

ELIZABETH S. WELDON.  
PANNIERS.

No. 185,150.

Patented Dec. 5, 1876.

Fig. 1.

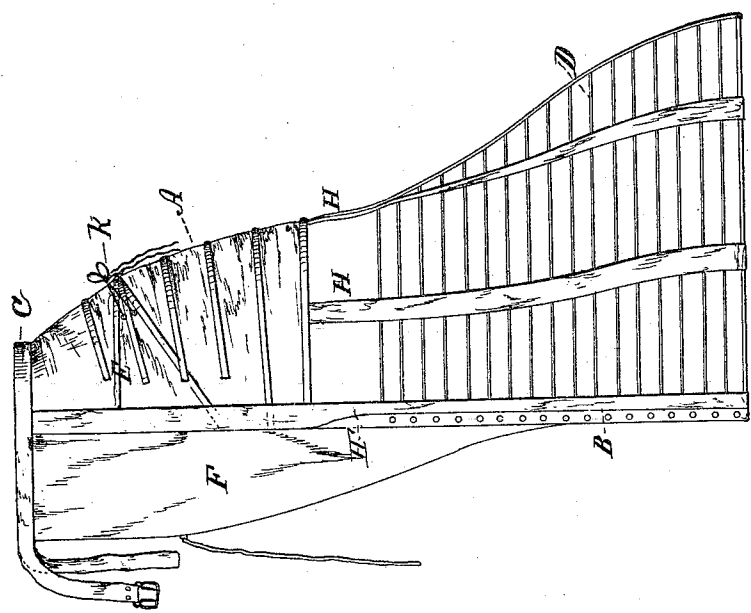
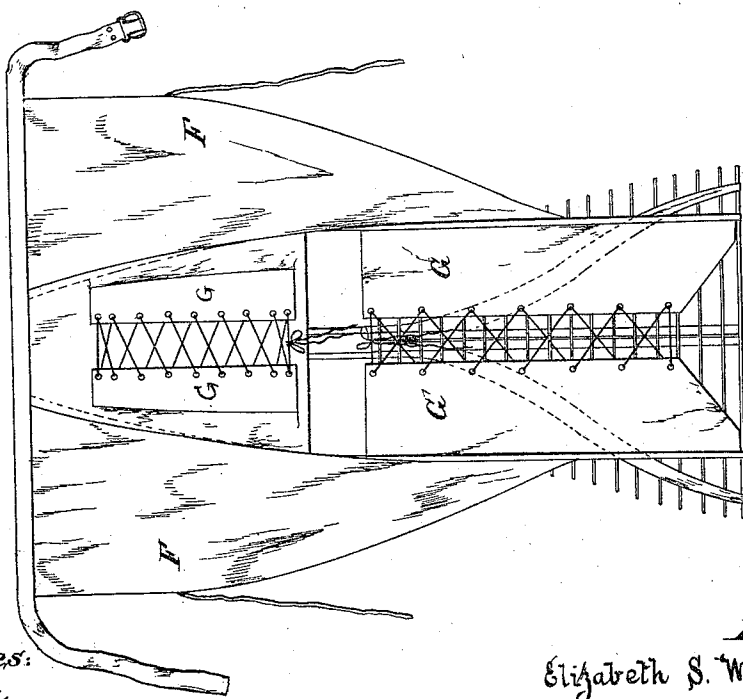


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

*Wm Wagner.*  
*J. S. Doonb*

*Inventor:*

*Elizabeth S. Weldon.*

*by James L. Norris.*

*Attorney.*

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Fig. 4.

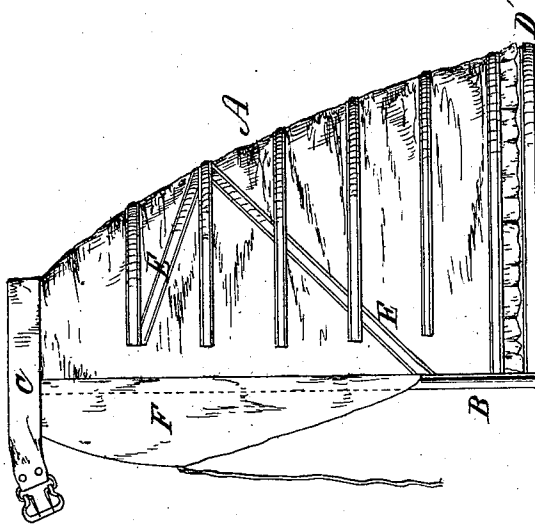
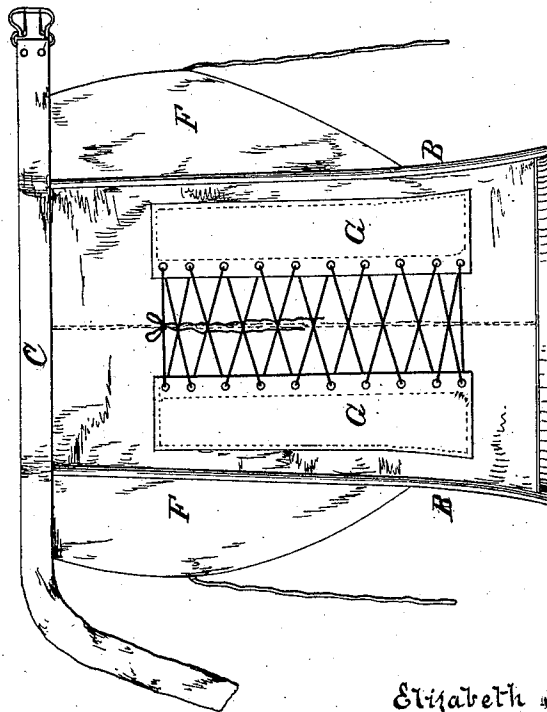


Fig. 5.



