

No. 656,487.

Patented Aug. 21, 1900.

L. M. SMITH.  
SKIRT HANGER.

(Application filed Jan. 15, 1900.)

(No Model.)

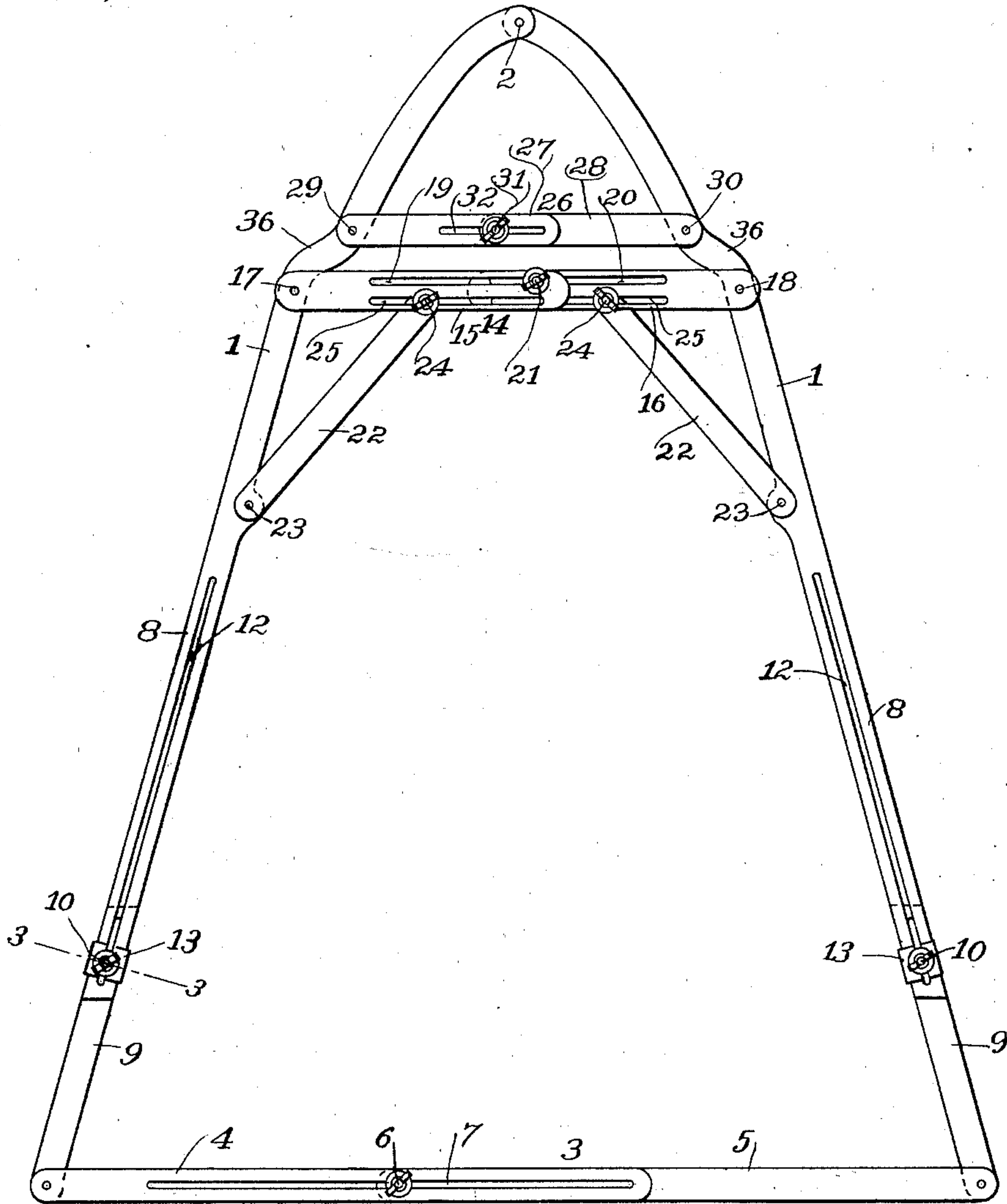


FIG. 1.

