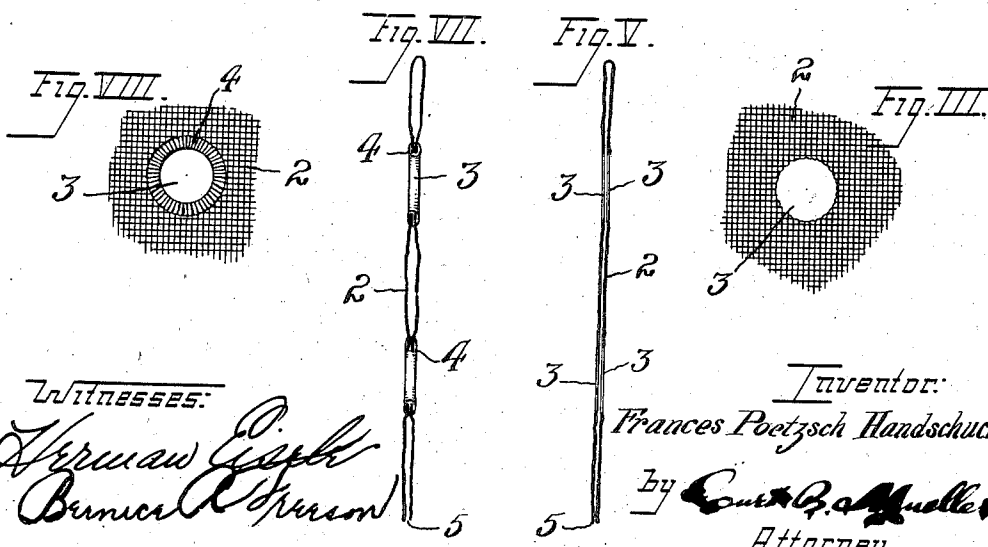
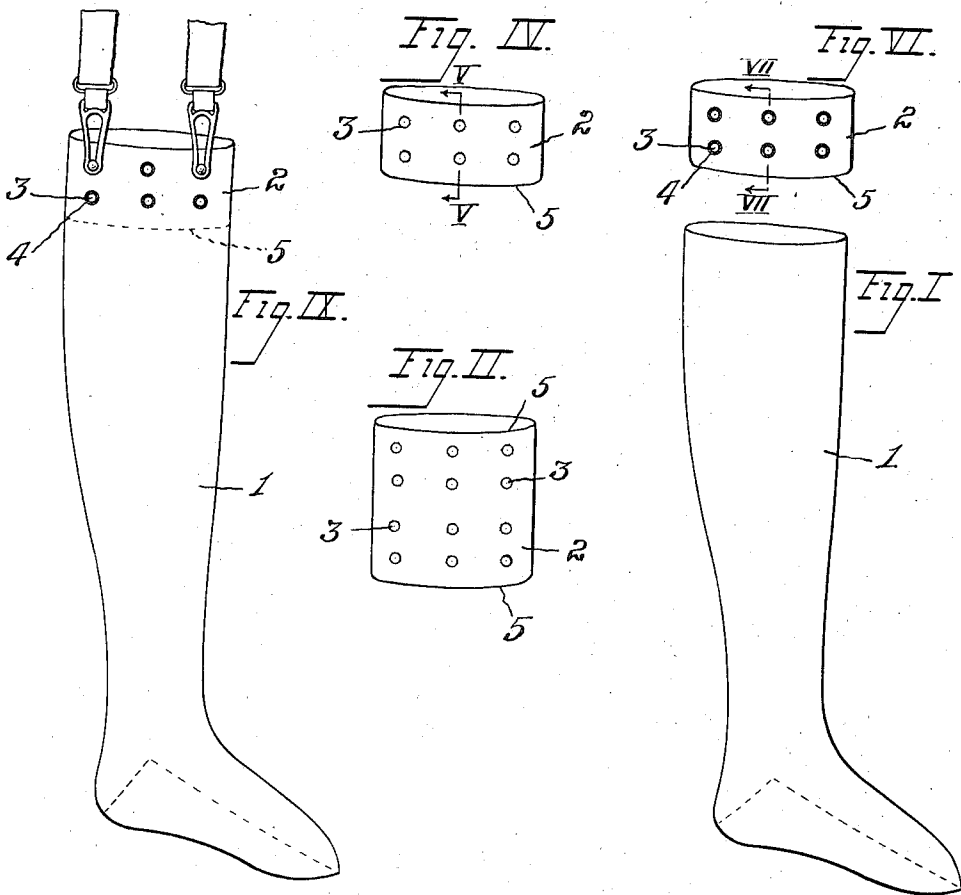


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 STOCKING.  
 APPLICATION FILED AUG. 26, 1913.

1,226,208.

Patented May 15, 1917.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## STOCKING.

1,226,208.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 15, 1917.

Application filed August 26, 1913. Serial No. 786,698.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FRANCES POETZSCH HANDSCHUCK, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Stockings, of which the following is a specification, the principle of the invention being herein explained and the best mode in which I have contemplated applying that principle, so as to distinguish it from other inventions.

My invention relates to a stocking and particularly to reinforced openings in the upper portion thereof adapted to cooperate with garter snaps as the suspension agency. The object is to provide openings in a piece of wearing apparel of the character stated which shall be capable of resisting the strains to which it is subjected when supported considerably stretched as required by neatness without occasioning the objectionable feature of localized stiffness likely to cause abrasions of the skin or other discomfort. A further object is to doubly insure against loose threads at the openings. Another object is to make its manufacture sufficiently economical.

