

No. 647,709.

Patented Apr. 17, 1900.

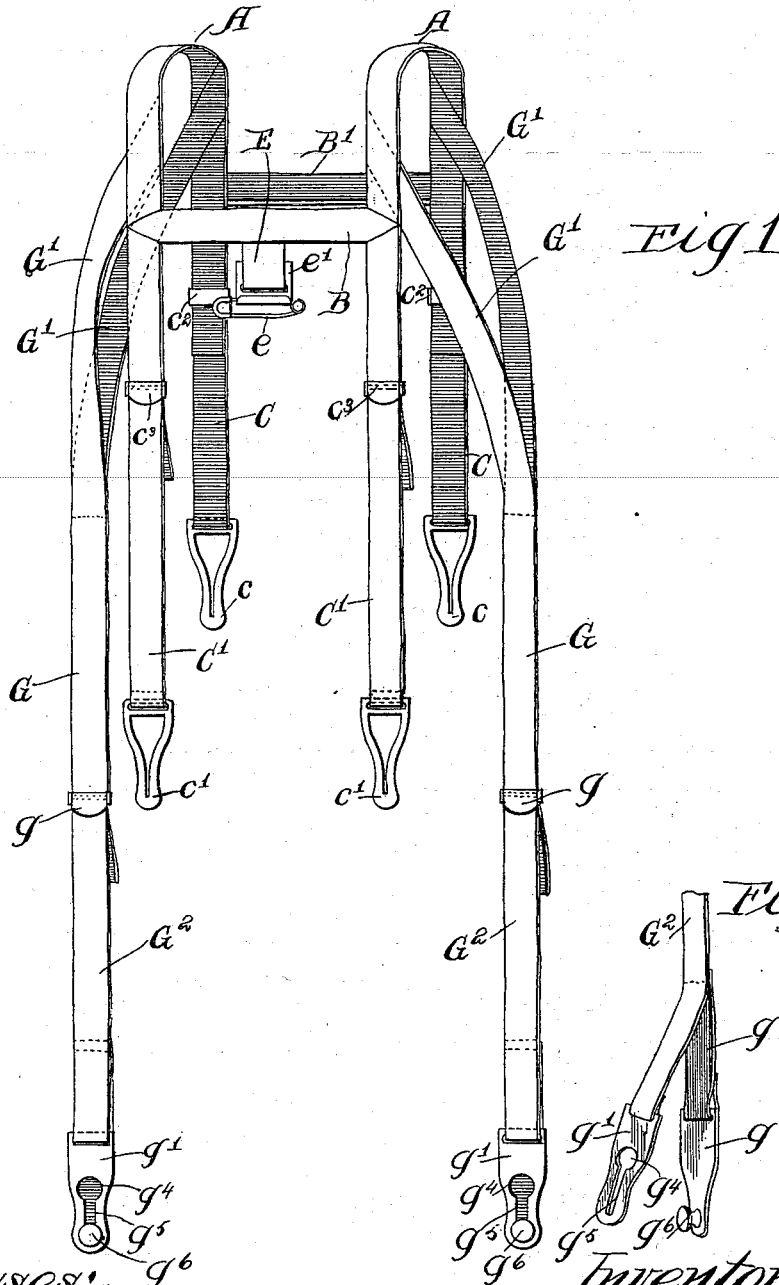
K. STRATTON.

COMBINED HOSE AND DIAPER SUPPORTER.

(Application filed Sept. 18, 1899.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.



