

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

J. L. GOURLEY.
SKIRT ELEVATOR.

No. 581,884.

Patented May 4, 1897.

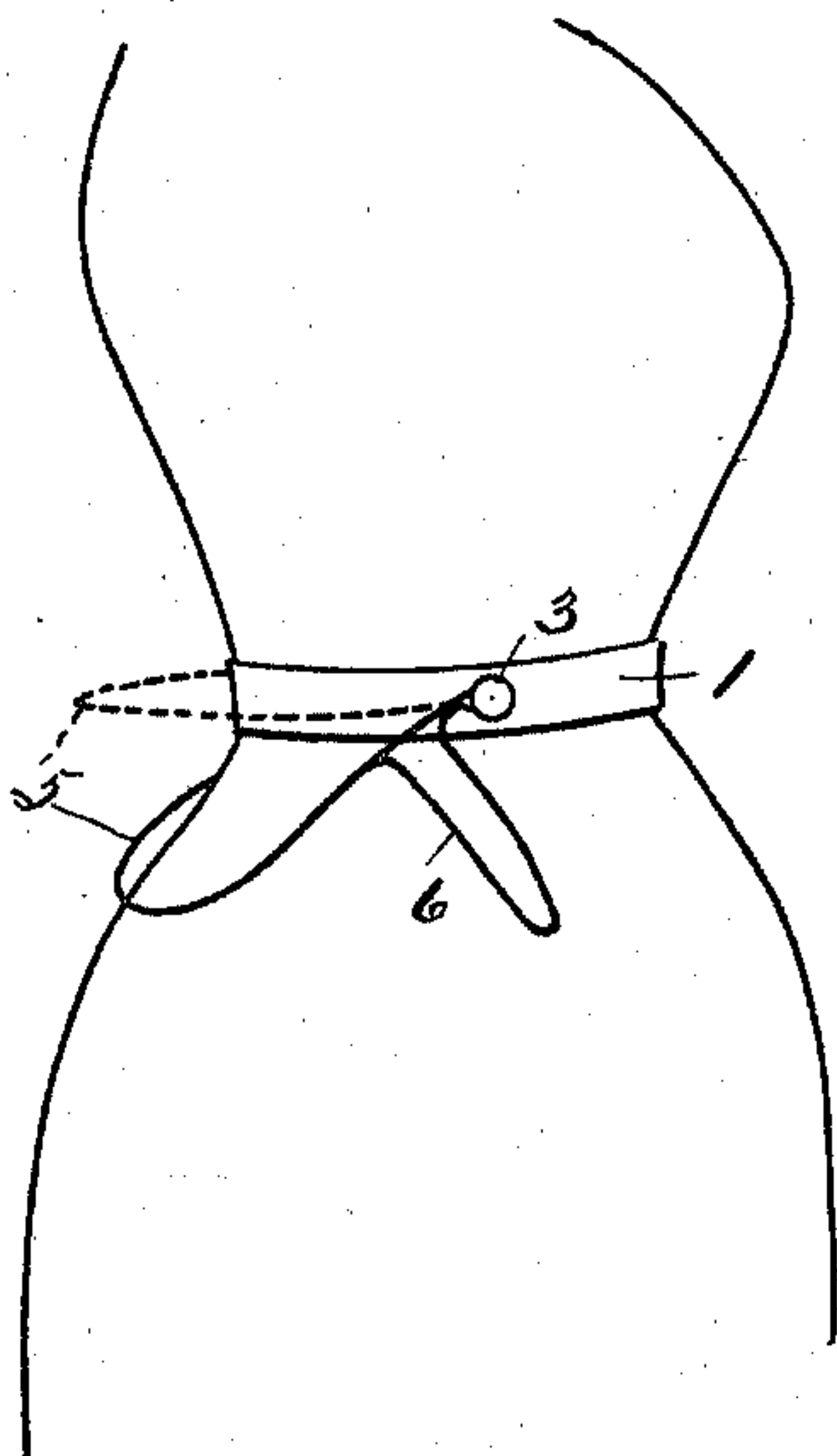


Fig. 1.

