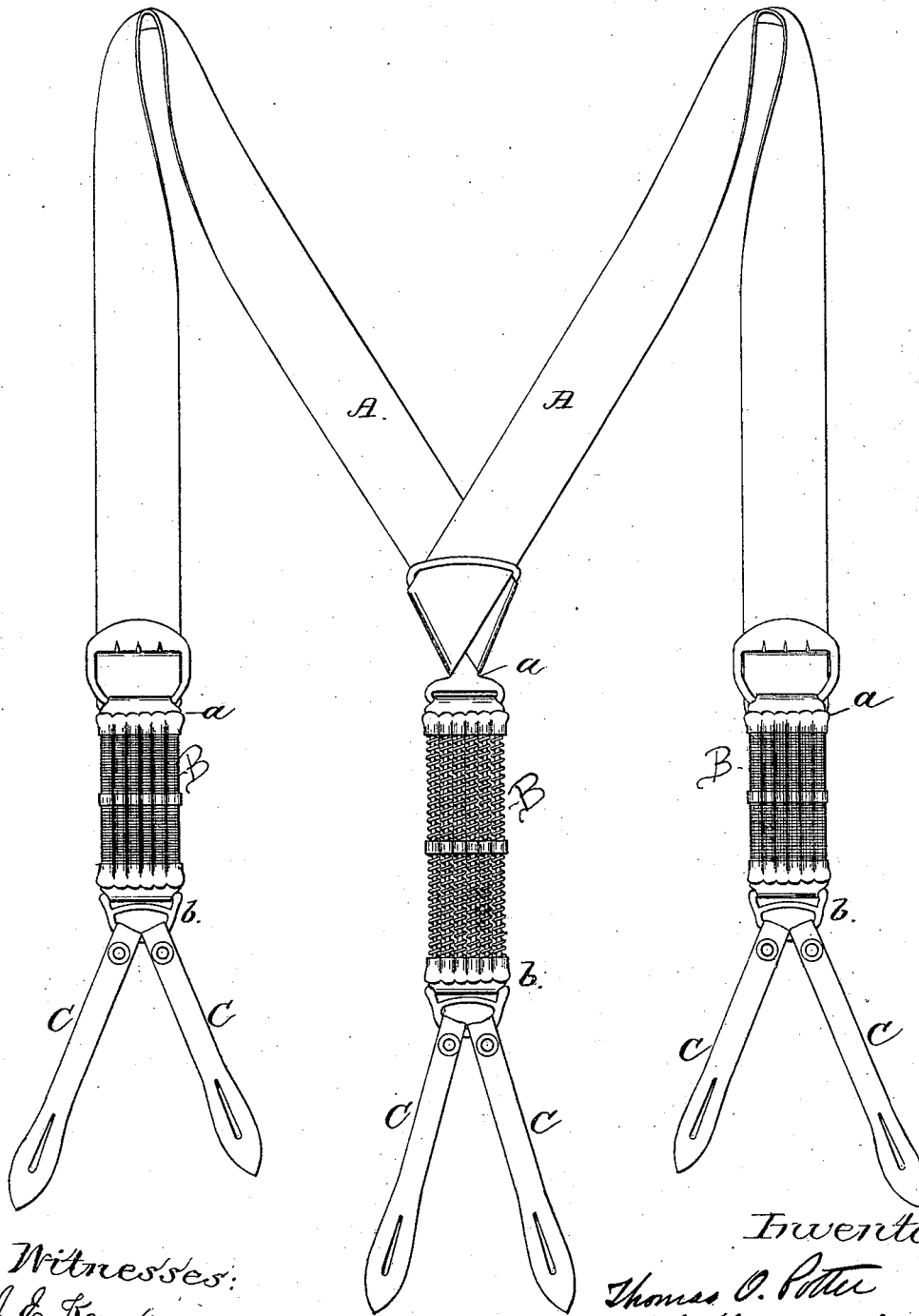


T. O. POTTER.
Adjusting-Strap for Garments.

No. 212,400.

Patented Feb. 18, 1879.



Witnesses:
J. E. Knopf
Chas. F. Sleeper.

Inventor:
Thomas O. Potter
by J. E. Magruder
his atty

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS O. POTTER, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO FRANK ARMSTRONG, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT.

IMPROVEMENT IN ADJUSTING-STRAPS FOR GARMENTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 212,400, dated February 18, 1879; application filed November 27, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS O. POTTER, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Suspenders, which is fully described in the following specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of the same.

Suspenders in which the elasticity is produced by metallic springs covered by a sheath or cover are old and well known; but they are objectionable, for the reason that the sheath cramps the movement of the inclosed spring, and also becomes worn and is very clumsy.

The object of my invention is to improve upon such suspenders by doing away with the sheaths or covers, and also by inserting within each spring a flexible stay, in order that too great strain may never be put upon the spring, thus making a durable suspender, which is entirely without the objectionable qualities of all other suspenders known to me.

In the drawings, A A are the shoulder-straps, of the usual construction. To these straps are secured the series of spiral springs B B, each spring being of small diameter, and each series constituting, in effect, a single flat spring, flexible and of great elasticity. Within each spring is a strong flexible stay, or tape or cord, to obviate the danger of elongating it too much, and thus injuring it. This stay is represented in the drawings, where one of the series is shown elongated, in order to make the stays visible.

The several springs of each series are secured together at their ends, one end being secured to a metal loop, *b*, by which it is attached to the button-strap C C, the other end being attached to a metal loop, *a*, by which it

is attached either directly to the main strap or to a buckle which is connected to the main strap, and by which the length of the suspenders may be adjusted.

I ordinarily attach the two series of springs which are to be worn in front to the buckles.

The suspenders above described are neat and attractive in appearance, comfortable to the wearer, and possess a fine elasticity. The springs are compact and strap-like, and are readily attached to the shoulder-straps, and are less liable to wear out and become unsightly than those in which the springs are covered.

I am aware of Patents No. 156,083, to Hall and Lasher, and No. 149,727, to Curtis, and disclaim the devices therein described, they differing essentially from mine in that a sheath or cover is used with the metal spring. Moreover, in my suspenders all the spiral springs of each series are connected at one end with one metal loop, and at the other end with a second metal loop, this metal loop being connected either directly to the main strap or to a buckle which is connected to the main strap, and the lower metal loop to the short button-straps of the suspenders, my suspender being wholly different in these respects from those above named and all others known to me.

What I claim as my invention is—

An elastic adjusting-strap for garments, consisting of a loop and a buckle provided with intermediate wire coils, the ends of which are secured in position substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

T. O. POTTER.

Witnesses:

J. E. MAYNADIER,
J. E. KNOX.