C. FRANKE.

Pantaloons-Former.

No. 167,393. Patented Sept. 7, 1875.

Fig. I.

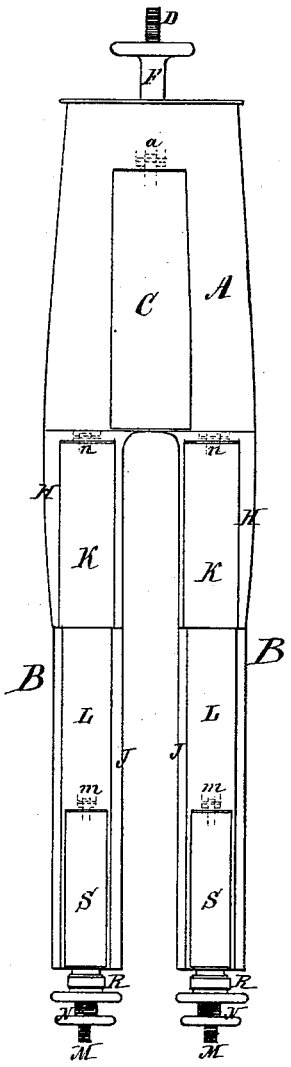
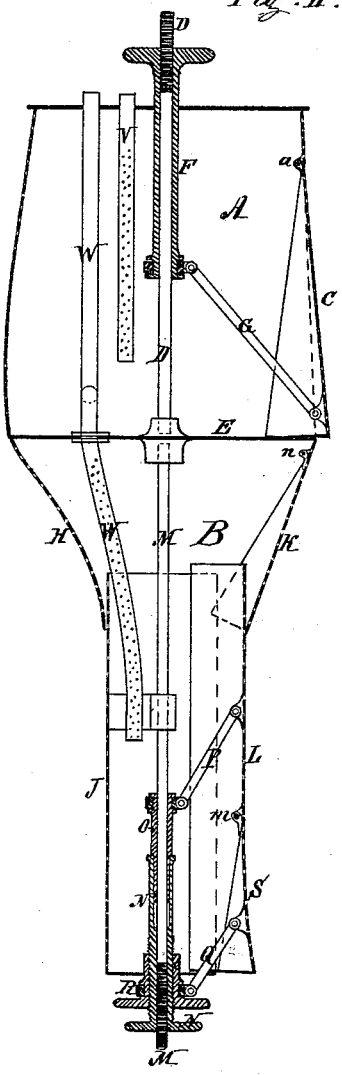


Fig. II.



Witnesses.

Isaac Aaron

A. M. Pethrau

Inventor.

Charles Franke

per Henry E. Roeder

attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES FRANKE, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN PANTALOONS-FORMERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **167,393**, dated September 7, 1875; application filed January 15, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES FRANKE, of New York, in the State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Machine for Shaping, Steaming, and Pressing Pantaloons, of which the following is a specification:

The nature of my invention consists in the arrangement of a suitable frame or casing, with several sections, either loose or hinged together, and attached by means of rods to sleeves or nuts, screwed upon rods fixed to the frame, and whereby the loose or hinged sections of the frame may be forced outward. Perforated steam-pipes are arranged in the inside of the frame to heat every part of the same, and the frame or casing is likewise perforated to allow the steam to escape and penetrate the pantaloons stretched over the casing.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure I represents an outside front view of the case, and Fig. II is a cross-section of the same.

The frame or case represents the shape of the garment; and consists of three chambers, namely, A the upper chamber, corresponding to the body of the pantaloons, and B B the lower chambers corresponding to the shape of the legs. In the front of the chamber A a movable section, C, is arranged, hinged at its upper end *a* to the main part. D is a screw-rod, firmly attached to the plate E, which divides the chambers A and B B, upon which a sleeve or nut, F, is placed, connected through the rod G with the hinged section C. The upper part H of the chambers B is firmly attached to the chamber A, while the lower part J is made to slide into the part H, to enable the legs to be made longer or shorter, as may be desired. In the front of the upper part H a section, K, is hinged at its upper end *n*, and the front L of the lower part J is made loose, capable of being moved outward, and bearing against the hinged section K, so as to push said section K outward whenever this part L is moved outward. M is a rod, situated in the central part of the chambers B, and firmly attached to the plate E. This rod is provided with a screw-thread at its lower end, upon which a sleeve, N, is fitted, acting against a tube, O, sliding upon the rod M, and connected by means of the rod P with the loose front piece L in such a manner that, by the motion of the sleeve N on the screw part of the rod M, the front piece L will be moved outward, and, as said front piece L is in contact with the hinged section K in the upper part, this outward movement of the front piece L will press at the same time the hinged section K outward. The outer circumference of the sleeve N has a screw-thread cut on it, upon which a nut, R, is fitted, attached by means of a rod, Q, to a hinged section, S. This section S forms the lower part of the front piece L, and is curved to correspond with the curved shape of the lower parts of the pantaloons. By the action of the nut R the lower part of this section S, which is hinged at *m* to the front piece L, can be moved outward when desired, to give the legs the required shape. V and W are steam-pipes entering the top of the chamber A. The pipe V extends downward into the chamber A till within a short distance of the plate E, and has fine perforations in its sides, while the end of said pipe is closed. The pipe W passes through the chamber A, and has branches passing through the plate E into each of the chambers B B, in which latter chambers the sides of the pipes are perforated, and pass about two-thirds of the distance downward.

All the sides, as well as the loose and hinged parts forming the frame or casing, are very finely perforated, to allow the escape of steam through the same, while the plate E, the top of the chamber A, and the bottom of the chambers B B are made solid and steam-tight. This frame or casing is inclosed with a linen or cotton cover, over which the pantaloons, after having been dyed, washed, or cleaned, are fastened, and a cover of some woolen or other heavy substance is then fastened tight over the pantaloons. By means of the sleeve or nut F the movable front part C in the chamber A is moved outward, so as to stretch the body of the pantaloons as much as possible, or as much as may be desired. The loose front part L in the chambers B B is then moved outward, as much as may be desired, by means of the sleeve N, tube O, and rod P, moving with it the hinged part K in the upper part of said chambers, after which the lower hinged part S is moved outward through the motion of the nut R and rod Q, by which above-men-

tioned outward movement of the loose and hinged parts of the frame or casing, the pantaloons stretched upon said frame may be shaped in any desired manner. Steam is then admitted into the chamber A and chambers B B, which will pass through the sides and saturate the pantaloons, which may then be stretched farther, if desirable. The outside woolen or heavy material confines the steam to the cloth of the pantaloons, and prevents the displacement or disarrangement of the nap or fibers of the material. After some time the steam is shut off, and the saturated pantaloons allowed to dry upon the frame, when the same are removed, and found pressed and shaped without the necessity of ironing.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The herein-described pantaloons-former, consisting of the chambers A and B B, provided with hinged parts or sections C and K, loose front pieces L, with hinged bottom pieces S, rods G P Q, sleeves or nuts F N R, and rods D and M, the whole being combined and arranged to operate in the manner and for the purpose substantially as set forth.

CH. FRANKE.

Witnesses:
HENRY E. ROEDER,
ISAAC AARON.