Witnesses:
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her Attorneys

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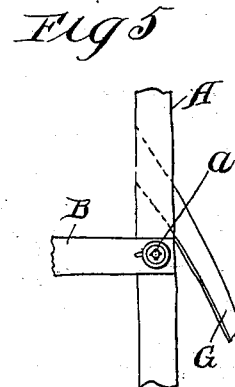
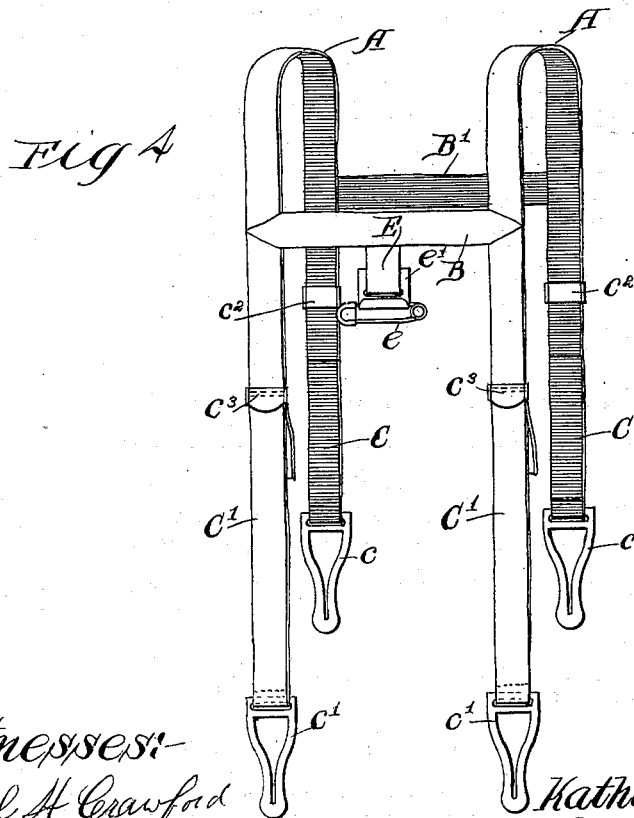
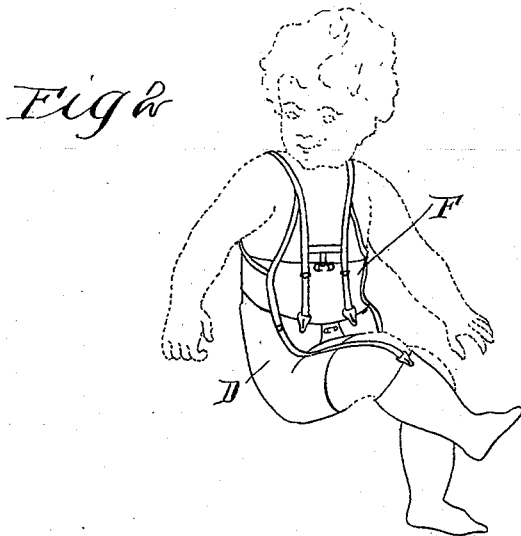
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

KATHERINA STRATTON, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

COMBINED HOSE AND DIAPER SUPPORTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 647,709, dated April 17, 1900.

Application filed September 18, 1899. Serial No. 730,806. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, KATHERINA STRATTON, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Combined Hose and Diaper Supporter; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to a novel suspender or garment-supporter for infants, by means of which the garments—such as the abdominal band, the diaper, and hose, or less than all of them—may be supported from the shoulders; and the invention consists in the matters hereinafter set forth, and more particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a front perspective view of a supporting device made in accordance with my invention. Fig. 1^a is a detail showing the manner of attaching the supporter to the hose. Figs. 2 and 3 illustrate the manner of attaching the supporter to the stockings, the diaper, and the abdominal band, showing both a front and rear view. Fig. 4 is a front perspective view of a modified form of supporter. Fig. 5 is a detail showing the manner of fastening the supporter.

As shown in said drawings, A A designate the main shoulder-straps, and B B' designate short transverse straps extending between and connected to the front and rear parts of the shoulder-straps A at or about the level of the points of the shoulder-blades. Said shoulder-straps and the transverse straps will usually be made of any suitable inelastic webbing.

C C designate rear supporting-straps which are attached at their upper ends to the ends of the rear part of the shoulder-straps A and are provided at their lower ends with metallic loops *c*, which are adapted for attachment to the upper edges of the rear portion of the diaper D of the wearer. The metallic loops *c* are of usual form, being each provided with a slot which is made of considerable width at its upper end and contracted at its lower end. A portion of the fabric of the garment is adapted to be passed into the wider portion of the

loop and pressed into the narrower lower end thereof in the usual manner.

