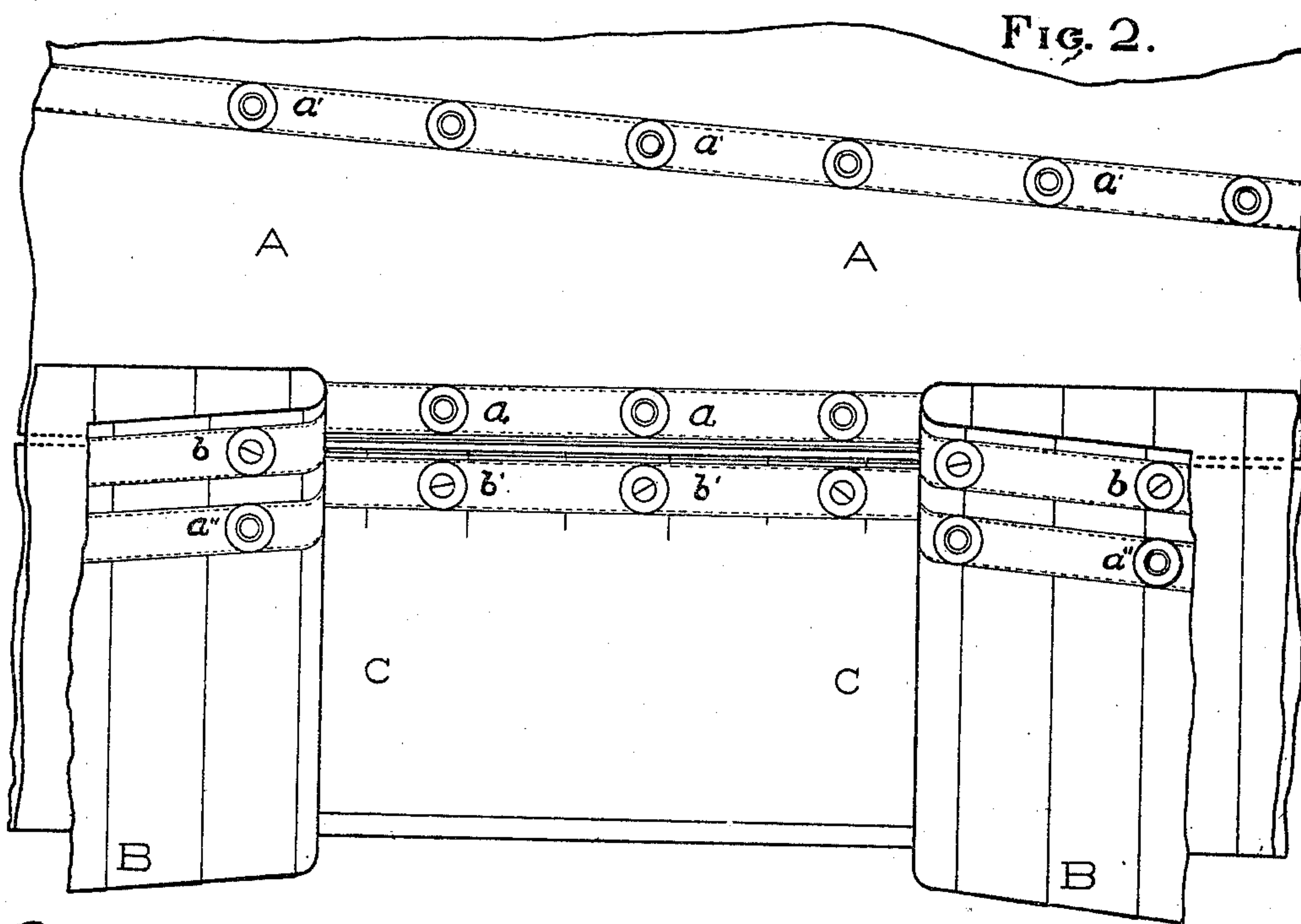
