

D. G. Rollins,
Hoop Skirts.

No. 94,915.

Patented. Sep 14, 1869.

Fig 1.

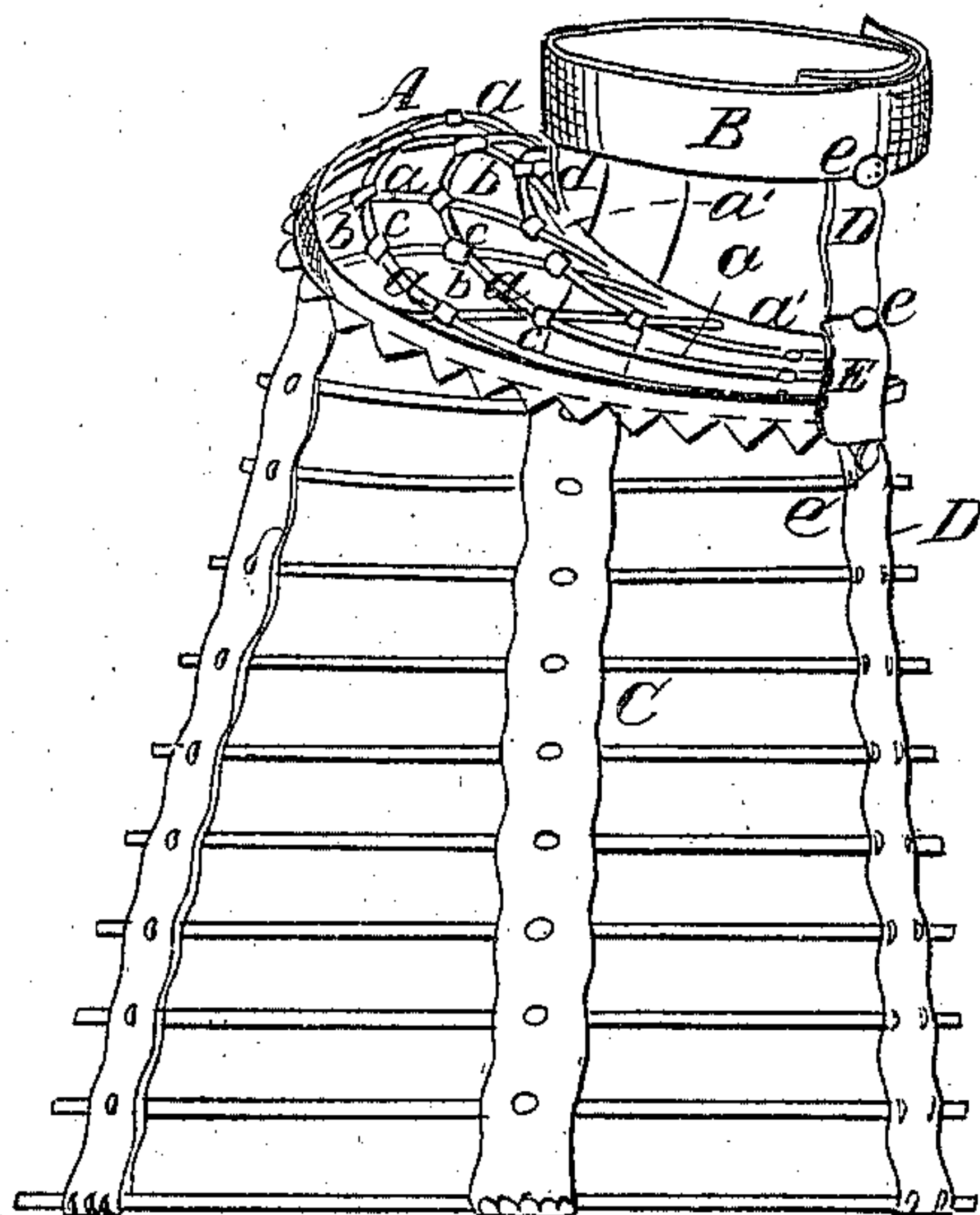


Fig 2.

