

No. 687,839.

Patented Dec. 3, 1901.

N. S. KERR.
HIP FORM GIRDLE.

(Application filed Feb. 27, 1901.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

Fig. 1.

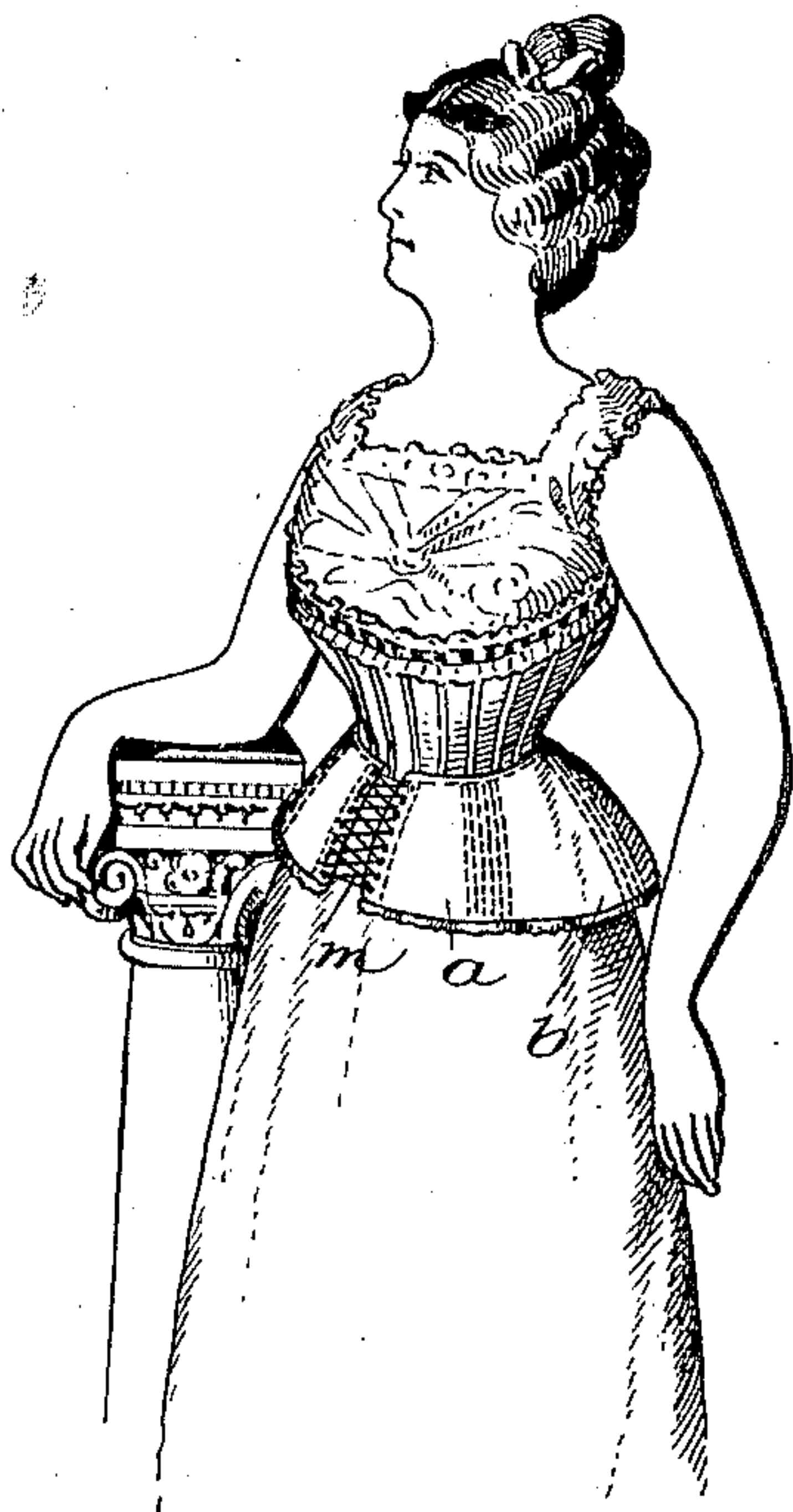
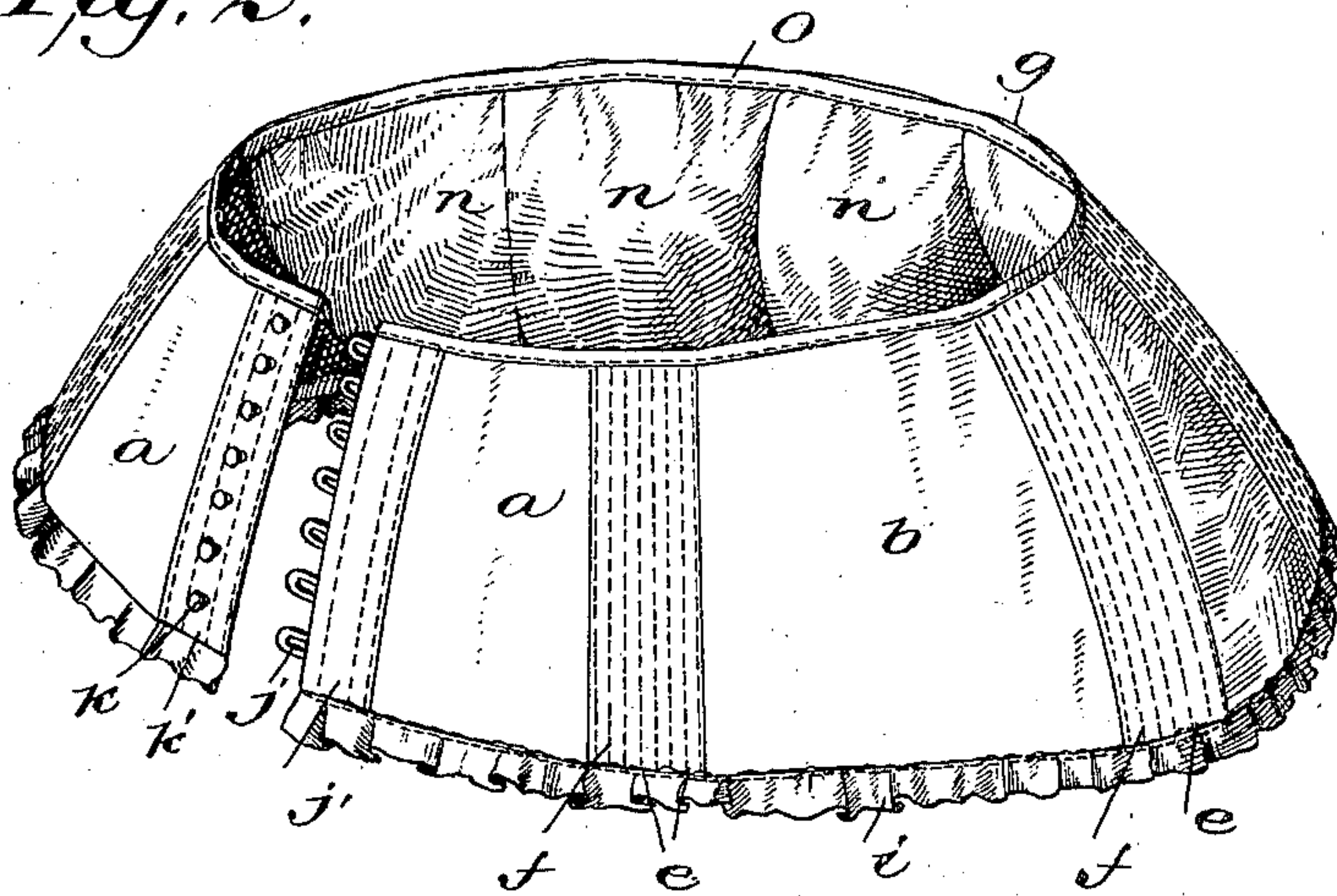


