

No. 669,385.

Patented Mar. 5, 1901.

**E. A. ESTABROOK.**  
**SKIRT SUPPORTER.**

(Application filed May 12, 1900.)

(No Model.)

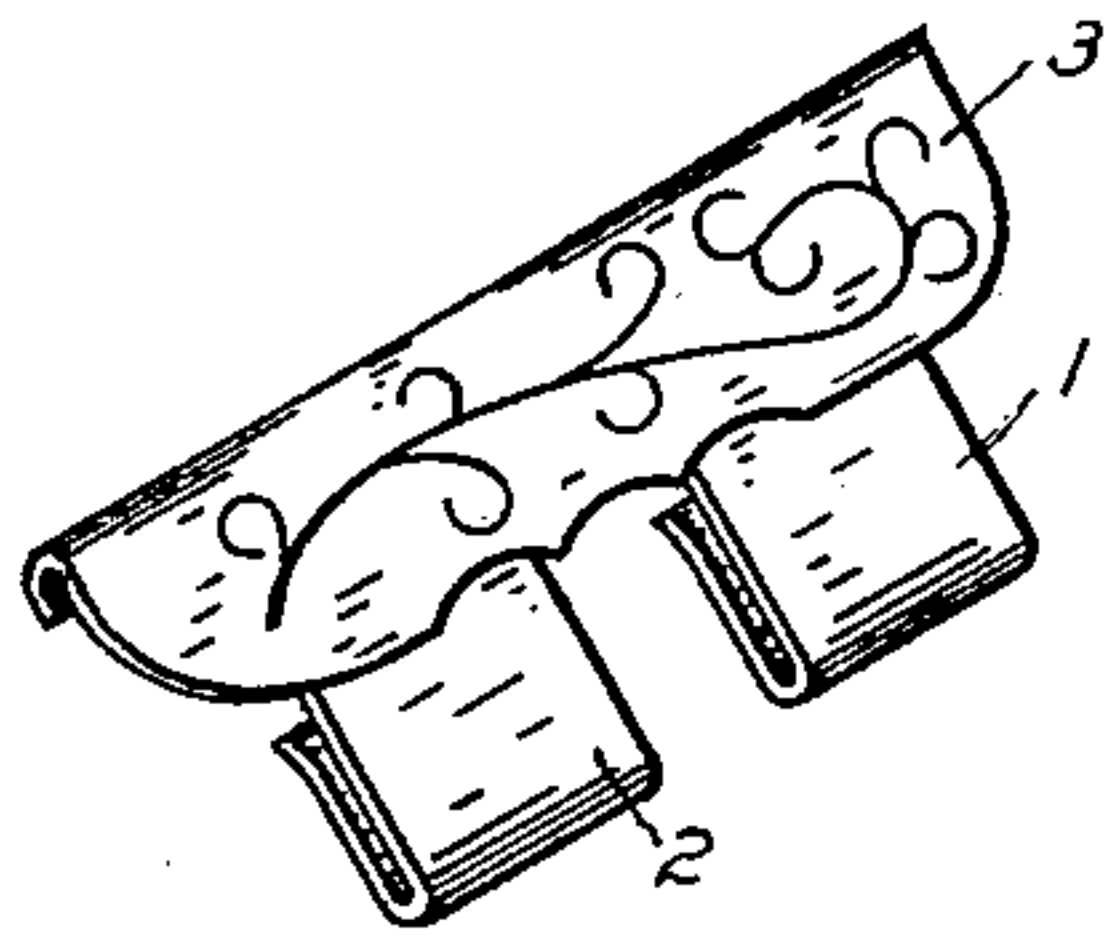


Fig. 1.

