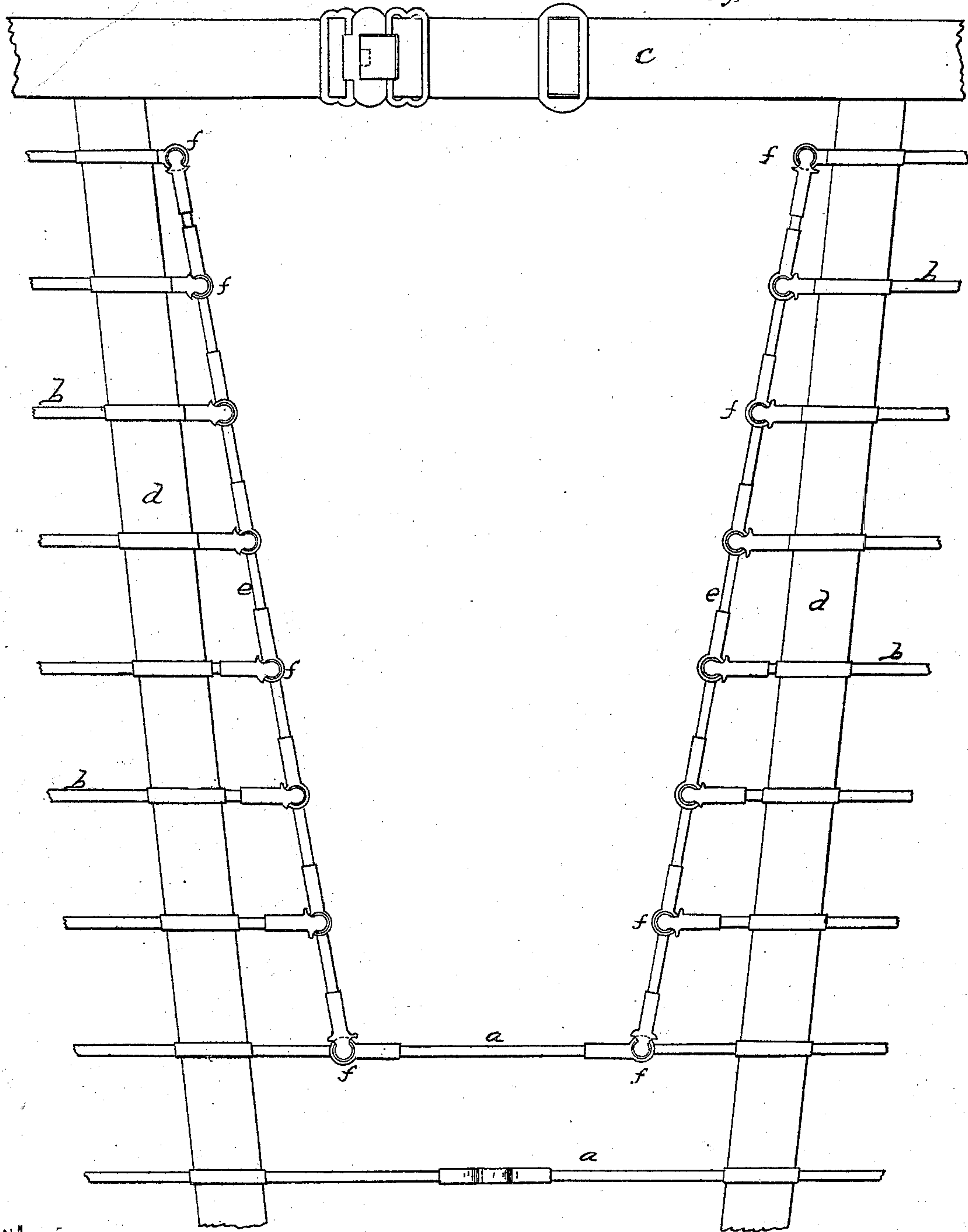


*T. D. Day.*  
*Hoop Skirt.*

*Nº 56016.*

*Patented July 3. 1866.*



Witnesses

*H. Perrell.*

*Geo Geo Harwood*

Inventor

*The "D. Day."*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THEODORE D. DAY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## IMPROVEMENT IN HOOP-SKIRTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 56,016, dated July 3, 1866.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, THEODORE D. DAY, of the city and State of New York, have invented, made, and applied to use a certain new and useful Improvement in Ladies' Skeleton-Skirts; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the said invention, reference being had to the annexed drawing, making part of this specification, wherein I have represented a front view of the upper part of a skirt formed with my improvement.

In ladies' skeleton-skirts the hoops or springs that are around the upper portion and do not extend all the way around, but stop at the sides of the front opening, are known as the "bustle-hoops," while those that are below and extend all around are known as the "body-hoops."

The ends of the bustle-hoops have heretofore usually been connected by tapes or strips of muslin, and sometimes they have been covered by kid or leather. This mode of connection is expensive and does not afford a reliable and durable attachment for the ends of said hoops.

The nature of my said invention consists in a spring applied at the sides of the opening, at the front and upper portion of the skirt, and to this spring I attach the ends of the bustle-hoops. I make use of hinges for attaching the ends of the bustle-hoops, and I connect the said springs that form the sides of the opening with one or more of the body-springs, so as to strengthen the skirt.

In the drawing, *a a* are the body-springs; *b b*, the bustle-springs; *c*, the waist-belt, and *d d* the tapes connecting the hoops, as usual.

In the drawing I have only shown the parts to which my invention relates, as the other portions of the skirt may be of any usual character.

*e* is my improved edge-spring for the sides

of the opening in the skirt. This may be applied in any desired manner, and makes the skirt set much better than it would if no spring were applied at this point. The ends of the bustle-hoops *b* are united to this edge-spring *e* in any desired manner. I however prefer and employ a hinge attachment, so that the parts may move easily, either in use or when the skirt may be folded up for transportation.

The hinges represented in Letters Patent granted to me September 5, 1865, are shown at *f f* as uniting the ends of the bustle-hoops *b b* and edge-springs *e e*.

The lower ends of the edge-springs *e e* are extended sufficiently downward to reach and be attached to one or more of the body-springs *a a*, as represented, in order that the connection of said springs *e* may be durable, and that the opening at the front of the skirt may have smooth edges, and there be but little risk of the skirt becoming entangled in the garments or in the hair as placed over the head.

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

1. A spring forming the edges of the opening at the upper and front parts of a skeleton-skirt, for the purposes and as set forth.

2. The edge-springs *e*, in combination with the bustle-springs *b b*, the ends of said bustle-springs being connected to the edge-springs by hinges or otherwise, as specified.

3. Attaching the ends of the edge-springs *e* to the upper body hoop or hoops, *a*, of the skeleton-skirt, for the purposes and as set forth.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my signature this 17th day of February, 1866.

THEO. D. DAY.

Witnesses:

LEMUEL W. SERRELL,  
THOS. GEO. HAROLD.