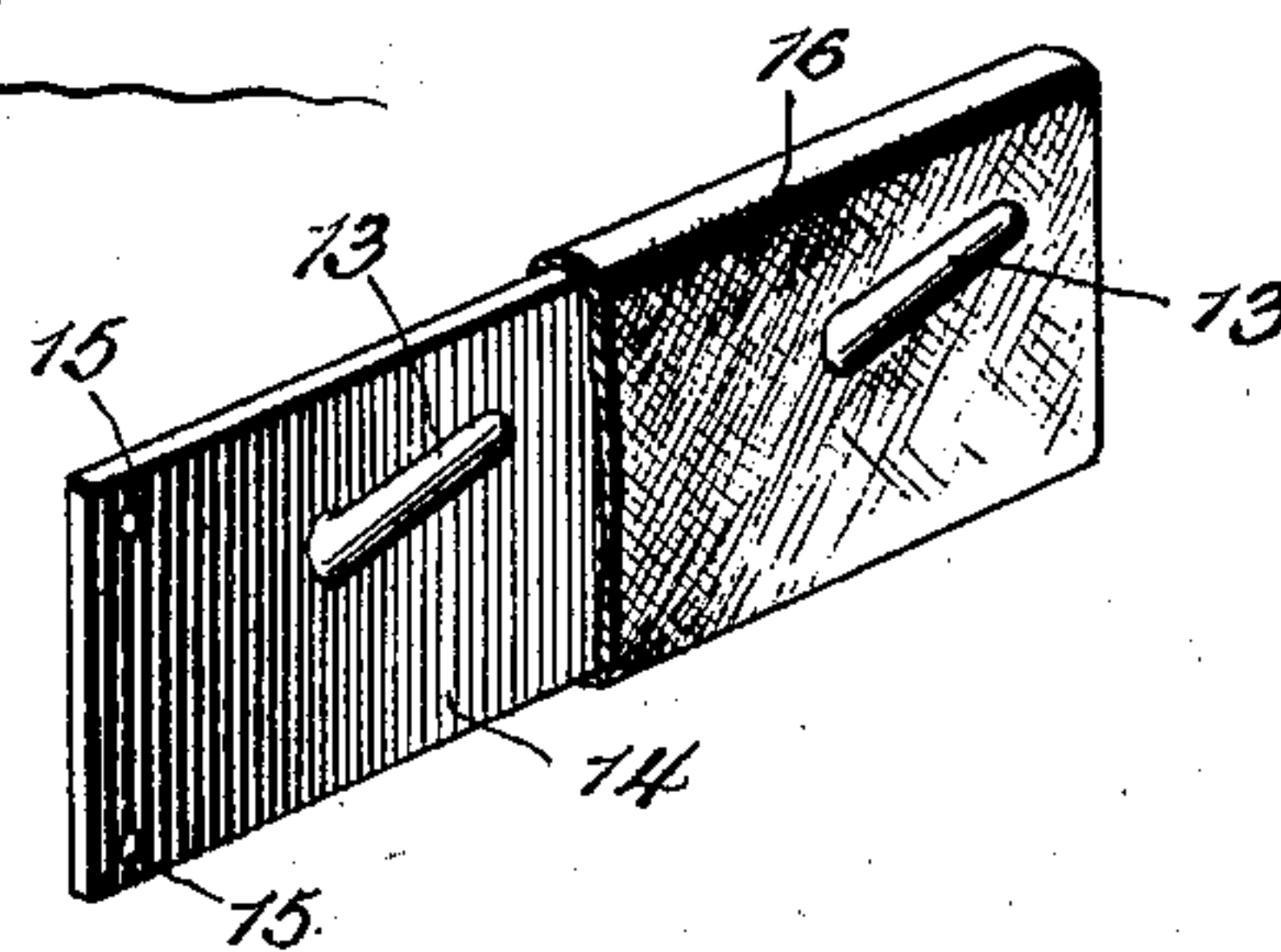