Fig. 2.



Witnesses
Wm. L. Spidner
R. R. Bond

Inventor
Nellie S. Kerr,
by *E. H. Bond*
Attorney

N. S. KERR.
HIP FORM GIRDLE.

(Application filed Feb. 27, 1901.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

Fig. 3.

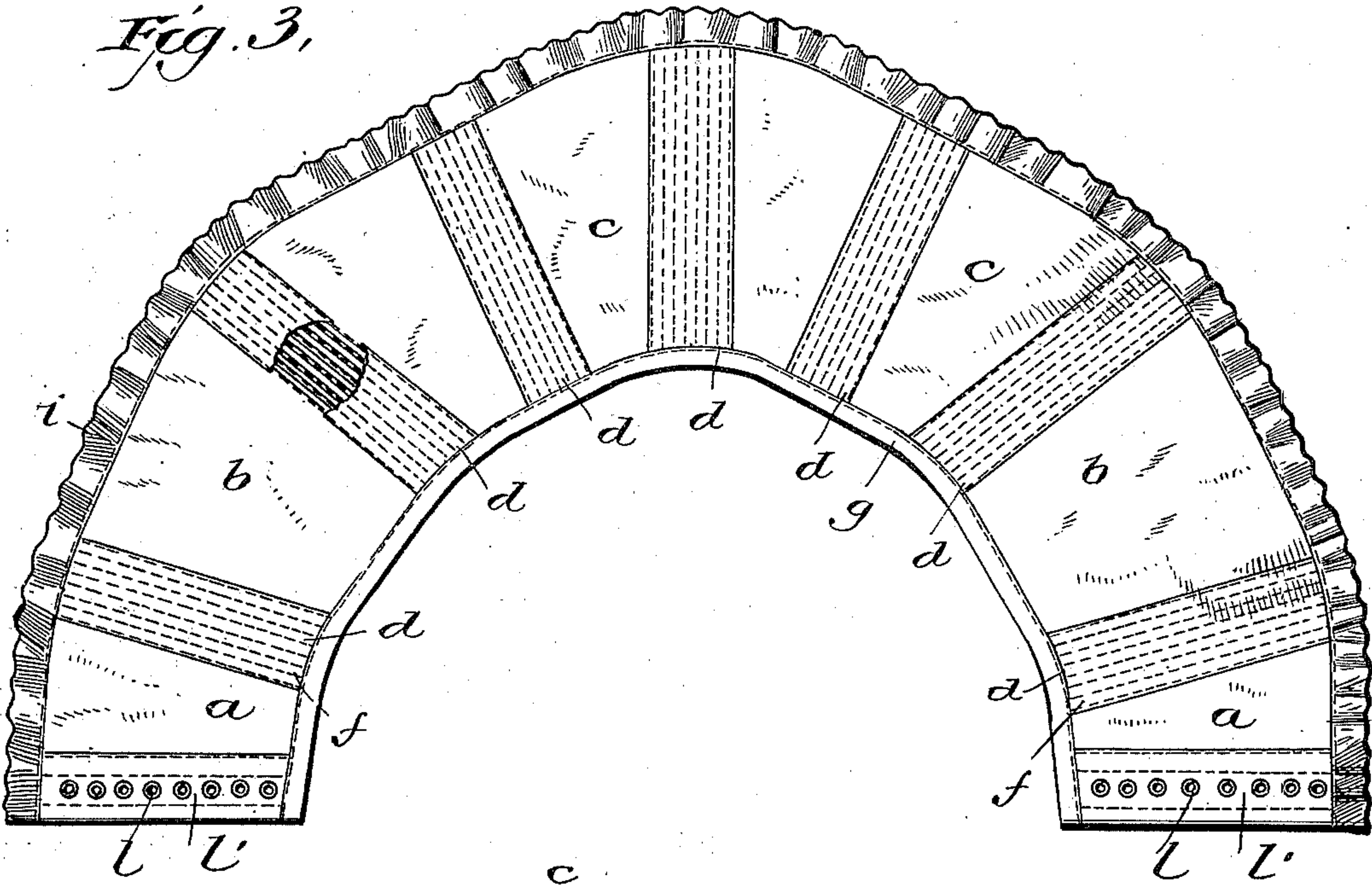


Fig. 4.

