

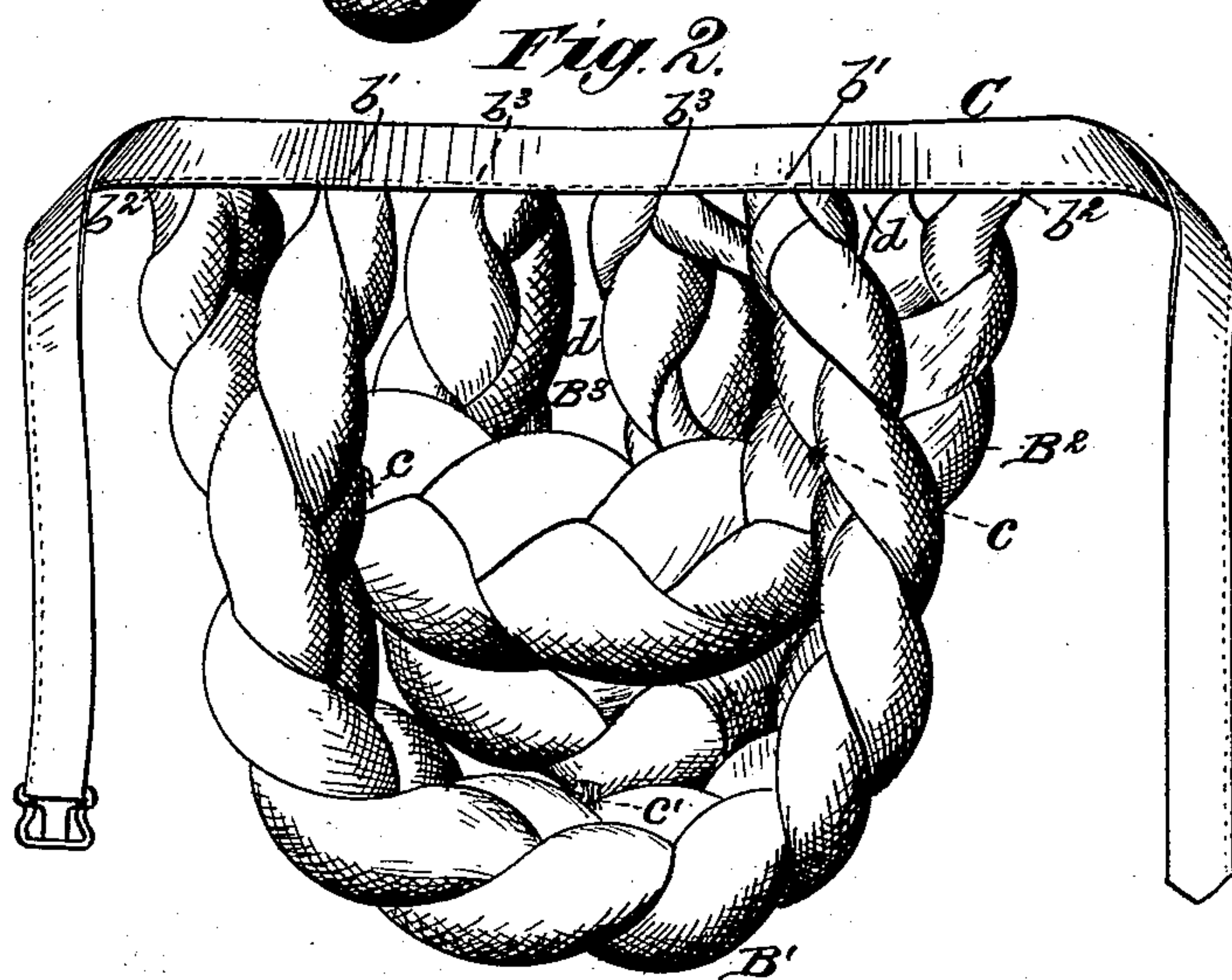
