

No. 632,923.

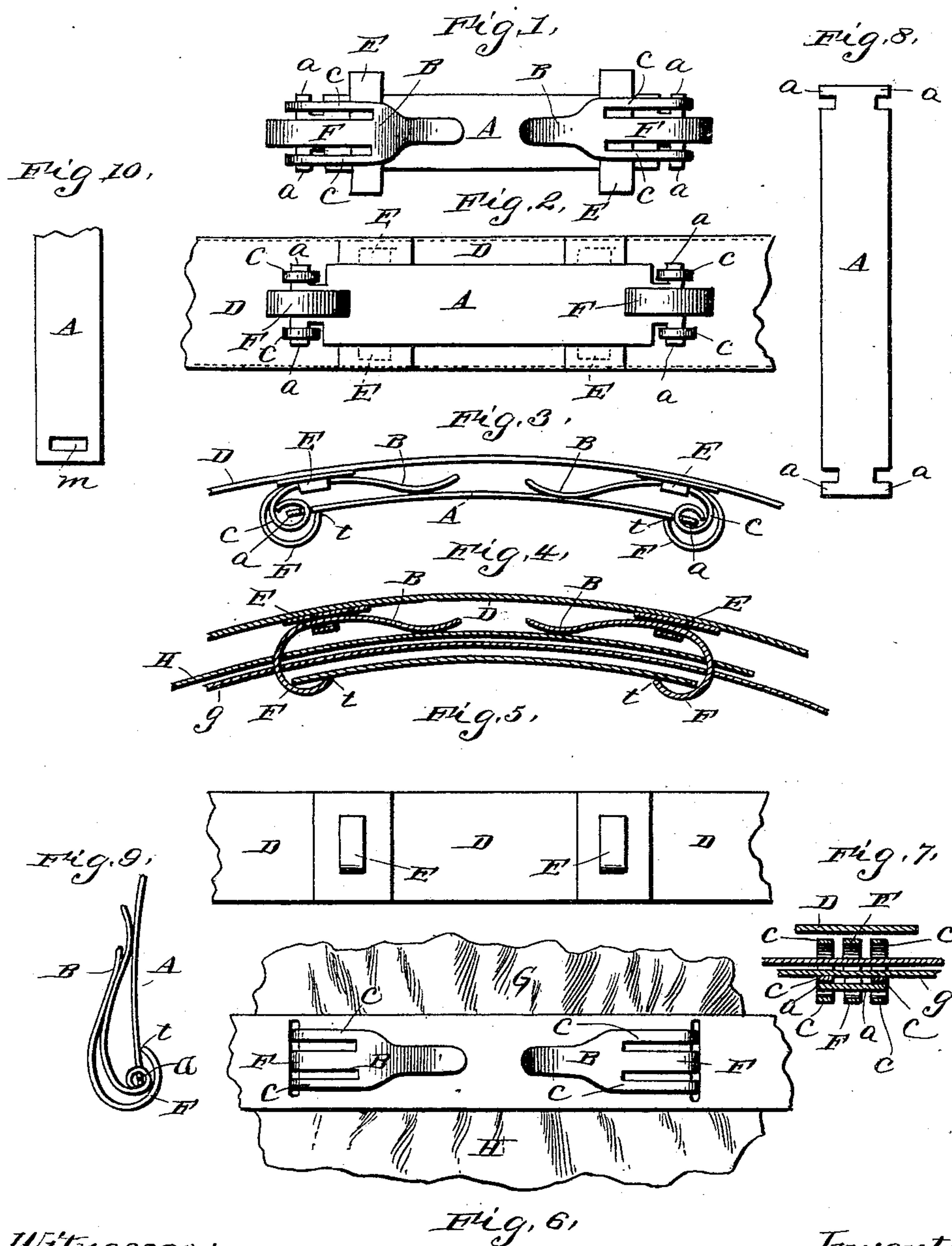
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M. LANG.

BLOUSE OR WAIST AND SKIRT AND BELT CONNECTOR.

(Application filed June 10, 1899.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses:  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## BLOUSE OR WAIST AND SKIRT AND BELT CONNECTOR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 632,923, dated September 12, 1899.

Application filed June 10, 1899. Serial No. 720,123. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MARY LANG, a citizen of the Dominion of Canada, residing at Port Hope, in the county of Durham and Province of Ontario, Canada, have invented a new and useful Blouse or Waist and Skirt and Belt Connector, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in the means of connecting the blouse or waist with the skirt and belt of a lady's garments; and the objects of my invention are to provide a connector, first, that will effectually connect the blouse or waist with the skirt and belt so that they will not separate or permit of any unseemly or uncomfortable displacement of these garments and that will support the skirt so that its weight will be borne by the shoulders and not by the hips, and, second, that can be readily and easily put into and taken out of position. I attain these objects as designated by the following specification and the accompanying drawings, in which similar letters refer to similar parts in all the figures.