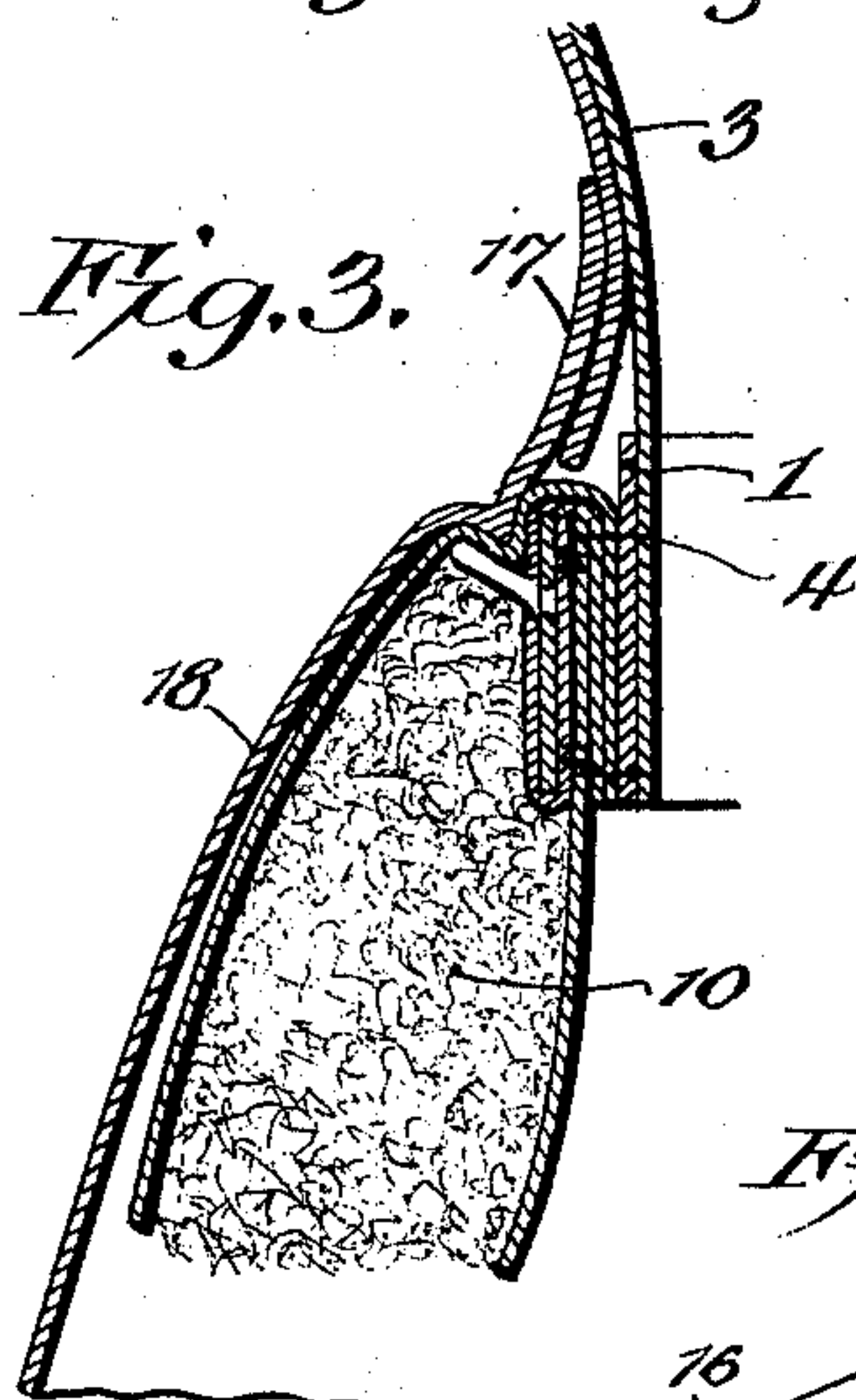
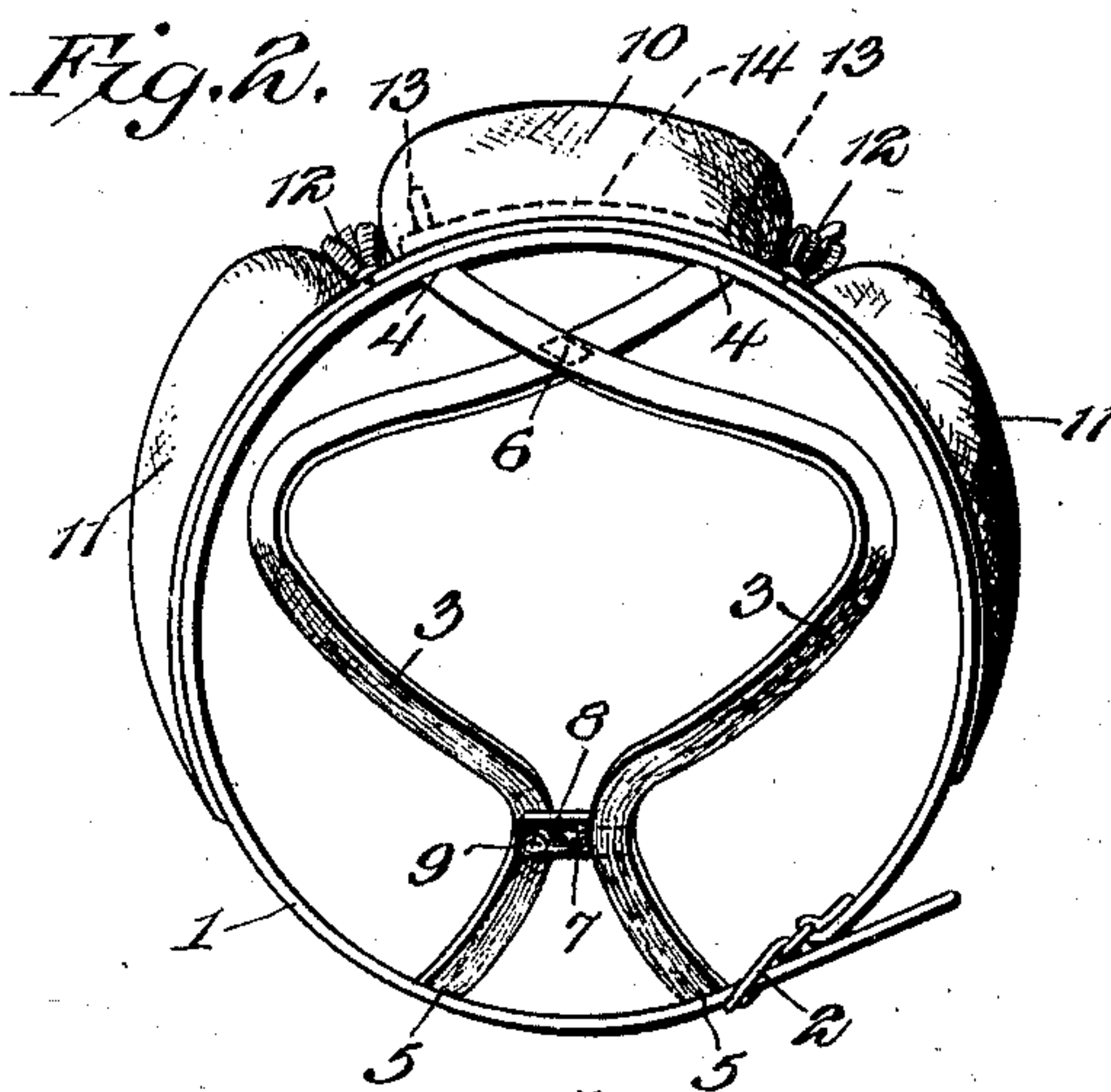
