No. 783,704. PATENTED FEB. 28, 1905.

F. M. RICHMOND.

SKIRT SUPPORTING BELT.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 20, 1904.

Fig. 1.

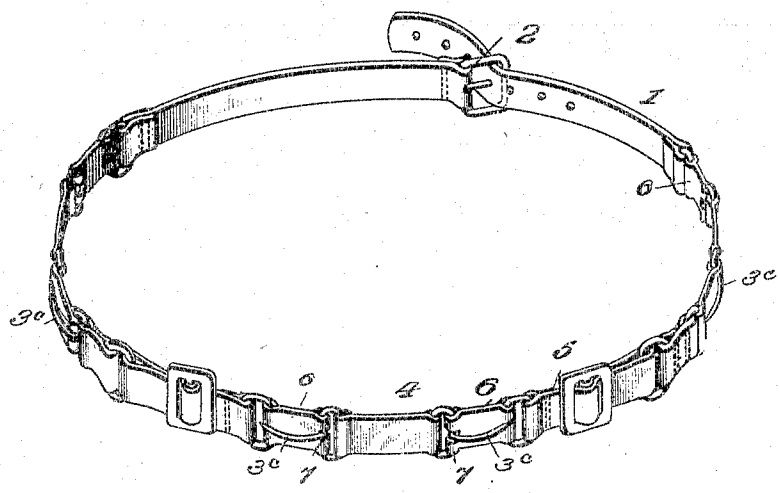


Fig. 2.

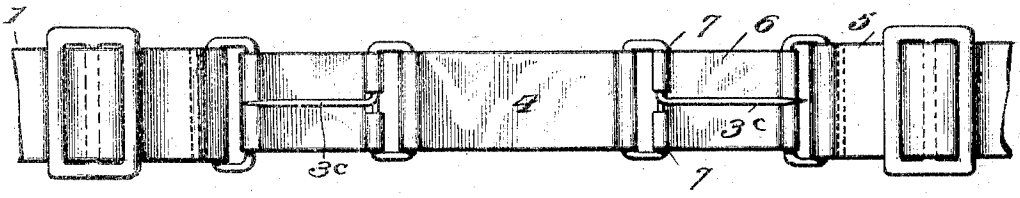


Fig. 3

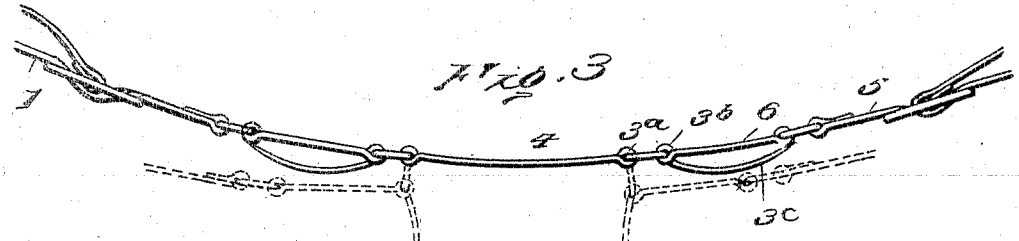
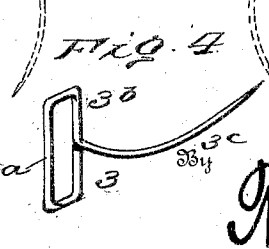


Fig. 4



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FLORENCE M. RICHMOND, OF MALVERN, IOWA.

SKIRT-SUPPORTING BELT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 783,704, dated February 28, 1905.

Application filed May 20, 1904. Serial No. 208,929.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FLORENCE M. RICHMOND, a citizen of the United States, residing at Malvern, in the county of Mills and State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Skirt-Supporting Belts, of which the following is a specification.

This invention aims to provide an improved means for supporting ladies' skirts, and comprises a belt adapted to be secured about the waist and peculiar supporting members carried by the belt for engaging with the waistbands of the skirts, both under and outer, if desirable, which positively hold the garments in proper positions upon the wearer.

The belt is designed to be used in connection with suitable braces or suspenders which carry the weight of the garments from the shoulders, though this is not essential, and the supporting members which comprise the essential feature of the invention consist of lever-pins which pass through the garments supported and which are held normally in firm gripping engagement with the garments by the securance of the belt at the waist.

For a full description of the invention and the merits thereof and also to acquire a knowledge of the details of construction of the means for effecting the result reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawings.