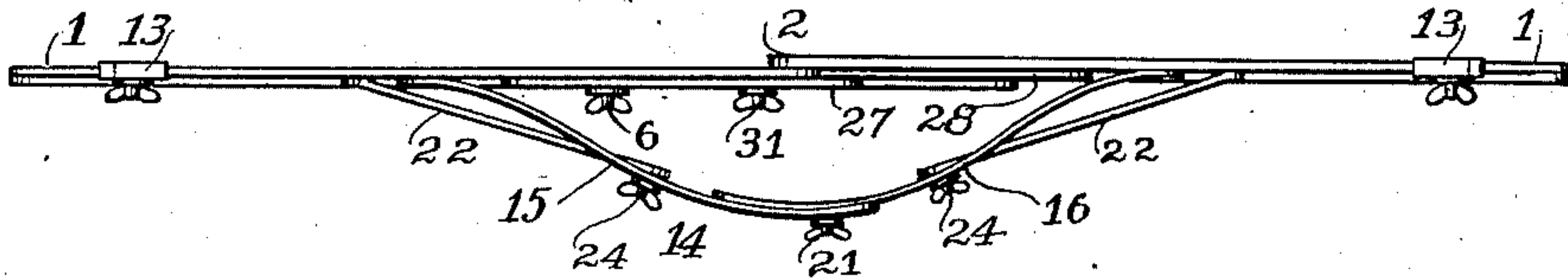
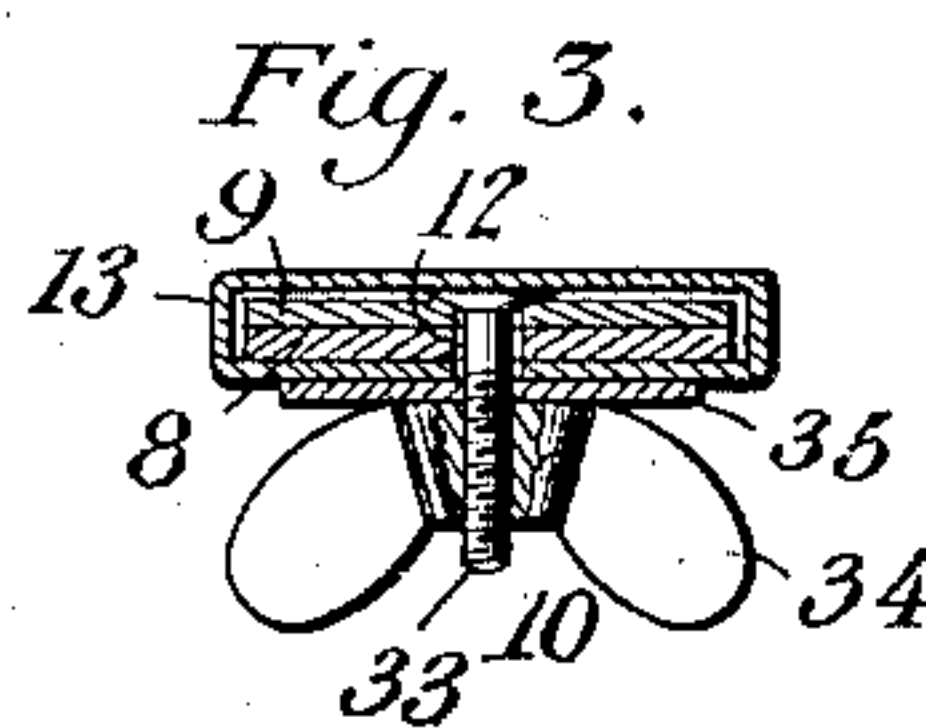


FIG. 2.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LUCY M. SMITH, OF LYNN, MASSACHUSETTS.

