

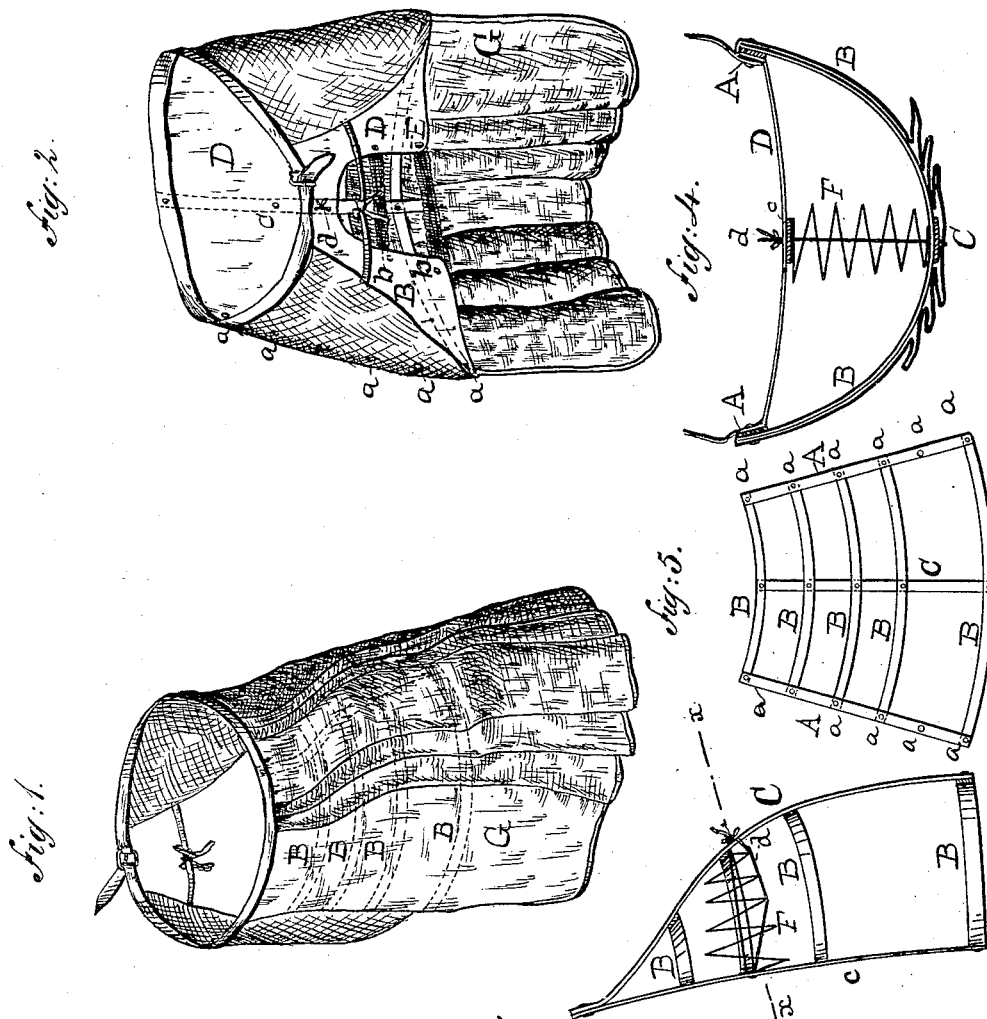
(No Model.)

H. W. MOULTON.

BUSTLE.

No. 266,185.

Patented Oct. 17, 1882.



Witnesses:

Chas. Nida

Charles E. Simms Jr.

Inventor:

Henry W. Moulton

by W. H. Moulton.

Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY W. MOULTON, OF JACKSON, MICHIGAN, ASSIGNOR TO CHARLES W. HIGBY, OF SAME PLACE.

BUSTLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 266,185, dated October 17, 1882.

Application filed July 10, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY W. MOULTON, of Jackson, Jackson county, State of Michigan, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Bustles; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying sheet of drawings, making part of this specification.

This invention is in the nature of an improvement in bustles; and the invention consists in a bustle with two side foundation-springs, to which are secured a series of curved springs of graduated lengths, in combination with an apron with an opening rendered adjustable by means of elastics, all arranged and combined in the manner hereinafter described.

In the accompanying sheet of drawings, Figure 1 is a rear view of bustle. Fig. 2 is a front view of same; Fig. 3, a longitudinal section of bustle with skirt detached; Fig. 4, a cross-section taken in the line *x x*, Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is a view of frame of bustle.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts in the several figures.

This invention is an improvement on the bustle heretofore patented to one Moses K. Bortree on the 25th day of February, 1873, No. 136,127, and it is designed to make a more perfect and useful bustle than the one so patented. For that purpose two springs, A, of steel or any other suitable material, (that which is known as "hoop-skirt" steel answering the purpose very well,) are cut to the desired length and punched with a series of holes, *a*. To these side springs are fixed in any secure manner springs B, of flat metal, each spring being somewhat shorter than the other, the longest spring being secured by its ends to the lower ends of the foundation-springs A, and the shortest to the upper ends of said springs, so that when all the springs B are in place, the side or foundation springs, A, will assume an angular position thereto flaring from their upper ends outward, as is shown in Fig. 5. To the springs B, at central points midway from their ends, is fixed a stiffening and forming spring, C, of flat metal, which spring tends to draw and keep the springs B somewhat in

the shape of a rounded cone. To the springs A is secured at two of its sides an apron, D, which covers the space between the two springs A. This apron acts as a stay to prevent the undue spreading of the curved springs B, enabling them to maintain their curved position. To render the lower springs, B, however, somewhat adjustable, an opening, E, is formed in the lower part of this apron, across which are fastened elastics *b*, and to the under side of this apron, extending centrally in the direction of its length, is a spring, *c*, which not only stiffens the apron, but adds another elastic element to the bustle and affords a firm foundation for the front end of a spiral spring, F, which is fastened thereto, the back end of this spiral spring being fastened to the spring C.

The bustle may be covered on its outer side by a plaited covering of crinoline or a skirt, G. To the springs A may be attached a belt and buckle and tapes or other devices whereby the bustle can be secured to the person of the wearer.

A bustle when constructed substantially as described will possess lightness and be elastic in almost every required position and under almost any circumstances. It is well ventilated, and by means of an adjustable tape, *d*, passing through the coil-spring F it can be adjusted so as to project from the person to any reasonable extent.

Having now described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a bustle, the side foundation-springs, A and curved springs B, combined with the apron D, having an opening, E, formed in it and rendered adjustable by elastics, substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. A bustle composed of the springs A B C *c*, as shown, the apron D, having an opening, E, provided with elastics *b*, the skirt G, spring F, and cord *d*, the whole constructed and arranged substantially as and for the purpose specified.

HENRY W. MOULTON.

Witnesses:

W. J. REYNOLDS,
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