No. 699,339. Patented May 6, 1902.

J. C. McDONALD.

SKIRT AND WAIST SUPPORTER.

(Application filed Oct. 10, 1901.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 5.

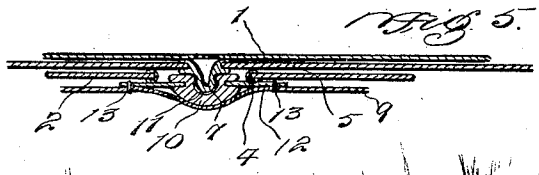


Fig. 1.

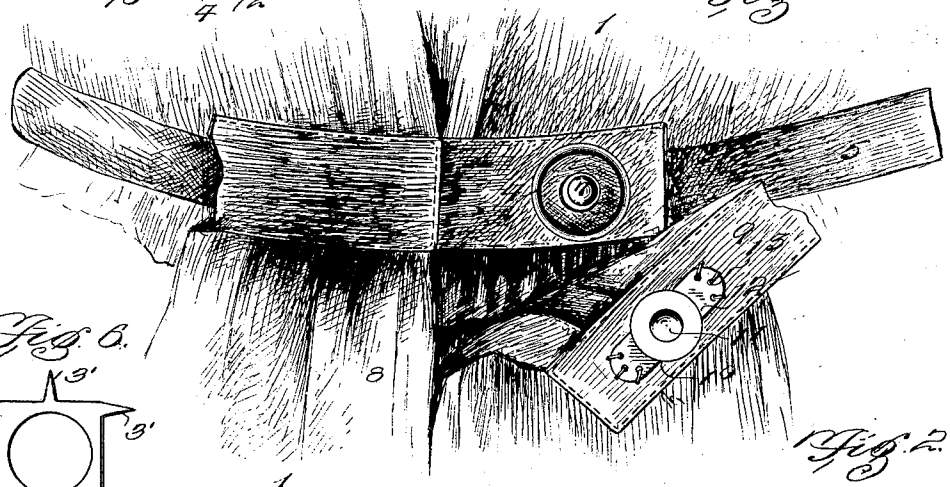


Fig. 6.

Fig. 2.

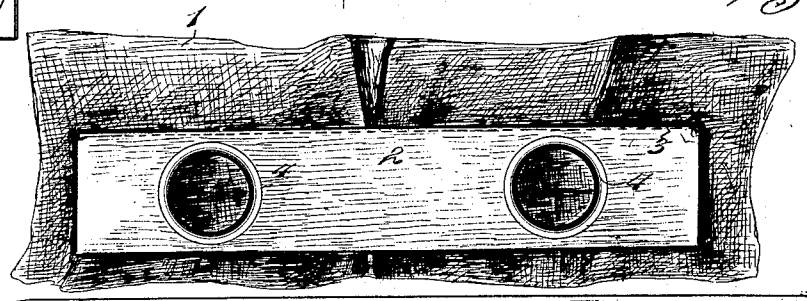


Fig. 3.

