

No. 648,186.

Patented Apr. 24, 1900.

M. H. G. BOUTINEAU.  
SKIRT LIFTER.

(Application filed Dec. 19, 1898.)

(No Model.)

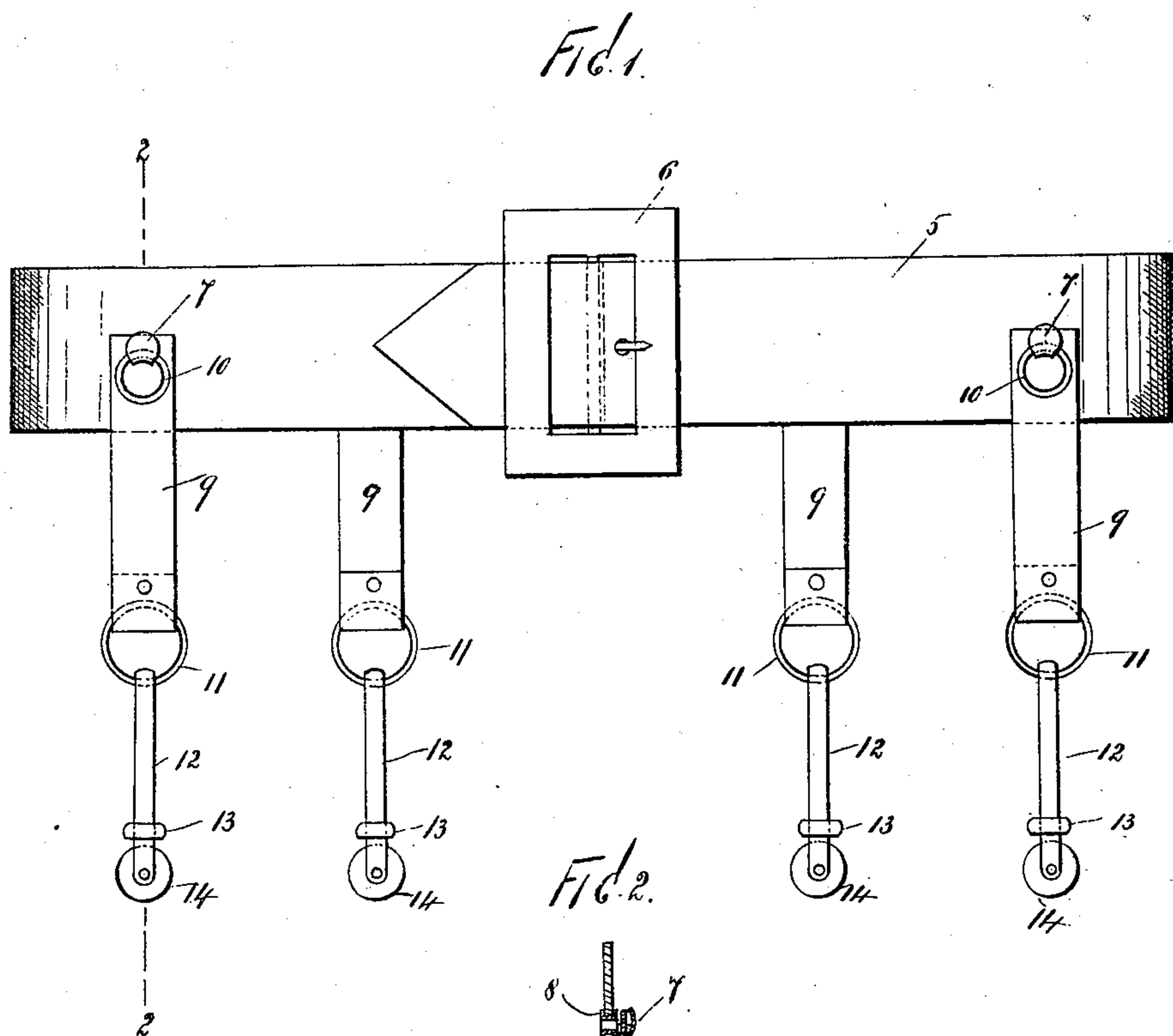
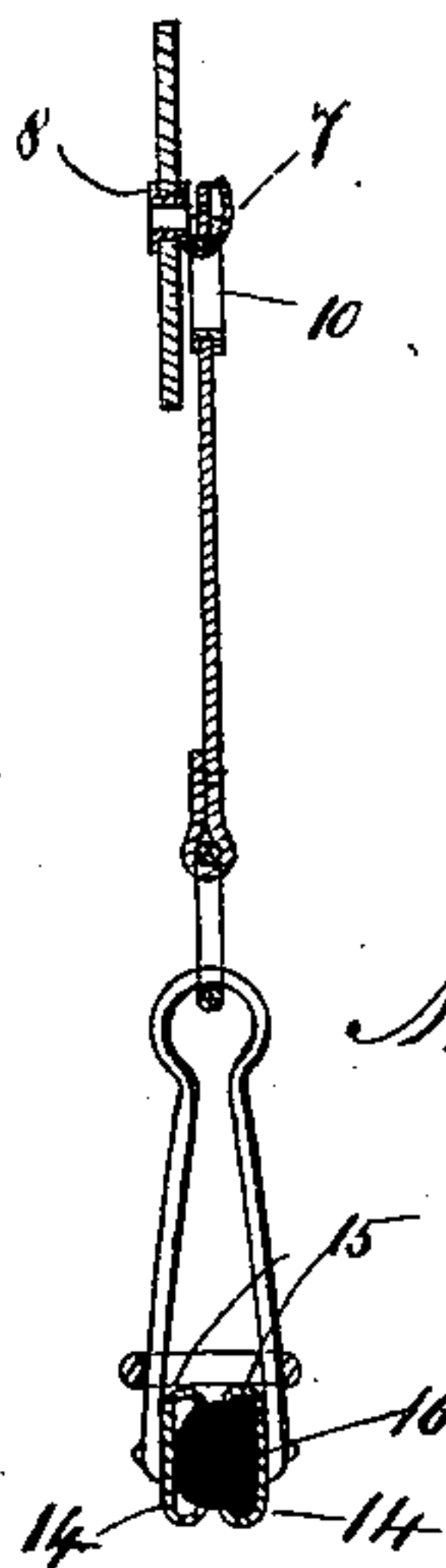


FIG. 2.