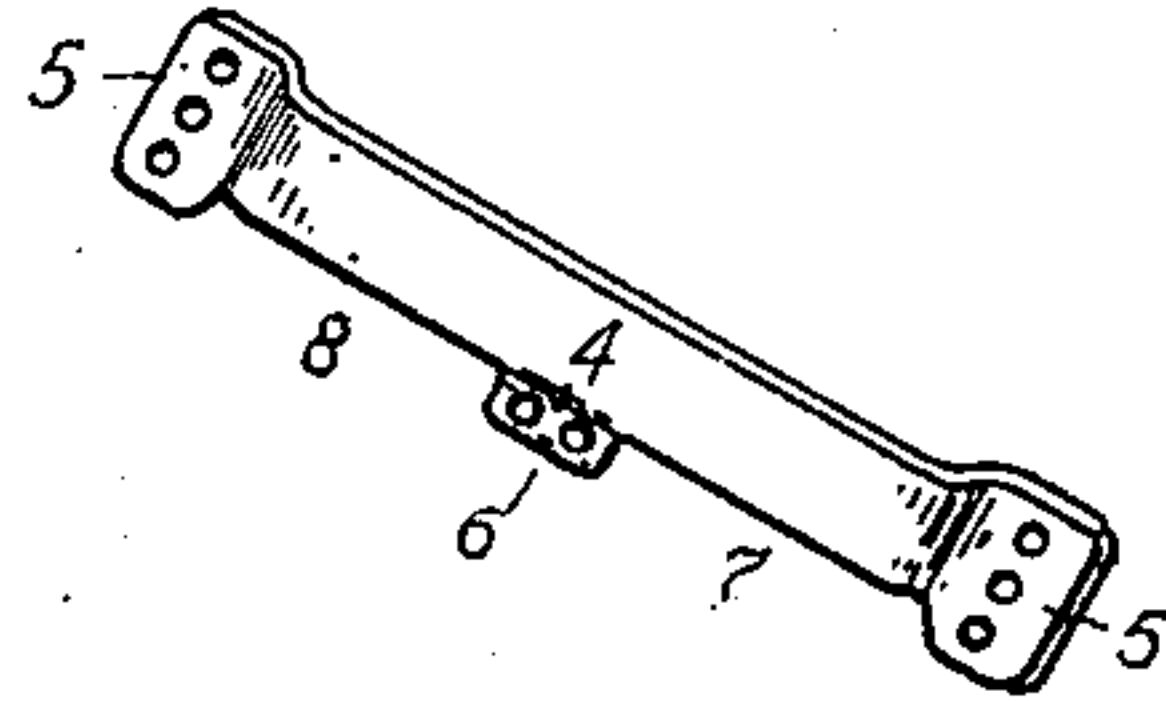


Fig. 2.

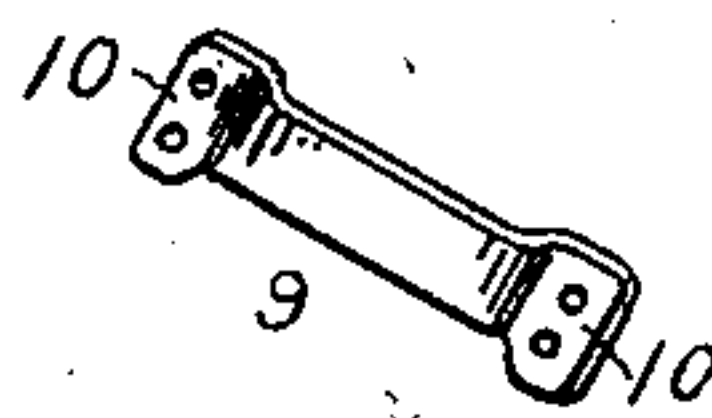


Fig. 3.

