

No. 697,504.

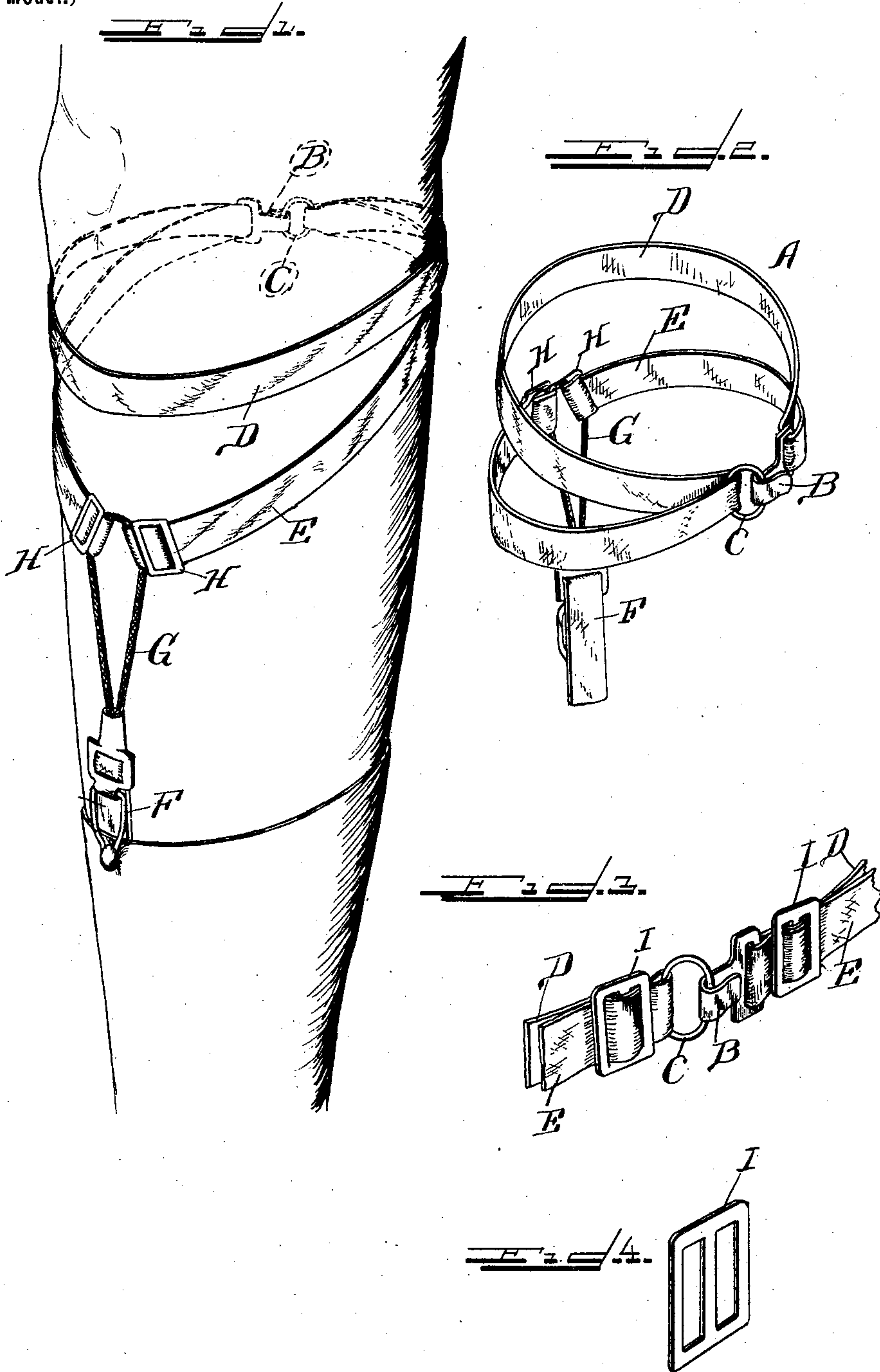
Patented Apr. 15, 1902.

D. B. LITTLEFIELD.

GARTER.

(Application filed Mar. 28, 1901.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DANIEL B. LITTLEFIELD, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

GARTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 697,504, dated April 15, 1902.

Application filed March 28, 1901. Serial No. 53,296. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DANIEL B. LITTLEFIELD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Garters, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in garters for half-hose.

10 The object of my invention is to provide such a garter which will be securely held in place, readily put on and removed, and readily adjusted. In most garters of this class the stocking is supported by a single loop of
15 fabric or elastic, which passes diagonally around the leg, extending from a point adjacent to the top of the stocking backward and upward to a point above the swell of the calf of the leg. With such garters the loop of the
20 fabric is necessarily somewhat larger than the circumference of the leg. This and the fact that the stocking pulls diagonally downward upon the leg-encircling loop tends to draw the garter down over the calf of the leg to a
25 greater or less degree, with the result that the stocking is not held firmly and trimly in place. If the garter is adjusted sufficiently tight to overcome this objection, an unpleasant and undesirable constriction of the leg results.

