

No. 842,541.

PATENTED JAN. 29, 1907.

M. L. GASTON.
GARMENT SUPPORTER.
APPLICATION FILED JULY 16, 1906.

FIG. 1.

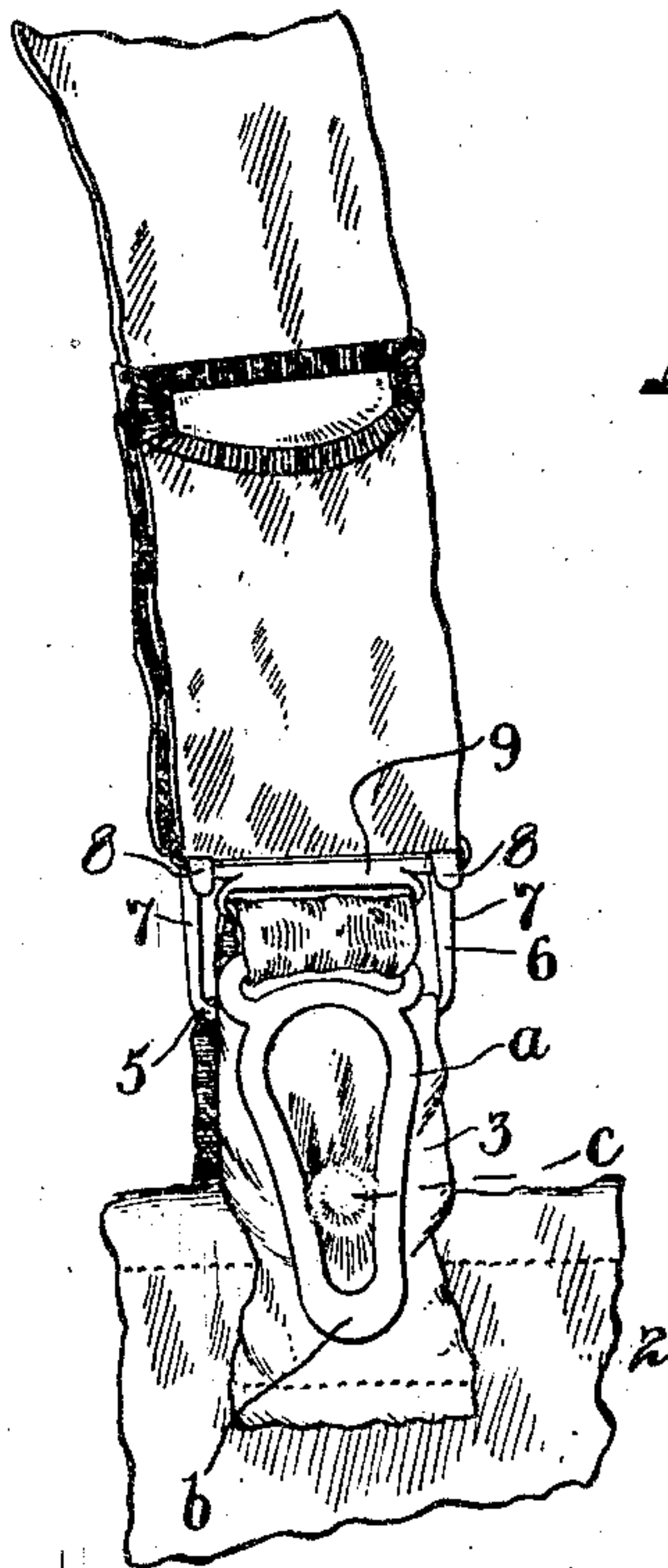


FIG. 4.

