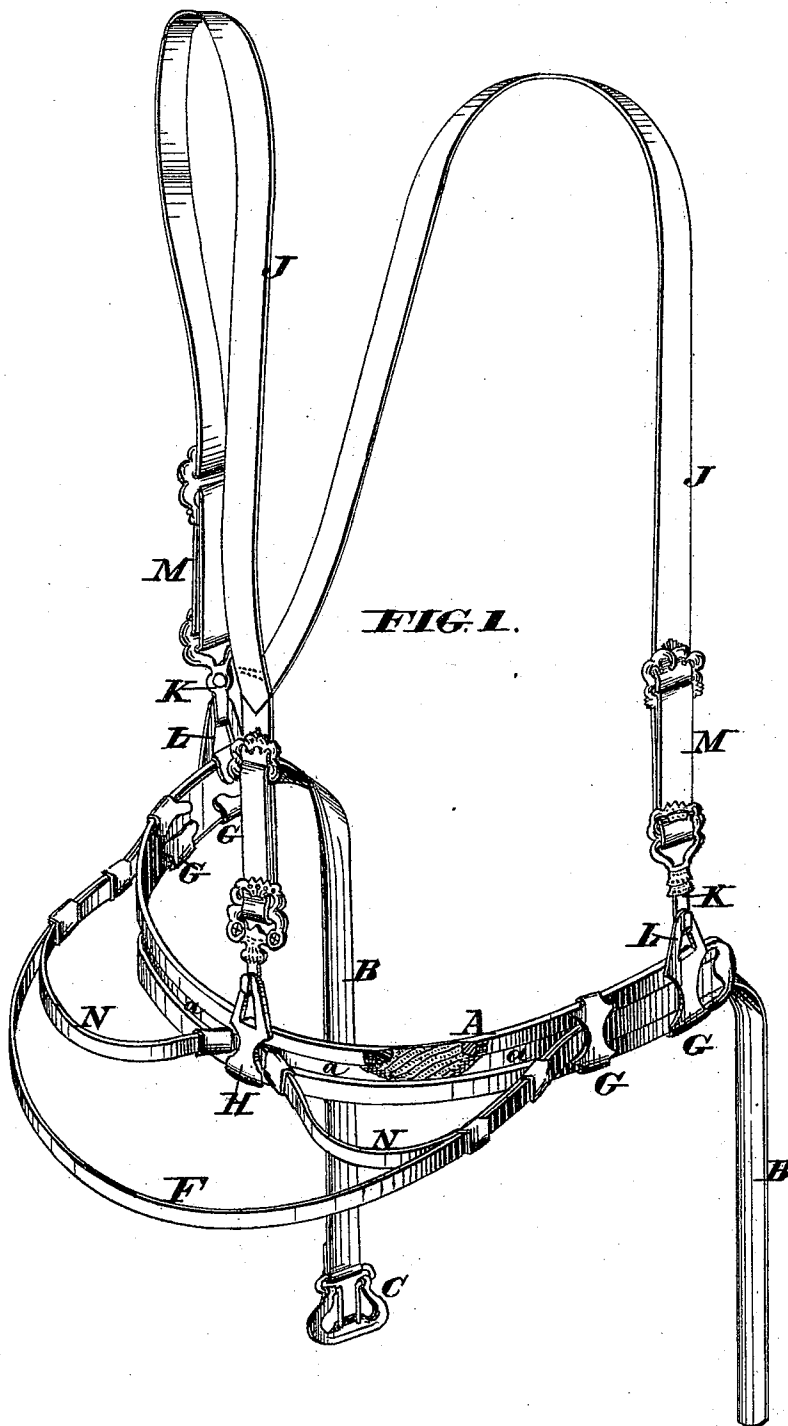


C. S. CHAFFEE.
SKIRT-SUPPORTER.

No. 175,425.

Patented March 28, 1876.