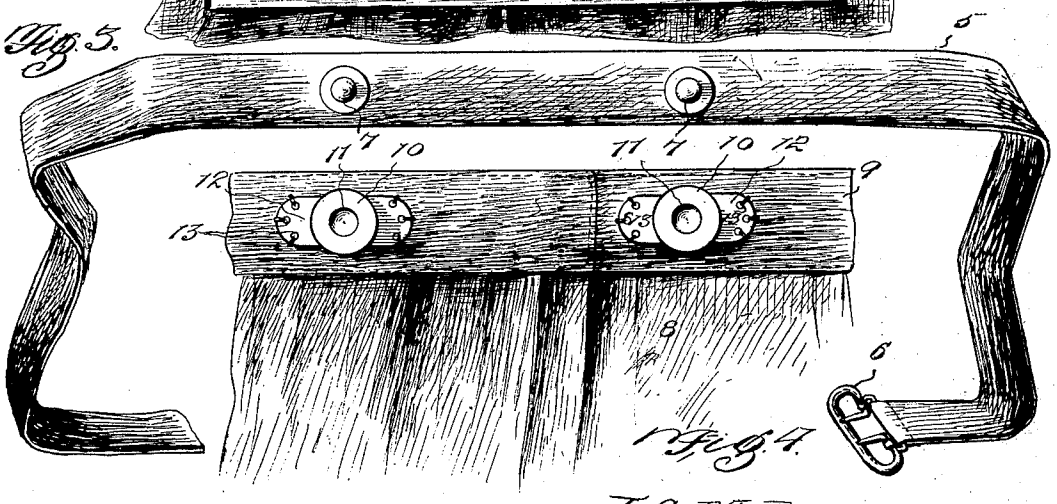


Fig. 4.

Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES C. McDONALD, OF DAVENPORT, IOWA.

SKIRT AND WAIST SUPPORTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 699,339, dated May 6, 1902.

Application filed October 10, 1901. Serial No. 78,259. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES C. McDONALD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Davenport, in the county of Scott and State of Iowa, have invented a new and useful Skirt and Waist Supporter, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to certain improvements in devices of that class employed for connecting a skirt and waist and designed for properly holding and supporting both garments in proper position.

The principal object of the invention is to provide an improved article which while securely holding the garments in place will permit of slight adjustment of their relative positions, a further object being to provide a device which may be made and sold as an article of manufacture and readily attached to the garments without any necessity for alteration in the construction of either garment, as more fully described hereinafter.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a rear view of a portion of a skirt and waist, illustrating a garment-supporting device constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a similar view of a portion of the waist, illustrating the construction of the member of the fastener to be attached thereto. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the belt adapted to be passed around the waist of the wearer. Fig. 4 is an elevation of a portion of the skirt looking from the inside of the same. Fig. 5 is a transverse sectional elevation, on an exaggerated scale, illustrating the position assumed by the parts when connected. Fig. 6 is an elevation of a modification more particularly referred to hereinafter.

The waist 1 may be of any size or style and made in any desired manner or of any suitable material. To the rear portion of this garment is secured a strip of reinforcing material 2, made of some strong textile fabric, the upper edge only being secured, as at 3, by stitching or otherwise to the garment. This reinforcing-strip is provided with large metallic eyelets 4, arranged one on each side of the center of the strip. This reinforcing-strip, however, need not necessarily be in one piece or made of some textile fabric. It can be made of some other material or of sheet metal, with holes cut to act as a substitute for the metal eyelets 4; nor is it necessary that the strip should be in one piece. It may be in two pieces, each piece independent of the other, one on the left side and the other on the right side of waist, the two pieces to be the proper distance apart and attached to the waist by stitching or otherwise at the upper edges only. In Fig. 6 I have illustrated a modified construction of reinforcing-strips, in which small metallic plates 2′ are employed, one plate being placed on each side of the center of the back of the waist and secured thereto by integral prongs 3′ or by stitching or otherwise.

The belt portion 5 of the fastening is formed of any suitable material and at one end is provided with a buckle 6, or any other suitable means may be employed for securing it at the front of the waist. The belt is provided with two stud members 7 of any ordinary character, which when the belt is placed under the flap 2 will project through the eyelets 4, considerable play in both lateral and vertical directions being permitted, owing to the difference in size of the stud members and the eyelets; but the stud members and the eyelets may be of the same size, if desired, when of course there will be no play.

The belt 5, passing as it does around the outside of the waist, serves to confine the latter closely to the body and holds the lower portion of the garment securely in place—a desirable feature where a loose-front waist is worn.

The skirt 8 may be of any ordinary material and provided with the usual waistband 9. To the waistband 9 on each side of the placket-opening, or to the skirt itself if it is desired to set the female members 10 low down, are secured the female members 10 of the fastening, each of such members comprising a socket-piece 11 for the reception of the stud member 7 and an attaching-plate 12 of a length greater than the diameter of the eyelets 4, although this attaching-plate may be of the same length as or a shorter length than the diameter of the eyelets 4. Each plate 12 is provided with a number of openings 13 to permit its being secured by stitching or otherwise to the waistband of skirt or to the skirt itself when it is desired to set the female members 10 low down, this construc-

tion permitting of the securing of the female members in place without exposing the head of the members on the exterior of the garment.