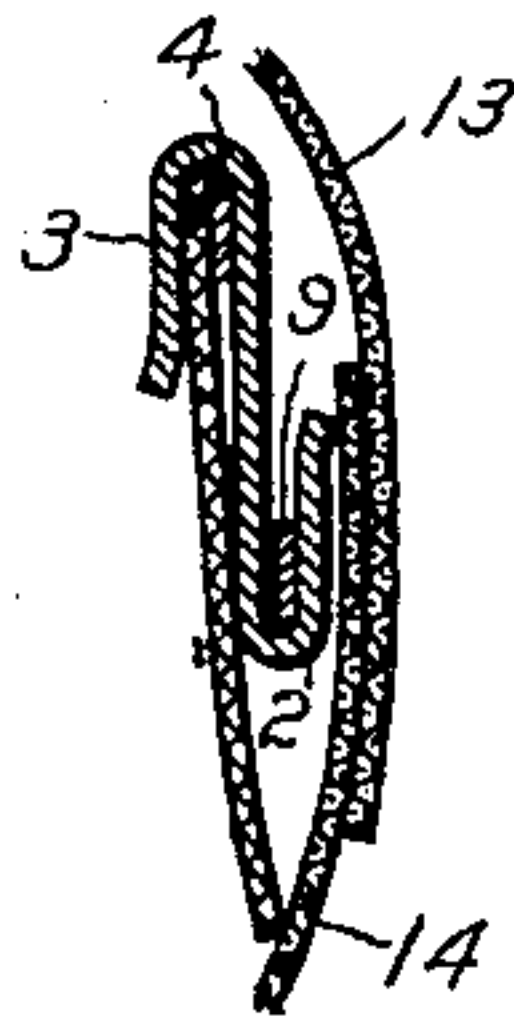


Fig. 5.

