

No. 682,298.

Patented Sept. 10, 1901.

C. L. VAN DOREN.
GARMENT SUPPORTER.

(Application filed Oct. 18, 1900.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

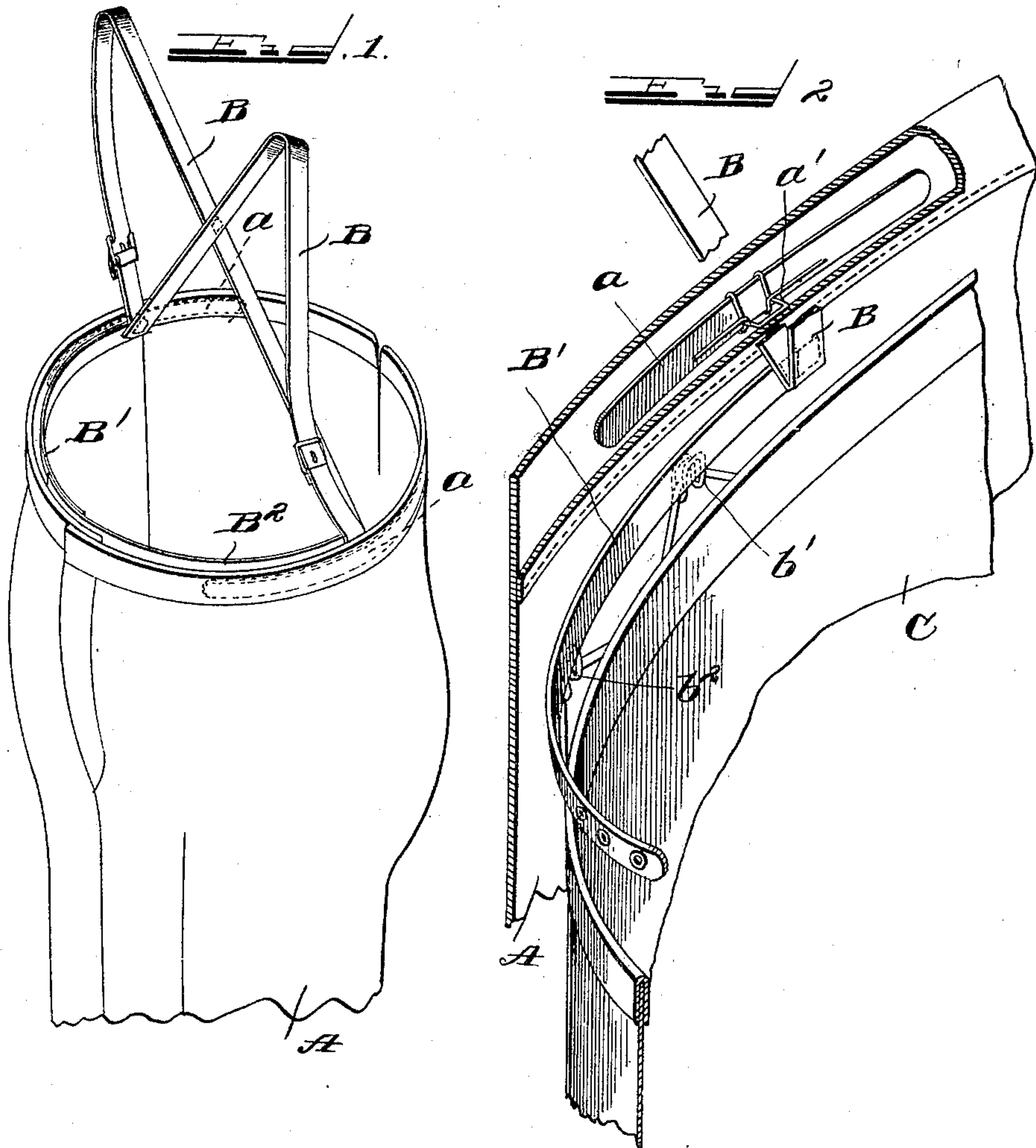
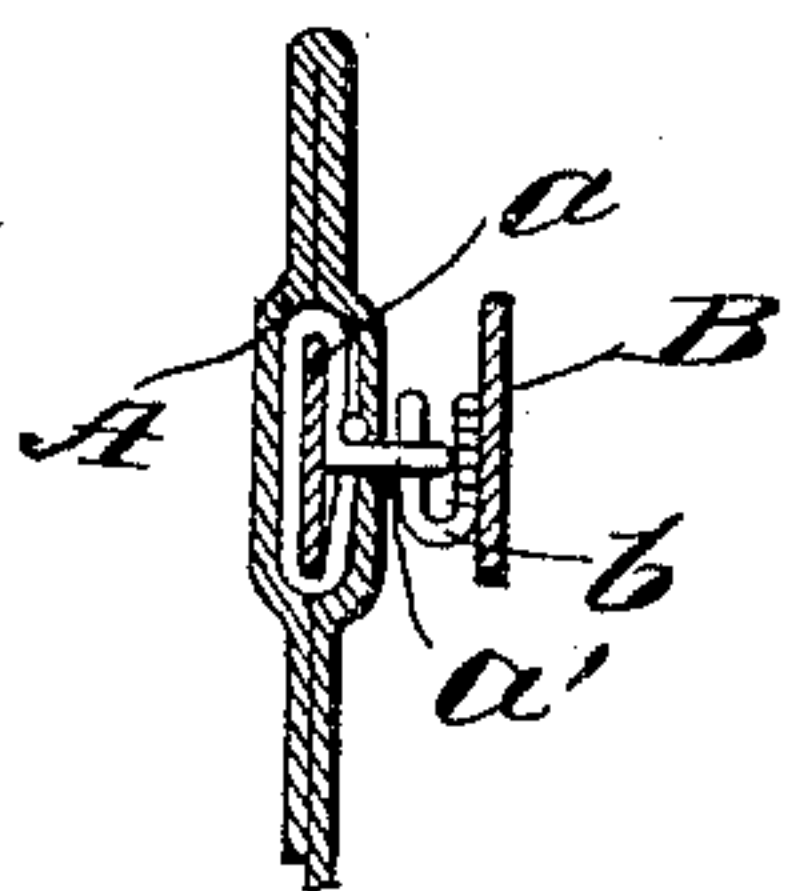


