

No. 618,216.

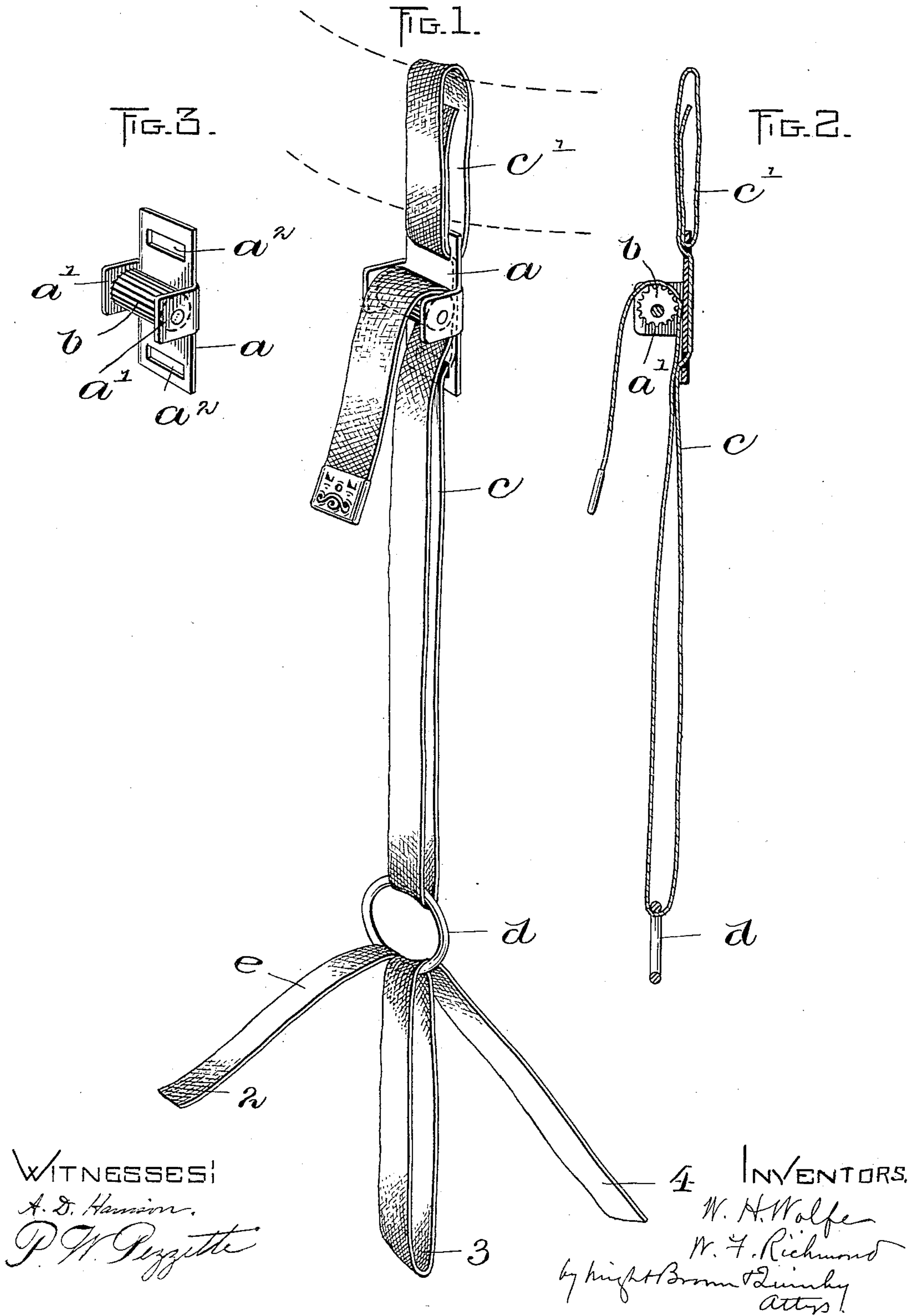
Patented Jan. 24, 1899.

W. H. WOLFE & W. F. RICHMOND.

SKIRT LIFTER AND SUPPORTER.

