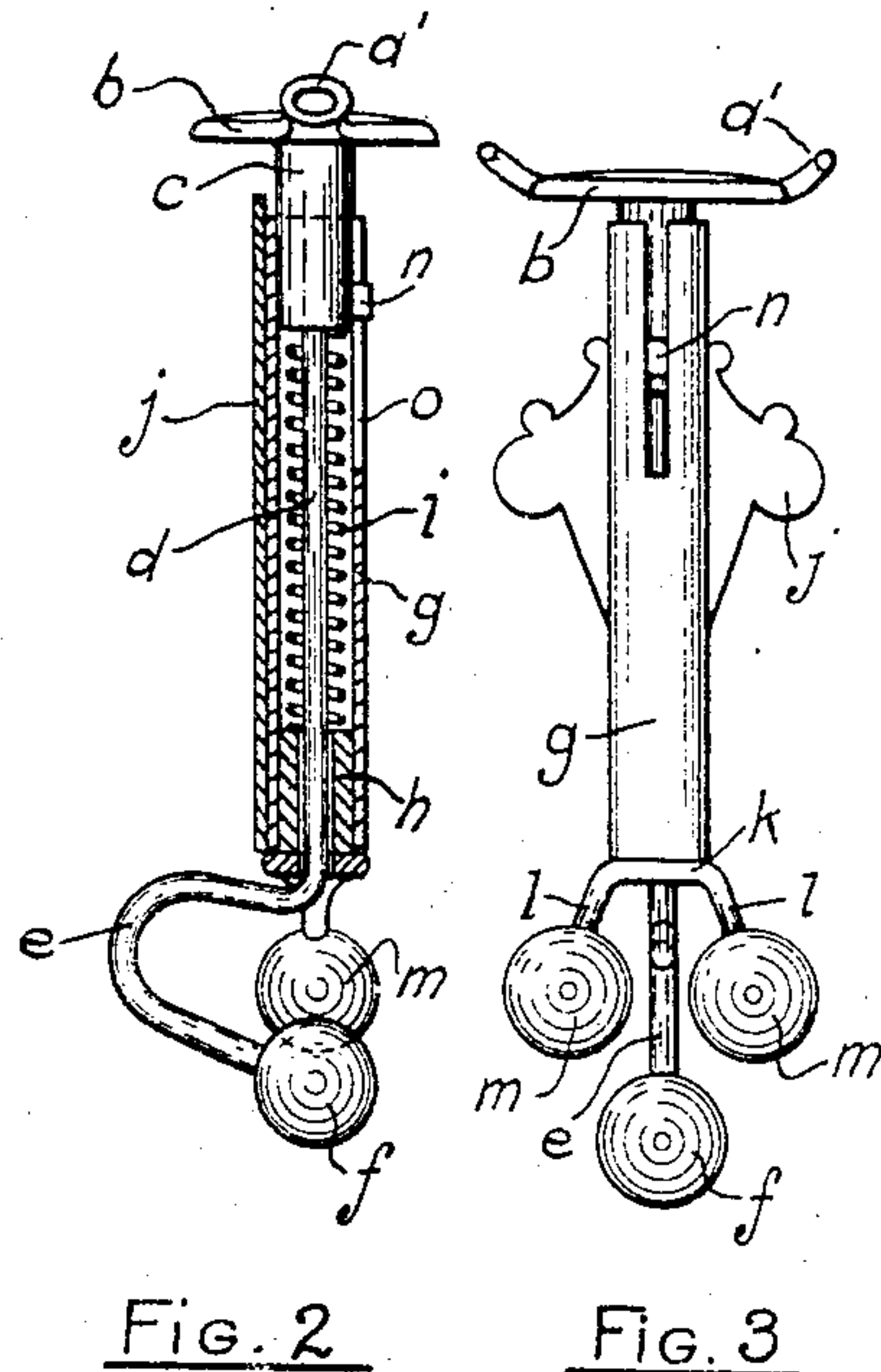
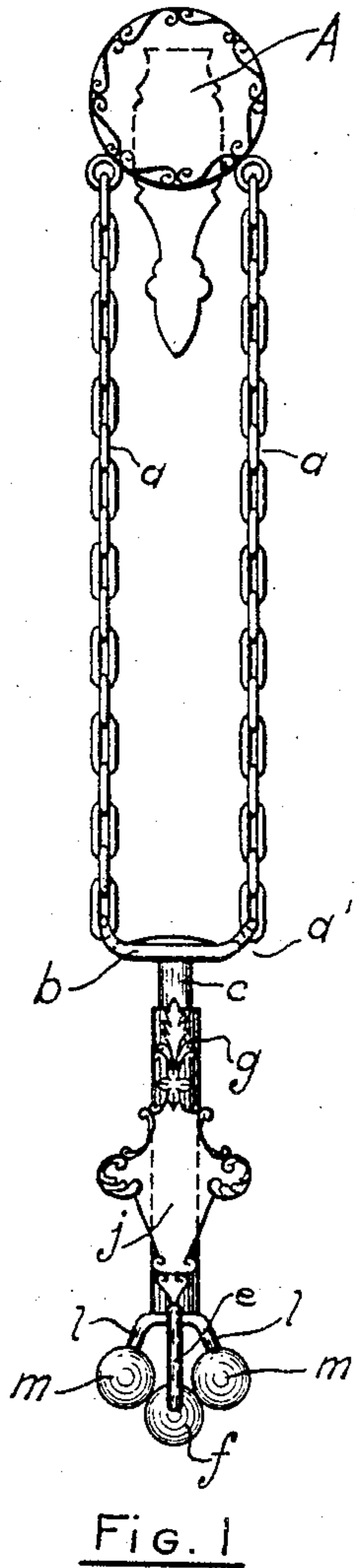


No. 777,818.