Fig. 3.



Witness

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Fig. 4.

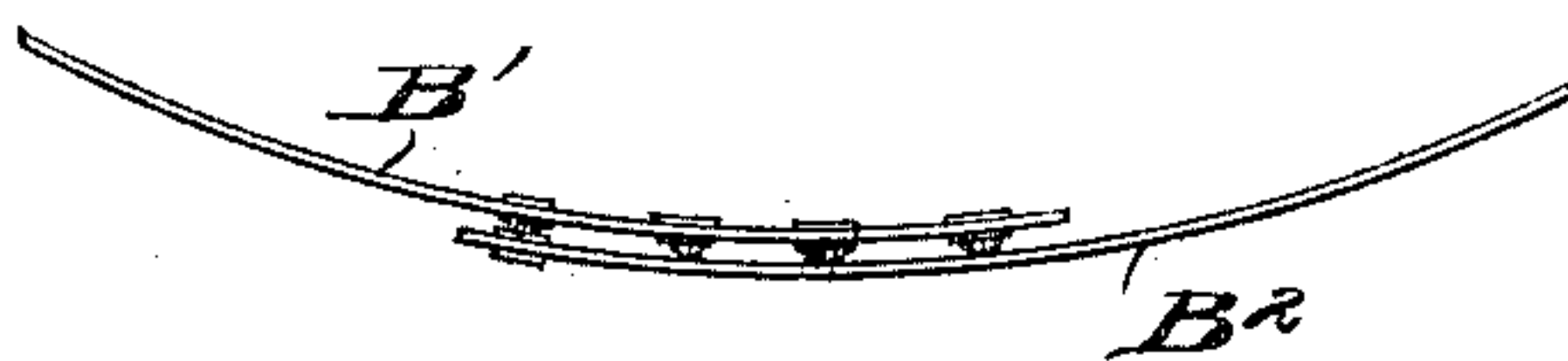
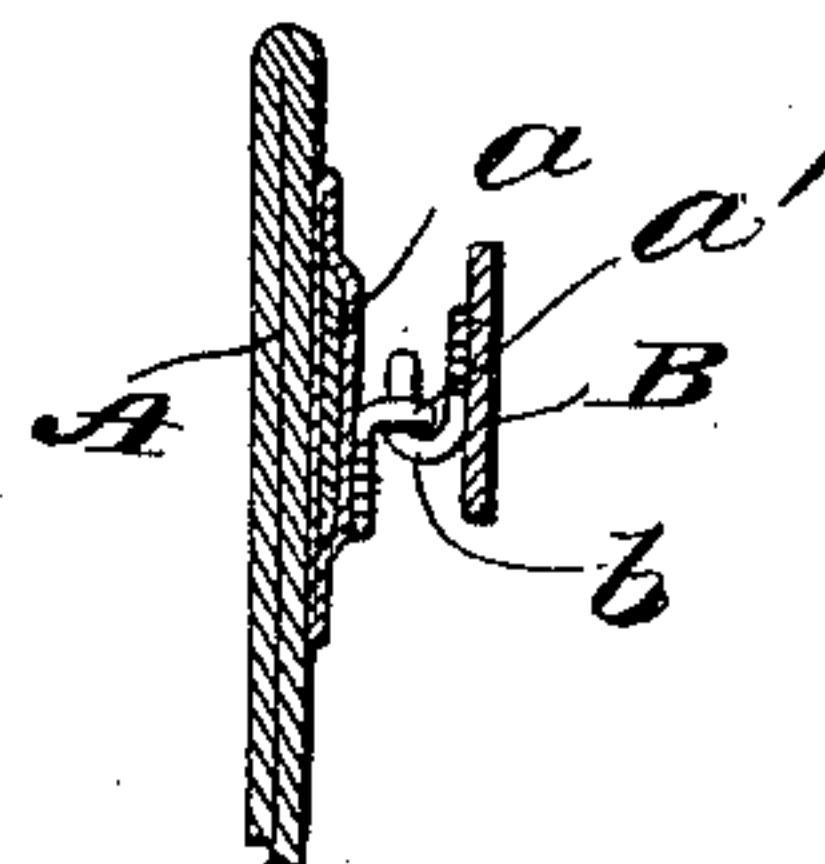


