

No. 648,267.

Patented Apr. 24, 1900.

M. KOCH.
APPAREL BELT.

(Application filed Feb. 3, 1900.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

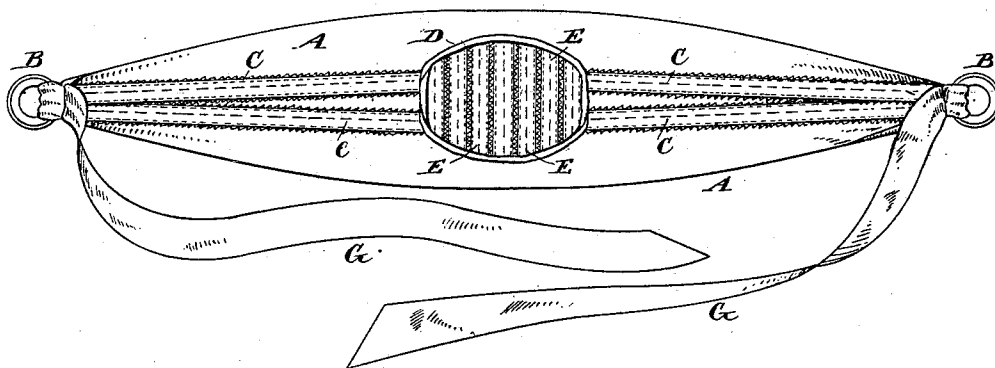


Fig. 2.

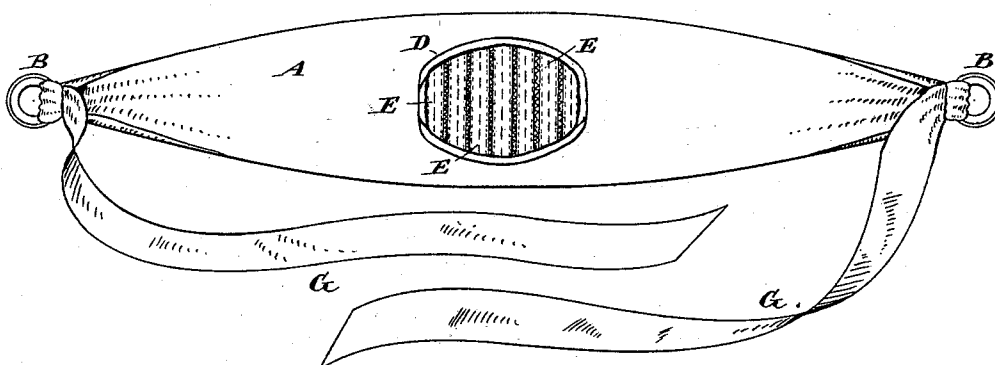
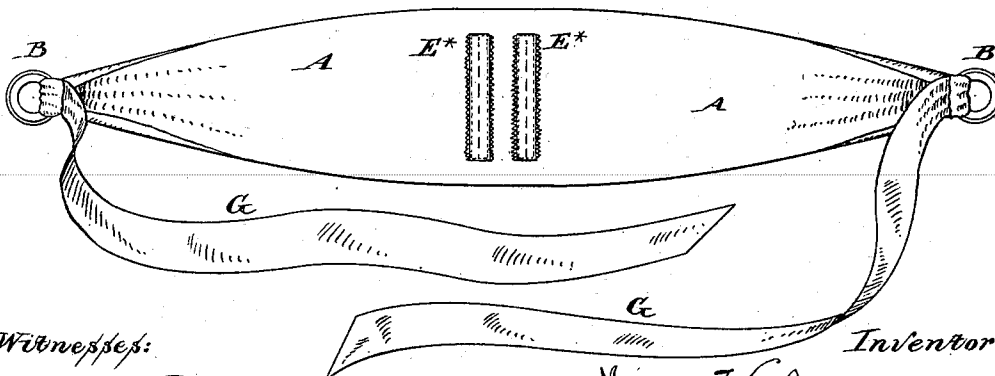


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:

William Barton
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Inventor:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MONROE KOCH, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR, BY DIRECT AND MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO S. KOCH & SONS AND MAX KAEMPFER, OF SAME PLACE.

APPAREL-BELT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 648,267, dated April 24, 1900.

Original application filed December 14, 1899, Serial No. 740,366. Divided and this application filed February 3, 1900. Serial No. 3,831. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MONROE KOCH, a citizen of the United States, residing in the borough of Manhattan, city and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Ladies' Belts, of which the following is a specification.

The improvement applies to all forms of belts, cravats, and the like which encircle the waist, neck, or limb and which require to be drawn together and to present a tasty appearance. I will describe it as applied to serve as a bodice-belt, giving a good portion of the effect of a bodice while, in fact, only a belt with stiffening additions and with my provisions for applying the principle of the pulley to effect the drawing of the ends together to properly tighten the belt. I have discovered that simple rings of hard rubber can be attached, so as to present no objectionable features and will serve with ribbons to give the effect of pulleys, and that the frictional quality of the rubber contributes to the success of the device by holding the ribbon to prevent its slipping back during the various changes of movement in the acts of tightening and tying.

In what I esteem the most complete form of the invention a wide ribbon having its ends narrowed by gathering serves as the main body of the belt, having longitudinal springs or stiffening-stays extending from each end a considerable distance inward toward the mid-length and a series of short vertical springs introduced at the back, such being first inserted in a pad and the pad afterward permanently attached to form a part of the belt.

The following is a description of what I consider the best means of carrying out the invention.