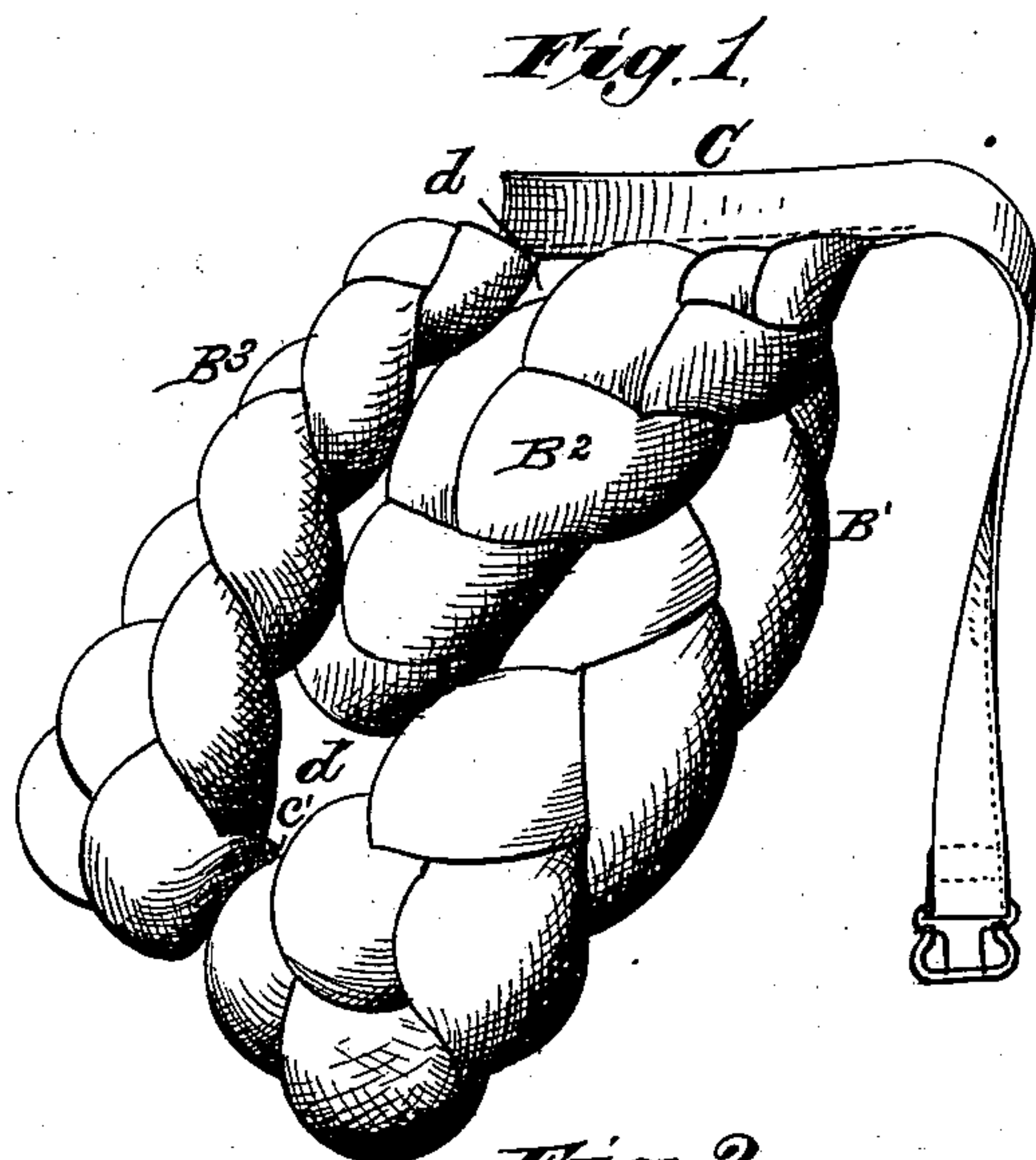
(No Model.)