Fig. 5.



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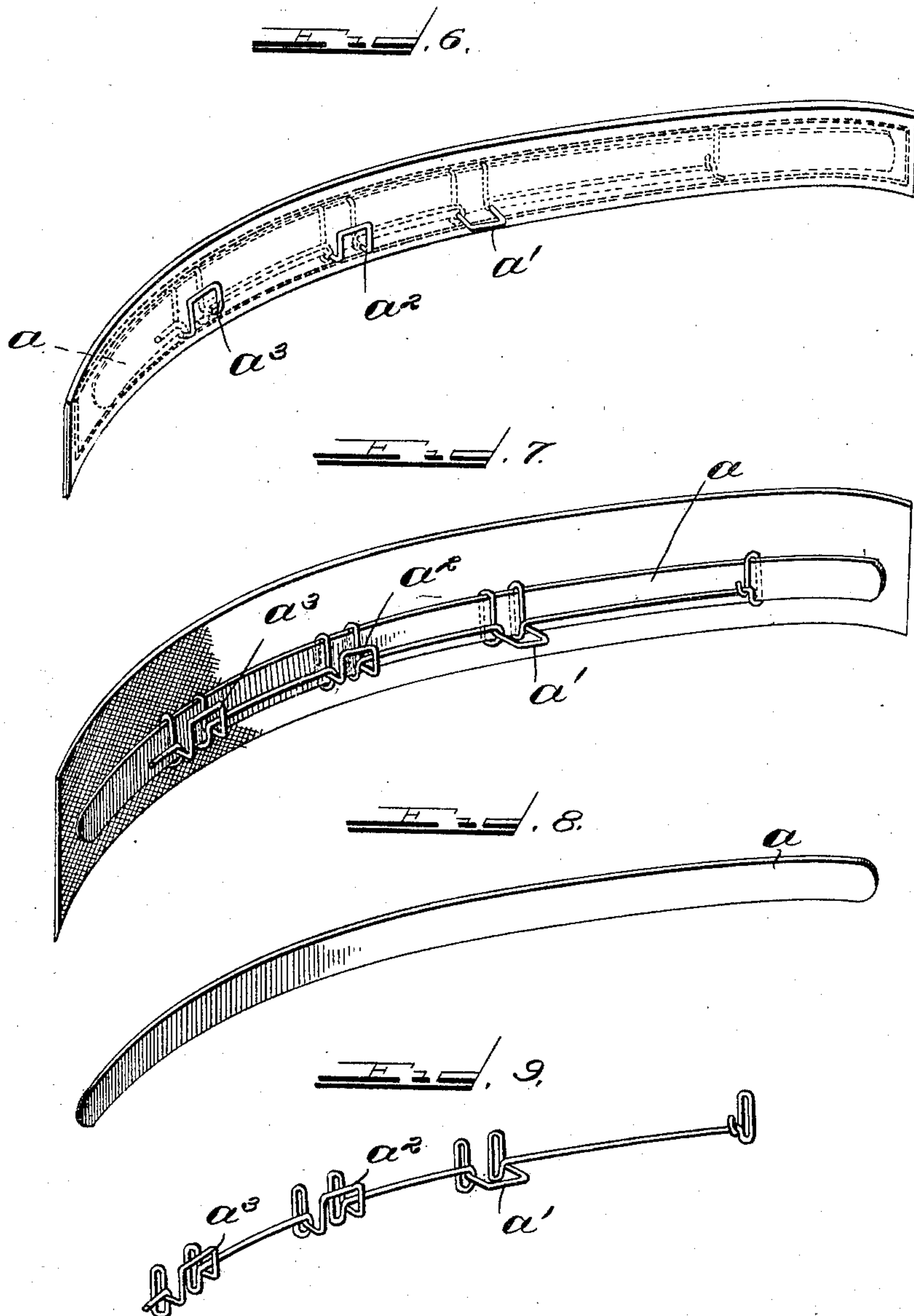
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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES L. VAN DOREN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

