

R. Stokes & J. Jones.

Hoop Skirt Spreader.

N<sup>o</sup> 28790.

Patented June 19. 1860.

Fig. 1.

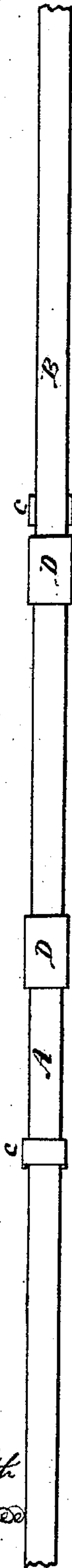


Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.



Witnesses  
Thomas C. Smith  
Woodwin H. Arden

Inventors  
Robert Stokes  
John Jones  
Byellum & Co

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

R. STOKES AND D. J. JONES, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## SKIRT-HOOP.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 28,790, dated June 19, 1860.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, ROBERT STOKES and DAVID JOHN JONES, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Spreaders for Extension Skirts; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a face view of a skirt hoop with our improvement applied thereto. Fig. 2 an edge view of ditto. Fig. 3 a view of the reverse of the hoop with a portion of one of the sections removed to show the construction of the clasp. Fig. 4 a plan of the spreading plate before it is applied to the hoop.

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

The extremities of the hoops A, B, are each fitted with what we term a spreader *c*, formed of a single piece of metal shaped as shown in Fig. 4, and having lips *e, e*, which are lapped over the edges of the hoop and a tongue which covers the ends of the hoops as shown in Fig. 3, so as to secure it firmly to the hoop and form a neat finish. The overlapping members A, B, of the hoops after being fitted with the tongues are placed side by side and are connected by means of metallic sleeves or slides D, and D, one of which acts in combination with each spreader. These slides are of such dimensions that they slide freely upon the overlapping mem-

bers of the hoop where nothing intervenes between them, but jam upon these members as they are drawn toward the ends of either, where the spreaders intervene, between the members, the said spreaders *c*, serving to spread or lift the end of the hoop to which they are attached from the surface of the other hoop so that the end of the hoop presents a wedge shaped or inclined plane surface which forms a progressively increasing obstacle to the movement of the slide. In order to adjust the circumference of the hoop the slides D, D, are drawn toward each other, so as to be free from the pressure or spreading effect of the spreaders; the members of the hoop can then be freely moved to or fro to shorten or lengthen the hoop; and when it has been thus adjusted to the required size, the slides are drawn back toward the ends of the members so as to jam over the inclined or spread ends of the hoops and secure the members of the hoops in their new relative position.

Having thus described our invention we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The employment in combination with the hoops A, B, and slides D, D, in the manner substantially as herein shown and described of spreaders *c*, for the purpose set forth.

ROBT. STOKES.

D. J. JONES.

Witnesses:

GEO. C. BOUGHTON,  
NITDES I. WALKER.