

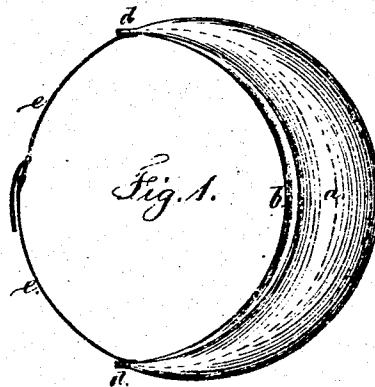
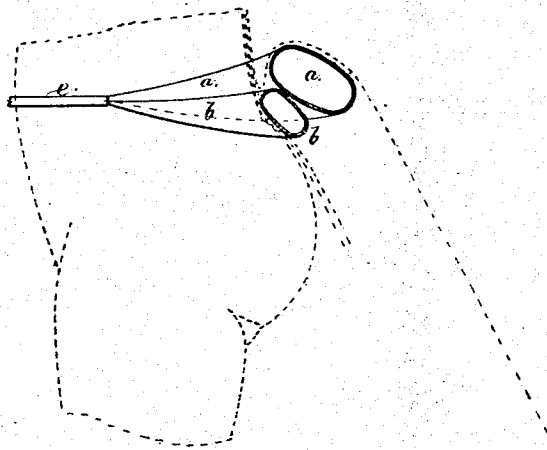
JOSEPH I. BARNUM.

Bustles.

No. 127,832.

Patented June 11, 1872.

Fig. 2.



Witnesses

*Chas. H. Smith,
Geo. S. Pickney*

Inventor

*Joseph I. Barnum
Lemuel W. Terrell
attys.*

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH I. BARNUM, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF
AND JAMES L. HARLEM, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN BUSTLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 127,832, dated June 11, 1872.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH I. BARNUM, of the city of Brooklyn, county of Kings, and State of New York, have invented an Improvement in Ladies' Bustles; and the following is declared to be a correct description thereof.

Before my invention a bustle had been made of a flexible contractile bag within a woven crescent-shaped case, the said case being extended by inflating the bag. This is liable to sudden contraction if a pin in the clothing punctures the inflated bag. A bustle has also been used with a series of projecting fingers from the India-rubber cushion.

My invention relates to a bustle made of two crescent-shaped bags of India-rubber cloth, with an inflating nozzle and strings, and these inflated crescents are attached together, in order that one may rest against the person and sustain the upper one, over which the clothes fall gracefully; and when the person sits down the bustles accommodate themselves to the more contracted space by moving upon each other.

In the drawing, Figure 1 is a plan of the bustles complete, and Fig. 2 is a vertical section of the same in place.

The bags *a* and *b* are made of India-rubber cloth, cut out of the proper shape, and cemented at the joints between the respective parts, and each bag is made air-tight except at the inflating-valve or mouth-piece *d*. That may be made air-tight after the bag is filled. Each of these bags is an inflated crescent-shaped bustle, and the two bags are connected to-

gether and to the attaching cords or straps *e e* that are used in securing the bustle at the waist of the person. It is preferable that one of the bags should be smaller than the other, and that the smallest one should rest against the person, and that the larger bag should be above the same and distend the dress; but the smaller bag might be placed at the top if desired. The upper bag will move upon the lower bag to accommodate the clothing when sitting down, and said bustle forms a cushion that is yielding and supports the back near the waist in a very comfortable position when sitting.

I do not claim a single crescent-shaped bustle, as this has been used. By my invention, the two crescent-shaped bags being connected together, the upper one is drawn outward and backward by the weight of the dress and is sustained upon the lower bag, and the bustle will occupy less space when the person is seated than it would if made in one piece, because the upper bag moves on the lower one.

I claim as my invention—

The bustle made of two India-rubber crescent-shaped inflated bags, one resting upon the other, and provided with attaching strings, substantially as set forth.

Signed by me this 15th day of April, A. D. 1872.

JOS. I. BARNUM.

Witnesses:

HAROLD SERRELL,
GEO. T. PINCKNEY.