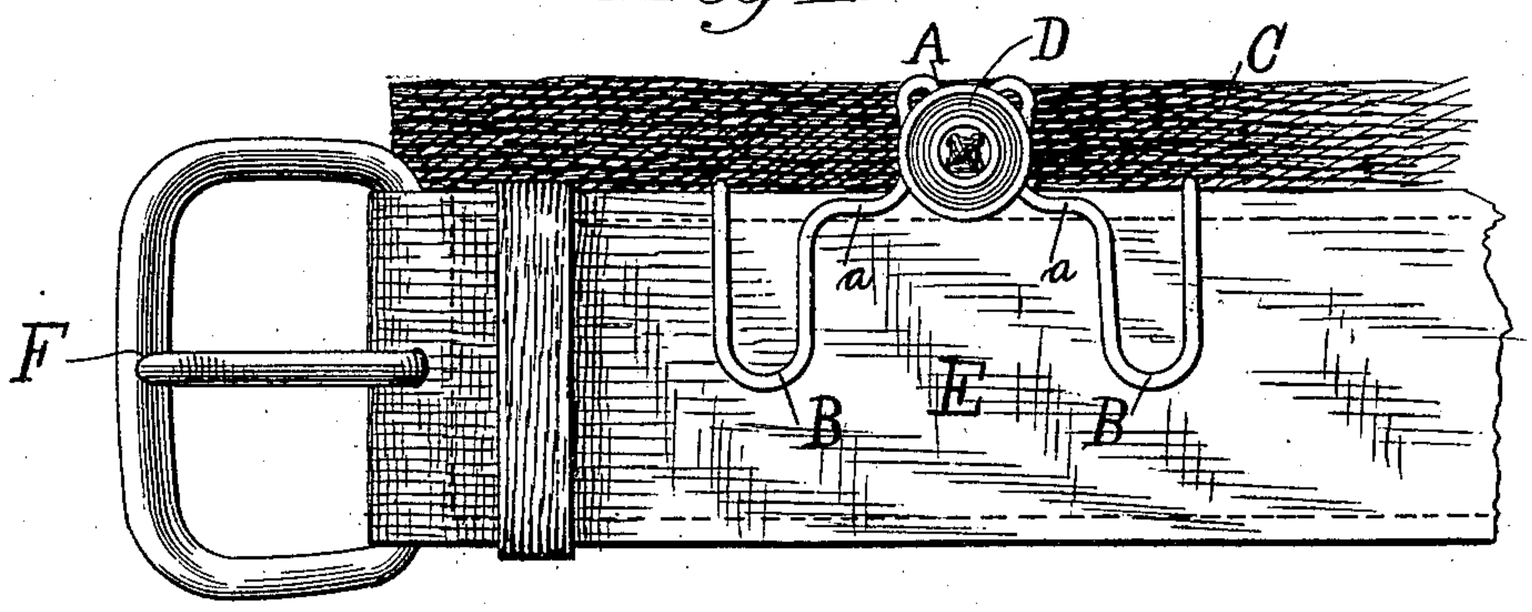
F. H. HOUGHTON.

BELT RETAINER.

(Application filed Sept. 11, 1899.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.



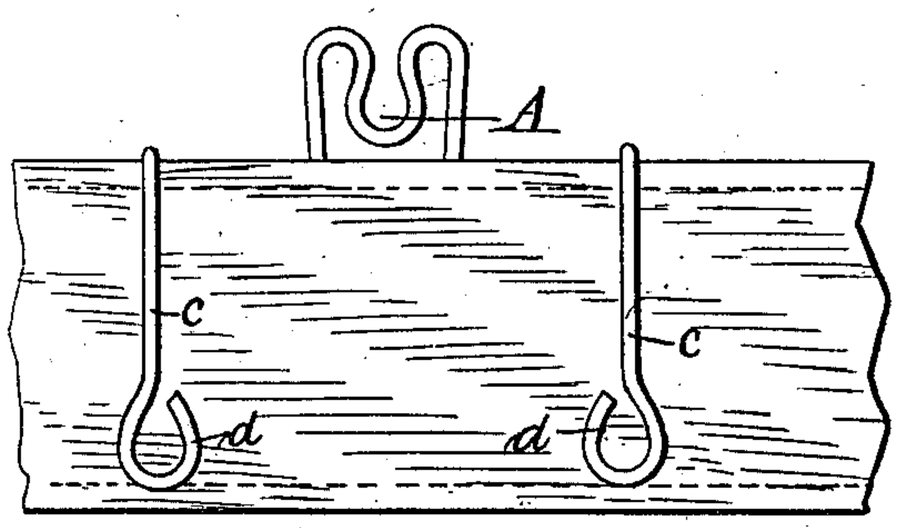
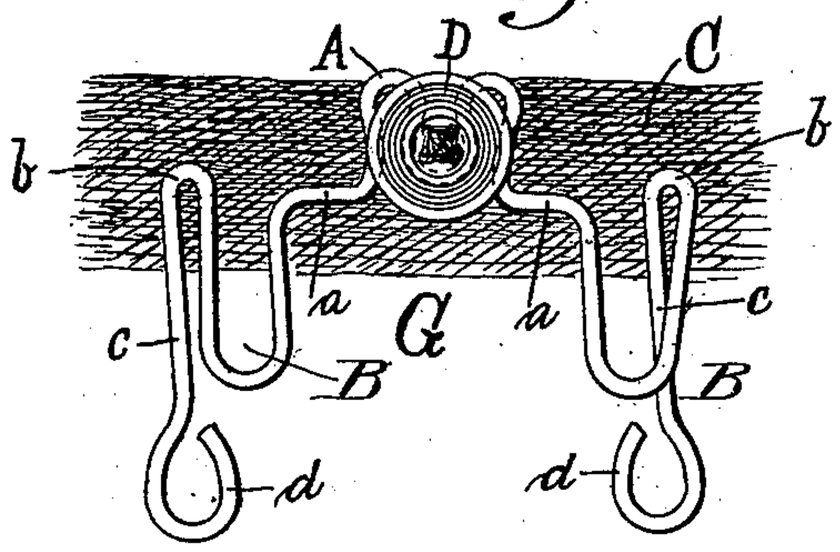


