

No. 725,434.

PATENTED APR. 14, 1903.

H. M. FOX.
SKIRT SUPPORTER.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 31, 1902.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1

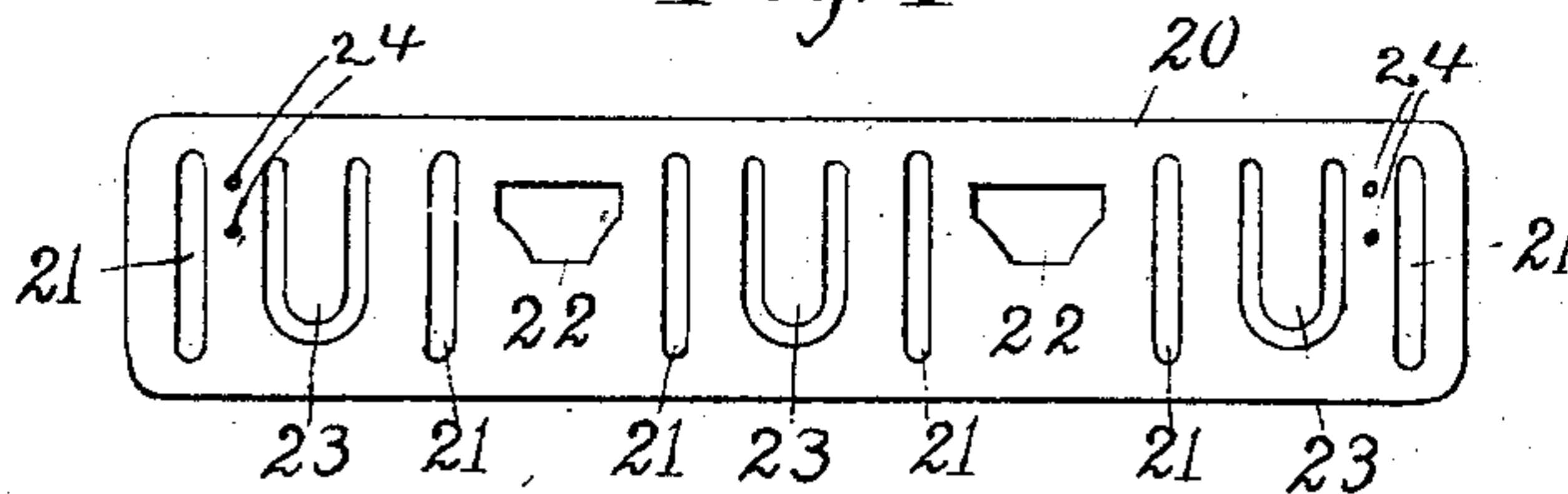


Fig. 2

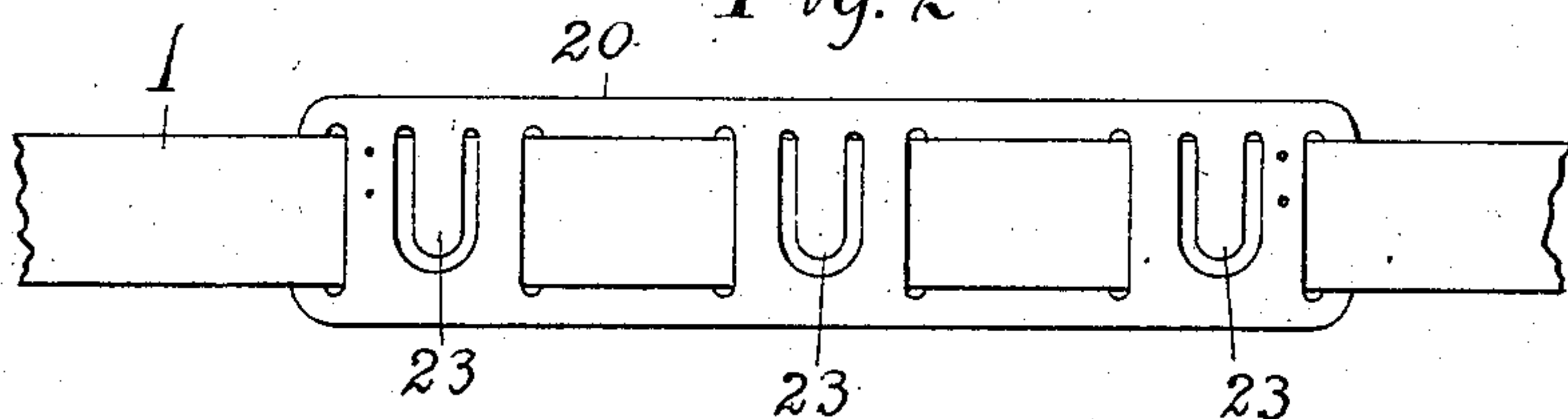


Fig. 3

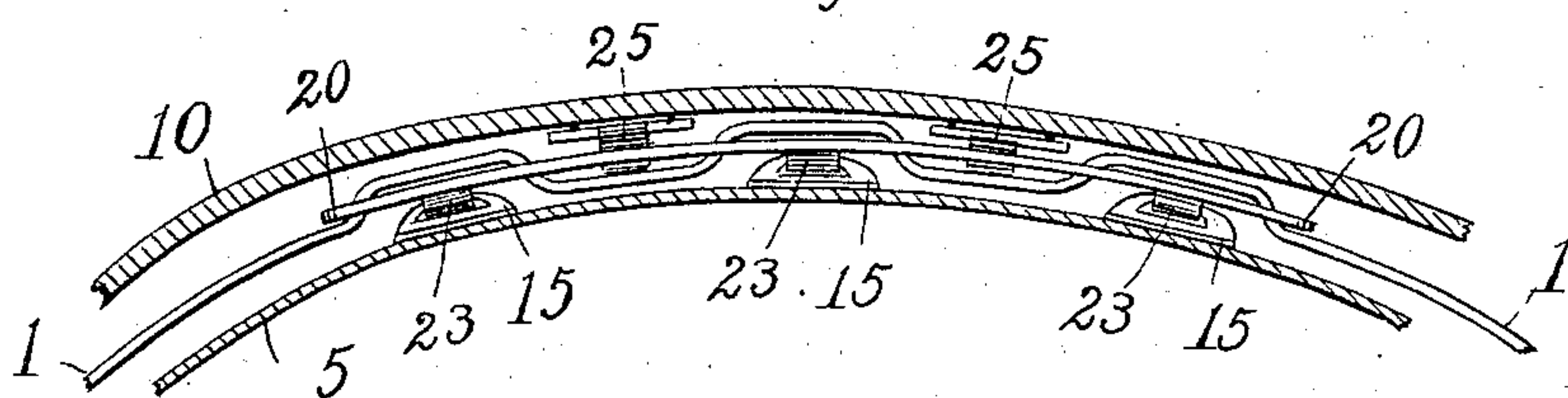


Fig. 4

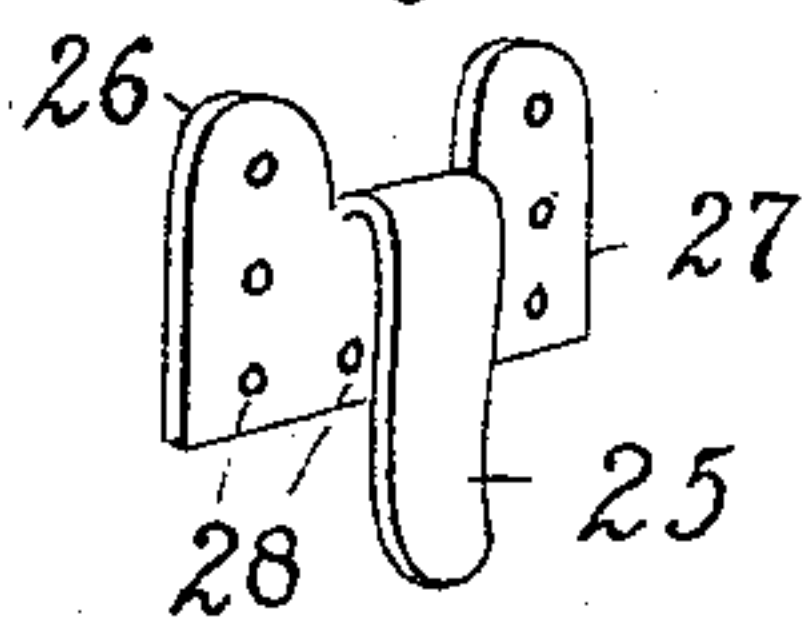
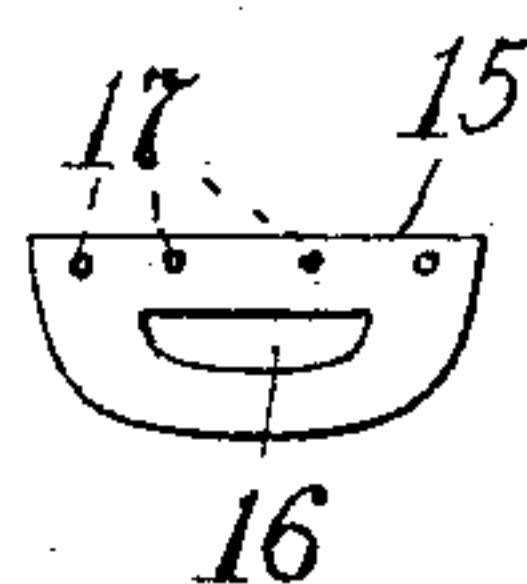


Fig. 5



Witnesses;

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Her Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HELEN M. FOX, OF CAMBRIDGEPORT, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO WILSON CAMPBELL, OF CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS.

SKIRT-SUPPORTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 725,434, dated April 14, 1903.

Application filed March 31, 1902. Serial No. 100,742. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HELEN M. FOX, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Cambridgeport, in the county of Middlesex, State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Skirt-Supporters, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention has for its object the construction of an improved means for attaching