

(No Model.)

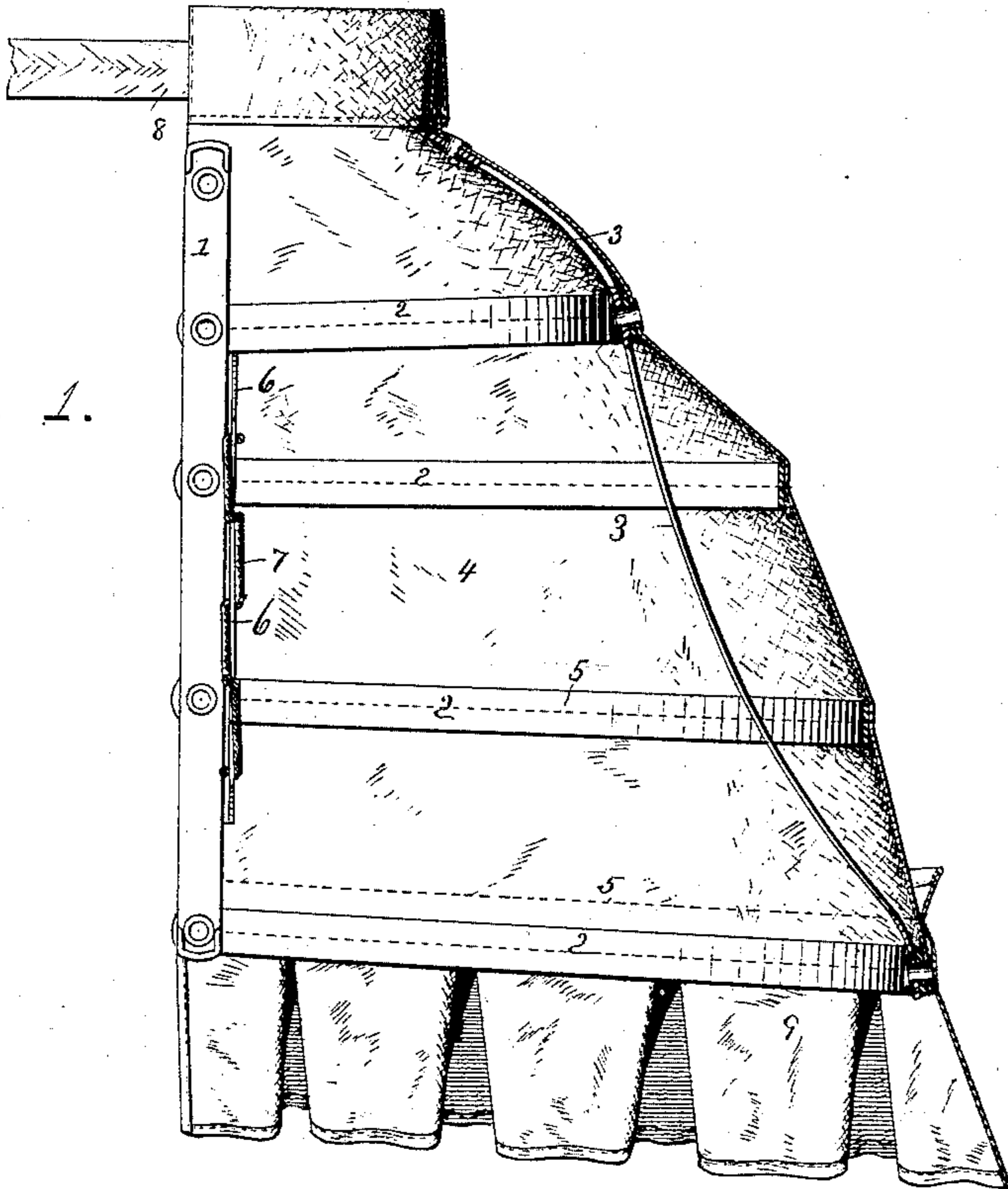
H. O. CANFIELD.

BUSTLE.