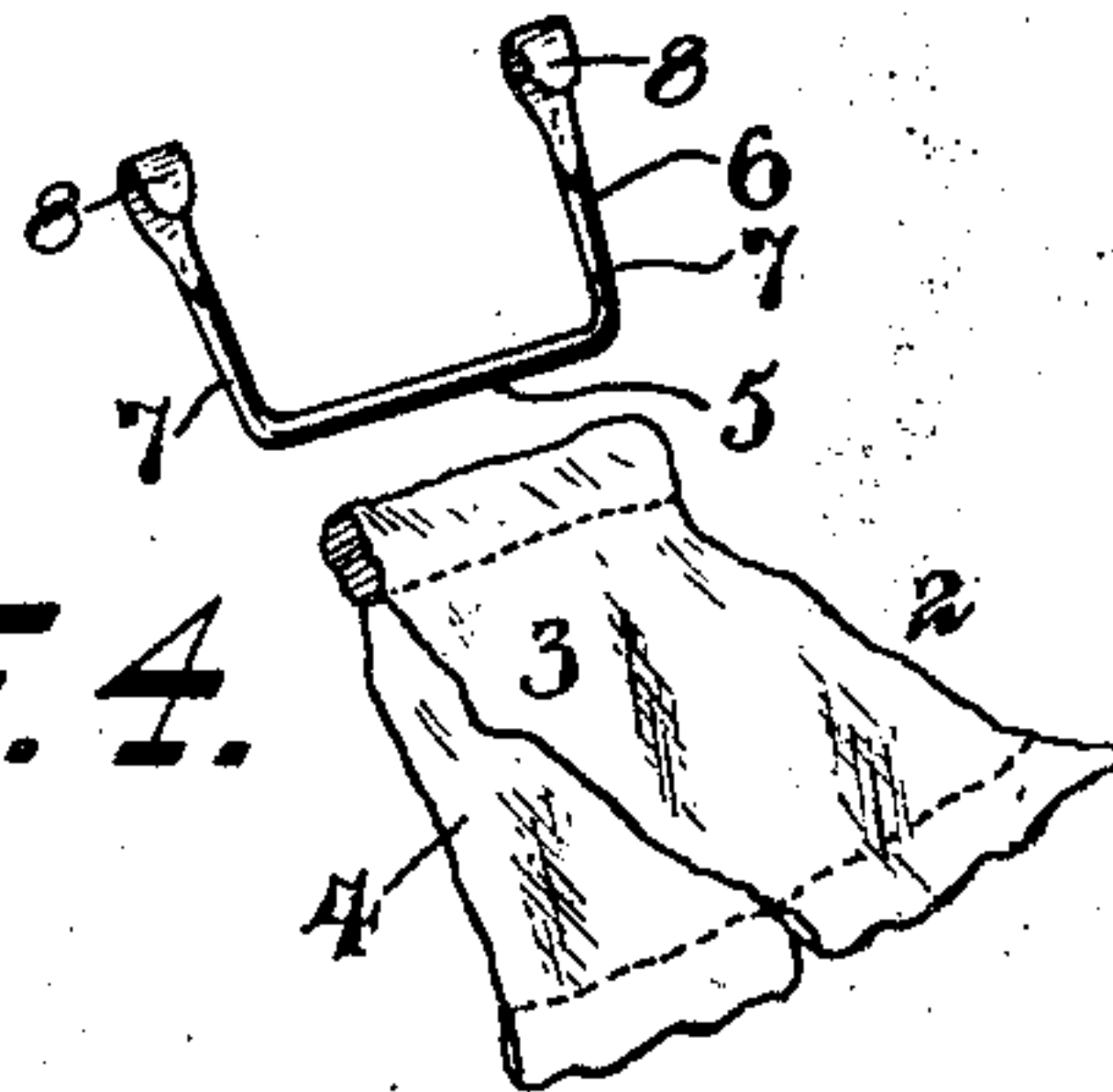


FIG. 2.