a lady's skirt to her shirt-waist for the former's better support; and it is constructed in the manner hereinafter set forth, and illustrated in the drawings forming part of this specification, in which drawings—

Figure 1 is a face view of the metal plate constituting the major part of my invention. Fig. 2 is a similar view of the same, but with the tape applied thereto. Fig. 3 is a horizontal sectional view at the waist-line of parts of a shirt-waist and skirt, showing the manner in which the same are connected by means of my invention. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of one of the hooks used in attaching the skirt to said plate, and Fig. 5 is a face view of one of the eyes by means of which said plate is connected with the waist.

The major part of my skirt-supporter comprises the elongated plate 20, having transverse slits 21, preferably six in number, through which to pass the tape 1, as shown in Fig. 1. Near the extremities of the plate 20 I prefer to have a few small holes 24, by means of which to stitch the plate in place upon the tape 1. In the central and outermost panels thus made by said slits are formed U-shaped cuts which leave hooks 23 reaching downward, as shown in said figure. These hooks are bent out sufficiently from the face of the plate to enable them to engage any eyelets to which they may be approached. In the two remaining panels of the plate are the eyes 22, designed for receiving hooks 25. Said hooks 25 are for the purpose of suspending the skirt to the plate 20, this being done by stitching said hooks to the back of the skirt and engaging said hooks with the eyes 22. Each of said hooks is made by being bent down from near the center of a plate 27, thus bringing the point of the hook below the lower ends of

the plate, as shown in Fig. 4, and forming the plate with several holes 28, through which to stitch the same to the skirt. By having the point of the hooks below the edge of the plate their engagement with the eyes 22 is greatly facilitated. Moreover, by forming each plate 27 with the upwardly-reaching branches 26 the height of the plate is made sufficient to insure a stronger attachment to the skirt without at the same time lengthening the hook 25, and so weakening the latter. Further, by extending the plate above the base of the hook the plate is prevented from turning on edge under the strain of the skirt's weight, and so forming creases or projections beneath the skirt.