PATENTED DEC. 20, 1904.

W. B. STREETER.  
GARMENT SUPPORTER.  
APPLICATION FILED APR. 11, 1904.

NO MODEL.



WITNESSES

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM B. STREETER, OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND.

## GARMENT-SUPPORTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 777,818, dated December 20, 1904.

Application filed April 11, 1904. Serial No. 202,645.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM B. STREETER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Providence, in the county of Providence and State of Rhode Island, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Garment-Supporters, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to that class of garment-supports more particularly adapted to hold the skirt in elevated position, but is not necessarily restricted to this purpose, being obviously adapted to hold together the free ends of a boa or analogous article of wearing-apparel. Its objects are those commonly sought in devices of this character, but primarily it is sought to provide a device which is facile of engagement and incapable of injuring the fabric engaged thereby.

To the above ends, my invention consists in the novel construction and combination of parts hereinafter described and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of my device; Fig. 2, a partial vertical central section of the engaging member in closed position, and Fig. 3, a rear elevation of the latter in open position.

Like reference-letters indicate like parts throughout the views.

My device comprises a fastening-plate A, from which depend chains *a*, engaging openings *a'* in opposite portions of flange *b* upon the head *c* of a hook member. The latter comprises the enlarged head *c* and a shank or bar *d*, whose lower portion has a U-shaped bend or hook *e*, terminating in sphere or ball *f*. Surrounding the shank *d* is a tube *g*, into whose lower portion is fixed a plug or tube *h*, intermediate which and the head *c* is a spiral spring *i* for vertically tensioning the hook member. Fixed to the exterior of the tube *g* and lying in a plane transverse to the plane of the bend *e* of the hook member is an ornamental plate *j*, which projects laterally upon either side of the sleeve. Soldered or otherwise fixed to the bottom of the tube *g* and plug *h* and transversely disposed in relation to plane of bend *e* of the hook member is a plate

*k*, with downwardly-directed arms or extremities *l*, terminating in spheres or balls *m*. The latter are so disposed in relation to the ball *f* that the latter is limited thereby in its upward movement by contact therewith. The downward travel of the hook member is limited by the contact of flange *b* with the upper end of tube *g*. Since it is necessary that the ball *f* should always retain a position in a plane intermediate and equidistant from the balls *a*, there projects from the head *c* a lug *n*, which travels in a vertical slot *o* in the tube *g*.

The operation of my device is as follows: The hook member A is engaged with the belt or one of the two members to be connected. With one hand the wearer gathers up a fold in the skirt or grasps the article to be attached with one hand, while with the thumb of the other hand the flange *b* is depressed, bringing the parts into the position shown in Fig. 3, and the fabric is introduced intermediate the ball *f* and balls *m*. The lateral projections formed by the ornamental plate *j* afford a hold for the first and second fingers of the hand during the depression of the hook member by the thumb against the tension of the spring *i*. This structure, it will be noted, enables the wearer to engage or disengage the device with one hand.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

1. In a device of the character described, the combination with a fastening-plate, of a hook member, flexible connections between the plate and hook member, a tubular body in which the hook member is slidably mounted, lateral means on said tube between the plate and hook member, and means upon the body coacting with the hook member for retaining a fabric.

2. In a device of the character described, the combination with a fastening-plate, of a hook member, flexible connections between the plate and hook member, a tubular body in which the hook member is slidably mounted, lateral means on said tube between the plate and the hook member, means carried by the tube for retracting the hook member, and means projecting from the body for limiting the hook member in its retractive travel.



3. In a device of the character described, the combination with a fastening-plate, of a hook member, a flexible connection intermediate the plate and hook member, a tubular  
5 body in which the hook member is slidably mounted, lateral projections upon the body, means within the body for retracting the hook member, and means upon the body coacting with the hook member for limiting the retract-  
10 ive travel of the latter.

4. In a device of the character described, the combination with a fastening-plate, of a hook member provided with a spherical terminal, a flexible connection intermediate the  
15 plate and hook member, a tube in which the hook member is slidably mounted, means carried by the tube for longitudinally tensioning the hook member, bent arms fixed to the lower portion of the tube provided with spherical  
20 terminals the space between the spherical terminals on the tube being less than the diame-

ter of the spherical terminal on the hook member, whereby the latter is adapted to normally contact with the terminal of the hook member.

5. In a device of the character described, 25 the combination with a fastening-plate, of a hook member, flexible connections between the plate and hook member, a tubular body in which the hook member is slidably mounted, lateral means on said tube between the 30 said plate and the hook member, arms upon the body coacting with the hook member for limiting the longitudinal travel of the latter, and means upon the hook member coacting with the body for preventing the rotation of 35 the hook member.

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

WILLIAM B. STREETER.

Witnesses:

HORATIO E. BELLOWS,  
WILLIAM E. BROWN.