(No Model.)

# M. A. FARRINGTON.

## GARMENT SUPPORTER.

No. 571,222. Patented Nov. 10, 1896.

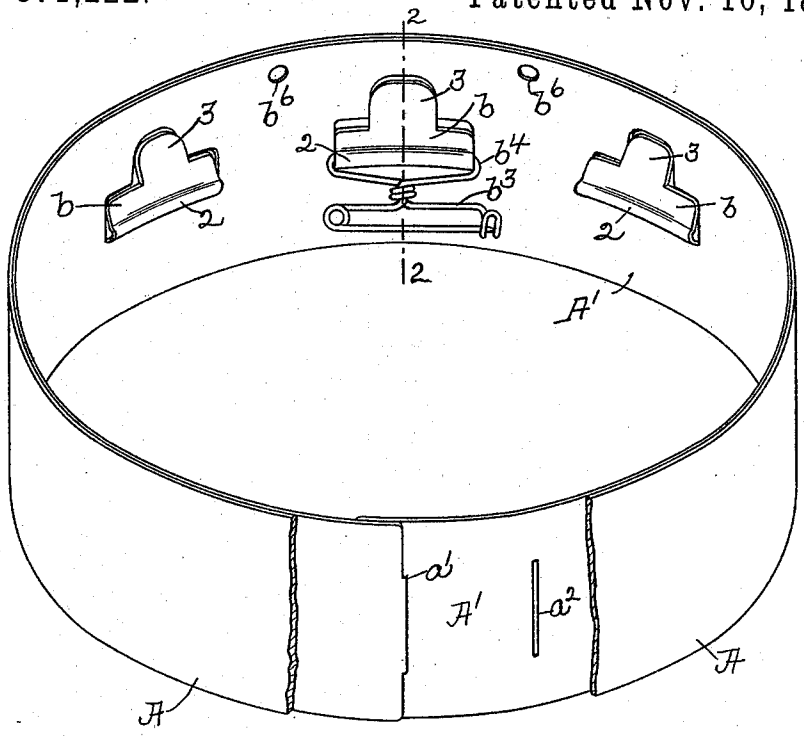


Fig. 1.

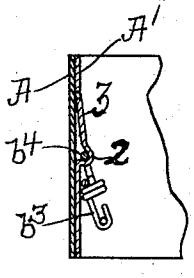


Fig. 2.

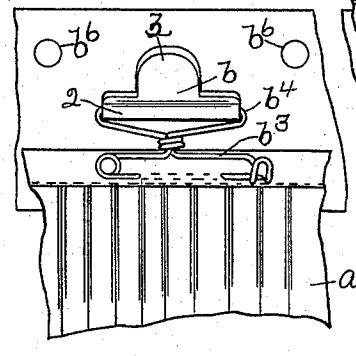


Fig. 3.

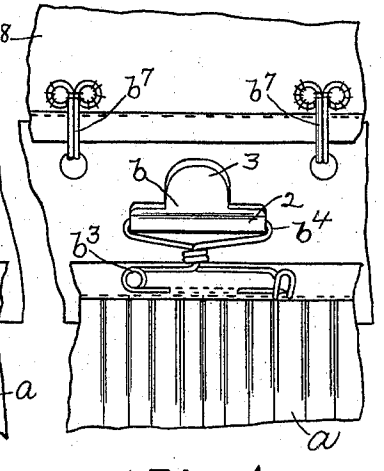


Fig. 4.

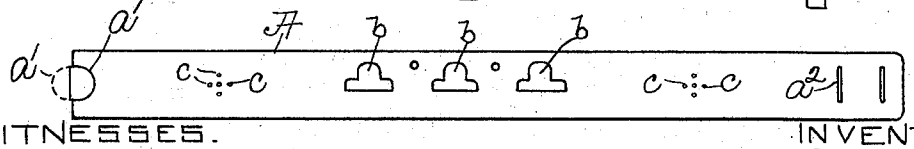


Fig. 5.

WITNESSES.
Matthew M. Blunt.
S. Hart.

INVENTOR.
Mary A. Farrington
by Jas. H. Churchill
ATT'Y.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARY A. FARRINGTON, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

## GARMENT-SUPPORTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 571,222, dated November 10, 1896.

Application filed June 20, 1896. Serial No. 596,306. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MARY A. FARRINGTON, of Boston, county of Suffolk, and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Garment-Supporters, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like letters and figures on the drawings representing like parts.

This invention relates to a combination belt and garment-supporter, and has for its object to provide a simple, inexpensive, and efficient apparatus for the purpose specified.