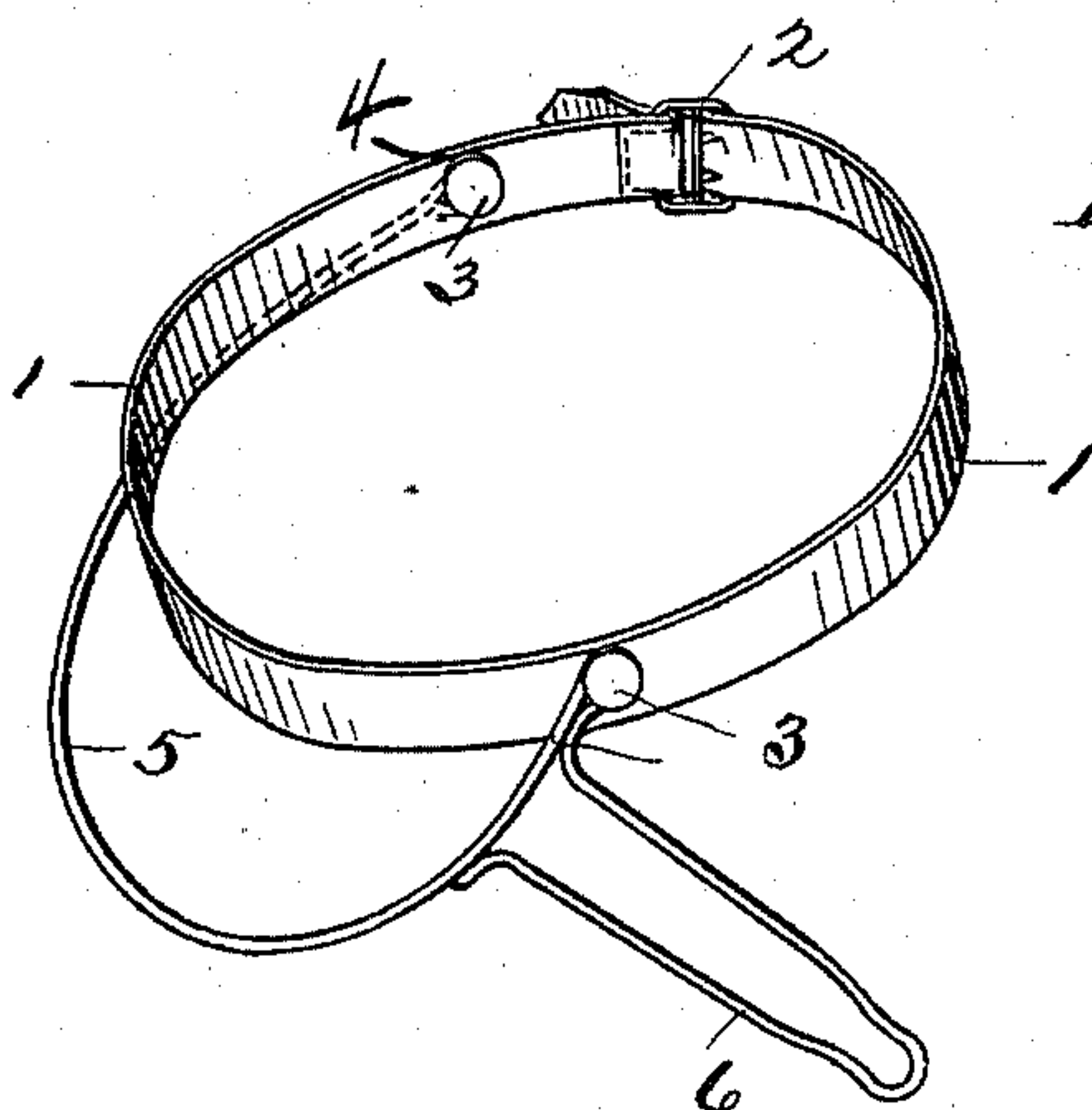


Fig. 2.