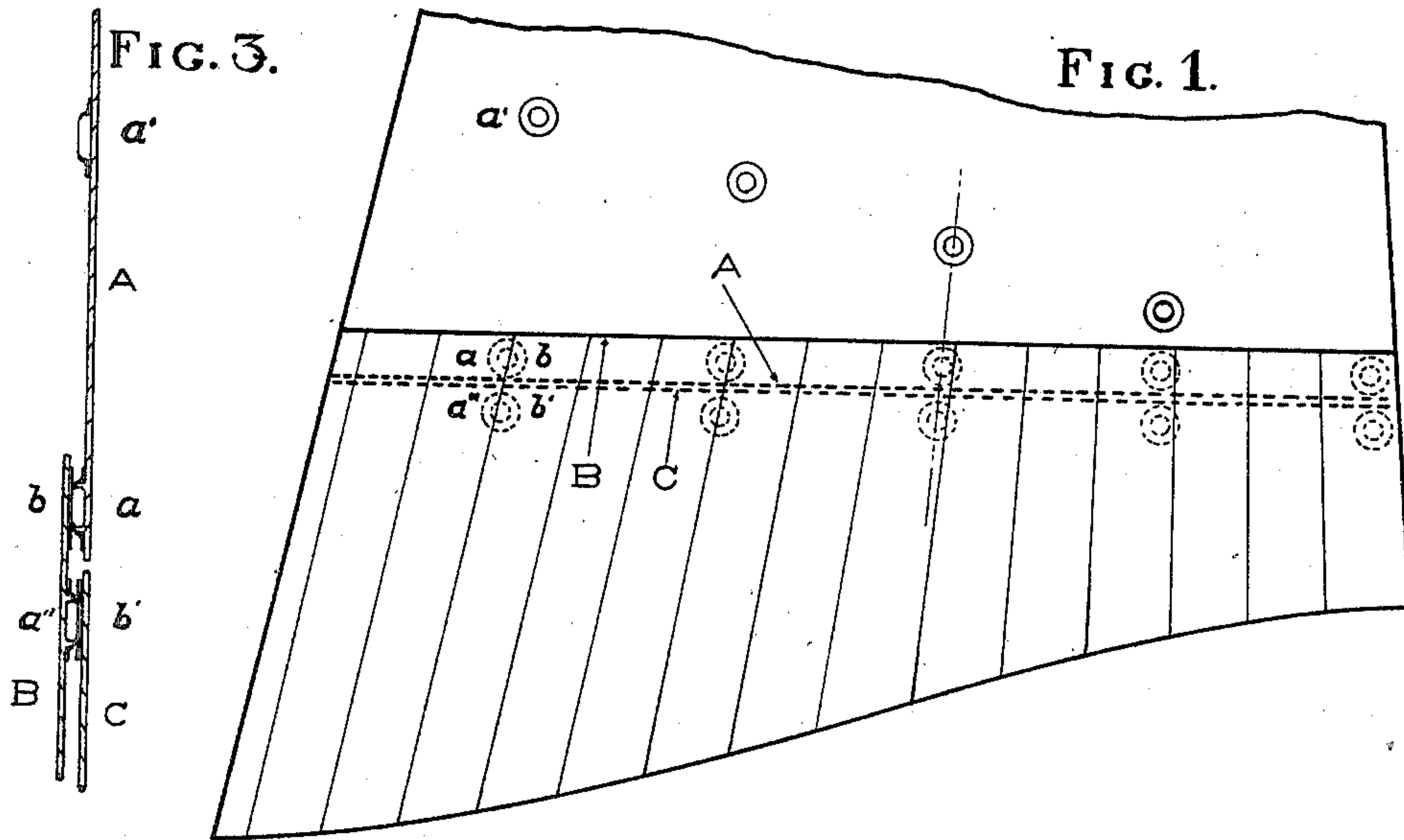