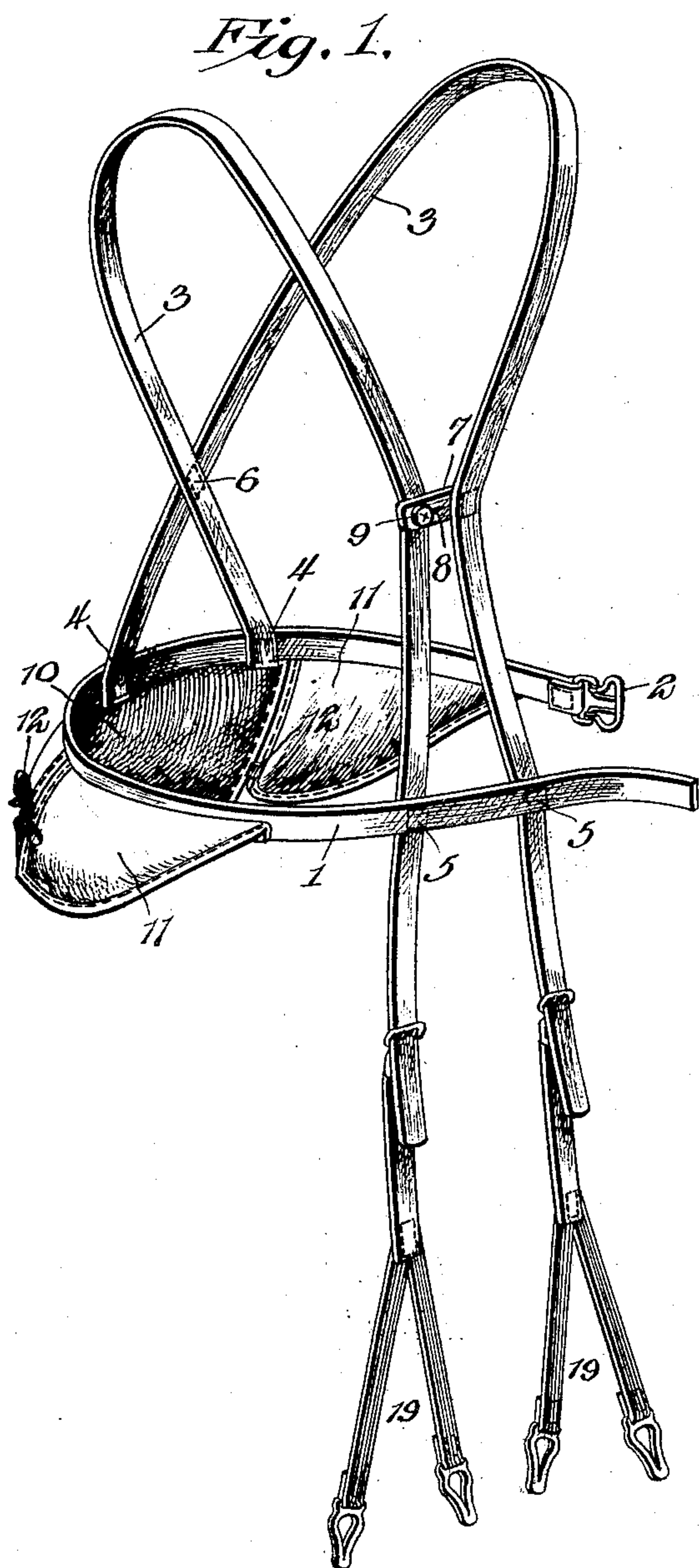