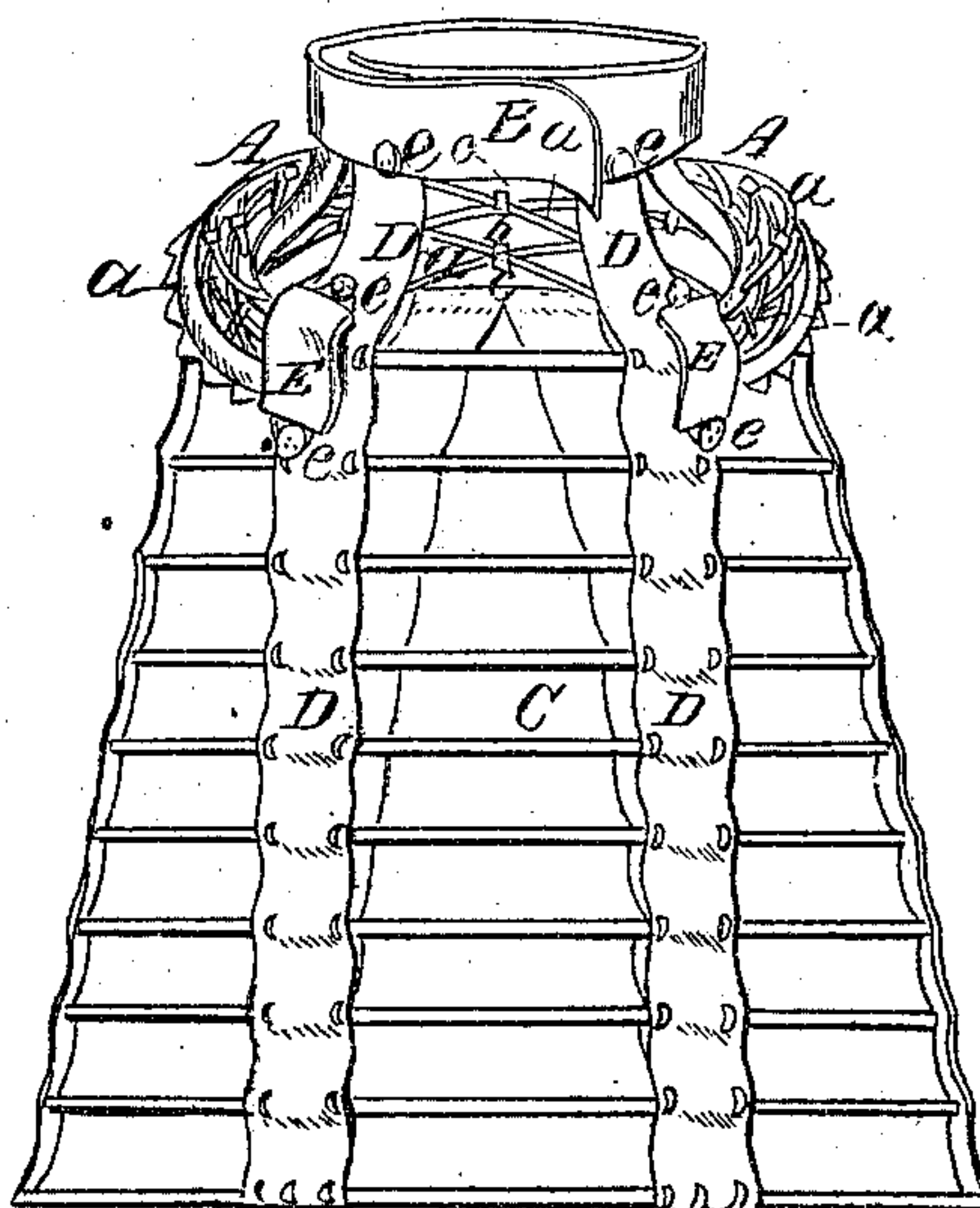