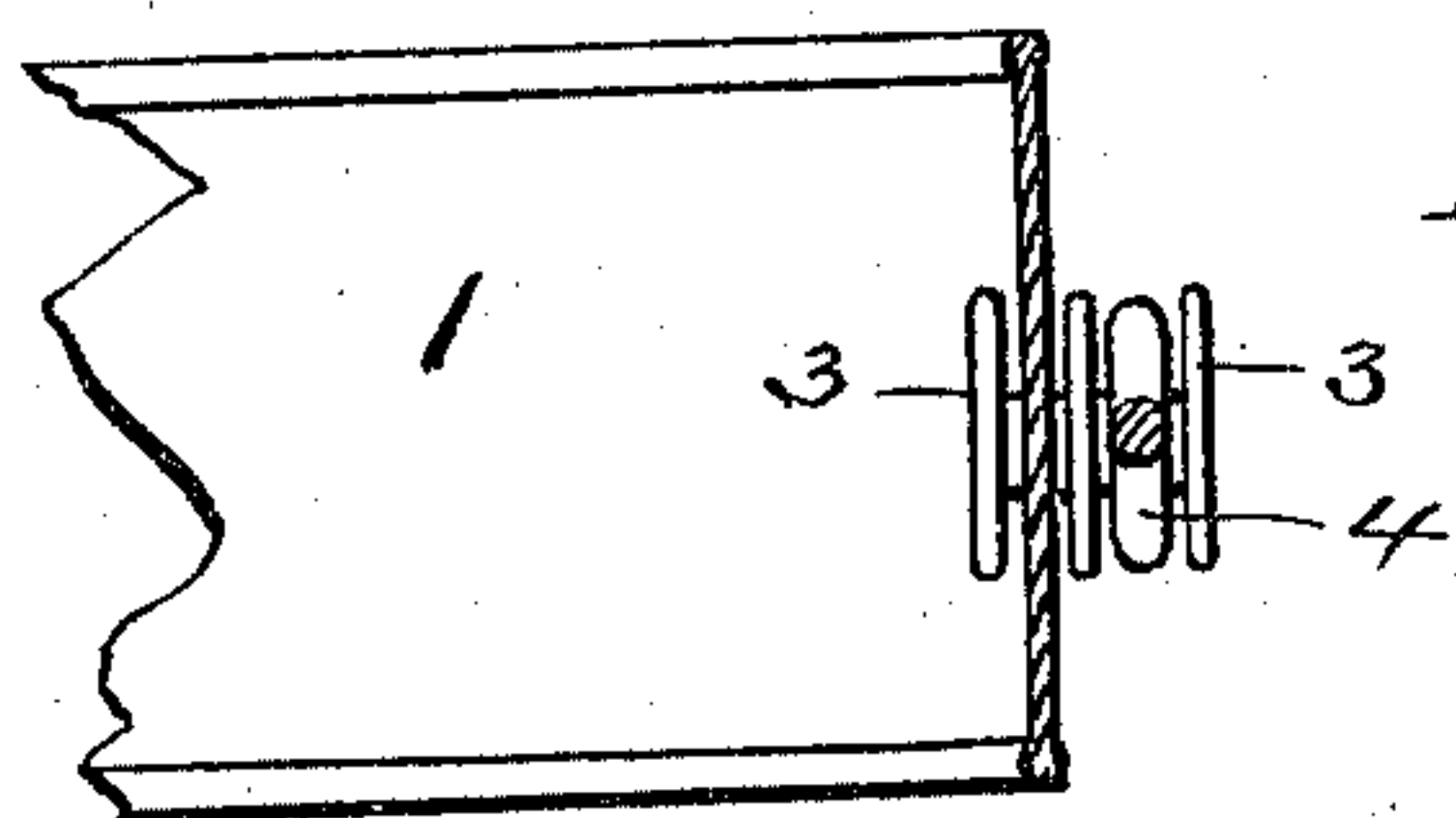


Fig. 3.

Witnesses:

Geo. W. Loun
J. A. Herrow.

Inventor,

John L. Gourley,
by his attorney
W. C. Harrison.

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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SKIRT ELEVATOR.