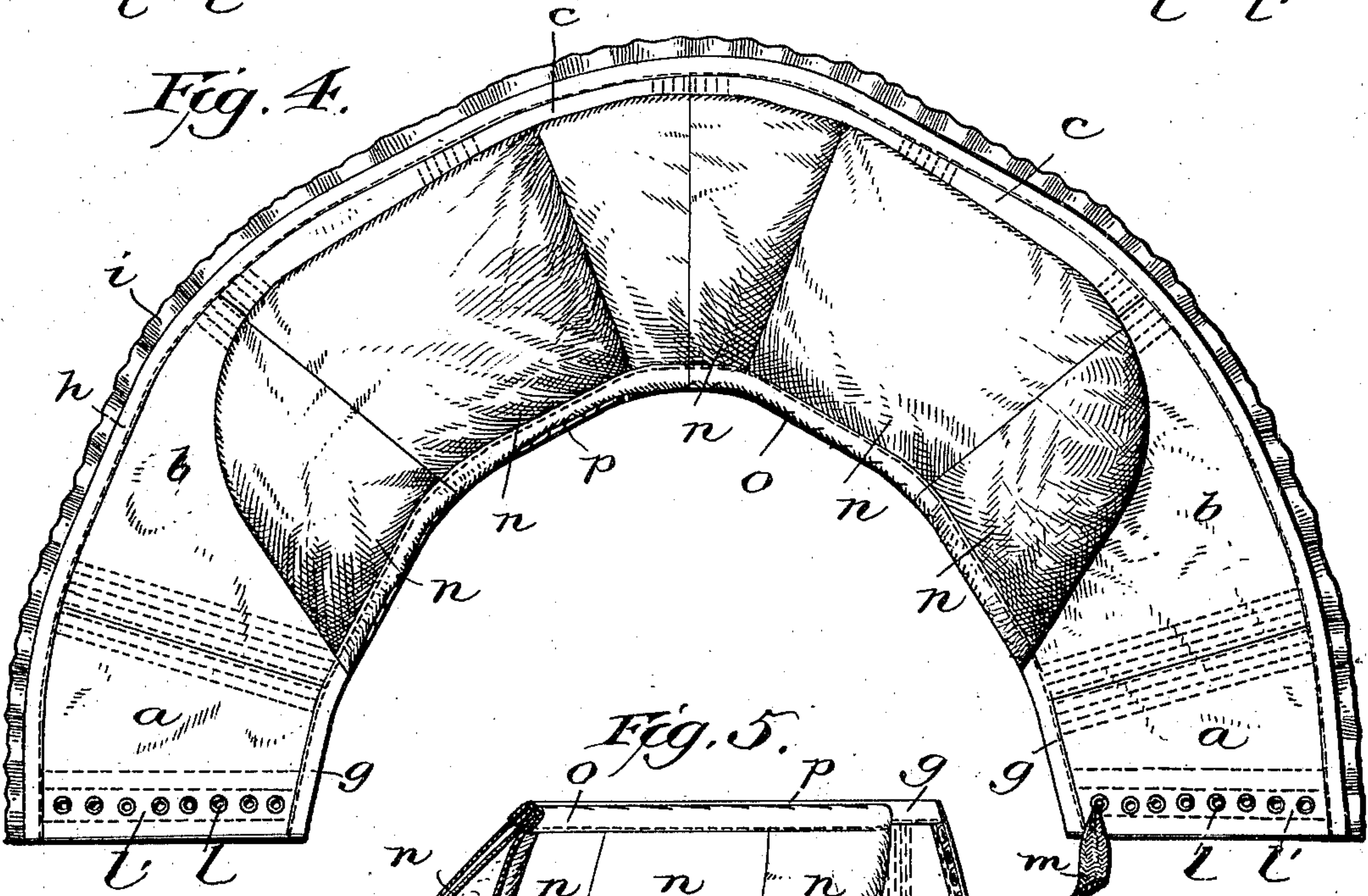
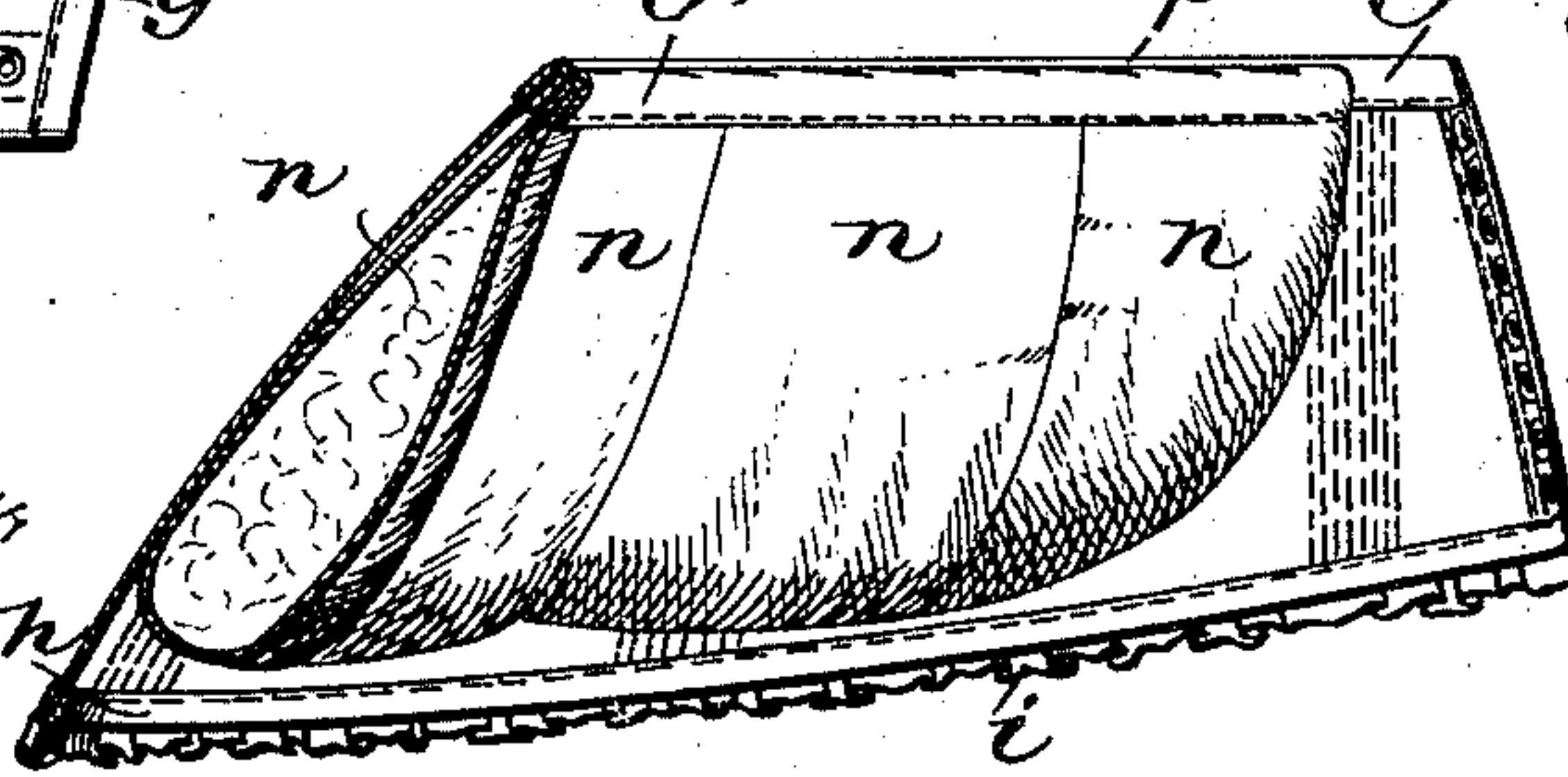


