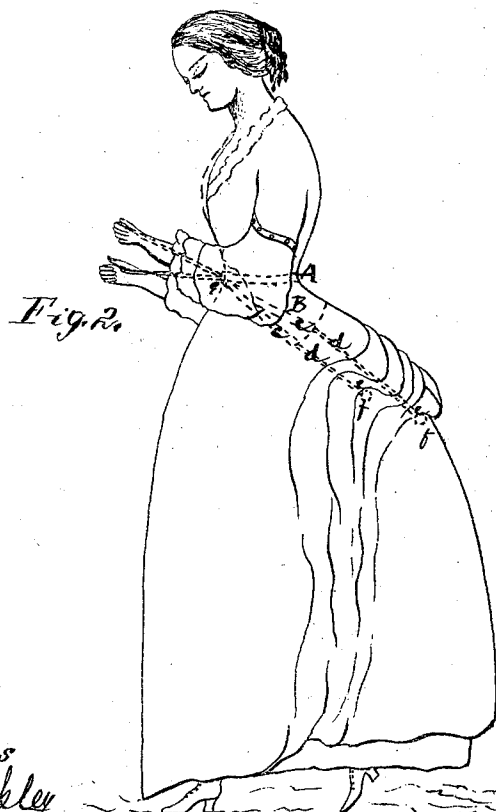
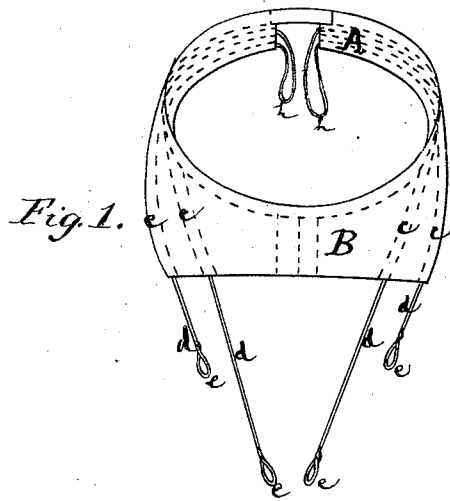


EMILY STEWART.
Dress-Elevators.

No. 155,898.

Patented Oct. 13, 1874.



Witnesses
John M. Ripley
Charles A. Leonard

Inventor
Emily Stewart
by Geo. H. Collins
her Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

MRS. EMILY STEWART, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN DRESS-ELEVATORS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **155,898**, dated October 13, 1874; application filed July 10, 1872.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, Mrs. EMILY STEWART, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented an Improved Skirt-Lifting Apparatus, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to devices for lifting the skirts of ladies' dresses while crossing wet and dirty walks, in which a belt is employed, which is provided with cords adapted to engage with the dress at one end while the other end is free, so that by drawing the free end the skirt will be raised.

My invention consists of a belt or band, to which is attached a flap or short skirt, said flap and belt being provided with a tube or tubes of rubber or other flexible material.

These tubes are arranged so that the lower ends of them extend downward toward the bottom of the skirt. Through these tubes I run a cord of suitable material, the upper ends of which I extend to the front of the belt, and upon the back ends of which I make loops. Upon the inner side of the dress-skirt I attach buttons at suitable places, upon which I button the loops at the end of the cords.

I fasten this apparatus around the waist beneath the dress; or it may be attached upon the inside of the dress, and fastened at the front as the dress is fastened. The front ends of the cords are then carried through a small aperture at the front, or some other part of the dress, and upon the outside, to which a button or some ornamental article may be secured to prevent withdrawal. When thus arranged, the use of it is simply to draw upon the cord in front when the dress-skirt is to

be raised, and let it loose again when it is desired to have it fall, and the weight of the dress immediately carries it down again to its full extent.

If the dress is composed of light material the skirts may be weighted, if desired.

I usually put an elastic at the front end of the cord, for the purpose of returning it to its place when released.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents one of my skirt-elevators not connected with the dress. Fig. 2 shows an elevator as worn, and the manner in which the dress is attached.

Letter A is the band; B, the skirt or flap; C, the tubes through which the cords pass; *d d*, the cords, with the loops *e e* at the ends. *f f* are buttons, attached to the skirt, upon which loops *e e* are buttoned. *g g* are the apertures in the dress, through which the cords *d d* and elastics pass to the outside; *h h*, the buttons or bows at the end to take hold of when used.

I am aware that skirt-lifters have been constructed of a waistband, provided with guide-tubes for the cords for supporting the dress, and such I disclaim.

I claim—

As a new article of manufacture, a skirt-lifter, consisting of the belt A, having the flap B and flexible tubes C, with the cords *d* passing through said tubes, and having the loops *e* and free ends *h*, all being constructed substantially as described, for the object specified.

EMILY STEWART.

Witnesses:

GEO. H. COLLINS,
JOHN W. RIPLEY.