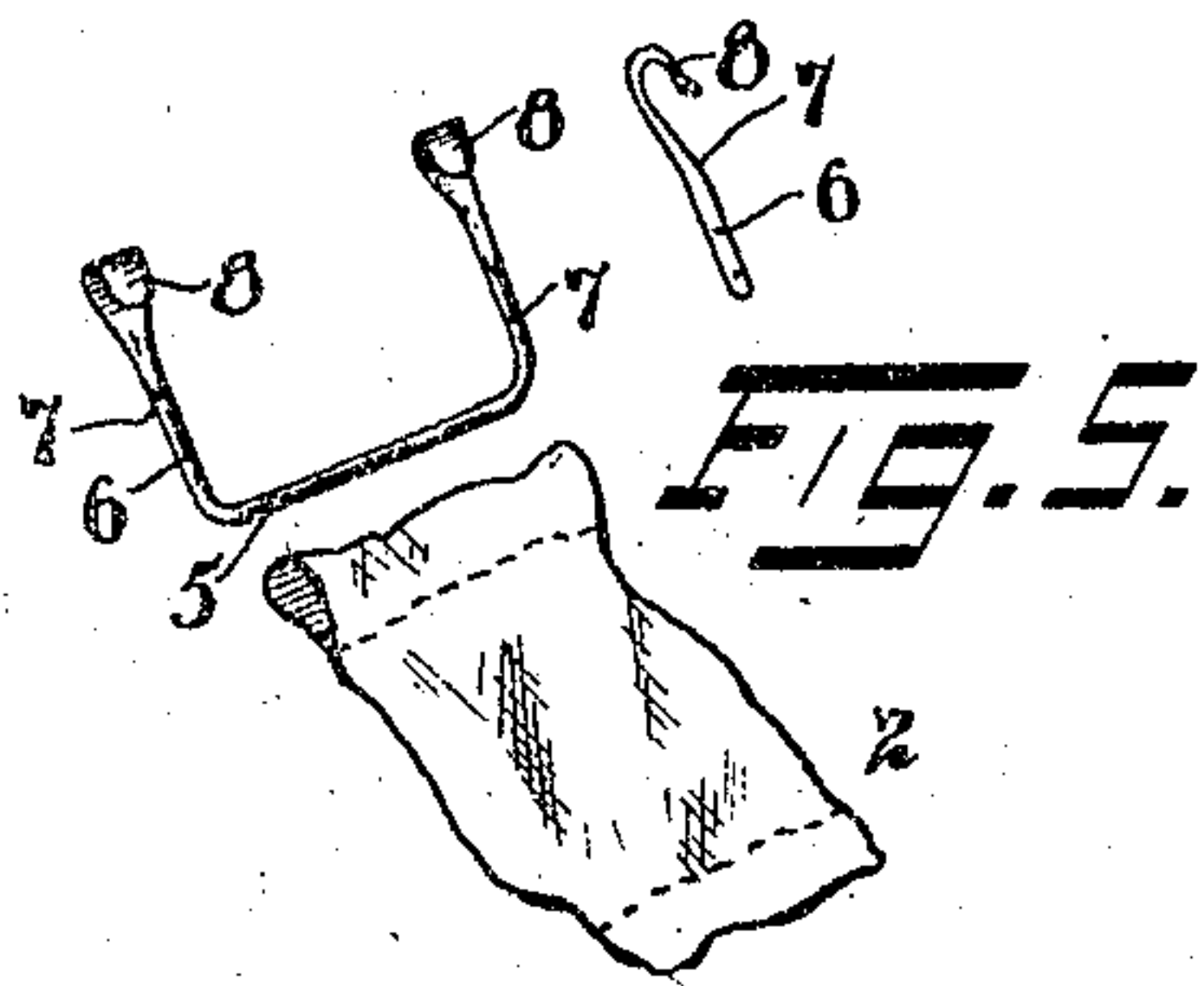