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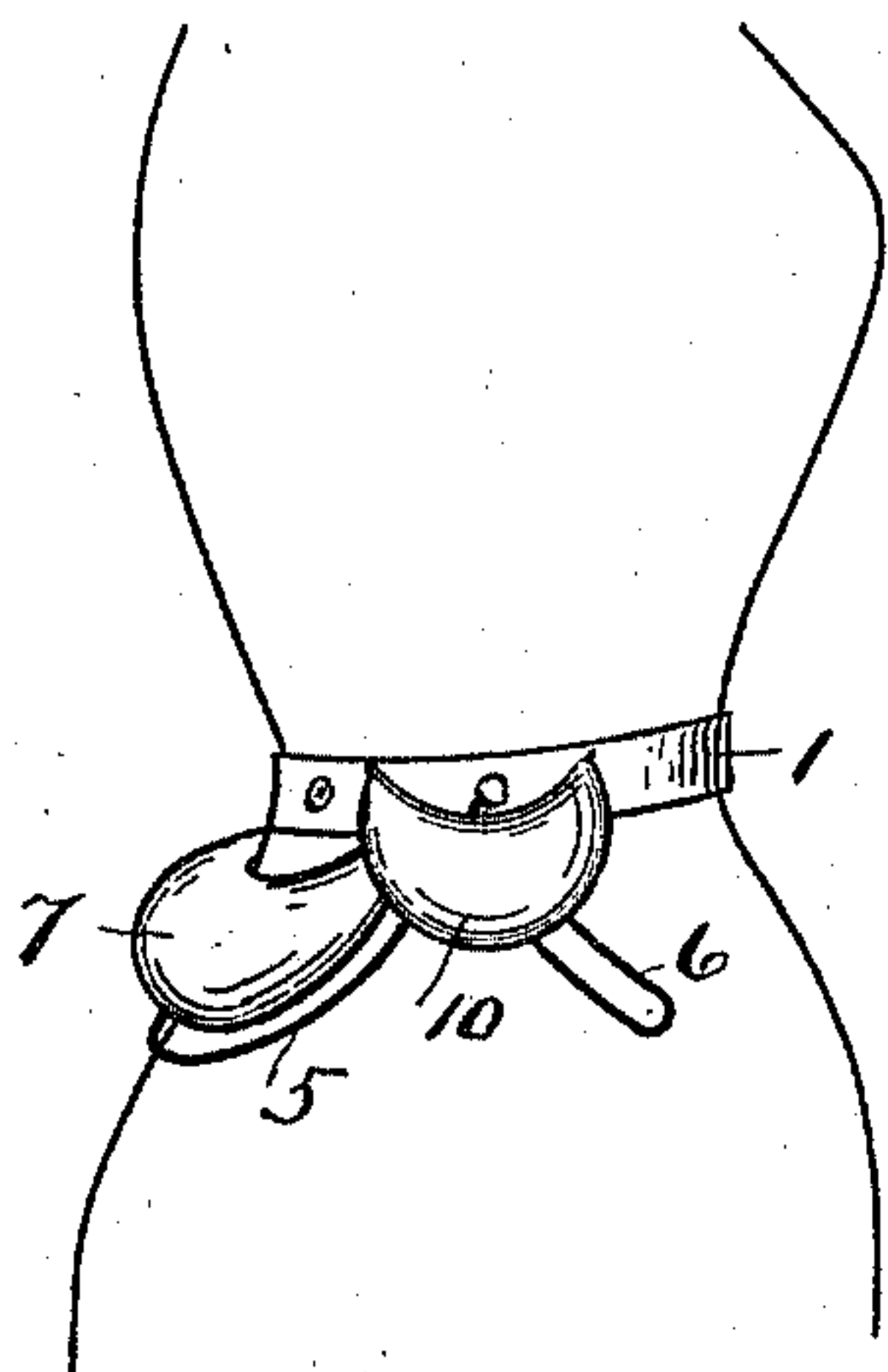


