

ELIZABETH S. WELDON.

PANNIER OR BUSTLE.

No. 173,700.

Patented Feb. 15, 1876.

Fig. 1.

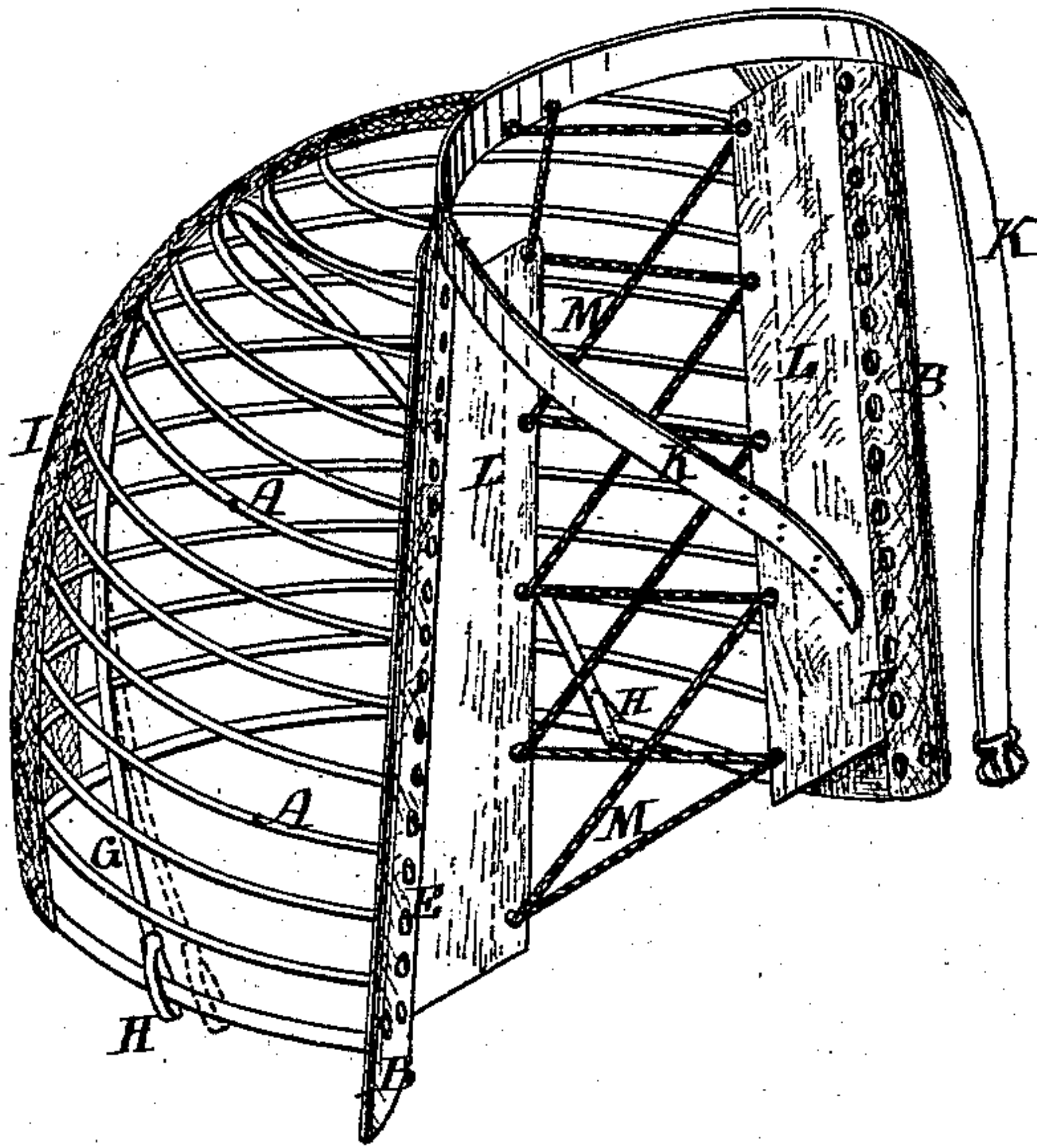
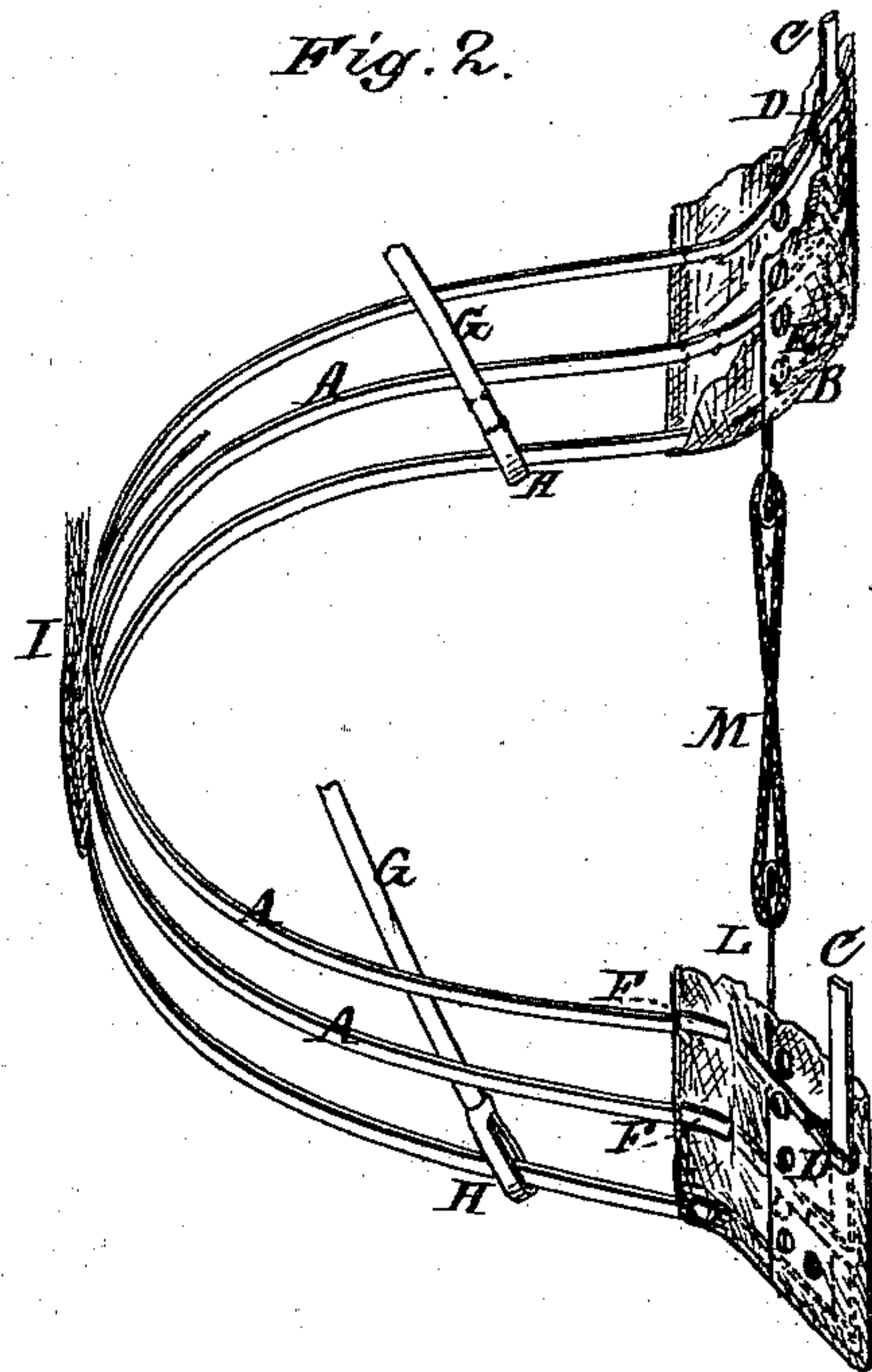


