

(No Model.)

H. O. CANFIELD.

BUSTLE.

No. 375,924.

Patented Jan. 3, 1888.

Fig. 1.

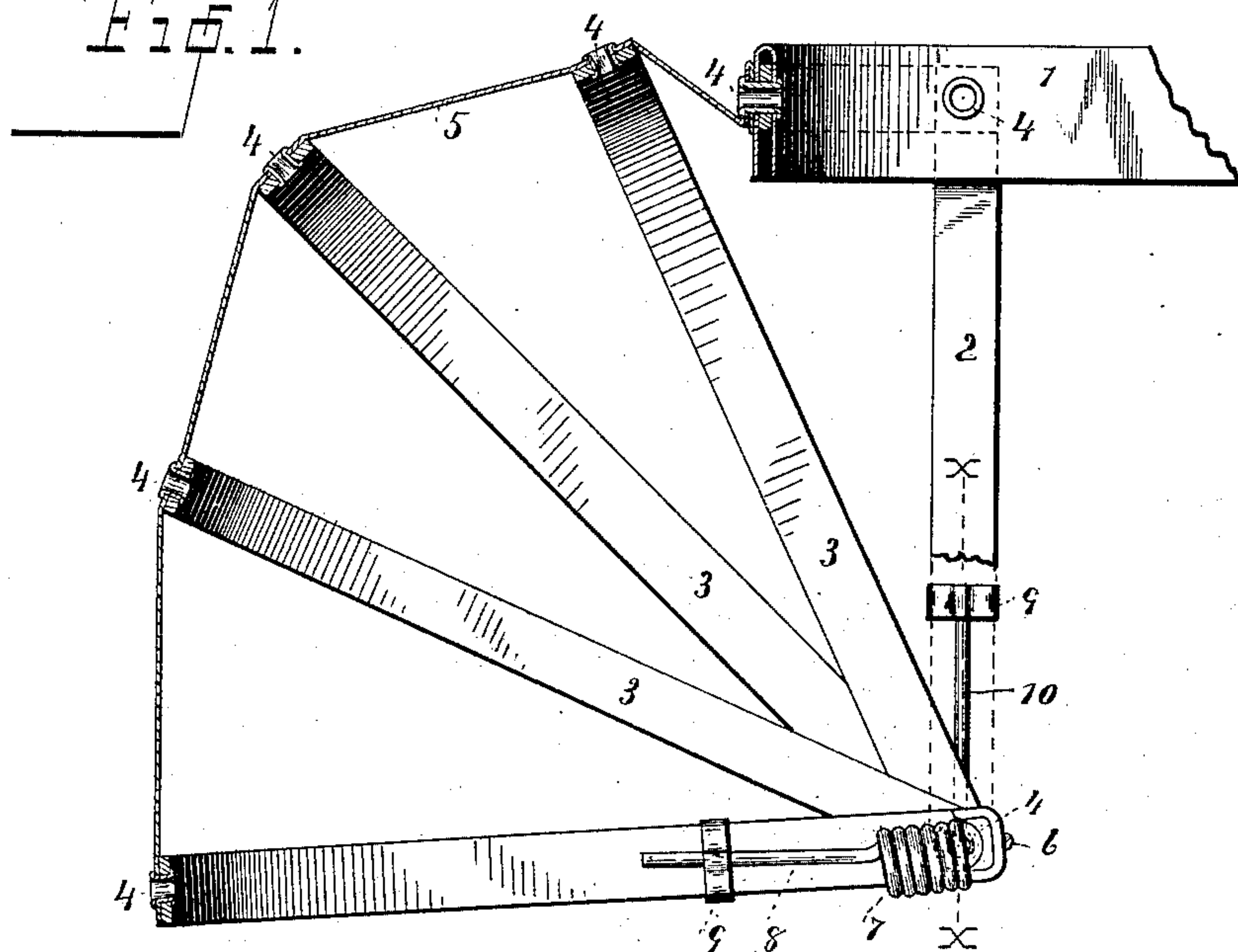


Fig. 2.