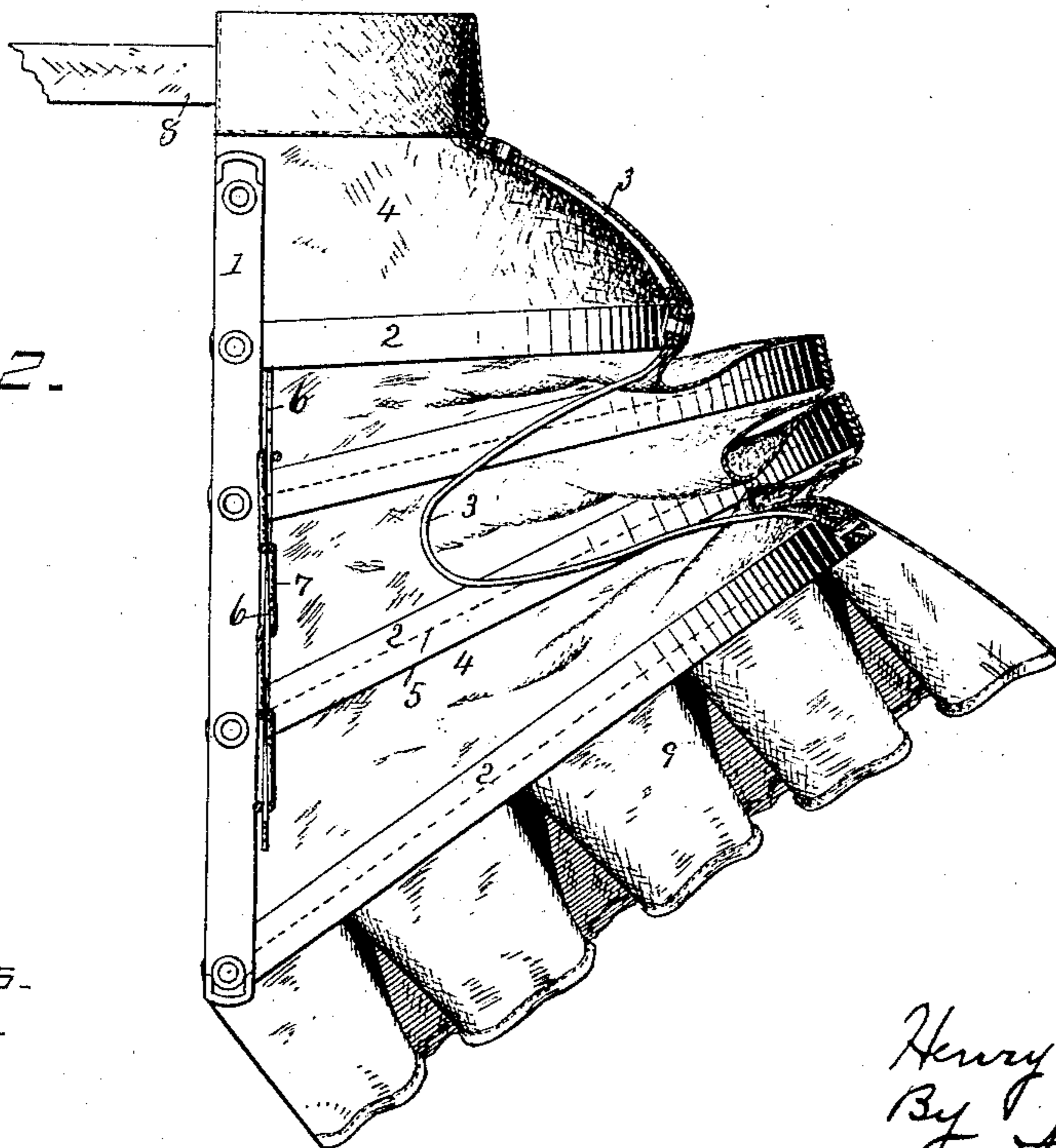
No. 375,922.

Patented Jan. 3, 1888.

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



Witnesses.  
E. D. Smith.  
B. E. Lee.

Inventor.  
Henry O. Canfield  
By  
J. M. Wooster  
att'y.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY O. CANFIELD, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO THE  
CANFIELD RUBBER COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

## BUSTLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 375,922, dated January 3, 1888.

Application filed October 17, 1887. Serial No. 252,591. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HENRY O. CANFIELD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bridgeport, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Bustles; and I do hereby 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.

My invention has for its object to simplify and cheapen the construction of this class of bustles, and at the same time to lessen the cost of production.

With these ends in view I have devised the simple and novel bustle, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, numbers being used to denote the several parts.

Figure 1 is a central section illustrating the construction of the bustle, which is shown in the distended position, and Fig. 2 is a section illustrating the manner in which the bustle collapses.

The operative portion of this bustle consists of three parts only—to wit, straight side pieces on opposite sides of the bustle, which are denoted by 1; curved ribs 2, the opposite ends of which are pivotally secured to the side pieces, and a distending-spring, 3, which consists simply of a straight piece of suitable material—for example, flat spring-wire or twin wire. The side pieces and ribs, likewise, may be made of either flat or twin wire.

4 denotes the cover, of textile material, which is secured to the ribs and the side pieces by stitching. When the parts are made of twin wire, as shown in the drawings, the ribs are secured to the cover by seams 5, through the cover and through the center of the ribs.

6 denotes back-pieces attached to the cover on opposite sides of the bustle, and 7 a lacing-cord connecting the back pieces, whereby the desired shape—that is, the width and depth—

is given to the bustle, the back pieces and lacing-cord of course resting against the person of the wearer.

8 denotes the attaching device, which may be either an ordinary belt stitched to the cover or a strengthening-piece stitched to the cover and having tie-strings, as shown in the drawings.

The important feature of my invention is the simple and positive manner in which I secure the instant return of the bustle to the distended position after it has been collapsed. As already stated, the spring consists simply of a straight piece of suitable material, which is eyeleted to the top and bottom ribs, and also to the cover at or near the belt. The intermediate ribs, any number of which may be used, are not connected in any way to the spring, but are secured to the cover, their opposite ends being pivoted to the side pieces. When the wearer sits down or reclines, all of the ribs except the upper one fold upward in the manner indicated in Fig. 2, the spring curving inward, as clearly shown. The instant the wearer rises the spring of course straightens out and instantly throws the bustle to the distended position.

9 denotes a ruffle or piece of plaiting, which is stitched to the cover near the bottom and hangs over the lower ribs, as clearly shown.

It should be noticed that all mechanical labor in the manufacture of this bustle is dispensed with, the act of manufacture consisting simply in the assembling and attaching together of the several parts, the ribs, side pieces, and spring being made like ordinary corset-stays, which are furnished in any quantity, and of lengths and qualities to suit the requirements of the trade.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. A folding bustle consisting, essentially, of side pieces, ribs pivotally secured thereto, a cover secured to the ribs and to the side pieces, and a distending-spring secured to the upper and lower ribs and to the cover above

the upper rib, so that the upper rib is held in place and the lower rib permitted to collapse when the wearer sits down.

2. A folding bustle consisting of side pieces,  
5 a series of ribs pivotally secured thereto, a rigid upper rib, a cover secured to the side pieces and to the ribs, and a distending-spring secured to the upper and lower ribs and extending from the upper rib to the belt, where-

by the upper portion of the bustle is held rigid and the lower portion permitted to collapse when the wearer sits down.

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

HENRY O. CANFIELD.

Witnesses:

A. M. WOOSTER,

B. E. LEE.