

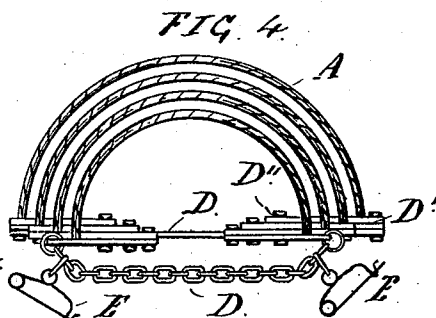
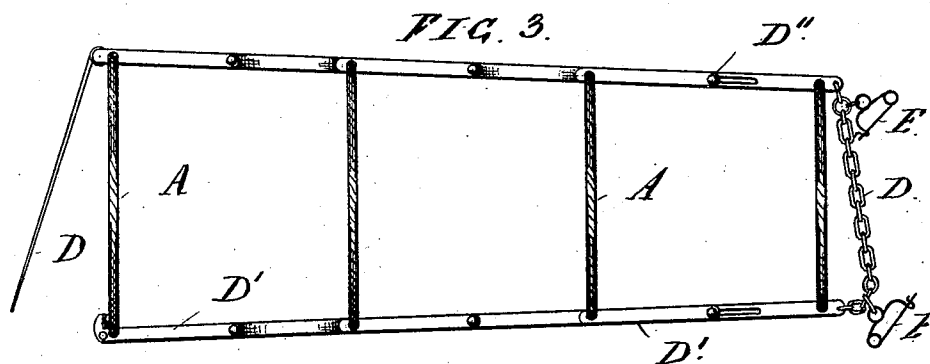
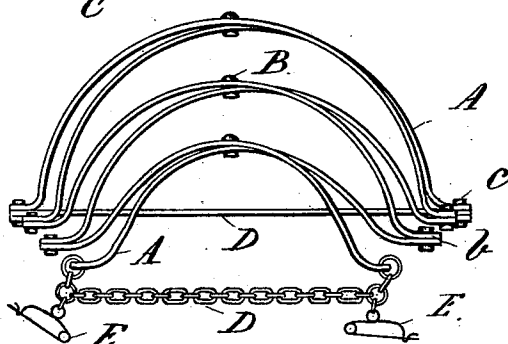
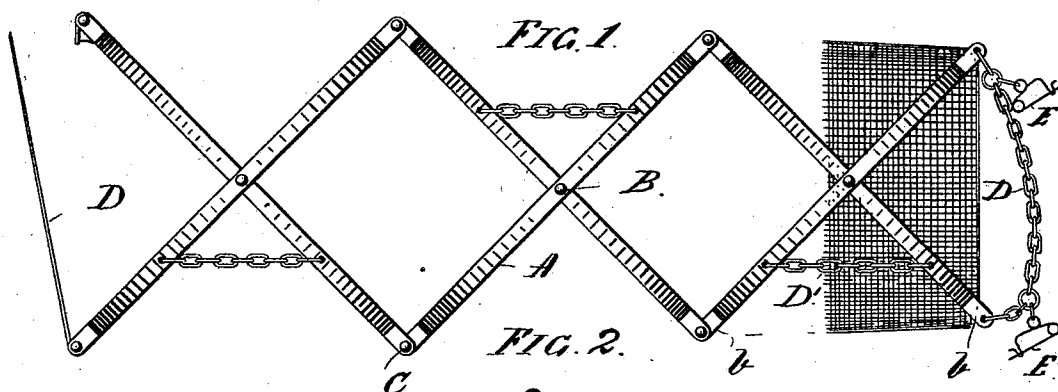
(No Model.)

F. M. FLETCHER.

ATTACHMENT FOR LADIES' DRESSES FOR PROTECTING BANDS OF FLOWERS.

No. 517,568.

Patented Apr. 3, 1894.



Witnesses.

William Bramley
Fred Follows Wiggins.

Inventor.

Florence Mary Fletcher
per William Rushner Mayfield attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FLORENCE MARY FLETCHER, OF KNIGHTON, ASSIGNOR TO CHARLES EDWARD WHITMORE AND CHARLES DUNDAS PRICE, OF LEICESTER, ENGLAND.

ATTACHMENT FOR LADIES' DRESSES FOR PROTECTING BANDS OF FLOWERS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 517,568, dated April 3, 1894.