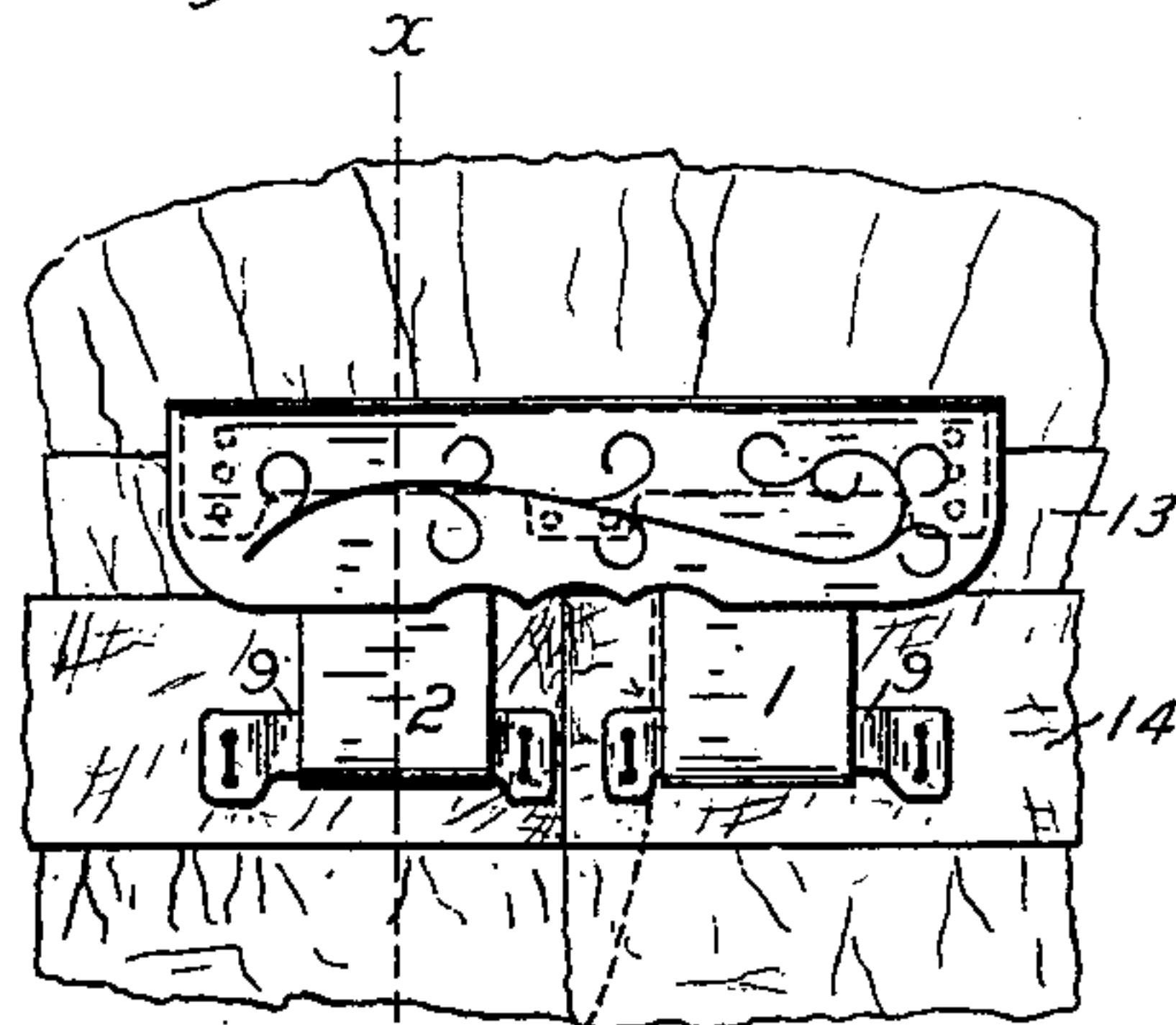


Fig. 4.

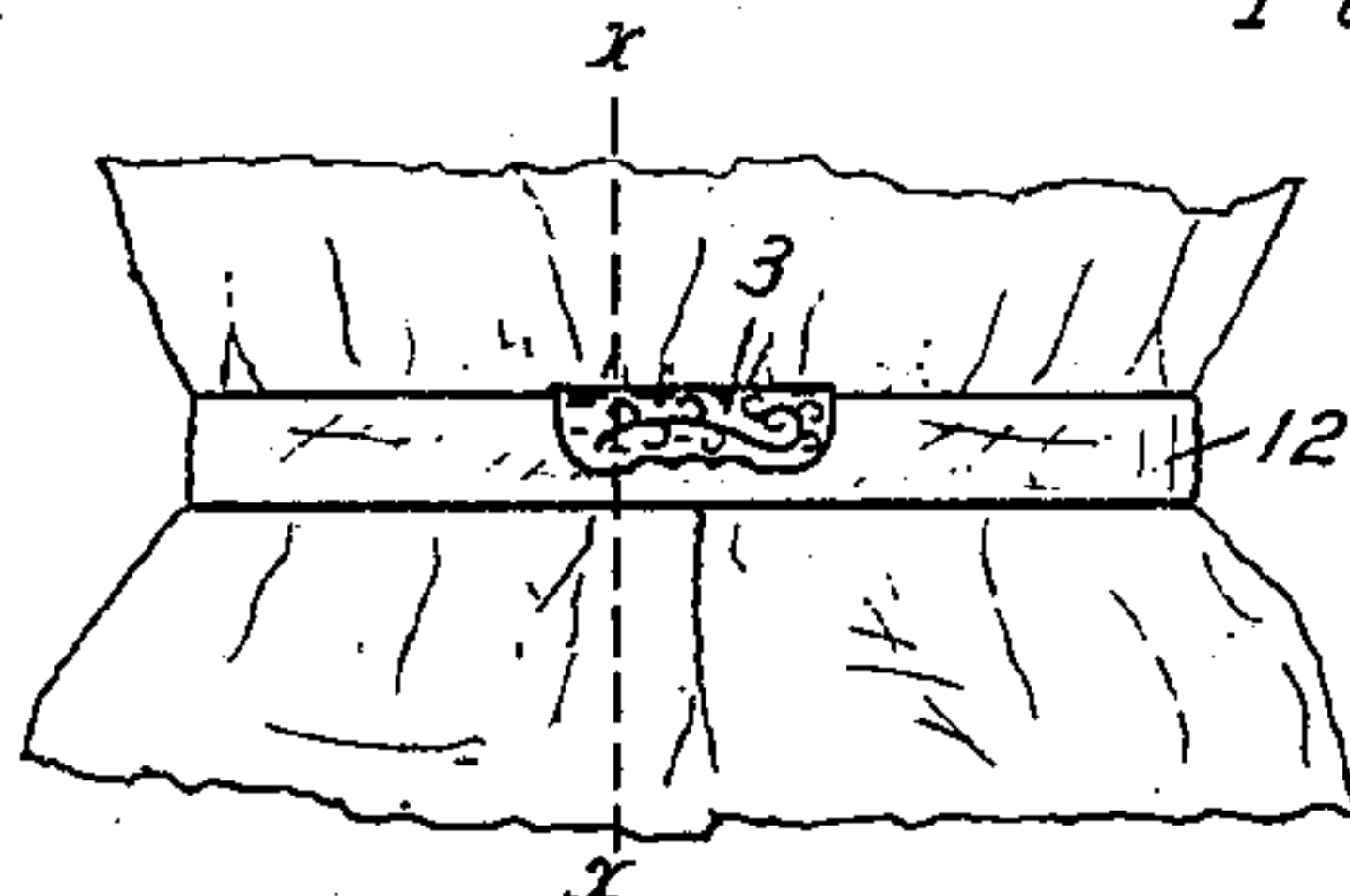


Fig. 6.

