J. B. SHARP.

SUSPENDERS.

No. 192,535. Patented June 26, 1877.

Fig. 1.

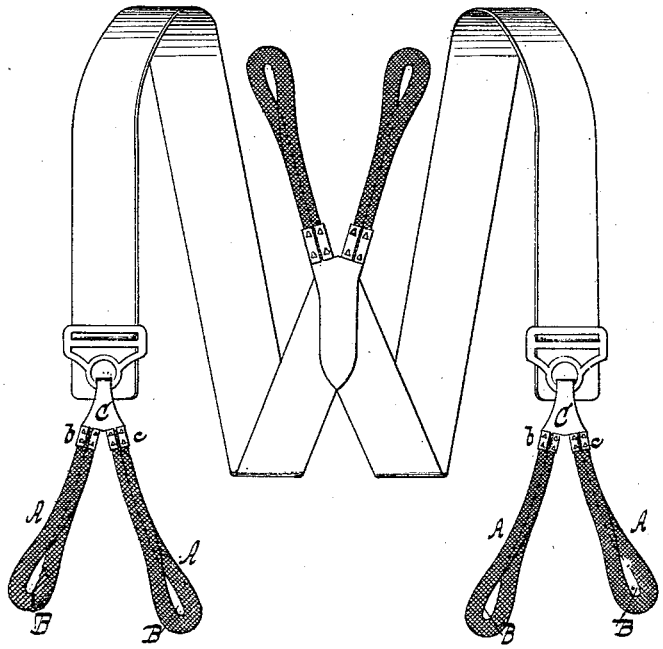


Fig. 2.

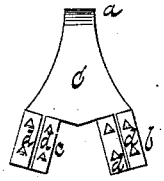
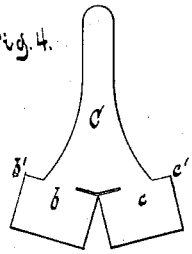


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES B. SHARP, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN SUSPENDERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **192,535**, dated June 26, 1877; application filed May 16, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES B. SHARP, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Suspenders, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 represents a front view of a pair of suspenders containing my improvement. Fig. 2 is a like view of one of the attaching-pieces in a detached state. Fig. 3 is a side view thereof. Fig. 4 is a front view of the blank composing one of the attaching-pieces.

Similar letters indicate corresponding parts.

My invention consists in a suspender-end made of a flat tape or strip of flexible material, which is bent into a loop or loops to form a button hole or holes, while the parts thereof extending up from such loop or loops are laid flatwise upon each other throughout their entire length, and united by stitching through them, whereby a strong and elastic "end" is obtained, and one which can be manufactured at a very small cost; also, in the combination of a suspender-end, constructed as stated, and a metallic attaching-piece, which is adapted to be connected to a suspender, and provided with a socket (one or more) in which the flat tape or cord composing the suspender-end is inserted and fastened, whereby I obtain a simple and very effective means for connecting the end to a suspender; further, in a metallic attaching-piece formed of a single piece of sheet metal, with a hook and with a socket (one or more) for the reception of the suspender-end, and with barbs which are stamped up out of the sheet metal composing the socket, adapted to confine the suspender-end in the socket, so that the end can be fastened with great facility, while the attaching-piece is rendered very cheap.

In the drawing, the letter A designates a suspender-end made of a flat tape or strip of flexible material, which is bent around into a loop, B, while the two parts thereof extending up from this loop B are laid upon each other flatwise throughout their entire length, and united by one or more lines of stitching through the middle portions, or through the opposite edges thereof, sufficient of the loop B being left open to form a button-hole. It will be seen that the stitching, by which said parts of the flat tape or strip composing the end A are united together, can be made directly through the tape or strip, and hence this operation can be very rapidly performed, and the article can be very cheaply manufactured. A suspender-end made in the manner stated moreover possesses great strength, and is not liable to stretch by wear.

In the example shown each of the ends of the suspender is made separately; but, if desired, two ends may be formed together or in one piece, with a loop or button-hole at each end, and arranged in the usual looped buckle-connection.

The letter C designates a metallic attaching-piece, which serves to connect one or two suspender-ends to the buckle, or any other part of a suspender. This attaching-piece C is provided with a hook, *a*, or other equivalent device, at its upper end for connecting it to the buckle of a suspender, and it is also provided with two sockets, *b c*, for the reception of two suspender-ends. In some cases these sockets *b c* are made separately, or, in other words, instead of the attaching-piece C, I make use of two attaching-pieces, each having a socket, and each being provided with a hook or other device, so that it can be connected to the suspender, independently of the other. When these sockets *b c* are made together they are arranged to diverge from the lower end of the attaching-piece C, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, so that they are adapted to hold the suspender-ends in proper relation to the suspender. When each of the suspender-ends is formed separately their extreme ends are inserted and fastened in the sockets *b c;* but when two ends are formed in one piece the latter is drawn through the sockets *b c* in the same manner that it is drawn through the looped buckle-connection hereinbefore referred to.

For the purpose of fastening the suspender-ends I provide the sockets *b c* with barbs or teeth *d*, which are pressed inward after the ends have been inserted in place, so as to bite into the latter and prevent their withdrawal; but other means may be substituted for the barbs or teeth.

The attaching-piece C is formed of a single

piece of sheet metal, which is shown in blank form in Fig. 4, the same having wings *b' c'* containing the barbs *d*, and which, when turned up, form the sockets *b c*. An attaching-piece, made as stated, answers its purpose to great advantage, and is very cheap.

In the example shown the sockets *b c* are open at their upper ends; but they can obviously be closed, if desired, either by bending the upper edges thereof inward, or in various other ways.

It will be seen that the sockets *b c* are especially adapted to be used in connection with suspender-ends made like the end A, on account of the very small width of such ends; but the sockets are also adapted to receive other ends.

When the attaching-piece C is connected to the buckle of a suspender such buckle is provided with a ring, as shown, for the attachment of the hook *a*, or other device; but it is obvious that the attaching-piece can also be formed in one piece with the buckle.

If desired, a strengthening-core, either of round or flat shape, may be combined with my suspender-end.

I am aware that a suspender-end has been constructed of a flat cord or strip, bent into a loop, forming two ends wound around each other, and united where they cross each other; but such is not my invention, which consists essentially, as hereinbefore stated, of a suspender-end made of a flat tape bent into a loop or loops, and the parts of which extending up from such loop are laid flatwise upon each other throughout their entire length and united by stitches passing through them.

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

1. A suspender-end made of a flat tape or strip of flexible material, which is bent into a loop or loops, and the parts of which extending up from such loop or loops are laid flatwise upon each other throughout their entire length, and united by stitching through them, substantially as shown and described.

2. The combination of a suspender-end made of a flat tape or strip of flexible material, which is bent into a loop or loops, and the parts of which extending up from such loop or loops are laid flatwise upon each other throughout their entire length, and united by stitching through them, with a metallic attaching-piece, having a socket (one or more) for the reception of said suspender-end, substantially as described.

3. A metallic attaching-piece for suspender-ands, formed out of sheet metal, with a hook end with a socket (one or more) for receiving the suspender-end, said socket being provided with barbs, stamped out of the metal composing the same, for retaining the suspender-end, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 15th day of May, 1877.

JAMES B. SHARP. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

W. HAUFF,

E. F. KASTENHUBER.