## SKIRT-HANGER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 656,487, dated August 21, 1900.

Application filed January 15, 1900. Serial No. 1,478. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, LUCY M. SMITH, of Lynn, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Skirt-Hangers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to hangers or forms for keeping ladies' skirts in shape when not in use.

The invention consists in a hanger having certain novel characteristics of structure and arrangement hereinafter claimed and described in the specification.

Of the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a rear elevation of a skirt-hanger constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 represents a top plan view thereof. Fig. 3 represents an enlarged section on the line 3 3 of Fig. 1.

The same reference characters indicate the same parts in all the figures.

Referring to the drawings, 1 1 designate two side bars arranged in downwardly-divergent form, so as to correspond to the outlines of a skirt, and having skirt-supporting portions which terminate at their upper ends in two shoulders 36 36, located near the upper ends of the bars and adapted to support the waistband of the skirt. The bars are continued to an apex 2 at their upper ends, where they are pivoted together, the portions of the bars between the shoulders 36 and the pivot or apex 2 constituting a loop, which may be hung over a clothes-hook or similar support to suspend the hanger. The lower ends of the bars 1 1 are connected by a cross-bar 3, which is made adjustable in length to accord with the other adjustments of the hanger, which I shall presently describe, the said cross-bar forming a stiffening connection which holds the lower ends of the side bars at a fixed distance apart.

The bar 3 consists of two overlapping sections 4 5, pivoted to the bars 1 1 and adjustably connected by means of a clamp or fastening 6, the stem of which passes through an elongated slot 7 in the section 4. The side bars 1 are also adjustable in length, each consisting, as shown, of an upper section 8 and a lower section 9, adjustably connected by a clamp or fastening 10, the section 8 having a slot 12, through which the stem of said clamp

passes. A section of the clamp 10 is shown in detail in Fig. 3, the same comprising a threaded stem 33, fixed to the section 9 and passing through the slot 12 in the section 8, a thumb-nut 34, screwing on said stem, and a washer 35, interposed between the said thumb-nut and section 8. A stiffening-sheath 13 may be applied to the joint between the sections 8 9, the edges of said sheath being shown in the drawings as interposed between the washer 35 and the section 8. The clamp 6 is or may be of a similar construction to the clamp 10. The side bars 1 may, by the described construction, be adjusted in length for skirts of different lengths, and if the same angle be maintained between the side bars during their adjustment for length it will obviously be necessary to vary the length of the cross-bar 3.

Connected to the side bars 1 1 just below the shoulders 36 36 is a cross-bar 14, bowed out rearwardly, as shown in Fig. 2, and constituting a skirt-distender equivalent to a bustle for filling out the upper back portion of the skirt. The bar 14 is adjustable in length to either vary the amount of its rearward projection or to accommodate the different angular adjustments of the side bars 1 1. It consists, as shown, of two overlapping sections 15 16, pivoted at 17 18 to the side bars 1 1 and connected by a clamp or fastening 21, the stem of which passes through elongated slots 19 20 in the two sections. The bar 14 is braced by means of struts or braces 22 22, pivoted at their lower ends at 23 23 to the side bars 1 1 and adjustably connected at their upper ends to the cross-bar 14 by means of clamps or fastenings 24 24, the stems of which pass through elongated slots 25 25 in the respective sections 15 16. The end thrust of the cross-bar 14 is counteracted by means of a cross-bar 26, attached to the side bars 1 1 immediately above the bar 14 and forming a rigid connection between said side bars. The cross-bar 26 is adjustable in length to accommodate the different angular adjustments of the side bars and, as shown, consists of overlapping sections 27 28, pivoted at 29 30 to the side bars 1 1 and connected by a clamp or fastening 31, the stem of which passes through an elongated slot 32 in the section 27. The clamps 21, 24, and 31 are or may be



similar in construction to the clamp 10, the clamp 21, however, having its stem free from rigid connection with either of the sections of the bar 14.