While the essential and characteristic features of the invention are susceptible of modification, still the preferred embodiment of the invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a belt embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a view in elevation of a portion of the belt carrying two of the supporting members thereon. Fig. 3 is a plan view of a portion of the belt, showing the relative arrangement of the supporting members and the manner of connecting them with the belt parts, the relative movement of the supporting parts in engaging same being illustrated in dotted lines. Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view of one of the supporting members alone.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the drawings by the same reference characters.

The belt 1 may be of any suitable form and made of tape or suitable material found best for the purposes of the invention. The usual buckle 2 is provided for the belt for attaching the same about the waist in the ordinary manner, and any suitable form of adjusting device, such as shown in the drawings, may be employed for adjusting the belt so that the same may be used for different-sized waists. In the preferred contemplation of my invention the supporting members 3 are disposed at the rear of the belt and at the sides, and the number of these members may be varied in accordance with the size of the belt and as found necessary. It is essential, however, that the belt be made in separate parts, and since each of the supporting members is mounted upon the belt in the same manner one only will be described herein.

Each supporting member 3 comprises an end bar 3^a, an intermediate bar 3^b, and an engaging member in the form of a pin 3^c. The end bar 3^a and the intermediate bar 3^b are formed by a loop integral with the pin 3^c, and the end bar 3^a is connected with one part of the belt, which for purposes of this description will be designated 4, the intermediate bar of the supporting member being connected with another part of the belt, (indicated at 5.) The connection between the part 5 of the belt 1 and the intermediate bar 3^b of the supporting member 3 preferably consists of a plate 6 made of metal or of hard material of a similar nature, so that the engaging member or pin 3^c will positively coöperate with the plate to hold the skirt or attached part in position. It will be understood, however, that the plate 6 need not necessarily be used, since a flexible connection will accomplish to a certain extent the purposes of the invention. The plate 6 is bifurcated at one end, as shown at 7, and the bifurcated portions are rolled to form bearings, which receive the intermediate bar 3^b of the supporting member 3. The supporting member 3 is virtually pivotally mounted and when in operative position has a sort of lever action in its function as an engaging element. When the belt is secured about the waist, the

connection of the belt part 5 with the member 3 causes the pin 3^c thereof to normally rest against the plate 6, because of the pulling force exercised upon the member 3 between the ends thereof and because the end bar 3^a of this member 3 is pivotally carried by the belt part 4. The pin 3^c is positively held in engaging relation as regards the plate 6 under ordinary conditions of service, and this engaging relation is such that a part, such as the waistband of a skirt, when engaged by the member 3^c is firmly held in position thereby.

The belt is very simply constructed and affords a very efficient means for positively engaging the skirt-bands to secure the same about the waist and no liability of looseness is admitted of in the use of the belt-supporting construction in accordance with the invention, as hereinbefore set forth.

In actual use, the belt having been buckled about the waist, the skirts are attached thereto by raising the pins 3^c of the supporting members so as to move the same away from the plate 6, when it is only necessary to force the pins through the waistband and release same, said pins being pulled hard against the plate 6 by the pulling force of the belt itself.

It will be noted from the foregoing that because of the peculiar form of the supporting member utilized the belt coöperates therewith to hold the pin of the supporting member in engaging position. It is contemplated that the supporting member be used in connection with a belt or supporting part of a similar nature, and, if desirable, more than a single pin may be used, within the spirit of the invention as set forth hereinbefore. Also it may be desirable to vary the number of supporting members utilized for the belt, and the pins of the supporting member may be arranged as found most suitable for the purposes, as above described.

The member 3 is not only a supporting member, but is also a coupling or connecting member between the belt parts, so that when the belt is buckled about the waist the strain due to the operative connection of the belt parts will cause the pin 3^c of the supporting member 3 to assume a position approximately in line with the line of strain of said belt parts. It is very essential that the pin 3^c be curved between its ends also, so that the goods may be bunched or held between the ends of the pin when the pointed extremity of this member is in contact with the adjacent belt part.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is—

In combination, a belt composed of separate parts, a buckle connecting the ends of the belt, a supporting member consisting of a closed loop connecting the belt parts aforesaid, a supporting-pin projected from the loop and curved between its ends, the belt parts being connected with the supporting member adjacent and opposite the supporting-pin so as to force the pin thereof into a position approximately in line with the line of strain upon the belt parts when the belt is buckled in operative position.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

FLORENCE M. RICHMOND. [L. S.]

Witnesses:
Mrs. J. H. RETELSDORF,
HETTIE HÜLLE.