Stockings or the like are usually maintained stretched upon the leg of the wearer through the agency of a dependent garter suspension comprising one or more clasps or snaps adapted to engage the upper portion of the stocking. When the stocking is gripped or clamped directly, so as to wedge a portion thereof, a tear frequently ensues with the result that one or more longitudinal strands becomes loosened or unraveled and thereby irritate the esthetic sense. I am aware of one effort to obviate the likelihood of this happening which is attested by United States Letters Patent, No. 962,089 issued to one Newton.

More specific objects of my invention are: To permit of the manufacture of a stocking or the like capable of satisfactorily fulfilling the purpose of this invention, entirely by machine operation.

To permit of the manufacture of a stocking employing no distinct or special reinforcing strips.

According to my invention I manufacture the lower or major portion of the stocking separate from the upper cap or band to which the suspension means becomes attached. The lower or major portion of the

stocking may be of any suitable type. The upper cap is of tubular form and is fashioned with a plurality of sets of openings alined respectively in the direction of the longitudinal dimension of the finished stocking. These openings are fashioned with selvaged edges during the manufacture of the cap itself. Next I contrive to fold the cap midway of its length so as to bring different pairs of openings in the same alinement into registration with each other. Thereafter each pair of registering selvaged openings are button-hole-stitched together, thereby fixing the contiguous surfaces of the cap surrounding the openings with respect to each other as shown in Figure VII. Finally the two free edges of the cap are firmly sewn to the upper edge of the major portion of the stocking which may be of stock manufacture.

My inventive conception while simple is highly effective. It does not affect in any way the softness and flexibility of the upper part of the stocking, which by reason of being spanned owing to its proximity to the suspension medium would otherwise very likely bear and rub uncomfortably against the flesh. It does not hinder the facility with which the fingers can bring one or the other of the openings into position for intersection by the clasp. It does attain a two-fold reinforcing medium in the combination of two selvaged edges which are button-hole-stitched together without sacrificing the pliability which is desirable.

With reference now to the drawing:

Fig. I is a perspective view of the lower and major portion of the stocking. Fig. II is a perspective view of the upper portion of the stocking after the first operation of its manufacture. Fig. III is an enlarged plan of one portion of Fig. II showing a selvaged opening. Fig. IV is a perspective view of the portion seen in Fig. II after the second operation. Fig. V is a similarly enlarged vertical section on line V V of Fig. IV. Fig. VI is a perspective view of the portion represented in Fig. IV following the completion of the third operation. Fig. VII is a similarly enlarged vertical section on line VII VII of Fig. VI. Fig. VIII is an enlarged plan of one portion of Fig. VI. Fig. IX is a perspective view of the finished stocking.

The lower or major portion which may be of stock manufacture, since it purposely

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does not itself embody any of the features of my invention, I have designated by the reference character 1. The upper or band portion 2 is of tubular form and provided with a plurality of openings 3. In the exemplification shown these openings are all fashioned within an area less than one half of the entire portion; and they are furthermore arbitrarily alined in three columns of four each. The spacing of the distinct longitudinal alinements with regard to each other is by no means necessarily fixed, nor the spacing between any two openings of any particular alinement. It is only the spacing of corresponding pairs of openings in the several up and down alinements which should be equal. It should be understood that these selvaged openings should be fashioned into the portion 2 during its machine manufacture according to the view of Fig. III. The next step in the process of manufacture is the folding over of the portion 2 midway of its longitudinal extent so that, according to the chosen exemplification, the two upper openings in anyone of the alinements now register respectively with the two lower openings in the same alinement, as seen in Fig. IV.

Following the operation just mentioned each pair of registering openings 3 is button-hole-stitched together as indicated in Figs. VI—VII and VIII, thereby binding the folded portions of the cap 2 with respect to each other and also pronouncedly reinforcing the openings 3. Such reinforcement is established both by reason of the double thickness imparted to the edges of the finished openings, by reason of the selvaged edges of such openings and by reason of the stitching threads 4 in and of themselves. The lower edge 5 of the cap 2 is preferably taken to be that edge, after the completion

of the operation shown in Fig. VI, which is open as clearly seen in Figs. V and VII. Finally the edge 5 is affixed in some suitable manner to the upper edge of the portion one, as depicted in Fig. IX which also discloses the application of two suspended garter clasps.

My invention being thus described with sufficient thoroughness, what I desire to secure by Letters Patent and therefore claim specifically is:

1. A stocking formed above with a selvaged opening, said opening being furthermore button-hole-stitched for the useful purpose specified.

2. A stocking formed above with a double ply having registering selvaged openings, the edges of said openings being furthermore button-hole-stitched together, for the useful purpose specified.

3. A stocking having a two-ply band at the upper end, said ply being fashioned with selvaged openings adapted to register, and means for binding the edges of said openings together, for the useful purpose specified.

4. A stocking having its upper portion folded upon itself and provided with a plurality of selvaged openings in both body and fold portions, different pairs of openings in said body portion and fold respectively being adapted to register, each such registering pair of openings being button-hole-stitched together, for the useful purpose specified.

Signed by me, this 20th day of August, 1913.

FRANCES POETZSCH HANDSCHUCK.

Attested by—  
TERESA M. HANRAHAN,  
ABRAHAM WOLFF.