5 The adjustment of the hanger to vary the angle of divergence between the side bars 11 for skirts of varying outline or flare is accomplished by loosening the clamps 6 and 31 in the lower and upper cross-bars, spreading  
10 or contracting the side bars 11, and retightening the clamps. The distending-bar 14 may then, if desired, be readjusted in length to maintain its former distance of projection from the plane of the hanger.

15 My invention provides a simple and light skirt-hanger capable of being packed within a small space when not in use and having various adjustments which render it applicable to a wide variety of sizes and shapes of skirts,  
20 said adjustments being easily and quickly made when required.

I do not confine myself to the exact details of construction and arrangement herein set forth, as the same may be considerably varied  
25 without departing from the spirit and nature of the invention.

It will be observed that with the exception of the rearwardly-projecting skirt-distending member all the parts are in practically the  
30 same plane or in parallel planes lying close together, so that the device while wide and ample in one direction is very thin in the other direction. Hence several of the hangers with skirts thereon can be suspended side  
35 by side on a single peg or support.

I claim—

1. A skirt-hanger comprising side bars having substantially-straight body portions which diverge downwardly from the upper end of  
40 the hanger, and inwardly-curved end portions the extremities of which are hinged together to permit the bars to swing toward and from each other to vary the angle of divergence of the body portions, said end portions constituting a loop for engagement with a support,  
45 and a cross-bar adjustable in length and connecting the straight body portions and holding them at the desired angle of divergence.

2. A skirt-hanger comprising side bars having substantially-straight body portions which diverge downwardly from the upper end of  
50 the hanger, and inwardly-curved end portions, the extremities of which are hinged together to permit the bars to swing toward and from each other to vary the angle of divergence of the body portions, said end portions constituting a loop for engagement with  
55 a support, and a cross-bar adjustable in length and connecting the straight body por-

tions and holding them at the desired angle  
60 of divergence, the side bars having shoulders 36 between the body portions and the curved end portions.

3. A skirt-hanger comprising side bars arranged in downwardly-divergent form and in  
65 parallel planes, adjustable spacing means located between said bars and in planes parallel therewith, and a skirt-distending member at the upper portion of the hanger and projecting from one side thereof.  
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4. A skirt-hanger comprising side bars arranged in downwardly-divergent form and in  
75 parallel planes, adjustable spacing means located between said bars and in planes parallel therewith, a skirt-distending member at the upper portion of the hanger and projecting from one side thereof, and skirt-supporting shoulders 36 formed on the upper portions of the side bars above the skirt-distending member.  
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5. A skirt-hanger comprising side bars arranged in downwardly-divergent form, a rearwardly-bowed cross-bar attached near the upper ends of said side bars, and diagonal braces connecting said cross-bar with the side bars.  
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6. A skirt-hanger comprising side bars arranged in downwardly-divergent form, a rearwardly-bowed cross-bar attached near the upper ends of said side bars, diagonal braces connecting said cross-bar with the side bars,  
90 means to vary the distance between the side bars, and means to adjust said braces along the cross-bar.

7. A skirt-hanger comprising side bars arranged in downwardly-divergent form, a  
95 cross-bar rigidly uniting the upper ends of said side bars, means to vary the length of said cross-bar, a rearwardly-projecting skirt-distending member attached to the side bars in the vicinity of said cross-bar, and means  
100 for adjusting said member in a direction crosswise of the side bars.

8. A skirt-hanger comprising two bars pivoted together at their upper ends and arranged at an angle, a cross-bar rigidly connecting said two bars near their upper ends,  
105 means to vary the length of said cross-bar, a rearwardly-projecting skirt-distending member attached to the two bars in the vicinity of said cross-bar, and means for adjusting  
110 said member in a direction crosswise of the two bars.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

LUCY M. SMITH.

Witnesses:

C. F. BROWN,  
A. D. HARRISON.