

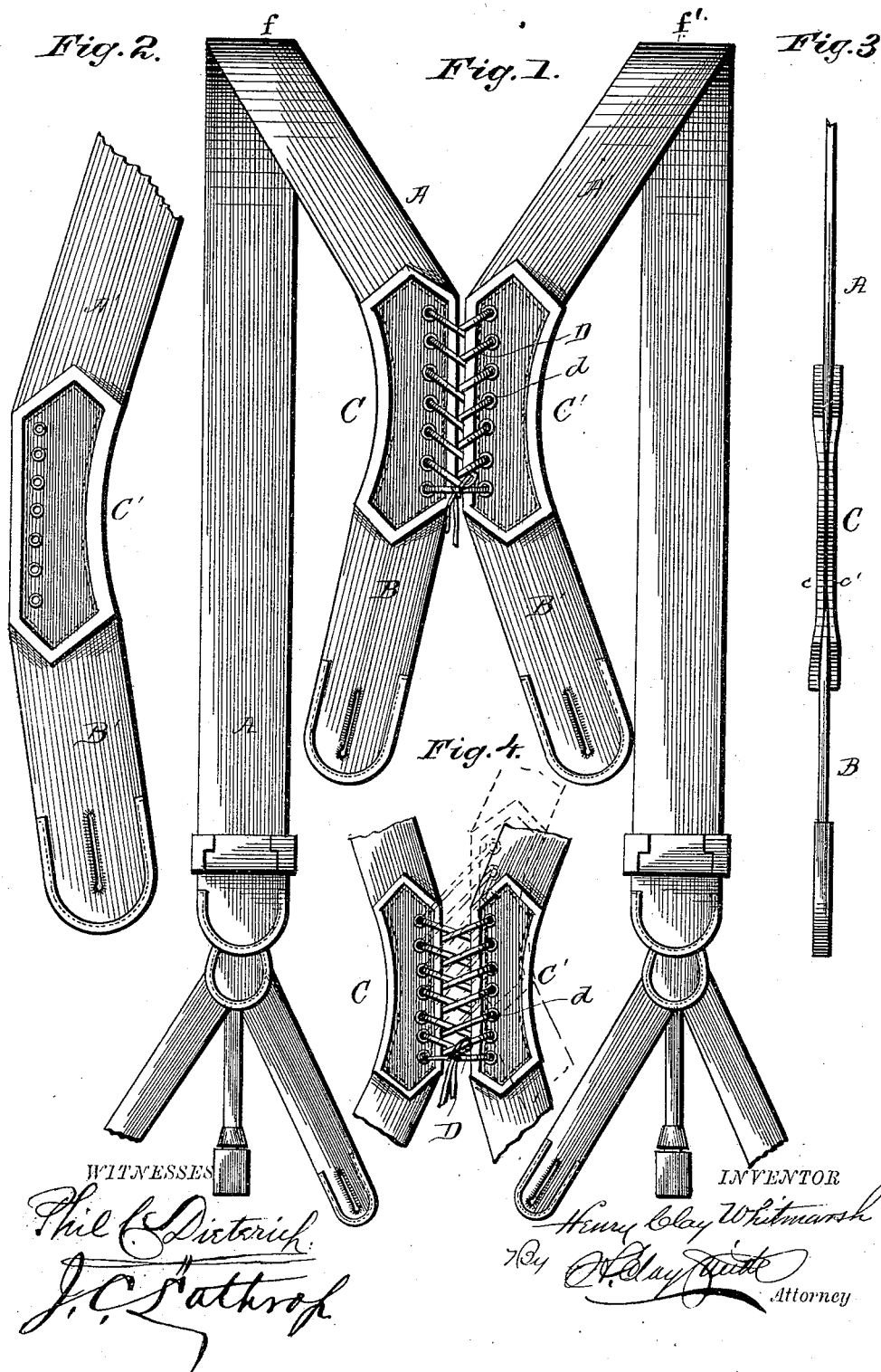
(No Model.)