In applying the article, the reinforcing-flap 2 having been secured to the waist, the belt 5 is placed under the same with the stud members projecting through the metallic eyelets. The ends of the waistband of the skirt or the ends of the skirt itself are then secured to the belt at the back of the body by snapping the female members 10 on the stud members. The placket-opening may then be closed by a suitable hook and eye or other device.

The metal plates 12 being of a greater length than the diameter of the metallic eyelets, the ends of the plate will be prevented from being caught by the eyelets, and any slight adjustment necessary to bring either the skirt or the waist to central positions will be permitted. At the same time the back of the waist will be held securely in place and the skirt will be supported from the belt without exercising any strain on the material of the waist, the width of the eyelets permitting of slight downward movement of the skirt without bringing its weight to bear on the upper garment.

In some cases the strip 2, of reinforcing material, may be replaced by small metallic plates 2′, having spurs 3′ for securing the same in position on the shirt-waist, the plates being provided with suitable openings as a substitute for the eyelets 4. This construction is clearly illustrated in Fig. 6.

Although the structure herein described and illustrated is that of the preferred form, it is obvious that changes in the form, proportions, and size may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of my invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. A supporting device for connecting and supporting garments, comprising a body-encircling belt, a ball-and-socket fastening having one of its members secured to said belt and the opposite member secured to one garment, and an eyelet-carrying flap secured at its upper edge only to the opposite garment and situated between the members of the ball-and-socket fastening.

2. A supporting device for an upper and a lower garment comprising a flap secured to the upper garment and having one or more eyelets, a body-encircling belt adapted to pass between the flap and the upper garment and carrying one member of a ball-and-socket fastening, the opposite member of said fastening being secured to the lower garment, substantially as specified.

3. A supporting device for an upper and a lower garment comprising a flap secured at its upper edge to the rear of the upper garment and provided on opposite sides of the center with metallic eyelets, a body-encircling belt adapted to pass under said flap on the exterior of the upper garment and provided at its ends with securing devices, stud-attaching members secured to said belt in alinement with the metallic eyelets, and socket members adapted for attachment to the lower garment and adapted for engagement with said stud members.

4. A supporting device for an upper and a lower garment comprising a flap secured at its upper edge to the rear of the upper garment and provided on opposite sides of the center with enlarged metallic eyelets, a body-encircling belt, adapted to pass under said flap on the exterior of the upper garment and provided at its ends with securing devices, stud-attaching members secured to said belt in alinement with the metallic eyelets, and socket members for attachment to the lower garment and adapted for engagement with said stud members, the eyelets being of larger diameter than the stud and socket members in order to permit lateral adjustment of the garments.

5. A supporting device for an upper and a lower garment comprising a flap secured at its upper edge to the rear of the upper garment and provided on opposite sides of its center with enlarged metallic eyelets, a body-encircling belt adapted to pass under said flap on the exterior of the upper garment, stud-attaching members secured to said belt in alinement with the metallic eyelets and of a diameter considerably less than that of said eyelets to permit lateral adjustment of the garments, and socket members having attaching-plates of a length greater than the diameter of the eyelets and adapted to be secured to the inner portion of the waistband of the lower garment.

6. In combination, a waist having an eyelet member secured at its upper end only to the waist, a belt adapted to encircle the waist of the wearer, said belt passing under said eyelet member, a member of a ball-and-socket fastener carried by the belt in alinement with the eyelet, and a skirt having a mating ball-and-socket member adapted to engage with the member carried by the belt.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

JAMES C. McDONALD.

Witnesses:
ALBERT J. NOTH,
JOS. L. PAHL.