

No. 692,112.

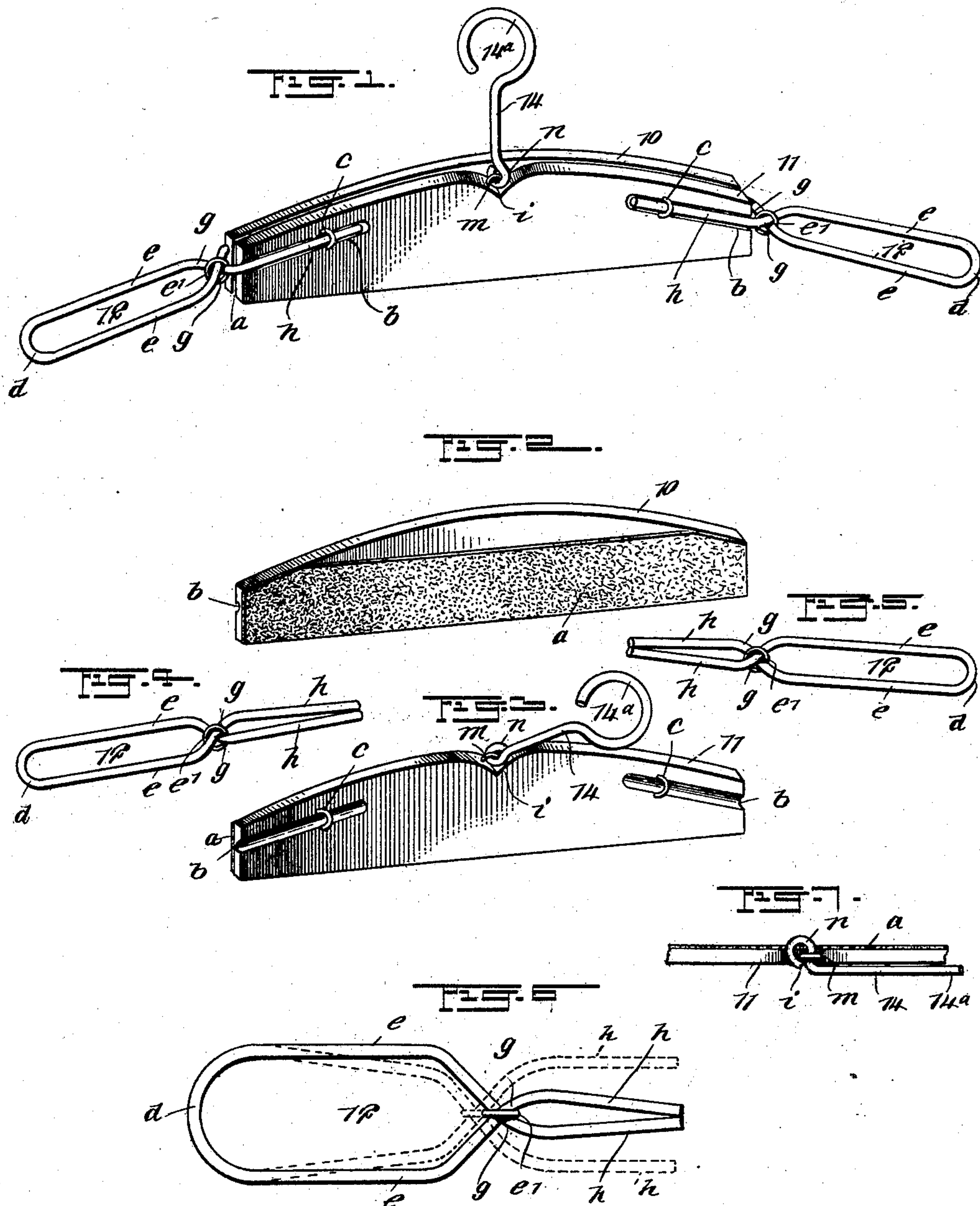
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M. H. BUSHNELL & B. F. STARSKY.

GARMENT HANGER.

(Application filed July 3, 1901.)

(No Model.)



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## GARMENT-HANGER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 692,112, dated January 28, 1902.

Application filed July 3, 1901. Serial No. 67,025. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, MARTIN H. BUSHNELL and BENJAMIN F. STARKY, citizens of the United States, and residents of Hazelhurst, in the county of McKean and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and Improved Garment-Hanger, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of this invention is to provide a novel, simple, and inexpensive garment-hanger which is adapted for the proper pendant support of either male or female garments and is so constructed that when not in use the device may be quickly reduced in length to permit it to be compactly folded for packing in a small case for its convenient stowage or transportation.

The invention consists in the novel construction and combination of parts, as is hereinafter described, and defined in the appended claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved hanger. Fig. 2 is a like view of a hanger-block that is a detail of the invention. Fig. 3 is a similar view of another detail, which is substantially the duplicate of the hanger-block shown in Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a spring-clamp employed, which forms a longitudinal extension of one end of the hanger. Fig. 5 is a similar view of a spring-clamp which is the duplicate of the clamp shown in Fig. 4 and in service is an extension of the opposite end of the hanger. Fig. 6 is an enlarged plan view of one of the spring-clamps employed, showing its clamping members in closed adjustment by full lines and in diverged condition by dotted lines; and Fig. 7 is a top edge view of one of the clamping-blocks and a hanger-hook thereon, showing the hook in folded adjustment.

