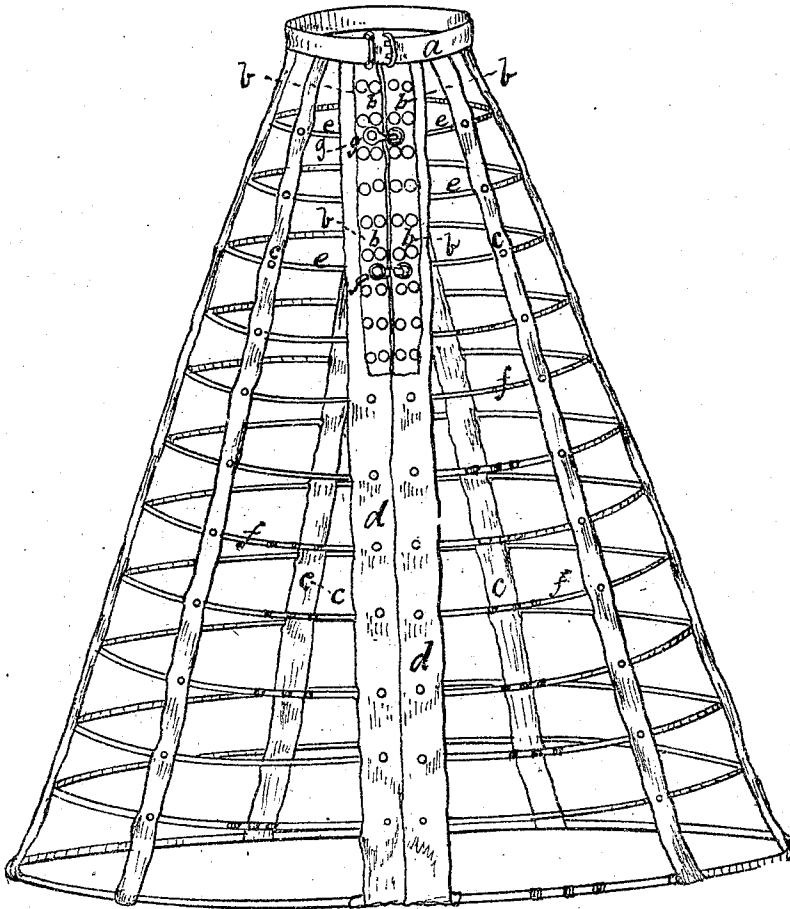


E. Adams, Jr.

Hoop Skirt.

Nº 65854

Patented Jun. 18, 1867.



Witnesses

E. Adams, Jr.
M. S. G. Wilde.

Inventor.

E. Adams, Jr.
by J. H. Adams
Att'y.

United States Patent Office.

EPHRAIM ADAMS, JR., OF ATTLEBORO, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 65,854, dated June 18, 1867.

IMPROVEMENT IN HOOP-SKIRTS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

Be it known that I, EPHRAIM ADAMS, Jr., of Attleboro, in the county of Bristol, and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Hoop-Skirts, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, making a part of this specification, and representing a perspective view of a hoop-skirt containing my improvement.

The object of my invention is to construct a skirt which will adapt itself symmetrically to the form of the wearer, and so that the proper proportion between the size of the waist-band and the general contour of the skirt will always be maintained relatively to the size of the wearer, whereby persons of different sizes may always be supplied with a properly fitting skirt upon indicating the size of the waist.

In hoop-skirts, as generally made, the difference in sizes is made by enlarging or diminishing the size of the waist, the effect of which is to change the proper proportion of the waist in relation to the skirt, and a skirt that might suit a person of a certain size would be unbecoming or unfitted to one of a different size. Hoop-skirts are also usually made with the bustle hoops or springs extending only partially around the body, leaving an open space in the front upper portion of the skirt, and the hoops or springs of the main portion of the skirt are not provided with tapes or supports in the centre of the front portion, causing the front portion of the lower part of the skirt frequently to sag and interfere with the feet.

My invention is designed to obviate all these objections, and it consists in extending the bustle hoops or springs entirely around the body, the front ends of the same being attached to tapes or supports extending down the centre of the front of the skirt. The proper relation of the waist-band with the bustle springs and hoops is preserved in the different sizes required, by forming the skirt on an expanding frame, thus maintaining the proportions of the different portions of the skirt with each other in the different sizes.

Referring to the drawings, *a* represents the waist-band made of a certain size, and to which the tapes *e* are attached in the usual manner, and carrying the hoops *f*. *e e* are the bustle springs, which extend entirely around and are attached to the tapes *d d* in front. The tapes *d d* are attached at their upper ends to the ends of the waist-band, whence they extend downward in front to the bottom of the skirt. The tapes *d d* are separated where the bustle springs are attached, but below that they are joined together, and the open parts may be provided with any proper fastenings. *b b* are additional tapes attached to the supports *d d* for giving additional strength to the same. When the bustle springs extend only partially around the body, the ends of the springs tend to wear out the clothing and interfere with the set of the dress, and are otherwise objectionable, and by enlarging or diminishing the size of the band, the proper symmetry and balance of the hoop are lost. In my improvement, the tapes extending down in the centre of the front prevent the skirt from sagging, and tend to keep the same from interfering with the feet.

I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The combination of the bustle springs *e* and the central tape *d*, substantially as described for the purpose specified.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

EPHRAIM ADAMS, JR.

Witnesses:

J. H. ADAMS,

M. S. G. WILDE.