My invention consists of a thin bar of metal or other suitable material slightly curved and either rigid or flexible, as may be desired, to conform to the form of the body of the wearer and having two clasp-levers hinged one at or near each end of the said bar in such a manner that they may be raised at any angle to the convex surface of the said bar or lie down upon it. These levers have a spring to force them down upon the bar. There are also loops made of any suitable material, one for each lever, which pass over the levers and are attached to the belt. Although two of these levers are ordinarily sufficient, yet any number of them may be placed along the convex side of the bar between those at or near the extremities; also, any number of my connectors may be used in the same garments to connect and support them more effectually.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a top plan view of my connector. Fig. 2 is a bottom view showing also the inner surface of a portion of the belt. Fig. 3 is a side view showing also the edge of a portion of the belt. Fig. 4 is a longitudinal perpendicular central section showing also a section of a portion of the belt

and of the blouse and of the skirt in the same plane. Fig. 5 shows the loops E E attached to the inner surface of the belt. Fig. 6 shows a portion of the blouse G and of the skirt H with the levers pressed down upon them. Fig. 7 is a perpendicular cross-section centrally through a hinge and the belt and a portion of the blouse and of the skirt. Fig. 8 is the main bar with its trunnions *a a a a*, to which the levers B B are hinged. Fig. 9 is another form of the clasp-levers, showing its spring F and its attachment to the bar A. Fig. 10 is an end of the bar A, as constructed for such a lever.

In the figures, A is the main bar, and *a a a a* are the trunnions, to which the levers are hinged.

B B are the levers, made of any suitable spring metal or other suitable material, and are divided into three parts C, F, and C at their lower portions. The parts C C are curved about the trunnions *a a*, forming a hinge, and the part F curves about the end of the bar A in a larger curve and extends forward along the concave surface of the bar A and bears forcibly against it when the lever lies upon the convex surface. It is clear that if the lever is raised this part will bear against the bar at *t* and by its elasticity bring it down again on being released.

D is a portion of the belt, made of any suitable material.

E E are loops attached to the inner surface of the belt in any suitable manner, either in a permanent position or so as to slide along the belt, as may be desired, and which are drawn over the levers B B, as shown in Fig. 3.

G is a portion of the blouse, and H is a portion of the skirt.

In use the connector is placed internally to the blouse. The levers B B are raised at about right angles to the bar A and put through buttonholes or other suitable holes in the band of the blouse G and then through similar holes in the band of the skirt H and brought down upon the garments. When springs are used on the levers in any suitable form, these will bring them down. The loops E E being attached to the belt are then drawn into place over the levers B B and the belt fastened about the person in any manner desired. This adds materially to the strength



and completeness of the connector. The connector also in this manner holds the belt into position and keeps it from rising out of place. The belt and the connector are thus materially interdependent upon each other, yet the connector is very effective without the belt. The combination of the two is a portion of my invention.

There may be other forms of the levers and spring, one of which is shown at Fig. 9, in which the lever B is not divided at its lower end. In this case the bar A has an opening, as at M, Fig. 10, leaving a portion of the end about which the lower end of the lever is curved, so as to form a hinge. Any suitable spring may be used to keep the lever B in position.

Other forms of the levers B B may be used with suitable springs, or when the belt with the loops E E is used the levers B B may be used without any spring, the belt, with the loops E E, successfully keeping the levers in position, or, on the other hand, when the levers have the spring sufficiently strong they may be used without the belt, and the parts of the levers thus not covered by the belt may be ornamented as desired.

It is plain that by this invention, which may be fitly named the "missing-link" blouse, skirt, and belt connector, these garments and the belt are effectually connected and so that the waist bearing upon the shoulders will ma-

terially relieve the hips from the weight of the skirt and render it unnecessary to have the waist fastened so tightly about the person of the wearer.

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

1. In combination, in a blouse or waist and skirt connector, a bar having two levers, hinged, one at or near one extremity of the bar, and the other at or near the other extremity; and which levers are to pass through the blouse and skirt and connect them and each lever have a spring to hold it in position, substantially as described.

2. In combination, in a blouse or waist and skirt connector, a bar, having two levers, hinged, one at or near one extremity of the bar and the other at or near the other extremity, with a belt having two loops which pass over the said levers in the manner and for the purpose substantially as described.

3. In combination in a blouse or waist and skirt connector, a plurality of levers hinged to a bar with a belt having a plurality of loops corresponding to the number of levers, a loop for each lever, constructed in the manner and for the purpose substantially as set forth.

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Witnesses:

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