

No. 860,292.

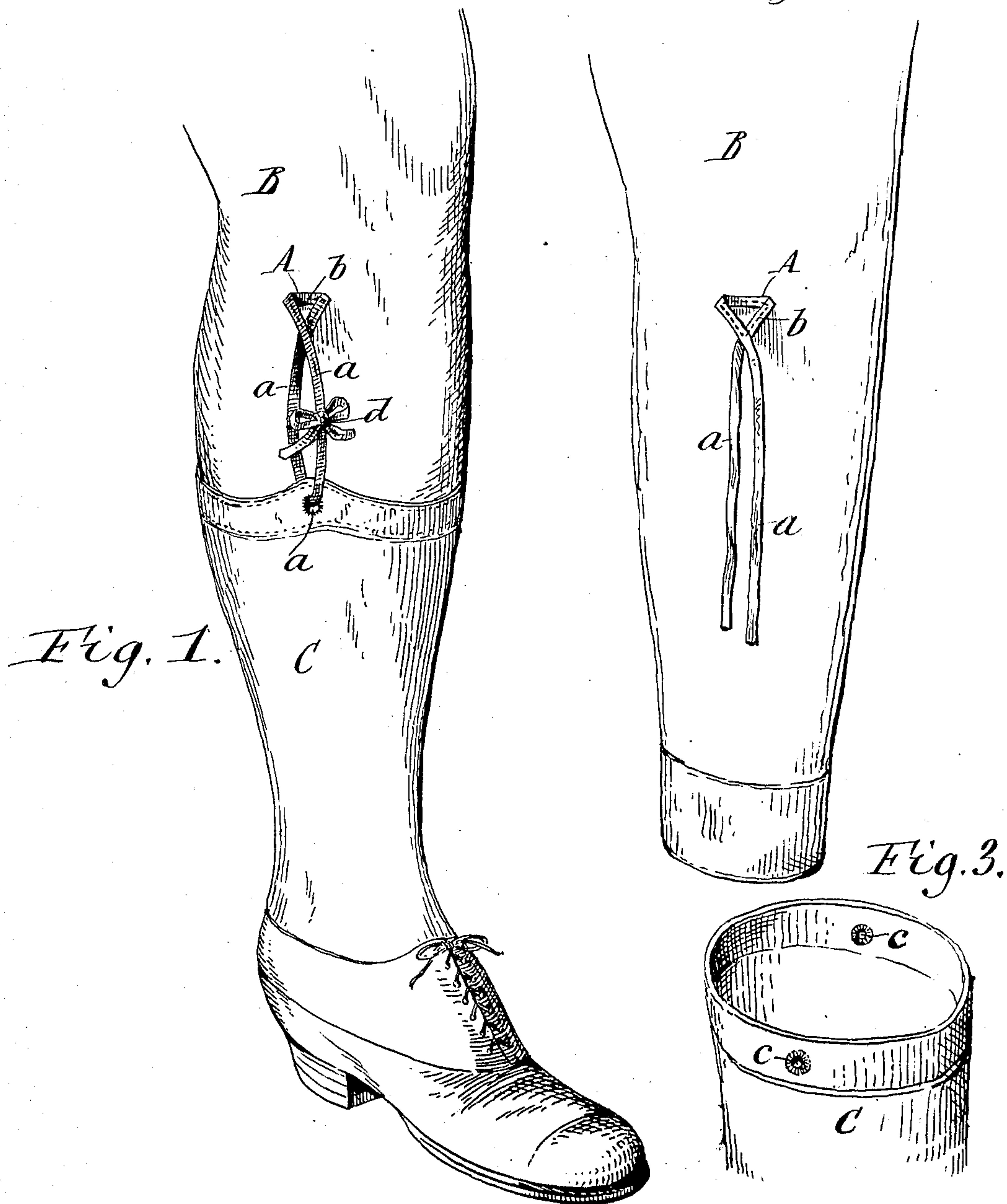
PATENTED JULY 16, 1907.

L. G. HANLEY & J. B. PORTER.

STOCKING SUPPORTER.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 17, 1906.

Fig. 2.