(Application filed Feb. 7, 1898.)

(No Model.)



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. WOLFE AND WILL F. RICHMOND, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

SKIRT LIFTER AND SUPPORTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 618,216, dated January 24, 1899.

Application filed February 7, 1898. Serial No. 669,320. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, WILLIAM H. WOLFE and WILL F. RICHMOND, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Skirt Lifters and Supporters, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has for its object to provide a simple, convenient, and effective device for raising a dress-skirt and securely holding it at any desired elevation.

The invention consists in the improvements which we will now proceed to describe and claim.

Of the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a skirt lifter and supporter embodying our invention. Fig. 2 represents a sectional view of the same, and Fig. 3 represents a perspective view of the plate and eccentric roll forming parts of said device.

The same letters and figures of reference indicate the same parts in all the figures.

In the drawings, *a* represents a flat plate of sheet metal or other suitable material, and *b* represents an eccentric roll having a roughened or corrugated periphery and journaled in ears *a'* *a'*, projecting from the plate *a*. The relative arrangement of the plate and roll is such that said parts coöperate in grasping and preventing downward movement of a strap interposed between them.

c represents a strap, which may be of tape or any other suitable material, which depends from the plate *a* and forms a bight, one end of which is secured to the plate, while the other end is free to move between the plate and roll, excepting when clamped between said parts, as hereinafter described.

d represents an eye which is loosely suspended in the bight of the strap *c* and is supported thereby, the strap being free to slip through the eye.

Suitable means are provided for suspending the plate *a* from the waistband of a skirt, said means, as here shown, being an extension *c'* of the strap passed through slots *a²* *a²* in the plate *a* and formed into a loop above the plate, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. One side of this loop may be attached to the waistband by sewing or otherwise.

The eye *d* may be connected in any suitable way with the lower portion of the skirt to be lifted. We have here shown a strap or tape *e* passed through the eye *d* in the manner shown in Fig. 1 to form three divisions 2 3 4, which are connected at the points thus designated with different parts of the skirt.

It is the intention to have the plate *a* suspended at the back of the wearer, its location being such that it is accessible through the placket-hole of the skirt, the free end of the strap projecting outwardly, so that it can be readily reached and pulled by the wearer.

It will be seen that when the free end of the strap is pulled upwardly it will slip readily between the plate *a* and the eccentric roll *b* and that when the free end is released the weight of the skirt supported by the strap will pull the eccentric roll inwardly and cause it to coöperate with the plate in grasping the strap and preventing downward movement thereof. The strap slips in the eye *d*, and thus maintains an equal tension on both sides of the bight of the strap. The free end of the strap may project through the placket-hole, in which case it should be suitably ornamented and made of a color to harmonize with the skirt.

We do not limit ourselves to the means here shown for suspending the plate *a* from the waistband nor for connecting the strap *c* with the lower portion of the skirt. We prefer the extension *c'* of the strap as the means for securing the device to the waistband, because we are thus enabled to adjust the height of the plate *a* relatively to the waistband, the slotted plate being adjustable on the strap in a manner which will be readily seen by an inspection of Figs. 1 and 2.

The roll *b*, being located at one side of the plate *a*, supports the free end of the strap *c* at a considerable distance from the outer side of the plate when the device is in use, so that the user of the device can quickly and conveniently grasp the end of the strap. This is a feature of considerable importance.

We claim—

A skirt lifting and supporting device, comprising a plate having bearings projecting from one side of the plate and slots extending crosswise of the plate, an eccentric roll journaled in said bearings and arranged to

coöperate with the plate, a strap passed through the slots of the plate and formed above the plate into a loop adapted for attachment to a waistband the end of the strap being connected with the plate, a portion of the strap extending from the lower end of the plate and disposed in the form of a bight, the outer portion of which is adjustably held by the said plate and roll, the free end of the strap being supported by the roll and separ-

ated thereby from the plate, and an eye loosely suspended in said bight and adapted to be connected with the lower portion of a skirt.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM H. WOLFE.
WILL F. RICHMOND.

Witnesses:

A. D. HARRISON,
P. W. PEZZETTI.