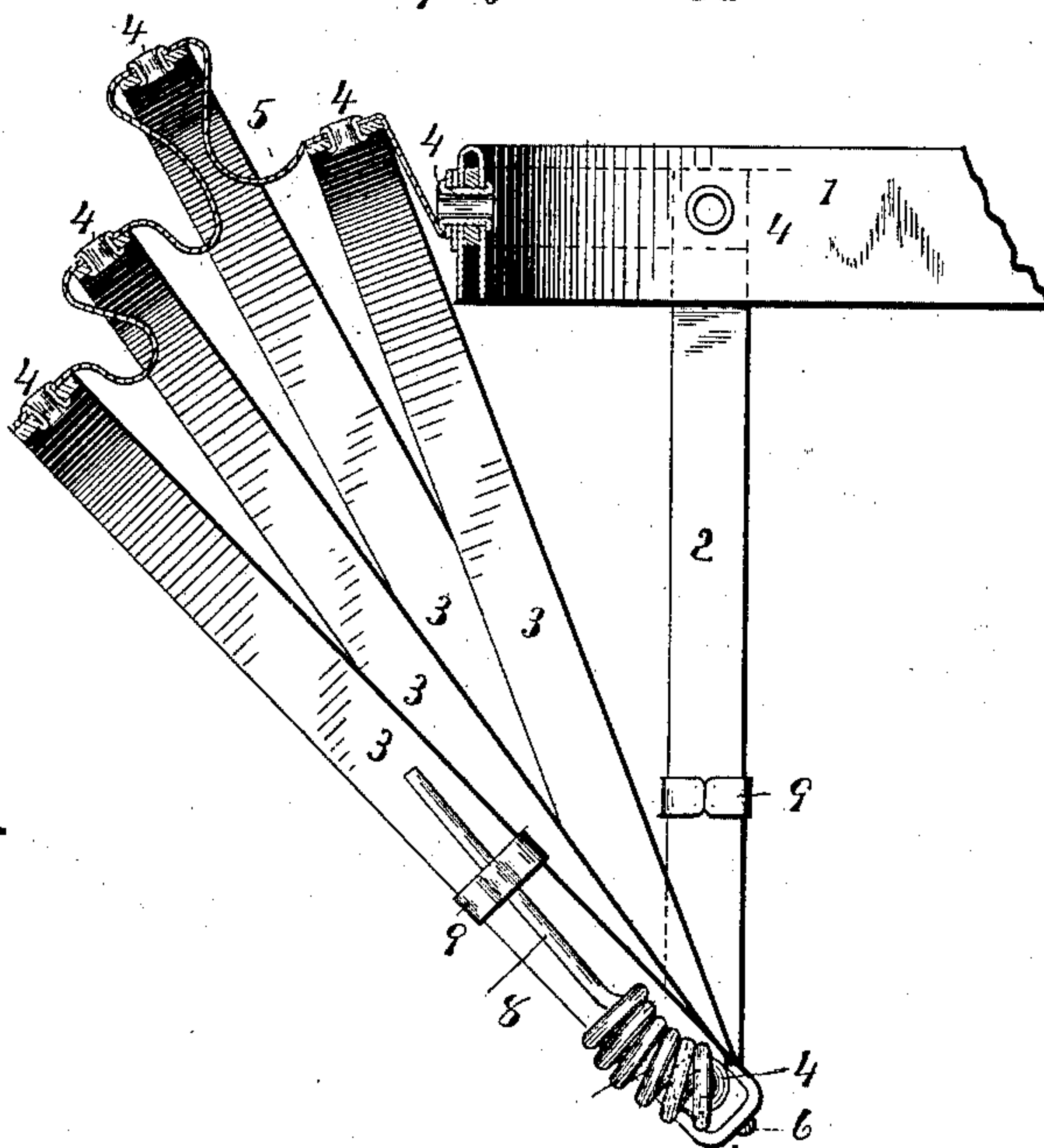
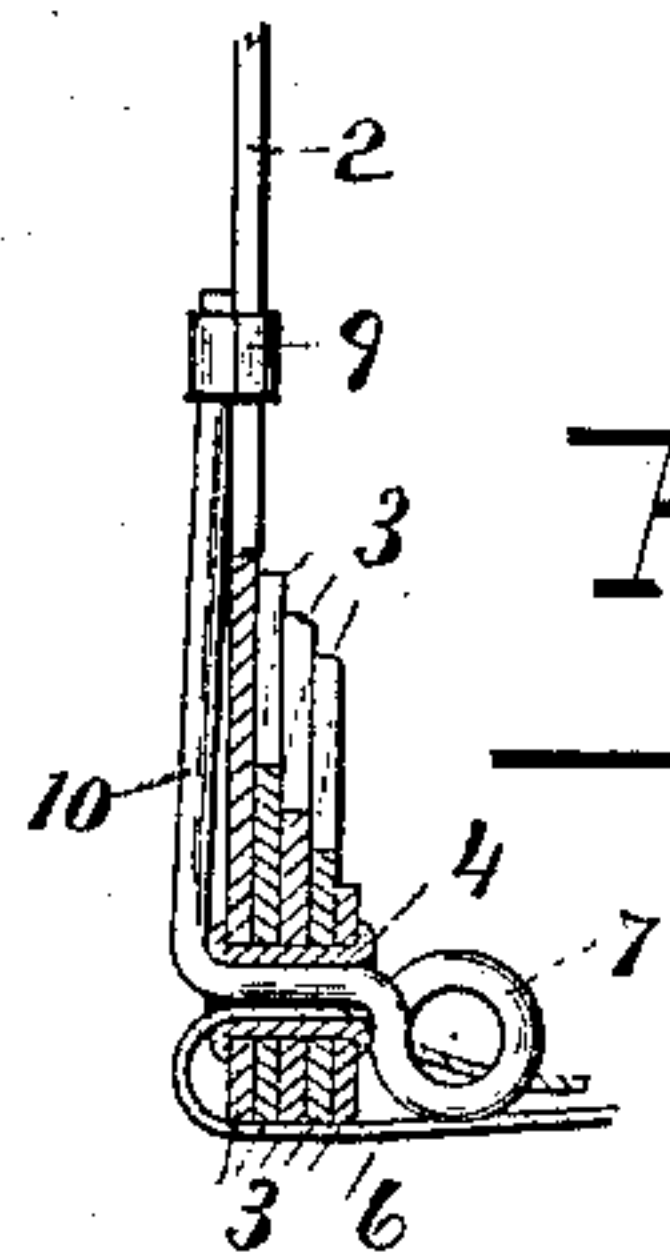


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

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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. 375,924, dated January 3, 1888.