C. C. CARPENTER.

BUSTLE.

No. 324,226.

Patented Aug. 11, 1885.



Witnesses.  
*Robert Everett.*  
*E. A. Bond.*

Inventor:  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES C. CARPENTER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## BUSTLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 324,226, dated August 11, 1885.

Application filed May 16, 1885. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES C. CARPENTER, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York city, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bustles; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to bustles; and the novelty consists in the construction, arrangement, and adaptation of parts, as will be more fully hereinafter set forth, and specifically pointed out in the claims.

The object of the invention is to produce a light, cheap, and durable bustle—one that is simple in construction, will retain its desirable contour or shape, and one which will be ventilating in service.

I form tubes of fabric, stuff them with a light flexible springy material, braid three or more such tubes together, and after bending the braids thus formed into the desired shape I secure the several ends to an ordinary waistband by stitches. Two or more such braids may be used in a single bustle, and their positions relatively to each other and the band not only determine the shape of the finished bustle, but allow, also, the formation of open interstices between the braids, which serve to allow free circulation of air.

This invention is in no sense a bustle in which the springs are formed of elastic braids, which serve in the body of the bustle as stiffeners; but it comprises a bustle the structure of which is formed of braided stuffed tubes arranged with relation to each other and a holding-band to give the desired form.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of what I consider the preferred form; Fig. 2, an inner face view; Fig. 3, an enlarged view of one of the tubes before braiding.

Referring to the drawings, A designates a

tube or sleeve of fabric filled with curled hair, wool, shredded whalebone or wood, elastic tough grass, or other material, which, being pressed closely together, will resist the pressure and exert a constant force to regain a normal position. These rolls A are of greatest diameter at their centers, and become of gradually less diameter in the direction of their ends. Three of these rolls or stuffed tubes are braided closely together to form braids B<sup>1</sup> B<sup>2</sup> B<sup>3</sup>. The rolls of greatest length give the longest finished braids, and these braids are bent and their ends secured to a waistband, C, so as to give bustles of various sizes and shapes. In the form shown in Fig. 2 the braid B<sup>1</sup> is bent and attached by stitches b<sup>1</sup> to the band to form approximately a semicircle. The braid B<sup>2</sup> is bent and secured at b<sup>2</sup> at points outside the points of stitching b<sup>1</sup>, so as to describe an arc of a circle of greater diameter. This forces the braid B<sup>2</sup> to come into contact with the braid B<sup>1</sup> at points marked c, which throws this braid B<sup>2</sup> into a graceful and desirable oval. The braid B<sup>3</sup> is bent into a loop, and its points of attachment b<sup>3</sup> to the band C are close together at the center, while the looped braid B<sup>3</sup> falls gracefully over the braid B<sup>2</sup>, and the lower portion is bent inward and caught to the braid B<sup>1</sup> at c'. With this construction various interstices, d, are left between the braids to afford desired circulation of air.

The elastic filling is forced out of a normal position when it is placed within the tube, and will exert a constant influence to regain such normal position so long as it is confined. This gives to the tube or roll its spring quality; but this quality is intensified by the braiding of the several rolls, which forces the material still farther from a normal position, and still further magnified by the bending of the braids. When braided and bent, the rolls comprise most efficient springs for the purpose of a bustle.

A bustle thus formed is equipped to withstand pressure from any direction, and there is no necessity for cushioning any portion, because the entire structure is of itself a cushion. I avoid the necessity of soft covers, because the entire structure is soft and pliable.

While I prefer the form shown in Fig. 1, it

will be apparent that either the braid B' B<sup>2</sup> or braid B<sup>3</sup> may be omitted without departing from the principle of the invention. Either one of the braids by itself will effect some of the advantages due to the invention.

What I claim as new is—

1. A bustle composed of tubes of flexible fabric filled with elastic material, as wool, said tubes being closely braided together and secured to a band to give to the bustle the shape desired, as set forth.

2. A bustle composed of flexible tubes stuffed with elastic fiber or hair, the said tubes being braided together and bent, as set forth.

3. A bustle composed of flexible stuffed tubes formed into braids and the braids arranged and secured together to give to the whole the desired contour, as set forth.

4. A bustle composed of tubes stuffed with elastic material and braided together, each tube being of greatest diameter at the center, and the braid being bent and secured, as set forth.

5. The bustle described, consisting of the tubes A, stuffed with elastic fiber and braided together to form braids B' B<sup>2</sup> B<sup>3</sup>, the said braids being bent and secured to the band C at points b' b<sup>2</sup> b<sup>3</sup>, and the braids caught together at points c c', all combined, arranged, and operating as and for the purposes set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

CHARLES C. CARPENTER.

Witnesses:

J. B. NONES,

J. McCaffrey.