

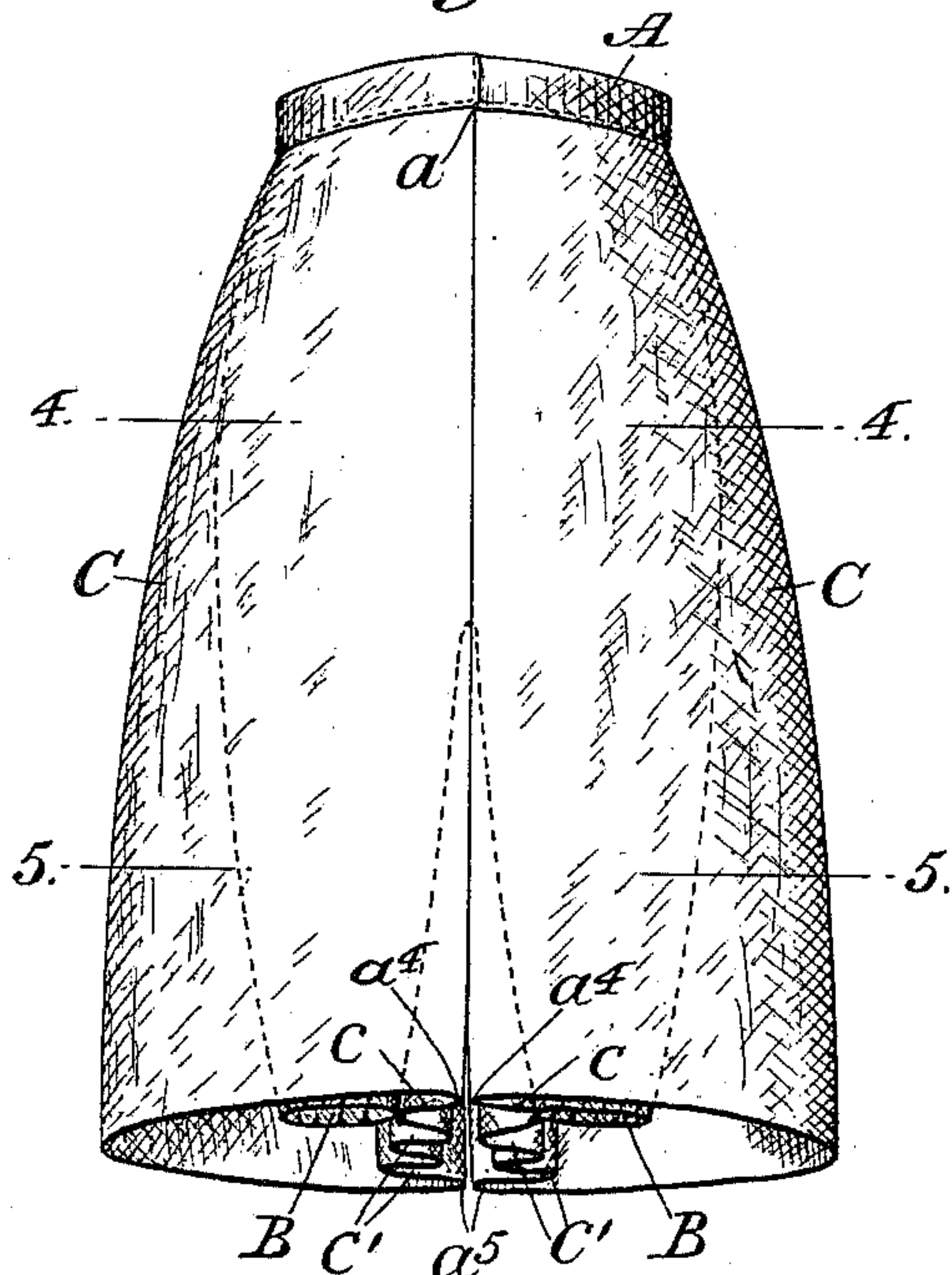
(No Model.)

