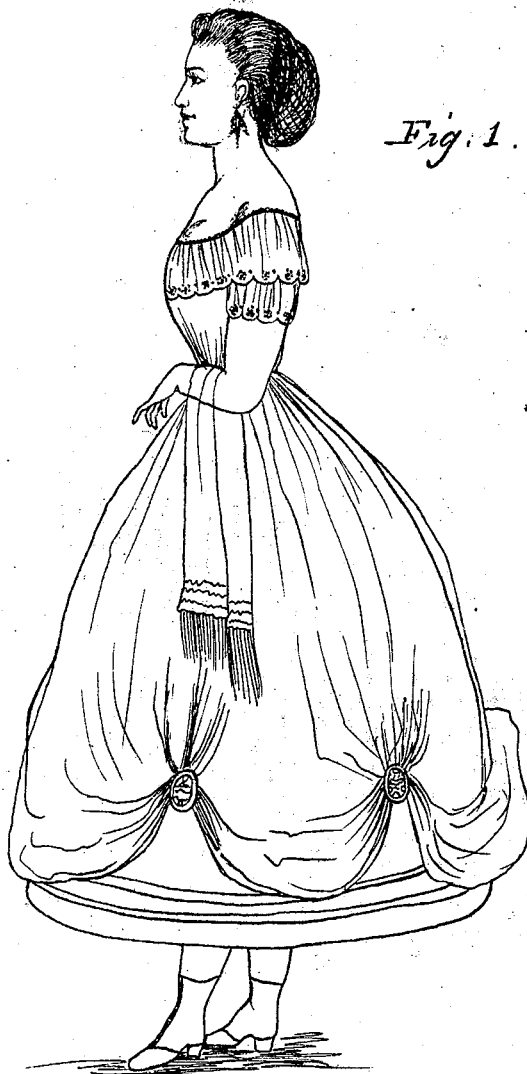


*H. H. Cole.*  
*Skirt Elevator.*

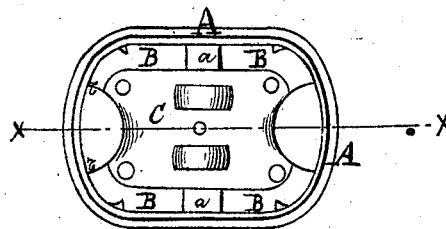
*N<sup>o</sup> 52822*

*Patented Feb. 27, 1866.*



*Fig. 1.*

*Fig. 2.*



*Inventor.*

*Witnesses.*

*Wm Dean Overell*

*Fig. 3:*

*(Mrs) Henry H. Cole*

*M. M. Livingston*



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRIETTA H. COLE, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## IMPROVEMENT IN CLASPS FOR LOOPING LADIES' DRESSES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 52,822, dated February 27, 1866.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, Mrs. HENRIETTA H. COLE, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Device for Looping Up Ladies' Skirts; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable those skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a front view of my device, showing its application to a lady's dress-skirt. Fig. 2 is an inverted plan view. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section on the plane of the line *x x*, Fig. 2.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The object of my invention is to produce a simple article or device for looping up ladies' dress-skirts, which shall possess the quality of holding the looped-up portion securely and at the same time without the least liability of tearing the goods.

My invention consists in the combination, with a suitable frame, of two plates or jaws closing down upon the ends of the frame, and so arranged that the goods can be quickly and easily inserted therein, and carrying two noses, or some equivalent therefor, for causing the jaws to release their hold without difficulty whenever it may be desired to remove the device or to change its position upon the dress.

To enable others to understand my invention, I will proceed to describe it with reference to the accompanying drawings.

A designates a frame, which, in the present instance, is somewhat like a buckle-frame. It is slightly curved longitudinally—that is to say, the ends are bent somewhat toward each other.

B B designate the two jaws, and these are either hinged to or abut against a cross-bar, *a*, secured to opposite sides of the frame. The end of each jaw is grooved, as shown at *b*, Figs. 2 and 3—that is to say, a semicircular or other shaped piece is cut out, and this is done to permit the goods to be more readily thrust into the jaws.

C is a flat spring, which is secured to the reverse side of the jaws B and to the cross-bar *a*, and this has a tendency to always keep the outer ends of the jaws pressed against the frame, but at the same time has sufficient elasticity to allow of the jaws being

opened as far as necessary to release or insert the goods.

D D are two noses connected to or being a part of the inner ends of the jaws B, and they project upward and constitute a means for opening the jaws to release the hold of the device, as well as a handle by which to readily hold the device in the hand.

To apply the device, hold it with one hand by the noses D D and insert the goods in the jaws by taking it in the other hand, so that a portion will rest over the forefinger. Thrust this through the groove or hole *b*. This action will crowd open the jaw sufficiently to permit the goods to get between it and the frame, when the finger may be withdrawn and the goods will be held firmly. The goods are then inserted in the opposite jaw in a similar manner.

This is a very simple and handy device. It can be quickly applied, and it possesses the quality of holding the looped-up portion of the dress securely, and doing this without the least liability of its tearing the goods or being the cause of the goods tearing should the dress get accidentally caught upon anything. Should this latter occur the goods would be drawn out of one of the jaws before tearing, as can be readily understood. The device may be made quite ornamental, and of any desired size, and out of any material—for instance, neatly made of gold or silver—thus providing a new style of ornament for a lady's dress.

I do not limit myself to the particular construction and arrangement of parts herein specified.

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

1. The combination of the jaws B B with a frame, A, and spring C, substantially as and for the purpose herein specified.

2. The spring C, in combination with the jaws B B, cross-bar *a*, and frame A, substantially as described.

3. The noses D D, arranged in relation to each other and to the jaws A A substantially as and for the purpose specified.

4. The combination with each other of the frame A, jaws B B, spring C, noses D, and cross-bar *a*, as herein shown and described.

The above specification of my invention signed by me this 5th day of December, 1865.

Witnesses: MRS. HENRIETTA H. COLE,  
WM. DEAN OVERELL,  
WM. F. MCNAMARA.