(No Model.)

E. J. BROOKS.

DRESS WEIGHT.

No. 268,769. Patented Dec. 5, 1882.

Fig. 1,



Fig. 1x

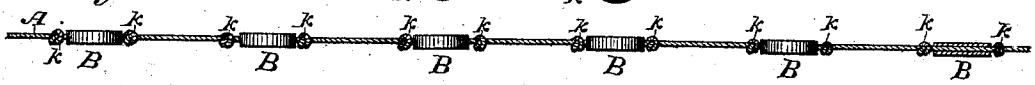


Fig. 2,

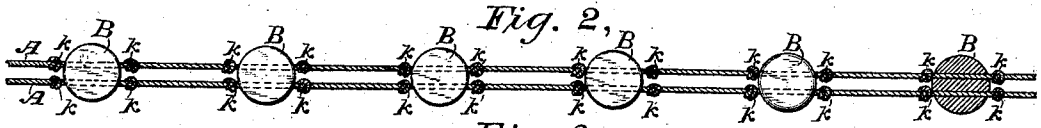


Fig. 3,

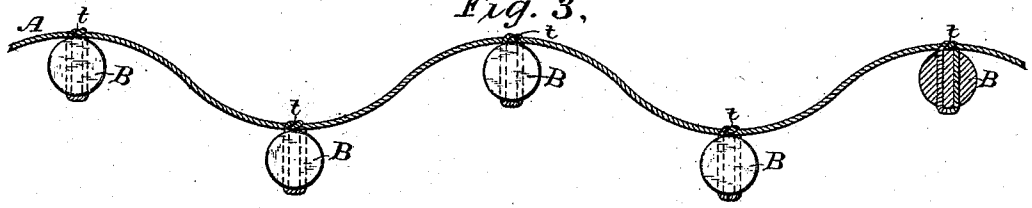


Fig. 4,

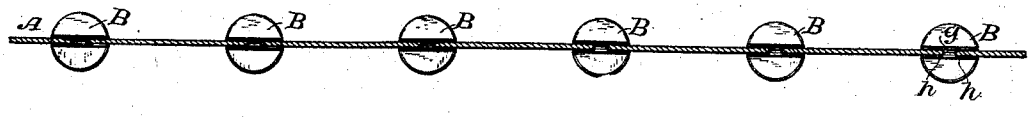


Fig. 4x,



Fig. 4xx,



Fig. 5,

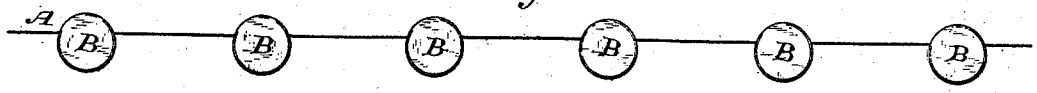


Fig. 6,

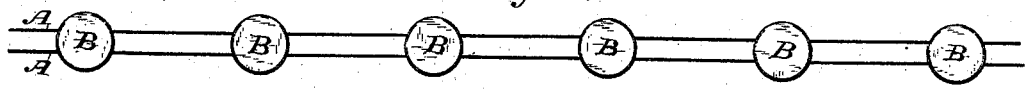


Fig. 7,

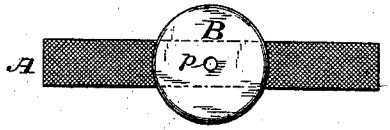


Fig. 7x.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD J. BROOKS, OF EAST ORANGE, NEW JERSEY, ASSIGNOR TO E. J. BROOKS & CO., OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

DRESS-WEIGHT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 268,769, dated December 5, 1882.

Application filed July 15, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD J. BROOKS, a citizen of the United States, residing at East Orange, in the State of New Jersey, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Weights for Ladies' Apparel, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to the construction of an article of manufacture herein termed "dress-weights," employed by dress-makers in adapting the skirts and pendent parts of basques, polonaises, and like articles of ladies' apparel to "hang" as desired. Heretofore simple leaden shot and imperforate disks of lead have been used, and have been secured in place, singly, between two thicknesses of fabric by stitching around each weight. This operation consumes considerable time, especially if changes in the location of the weights become necessary, and tends to expose the position and shape of the weights externally.

My present invention consists, first, in dress-weights, single or multiple, composed of weights proper, of lead or other heavy substance, in the form of perforated or "strung" disks, with attaching-strips, upon which said disks are strung, said strips extending from the edges of said disks, so that each disk may be readily and tightly secured in place by a few stitches across a narrow attaching strip or strips, and without liability to expose the shape of the disks externally, while they may be temporarily held in place by pins or basting-threads with facility.