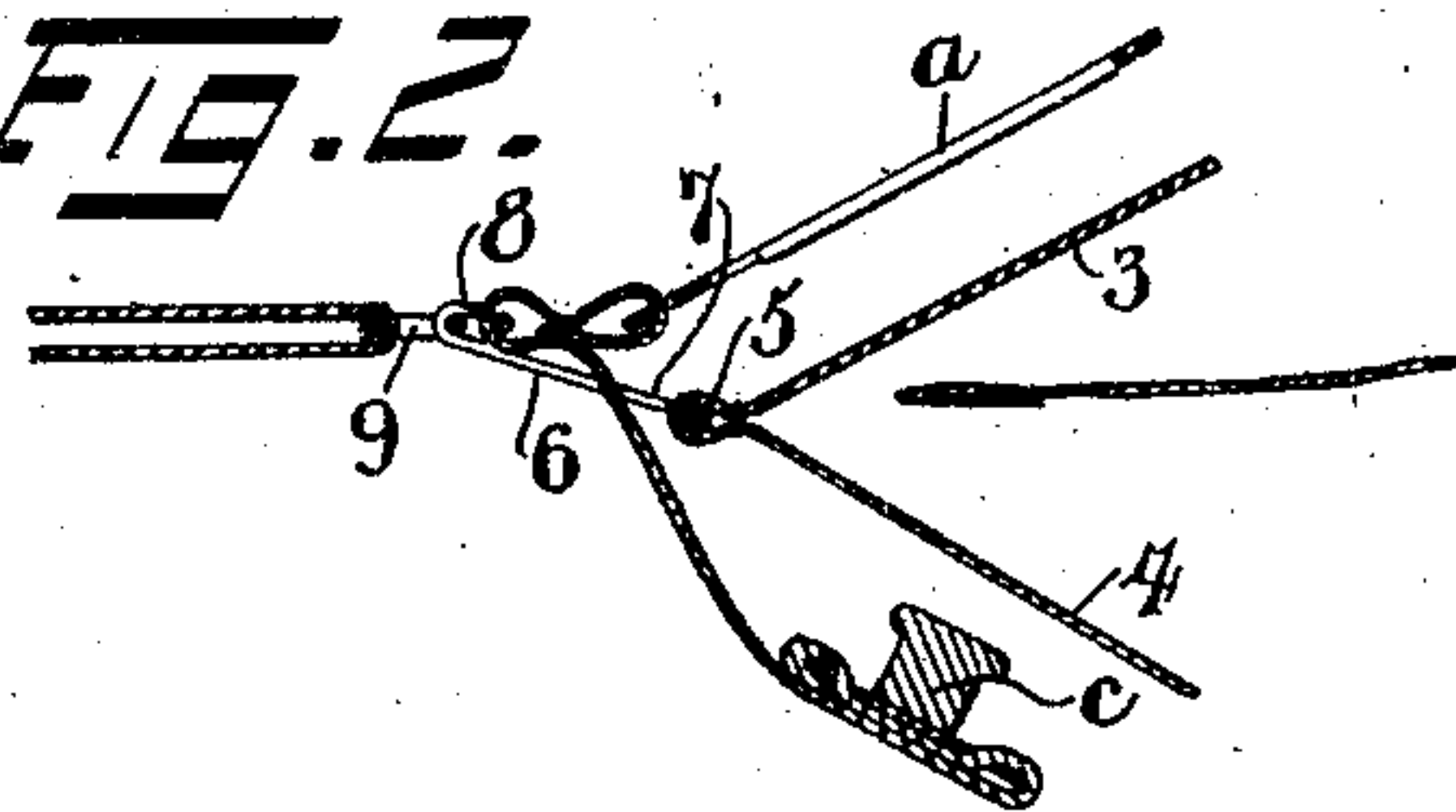