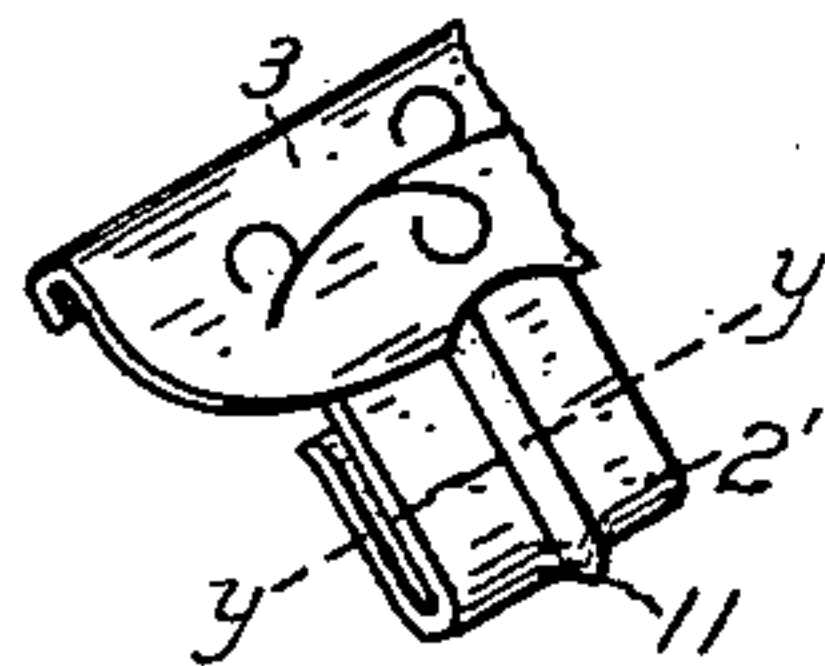


Fig. 7.



Fig. 8.

WITNESSES:

*Geo. Gelatt.*

*W. G. Moran.*

INVENTOR

*Esther A. Estabrook*

BY

*D. P. Reppel*

ATTORNEY

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ESTHER A. ESTABROOK, OF SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA.

## SKIRT-SUPPORTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 669,385, dated March 5, 1901.

Application filed May 12, 1900. Serial No. 16,535. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ESTHER A. ESTABROOK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Scranton, in the county of Lackawanna and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Skirt-Supporters, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to devices employed for supporting and attaching the skirts of ladies' dresses to the waistband of what are usually known as "shirt-waists;" and the object of my invention is to provide a simpler, a less expensive, a more efficient, and more easily manipulated device of the kind than those now in use and also to provide a device of the kind which is easily separable and attachable to any garment, and other objects that will appear in the specification and claim.

To this end my invention consists of the construction, arrangement, and combination of the several parts herein described, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and in which—

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of the main portion of my device. Fig. 2 is a similar view of a plate forming another member of my device and adapted to engage with it when in use. Fig. 3 is a view in perspective of one of the smaller plates, two of which are adapted to be used as a part of my device. Fig. 4 is a rear view showing the several parts of my device as they appear when used in connection with each other at the junction of a skirt and waistband. Fig. 5 is a cross-section taken on the line  $xx$  of Figs. 4 and 6, showing the relation of the several parts when a belt is used in connection with them. Fig. 6 is a general view of the device in use in connection with a belt. Fig. 7 shows a modification of the construction of one of the hooks of my device; and Fig. 8 shows a cross-section of a portion of said hook, taken on the line  $yy$ .

Similar characters of reference denote like and corresponding parts throughout the several views.

