R. BIERING.

PANNIERS OR BUSTLES.

No. 170,807. Patented Dec. 7, 1875.

Fig. 1.

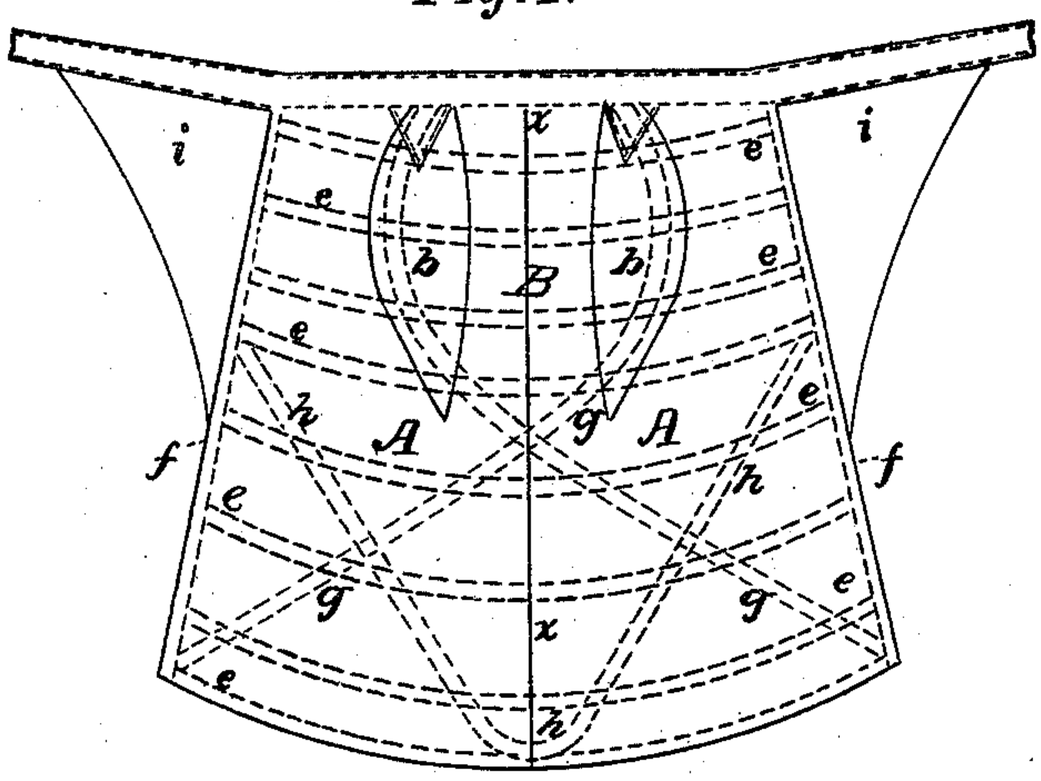


Fig. 2.

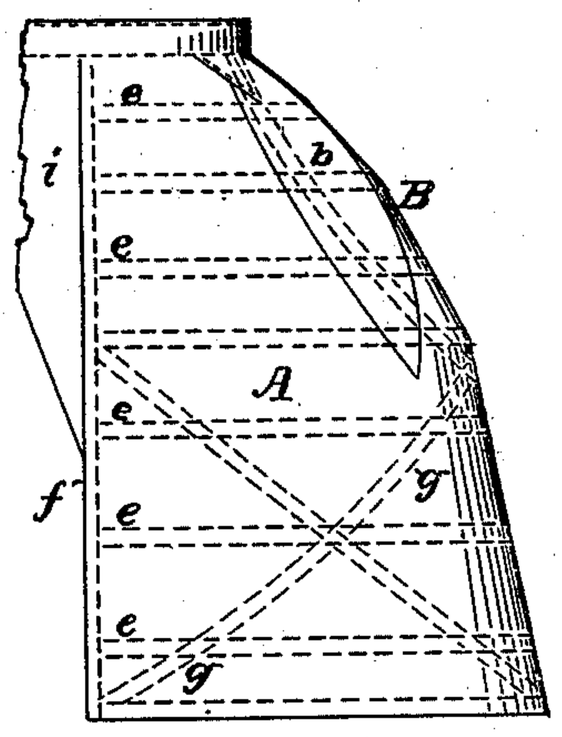


Fig. 4.