C' C' designate similar supporting-straps located at the front of the device and are attached at their upper ends to the ends of the front portions of the shoulder-straps and similarly provided at their lower ends with loops *c'* *c'*, adapted for holding engagement with the upper edge of the front portion of the diaper. Said front and rear supporting-straps are made of a suitable elastic material and are connected with the shoulder-strap through the medium of adjusting buckles or loops *c*² *c*³, which permit the length of said supporting-strap to be varied to suit the wearer.

E designates a short strap which depends from the front transverse connecting-strap B, near the center thereof, and is provided at its lower end with a clasp-pin *e* of usual form, or it may be provided with any other suitable fastening device which is adapted for engagement with the upper edge of the usual abdominal band F, as clearly shown in Fig. 2. As herein shown, said clasp-pin is attached to a metallic plate *e'*, which is fastened to the lower end of the strap E, but may be otherwise fastened, as found most convenient. More than one such strap, such as E, may be provided, if desired.

G G designate hose-supporting straps on each side of the supporting device, which are attached at their upper ends to the shoulder-straps and are provided at their lower end with attaching devices by which they are fastened to the hose. As a convenient construction the upper ends of said hose-supporting straps are bifurcated, the bifurcated ends G' thereof being secured, respectively, to the rear and front portions of said shoulder-straps, as clearly shown in Fig. 1, a slight distance below the level of the shoulders. This construction affords a secure fastening for said straps and also uniformly distributes the strain brought upon said hose-supporting straps to both the rear and front sides of the shoulder-straps. When the supporting device is in position on the wearer, the arms pass between said bifurcated upper ends of the hose-supporting straps, as clearly shown in Figs. 2 and 3. This arrangement serves to properly hold the device in place when the several straps are not attached to the differ-

ent garments. The upper ends of said hose-supporting straps will desirably be made of an inelastic webbing, while the lower ends G^2 thereof are made elastic, so as to permit free movement of the wearer without tendency of the device to inconveniently bind the wearer. However, the material from which different parts of the device are stated to be desirably made is the approved material, yet such selection may be varied if it be found that such a change is desirable for any reason. Said lower ends are connected with the main part of the straps G by means of loops or buckles g , and said loops or buckles are constructed to permit adjustment of the elastic lower ends of the straps G^2 as to length, so that they may be fitted to infants of different size. As herein shown, the fastening devices at the lower end of the elastic portions G^2 on the hose-supporting strap consist each of a plate g' , which is attached to the lower end of the elastic portion of the strap, and a second plate g^2 , which is attached to an auxiliary strap sewed or otherwise fastened to said elastic portion of the strap. Said plate g' is provided near its upper end with an aperture g^4 , which opens into a slot g^5 , which extends to near the lower end of the plate, and the plate g^2 is provided with a button or stud g^6 , which is made of such size as to pass through the aperture g^4 and the shank of which is made of such size as to enter the slot g^5 . In fastening the strap to the hose the fabric of the hose is placed between the plates g' g^2 , and the button g^6 is pushed through the aperture g^4 , carrying therewith a part of the fabric, after which it is pressed downwardly into the narrow or contracted slot g^5 , in which position it holds the fabric of the hose securely in place.

The form of fastening device just described answers for the hose-supporting straps; but for the diaper-supporting straps D D' it may be found objectionable by reason of the fact that the button g^6 forms a protuberance which at the location of the upper edge of the diaper may cause inconvenience or even injury to the wearer. It will be understood, of course, that the fastening-loops provided for the diaper-supporting straps may be used also on the hose-supporting straps, if desired.

In Fig. 4 I have shown a modification which involves the omission of the hose-supporting straps G . (Shown in Fig. 1.) In other respects the supporting device is identical with that shown in said Fig. 1, and the parts thereof are designated by the same reference-letters. The construction shown in Fig. 4 may be used in cases where the hose are of such length that they may be attached directly to the lower edge of the fabric of the diaper and be supported therefrom.