Application filed October 24, 1887. Serial No. 253,217. (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 is adapted to the various styles of bustles of this general class, and has for its object to provide a returning-spring for use in connection therewith, which may be produced at very slight expense, may be readily attached to the bustle, will yield readily when it is desired to throw the bustle to its collapsed position, and which, above all, shall be durable and certain in use.

It has heretofore been a serious objection to various folding bustles that when pressed close up against the person of the wearer they were apt to become "set," owing to the fact that the springs were so arranged that the direct action thereof, and consequently the larger portion of their power, could not be utilized to return the bustle to its normal position, or else that the springs were liable to become weakened by use, so as to be unable to overcome the weight of the drapery. I wholly overcome this objection by combining with a bustle of any ordinary construction a novel returning-spring, which I will now proceed to describe, referring by numbers to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a central section of a bustle provided with my improved spring, the bustle being in the normal—i. e., distended—position; Fig. 2, a central section showing the bustle in the collapsed position; and Fig. 3 is a detail sectional view on the line *xx* in Fig. 1.

1 denotes the belt; 2, side pieces eyeleted thereto; 3, curved ribs, which are pivotally secured to the side pieces at the bottom, preferably by long eyelets 4 passing through said ribs and the side pieces, as described and claimed in my pending application, Serial No. 252,592, filed October 19, 1887; 5, a con-

necting strip eyeleted to the belt and to each of the ribs; 6, the usual adjusting-cord, and 7 my novel returning-spring. This spring consists of a series of coils, five to eight being ordinarily used, and attaching-arms (denoted by 8 and 10.) The series of coils in each spring is adapted to lie longitudinally at one of the ends of the lower rib on the inner side thereof. 8 denotes a forwardly-extending arm, formed integral with the coils, which lies along the inner side of the bottom rib, and is secured thereto by one or more metallic clips, 9, which embrace the arm firmly and extend around the edges of the rib. The other end of each spring is extended to form an arm, 10, which extends at a right angle to arm 8 and first passes through the eyelet 4, by which the ribs are secured to the side piece, and is then bent upward at a right angle again and lies along the outer side of the side piece, to which it is secured by clips 9 in the same manner as the other arm is secured to the lower rib, the clips embracing the arm firmly and then extending around the edges of the side piece.

The important and valuable feature of my invention lies in the novel arrangement and action of the springs, whereby I am enabled to secure the peculiar combination of strength and elasticity that is required in folding bustles, embodied, moreover, in a construction that does not become weakened by long-continued use, but will retain its strength to the last and will outwear the bustle itself. This result I accomplish not by winding or unwinding the coils, as heretofore, but by a slight torsion of the wire of each coil. It will be noticed (see Fig. 2) that when the lower rib is moved from the distended to the collapsed position the lower edges of the coils are separated from each other, while the upper edges are pressed together. The lower edges of the coils, in fact, open out from each other radially, like a fan, the upper edges forming a concave curve. The instant the pressure is relieved the resiliency of the metal overcomes the slight torsion in each of the coils and returns the arm secured to the lower rib to its normal position, thereby throwing all of the ribs and the drapery supported thereby to the distended position.

It will of course be understood that my novel

spring is adapted to the leading styles of folding bustles now upon the market, and consequently that the details of construction may be varied considerably from those shown in the drawings without departing from the spirit of my invention.

I claim—

1. A bustle consisting of side pieces, a series of curved ribs pivotally secured thereto, and springs which consist of a series of coils lying longitudinally of the lower rib and having forwardly-projecting arms secured to the lower rib and other arms secured to the side pieces, whereby the collapsing of the bustle causes torsion of each coil, which acts to return the bustle to its normal position when pressure is removed.

2. The combination, with the side pieces of a bustle and a series of curved ribs pivotally

secured thereto, of springs at opposite sides of the bustle, each spring consisting of a series of coils lying longitudinally of the lower rib, a forwardly-projecting arm secured to said lower rib, and an arm secured to the side piece, so that when the bustle is collapsed more or less torsion of each coil takes place, the upper edges of the coils being pressed together and the lower edges separated, the return of the coils to their normal position, when pressure is removed, acting to throw the bustle to its distended position.

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

HENRY O. CANFIELD.

Witnesses:

A. M. WOOSTER,
B. E. LEE.