No. 707,717.

Patented Aug. 26, 1902.

S. C. PEARSON.
GARMENT SUPPORTER.
(Application filed Nov. 23, 1901.)

(No Model.)



S. C. Pearson, Inventor;

By

E. J. Siggers.

Attorney

Witnesses
Howard D. Orr.
H. J. Shepard.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SALLY COLEMAN PEARSON, OF MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA.

GARMENT-SUPPORTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 707,717, dated August 26, 1902.

Application filed November 23, 1901. Serial No. 83,439. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SALLY COLEMAN PEARSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Montgomery, in the county of Montgomery and State of Alabama, have invented a new and useful Garment-Supporter, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to garment-supporters, and is designed to provide an improved device of this character which may be suspended from the shoulders of the wearer and is adapted for supporting skirts, hose, a bustle, and hip-pads, and thereby to remove the strain and weight of such articles from the hips of the wearer to the shoulders thereof.

It is furthermore designed to arrange the skirt-supporting means and the hose-supporting means so that the weight of the skirt will be substantially balanced by the strain upon the hose-supporting means which is applied to the front portion of the device, thereby to equally distribute the weight or strain upon the shoulders of the wearer and to prevent displacement of the device by the movement of the wearer.

With these and other objects in view the present invention consists in the combination and arrangement of parts, as will be hereinafter more fully described, shown in the accompanying drawings, and particularly pointed out in the appended claims, it being understood that changes in the form, proportion, size, and minor details may be made within the scope of the claims without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a garment-supporter constructed and arranged in accordance with the present invention. Fig. 2 is a top plan view thereof. Fig. 3 is an enlarged detail cross-sectional view through the waistband and back portion of the device to show the skirt-supporting means. Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view of the skirt-supporting device which is carried by the back of the waistband.