Fig. 5.



Witnesses
W. H. Glendon
R. R. Bond

Inventor
Nellie S. Kerr
by *E. W. Bond*
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

NELLIE S. KERR, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

HIP-FORM GIRDLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 687,839, dated December 3, 1901.

Application filed February 27, 1901. Serial No. 49,057. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, NELLIE S. KERR, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hip-Form Girdles; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in ladies' apparel, being what I call a "hip-form girdle."

It has for its object, among others, to provide a simple, cheap, and convenient and easily-applied device that shall be thoroughly efficient in its operation, comfortable to the wearer, adjustable as occasion may require, and one that can be applied to any human form. It can be worn with or without corsets and does not interfere in the least with the action of any organs or of any other article of apparel. By its use one is enabled to obtain a perfect form, conforming to nature's lines, based on the height, circumference of waist, and distance between the waist-line and the hips. Foreexample, a twenty-four-inch waist-line calls for a corresponding hip measurement of forty-one inches. This I accomplish by padding thin women and holding the pads securely in place by means of the girdle and by eliminating the pads and tightening the girdle on fleshy women. The adjustability is dependent upon the mode of construction, the play in the front fastening, and elimination or substitution of pads of various thicknesses.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will hereinafter appear, and the novel features thereof will be particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

The invention is capable of embodiment in a variety of forms, that preferred being herein illustrated.

The invention and the mode of use are clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawings, which, with the letters of reference marked thereon, form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the device in position upon a human form. Fig. 2 is an enlarged perspective view of the device removed. Fig. 3 is a view looking at the

outside of the girdle. Fig. 4 is an underneath view showing the pads. Fig. 5 is a vertical section through the device complete.

Like letters of reference indicate like parts throughout the several views.