Fig. 4,

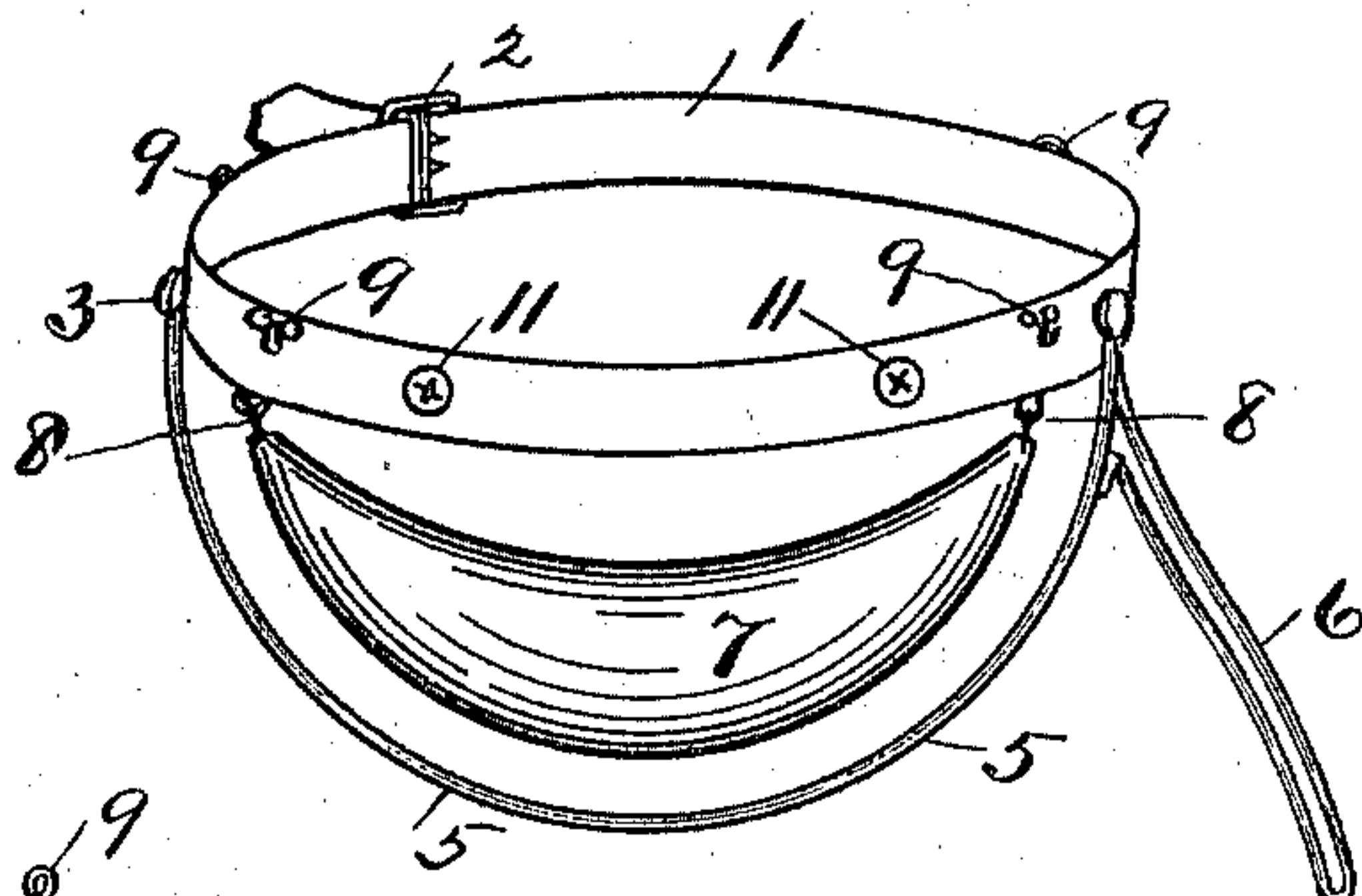


Fig. 5,

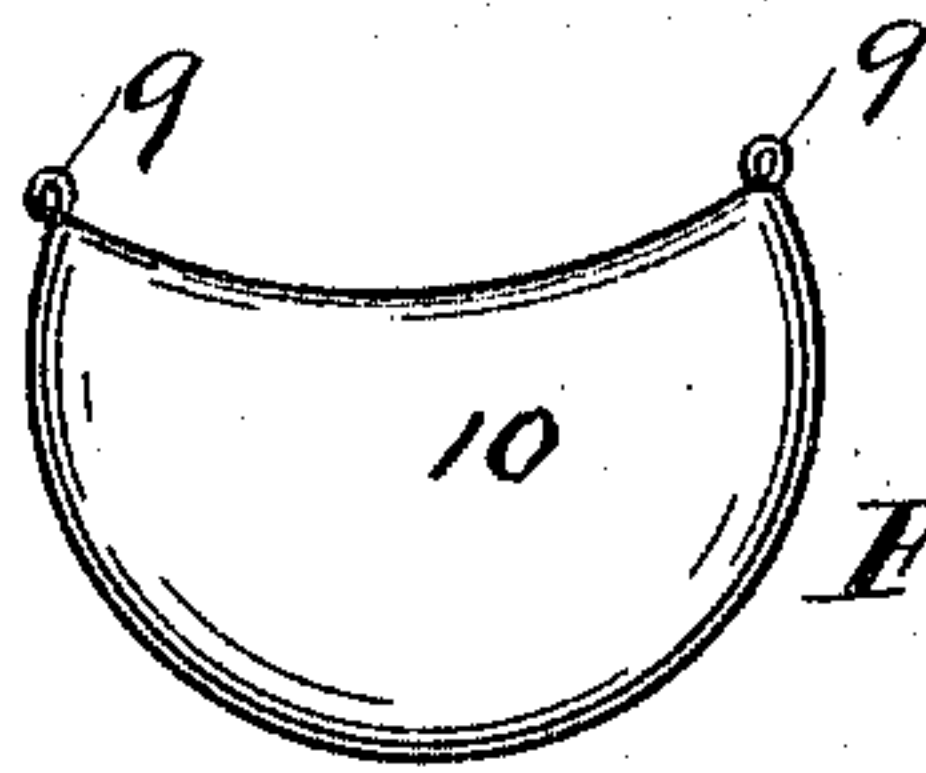


Fig. 6,

Witnesses

Geo. W. Lowen
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN L. GOURLEY, OF TARENTUM, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR OF FORTY-NINE ONE-HUNDREDTHS TO HARRY G. HILBERT, OF PITTSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA.

SKIRT-ELEVATOR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 581,884, dated May 4, 1897.

Application filed June 17, 1896. Serial No. 595,834. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN L. GOURLEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Tarentum, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Garment-Supporters; 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 pertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to an improved support for ladies' wearing-apparel; and it consists in a belt adapted to be placed about the waist, a device pivoted to the said belt in a manner that will enable the wearer to lift or elevate the skirts at the rear while crossing wet or muddy places, and also to use the said belt as a means for attaching and supporting a bustle and side pads, together with the certain details of construction and arrangement of parts, as will be fully set forth hereinafter.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved garment-support arranged in position about the waist of the female, showing the altered position to elevate the skirt in dotted lines. Fig. 2 is an enlarged perspective view of the same detached from the person. Fig. 3 is a full-sized sectional view of a portion of the belt, showing the manner of pivoting the device to the same. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the same device applied to the person and having attached thereto a bustle and side pads. Fig. 5 is an enlarged perspective view of the same having the side pads removed. Fig. 6 is a side elevation of one of the side pads, showing means for attachment to the belt.