FIG. 5.

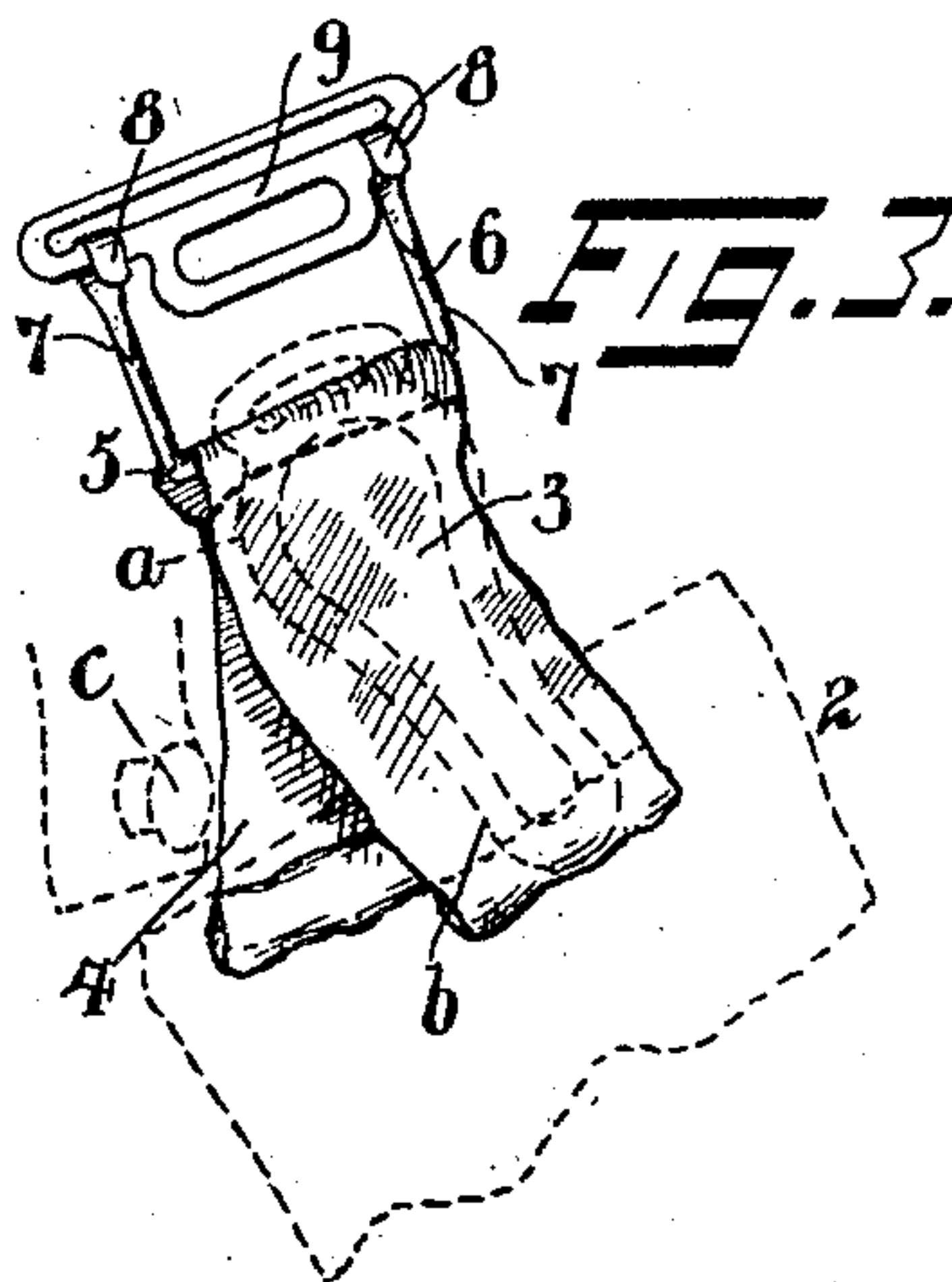


FIG. 3.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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GARMENT-SUPPORTER.

No. 842,541.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARY L. GASTON, a citizen of the United States, residing in New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Garment-Supporters, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to garment-supporters, and more particularly to the clasps thereof, the object of the invention being to provide improved means for preventing the slipping, straining, tearing, and wearing of the garment or hose at or adjacent to the point where the clasp is attached.

A further object of the invention is the provision of detachable means, inexpensive to manufacture, whereby it may be made and sold at comparatively small cost independently of the garment-supporter and of such a simple construction that it may be readily attached to the garment-supporter by the wearer thereof and as readily detached should occasion require—as, for instance, in the breakage or wearing out of the garment-supporter for attachment to another supporter of the same or a different kind and which when attached will be in position to prevent the cutting, tearing, straining, slipping, and wearing of the stocking or garment at and adjacent to the point where such supporter is clasped or fastened.

The ordinary hose-supporter for women, notwithstanding the provision of a soft or rubber button, frequently strains and tears the stockings, especially if these be of fine or delicate texture, owing to the tension under which they work. Various efforts have been made to overcome this—as, for instance, knitting the stocking thicker at its upper part or by the provision of tabs to be sewed to the stockings, two to each, with an eyelet for the reception for the button of the hose-supporter. Both are expensive, and the latter not only requires sewing, but also frequently resewing when changed from one pair of stockings to another, or else a set of four must be used for each pair of stockings.

I am aware of the patent to Gorton, No. 542,440, dated July 9, 1895, in which a flap or tab is sewed and permanently attached to the garment supported, so as to lie between the constricted loop and the button. The disadvantage, however, of such a construction resides in the fact that the flap is thus made a permanent part of the garment-sup-

porter and must be purchased therewith, so that when it becomes torn or for any reason unfit for use a new flap is not purchasable independently of the entire garment-supporters.

