No. 698,457.

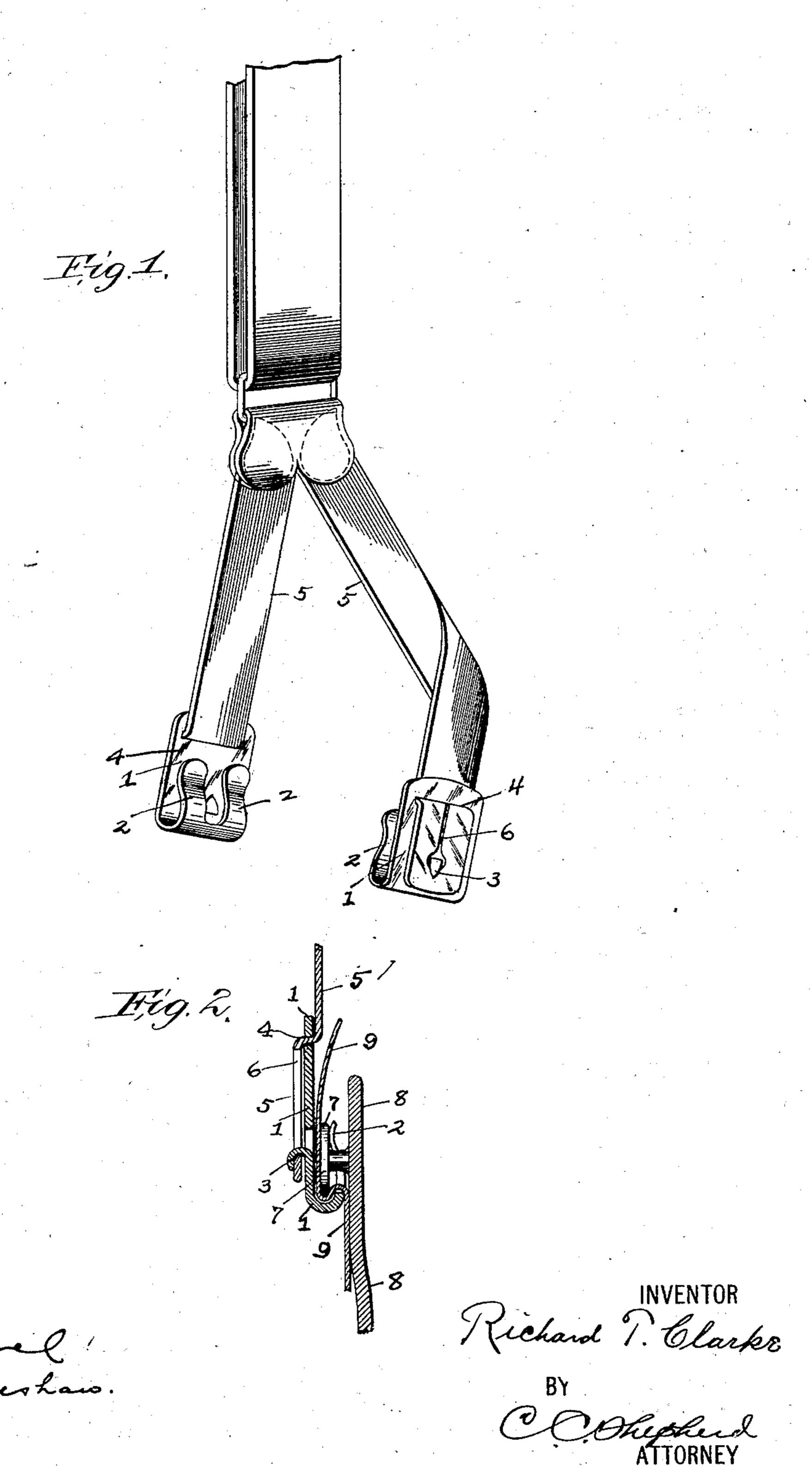
Patented Apr. 29, 1902.