The apparatus is further designed to serve as a lining for the usual belt now commonly worn by ladies, and prevents the said belt from sagging and retains it smooth and free from wrinkles, especially when the said belt is made of silk or the finer quality of textile material. In accordance with this invention the belt is made of sheet metal, which may be aluminium, steel, or like suitable metal, and of a width substantially equal to the width of the silk or other belts now commonly worn by ladies. The sheet-metal belt is provided at one end with a tongue integral with it, which is adapted to engage suitable eyes or slots in the opposite end of the belt. The metal belt intermediate of its ends is provided with one or more supports or devices by which the skirt is designed to be attached to the belt. The supports referred to are preferably made by striking up a portion of the metal belt, so as to form inwardly-projecting lugs or ears on the inner side of the metal belt, whereby supports are formed on the inner side of the metal belt to which the skirt-supporting devices are attached, and the outer side of the metal belt is left smooth and free from projections, so that the thin silk or other fibrous belt may present a smooth and finished appearance when applied to the waist of the wearer. The devices for attachment to the skirt may and preferably will be made in the form of a safety-pin, with a top loop which is adapted to be slipped or placed over the inwardly-projecting lugs or ears. The metal band may also be provided at its center, or what would correspond to its back portion when applied to the waist of the wearer, with one or more holes or eyes for the reception of hooks or other suitable devices attached to the basque or waist of the wearer. These and other features of this invention will be pointed out in the claims at the end of this specification.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a belt and garment-supporter embodying this invention, the fabric belt being broken away; Fig. 2, a section on the line 2 2, Fig. 1; Fig. 3, a detail in elevation to be referred to; Fig. 4, a modification to be referred to, and Fig. 5 a developed inside view of the metal belt alone.

Referring to Fig. 1, A represents a silk or other fibrous belt, such as now commonly worn by ladies with shirt-waists, blouses, &c., and A′ my improved metal belt, which, in accordance with this invention, is designed to perform the double functions of a lining for the belt A and a support for a skirt *a*. (Shown in Figs. 3 and 4.)

The belt A′ is made of sheet metal, such as aluminium or steel, and is composed of a single strip provided at one end with a tongue or hook *a′* and at its opposite end with one or more eyes $a^2$ for the reception of the hook or tongue *a′*. The tongue *a′* is normally flat, as represented by the dotted lines, Fig. 5, and is bent inwardly, as represented by the full lines in said figure.

The metal belt A′ is provided on its inner side with one or more lugs or ears *b*, preferably of the shape herein shown, which are struck up from or out of the metal strip forming the belt. The lugs or ears *b*, as herein shown, consist of a substantially long longitudinally curved or bent lower portion 2 and a shorter upper portion 3, which is preferably bent or pressed backward toward the belt A, so as to be in substantially the same plane, and thereby present a substantially smooth surface on the inside of the belt, and consequently avoid the danger of tearing waists of fine or delicate material upon the end of the said lugs or ears, which form supports for devices by which the skirt *a* is attached to the metal belt. The devices referred to may and preferably will be made as herein shown, and consist of a lower portion $b^3$ in the form of a safety-pin and an upper portion $b^4$ in the form of an elongated loop substantially equal in length to the lower portion 2 of the lug or ear *b* and adapted to be placed or slipped over the said lug or ear, the upper portion 2 of

the said lug or ear being pressed inward out of its opening to enable the loop to be slipped over it. The lower portion $b^3$ and the upper portion $b^4$ may be made of a single piece of wire, as herein shown. The metal belt may also be provided with suitable eyes or holes $b^6$ for the reception of hooks $b^7$ or other suitable fastening devices attached to a waist or basque $b^8$. (See Fig. 4.)

In practice the metal belt supports the weight of the skirt and distributes the strain evenly about the waist of the wearer, and as the silk or other fibrous belt is thereby relieved from strain it does not sag, and, furthermore, it is prevented from wrinkling and is kept smooth by the smooth outer surface of the metal belt, which forms a metallic lining for the silk or outside belt, the metallic belt being of substantially the same width as the silk belt. The metallic belt or lining tends to avoid slipping of the silk or fibrous outside belt; but, if desired, the slipping may be absolutely prevented by providing the outer surface of the metal belt with substantially small projections, which may be formed by punching small holes or openings C (see Fig. 5) in the belt from its inner side.

I claim—

1. A garment-supporter consisting of a sheet-metal belt having inwardly-projecting substantially wide lugs or ears attached to the belt at their lower or bottom portion only to leave their sides disconnected from the said belt, and fastening devices for the skirt independent of the said lugs or ears and provided with a looped portion adapted to be slipped over the upper portion of the said lugs or ears and embrace the sides thereof, substantially as described.

2. In a garment-supporter, the herein-described metallic belt composed of a metal strip provided at points intermediate of its ends with inwardly-projecting substantially wide lugs or ears integral with the metal strip and struck up therefrom and having their upper ends inclined backward toward the opening in the belt left by the said lug or ear when formed, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

3. In a garment-supporter, the herein-described metallic belt composed of a metal strip provided at points intermediate of its ends with inwardly-projecting lugs or ears integral with the strip and consisting of a longitudinally curved or bent lower portion, and an upper portion inclined backward toward the belt, substantially as described.

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

MARY A. FARRINGTON.

Witnesses:

JAS. H. CHURCHILL,

G. HART.