

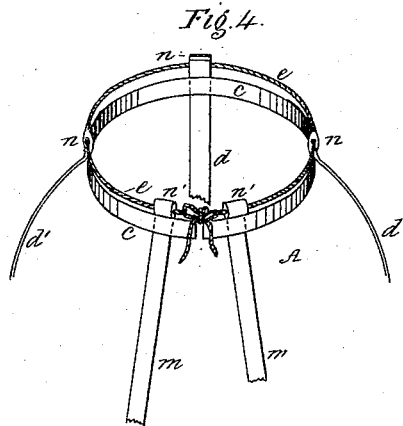
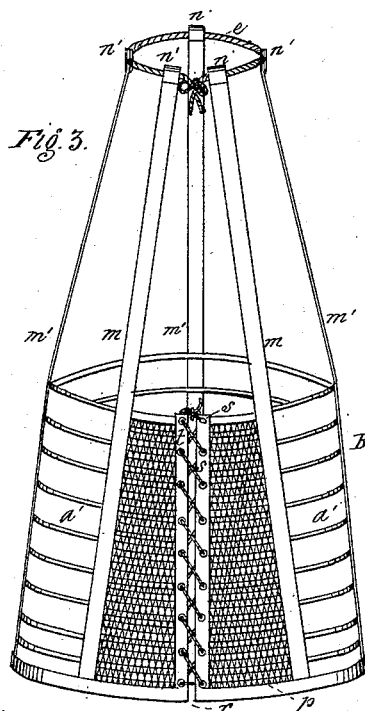
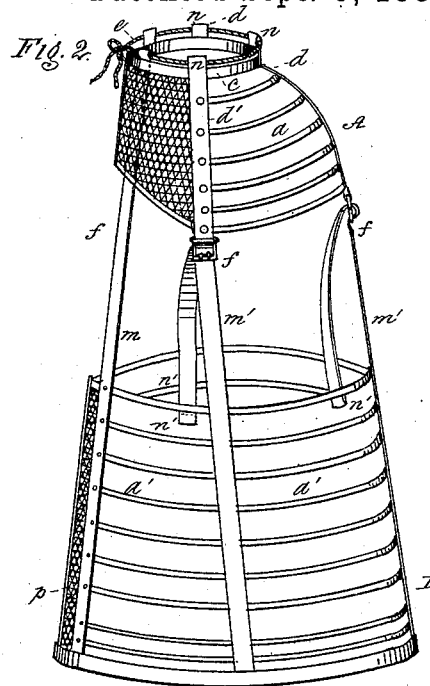
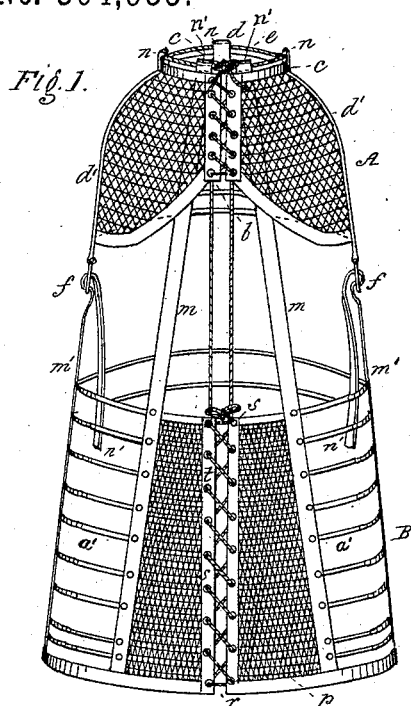
(No Model.)

J. JENKINSON.

COMBINED HOOP SKIRT AND BUSTLE.

No. 304,935.

Patented Sept. 9, 1884.



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES JENKINSON, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

COMBINED HOOP-SKIRT AND BUSTLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 304,935, dated September 9, 1884.

Application filed November 8, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES JENKINSON, of the city of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented an Improved Combined Hoop-Skirt and Bustle; and I hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to improvements in hoop-skirts and bustles; and its object is to construct the same in such manner that by a ready and easily-made adjustment either the skirt or the bustle can be worn separately, or both can be worn at the same time.