No. 706,235.

Patented Aug. 5, 1902.

C. L. HERMANN.
LADY'S UNDERSKIRT.
(Application filed June 3, 1902.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES: *Bernard Vorhaus* & *Lara L. Hermann* INVENTOR
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CLARA L. HERMANN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

LADY'S UNDERSKIRT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 706,235, dated August 5, 1902.

Application filed June 3, 1902. Serial No. 110,019. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CLARA L. HERMANN, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York city, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Ladies' Underskirts, of which the following is a specification.

The objects of my invention are to provide an underskirt the lower portion of which, consisting of a ruffle or flounce or of a series of ruffles or flounces, or both, may be detached from the upper portion and may be so attached and adjusted thereto as to vary the length of the underskirt, so that the same may be used either as a walking-skirt or as a dress-skirt, and in which each flounce or ruffle, if there be more than one, constituting the lower portion may be separately attached and adjusted, thus permitting the use of a fuller or lighter underskirt, as may be required.

My invention also admits of the use of ruffles and flounces of any desired variety of material or design and in any desired combination by mere adjustment to the upper portion and without change of the latter, and also admits of the use of a cheaper material for the upper portion of the skirt.

I attain these objects in manner herein-after described, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a portion of a skirt sufficient to show my improvement. Fig. 2 is a portion of the underskirt, in which the ruffle B is cut apart and the parts thereof turned back to show the method of attachment. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section taken along the line *x x* of Fig. 1.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

Along and near the lower edge of the upper portion of the underskirt A are attached at suitable distances apart a series *a a* of either of the parts of any ordinary spring-fasteners. I prefer that the parts used be the flat parts, so that the smoothness of the skirt may be preserved. Along the inner side of the lower portion B and near its upper edge

are arranged at corresponding distances apart a series *b b* of the opposite parts of the fastener. By engaging the parts *b b* with the parts *a a* the lower portion of the skirt B may be fastened to the upper portion A, the two parts when thus attached making up the skirt at its full length for use as a dress-skirt.

In order that the same skirt may be used as a walking-skirt, I arrange at a proper distance above the lower edge of the upper portion A a second series *a' a'* of parts of fasteners similar and equal in number to the series *a a*, so that the parts *b b*, attached to the lower portion B, may be engaged with the parts *a' a'*, thus shortening the skirt as required for use as a walking-skirt. As the lower portion B is wider in its rear section than in its front section, I arrange the row *a' a'* of fastenings above the horizontal row *a a* in a direction diagonally upward from front to rear, so that when the lower portion B is attached to the diagonal row of fastenings *a' a'* the lower edge of the part B will be horizontal.

A double flounce may be made for the lower portion of the skirt by attaching on the reverse or inner side of the upper flounce B at a proper distance from the upper edge thereof a similar series *a'' a''* of fastener parts, which may receive the opposite parts *b' b'*, attached to the lower flounce or ruffle C, and the lower flounce C may be used alone in combination with the upper portion A by detaching the flounce C, reversing the same, and engaging the parts *b' b'* with the parts *a a* or *a' a'*. A series of flounces may be made up in like manner, as above described. It will thus be seen that a variety of flounces or ruffles B or of combinations thereof, such as B and C, may be used in combination with the same upper part A and either as a dress-skirt or as a walking-skirt.

I am aware that prior to my invention underskirts have been made with detachable parts. I therefore do not claim such a combination broadly; but

What I do claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

In a lady's underskirt, a skirt or body, A, having a horizontal row of fastenings, *a a*, at

the bottom, and a diagonal arrangement of fastenings, *a' a'*, just above the horizontal row, in combination with a flounce, B, wider in its rear section than in its front section, and also provided with a row of complemental fastenings, *b b*, whereby the double function of a trailing or a short skirt may be secured in a single garment, substantially as described.

CLARA L. HERMANN.

Witnesses:

BERNARD VORHAUS,
JOSEPH FISCHER.