H. C. WHITMARSH.

SUSPENDERS.

No. 346,626.

Patented Aug. 3, 1886.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## SUSPENDERS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 346,626, dated August 3, 1886.

Application filed June 1, 1886. Serial No. 203,760. (No model.)

### *To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HENRY CLAY WHITMARSH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Suspenders; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The invention relates to suspenders and shoulder-braces; and the novelty consists in the construction, arrangement, and adaptation of parts, as will be more fully hereinafter set forth, and specifically pointed out in the claims. I provide a two-part connecting-plate. One of the webs or straps is connected to each of the parts which form the back-plate. Each half of the suspender is held by its half of the back-plate in such an angular position that it extends normally from the back-button upon one side to the center of the back, and thence over the shoulder of the wearer upon the same side. This curvature is due to the manner of securing the web to the parts which comprise the half-sections of the back-plate.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a back view of the entire suspenders. Fig. 2 is a detail of a part. Fig. 3 is an edge section. Fig. 4 is a detail illustrating in dotted lines the liberty of movement accomplished by the two-part back plate or pad.

Referring to the drawings, A and A' designate the upper webs of a pair of suspenders, and B and B' the lower webs thereof. C and C' designate the two parts of the back-plate. They are each formed of two plates, *c* and *c'*, stitched together, the stitches also securing the webs in place. The adjacent sides of the plates C C' are straight, and these sides are provided with corresponding rows of eyelets, *d*. The outer edges of the plates are curved, and the webs A and A' are so secured between the layers *c* and *c'* as to diverge the said webs

from each other at an angle which will allow the parts (marked *f f'*) to come fairly upon the shoulders of the wearer. The webs B B' are similarly secured to throw the said webs at an angle, which will extend to the back-buttons of the pantaloons, or the like.

As thus far described, it will be seen that each suspender or member of the pair is comprised of a long and a short web and a connecting piece or plate. Each is, by reason of its attachments, so curved as to throw the two webs upon different planes.

To complete the pair of suspenders, it is only necessary to couple the plates together by the lacing-cord D, which I prefer to make elastic, to allow the plates C C', or either of them, to have a liberty of motion, as seen in Fig. 4.

I am aware that it is not new with me, broadly, to provide that either suspender or member may have a limited movement independent of the other, and I am also aware that corset-backs and back-braces have been laced; but I am not aware that suspenders have been given a desired curvature, by reason of their being formed in part of a two-part back-plate, or, by reason of their webs being stitched between two plates in curved or angular positions, the two plates serving as detachable and adjustable parts of a back-plate; nor that such two-part plate has ever been completed by an elastic lacing.

My invention allows me to use short pieces of web in the construction of useful articles. A single web, however, may be "fulled" upon one side and stitched between plates, as *c c'*, for this purpose. The elasticity of the lacing not only allows a great freedom of movement to the wearer, but it allows the two parts C C' to separate laterally from each other, to accommodate broad shoulders, or a wider separation upon the shoulders.

What I claim as new is—

1. A pair of suspenders comprising, essentially, two separate members or shoulder-straps, each member having its web normally held in an angular position by being secured to faces, as *c c'*, the free ends extended in the same lateral direction and provided with suitable ends, the plates formed by the faces *c c'* being removably and adjustably secured to—

gether to couple two similar members, as set forth.

2. A pair of suspenders, each half of which comprises a long web and a short web secured in angular positions between faces or plates, as *c c'*, by stitches, and the two parts *C C'* thus formed being adjustably coupled together, as set forth.

3. The long webs *A A'* and short webs *B B'*, secured between plates *c c'* at angles, as shown, the said plates *c c'* forming a two-part back-plate, and the parts *CC'* adjustably connected, as set forth.

4. The webs *A B A' B'* and the plates *C C'*, having eyelets *d*, connected and arranged as described, combined with the elastic lacing *D*, and the whole adapted to serve as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

HENRY CLAY WHITMARSH.

Witnesses:

SIMON STEINHEIMER,  
J. B. NONES.