F. L. AHERN.  
BICYCLE SKIRT.

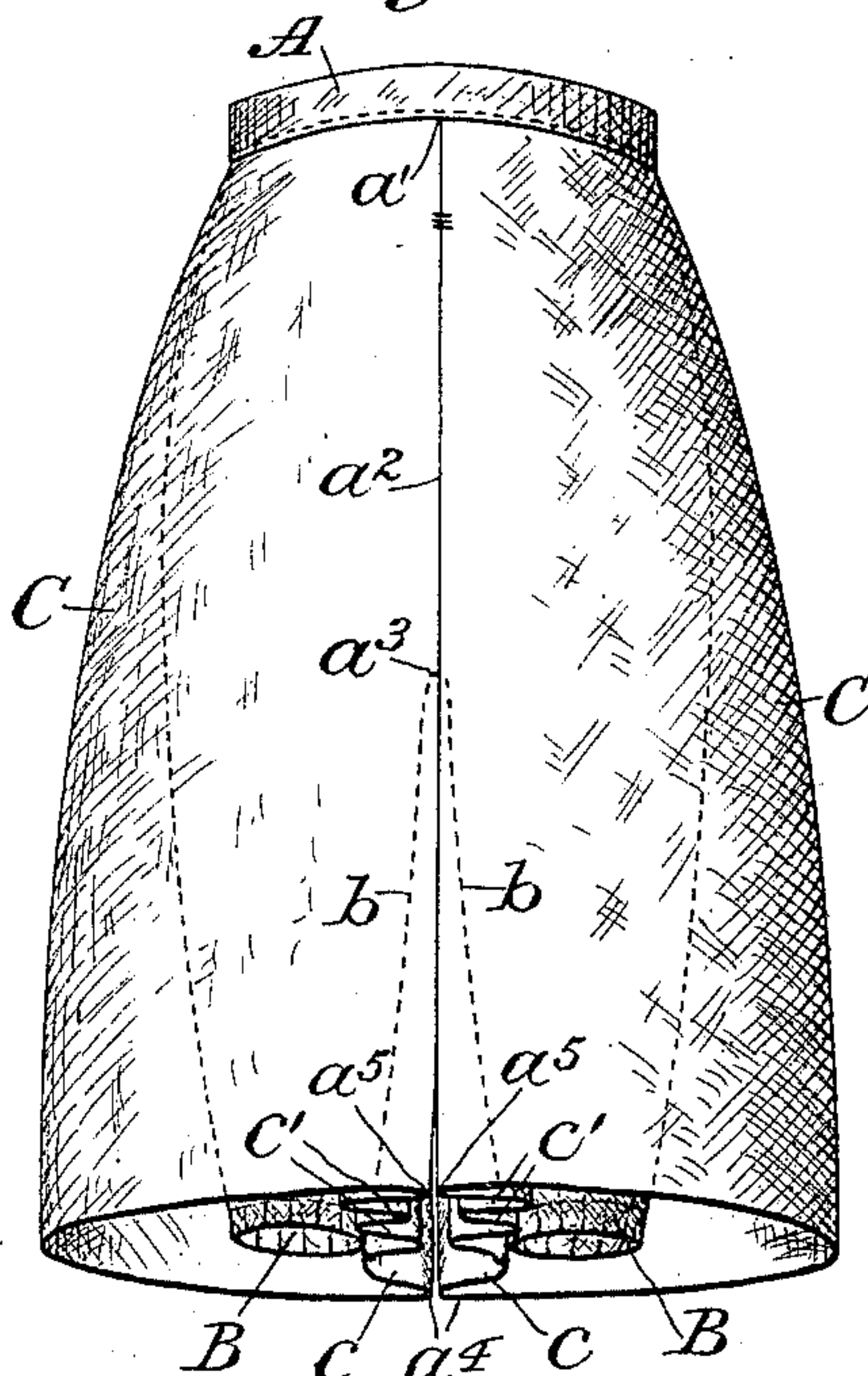
No. 566,369.

Patented Aug. 25, 1896.