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

John S. Coombs
A. H. Norris

Inventor:

Elizabeth Howell Weldon,
By James L. Norris.
Att'y

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELIZABETH S. WELDON, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN PANNIERS OR BUSTLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **173,700**, dated February 15, 1876; application filed October 23, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELIZABETH STOWELL WELDON, of New York, in the county of New York, and State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Panniers, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to certain improvements in ladies' skeleton panniers or bustles, its object being to provide such panniers or bustles with a bearing surface, which will rest upon and conform to the body; and it consists, first, in bending or curving the ends of the springs composing the main body of the pannier outwardly, in such manner that when secured between the strips of fabric, by which they are held together, a bearing-surface will be formed that can be readily adjusted to the shape and size of different persons, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth; second, in the combination, with the springs forming the body of the pannier, of two auxiliary springs, extending from the upper edges of the binding-strips, to the lower spring of the pannier, crossing each other, and being attached adjustably to the lower spring, for the purpose of preserving the shape of said spring, and giving additional rigidity to the pannier, substantially as hereinafter set forth and described.

In the drawing, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my improved pannier, and Fig. 2 a detached view of a portion of the pannier, showing the method of securing the springs between the binding-strips of fabric.

The letter A represents a series of flat springs or wires which form the main portion of the skeleton of the pannier, which are preferably covered with woven fabric, as usual. The ends of said springs, at their point of attachment to the binding-strips B, are secured so as to set almost at right angles to the other portion of said springs, said bent ends resting flatly between said binding-strips, the whole forming a flat bearing-surface, lying in such position in regard to the main body of the completed pannier as to rest squarely against the body of the wearer when the pannier is in position, the flat sides of the bent portions falling against the body instead of the extreme ends, as in the springs as ordinarily constructed and secured.

As thus constructed, the strain of the springs upon the fabric is distributed over a flat surface of considerable extent, instead of being borne by the sharp extreme ends of the springs, and for this reason they are not liable to cut through the binding-fabric like the ordinary springs.

In order to give the proper rigidity to the binding-strips B, a flat spring—preferably a twin spring, C—is confined between the sides of said strips, the ends of the springs A being secured to said springs C by means of the metallic loops D, which are clasped on the ends of said springs A, and the edges of the springs A are further secured by means of the eyelets E, the edges of which are made to bind over the edges of said springs, thus holding both the springs A and C firmly in place within the binding strip. The springs A, just at the bend or curve at their ends, are also attached to the inner edge of the binding-strip B by means of the usual metallic clamps F.

The letters G G represent two auxiliary springs, attached to the upper ends of the springs C C, and extending across each other to the lower spring A of the pannier, to which they are loosely attached by means of the metallic loops H H secured to their ends, and extending around the said spring in such manner that they may be moved freely along the spring A to allow of adjustment.

These springs serve to give additional rigidity to the pannier and preserve its shape when subjected to a crushing strain, their adjustability allowing the pannier to be folded compactly when not in use or for transportation.

The springs A are secured together at their rear by means of a broad strip of fabric, I, to which they are attached at suitable points by means of the ordinary clamps, or in any other convenient manner, and the binding-strips are all attached to a waist-band, K, as usual. To the inner sides of the binding-strips B are attached strips L L, strengthened at their edges by flat springs, and provided with eyelets for the lacing M, which forms a bearing against the body, and by means of which the curve of the pannier may be adjusted.

The bustle as thus constructed, with the springs outwardly bent at the ends, and secured to the strips L L, connected by lacing.

strings M, forms a resting-surface that can be adjusted to fit any wearer by simply drawing the strips L L together, or separating the outwardly-curved ends, clasping or embracing the rear and side portions of the body, and fitting accurately thereto.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The bustle or pannier composed of the springs A bent outwardly at the ends, as described, in combination with the strips B, and lacing-strips L, forming a bearing-surface that can be adapted to fit the bodies of the various wearers, substantially as described.

2. The combination substantially as herein described, of the springs A, binding-strips B,

eyelets E, and the spring C, secured together as set forth.

3. In combination, with the springs A, the auxiliary springs G G connected to the spring C, or binding-strips B, at their tops, and extending across each other to the lower spring A, to which they are loosely attached, in order to permit adjustment, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing, I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of the subscribing witnesses.

ELIZABETH STOWELL WELDON.

Witnesses:

W. H. MELICK,
W. READ.