The invention consists in the combination, with a hoop-skirt and a bustle, of a series of straps attached to and depending from the bustle, and each having a buckle or other fastening device at its lower end, and a corresponding series of straps attached to the skirt, of sufficient length to extend to the waist of the wearer, and provided with loops at their upper ends to receive a cord or band, the whole being constructed, as hereinafter particularly described, so that the skirt can be detached from the bustle, and when detached can be worn separately by being suspended from the said cord or band, which latter in that case is passed through the loops and tied around the waist.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a front view of the skirt and bustle connected; Fig. 2, a side view of the same. Fig. 3 is a front view of the skirt detached from the bustle as it appears when worn without the bustle, and Fig. 4 is a detail view on a larger scale and hereinafter referred to and explained.

Similar letters of reference indicate the same parts in all the several figures.

A represents the bustle, and B the hoop-skirt. The rear portion of the bustle A is formed with the ordinary hoops or ribs, *a a a*, and the front portion thereof is of knitted or woven material, open up its center, and the edges of the opening adapted to be fastened or drawn together with a lace or cord, *b*, and said bustle is provided with a band, *c*, which is fastened around the waist of the wearer. Attached to

said bustle are straps *d* and *d' d'*, the former at the center of the back, and the latter one on each side at that part thereof where the ribs or hoops *a a a* terminate. Each of these straps extends slightly above the upper edge of the band *c*, and is provided with a loop, *n*, through which a cord or band, *e*, is passed, by means of which it is fastened around the waist of the wearer, and the lower ends of said straps extend slightly below the lower edge of the bustle, and are each provided with a buckle or other fastening device, *f*. The skirt B is formed with the ordinary ribs or hoops, *a' a'*, except at the front portion thereof, which latter will presently be described. Attached to the skirt are straps *m* and *m' m' m'*, each of which is of sufficient length to reach to the waist of the wearer, and is provided with a loop, *n'*, at its end to receive the cord or band by which it is tied around the waist when worn without the bustle. When the skirt and the bustle are worn together, the straps *m' m' m'* are attached to the straps *d d'* on the bustle by means of the buckles or fastening devices *f*, and the straps *m m* are drawn up to the waist, and their loops *n'* passed over the cord or band *e*, as shown most plainly in the detail Fig. 4, and when the skirt is worn alone or without the bustle the upper ends of all of said straps *m* and *m'* are drawn up to the waist of the wearer and passed over said cord or band *e*, as shown in Fig. 3. When the bustle is worn alone, the straps *m m* are disconnected from the cord or band *e*, and *m' m' m'* are disconnected from *d d'*.

In the drawings I have shown an improvement in the construction of the front of the skirt, which said improvement I ordinarily use in connection with the invention above described, but which I do not claim as part of my said invention. In this improvement the ribs *a' a'*, instead of being extended across the front, are made to terminate at some distance therefrom, and the intermediate portion or front, *p*, of the skirt is of knitted or woven material, and is divided by an opening, *r*, up its center, and the sides of this opening are provided with eyelets *s*, to receive a cord or lace, *t*, by means of which the parts are drawn together. By means of this construction greater elasticity is obtained, as any portion of the front that may

be subjected to undue pressure (as, for instance, in ascending stairs) will yield under the pressure and resume its normal position as soon as the pressure is removed.

5 I may state that the whole of the skirt and also of the bustle is usually covered with a knitted fabric; but this is omitted in the drawings, to avoid crowding the same, except in those portions which consist of knitted or
10 woven fabric only.

I am aware that a hoop-skirt has been made with an open space or spaces to accommodate the feet in walking, as shown in the Patent No. 31,876, to T. B. De Forest; also, that a hoop-
15 skirt has been made in which the lower hoops are inserted in a detachable cloth band, said hoops being continued entirely around the

skirt, as shown in Patent No. 57,169 to E. L. Morris, and I do not claim either of these constructions, but hereby disclaim the same. 20

What I claim as my invention is—

In combination with the bustle A and hoop-skirt B, the straps *d* and *d'*, attached to said bustle, and provided with buckles *f* at their lower ends, and the straps *m* *m* and *m'* *m'* *m'*, 25 attached to the skirt B, and provided with loops *n'* at their free ends, the whole constructed and arranged substantially as herein shown and described, for the purpose set forth.

JAMES JENKINSON.

Witnesses:

M. H. TOPPING,

JOHN S. THORNTON.