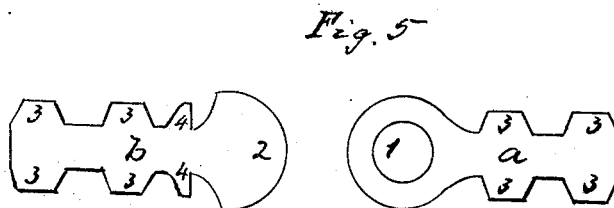
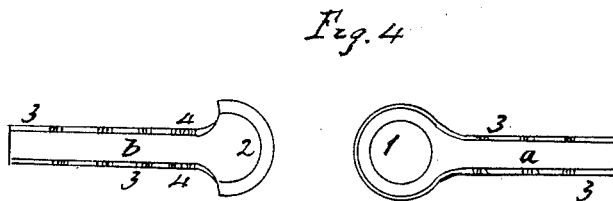
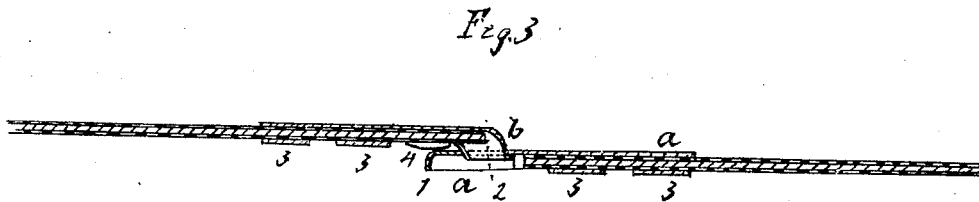
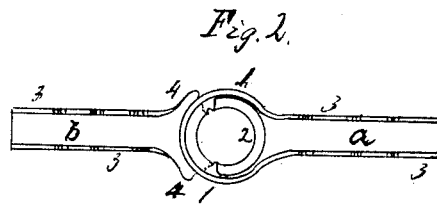
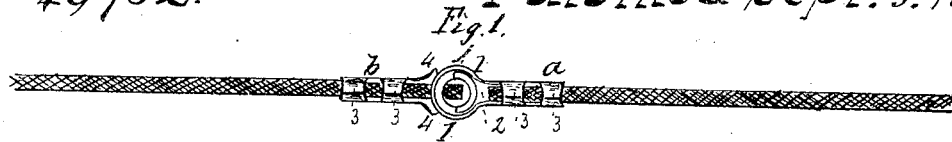


T. D. Day.

Hoop Skirt.

N^o 49732.

Patented Sept. 5. 1865.



Witnesses.

Lemuel W. Serrill
Charles Smith

Inventor.

The "D. Day"

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THEODORE D. DAY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN JOINTS OF SKIRT-HOOPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **49,732**, dated September 5, 1865.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THEODORE D. DAY, of the city and State of New York, have invented, made, and applied to use a certain new and useful Improvement in Ladies' Skeleton - Skirts; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making part of this specification, wherein—

Figure is a view of my improved clasp for skirts as seen on the back or inner side. Fig. 2 shows the clasp together, without the hoop in it. Fig. 3 shows a section of the clasp and ends of the hoop. Fig. 4 shows the parts of the clasp before being put together; and Fig. 5 shows the form in which the sheet metal is cut out for making said clasps. All the figures except the first are about twice the measurement of the actual article, and similar letters refer to like parts.

In the manufacture of hoop-skirts there have been several where the hoops have been jointed or hinged together, so as to allow the skirt to fold or press into a smaller compass when the person sits down. An invention of this nature is set forth in Letters Patent granted to me December 13, A. D. 1864.

The nature of my present invention consists in an improved sheet-metal joint that will move in any direction but one, and the joint is applied to the skirt so that it will fold inward or move sidewise, but will not fold outward. Hence I am able to prevent the skirt folding outward, which sometimes is the case with jointed skirts, much to the annoyance of the wearer; and when in use the hoops will not project at the joints in consequence of any side pressure or weight of the dress, but the skirt will hang circularly and bend as gracefully as if the hoops were continuous without a folding joint.

The pieces of metal *a* and *b*, from which my clasp is formed, are cut out in the form shown in Fig. 5, the piece *a* having a hole through one end. These are then pressed up by dies, so that the piece *a* is trough-shaped, with a flanged ring, 1, at the end, and the piece *b* is

also trough-shaped, with a circular half-flanged end, 2, of a size to sit within the ring 1, as represented in Figs. 1, 2, and 3. Upon the edges of the trough-shaped portions of *a* and *b* teeth 3 3 are formed, which are bent over and pressed upon the ends of the hoops, as seen in Figs. 1 and 3, to retain them firmly in the respective parts of the clasp.

In the form thus far described the clasp will move in all directions but one—that is to say, the flanged end 2 will turn within the flanged ring 1, so as to allow the hoops *c* to move up or down, and the end of *b* may turn within the eye of *a*, so that it will allow the joint to fold inward; but it cannot fold or turn outward, because the flanged end of *b* sits within the flanged ring at the end of *a*.

In order to prevent the end *b* sliding through the ring at the end of *a* when the joint is folded inward, I provide wings 4 4, which are folded back flat, as seen in Fig. 2. After the end *b* has been passed through the eye said wings, coming against the side of the eye 1 opposite to the flanges, prevent the portion *b* of the clasp sliding endwise into said eye. Hence the clasp is always in position, so that when the person rises the skirt will fall to its proper position.

This clasp is strong, cheaply made, and smooth, so as not to injure the garments of the person wearing a hoop-skirt with such clasps; and these clasps can be applied to the hoops so as to form joints in them either at the front part, the back part, or at the sides, or at more than one of these places.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A clasp for the hoops of skirts, formed substantially as specified, so that it will fold inward or turn, but will not fold outward, as set forth.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my signature this 19th day of June, A. D. 1865.

THEO. D. DAY.

Witnesses:

LEMUEL W. SERRELL,
CHAS. H. SMITH.