GARMENT-SUPPORTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 682,298, dated September 10, 1901.

Application filed October 18, 1900. Serial No. 33,452. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES L. VAN DOREN, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Garment-Supporters; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to garment-supporters, and more particularly that class of supporters designed to support from the shoulders trousers or other articles of wearing-apparel. Articles of this class are ordinarily worn by men over the shirt and secured by means of buttons or the like upon the trousers. Frequently, however, suspenders so worn are undesirable, as when a negligée shirt is used. Ordinarily belts have been used, and the suspenders or other support has been dispensed with, frequently to the injury of the health of the wearer. The suspenders if used in such cases must be worn over the shirt, or a specially-constructed shirt is required to permit suspender-ends worn beneath the shirt to engage the buttons on the waistband of the garment. In either event the appearance is unsightly.

My invention provides means for attaching concealed suspenders to trousers, drawers, or other articles of wearing-apparel at the inner side of the waistband, thereby rendering the same invisible when in use and affording an efficient and reliable support for the garment either with or without a belt, as desired.

The invention consists of the matters hereinafter described, and more fully pointed out and defined in the appended claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a garment provided with a device embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a fragmentary perspective view of part of the attaching means. Fig. 3 is a section taken through the waistband of the garment at the point of attachment of the supporter thereto. Fig. 4 is a plan view of the web connecting the lower ends of the supporter. Fig. 5 is a view illustrating the variation of the attaching means.

Fig. 6 is a perspective view illustrating one form of the attaching means adapted to be secured to the garment. Fig. 7 is a similar view showing the covering of said strip turned backwardly. Fig. 8 is a perspective view of the spring-strip. Fig. 9 is a view of the hooks adapted to be secured on said spring-strip.

As shown in the drawings, A indicates a garment, herein shown as a pair of trousers, to the waistband of which on each side is secured a spring-strip of metal or other resilient material, which preferably is concealed in the waistband of the garment, as indicated in dotted lines on Fig. 1.

B indicates the suspenders or supporters, herein shown as comprising two strips of fabric crossed and united intermediate of their ends and having the rear end of each united to the forward end of the other. Each of said strips is provided near its front end with a buckle or other suitable device for adjusting the length of the same, as desired, and the united ends of the same are provided with means for attaching the same centrally to said strip *a*. Said means, as herein indicated being a hook *b*, as indicated in Figs. 3 and 5, is designed to be engaged in a loop or eye *a'*, located centrally on the inner side of said strip-hanger.