The several parts of the supporting device may be permanently secured together, except that it is desirable in order to remove the device and removably secure it on the

wearer one end of one of the transverse straps D or D' be detachably secured to the shoulder-strap, as shown in the fragmentary detail view in Fig. 5, wherein one end of the strap—the back-strap, as shown in Fig. 3—is provided with a buttonhole, and the adjacent shoulder-strap is provided on its outer face with a button a , adapted to engage said buttonhole to detachably secure said strap to the shoulder-strap. If desired, however, the means for unfastening the supporting device, so that it may be removed from the wearer, may be otherwise located.

Heretofore it has been common in the use of the abdominal band, such as indicated by the letter F , to hold the same in place by securing it so tightly about the body of the wearer that it was held in position by friction alone. Otherwise the band would tend to fall below its proper position and therefore defeat the purpose for which it is intended. The diaper has heretofore been held in its proper position by being attached at its upper edge either to the abdominal band or to the lower edge of the fabric of the undershirt or other garment of the wearer. The attachment of the diaper to the abdominal band is objectionable, because it adds a further downward pull or strain on the band due to the weight of the diaper or the movement of the wearer, thereby rendering it more difficult to hold the band and therefore the diaper attached thereto in position. The objections to supporting the diaper from an undergarment, such as an undershirt, is that is a short time it tears the garment at the place of fastening and also acts to pull the garment out of shape.

With the use of the supporting device herein shown and described the diaper is supported from the shoulder and does not require, therefore, to be fitted excessively tight or to be secured to other articles of clothing. Said diaper is also supported alike from the front and rear, and after the supporting device has been once adjusted to the wearer does not require particular attention to insure that the diaper be held in the proper position. The character of the attaching devices is such that the detachment of such devices from the diaper is easily accomplished and does not therefore interfere with the putting on and taking off of the diaper.

The provision of the band E and the clasp-pin, which is adapted for holding engagement with the abdominal band, is of considerable importance, as it enables the band to be held in its proper position without the necessity of causing it to be wound unduly tight about the wearer, which may cause considerable inconvenience or suffering.

The construction and arrangement of the parts of the supporting device are such that it does not impede the movements of the wearer, and it brings the weight of the garment where it hygienically belongs—that is, upon the

shoulders of the wearer—thereby avoiding the necessity of tight clothing and injurious results arising therefrom.

It is obvious that the details of the supporting device herein shown may be varied somewhat without departing from the spirit of the invention, and I do not wish, therefore, to be restricted to such details, except as made the subject of specific claims.

As before stated, the hose-supporting straps may be omitted, as shown in Fig. 4. Moreover, the diaper-supporting straps may be omitted and provisions made only for supporting the abdominal band.

I claim as my invention—

1. The combination of a pair of shoulder-straps, transverse straps at the front and rear thereof connecting said shoulder-straps, diaper-supporting straps connected with each of said shoulder-straps at the front and rear thereof and provided at their lower ends with attaching devices for securing the same to the diaper, and means for supporting the abdominal band from the transverse connection-strap.

2. The combination of a pair of shoulder-straps, transverse straps at the front and rear thereof connecting said shoulder-straps, diaper-supporting straps connected with each of said shoulder-straps at the front and rear thereof and provided at their lower end with attaching devices for securing the same to the diaper, and a strap depending from the

transverse connecting-strap and provided at its lower end with a clasp-pin for securing the same to the upper edge of the abdominal band.

3. The combination of a pair of shoulder-straps, transverse straps at the front and rear of the same connecting said shoulder-straps, diaper-supporting straps connected with each end of said shoulder-straps at the front and rear thereof, and provided at their lower ends with attaching devices for securing said supporting-straps to the diaper, hose-supporting straps connected with said shoulder-straps in the region of the shoulder and provided at their lower end with attaching devices for securing the same to the hose and a strap depending from one of the transverse connecting-straps and provided at its lower end with means for detachably securing the same to the upper edge of the abdominal band.

4. The combination of a pair of shoulder-straps, transverse straps at the front and rear thereof connecting said shoulder-straps, and means for supporting the abdominal band from the connecting-strap.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses, this 16th day of September, A. D. 1899.

KATHERINA STRATTON.

Witnesses:

TAYLOR E. BROWN,
ARTHUR C. STRATTON.