## R. T. CLARKE.

## SUSPENDERS AND TROUSERS CONNECTION.

Application filed Aug. 15, 1901.)

(No Model.)



## United States Patent Office.

RICHARD T. CLARKE, OF COLUMBUS, OHIO.

## SUSPENDERS AND TROUSERS CONNECTION.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 698,457, dated April 29, 1902.

Application filed August 15, 1901. Serial No. 72,083. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RICHARD T. CLARKE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Columbus, in the county of Franklin and State 5 of Ohio, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Suspenders and Trousers Connections, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to the improvement 10 of suspenders and trousers connections of that class which are particularly adapted for use where the suspenders are worn beneath the outer shirt; and the objects of my invention are to provide a simple and inexpensive trou-15 sers connection of this class, to provide improved means for connecting my improved attachments with the suspender-ends, and to produce other improvements in details of construction and arrangement of parts, which 20 will be more fully pointed out hereinafter. These objects I accomplish in the manner illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the ends 25 of the suspender-strap, showing my attachment thereon; and Fig. 2 is a vertical section through portions of a suspender-end and trousers-band, showing the suspender-end connected with the trousers-button.

Similar numerals refer to similar parts

throughout the several views.

In carrying out my invention I employ a coupling or clip attachment for the suspender-ends, which consists, as indicated in 35 the drawings, of a strip or plate 1, preferably of metal, the lower end of which is bifurcated to form two prongs 2, said bifurcated portion being bent upward and inward, the prongs thereof terminating in short outward bends, 40 as shown, thus providing the plate or clip body 1 with a substantially hook-shaped and bifurcated end portion. At desirable points I cause the straight portion of the body 1 to be stamped or cut to form a rearwardly-pro-45 jecting clamping-tongue 3. I also provide the upper end of each of the clip or plate bodies 1 with a transverse slot or opening 4.

5 represents the depending suspender-strap ends, each of which is connected with one of the 50 plates 1 as follows: The suspender-strap end is inserted through the slot or opening 4 from the forward side of the plate 1 and being extended downward against the back of said plate is held in connection therewith by the 55 insertion of the projecting plate - tongue 3 through the usual buttonhole 6 of the suspender-end and bending said tongue into contact with the back of the suspender-end.

In utilizing my invention the usual suspenders or trousers buttons 7 are sewed or oth- 60 erwise secured to the inner side of the trousers-band 8. In order that the suspenders may be invisible, the same are designed to be worn on the outer side of the undershirt and on the inner side of the outer shirt, a 65 connection of each of the suspender-ends being made with one of the buttons 7 by causing the hook portion of the plate 1 to engage the under and rear side of the button, the button-body thus passing between the inner 70 sides of the prongs 2 and the forward face of the body of the plate 1, and said prongs being made to embrace opposite sides of the shank of the button, in which position the button is held not only by its engagement 75 with said hook, but through the tendency of the prongs to spring inward and clamp the button in place. In carrying out this operation that portion of the goods 9 forming the outer shirt which covers the button is em- 8c braced by the button in the hook termination of the plate.

By the above description and operation it will readily be understood that simple and reliable means are provided for connecting 85 the attaching-plates with the suspender-ends and that the method of connection shown is particularly adapted for use where the suspender-ends are comparatively narrow or of such width as to permit of their being in- 90 serted through the slots or openings 4 of the plate 1.

Having now fully described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

In a suspenders and trousers connection, the combination with the suspender-ends, of button-catching plates having transverse openings 4 adapted to receive the suspender-ends and a tongue 3 projecting rearwardly there- 100 from, said tongue adapted to be inserted through the buttonhole-opening of said suspender-ends and each of said plates having its lower end portion terminating in a bifurcated hook, substantially as specified.

RICHARD T. CLARKE.

In presence of— C. M. Morrow, A. L. PHELPS.