

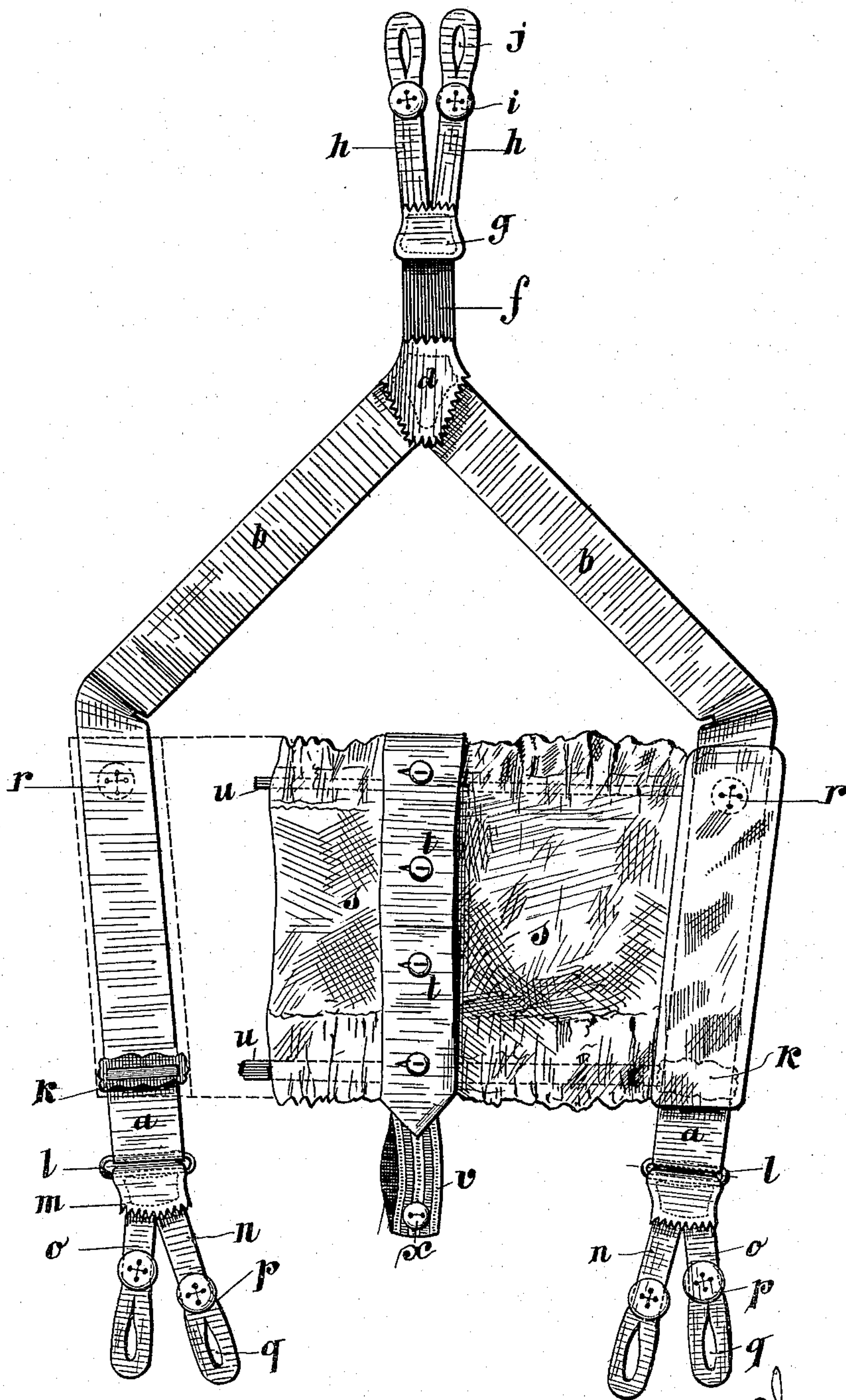
No. 639,381.

Patented Dec. 19, 1899.

C. HARDT.  
WAIST.

(Application filed July 18, 1899.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHRISTINA HARDT, OF BLASEWITZ, GERMANY.

## WAIST.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 639,381, dated December 19, 1899.

Application filed July 18, 1899. Serial No. 724,270. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHRISTINA HARDT, a citizen of Germany, residing at Blasewitz, near Dresden, in the Empire of Germany, have invented useful improvements in hygienic braces for women, in connection with a bodice and with garment-suspenders, dispensing with corsets or stays and bands, serving to fasten and adjust the dress; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description.

The present invention relates to improvements in women's dresses, and has particularly for its object improved braces or galls of suitable form intended for fastening and suspending the petticoats and pantaloons or breeches, as hereinafter described and set forth in the specification and claim and illustrated in the accompanying drawing.

Hitherto the petticoats and breeches were worn by fastening and adjusting them by means of bands and strings surrounding the hips, so impeding the free circulation of the blood and hindering the compressed organs from rightly performing their functions, particularly during pregnancy. These troubles and uneasinesses are removed by the use of my improved and hygienic braces, which enable the petticoats, pantaloons, and breeches to be held up much more readily and securely without impeding and obstructing in any way the movements and functions of the body.

The annexed drawing illustrates, for instance, a certain form of this improved pair of braces.

According to their appearance, these braces look like those which are worn by men and consist of two bands *a b*, of fabric, which may be elastic or not. Said bands are joined together at *d* by means of a flap of skin or any other like resisting material, which at the same time joins together the two bands *a b* and the elastic band *f*. This latter carries at its end a piece of skin *g*, to which are affixed the two back flaps *h*, which are provided with buttons *i* and buttonholes *j*. The part *a* of the bands *a b* after being passed into the buckle *k* and the ring *l* rejoins again be-

low the buckle *k*, to which it remains fixed. The buckle *k* is further intended to lengthen and shorten the braces, as set forth. The rings *l* carry the skin bands *m*, to which are affixed the fore flaps *n o*, which are provided with the buttons *p* and the buttonholes *q*.

The braces are placed upon the shoulders in the ordinary way—that is to say, the part *b* falling to the back, while the part *a* falls to the front upon the chest. The end parts *a* are provided with buttons *r*, serving to attach to the braces two pieces of fabric *s*, which are joined together by means of buttons *t* and carry the elastics *u*. On the underside of said pieces of fabric is secured a sliding board *v*, made of elastic fabric and provided with buttons *x*.

It is easy to understand that the flaps *h o n* are intended for attaching the pantaloons or breeches and petticoats by means of their buttons and buttonholes without the help of any bands and strips. Moreover, the pieces of fabric *a* are intended for upholding the breast and enable the wearer to dispense with corsets or stays, the use of which is so prejudicial to health, and finally, the slide board *v* serves to fasten a hygienic napkin or flannel, as may be the case.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The improved hygienic braces hereinbefore set forth, comprising two bands joined together at one end, flaps connected with the joined ends of said bands and also with each of the free ends thereof, and provided with buttons and buttonholes, two pieces of fabric attached respectively to the bands, buttons for joining said pieces together, and elastic bands secured to said pieces.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereto set my hand this 1st day of July, 1899.

CHRISTINA HARDT.

Witnesses:

ERNST ARTHUR WEBER.  
FRITZ RAKUTT.