WITNESSES

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MAXIME HONORÉ GODFREY BOUTINEAU, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## SKIRT-LIFTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 648,186, dated April 24, 1900.

Application filed December 19, 1898. Serial No. 699,634. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MAXIME HONORÉ GODFREY BOUTINEAU, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Skirt-Supporters, of which the following is a full and complete specification, such as will enable those skilled in the art to which it ap-  
10 pertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to skirt-supports for use in wet and stormy weather; and the object thereof is to provide an ordinary belt with devices of this class which are simple in construction and operation and well adapted to accomplish the result for which they are intended, an especial object of the invention being to provide such a device as will not only be detachable when desired, but also which  
15 either when in use or not in use will be free from any tendency to become dislodged from position or catch on adjoining or passing objects and which, nevertheless, will be perfect and efficient in its primary mode of operation.

The invention is fully disclosed in the following specification, of which the accompanying drawings form a part, in which—

Figure 1 is a front view of a belt provided with my improved skirt-supports, and Fig. 2  
30 a partial section on the line 2 2 of Fig. 1.

In the drawings forming part of this specification the separate parts of my improvement are designated by the same numerals of reference in each of the views, and in said drawings I have shown at 5 an ordinary belt provided with the usual buckle 6, and in the practice of my invention I secure to said belt at different points ornamental ordinary knob-hooks 7, which may be of any desired form  
40 and which are preferably similar in form to ordinary shoe or glove hooks, and said hooks are provided with eyelets 8, which pass through the belt 5 and by means of which they are secured to said belt.

I also provide short flat straps 9, which are provided at their upper ends with eyelets 10, by means of which they are suspended from the hooks 7, and said straps are provided at their lower ends with rings 11, from which are  
50 suspended spring-clamps 12 of any preferred form or construction.

The spring-clamps 12, as shown in the drawings, are yoke-shaped in form and provided with a sliding ring 13. The lower end of each side of said yoke-shaped clamps is provided  
55 with a circular head 14, having an inwardly-directed flange or rim 15, and one of said heads carries a rubber cushion 16, which is adapted to be pressed upon by the opposite head, and in practice the material of the skirt  
60 is inserted between said heads, and the object of the rubber cushion 16 is to prevent injury thereto.

The operation will be readily understood from the foregoing description when taken in  
65 connection with the accompanying drawings and the following statement thereof.

The straps 9 may be detached from the belt and only connected therewith when desired to support the skirt or to raise the same,  
70 and the belt 5 may be used independently of said straps or supporting devices. Whenever it is so desired, the straps 9 may be connected with the hooks 7, and the skirt may be raised at different points and the clamps  
75 12 secured thereto, and it will be apparent that the bottom of the skirt may thus be held at any desired point of elevation.

It will be seen that by the construction which I have described and which is shown  
80 in the drawings the short flat straps 9 lie against the surface of the belt and of the skirt, and while they are capable of a species of pivotal motion upon the hooks 7 it will particularly be noted that the main pivotal  
85 point of the clamps 12 is upon the rings 11. In practice the function, operation, and advantages of this construction are that the straps do not swing with the weight of the clamps; but said clamps will swing only upon  
90 the rings 11, and any movement of the flat straps 9 will simply be a change of angular position with respect to the hooks 7, according to what portion of the skirt they are connected to, through the medium of said clamps.  
95 It is thus quite impossible for these devices embodying my invention to catch on any passing object, as would be the case were they simply uniform swinging connections. Moreover, the pivotal connection of the clamps  
100 upon the rings 11 is so perfectly free that any desired adjustment of the position of the



clamps to engage any portion of the skirt is thereby rendered possible, notwithstanding the shortness of the connecting-straps 9, and it will be seen that the whole construction co-  
5 operates to prevent an unequal maximum of efficiency and of compactness.

My improved skirt-supporter is simple in construction and operation, and it will be apparent that changes in and modifications  
10 of the construction described may be made without departing from the spirit of my invention or sacrificing its advantages.

I am aware that belts have heretofore been provided with means for supporting a skirt  
15 or holding the skirt in a raised position. In my improvement the hooks which are employed are connected with the belt at regular intervals and are of the ordinary knob pattern, and said hooks serve to decorate or or-  
20 nament the belt when the suspending-straps are not employed.

Having fully described my invention, I

claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

A dress-supporter comprising a belt having 25 hooks secured to it and straps of such length as to bear on and of such width as to remain flat on the hip portions of the skirt, each provided with an eyelet engaging a hook of the belt and bearing flatly against the belt and  
30 at the other end with a ring secured flatwise of the strip, and clamps having eyes engaging the rings crosswise and having jaw-faces at a right angle to their eyes, as and for the purpose set forth. 35

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name, in presence of the subscribing witnesses, this 17th day of December, 1898.

MAXIME HONORÉ GODFROY BOUTINEAU.

Witnesses:

F. A. STEWART,

A. C. MCLOUGHLIN.