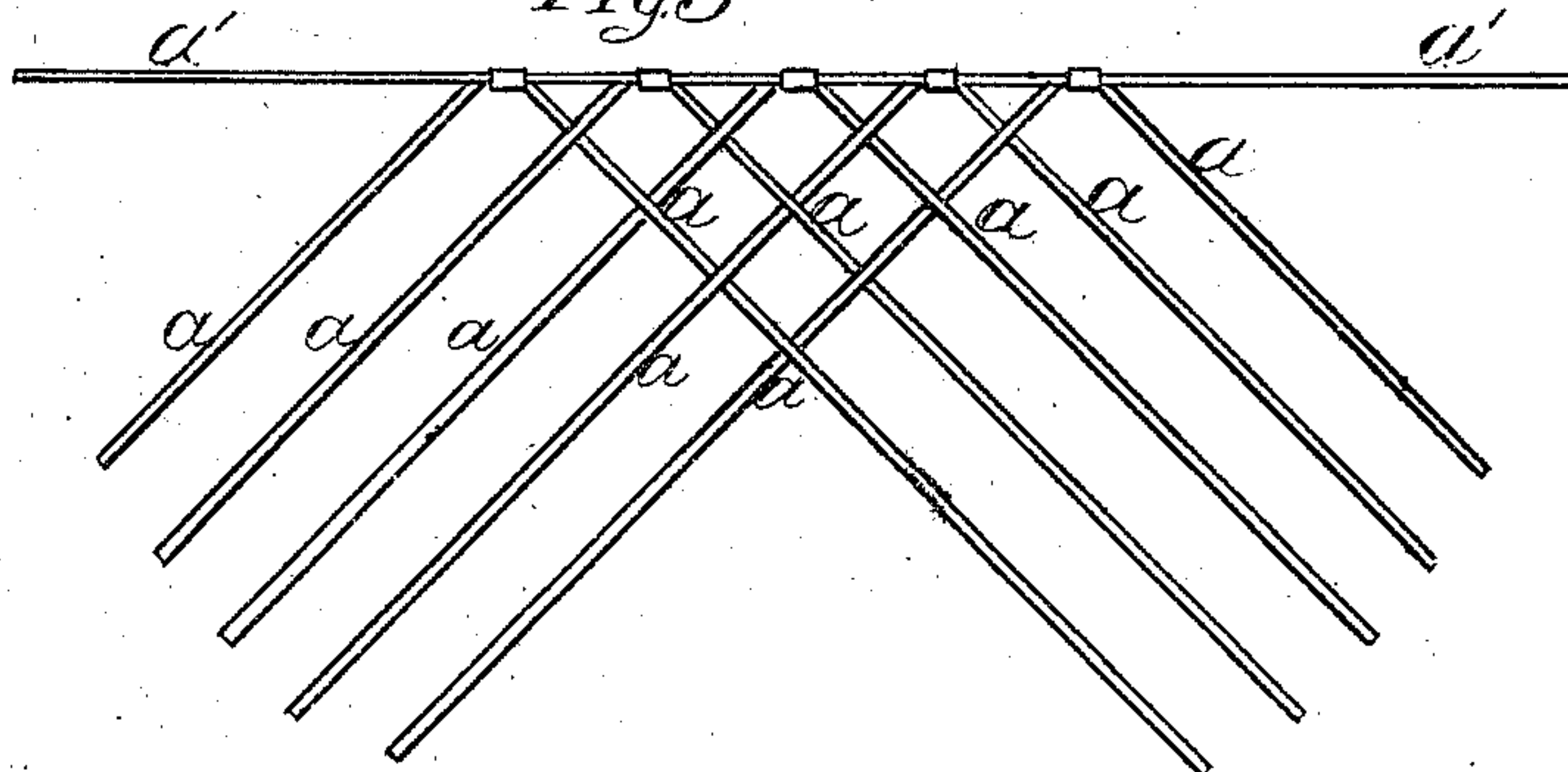


