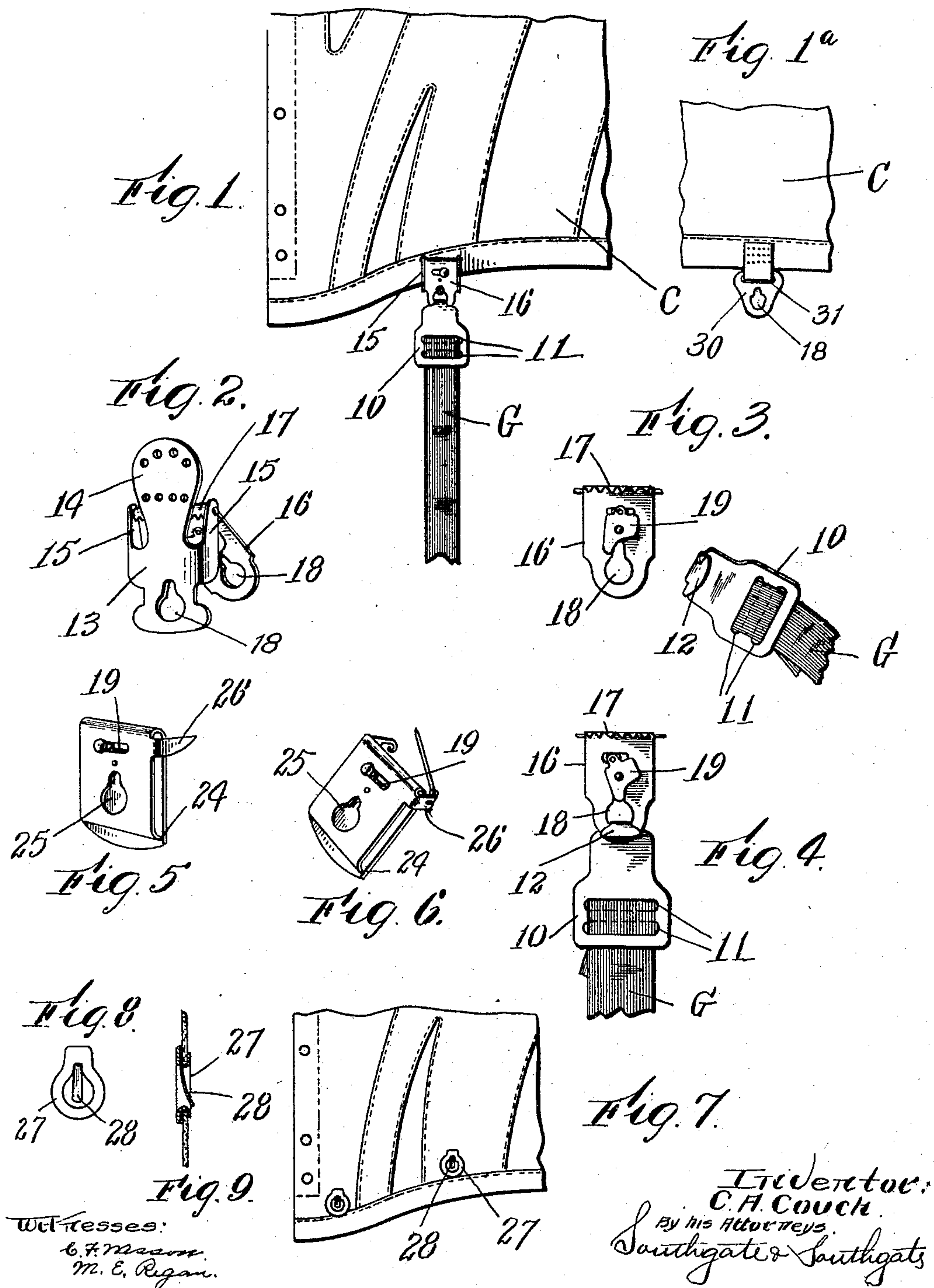


No. 773,715.

PATENTED NOV. 1, 1904.

G. A. COUCH.
GARMENT SUPPORTER.
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 17, 1904.

NO MODEL.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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GARMENT-SUPPORTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 773,715, dated November 1, 1904.

Application filed March 17, 1904. Serial No. 198,600. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES A. COUCH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Worcester, in the county of Worcester and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Garment-Supporter, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to that class of garters which are employed for women's stockings.

The especial object of this invention is to provide a simple, inexpensive, and efficient construction for supporting a garter from a corset, the connection being especially designed to permit a free swinging motion of a garter-strap or other parts suspended therefrom.

To these ends this invention consists of the buckle or connection as an article of manufacture and of the combinations of parts therein, as hereinafter described, and more particularly pointed out in the claim at the end of this specification.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a fragmentary view of part of a corset side, showing a clasp or connection constructed according to this invention applied thereto. Fig. 1^a is a detail view of a modified construction. Fig. 2 is an enlarged perspective view showing the clasp in open position. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the parts which cooperate to form the detachable connection and the lock for the same. Fig. 4 is a view showing the parts locked in connected position. Figs. 5 and 6 are perspective views illustrating modified forms of construction. Fig. 7 is a fragmentary view of a corset side piece with sheet-metal socket-pieces having the form of eyelets secured therein. Fig. 8 is an enlarged view of one of the eyelet socket-pieces, and Fig. 9 is a sectional view of the same.