Referring to the drawings, 1 and 2 designate metallic hooks integrally made with and projecting from a plate 3, which is oppositely curved from said hooks and adapted to clasp

the belt usually worn about the waist, the plate 3 being adapted to be ornamented according to the taste and being the only portion of the device which is visible on the wearer.

4 designates a bar or plate which is secured to the waistband 13 of the bodice or shirt-waist on each of the garments intended to be used in connection with my device. It is provided with lugs 5 5 at its ends, by means of which it may be secured by sewing to the waistband aforesaid. It is also provided with a supplementary lug 6 in the middle, the said lug occupying a position between the hooks 1 and 2 when the device is in position and also sewed to the waistband 13. The stretches 7 and 8 of the bar are sufficiently humped outward to permit of the bodily insertion of the hooks 1 and 2 between the fabric of the waistband and the plate in adjusting the device.

9 designates a smaller plate similar in character to 4, having lugs 10 10, by which it is adapted to be sewed to the skirt-band 14, one of said plates being intended to be sewed on each half of the placket, so that when they are engaged with the hooks 1 and 2, respectively, they will serve to hold the placket closed and the band sufficiently tight about the waist. The belt 12 is adapted to pass over the hooks and under the plate or ornamented portion 3, as shown in Fig. 6.

In order that my device may be constructed of thinner material, the hooks may be provided with an embossment 11, as shown in Figs. 7 and 8. These embossments will not only stiffen the hooks, so that they will stand a greater weight, but they also will assist in preventing them from twisting on account of the lateral strain consequent upon holding the skirt-band together.

The operation of the device is readily explained. The bar 4 is sewed onto the waistband of the bodice or shirt-waist in the middle of the back of each garment on which the device is to be used and is not readily separable from them. A small bar 9 is also sewed on each side of the placket of the skirt, so that when they are drawn to a distance apart corresponding to that of the hooks 1 and 2 the skirt-band is at its proper adjustment. Now the main portion of my device (shown



in Fig. 1) is taken between the thumb and  
 finger and inserted hooks downward between  
 the fabric of the waistband and the plate, so  
 that the hooks 1 and 2 occupy the places des-  
 5 ignated 8 and 7, respectively, and the plate 4,  
 as a whole, occupying the position as indi-  
 cated in dotted lines in Fig. 4. In this posi-  
 tion the device is ready to have attached to it  
 10 the skirt, which is done by hooking one por-  
 tion of the placket onto one of the hooks, say  
 2. Then the other side of the skirt-band hav-  
 ing the other plate 9 is drawn up into posi-  
 tion, lapping over sufficiently to allow the  
 plate 9 to be hooked similarly onto the hook 1.  
 15 The belt 12 is then inserted under the plate  
 3, covering the smaller plates 9 9 and the  
 hooks 1 and 2, the plate 3 serving to prevent  
 the belt from slipping upward.

I do not wish to be confined to the exact  
 20 construction shown in the drawings, as many  
 of them may be varied without departing  
 from the general spirit of my invention; but  
 I specially note that my device is constructed  
 so as to support a skirt to a waistband or  
 25 bodice, and at the same time by the same  
 identical parts it serves the purpose of a clo-  
 sure of the placket of the skirt in a very sim-  
 ple manner.

Having thus described my invention, what

I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters 30  
 Patent, is—

As a new article of manufacture, a skirt-  
 supporter comprising a removable member  
 adapted to hook over a belt and also to hook 35  
 through a plate on the waistband of a shirt-  
 waist, the said removable member having a  
 pair of rigid flat hooks extending downward,  
 adapted to engage with plates on the separate  
 ends of the band of a skirt or skirt-placket,  
 for the purpose of uniting the waist and the 40  
 skirt aforesaid, and at the same time closing  
 the placket aforesaid, together with a plate  
 adapted to be secured to a waistband and be-  
 ing fastened thereto at each end and also in 45  
 the middle, the middle fastening lying be-  
 tween the two downward-extending hooks in  
 the operation of the device, and two separate  
 plates secured to the ends of the skirt-band  
 aforesaid and adapted to engage with the flat  
 and rigid hooks aforesaid, substantially as 50  
 specified.

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

ESTHER A. ESTABROOK.

Witnesses:

E. H. ESTABROOK,  
 GEO. GELATT.