30 An object of my invention is to overcome this and other disadvantages of similar garters by providing a garter which shall have two loops, one of which shall be adapted to fit snugly around the narrow part of the leg
35 just below the knee, and the other of which, being attached to and supported by the first of said loops, will extend diagonally from a point under the knee to a suitable point at the front or one side of the leg, where this second
40 loop will connect with any suitable stocking-attaching device. These and such other objects as may hereinafter appear are attained by the device shown in the accompanying drawings, in which—

45 Figure 1 shows my improved garter in one of its simpler forms in place and attached to the upper edge of a sock. Fig. 2 shows the same garter detached. Fig. 3 is a detail of one of the modifications of my garter, and
50 Fig. 4 is a detail of the adjusting-slide shown in Fig. 3.

Like letters of reference indicate the same parts in the several figures of the drawings.

Referring by letter to the accompanying drawings, A is a piece of elastic, webbing, or 55 other suitable fabric, upon which are slidably mounted the attaching devices B and C. In the drawings, B is a hook, and C a ring; but any suitable separable buckle or other attaching device may be used. The strip or 60 loop of fabric A, being doubled and hooked, as shown in Fig. 2, forms an upper loop D and a lower loop E. To the lower loop and preferably to the ends of the strip A is attached any suitable stocking-engaging device, such as the clasp F, suspended from the 65 elastic loop G. The total length of the loops D E may be adjusted by a slide H upon either or both ends of the fabric. In use it will be found that when the double loop is passed 70 around the leg, as shown in Fig. 1, the tension upon the fabric will hold the loops in the relative adjustment which is made when the garter is put on. If preferred, however, the relative adjustment of the loops may be made 75 and maintained by means of friction-slides I, each slide engaging both of said loops at a point adjacent to the slidably-mounted attaching devices B C. These slides, as shown 80 in the drawings, consist of a rectangular frame provided with a vertical cross-piece. The loops D E are inserted in the opening between one side wall of the slide and the cross-piece, are passed over the cross-piece, and then between it and the opposite side wall of the slide. 85 It will thus be seen that the slide I is loosely mounted upon the double loops D E, which may be freely adjusted therethrough. When, however, the loops have been merely adjusted to the desired relation to each other and are 90 then drawn taut within the slides I, as shown in Fig. 3, the friction between the surface of the loops and the side walls and cross-pieces of the friction-slides I will permit any automatic change of the relative adjustment between the loops D E, either when the garter 95 is being put on or removed, while it is in use, or while it may be loosely handled, whereas if the device be constructed as shown in Fig. 2 the loops D E may slide freely through the 100 ring C, so that the loop D may be made smaller and the loop E larger, or vice versa, such construction necessitating the readjustment of the relative size of these loops whenever the garter is on. 105

It will be seen that this garter may be in-

stantaneously put on by passing the ends of the loops D E around the leg and fastening them together by the attaching devices B C. The upper loop D will then fit snugly around
5 the narrow portion of the leg just below the knee and will not be readily displaced. Being so held in place, it will securely support the lower loop E, which will also be supported on the leg in the same manner as the usual
10 one-loop garter of this sort. At the same time the strain upon the upper loop D being exerted indirectly on a diagonal line from the stocking-attaching means through the loop E to the points of attachment B C, there will be
15 very little displacing strain exerted upon the upper loop D, and the garter and attached sock will be held securely in place and with a minimum constriction of the muscles of the leg.
20 Obviously many variations in details may be made, as in the clasp at the back of the leg, the stocking-engaging means, the engagement between the lower loop and the stocking-clasp, the number of adjusting-slides,
25 &c.; but such variations are contemplated by my invention and do not constitute a departure from the spirit thereof.

Having thus described my invention, what

I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A garter comprising a continuous strip of fabric doubled so as to form an upper and a lower loop, a clasp mounted upon said fabric at the point where said upper and said lower loops meet, and means for attaching
35 said lower loop to a stocking, substantially as described.

2. In a garter, the combination of an upper loop, a lower loop supported thereby, and means mounted upon said loops at the points
40 where they join each other for separably closing said loops, substantially as described.

3. A hose-supporter, comprising a band doubled upon itself to form upper and lower loops, an adjustable friction-slide mounted
45 upon one of the doubled ends of said band, means attached to the doubled ends of said band for separably connecting said ends to each other, and means connected with said lower loop for engaging a stocking, substan-
50 tially as described.

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Witnesses:

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