The especial object of the present invention is to provide a detachable connection for supporting a garter from a corset, which connection will permit a free swinging motion of a garter-strap and in which the parts may, if

desired, be locked, so that the fastening will not be liable to become unhooked.

Referring to the accompanying drawings for a detail description of a connection constructed according to this invention, C designates a corset side piece, and G designates a garter-strap which may be employed in connection with ordinary garter constructions. The garter-strap G is detachably connected with a sheet-metal piece 10, having the strap-receiving slots 11. At its upper end the sheet-metal piece 10 is provided with a T-shaped head 12. The T-shaped head 12 forms the tongue, which engages a keyhole-shaped socket in a sheet-metal piece secured to the corset.

In the construction illustrated in Figs. 1, 2, 3, and 4 of the drawings the socket-piece or attachment for the corset is made in the form of a clasp. As illustrated in Fig. 2, this corset attachment comprises a back piece 13, having a perforated extension 14, which may be sewed to the corset, if desired. Bent from the back piece 13 are the side arms 15, pivoted in which is the sheet-metal piece 16, having the usual clamping-teeth 17 at its upper end. Both members 13 and 16 of the clasp may be provided with keyhole-shaped openings 18, so that the clasp may be put on with either side out. The vertical dimension of the keyhole-shaped opening 18 is sufficient to permit the T-shaped head 12 to be inserted or removed therefrom when swung or turned sidewise from normal position, and the bottoms of the keyhole-shaped openings 18 are preferably rounded or curved to permit the swinging motion hereinafter explained. Cooperating with the keyhole-shaped opening 18 of the piece 16, as most clearly illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4, is a pivoted locking-piece 19, having a finger which is normally turned to one side, as illustrated in Fig. 3, and which can be swung into position over the T-shaped head 12 to lock the parts together, as illustrated in Fig. 4. The locking-piece 19 may be operated by a stud extending through to the face of the clasp, as shown. In this con-

struction it will be seen that a movable locking-piece is arranged to cooperate with the keyhole-shaped opening, this locking-piece being moved out of position when the T-shaped head is to be inserted or removed and holding the parts locked together when desired.

In the construction illustrated in Fig. 1^a the keyhole-shaped opening 18 is made in a small substantially triangular plate 30. The plate 30 is provided with a slot 31, which receives the tape which is sewed to the corset. These small plates 30 are intended to be attached to corsets when they are made, and if not desired by the purchaser of the corsets they can be readily cut off.

In the construction illustrated in Figs. 5 and 6 the corset attachment consists of a piece of sheet metal folded back upon itself to form two sections separated by a lip 24. The attachment is provided through its front face with a keyhole-shaped opening 25, cooperating with which is a locking-piece 19, as before described. Extending back from the face of the attachment are prongs 26, which may be directly headed into the fabric of the corset, or, if preferred, the arms 26 may furnish the bearings for a safety-pin, as illustrated in Fig. 6.

In Figs. 7 to 9, inclusive, the corset attachments are made substantially in the form of large eyelets. As illustrated, each of the sheet-metal pieces or eyelets 27 is provided with a keyhole-shaped opening substantially of the same shape as before referred to, and cooperating with each of the eyelets I also preferably provide a spring locking-tongue 28, which may be carried by a washer or sheet-metal piece secured beside one of the flanges or skirts of the eyelet.

In the use of the eyelet form of a corset attachment the spring-tongue 28 will form, in effect, a locking-finger which may be pushed out of place when the T-shaped head is to be

inserted or removed, but which will move back into place to lock the parts together after the T-shaped head is inserted.

In the use of all the constructions herein illustrated the rounding or curved bottom of the keyhole-shaped openings will permit a free swinging motion of the garter-straps, and I regard this as important, as garters when thus supported will not put any material restraint upon the freedom of motion of the wearer.

I am aware that changes may be made in the construction of catches or buckles according to this invention without departing from the scope thereof as expressed in the claim. I do not wish, therefore, to be limited to the constructions I have herein shown and described; but

What I do claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

As an article of manufacture, a detachable connection for supporting a garter comprising a sheet-metal socket-piece having provision for fastening the same to a corset, and having a socket of inverted-keyhole shape, and a sheet-metal garter-piece having provision for connection with a garter-strap, with an integral extension at one end which is bent out at an angle from the face of the garter-piece and is turned back over the face of the garter-piece, and is provided with a T-shaped head to be normally fastened in the keyhole-shaped socket, and which is removable therefrom when raised and tipped from normal position.

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

CHAS. A. COUCH.

Witnesses:

PHILIP W. SOUTHGATE,
LOUIS W. SOUTHGATE.