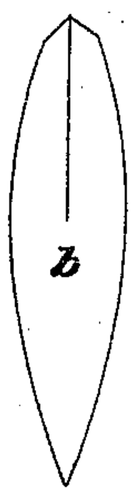


Fig. 3.

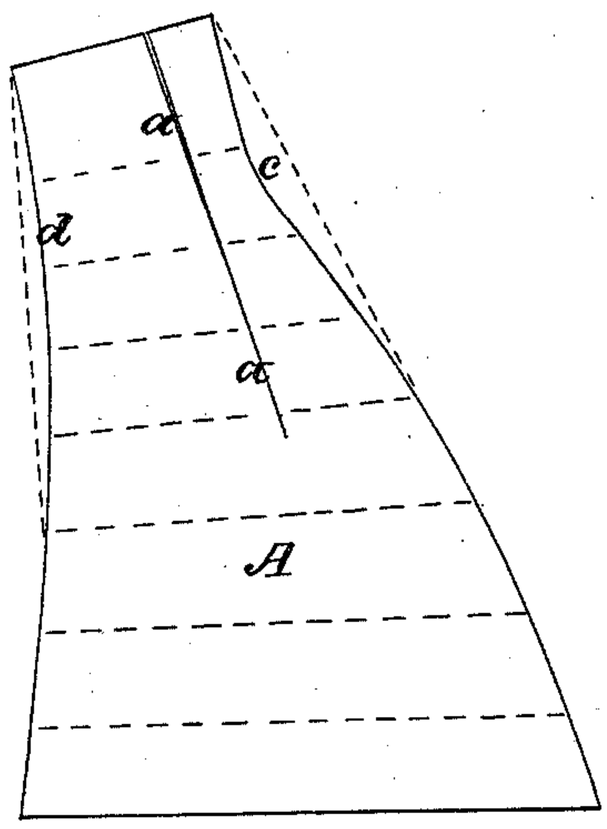
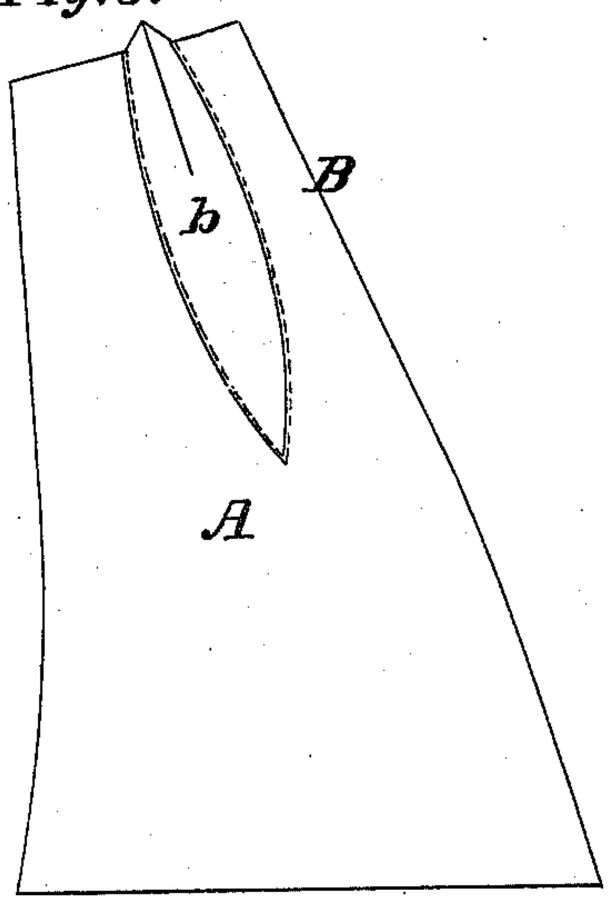


Fig. 5.