The accompanying drawings form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a view of the inner face of the main body extended. Fig. 2 is a corresponding view showing a modification, and Fig. 3 is a corresponding view showing another modification.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures where they appear.

Referring to Fig. 1, A is a wide ribbon of fine rich material, as liberty satin or taffeta, of a length nearly sufficient to extend around the waist. Each end is narrowed by being sewed to a ring B of a less diameter than the breadth of the ribbon, forming a series of more or less regular longitudinal gathers extending from the ends inwardly toward the center.

CC are stays, ordinary flat springs, of whale-bone or analogous material, as feather-bone, covered, as usual, and secured on the inner face of the belt by stitching through the edges of the covering. In the figure there are two such longitudinal stays in each end extending longitudinally inward from each end nearly to the center. There might be three, or one alone in each end may serve well. These longitudinal springs are omitted near the mid-length of the belt.

D is a thin pad of fabric stitched in position on the inner face of the belt at the mid-length and containing a series of short springs or stays E. I have in my experiments worked successfully with the ribbon A four inches wide, the pad D three inches wide in the center, narrowed toward each end, and four inches long, carrying seven upright springs E, the longest in the center, the length of the others diminishing toward each end.

Extension strips or ribbons G of double-faced satin say one and a quarter inches in width and of a convenient length serve as the "strings," each being strongly sewed on the inner face of the belt near its junction with the ring B. To apply it for use around the waist, the narrow ribbons are reeved each through the opposite ring, the ribbon G attached to one end of the belt being led through the ring carried on the opposite end of the belt, the same disposition being made of the narrow ribbon at the other end, each leading across the space between the ends of the main body or belt proper, A, and being extended through the ring at the opposite end and folded so as to extend in the reverse direction.

I have not deemed it necessary to show the knot by which the narrow ribbons G are tied together, as it will not involve any difficulties. Each ribbon G may be reeved through both rings—that is to say, it may extend from

its point of attachment to the wide belt first across the opening to the ring B on the other end of the wide ribbon A, thence through that ring, and thence back to and through the ring B on the end from which it started, and after being reeved through that ring it may extend forward ready to be tied to the other narrow ribbon. The invention can be used in that manner, and its use in that way will give still greater pulley-like effect; but it is not usually necessary to thus lead or reeve it through both rings. It is sufficient if it is simply led through one ring and then tied. Reeving it through both rings gives triple effect to the pull imparted to the narrow ribbon. Reeving it only through one—the first one mentioned—will give only double effect; but double effect is sufficient for most wearers. The friction of the rubber or other frictional surface in the rings is of advantage; but other surfaces, and especially the precious metals nicely finished, may serve. With the widths of the wide and narrow ribbons above given I have used successfully circular rings B of five-eighths of an inch and others of half an inch internal diameter. Rings of other forms than circular may be used if desired in any case.

Modifications may be made without departing from the principle or sacrificing the advantages of the invention. Cheaper fabrics may be employed.

Parts of the invention may be used without the whole. I can use the springs extending upright without associating them in a pad. I can dispense with one or with both of the two longitudinal springs C in each end of the main body.

Fig. 2 shows the belt without longitudinal springs, but retaining the pad D and the vertical springs E, proportioned as in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 shows the belt without longitudinal springs and without the pad D. In this modification two springs E* extend up and down in the main body near the mid-length sewed directly to the body. Either of these forms will serve well. When the extension-strips are reeved through the rings and tied to hold the belt in place, the effect is thereby given of continuations of the belt between the rings.

In my concurrent application of December 14, 1899, Serial No. 740,366, on which Letters Patent of the United States No. 644,557 were granted to me on February 27, 1900, and of which the present application is a division, I have claimed a belt composed of a body portion of suitable flexible material—such, for example, as ribbon—transverse stays per-

manently fixed in the said body portion at the middle thereof, longitudinal stays disposed on opposite sides of said transverse stays, and means for connecting the ends of said body portion to hold the belt in place, and have therein, in addition, claimed a belt composed of a body portion of suitable flexible material—such, for example, as ribbon—a group of transverse stays permanently fixed in said body portion at the middle thereof for holding the back of the belt distended laterally, the said transverse stays being gradually shortened in length upon opposite sides of the middle line of the group to determine the gradual taper of the belt from the back toward the front, longitudinal stays disposed on opposite sides of said transverse stays, rings at the opposite ends of the said body portion, the said rings being of a diameter less than the width of the said body portion at its middle, and means for connecting the rings to hold the belt in place.

I claim as my invention—

1. The herein-described belt, composed of a body portion of suitable flexible material, such as ribbon, with its ends narrowed, means for holding said body portion laterally distended at its mid-length, rings of a diameter less than the width of said body portion at its mid-length placed at the ends of the body portion, and extension-strips also of suitable flexible material, such as ribbon, whereby, when said strips are reeved through the rings and tied to hold the belt in place, the effect is given of continuations of the belt between said rings, all substantially as herein set forth.

2. As an article of manufacture, a belt, the body of which is of suitable flexible material, such, for example, as ribbon, a group of stays permanently fixed in the belt for holding the back of the belt distended laterally, the stays being gradually shortened in length upon opposite sides of the central stay at the back, to determine the gradual taper of the belt from the back toward the front, rings at the opposite ends of the body of the belt, the said rings being of such size as to diminish the width of the belt fastened thereon, and means for connecting the rings to hold the belt in place, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the invention above set forth I affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

MONROE KOCH.

Witnesses:

SAML. B. GOODALE,
THOMAS DREW STETSON.