The substantially similar hanger-blocks 10 11 each comprise a preferably wooden strip having flat parallel sides, a straight lower edge and a convexed upper edge, said blocks having equal dimensions, so that their edges will conform with each other, respectively,

when the blocks are arranged side by side, as shown in Fig. 1. The inner side surfaces of the hanger-blocks 10 11 are preferably faced with slightly-yielding fabric *a*, which may be woolen cloth or any other suitable material.

At and near each end of each hanger-block 10 11 a groove *b* is formed longitudinally in the exterior surface thereof. These grooves, that are opposite in pairs, may trend inwardly and upwardly from the respective ends of the blocks, and at a suitable point a staple *c* is driven into the block material transversely of each groove, as shown clearly in Fig. 3, so that the staples will straddle the grooves and project their looped ends above them.

The duplicate spring-clamps 12, (shown applied for service in Fig. 1 and in detail in Figs. 4, 5, and 6,) each consist of a rod or wire of resilient metal, bent to form a loop *d* at its longitudinal center, from which extend the parallel members *e e*, which are bent at *g*, so as to cross them, and thence project as clamping-limbs *h h*. The resilience of the material adapts the clamping-limbs *h* to normally impinge upon each other at their free ends and permits said limbs to be diverged equally when manual compression is applied upon the spring members *e*, the degree of divergence being defined by the rings *e'*, placed on the bends *g* where they cross each other.

It will be seen that if a pair of trousers be properly folded and the bottoms of the trousers-legs are placed between the clamping-blocks 10 11 the latter may be clamped upon the trousers-legs by applying the clamps 12 upon the opposite ends of the hanger-blocks.

To effect the application of the clamps 12, the operator holds the blocks 10 11 clamped upon the garment with one hand and with the other hand compresses the members *e* of a clamp 12, so as to spread the limbs *h* apart. The limbs *h* are now slid into the grooves *b* at the ends of the blocks 10 11 beneath the staples *c*, and it will be seen that a release of pressure on the members *e* of the clamp will permit the tension of the clamping members thereof to grip the blocks 10 11 and hold them compressed upon the intervening portion of the garment. (Not shown.)

Obviously the operation of applying the



other clamp 12 is similar to that described, and when both clamps are in position the improved hanger will be secured in place upon the garment that is to be suspended by the hanger.

The clamping-block 12 is notched in its upper edge at the longitudinal center, as shown at *i* in Figs. 1, 3, and 7, and a staple *m* or a screw-eye is inserted across the notch, so as to afford means for loosely securing the looped end *n* of a hanger-hook 14 on the block 11.

The body of the hanger-hook 14 is bent near the loop *n*, so as to extend said loop or eye laterally from the hook-body, and upon the free end of said body a hook member 14<sup>a</sup> is formed, which is located in a plane at a right angle to the plane of the laterally-trending loop or eye *n*.

It will be seen in Fig. 7 that the peculiar construction of the hanger-hook 14 permits the hook member 14<sup>a</sup> to be folded flat at one side of the clamping-block 11 and when raised to the position shown in Fig. 1 is arranged in the same vertical plane with the sides of the hanger-block upon which it is loosely secured.

The device when the parts are arranged as shown in Fig. 1 is arched upon the upper edge, so as to afford proper support for a vest or coat of a man or the jacket or coat of a woman, and it will be evident that the blocks 10 11 may be employed to support a woman's dress-skirt or the like by clamping the waistband of such garments between them, as before explained.

If it is desired to dismember the hanger for close packing of the same, this may be readily effected by simply pulling the clamps 12 endwise from the blocks 10 11, which will permit the four main portions of the hanger to be compactly stowed in a small package or box that may be provided for such a purpose, the

hanger-hook 14 having been folded flat, as shown in Fig. 7, to economize space.

Having thus described our invention, we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. A garment-hanger, comprising two flat clamping-blocks convexed on the upper edges, one of the blocks having a central notch in its upper edge, a laterally-foldable hook held on a staple spanning said notch, a fibrous facing on the inner side of each clamping-block, and two similar clamps each comprising a resilient metal rod bent centrally, providing two side members extended from the loop or band, said members being crossed and thence extended as clamping-limbs, that are adapted to engage the sides of the clamping-blocks that have been lapped, and hold said blocks clamped together.

2. A garment-hanger, comprising two flat blocks, each block having a longitudinal groove on the outer side near each end, a staple crossing each groove, a foldable hook on the upper edge of one clamping-block, a fibrous facing on the inner side of each clamping-block, and two similar resilient clamps, each clamp having paired limbs that are adapted to slide into the grooves of the clamping-blocks when said blocks are lapped together, said limbs passing beneath the staples and compressing the blocks together at each end thereof.

In testimony whereof we have signed our names to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

MARTIN H. BUSHNELL.  
BENJAMIN F. STARKY.

Witnesses:

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