Witnesses:

Chas. M. Higgins.
Albert Stuller

Inventor:

Robert Biering
Per Burke & Fraser
Attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT BIERING, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN PANNIERS OR BUSTLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **170,807**, dated December 7, 1875; application filed October 1, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT BIERING, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bustles, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to that class of bustles having a body of some fabric, usually muslin, cut to the proper shape, and provided with springs to give it form and rigidity. It is intended as an improvement on the bustles patented by me February 23 and September 28, 1875, and contains some of the features therein shown, which go to complete the bustle, but which I do not now claim.

The present improvement consists in the peculiar construction of the body to give it the desired form, and the combination and arrangement of the springs, all as will be hereinafter described.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a rear elevation, showing the general construction of the bustle, but more particularly the arrangement of the springs. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same. Fig. 3 is a diagram, showing the shape of the body-pieces as cut from the goods, marked for the spring-shirrs, and slitted for the gores. Fig. 4 is a view showing the form of the gore used. Fig. 5 shows the body-piece with the gore sewed in.

I prefer to construct the body of one thickness of muslin, and stitch shirrs of tape on the inside to receive the springs, and the position of these shirrs is indicated in dotted stitch-lines in Figs. 1 and 2.

In constructing my bustle I first cut out two body-pieces, A, substantially of the configuration shown in Fig. 3, mark the lines of the horizontal shirrs thereon, as indicated in the dotted lines, and then cut the gore-slits *a* therein. I then cut gores *b b*, of substantially the configuration shown in Fig. 4, and sew them in, when the pieces will present somewhat the appearance of Fig. 5. The convex edges of the two pieces are then sewed together, and this seam forms the central line shown at *x* in Fig. 1.

It will be seen that the concavities left at the points *c d* in Fig. 3 are filled out to measurably coincide with the dotted lines when the gores are sewed in, and the part B, Figs. 1 and 2, is caused to be sloped and flattened when the springs are inserted. This is the principal object sought to be attained by this method of construction.

If there is found to be too much fullness at the waistband the gores *b b* may be slit at the top, and overlapped and stitched, as shown.

The gores may in some cases be cut to a point at the top as well as at the bottom, and wholly inserted in the slit *a*, in which case the said slit need not be carried quite to the top of the body-piece. I prefer, however, the construction shown.

In Fig. 1 the bustle is shown somewhat expanded and flattened, to more clearly illustrate the construction and arrangement of the springs. This latter I will now describe.

e e are horizontal springs, bent to a measurably semicircular form, and terminating at side springs *f f* at the edges. *g g* are springs which start from the lower corners, pass obliquely around the bustle, and cross on the line *x*, near the center of the bustle. From this crossing-point they curve outwardly, but approach near each other at the waistband, terminating at the upper point of the gore. *h* is a spring, bent in a sharp curve—almost an angle—at the center of the lower edge of the bustle, from whence the two ends pass obliquely around the bustle, and cross the springs *g g* nearly at right angles, terminating at the side springs *f f*, about half-way up the edges.

These springs all act in unison to give contour, strength, and elasticity to the bustle, the spring *h* especially serving to brace the lower edge, and prevent it from being easily crushed.

The wings *i i* are the same as those shown in my patent of September 28, 1875; and I prefer to use the same method of lacing for expansion and contraction therein shown; but these form no part of my present invention.

I claim—

1. A bustle each half of which is composed of suitable material, cut in substantially the form shown in Fig. 3, and provided with gores

b b sewed therein, as and for the purposes specified.

2. In a bustle, the combination and arrangement of the horizontal springs *e e*, side springs *f f*, oblique curved springs *g g*, and bent spring *h*, all substantially as shown and specified.

In witness whereof I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ROBERT BIERING.

Witnesses:

HENRY CONNETT,

CHAS. M. HIGGINS.