The object of the present improvement, therefore, is to provide a protector which does not have to be permanently attached or sewed to the stocking or to the garment-supporter and which can be readily attached to and detached from such garment-supporter by the user and which can be made and sold at very small cost and is therefore readily purchasable independently of the garment-supporter and as an adjunct thereto and without requiring any change in the construction of such garment-supporters as now manufactured.

The flap or tab of this improved protector may be formed of any suitable material, as of rubber or cloth, and provided with some suitable means of attaching it to the garment-supporter—as, for instance, a metallic holder—and may consist of one or more flaps, as found most desirable in practice. In the preferred form shown in the drawings it comprises a metal holder to which a pair of flaps are secured, so that they may extend between the loop and the button and receive between them the stocking, and thus have a protecting-flap between the stocking and the button and a protecting-flap between the stocking and the loop.

In the drawings accompanying and forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a front view of a part of a hose-supporter attached to a stocking with this improved protector in position for use. Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the parts shown in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of this improvement illustrated as attached to the garment-supporter link, the constricted loop and button of the supporter, together with the stocking, being shown in dotted lines; and Figs. 4 and 5 are perspective views of this improvement in detail.

Similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts throughout the different figures of the drawings.

In the form shown this detachable protector 2 comprises a pair of flaps 3 and 4, preferably formed of a single thickness of suitable material doubled upon itself and around the bar 5 of the holder 6. This is shown made of wire, comprising the bar 5 for the reception

of the flap and to which it is sewed, and a pair of arms 7, the ends of which are bent to form hooks 8 for engagement with the metal ring or link 9 of the garment-supporter. These bent ends may be of spring formation, if desired, whereby when sprung into place they cannot be detached without some effort, or the spring feature may be omitted, since obviously the detachment of the holder is not practicable as long as the supporter is in use, since it is necessary to move it into a horizontal position relative to the supporter in order to detach it. The holder carrying the flap is preferably of metallic formation and may be of various forms, that shown being one that is well adapted for the purpose. This protector 2 is attached to the garment-supporter having the usual clasp *a*, comprising the constricted loop *b* and the rubber or other soft button *c*, by inserting the hooks of the holder into the ring or link 9 in the manner shown, whereby the flaps are in position to extend between the constricted loop and the button, so that when the stocking is received, as illustrated in Fig. 2, between the flaps the cutting and straining thereof is avoided, as has been demonstrated in actual use. Instead of the two flaps one may be provided, if desired, Fig. 5; but it is not nearly so efficient or effective except when the clasp is in the form of a constricted or V-shaped loop for pinching the stocking. When one flap, however, is used, the upper end is sewed to the holder, the flap coming between the stocking and the constricted loop.

Of course it will be obvious that this improved detachable flap may be attached at other points to the supporter than that where it is shown and that the holder may be made up in various forms, the gist of the invention being the provision of an improved detachable protector, so that the flap will lie between the loop and the garment or between both the loop and the button and the garment, whereby the wearing, tearing, straining, and slipping of the garment is prevented.

I claim as my invention—

1. A garment-supporter having a clasp, and a protector comprising a readily-detachable holder having means attachable to said supporter without puncturing any part thereof and carrying a flap or flaps adapted to be interposed between the member or members of such clasp and the garment.
2. A garment-supporter having a clasp comprising a button and a constricted loop, and a protector comprising a readily-detachable holder having means attachable to a part of said supporter without puncturing any part thereof and carrying a flap or flaps adapted to be interposed between the garment and such clasp.
3. A garment-supporter having a clasp, and a detachable protector adapted to be interposed between one or both members of such clasp and the garment and comprising a holder having means for attachment to a metallic part of such garment-supporter and carrying one or more flaps secured thereto.
4. A garment-supporter having a clasp, and a detachable protector adapted to be interposed between one or both members of such clasp and the garment and comprising a metallic holder having spring-hooks for attachment to such garment-supporter and carrying one or more flaps secured thereto.
5. A garment-protector adapted to be interposed between a member of a garment-clasp and the garment and comprising a holder having means readily attachable to a part of a garment-supporter without puncturing any part thereof and carrying one or more flaps secured thereto.
6. A garment-protector adapted to be interposed between a pair of members of a clasp and comprising a metallic holder having a bar provided with hooked ends and a pair of flaps secured to such bar.

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