

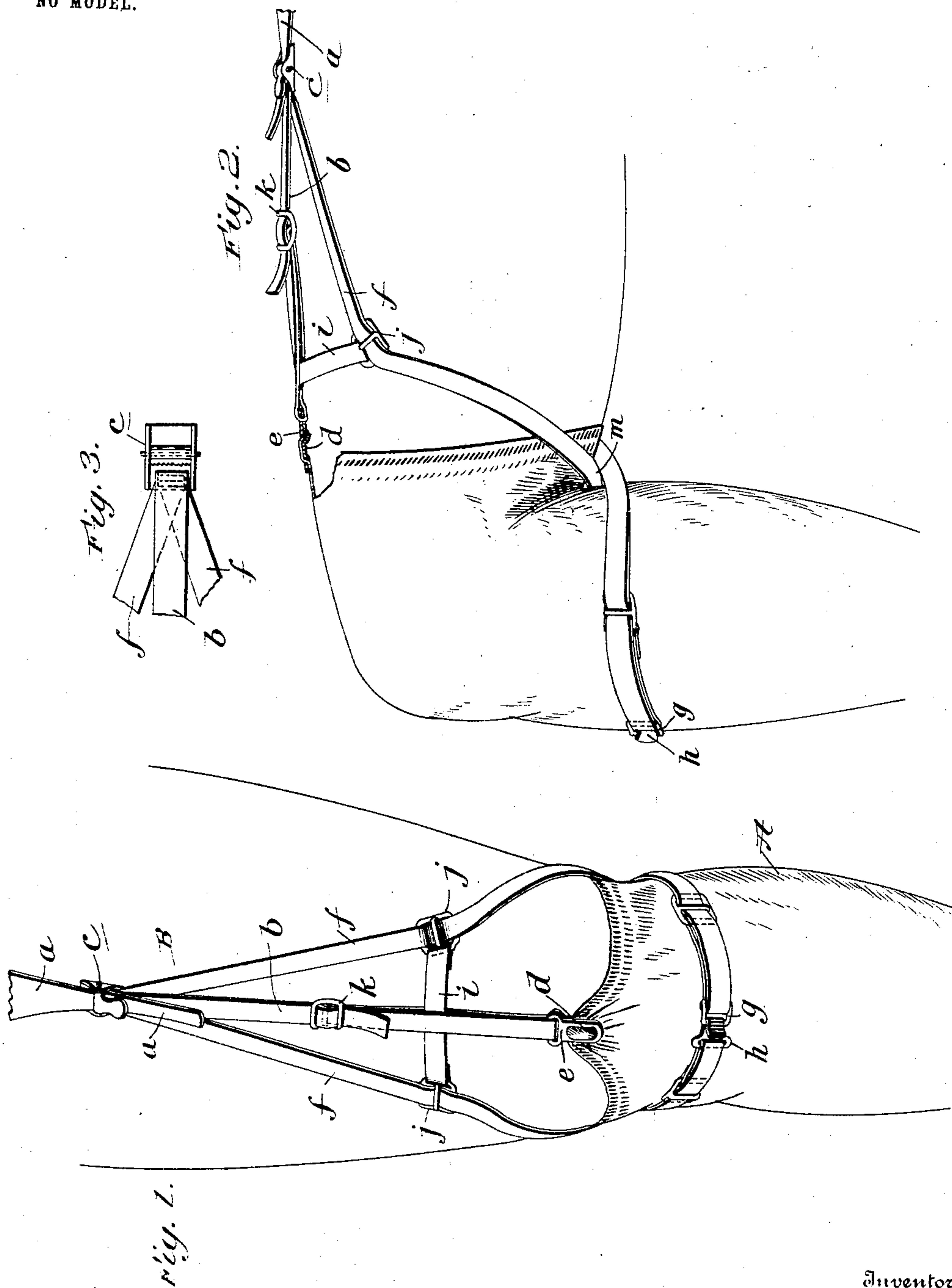
No. 764,790.

PATENTED JULY 12, 1904.

G. BEELER.
STOCKING SUPPORTER.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 12, 1904.

NO MODEL.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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STOCKING-SUPPORTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 764,790, dated July 12, 1904.

Application filed March 12, 1904. Serial No. 197,798. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GERTRUDE BEELER, a citizen of the United States, residing at San Antonio, in the county of Bexar and State of Texas, have invented new and useful Improvements in Stocking-Supporters, of which the following is a specification.

My invention pertains to stocking-supporters; and it has for its object to provide a stocking-supporter embodying such a construction that perfect freedom is afforded the knee, and when the wearer is sitting or reclining the supporter is relaxed without, however, loosening the stocking, while when the wearer is standing upright all strain is removed from the part of the supporter connected to the stocking, and hence there is no liability of the stocking being torn or otherwise injured.

With the foregoing in mind the invention will be fully understood from the following description and claims when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a view illustrating my novel stocking-supporter in operation and as it appears when the wearer is standing upright or walking. Fig. 2 is a view illustrating the supporter as it appears when the wearer is sitting; and Fig. 3 is a detail view, on an enlarged scale, illustrating the means which I prefer to employ for connecting the several lower strips of the supporter to the upper strip thereof.

Similar letters designate corresponding parts in all of the views of the drawings, referring to which—

A is a stocking, and B my novel stocking-supporter as a whole.