Like characters of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

In carrying out the present invention there is provided a belt or waistband 1, having one end provided with a suitable buckle 2, where-

by the belt may be readily adjusted to the waist of the wearer. Rising from the front and rear of the belt is a pair of suspender-straps 3, adapted to pass over the shoulders in the ordinary manner, the rear ends of the suspender-straps being secured to the back portion of the belt by being stitched thereto, as indicated at 4, or by any other suitable means, and the front ends of the suspender-straps are secured to the front portion of the belt in the same manner as indicated at 5. These suspender-straps are crossed at the back of the device and fastened at their point of crossing, as indicated at 6, the front portions of the straps having a detachable connection—as, for instance, by means of a tab 7—secured to one of the straps and having a buttonhole 8 formed therein for the reception of the button 9, carried by the other strap. As best indicated in Fig. 2 of the drawings, it will be seen that the front and rear ends of the straps are secured at equal distances at opposite sides of a line drawn from front to rear and through the center of the device, thereby to equally distribute the strain upon the suspender-straps.

A suitable bustle-pad 10 is secured to the central back portion of the belt or waistband, and hip-pads 11 are also secured to opposite side portions of the belt and connected to the bustle in any suitable manner—as, for instance, by means of lacings 12—which permit of slight independent movements of the bustle and pads, so that the latter may readily accommodate themselves to the form of the wearer. To support the back of a skirt, a pair or more of projections 13 are arranged within the upper portion of the bustle and are carried by a metallic plate 14, which is sewed through the covering of the bustle and to the belt or waistband 1, the plate being provided with perforations 15 near its ends for convenience in sewing the same to the belt, and also inclosed within a covering 16 of suitable fabric, so that stitches may also be passed through the edge portions of the fabric and form an additional fastening for the plate and the projections. These projections incline upwardly and outwardly, as best shown in Fig. 3 of the drawings, so that when the belt portion 17 of the skirt 18 is drawn tightly about the waist of the wearer the up-

per edge of the skirt will be drawn snugly over the projections 13, so as to be hooked over the same, and thereby suspend the rear portion of the skirt upon the belt and suspender-straps, whereby the weight of the skirt is suspended from the shoulders of the wearer. To offset the weight of the skirt, any suitable type of hose-supporters 19 are secured to the front portion of the belt 1 and at the points where the front ends of the suspender-straps are connected to the belt, it of course being understood that the skirt-supporting projections are also disposed substantially at the point of attachment of the rear ends of the shoulder-straps, whereby the strain is uniformly applied to the shoulder-straps only, the belt merely serving to prevent the other parts of the device from working out of place by the movements of the wearer.

From the foregoing description it will be understood that the skirt-supporting projections are located wholly within the top portion of the bustle, thereby to be covered by the bustle which forms a ledge or pad extending between the opposite projections, so as to form a comparatively long support for the skirt, and also to obviate damage of the latter by actual contact with the projections.

What I claim is—

1. In a garment-supporter, the combination of a belt or waistband, suspender-straps connected thereto, upwardly and outwardly directed skirt-supporting projections carried by the back of the belt to form a ledge over which a skirt is adapted to be snugly drawn, and hose-supporters connected to the front of the belt.

2. In a garment-supporter, the combination of a belt or waistband, suspender-straps connected thereto, a plate secured to the back of the belt and having upwardly and outwardly directed skirt-supporting projections to form a ledge over which a skirt is adapted to be snugly drawn, and hose-supporters connected to the front of the belt.

3. In a garment-supporter, the combination of a belt or waistband, suspender-straps connected thereto, hose-supporters connected to the front of the belt and at the points of attachment of the shoulder-straps, and upwardly and outwardly directed skirt-supporting projections carried by the back of the belt and located at the points of attachment of the rear ends of the shoulder-straps.

4. In a garment-supporter, the combination of a belt or waistband, shoulder-straps crossed at the back and having their ends connected respectively to the front and rear of the belt, the straps being connected at their point of crossing, a button carried by the front portion of one of the shoulder-straps, a tab carried by the corresponding portion of the other shoulder-strap and provided with a button-hole for the reception of the button, hose-supporters hung from the front portion of the belt, and skirt-supporting projections carried by the rear portion of the belt and inclined upwardly and outwardly therefrom.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

SALLY COLEMAN PEARSON.

Witnesses:

B. A. TAYLOR,
ERNEST LACY.