B' B² each indicate a band of fabric, each of which is secured at one end to one of the united ends of the suspenders B and extends horizontally forward, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The meeting ends of said strips are provided with any desired device for securing the ends together. A resilient head-and-socket button is indicated in Fig. 4. Said bands B' B² may be provided along their length with hooks *b'* *b*², from which the drawers C or other undergarment may be suspended. Obviously, if preferred, said supporting-hooks for the undergarments may be secured on the strip *a*. Such construction is illustrated in Figs. 6 and 7, in which, as shown, said resilient strip or hanger is reinforced on one side by a wire, preferably of spring metal, which is bent around said strip and forms the loop *a'* and the hooks *a*² *a*³, respectively. When so constructed, it is obvious that said wire greatly strengthens said strip *a* and per-

mits the same to be made materially lighter than would otherwise be the case. However, if preferred, the hooks may be otherwise constructed and secured thereon, or eyes or loops
 5 may be secured on the spring-strip and the hooks provided on the garment and supporter. Ordinarily such resilient or spring strips will be secured in the waistband when the garment is made, as indicated in Figs. 2 and 3.
 10 Obviously, however, said strips may be secured on any garment after the same is finished. For this purpose a webbing or other fabric is folded and secured about the strip *a*, as indicated in Fig. 6, and may be stitched
 15 along the inner side of the waistband of the garment, as indicated in Fig. 5. In securing said strip *a* to the garment the front end of the strip should, if the garment be trousers, come in alinement with the crease. The
 20 hooks designed to support the underclothing will preferably be located between the loop *a'* and the front end of the strip. Obviously, however, said hooks may be otherwise disposed, and it may be desirable in some cases
 25 to locate hooks adjacent to each end of the strip.

The operation of my device is as follows: Said strips being secured at each side of the garment, projecting forwardly and rearwardly,
 30 act in themselves to aid in supporting the garment and mold perfectly to the form. Being relatively thin and light, the same readily flatten down in packing for shipment or otherwise, but immediately return to their original
 35 position when the garment is supported therefrom. The supporter B B, constructed as described, supports the garment on each side directly beneath the shoulders and obviously permits greater freedom of movement than
 40 is the case with suspenders of ordinary construction, and furthermore, the weight being directly downward beneath the shoulders, said suspenders act as a shoulder-brace and tend to hold the body in a more nearly erect position.
 45 When the supporters are worn beneath the shirt, eyelets may be provided on each side of the shirt to permit the hooked end of the supporter engaging the strip *a*, or the side seam of the shirt may be ripped upwardly
 50 a short distance for the same purpose. Ordinarily, however, the front and back of the shirt may be drawn down as desired and a slight fold made in each side near the side seams beneath, which the end of the supporter
 55 engages on the strip *a*, said folds being entirely concealed under the waistband. When the hooks supporting the underclothing are

secured upon the strip *a*, the shirt is secured within said underclothing in the usual manner.

Obviously many features of construction herein described may be modified without departing from the principle of my invention.

I claim as my invention—

1. A garment-supporter adapted to be supported from the shoulders comprising strips of fabric crossed at the back and united intermediate of their ends and the rear end of each strip brought forward and united to the forward end of the other strip beneath the
 65 shoulder and at the waistband of a garment, means for adjusting the strips as to length, a plate secured on the garment laterally, means on the united ends of said strips affording attachment to said plates and a
 70 strip of fabric provided with means for supporting an undergarment secured on each of said united ends and extending forwardly and each provided at its free end with means
 75 for securing the same together.

2. A garment-supporter comprising two strips of fabric adapted to extend over the shoulders and cross at the back and united intermediate of their ends, the rear end of one strip being united to the forward end of
 80 the other strip beneath the shoulder and at the waist-line, means for adjusting said strips as to length, attaching means on the united ends of said strips, a strip of fabric secured on each of said united ends and extending
 85 forwardly, means for uniting the free ends thereof, hooks thereon to support the undergarment and a strip of spring metal adapted to be permanently secured on a garment beneath the shoulders and at the waist-line and
 90 provided centrally with means for attaching the united ends of the supporter thereto.

3. An article of manufacture comprising a relatively narrow plate of spring metal provided on one side with a central loop and adjacent thereto with an upwardly-turned hook
 100 and a sheath of fabric inclosing said strip through which said loop and said hook project, said loop and hook being formed of a strip of spring metal secured on said plate
 105 extending longitudinally thereof and acting to reinforce the same.

In witness whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CHARLES L. VAN DOREN.

In presence of—

A. J. ENRIGHT,
 E. M. RIDDLE.