

L. Z. HITCHCOCK.
Skirt and Hose Suspender.

No. 198,617.

Patented Dec. 25, 1877.

FIG. 2.

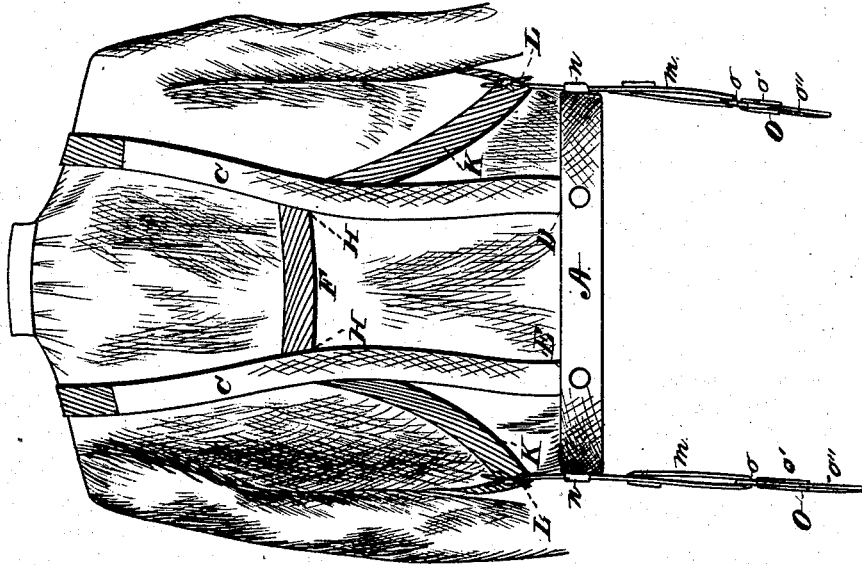
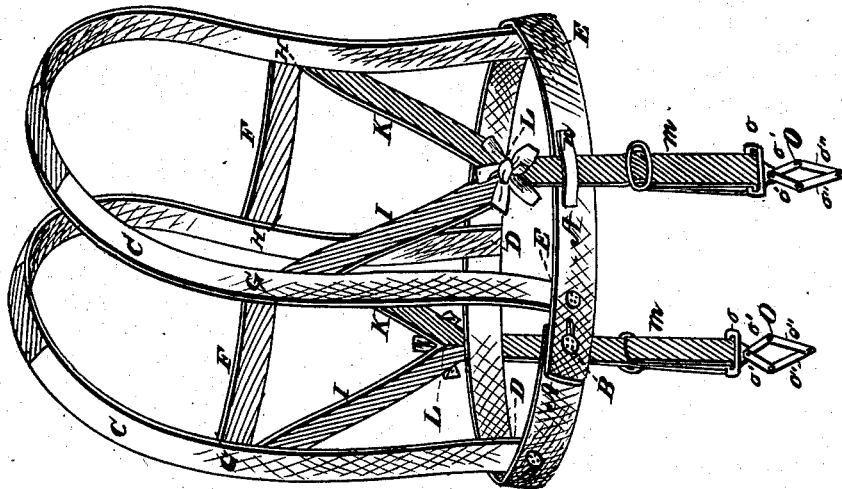


FIG. 1.



Attest
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LAURA Z. HITCHCOCK, OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI.

IMPROVEMENT IN SKIRT AND HOSE SUSPENDERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **198,617**, dated December 25, 1877; application filed December 1, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LAURA Z. HITCHCOCK, of Kansas City, in the county of Jackson and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Skirt, Drawers, and Hose Supporter; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which 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 letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The object of my invention is to relieve the hips and lower limbs of the body from the support of the skirts, drawers, and hose, by resting the weight of these articles directly upon the shoulders.

In Figure 1, the band A passes around the waist, the ends fastening in front by means of a button or clasp, B.

The bands C C pass over the shoulders, and their ends are fastened securely to the band A at the points D D and E E. The bands C C are intended to keep the band A in place, and where they rest on the shoulders are elastic.

The bands F F are securely fastened to the bands C C at the points G G and H H. The bands F F are elastic, and intended to keep the bands C C in their places on the shoulders.

The bands I I and K K are elastic, and are securely fastened to the bands C C at the points G G and H H, respectively, and unite at the points L L, where they are securely fastened to the bands *m m*. The bands *m m* are elastic, and pass through the loops *n n*, as in Fig. 2, on the band A, and extend downward, their length being regulated by slides, as indicated on Fig. 1, and are to be fastened to the hose by means of the clasps O O, or other suitable means.

The band *m*, in its vertical movement, is entirely separate from the band A, and is kept in place by means of the loop *n*, and, with its direct connections I K, brings the entire weight directly upon the shoulder.

The clasp O, which I intend particularly to

be used with the supporter herein described, but which is adapted for general use, consists of five pieces of metal, so joined together as to have four pivots, as in Fig. 1.

The piece *o* is rectangular in form, with an opening of sufficient size to allow the band *m* to freely pass through it, and is pivoted through an eye to the arms *o' o'*.

That part of the clasp O which catches the hose consists of four pieces, the two upper pieces being of equal length, and the two lower pieces of equal length, but preferably longer than the upper ones.

The arms (or pieces) *o' o'* are pivoted at their lower ends to *o'' o''*, and the arms *o'' o''* are pivoted together at their lower ends, forming a frame, the sides of which are toggles.

The clasp being open, on pressing together laterally, or upon strain being brought on band *m*, the two toggles formed by the pieces *o' o'* and *o'' o''* are straightened out, bringing the sides together and clamping the hose between them; and on pressing vertically, they are forced apart, releasing the hose.

In order to prevent accidental opening, the toggles may be held normally closed by a spring. The skirts and drawers are to be buttoned or looped onto the band A at the points D and E, Fig. 1, and D and E, Fig. 2.

I claim as my invention—

The clothing-supporter consisting of shoulder-bands C C, back and chest bands F F, side bands I I K K, hose-pendants M. M, having suitable slides, the arrangement of the side bands I I K K and hose-pendants *m m* being as specified, waist-band A, provided with buttons and loops, and hose-clasps O, the said clasp consisting of the eye or loop *o* and the toggles *o' o' o'' o''*, pivoted at upper and lower ends, substantially as and for the purposes described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

LAURA Z. HITCHCOCK.

Witnesses:

A. W. ALLEN,
PHILANDER LUCAS.