

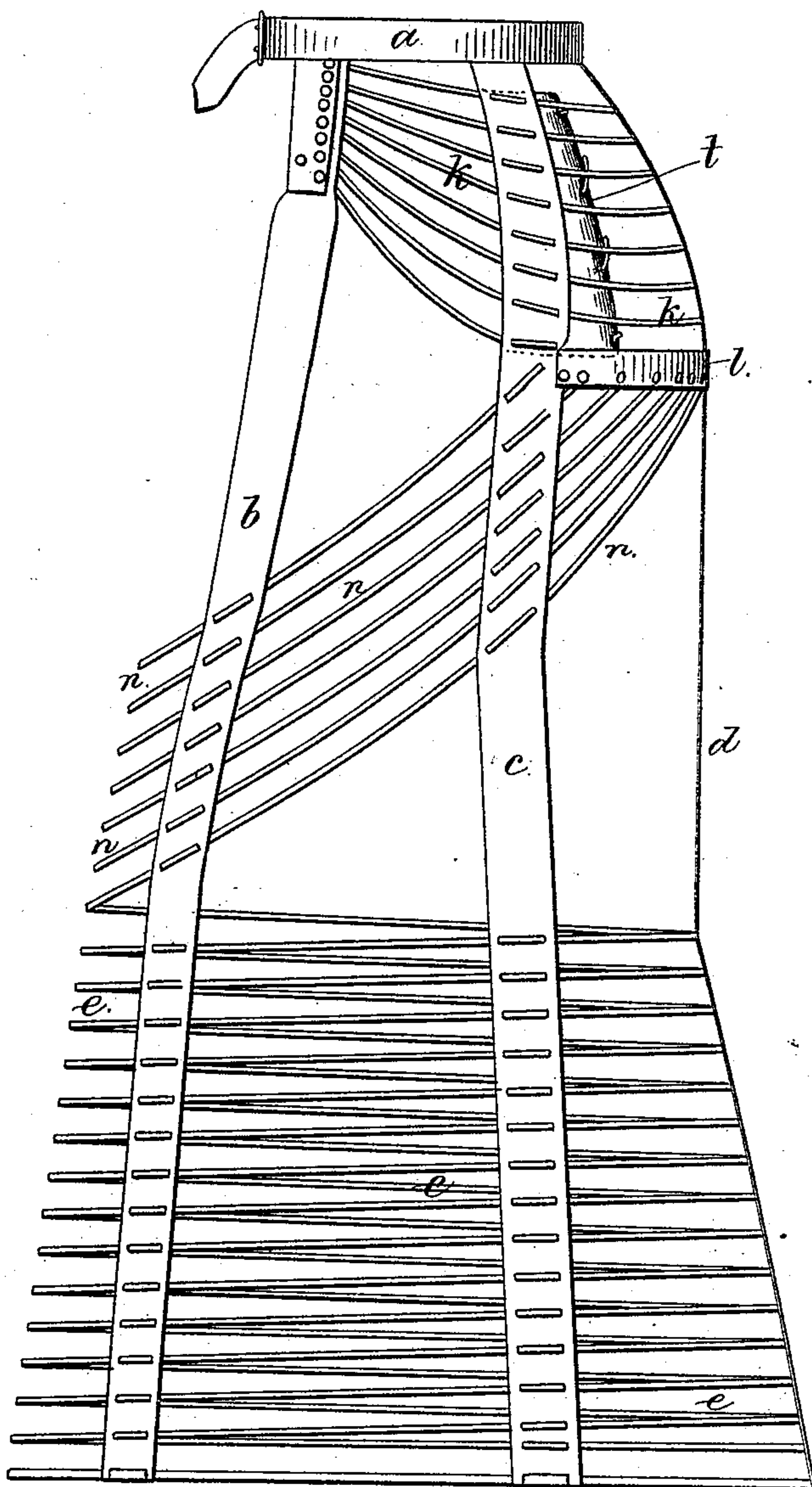
(No Model.)

L. H. LOOMER.

HOOP SKIRT.

No. 300,878.

Patented June 24, 1884.



Witnesses

Chas H. Smith
J. Stail

Inventor

L. Harvey Loomer
per Lemuel W. Terrell
attys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

L. HARVEY LOOMER, OF BIRMINGHAM, CONNECTICUT.

HOOP-SKIRT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 300,878, dated June 24, 1884.

Application filed September 3, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, L. HARVEY LOOMER, of Birmingham, in the State of Connecticut, have invented an Improvement in Hoop-Skirts, of which the following is a specification.

The object of this invention is to render the bustle more reliable in supporting the back of the dress, to dispense with unnecessary hoops around the middle portions of the dress, to allow the bustle to yield freely when the person is seated, and to prevent the hoops from rising at the knees when sitting down.

In the drawing I have represented by a side view my improved skirt.

The waistband *a*, vertical tapes *b c d*, and lower ranges of hoops, *e e*, are of ordinary character. The hoops *k* extend around at the back portion of the skirt and form the bustle, the ends of such hoops being held at the tapes *b* by suitable laps and clasps, and the tapes and hoops being secured by clasps of sheet metal inserted at the intersections, as usual.

Below the bottom hoop, *k*, of the bustle I apply a lap or binder, *l*, between the central tape, *d*, at the back and the tapes *c c* at the sides thereof, such lap or binder being adapted to receive and secure the upper ends of the inclined range of hoops *n n*. These hoops *n* pass diagonally and the lower hoop coincides to or is a prolongation of the upper hoop in the range of hoops *e*, and these hoops *n* are clasped to the tapes *b c*. It will now be seen that these diagonal hoops *n* form braces to hold up the lower part of the bustle when a person is

walking, and hence the dress is more fully supported by the bustle. This results from the weight of the clothing hanging against the front part of the skirt and keeping it back; but when the wearer sits down the diagonal hoops *n* are free to slide forward and downward and allow the lower part of the bustle to move by the weight of clothing nearer to the person, and hence occupy less room upon the chair or seat, and the hoops *n*, being diagonal, prevent the front of the skirt rising. Usually there will be a web of fabric, *t*, extending across from the tape *c* on one side to the similar tape on the other side and beneath the bustle, there being a lacing in the middle of the web running vertically, so as to shorten or lengthen the web and project the bustle or allow it to sit more closely to the person, as now usual in bustles.

I claim as my invention—

The combination, with the waistband, vertical tapes, and lower ranges of hoops, *e e*, of the bustle-hoops *k*, the lap or binder *l*, and the diagonal hoops *n*, the upper ends of which are secured in the binder *l* at the base of the bustle, for the purposes and substantially as set forth.

Signed by me this 31st day of August, A. D. 1883.

L. HARVEY LOOMER.

Witnesses:

CHAS. E. CLARK,
WM. S. BROWNE.