H. A. HOUSE.

Electric Garter.

No. 112,344. Patented Mar. 7, 1871.

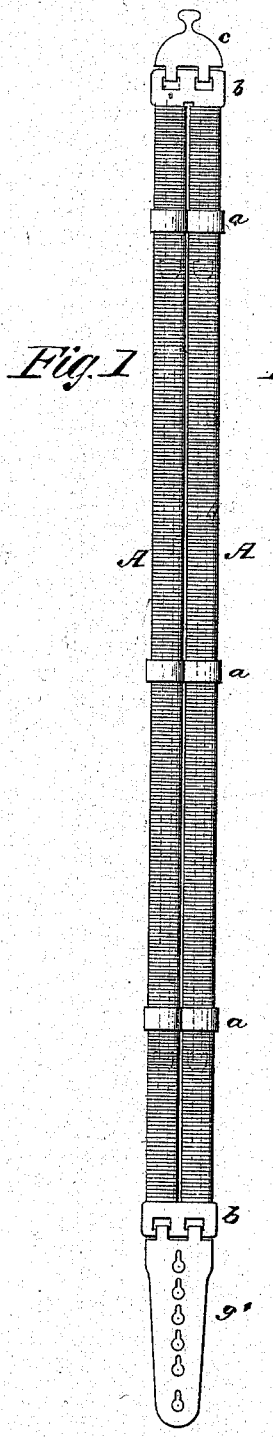

Fig. 1

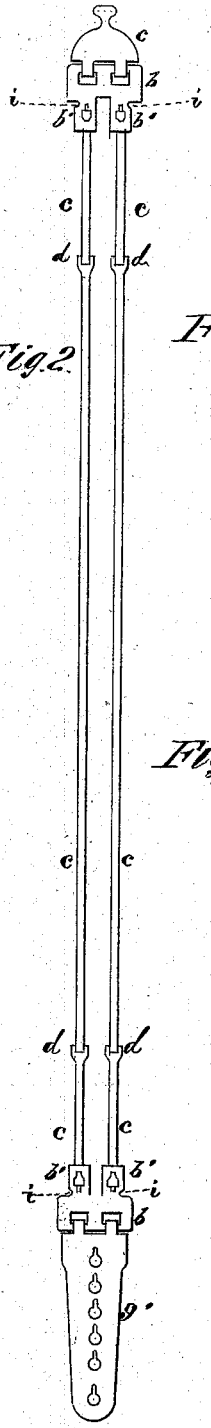

Fig. 2

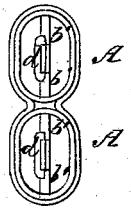

Fig 3

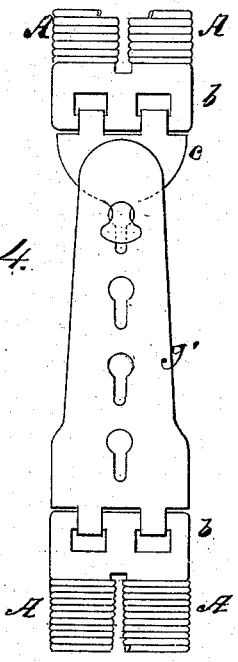

Fig. 4.

Witnesses.
R. T. Campbell.
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Inventor.
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by
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United States Patent Office.

HENRY A. HOUSE, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT.

Letters Patent No. 112,344, dated March 7, 1871.

IMPROVEMENT IN METALLIC GARTERS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY A. HOUSE, of Bridgeport, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, have invented an Improvement in Garters; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a view of the garter complete.

Figure 2 shows the manner of applying the strips of dissimilar metals to the clasp-plates.

Figure 3 is an enlarged cross-section through the garter.

Figure 4 is an enlarged view of the clasp-plates and portions of the wire-coils.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures.

The nature of my invention consists in constructing a garter partly of two different kinds of metals, connected together in such manner that when the garter is applied to the leg the natural moisture of the skin will, as I believe, induce a galvanic current, which will operate, as I believe, as a remedial agent for stimulating the circulatory action of the blood vessels, and thus, as I believe, prevent cold feet and many other maladies which the lower extremities of the body are frequently subjected to.

To enable others skilled in the art to understand my invention, I will explain its construction and operation.

In the accompanying drawing—

A A represent two helical springs, which are flattened, as shown in fig. 3, and which may be made of any suitable metal or metals. One spring, A, may be made of one kind of metal, and the other spring of a different kind of metal.

The ends of these springs are connected to tongues *b' b'*, which are formed on plates *b b* either by notching these plates, as at *i i*, and causing the terminal coils of the springs to engage into these notches, or by soldering the ends of the springs to said plates; or the springs may be attached to the plates *b b* in any other suitable manner.

The clasp-plates *b b* may be constructed with hooks and eyes, so that they can be readily connected around the leg; or, if desirable, one of these plates *b* may have a clasp-piece, *c*, with a tongue formed on it, hinged to it, and the other plate may have a perforated clasp-plate, *g'*, hinged to it, as shown in the drawing.

The springs A A may be soldered together at points between the clasp-plates, or these springs may be connected together by bands, *a*, which will afford greater strength than the solder.

For the purpose of preventing the springs from being stretched too far I connect the plates *b b* together by means of thin metal strips, *c c*, which latter are united by means of eyes, *d d*, so that the garter can be elongated to a certain length.

The ends of the metal strips *c c* are connected in any suitable manner to the tongues *b' b'* of the plates *b b*, and these strips are made of two different kinds of metal, say copper and zinc.

I have above described the garter, which I have illustrated in the drawing, and it will be seen that it is an elastic galvanic garter, composed of two spring-coils, inclosing stays, *c c*, which are made of copper united to zinc plates *b b*, which latter have hinged to them copper clasp-plates.

Instead of depending for the supposed galvanic action on the stays and clasp-plates, the supposed galvanic action may be obtained from the springs A A by making one or both of them of different metals. Or the supposed galvanic action may be obtained by the use of a single spring, A, of one kind of metal, inclosing a stay made of a different kind of metal. Or, if desirable, flexible strips of different kinds of metals properly applied to clasp-plates, without the spring or springs, will produce, as I believe, a galvanic action. I do not, therefore, confine myself to the precise construction of garter shown in the drawing, as I believe that I am the first to have invented and produced what I believe to be a galvanic garter.

Having described my invention,

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

1. A garter, composed of dissimilar metals, substantially as described and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination of metallic stay-strips *c*, clasp-plates, and springs, substantially as described.

HENRY A. HOUSE.

Witnesses:

GEORGE C. BISHOP,
JOHN H. VINTON.