To construct a device in accordance with my invention and thereby enable the wearer to elevate the skirt at the rear, I provide a piece of spring-wire or other suitable material and bend the same in the form of a semicircle 5, one end of which terminates in a loop or eye 4 and the other extremity bent down to form a lever 6. In forming this lever a portion of the wire is made into another loop

or eye located at the other extremity of the semicircular portion 5. This wire thus formed is pivoted by means of suitable rivets 3 to a belt 1 and the said belt provided with a buckle 2 for adjustment about the waist.

In operation the device is worn beneath the skirts and the lever 6 bent to the contour of the hips. By a backward pressure on the point of the lever 6 the same will move back about the pivots, carrying the semicircular portion 5 upward, as shown in Fig. 1 in dotted lines, thereby lifting the skirts at the rear evenly and without exposing or opening the vent, as is the case when raised or elevated by hand in the ordinary manner.

At Figs. 4, 5, and 6 of the drawings I have shown the same device above described having detachable side pads 10 and bustle 7, together with buttons 11 or other analogous device to be used as a means of attaching the waistband of the skirt thereto, thereby preventing the same from sliding downward. This bustle 7 and side pads 10 are attached to the belt by ordinary hook-and-eye fastening and may be removed if desired.

If it is desired, a second lever may be arranged upon the opposite side of the device, in order that it may be operated from either side.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

A means for elevating skirts consisting of a belt, adapted to be placed about the waist of the wearer, a wire or metallic strip 5 bent in the form of a semicircle and pivoted to the said belt by means of rivets, a downwardly-projecting portion 6, bent in the form of a loop, and integral with the said wire 5 to form a lever, whereby the said semicircular portion may be elevated or lowered about its pivotal points, all arranged and combined for service, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I hereunto affix my signature this 8th day of June, A. D. 1896.

JOHN L. GOURLEY. [L. S.]

In presence of—

JOHN C. THOMPSON,
GEO. W. LOWEN.