WITNESSES

Chas. H. Wood
Levi Bond Burdett

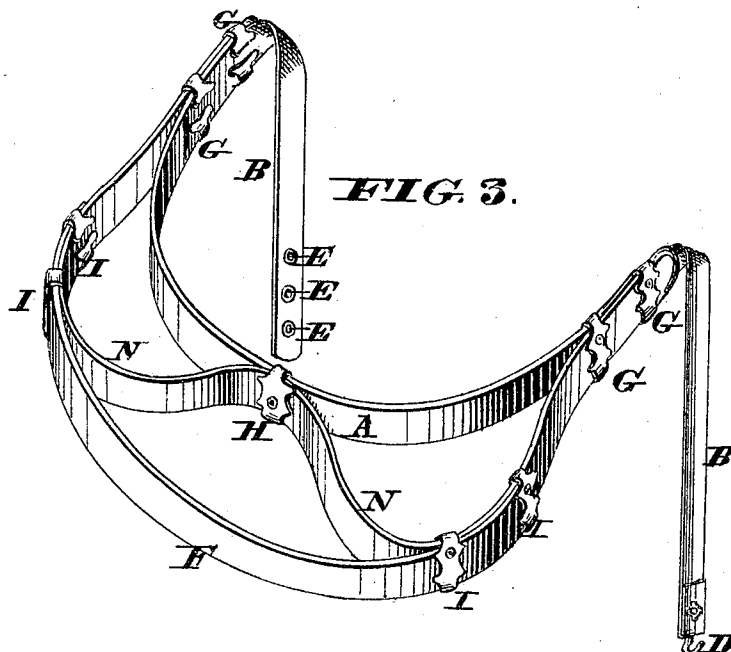
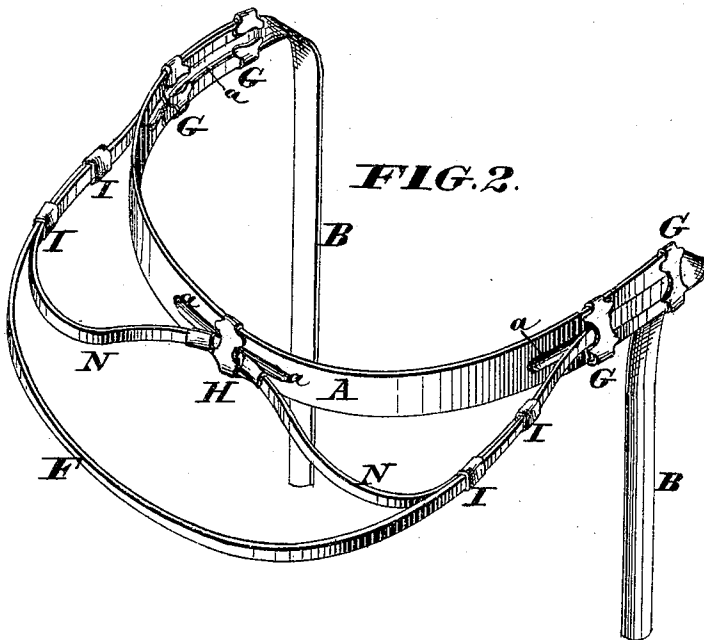
INVENTOR

Charles S. Chaffee.
By *Knight & Co.* Attorneys.

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WITNESSES
Chas. Hoock
Lea Blond Burolett

INVENTOR
Charles S. Chaffee
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

CHARLES S. CHAFFEE, OF BIRMINGHAM, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF HIS RIGHT TO ROBERT MAY, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN SKIRT-SUPPORTERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 175,425, dated March 28, 1876; application filed August 19, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES S. CHAFFEE, of Birmingham, in the county of Hew Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and Improved Garment-Supporter, of which the following is a specification:

The subject of my invention is a supporter with a body consisting of a metallic or partially metallic band to pass around the waist, affording attachment and support to a stay which is secured thereto at or near the extremity of each, and at one or more central or intermediate points, by indented metallic clasps. The stay affords attachment for an extension serving the purposes of a bustle. Suspenders are combined with the supporter as hereinafter described, so that the weight of the clothing may be supported wholly or in part from the shoulders.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a supporter, illustrating the invention with shoulder-straps attached. Figs. 2 and 3 are perspective views of the supporter under modified forms.

A represents the body of the supporter, consisting of a flexible band constructed wholly or in part of metal, with straps or strings B B at its extremities for fastening the said band around the waist by means of a buckle, C, hook and eyes D E, or other means of connection, or by simple tying. The body A may be made of twin-wire connected to a wooden backing, and the whole inclosed in cloth, as illustrated in Fig. 1, or of a simple metallic band, either covered with cloth or not, as preferred. F represents a stay extending horizontally from the band or body A, and secured thereto at or near its ends by indented clasps G G', and also connected to the body A by a similar clasp, H, at the center or some other intermediate point. N is an extension connected to the stay F by clasps I, forming a bow, substantially as represented in all the figures, so as to brace the supporters, and adapted to serve the purposes of a bustle.

The stay F and extension N may be constructed of ordinary covered skirt-wire; or, where greater strength and rigidity are desired, of twin-wire or flat flexible plates the full width of the body A. J J represent suspenders adapted to pass over the shoulders, and furnished at their extremities with hooks K, taking into loops or eyes L, which are preferably formed in one with the clasps G and H that occupy the proper positions for the attachment of the suspender-ends. The suspenders are made with the ordinary slides M for adjusting them in length.

The stay F, when narrower than the body A, is received within grooves *a*, formed by creasing the metal when the band is made in one piece, as in Fig. 2, or formed between the twin-wires when made as illustrated in Fig. 1.

The following is claimed as new:

1. A garment-supporter, composed of the body A, stay F, and extension N, combined and arranged substantially in the manner set forth.

2. A metal stay, F, in one or more pieces, secured to the body of the supporter by suitable clasps G G', and at the center or any intermediate point by a clasp, H, as described.

3. The extension N, in one or more pieces, secured to the stay F, substantially in the manner described, for the purpose of furnishing a complete support for the clothing, or for the purpose of a bustle, or for both combined.

4. An indented clasp, constructed substantially as herein shown, in combination with the body A and stay F, to strengthen and secure the same as described.

5. The combination of the suspenders J with the garment-supporter, constructed substantially as herein described.

CHARLES S. CHAFFEE.

Witnesses:

DAVID TORRANCE,
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