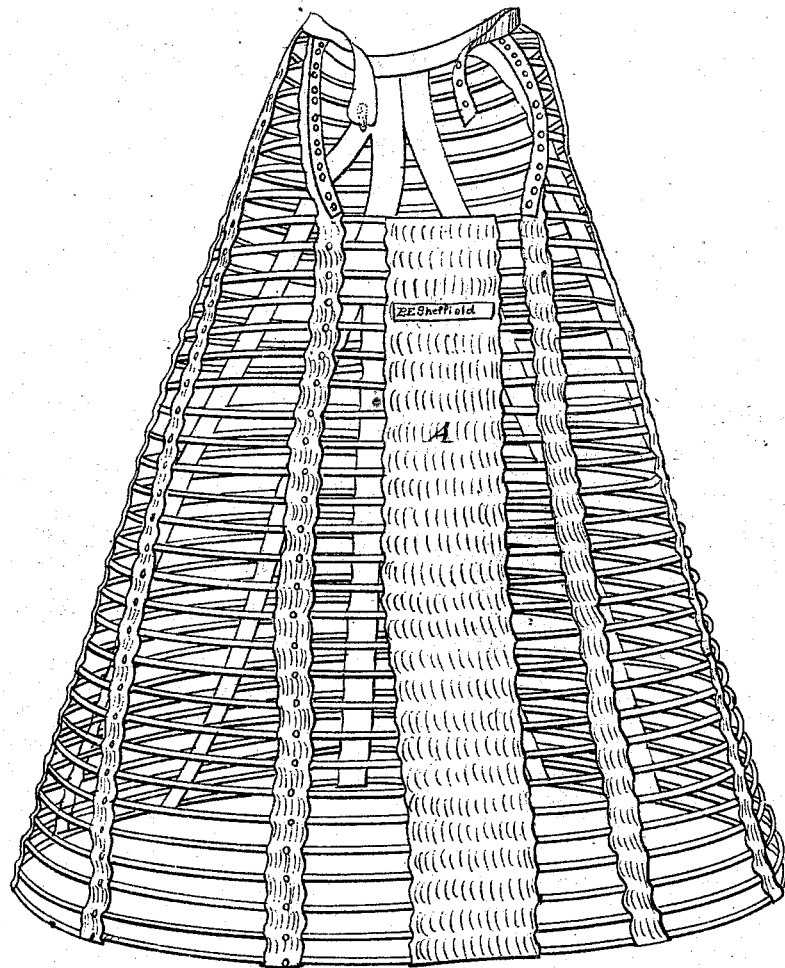


P. E. Sheffield.

Hoop Skirt.

Nº 54785

Patented May 15, 1866.



Witnesses

*E. F. Claufen
T. Connolly*

Inventor

P. E. Sheffield

By D. H. Hallway & Co.

New Albany

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PERMELIA E. SHEFFIELD, OF PONTIAC, MICHIGAN.

IMPROVEMENT IN HOOP-SKIRTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **54,785**, dated May 15, 1866.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PERMELIA E. SHEFFIELD, of Pontiac, in the county of Oakland and State of Michigan, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Hoop-Skirts; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawing, made part of this specification.

In the drawing is represented a perspective view of an ordinary steel-wire hoop-skirt showing my improvement.

My improvement consists in applying the apron A to the skirt. It is made of a wide piece of tape or series of pieces placed side by side. The tape thus employed is woven with the ordinary pocket through which the wires pass. This apron is applied upon the front of

the skirt, as shown, so as to cover the lap of the wearer, keeping the hoops from spreading, and protecting the clothing as well as the hoops themselves from wearing at that the most exposed part.

I claim as an article of manufacture—

Hoop-skirts of steel wire having an apron, A, extending down the front of the skirt, covering the wires, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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

PERMELIA E. SHEFFIELD.

Witnesses:

CHARLES DRAPER,
JAS. A. WEEKS.