Witnesses:
Louis W. Gratz
Richard Sommer

L. G. Hanley — *Inventors*
J. B. Porter
by Geyer & Papp — *Attorneys.*

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LAWRENCE G. HANLEY AND JOHN B. PORTER, OF BUFFALO, NEW YORK.

STOCKING-SUPPORTER.

No. 860,292.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 16, 1907.

Application filed September 17, 1903. Serial No. 334,859.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, LAWRENCE G. HANLEY and JOHN B. PORTER, citizens of the United States, and residents of Buffalo, in the county of Erie and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Stocking-Supporters, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to stocking supporters and has the object to produce a device for this purpose which is permanently attached to the leg of a nether undergarment, whereby the same is not liable to become lost and may also be washed with the said garment and which during use does not encircle the leg of the wearer, thereby avoiding the annular pressure on the limb which is produced by the garters or supporters now in common use.

In the accompanying drawings: Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the improved stocking supporter in use. Fig. 2 is a fragmentary perspective view of one leg of a nether undergarment provided with the improved stocking supporter, the latter being shown disconnected from the stocking. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the upper end of a stocking provided with means for receiving the improved stocking supporter.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts through the several views.

Our improved stocking supporter consists essentially of a flexible fastener, which is permanently secured at one end to the outer side of the leg of a nether garment while its opposite end is adapted to be detachably connected with the stocking.

In the preferred form of the stocking supporter shown in the drawings, this fastener consists of a single piece of tape which is doubled vertically so as to form a triangular loop A at its doubled or folded upper part and a pair of depending loose or free strings or ends *a, a*. This triangular loop is secured by stitching *b* or otherwise to the outer-side of the garment leg B adjacent to the knee, as shown, or at any other desired point above the upper end of the stocking which incloses said leg. The supporter is preferably attached to the stocking by passing one end of one string through an opening *c* in the side of the stocking C at its upper end and then securing the two string ends together by a tie or bow *d*, thereby forming a loop which holds the stocking, as shown in Fig. 1.

Only one of these supporters need be attached to each garment leg and only one opening is required in the stocking for receiving the supporter. It is advisable however to provide each stocking with openings *c* on opposite sides of its upper part, as shown in Fig. 3,

so that the same stocking may be used either on the right or the left foot and still enable the same to receive the garment supporter on one side of the leg.

In order to prevent the holes *c* in the stocking from fraying or tearing, the same may be stitched or worked the same as the button holes of the clothing.

The string may be made comparatively small and light as the strain to which the same is subjected in holding the stocking in position is very slight.

Inasmuch as the stocking supporter is permanently attached to the garment leg there is no liability of the same becoming lost and the necessity or inconvenience of carrying extra supporters when traveling, as is commonly the case when using detached garters or stocking supporters, is avoided. Furthermore, the supporter is always washed or cleansed with the garment, rendering the same more sanitary than garters or supporters as heretofore constructed.

Owing to the absence of any buckles, buttons or other metal fastening on this supporter there is no possibility of producing rust spots on the garment or stocking and it also avoids bruising or pain to the leg which has heretofore been caused by such buckles and buttons being pressed against the leg.

The stocking supporters heretofore in common use encircled the leg completely and produced an annular or contracting pressure all around the same which interfered with the circulation of the leg and frequently produced swollen ankles, varicose veins, neuritis, tired feet and other complications all of which are avoided by the use of our improved stocking supporter which does not encircle the leg but produces a slight vertical pull on one side only of the leg.

We claim as our invention:

1. A stocking supporter consisting of a nether garment, and a pair of strings attached to the outer side of each garment leg above the lower end thereof and adapted to cooperate with an opening in a stocking, substantially as set forth.

2. A stocking supporter consisting of a nether garment, and a flexible fastener arranged on the outer side of each garment leg adjacent to the knee and adapted to cooperate with an opening in a stocking, each of said fasteners being constructed of a single piece of tape which is folded to form a triangular loop at the center and two strings extending away from said loop, and stitching connecting said loops with said legs, substantially as set forth.

Witness our hands this 15th day of September, 1906.

LAWRENCE G. HANLEY.
JOHN B. PORTER.

Witnesses:

THEO. L. POPP,
E. M. GRAHAM.