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK H. HOUGHTON, OF DAYTONA, FLORIDA.

BELT-RETAINER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 660,990, dated October 30, 1900.

Application filed September 11, 1899. Serial No. 730,165. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK H. HOUGHTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Daytona, in the county of Volusia and State of Florida, (whose present post-office address is West Palm Beach, Florida,) have invented new and useful Improvements in Belt Retainers or Holders, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of the invention is to provide a belt holder or retainer which will be simple in construction and which will grip the belt by spring-pressure between members of the holder in such manner as to prevent the belt from slipping lengthwise and also from slipping upwardly, the holder being formed so as to clasp about the fastener or shank of the button attached to a waistband.

To the accomplishment of the foregoing and such other objects as may hereinafter appear, the invention consists in the construction hereinafter particularly described and then sought to be clearly defined by the claims, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof, and in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of a portion of a pantaloons-waistband and of a belt, showing my invention applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a side view of a portion of a belt, showing my device applied thereto and looking from the rear of the belt; and Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the holder attached to the waistband of pantaloons with the belt omitted.

In the drawings the letter C may represent the waistband of a pair of pantaloons; D, a button affixed thereto; E, a belt, and F a buckle to the belt.

The letter G represents the retainer or holder, which is formed of heavy steel wire or other material and centrally is made with a loop A, designed to pass behind the button D and fit around the fastening or shank of the button, as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 3 of the drawings, the wire being then bent downwardly and outwardly, as shown at *a*, and thence downwardly and upwardly at opposite sides, so as to form U-shaped loops B, the wire then being bent backwardly at the top to form the folds *b* and then turned downwardly to form the prongs *c*, as illustrated, said prongs being bent forwardly toward the upwardly-extending members of the loops B, so that the prongs *c* will lie slightly in front of the U-shaped loops B at their lower portions, so that the prongs *c* and the upwardly-extending portions of the loops B will grip and firmly hold the belt when passed upwardly between said loops and the prongs *c*, the lower ends of the prongs *c* being turned laterally, as indicated at *d*, so as to form broad flat surfaces that will press against the inner side of the belt when inserted between the prongs and the loops B. Under this construction when the belt is inserted between the loops B and prongs *c* its upper edge will bear against the folds *b* of the retainer, and thus be prevented from rising above those points, while the lower portion of the belt will be gripped between the loops B and the prongs *c* at the point where the loops and the prongs converge toward each other, and the belt will thus be prevented from slipping lengthwise. Under this construction the flat hook portions *d* of the prongs *c* will press outwardly against the belt below the lower portion of the loops B, and the loops B will have a tendency to press inwardly against the outer surface of the belt, thus affording a firm hold of the retainer upon the belt and effectually holding it against movement. The retainer G will be held against upward movement by the loop portion A pressing against the fastener or shank of button D.

The retainer or holder is made from a single piece of wire and is easily bent into shape to give it the form desired, and it is easily applied and removed and most effectively serves the purpose for which designed.

Having described my invention and set forth its merits, what I claim is—

1. The within-described belt holder or retainer formed of a single piece of wire bent into shape to form a loop A with the lateral extensions *a* on opposite sides thereof and thence downwardly and upwardly to form the loops B, both of said loops and the opposite members of each of them lying in substantially the same plane and the two loops spaced apart by the extensions *a*, the wire then being folded backwardly at the upper end of the outward member of each loop B to form the folds *b*, and thence downwardly and forwardly to form the prongs *c* converging to-

ward the outer members of the loops B, substantially as and for the purposes described.

2. The within-described belt holder or retainer formed of a single piece of wire and having the centrally-disposed loop A to engage the shank of a button, the two U-shaped loops B spaced from and connected with a part of the loop A by the lateral extensions *a*, the loop B and both members of each of said loops lying in substantially the same plane, and the prongs *c* connected with the upper end of the outer members of loops B by the folds *b*, and having their lower ends extended below the loops B and bent to form the flat hook-shaped portions *d*, substantially as described.

FRANK H. HOUGHTON.

In presence of—
EDITH A. METCALF,
GUY I. METCALF.