Fig 3.



Witnesses.
Jos. D. Patton
Thos. Jewell

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 By Atty. *A. B. Stoughton.*

United States Patent Office.

DANIEL G. ROLLIN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

Letters Patent No. 94,915, dated September 14, 1869.

IMPROVEMENT IN BUSTLES.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern :

Be it known that I, DANIEL G. ROLLIN, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Ladies' Bustles and Skirts; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a side elevation of the bustle and skirt.

Figure 2 represents a front view thereof.

Figure 3 represents the manner in which the bustle is prepared, and previous to its being moulded into shape.

Similar letters of reference, where they occur in the separate figures, denote like parts of the structure in all of the drawings.

My invention consists chiefly in the construction of a bustle which is to be attached to, or worn with underskirts, either skeleton, or full cloth, and in such a manner as to be easily adjustable, increasing or diminishing the fulness above the rear of the skirt, and regulating the style to suit the taste of the wearer.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe the same with reference to the drawings.

The bustle A is constructed of what is known as hoop-skirt wire, *a*, one piece of which, *a'*, forms the top, and may be connected in any suitable manner with the waistband B of the skirt C. A number of pieces of the wire *a* are prepared and secured to the waistband-wire *a'*, by means of suitable fastenings, and at proper distances, leaving a space of about one inch, more or less, between each fastening.

In order to give the bustle the most desirable shape, and to secure the greatest strength and durability, the wires *a a*, that are attached to the band-wire *a'*, are bent at the point that is to be fastened to said band-wire, so as to form an angle of about ninety degrees, the bent portions being firmly secured to the band-wire, whilst the free parts of each of the bent wires cross the free parts of the similar wires extending in a contrary direction, thus forming diamond-shaped spaces *b*:

When the wires, so placed, are shaped over a bustle-mould of the desired form, and properly secured, they present, in their combination, the appearance of an arch of net-work, with no ends of wire along either the upper or lower edges, all the ends being gathered together at the extremities of the bustle in front, where they are joined laterally at, or in a nearly perpendicular line, and are secured by means of metallic clasps, or other suitable well-known fastenings.

The wires *a a* are also firmly fastened to each other at every point where they cross each other, by means of clasps, *c*, or cords, or their equivalents, and thus form an elastic net-work of very light material, and of great strength and durability. The bustle thus prepared is ready to be attached to the skirt, or it may be finished in a suitable manner to be worn as a separate article of dress.

The front of the skirt C is provided with the usual tabs or braces D D, in which the ends of the upper wires of the skirt may terminate, as will be hereafter explained.

Outside of each of these tabs or braces D D there is a vertical band of webbing, E, fastened to the tabs, and their upper ends secured to the waistband.

The bustle is fastened to the waistband B of the skirt in the rear of the hips, (as at *d*,) so that the band-wire of the bustle falls a little below the waistband. The ends of the bustle are inserted between the webbings E and tabs D D, and are attached to the tabs by movable or adjustable fastenings, *e e*, of any suitable number, so that they may be raised or lowered at pleasure. The bustle is thus made adjustable and may be rendered more or less prominent behind, to suit the taste and convenience of the wearer.

The skirt, instead of being closed in front, may be left open throughout its entire length, the ends of the wires on each side of the opening being disposed of in an upright binding or otherwise. In this case, vertical bands with eyelets may be set at proper distances from the open edges in front, so that the skirt may be laced up, and thereby suited in size and shape to the requirements of the style or taste of the user.

When the bustle is fastened to the tabs in front, as shown in the drawings, the rear of the bustle will have more prominence. If it be fastened higher up in front, it will have less prominence at the rear, but will always be rigid enough to preserve its set position, and at the same time be light and elastic.

Having thus fully described my invention,

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

1. A bustle, composed of hoop-skirt wires, united together in the manner and for the purpose substantially as described and represented.

2. The bustle, in combination with a hoop-skirt, when provided with the means of raising or lowering the forward ends of the bustle, to give greater or less prominence to the latter, substantially as described.

DANIEL G. ROLLIN.

Witnesses:

FRANK GOODWIN,
WILLIAM GLOVER.