Application filed February 3, 1893. Serial No. 460,904. (No model.) Patented in France May 4, 1893, No. 227,703.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FLORENCE MARY FLETCHER, a subject of Her Britannic Majesty Queen Victoria, residing at Cambury House, Clarendon Park Road, Knighton, in the county of Leicester, England, in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, have invented a new and useful improvement, or a new or Improved Attachment to Ladies' Dresses for the Purpose of Protecting Bands or Wreaths of Flowers, (for which I have obtained a patent in France, dated May 4, 1893, No. 227,703, and have applied for a patent in Great Britain, No. 17,455, bearing date September 30, 1892, and also for a patent in Germany, unnumbered,) of which the following is a specification.

This invention is specially applicable for covering and protecting bands or sprays of flowers frequently used extending across the chest from the shoulder to the hip, and consists in wires or arches connected together, or to a frame or base, and provided with chains, brooch fastenings, cord or ribbon or similar means of attachment, the whole length being such that it will stretch almost from one end of the band or spray to the other. Such arches may be graduated, because in large bands the flowers increase in size generally toward the center, or upper portion, therefore the straight or crossed arches have to be larger or smaller, accordingly.

This attachment is secured by safety pins, brooch fastenings or other equivalent means, secured to the ends of the bent wires forming the arches, or by cords, ribbon or the like, and secured to the dress so that the arch or arches will project in an upright manner. The arch or arches may be covered if necessary with a gauze, net, silk or other fabric cover, so secured thereto that it does not press upon the flowers. When a coat, cloak, jacket or shawl is put over it, or thrown over the shoulders of the wearer, instead of resting on the band or spray of flowers as at present, such cover will lie on top of the projecting arch or arches and thus leave the flowers free from being crushed or becoming broken or disarranged. I attain these objects by constructing the appliance or attachment as illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1. is a view from the under side of the appliance stretched out ready for covering the band or spray of flowers. Fig. 2. is an end view of the same closed after use. Fig. 3 is the appliance in another form, the arches A. going across from one side to the other transversely, and opened out as when in use. Such wreaths or sprays of flowers are arranged frequently for evening dress, or upon other occasions either as shoulder knobs or sprays, breast knobs or sprays, or extending across the chest from the shoulder to the hip of the wearer; and Fig. 4 shows the previous figure closed after use to fit the pocket or reticule. Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

In carrying out this invention I can employ a variety of different metals, or other suitable material of a flexible nature plain or ornamented, and one or more crossed or straight arches to cover the length of the band of flowers; if constructed as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2 (which I will now describe) it consists of several sets, or a series of arches A centrally pivoted at B, so that several sets can be folded well within the larger arch as seen in Fig. 2 and can be carried in a side pocket or reticule, each bent wire is flattened at its outer ends *b*, and riveted together at C, to the outer ends are attached either chains D, or may be a brooch pin, ribbon or the like to fasten it to the dress, or other article of wearing apparel. When chains are employed safety pins E are secured thereon to fasten the appliance securely to the dress of the wearer. To determine to what extent each set of arches shall be opened I affix thereto at any desired point, or points, chains D', either at the bottom as shown, or any other part, for at the bottom I may have pins to fasten like a brooch pin, or silk cord, ribbon or the like.

If the attachment is made as illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4, two or four arches A are by preference employed which are secured firmly to the pivoted levers D'. The ends may carry chains D, brooch fastenings, ribbon and the like to secure the article, the joints D'' allow the appliance or attachment to be fixed in any desired position or angle, whether worn across the chest, or as shoulder knobs, sprays, breast knobs or sprays, or wherever flowers are worn,

the arches meanwhile retaining their upright position, which of course is essential, and keeps them from the flowers that is to say; the flowers thereunder are quite free. The
5 levers D'. may telescope if desired.

A various assortment of designs may be produced by graduating the arches, and ornamenting them and by slight modifications the attachments may be employed to protect
10 flowers in gentlemen's coats, or other ladies' or gentlemen's wearing apparel without departing from the essence of my invention.
And

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

1. As a new article of manufacture, a flower-protecting dress attachment, consisting of two

or more arches, so connected as to be expanded or folded together at will, substantially as described.

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2. The combination with a flower-protecting, dress-attachment, consisting of two or more arches so connected as to be expanded or folded together at will, of a cover of any suitable fabric secured thereto, substantially
25 as described.

3. As a new article of manufacture a flower-protecting dress attachment, consisting of two or more arches, connected at base by a set of pivoted levers, substantially as described.

FLORENCE MARY FLETCHER.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM BRAMLEY,
FRED FELLOWES WIGGINS.