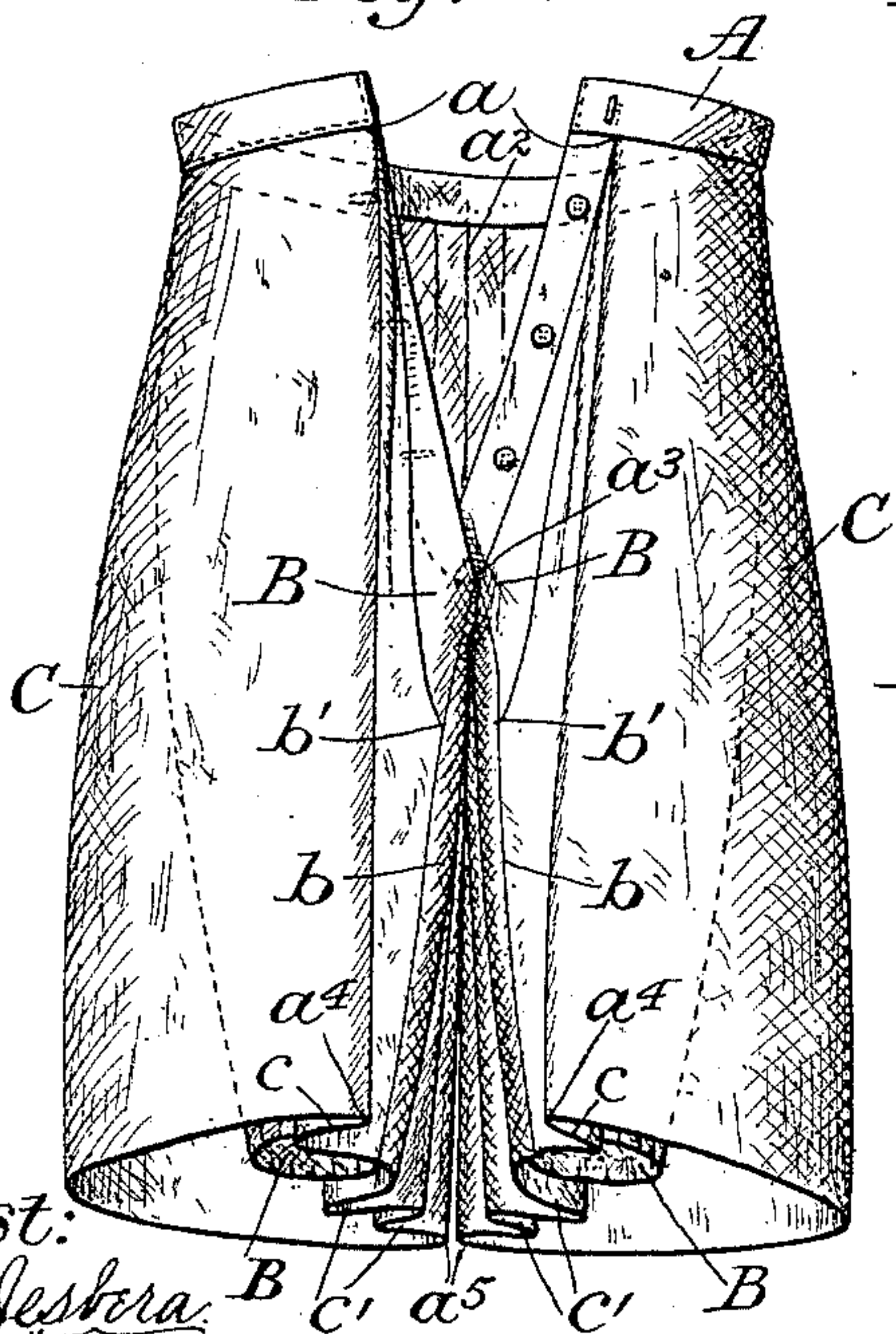
*Fig. 1.*



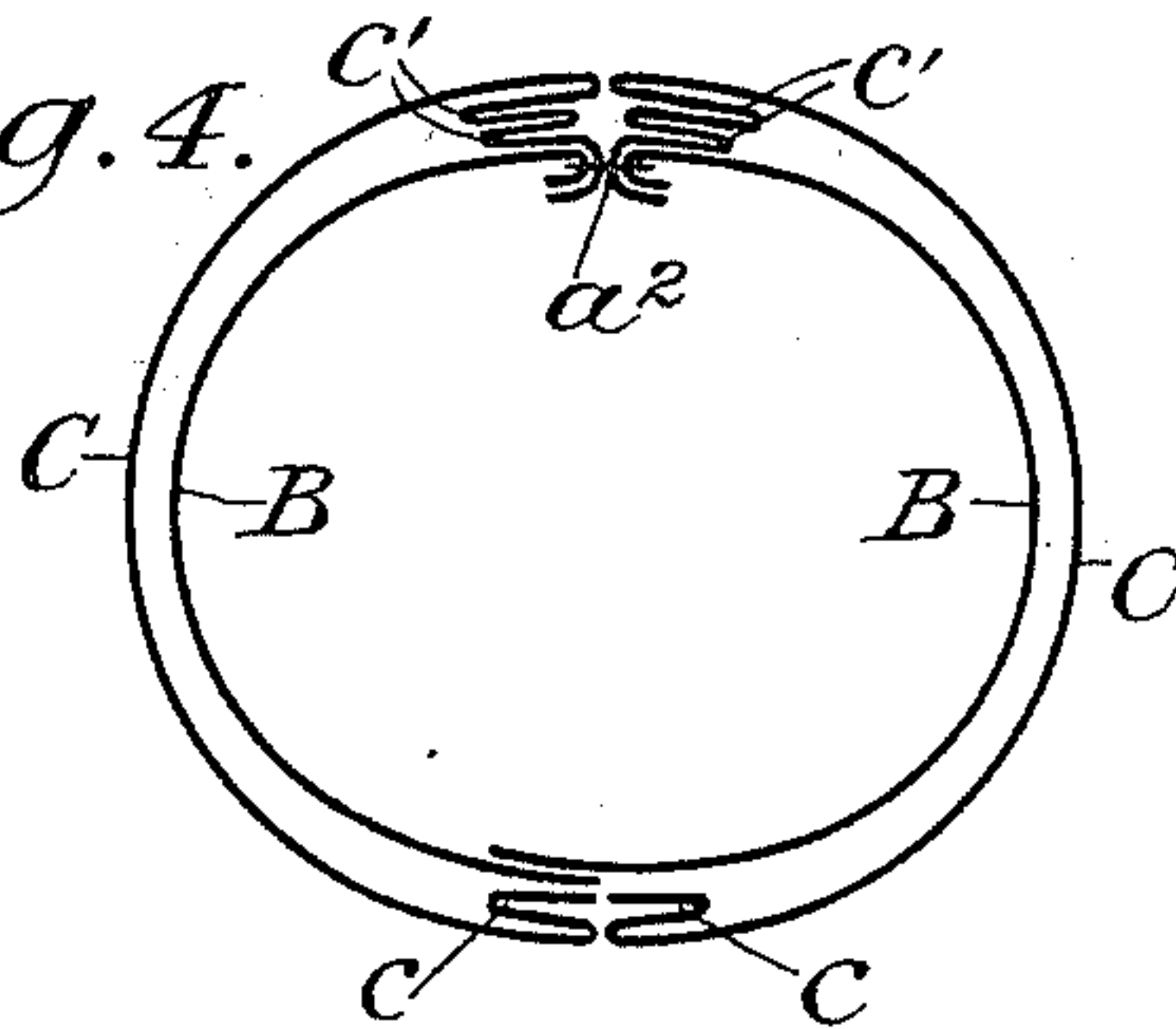
*Fig. 2.*



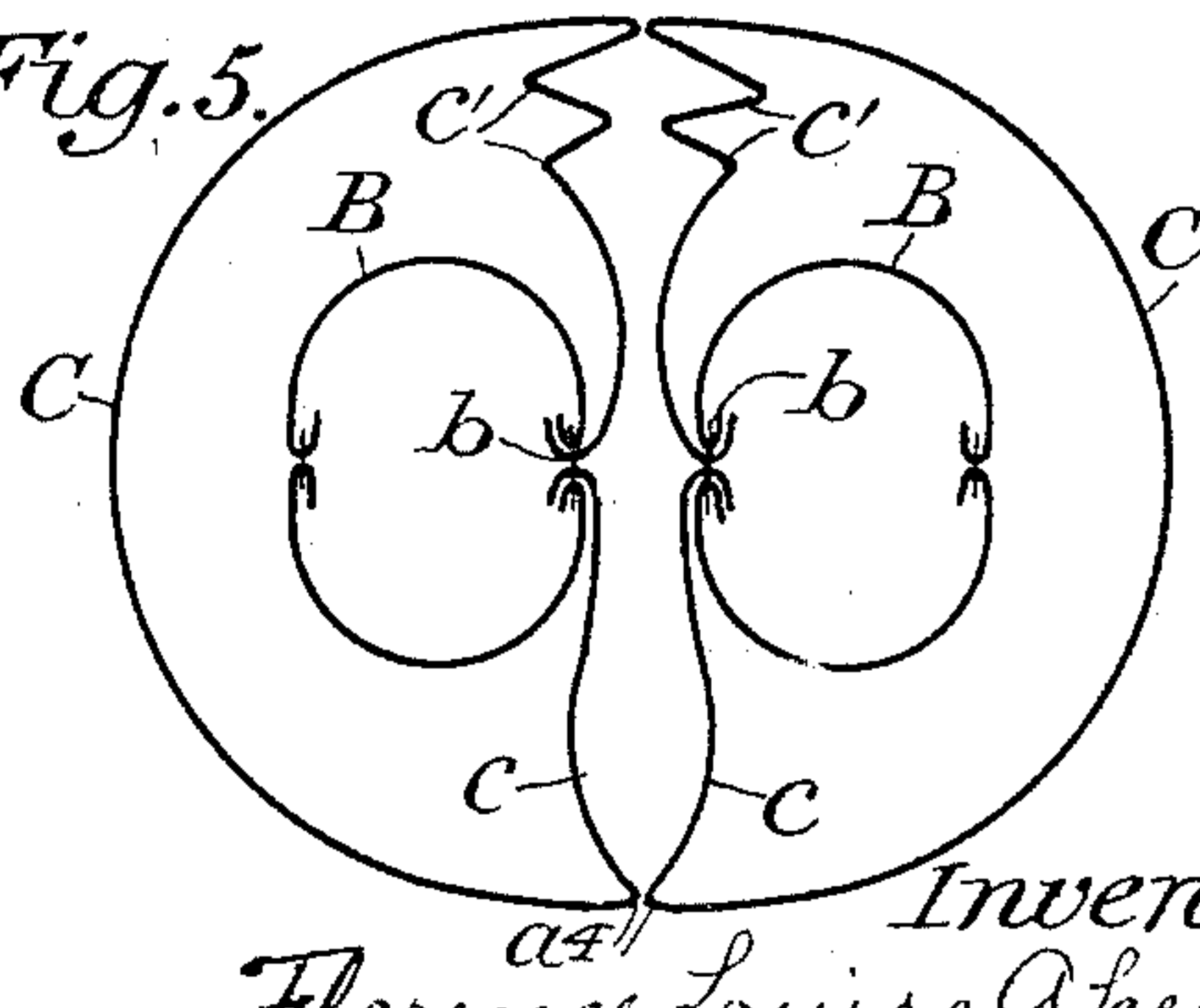
*Fig. 3.*



*Fig. 4.*



*Fig. 5.*



*Attest:*

A. N. Jesbera.

Chas. E. Spworth.

*Inventor:*

Florence Louise Atherm  
by Redding & Kiddle  
Attys



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FLORENCE LOUISE AHERN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO THE  
SPALDING-BIDWELL COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

## BICYCLE-SKIRT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 566,369, dated August 25, 1896.

Application filed January 31, 1896. Serial No. 577,556. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FLORENCE LOUISE AHERN, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bicycle-Habits, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof.

10 This invention relates to the construction of riding-habits for ladies, with especial reference to their adaptation for bicycle-riding, and the object in view is the production of a skirt or habit which shall not in any way be  
15 liable to interfere with the free movements of the wearer while riding or in mounting or dismounting and shall hang gracefully when the wearer is standing or walking, presenting as nearly as possible the appearance of  
20 an ordinary skirt.

The improved habit is essentially a combination-garment, comprising both trousers and a divided skirt; and the invention consists in certain novel features of construction which  
25 contribute to the attainment of the improved result.

The habit will be fully described hereinafter with reference to the accompanying drawings, and the novel features will also be particularly pointed out.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation in perspective of the improved habit. Fig. 2 is a rear elevation in perspective of the same. Fig. 3 is a view corresponding to Fig.  
35 1, with the skirt partly opened to show certain features of construction. Figs. 4 and 5 are diagrammatic sections on the lines 4-4 and 5-5, respectively, of Fig. 1.