In the employment of my invention the shirt-waist is first put on and then the tape 1 buckled about the waist, with the back part of the said tape and the plate 20 outside the shirt-waist and the front of the tape underneath the shirt-waist, the tape being brought through unstitched seams at the sides to permit the same. Previously, however, three eyes or loops have been provided at the back of the shirt-waist to engage with the hooks 23, the same being preferably formed from sheet-metal plates 15, formed each with a horizontal slot or eye 16 and several holes 17, by which to be stitched to the shirt-waist. The tape having been placed about the waist of the lady about to wear my invention, the hooks 23 of the plate 20 are first pressed down into the said eyes 16 and then the tape buckled or otherwise terminally fastened together. The skirt is now put on, and its hooks 25, which had been previously stitched to the inner face of its waistband, are engaged with the eyes 22 of the said plate. The relative arrangement of said parts is more clearly indicated by Fig. 3, where 10 designates the skirt; 20, the plate; 1, the tape, and 5 the waist. This view also shows more satisfactorily the manner in which said tape weaves through said plate to alternate opposite sides and how the sides or faces of said plate thus exposed are utilized for the engaging devices at such points. In other words, at the point or section where the tape passes to the skirt side of the plate a hook 23 is formed for the pur-

pose of engaging an eye-plate 15, stitched to the waist, while at the section where the tape passes to the side of the waist an eye 22 is formed in the plate for engaging the hook 25, 5 stitched to the skirt.

By having the plate 20 somewhat long and providing it with a plurality of both forms of fastening devices the strain upon the parts stitched to the skirt and waist is proportion- 10 ately diminished, thus insuring against breakdown, and, in addition, the fit of both the waist and skirt is better preserved. If the waist had but a single point of attachment to the plate 20, the garment would draw at such 15 point and become badly wrinkled. Moreover, if the cloth were somewhat thin it would be in great danger of ripping and tearing.

I usually provide several sets of the hooks 25 and eyes 15 with every one of my shirt- 20 waist holders and skirt-supporters in order that every shirt-waist of the purchaser may have said eyes permanently stitched thereto and every skirt the said hooks. In this manner the article is always ready for use which- 25 ever garments are selected.

In case the wearer does not intend to use a different shirt-waist from that she is removing she can permit the holder 20 to remain engaged by the eyes 15 of the waist, and so be 30 in position for instant application when next worn.

From the foregoing it will be evident that this device is inexpensive to manufacture, convenient in application, durable in use,

and perfectly fitted for the work to which it 35 is applied.

What I claim as my invention, and for which I desire Letters Patent, is as follows, to wit:

1. In a skirt-supporter, the combination with the tape, of the holder-plate having a 40 plurality of transverse slits for the reception of the tape to permit the latter to pass to alternately opposite faces of said plate; each section of the plate exposed at one side of the tape being formed with hooks, and each 45 section thereof exposed at the opposite side of the tape being formed with eyes, substantially as described.

2. The combination with the tape, of the elongated plate having the plurality of trans- 50 verse slits receiving said tape to permit the latter to pass upon alternately opposite sides thereof, each section of the plate exposed at one side of the tape being formed with hooks, and each section thereof exposed at the op- 55 posite side of the tape being formed with eyes; eyes constructed to engage said hooks and to be stitched to a garment, and hooks constructed to engage the eyes in said plate and to be stitched to another garment, sub- 60 stantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing invention I have hereunto set my hand this 25th day of March, 1902.

HELEN M. FOX.

Witnesses:

A. B. UPHAM,
M. U. UPHAM.