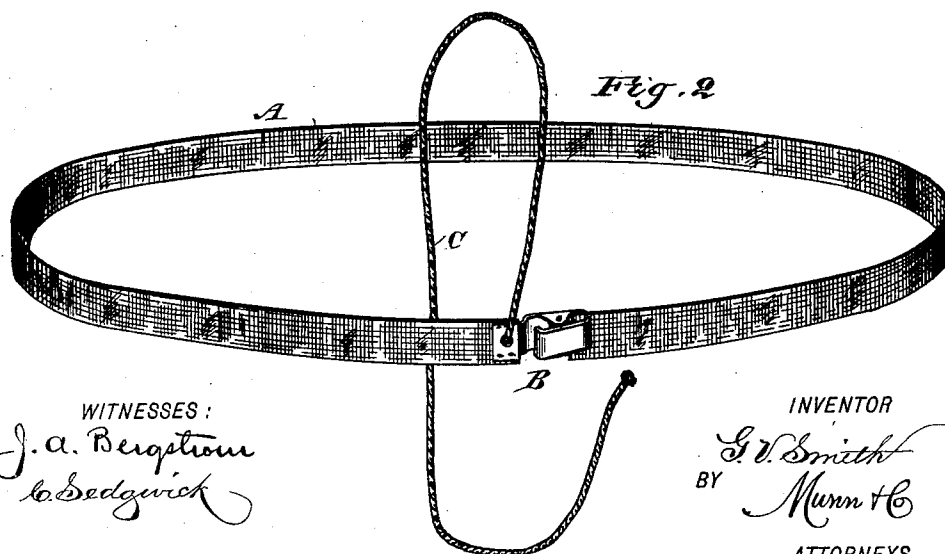


(No Model.)

G. V. SMITH.
SKIRT SUPPORTER.

No. 480,523.

Patented Aug. 9, 1892.



WITNESSES:
J. A. Bergstrom
L. Sedgwick

INVENTOR
G. V. Smith
BY Munn & Co
ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGIA V. SMITH, OF PRINCETON, ILLINOIS.

SKIRT-SUPPORTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 480,523, dated August 9, 1892.

Application filed April 13, 1892. Serial No. 429,044. (No specimens.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGIA V. SMITH, of Princeton, in the county of Bureau and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Skirt Supporters or Lifters, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to adjustable skirt supporters or lifters for ladies' dresses to protect the skirt or dress from mud, dust, and rough places on sidewalks and street-crossings and from contact with other damaging or objectionable exposures—such, for instance, as dew on the grass when walking in the garden or on the lawn—and so that on rainy days a lady's hands are free to carry an umbrella and not engaged in holding up her skirt. Rings with strings and hooks or tapes have been used for this purpose, including metal or other like bands sufficiently rigid vertically to sustain the weight it is required to lift and which, provided with suspension safety-pins for attachment to the skirt, is passed around the body beneath the skirt and is tilted or manipulated to raise or lower the skirt, as required; but all of these are more or less objectionable and essentially differ from my skirt supporter or lifter, which is in the form of an elastic band provided with suitable fastenings and adapted to be applied to the exterior of the skirt and basque, and which by reason of its elasticity will not permanently crumple or crease the skirt and may be adjusted or removed by the wearer while on the street, substantially as hereinafter described, and more particularly pointed out in the claim.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both the figures.

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a skirt supporter or lifter embodying my invention and as applied to the figure of a lady, shown only in part; and Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the skirt supporter or lifter detached.

A is a band made of a strip of rubber or like elastic webbing and provided with a lever-like spring-clasp B or other suitable fastening at its one end adapted to engage with

the other end portion of the band when the latter is applied to the person, also with a cord C, fastened to the clasp, the use of which will be hereinafter explained. This band A may be applied to the figure or person either as shown by full lines in Fig. 1 or otherwise. Thus it may be worn at the point of the lady's basque in the back and fastened with the clasp or buckle at the point of the waist in front and then the upper rear portion of the skirt be tucked under and over the band, as shown by full lines in Fig. 1; or if a very long and trailing skirt is worn the band may be placed below the hips, as shown by dotted lines in Fig. 1, and the dress drawn over it gracefully, giving it the appearance of a double skirt. The cord C may be used, if desired, to assist in holding the band in place, said cord being hitched to or drawn over a button on the dress-waist. In some cases the ends of the band may be caught by any suitable fastenings to the back of an ordinary waist-belt to adapt it to lift the trail only of the dress. The elastic band may, in fact, be adjusted as required and the skirt lifted to the desired length. In each instance the elasticity of the band will support the skirt and prevent the skirt slipping away, and the band being made of elastic webbing there will be no rumpling or creasing of the skirt. It being light and portable, too, a lady may conveniently carry it in her hand or pack it in a little hand-bag, and being used externally she may adjust or remove it as needed while on the street, there being no pinning or otherwise fastening of it to the skirt.

Having thus fully described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

As a new article of manufacture, a skirt-supporter consisting of the elastic band A, provided with the lever-like spring-clasp B at one end for engaging the other end of the band, and the cord C, secured to the clasp for supporting and holding the band in position on the wearer, as specified.

GEORGIA V. SMITH.

Witnesses:

LOUISA MILES BRYANT,
BERTHA M. FORBES.