Witnesses:

*J. West Wagner*  
*John S. Coombs*

*Inventor:*

Elizabeth S. Weldon.

by *James L. Norris*  
Attorney.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELIZABETH S. WELDON, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## IMPROVEMENT IN PANNIERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 185,150, dated December 5, 1876; application filed September 21, 1876.

### *To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ELIZABETH STOWELL WELDON, of New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Panniers, of which the following is a specification:

My invention consists, first, in the combination, with the side springs of a bustle or panner, of a series of distending-springs, the lower one of which is secured at its ends to the side springs by means of a hinged joint, as more fully hereinafter set forth; second, in a combined bustle and pin-back, connected together in front by the side springs, and at the rear by flexible straps, as more fully hereinafter set forth; third, in the combination of the bustle, pin-back, side springs, and flaps, as more fully hereinafter set forth.

The points of invention are hereinafter specified in the claims.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 represents a side elevation of a full panner-skirt embracing my invention, and showing the side laps or extension to prevent lateral displacement; Fig. 2, a front elevation of such skirt; Fig. 3, a front view of the bustle detached; and Fig. 4, a side elevation of said bustle.

The skirt is of the material ordinarily used for hoop-skirts, and is made in the same manner or by the same means usual in this class of manufacture, varied, of course, to suit my particular construction. The bustle portion A is made somewhat like one described in my Patent No. 173,701, dated February 15, 1876. The differences to some extent constitute the present invention. Two flat springs, B, fastened to the waistband C, extend to the bottom distending-springs of a series, D D D, of the usual curved wires commonly employed. Said springs are secured to the fabric in any convenient manner, preferably in pockets formed by sewing a strip over each. Two additional springs, E E, crossing each other at the back of the bustle, extend from the ends, or from near the ends, of the distending-springs D, and are secured in the skirt in pockets, as usual, and properly fastened at their ends and junction. They serve to give rigidity to the bustle and to preserve its shape. They may be made adjustable, as described

in my Patent No. 173,700, dated February 15, 1876. It is not essential, however. The distending-springs D D terminate a sufficient distance short of the springs B to leave two flexible strips of fabric or laps, F F, upon either side of the open end of the bustle or skirt, as the case may be, and such laps are continuations of the bustle sides. Such laps F F, in connection with the cross lacing-strips G G, (which are sewed to the skirt along the line of the terminations of springs D,) form a partial sack for embracing the person of the wearer upon the sides of the hips. In fact, the strips or laps F F act as side holds to keep the bustle from lateral displacement. The bustle is adjusted to conform to the size of the wearer, and to project it backward, by the lacing passing through eyelets in the cross-strips G, as now commonly in use for such purpose. The last two or bottom distending-springs D' D' of the bustle A extend fully to the ends of the springs B, and being secured in the fabric by pockets, and their ends abutting against the ends of the springs B, a hinge is thus made, for the purpose of giving flexure to that part which the wearer, when sitting down, causes to collapse upon the chair.

The above fully describes the bustle A, and may thus be constructed for use as a bustle only.

Making the necessary changes to suit each case, the principle of the remaining portion of the skirt or the "pin-back" is the same. Such changes will at once appear from the drawing and description.

The pin-back and bustle are loosely connected in the rear, (they have one rigid connection, to be mentioned hereafter,) so that the one may be removed back and raised without disturbing the other. Such connection is made by broad tapes H H, sewed to the bustle A, and fastened to the pin-back by clamps, in the usual way. The lacing-strings of the bustle, when the same is combined with the pin-back, are extended backward at their upper ends, as shown at K, and are passed through the rear of the bustle, to allow the pin-back to be adjusted.

In the full skirt the flat springs B extend from the waistband C down to the broad bot-

tom hoop of the whole skirt or pin-back, as in this case, and this forms the sole rigid connection. One continuous spring, however, may extend all around the skirt and have its ends fastened in the waistband. These springs B B are loose in their pocket-fastenings, so that at the flexing-point, between the bustle and pin-back, they turn to present a face position to the bend, so that as the wearer sits down these springs bend with her movements, the pin-back being held by the lacing K against her limbs. To prevent undue pressure upon her limbs, said springs are made of thin elastic metal. They are fastened in a long continuous connecting tape-pocket, H', running from the bottom of the skirt to the waistband.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In combination with the side springs B B of a bustle or pin-back, E, the series of springs D D, the lower one of which is secured at its ends in the pocket which holds the

spring B, forming a flexible hinge-joint, adapted to operate as herein described, for the purpose set forth.

2. A combined bustle and pin-back, connected together by the springs B B, forming a rigid attachment in front, and by the bands H H at the rear, as and for the purposes herein set forth.

3. The combination of the bustle A, with pin-back attached thereto, the springs B B, and flaps F F, extending along the edges of the bustle and pin-back, and the upper and lower lacing-flaps G G, to be adjusted independently of each other, and allow either or both the bustle and pin-back to be arranged as desired, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of the subscribing witnesses.

ELIZABETH STOWELL WELDON.

Witnesses:

W. H. MELICK,

W. B. READ.