In carrying out my invention any suitable material may be employed, cut according to scale from patterns, and it consists of two front portions or sections *a a*, two side sections *b b*, and two rear sections *c c*. These are united at their lines of juncture in any suitable manner. At suitable points there are provided suitable ribs, bones, or the like, as seen at *d*, which may be held in place in suitable pockets formed in the material by parallel rows of stitching, as seen at *e*. These ribs may be of any required size, length, and number and possessing the proper degree of flexibility or resiliency. These pockets in which the stays or ribs are retained may be formed between the material of the girdle proper and separate pieces *f*, secured thereto, the lines of stitching by which these pieces are secured in place forming the pockets for the reception of the stays or ribs. These ribs are disposed at proper angles, so as to give the desired contour to the device, and while I have chosen to show seven sets of these ribs or stays it is evident that the number may be varied as may be desired. A suitable binding *g* may be employed at the upper edge, as shown, and at the lower edge there may be a similar binding *h* and, if desired, an ornamental trimming *i* of any desired character, although it is evident this may be omitted, if desired.

The front sections *a a* are provided with some means by which the meeting edges of the girdle may be detachably secured together. Various forms of fastening may be employed for this purpose—such, for instance, as is seen in Fig. 2, wherein I have chosen to show slotted plates *j*, secured to a steel *j'*, retained in a pocket at the outer side of the one section *a* and adapted to engage headed studs *k*, secured to a steel or plate *k'*, retained in a pocket at the adjacent edge of the other front section *a*. I prefer, however, to provide the front sections *a a* with eyeleted holes *l*, which may or may not be in a plate or plates *l'*, secured in pockets at the outer edges of said sections, a fastening lace or tape

m being provided, which is laced through the eyelets, and after proper adjustment of the device about the body is made the lace or tape is suitably tied, so as to retain the device in position.

n represents pads of any suitable character and of any required number, in this instance being shown as being composed of five, one at each end, one at the center, and one between the center and each end. These pads may be formed of any suitable material and vary in size and thickness, according to the accompanying girdle, and, as seen in Fig. 4, are cut in general conformity to the girdle-pattern. They are preferably provided at their upper edge with a binding *o*. These pads are designed to be detachably secured in position to the upper edge of the girdle by any suitable means, such as stitches *p*, or any other means of detachable connection may be employed. The central pad is disposed centrally of the girdle, and the ribs or stays of the girdle are so disposed that one series at least shall be opposite one of the pads.

The mode of use will be readily understood from the above description when taken in connection with the annexed drawings, and a further detailed description thereof is not deemed necessary.

It will be seen that I have provided an article of wearing-apparel for ladies that is novel, capable of manufacture at minimum cost, and one which will give to the form the requisite contour or outline without betraying its presence, and one which is capable of use by ladies regardless of their size, and while the structural embodiment of my invention as herein disclosed is what I at present consider the preferable I do not wish to restrict myself to the precise details of construction and arrangement of parts hereinbefore set forth, but reserve the right to make such changes, variations, and modifications as may properly come within the scope of the protection prayed.

Importance is attached to the fact that the band be of inelastic material and that it be

of sufficient width to inclose the pads, whereby the pads are secured firmly in place at their lower extremities. By this construction the pads are kept from wobbling and the required shape or contour given to the person and this shape retained.

What I claim as new is—

1. A device for the purpose described, comprising an inelastic band with transversely-disposed stays and fastening devices, and pads of less length and height than said band, and attached to the inner face thereof, as set forth.

2. The improved article of apparel herein described comprising an inelastic band in sections secured together, stays disposed transversely of the length of the band opposite the points of union of said sections, fastening devices for the ends of the band, and pads formed in sections conforming to the shape of the band and detachably connected to the inner face of the band at the upper edge only, substantially as described.

3. A hip-form girdle composed of inelastic sections secured together and provided with transversely-disposed stays, a binding at the upper edge, a binding at the lower edge, a trimming on the lower edge, and a plurality of pads of less height than the band and secured together and following the contour of the said band and having a binding at the upper edge secured to the top binding of the band, as set forth.

4. A hip-form girdle composed of a band of sections secured together and provided with transversely-disposed stays, and a plurality of pads of less height than the band and secured together and following the contour of the said band and having their upper edge secured to the inner face of said band, substantially as shown and described.

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

NELLIE S. KERR.

Witnesses:

AUSTIN KERR,
IDA JOHNSON.