This invention consists, secondly, in a series of such dress-weight disks united at fixed distances apart by an attaching strip or strips common to all, to facilitate handling them, and to facilitate attaching any number of symmetrically-arranged disks.

This invention consists, thirdly, in the combination of a series of such dress-weight disks and a flexible attaching-strip common to all, to facilitate draping an article of apparel so that it shall hang in symmetrical curves.

In the drawings which accompany this specification, Figure 1 is a face view, and Fig. 1^x an edge view partly in section, of an illustrative "multiple" dress-weight embodying the several parts of my invention. Figs. 2 and 3 are face views of others partly in section, illustrating modifications. Fig. 4 is a face view of another; and Figs. 4^x and 4^{xx}, respectively a longitudinal section and an edge view of one of its disks, illustrating another modification. Figs. 5 and 6 are face views of two others; and Figs. 7, 7^x are respectively a face view and a longitudinal section of a "single" dress-weight, illustrating another modification of my said invention.

A in the figures of each number represents an attaching-strip, which may be of cord or twine, as represented in Figs. 1 to 4, of soft wire, such as annealed brass, as represented in Figs. 5 and 6, or of tape, as represented in Fig. 7, whichever may be most suitable for particular uses.

B in each of the figures represents a dress-weight disk constructed according to my invention, so as to provide for stringing it, or so that it is in process of manufacture strung upon an attaching strip or strips, A, and so that the latter shall extend from the edges of the disk, as represented by Figs. 1^x, 4^x, and 7^x, so as to lie between two thicknesses of fabric in the plane of the disk. This may be accomplished by casting the disk with a stringing hole or holes, *h*, parallel or substantially parallel to its faces, as represented in Figs. 1 to 3 and 7, 7^x, to receive the attaching strip or strips; or the latter, of wire, may be "cast in" in the process of manufacture, as indicated in Figs. 5 and 6; or the disk may have stringing-holes *h* at right angles to its faces, with grooves *g* extending therefrom to the edges of the disk, as shown in Figs. 4 to 4^{xx}. The stringing-hole *h* indicated in Figs. 7, 7^x is flat, to accommodate an attaching-strip of tape. The others are round.

The disks B are secured at given distances apart upon the attaching-strips A in the form of multiple dress-weights, or strings of dress-weights, represented by Figs. 1, 2, by means of knots *k*, and in the form represented by Fig. 3 by tying the cord or twine at the top of each disk, as represented at *t*; but the mode of stringing illustrated by Fig. 3, with that illustrated by Figs. 4 to 4^{xx}, renders it unnecessary to fasten the disks on the attaching-

strips, and in the forms represented by Figs. 5 and 6 they are cast fast, while the form for single dress-weights shown in Figs. 7, 7^x may be fastened by forcing in one or both sides of the disk upon the strip by means of a punch, if desired, as indicated at *p*. The strips A and disks B may be thus united in process of manufacture, in continuous lengths, to be cut into sections of one or more disks by retailers or users, or, in the forms represented by Figs. 1 to 4 and 7, 7^x, the disks may be furnished on cards, like buttons, to be strung by those who use them. When the parts are united, as illustrated by Figs. 1 to 6, the multiple dress-weight so formed is not simply handled more readily by manufacturer and retailer, but is more easily applied when a series of symmetrically-arranged dress-weight disks are needed. With a single flexible attaching-strip so combined with a series of dress-weight disks, as illustrated by Figs. 1, 3, and 5, the draping of an article of apparel in symmetrical curves by means of the weights is also greatly facilitated, as will be readily seen by reference to Figs. 1 and 3.

For arrangement in straight lines, the double-strung multiple weights shown in Figs. 2 and 6 are preferable. For single weights an attaching-strip of tape, as shown in Figs. 7, 7^x, is preferred.

I do not claim broadly stringing articles, nor securing articles at regular distances apart upon strings, being aware that glass beads have been held at regular distances apart upon strings by means of paste or cement.

Having thus described my said invention, I claim—

1. A dress-weight composed of an attaching strip or strips and one or more flat disks of lead or other heavy substance strung upon said strip or strips, said strip or strips extending from the edges of said disk or disks, substantially as herein set forth.

2. The combination, substantially as herein specified, of an attaching strip or strips and a series of flat dress-weight disks of lead or other heavy substance secured thereon at fixed distances apart, said strip or strips extending from the edges of said disks, for the purposes set forth.

3. The combination, substantially as herein specified, of a single flexible attaching-strip and a series of flat dress-weight disks of lead or other heavy substance secured thereon at fixed distances apart, the former extending from the edges of the latter, for the purposes set forth.

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