The several parts of the habit are secured  
40 to and supported by a common waistband A, which is adapted to be secured about the person of the wearer in the ordinary manner. To the waistband are fastened the trousers or knickerbockers B B, which may be constructed in any ordinary or suitable manner,  
45 preferably being drawn closely below the knee by an elastic band inserted in a casing formed at the lower edge, this invention not being directly concerned with the particular construction thereof.

The skirt of the habit is formed in two parts

C C, which are entirely independent the one of the other, except so far as they are attached to the waistband A and to the trousers B B. Each portion C of the skirt is securely fastened to the waistband A from the middle  
55 front point  $a$  to the middle rear point  $a'$ , and both portions are secured together to the trousers at the seat-seam  $a^2$ , or from the point  $a'$  to the point  $a^3$ . Below the point  $a^3$  each  
60 portion of the skirt is attached to the respective trousers-leg at the inside leg-seam  $b$ . In front each portion of the skirt is free at its edge from the point  $a$  to a point  $b'$  on the inner leg-seam  $b$  at some distance below the  
65 point  $a^3$ , before referred to, and from the point  $b'$  each portion C is secured to the inner leg-seam down to or near the lower end thereof. Each portion C of the skirt is folded  
70 on a line from the front middle point  $a$  at the top of the skirt to a front middle point  $a^4$  at the bottom edge of the skirt, and is likewise folded on a line from the rear middle point  
75  $a'$  at the top of the skirt to the rear middle point  $a^5$  at the bottom of the skirt, and from the line  $a a^4$  to the line  $a' a^5$  each portion C hangs like the half of an ordinary plain skirt,  
80 and in use, when the wearer is standing or walking, the front folds  $a a^4$  hang together in a manner to present substantially the appearance of an ordinary skirt in front and to conceal the fact that the skirt is divided, as do likewise the rear folds  $a' a^5$ .

The front of each portion C of the skirt is plaited vertically before it is secured to the  
85 waistband, but such plaits, as represented at  $c$ , are wholly within the line  $a a^4$  on each side and are covered and concealed, when the wearer is standing or walking, by the plain smooth exterior of the skirt. Likewise  
90 each portion C is formed at the rear with a series of plaits  $c'$ , which are formed wholly between the line  $a' a^5$  and the line  $a^2 b$  and are covered and concealed by the plain smooth exterior of the skirt at the rear.

The plaits  $c c$  and  $c' c'$  give the necessary  
95 fulness to each skirt portion to prevent interference with the movements of the wearer and also to enable the exterior to hang properly. The attachment of each skirt portion  
100 at both the front and rear edges thereof to the leg-seam  $b$  of the corresponding leg of



the trousers maintains each skirt portion in proper relative position with respect to the trousers-leg, while by reason of the vertical plaits *c c* and *c' c'* the movements of the  
 5 wearer are permitted without throwing open the skirt at the front or rear in a manner to disclose the fact that it is divided. The fact that the front edges of the respective skirt portions are free from the trousers from the  
 10 point *a* to the point *b'* permits the skirt to hang with the proper amount of fullness in front when the garment is in use, obviates an accumulation of several thicknesses of fabric at a point where it would cause incon-  
 15 venience to the wearer, and permits the skirt to be handled more readily in putting it on or off.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

20 1. A bicycle-habit comprising trousers, a divided skirt and a common waistband, the portions of the skirt being wholly independent, the one of the other, and having the front and rear edges of each portion secured to the  
 25 inner leg-seam of the corresponding trousers-leg and each portion being folded at front and rear on a line from the middle point at the top to the middle point at the bottom of

the skirt and being plaited in front and in rear between such fold and the line of attachment to the inner leg-seam, substantially as shown and described. 30

2. A bicycle-habit comprising trousers, a divided skirt and a common waistband, the portions of the skirt being wholly independent, the one of the other, and having the front and rear edges of each portion secured to the inner leg-seam of the corresponding trousers-leg and each portion being folded at front and rear on a line from the middle point at the top to the middle point at the bottom of the skirt and being plaited in front and in rear between such fold and the line of attachment to the inner leg-seam, and the upper part of the front edge of each skirt portion  
 45 being free from the trousers from the waistband to a point on the inner leg-seam of the corresponding trousers-leg, substantially as shown and described.

This specification signed and witnessed 50 this 27th day of January, A. D. 1896.

FLORENCE LOUISE AHERN.

In presence of—

A. N. JESBERA,  
 H. B. GURLEY.