In the present and preferred embodiment of my invention the supporter B comprises an upper strip *a*, preferably of non-elastic material, a short strip *b*, preferably of elastic material, connected to the strip *a* by a clasp *c*, adjustable thereon, or by other suitable means and provided at its lower end with means, preferably a button *d* and a complementary keeper *e*, for connecting it to the stocking, comparatively long strips *f*, preferably of elastic material, connected to the strip *a* through the medium of the clasp *c* or

other means and having complementary buckle members *g* *h* at their lower ends, and a cross-strip *i*, preferably of elastic material, connected to the strips *f* by buckles *j*, adjustable lengthwise of the latter. The said cross-strip *i* has for its function to hold the upper portions of the strips *f* at the proper distance apart, and in virtue of the buckles *j* it will be observed that it may be readily adjusted up or down, as desired. It is preferable that the cross-strip *i* be elastic in order to enable it to conform to and give to the movements of the leg.

The strip *b* is preferably formed in sections, which are adjustably connected through the medium of a buckle *k* or other suitable means, this in order that the said strip may be adjusted as to length to best suit the wearer. For the same reason the comparatively long strips *f* are preferably provided with slide-buckles *l*, as illustrated. When the strip *b* is formed in sections, as illustrated, the cross-strip *i* is preferably passed between the thicknesses of the lower section, as illustrated.

The strip *a* of the stocking-supporter is preferably connected at its upper end to a corset or similar article of apparel for the purpose of enabling the supporter to assist in holding the said article of apparel down in its proper position. In this connection, however, I desire it distinctly understood that the supporter may be connected through the medium of the strip *a* to any part of the apparel calculated to hold the supporter up without involving a departure from the scope of my invention.

In applying my novel supporter the strip *b* is connected with the upper portion of the stocking and the comparatively long strips *f* are carried back of the knee, where they are crossed in the recess, as indicated by *m*, after which they are brought forward and connected in front of the leg at a point slightly below the knee through the medium of the buckle members *g* and *h*. With the supporter thus applied perfect freedom is afforded the knee of the wearer in walking, and the strips *f* remove or take off all strain from the strip *b*, and hence there is no liability of the button *d* and keeper *e* tearing a hole in or otherwise in-

juring the stocking. This will be readily appreciated by reference to Fig. 1. By reference to Fig. 2 it will be seen that when the wearer is sitting or reclining the strips *f* are relaxed or perfectly loose, while the strip *b* serves to hold the stocking in place and against downward movement.

It will be gathered from the foregoing that notwithstanding the practical advantages ascribed to my novel supporter the same is simple and inexpensive in construction and is adapted to be applied and removed quite as readily as the ordinary supporters extant.

I prefer to connect my novel supporter to a corset or other apparel article through the medium of a strip, such as *a*; but I do not desire to be understood as confining myself to the same, as the supporter may be connected by any other suitable means without affecting my invention. Neither do I desire to be understood as confining myself to the specific construction and relative arrangement of parts herein shown and described, as such changes or modifications may be made in practice as fairly fall within the scope of my invention as claimed.

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

1. A stocking-supporter adapted to be connected to and suspended from an article of apparel, and comprising a strip having means for engaging and holding a stocking, and strips connected with and diverging from the first-mentioned strip; the last-mentioned strips being sufficiently long to be crossed back of the knee; and being provided with means whereby they may be connected in front of the leg.

2. A stocking-supporter adapted to be connected to and suspended from an article of apparel, and comprising an elastic strip having means for engaging and holding a stocking, and elastic strips connected with and diverging from the first-mentioned strip; the last-mentioned strips being sufficiently long to be crossed back of the knee; and being provided with means whereby they may be connected in front of the leg.

3. A stocking-supporter adapted to be connected to and suspended from an article of apparel, and comprising a strip having means for engaging and holding a stocking, strips connected with and diverging from the first-mentioned strip; the last-mentioned strips being sufficiently long to receive the leg below the knee and to be crossed in the recess back

of the knee, and a cross-strip connecting the said long strips above the knee.

4. A stocking-supporter adapted to be connected to and suspended from an article of apparel, and comprising a strip having means for engaging and holding a stocking, strips connected with and diverging from the first-mentioned strip; the last-mentioned strips being sufficiently long to receive the leg below the knee and to be crossed in the recess back of the knee and being provided with means whereby they may be detachably connected in front of the leg, a cross-strip, and means connecting the cross-strip and the long strips and adjustable on the latter.

5. A stocking-supporter comprising an elastic strip having means for engaging and holding a stocking, comparatively long elastic strips connected with and diverging from the first-mentioned strip; the last-mentioned strips being of sufficient length to be crossed back of the knee; and being provided with means whereby they may be connected in front of the leg, and a cross-strip of elastic material connected to the long elastic strips in an adjustable manner whereby it may be moved up and down.

6. A stocking-supporter comprising an upper non-elastic strip, a short elastic strip provided with means for engaging and holding a stocking, elastic strips diverging from the short elastic strip; the last-mentioned strips being sufficiently long to be crossed back of the knee, and being provided with means whereby they may be connected in front of the leg, a common means adjustably connecting the short and long elastic strips to the non-elastic strip, and a cross-strip of elastic material adjustably connected to the long elastic strips whereby it may be adjusted up and down on the latter.

7. A stocking-supporter adapted to be connected to and suspended from an article of apparel, and comprising a strip having means for engaging and holding a stocking, and a loop which receives the leg below the knee; the arms of the said loop being crossed in the recess back of the knee, and being carried upwardly in front of the leg and connected with the strip.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

GERTRUDE BEELER.

Witnesses:

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