

(No Model.)

M. GAIR.
SKIRT SUPPORTER.

No. 581,709.

Patented May 4, 1897.

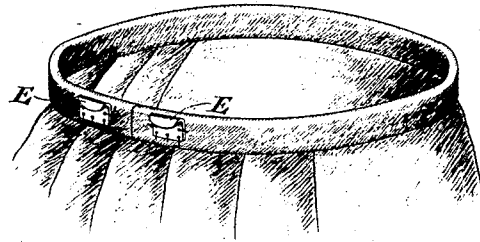
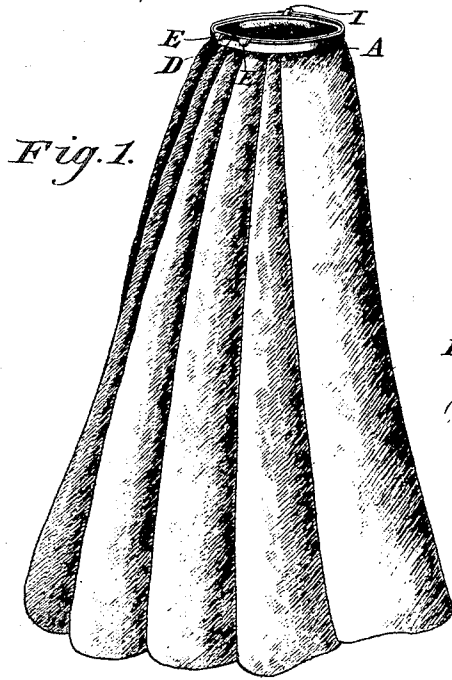


Fig. 5.

Fig. 6.

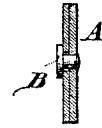
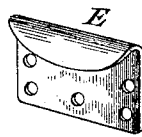


Fig. 3.

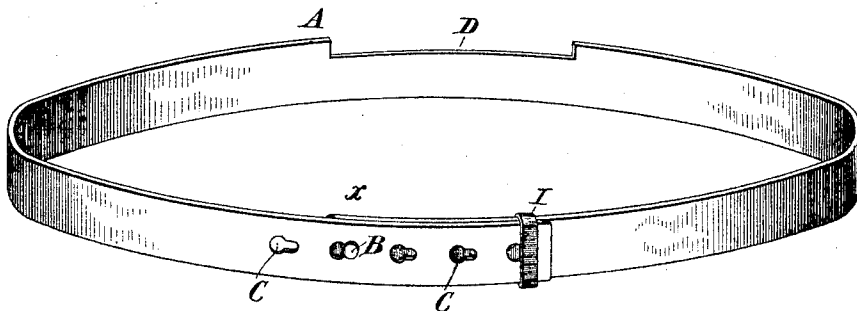
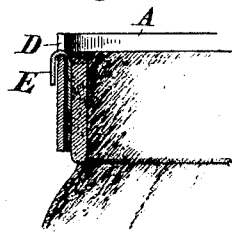


Fig. 4.



Witnesses
J. M. Witherow
James R. Mansfield

Inventor
Marie Gair,
 By: *Alexander Bowell*
 Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARIE GAIR, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

SKIRT-SUPPORTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 581,709, dated May 4, 1897.

Application filed January 25, 1897. Serial No. 620,648. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARIE GAIR, of New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Skirt-Supporters; and I hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

This invention is an improvement in skirt-supporters, and is adapted to be worn around the waist to support dress-skirts in such manner as to obviate the annoyance of the same sagging or getting out of proper position. I am aware that devices designed for this purpose have been employed, but those now in use are not only troublesome but do not perfectly effect the object for which they are designed. This invention, therefore, not only overcomes the defects of the supporters now in use, but, moreover, serves additional functions, as will be more fully hereinafter set forth.

The invention consists in the novel construction and combination of parts, such as will be pointed out in the description and summarized in the claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved skirt-supporter, showing the skirt supported therefrom. Fig. 2 is a detail perspective view of the skirt-band with hooks or catches attached. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the supporter. Fig. 4 is an enlarged sectional view of the supporter, showing the skirt in position. Fig. 5 is a detail perspective of one of the hooks or catches. Fig. 6 is a section on line *x x*, Fig. 3.

Referring to the drawings by letters, A designates the belt, which may be formed of any suitable resilient material. I, however, prefer spring-steel. When in use, it may be covered, if desired, with a leather belt, silk or satin ribbon belt, or any style of belt desired. The belt is provided with a lug B, riveted or otherwise secured at one end thereof, which is adapted to engage with any one of the series of key-slots C, centrally formed at the opposite end thereof, as shown in the drawings, for the purpose of adapting the belt to the girth of the wearer. The belt is also pro-

vided at its center with a recess or cut-out portion D, about one-fifth its width in depth and which may extend in length about three inches, more or less. The object of this recess is not only to lighten the weight of the belt, but also to serve as a restriction to the movements of the sliding hooks or catches E E, which when secured to the garment serve to prevent it from turning or becoming disarranged.

F represents a slide or keeper which is loosely fitted on the belt A and is adapted to be slipped over the overlapping end of the belt to hold the same in proper position.

E E represent catches or hooks, which are firmly sewed on the band of a skirt in the center of the back about an inch and one-half apart, so as to register with recess D of the belt, one catch being on either side of the uniting ends of the skirt-band. These catches or hooks are bent, as shown, for the purpose of allowing the curved sides E' E' thereof to face outwardly for the purpose explained.

The manner of using the supporter is as follows: The belt-supporter is passed under the catches E E and fastened in front by the means hereinbefore described, after which the leather belt or any other style of belt desired is placed over the supporter, thereby making it and the catches invisible.

Having therefore described my invention and pointed out the distinctive features thereof, what I therefore claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent thereon, is—

1. A skirt-supporting belt having a recess or cut-out portion centrally formed at its upper edge and means for uniting the two ends of the belt thereof, substantially as described.

2. The combination in a skirt-supporting belt, having a recess or cut-out portion centrally formed at its upper edge and provided with a lug or catch at one end, and a series of keyhole-slots at its opposite end; with a slide or keeper for holding the belt in position, and hooks or catches sewed to the garment whereby it is not only supported but prevented from becoming disarranged, substantially as described.

3. As a new article of manufacture the belt A, having lug B, and keyhole-slots C, the re-

cess or cut-out portion D adapted to receive catches E E, sewed to the band of a skirt, and the slide or keeper F for keeping the overlapping ends of the belt in a firm position, all substantially as and for the purpose described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as

my own I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

MARIE GAIR.

In presence of—

I. EDWARD CAMPE,
MAX COHEN.