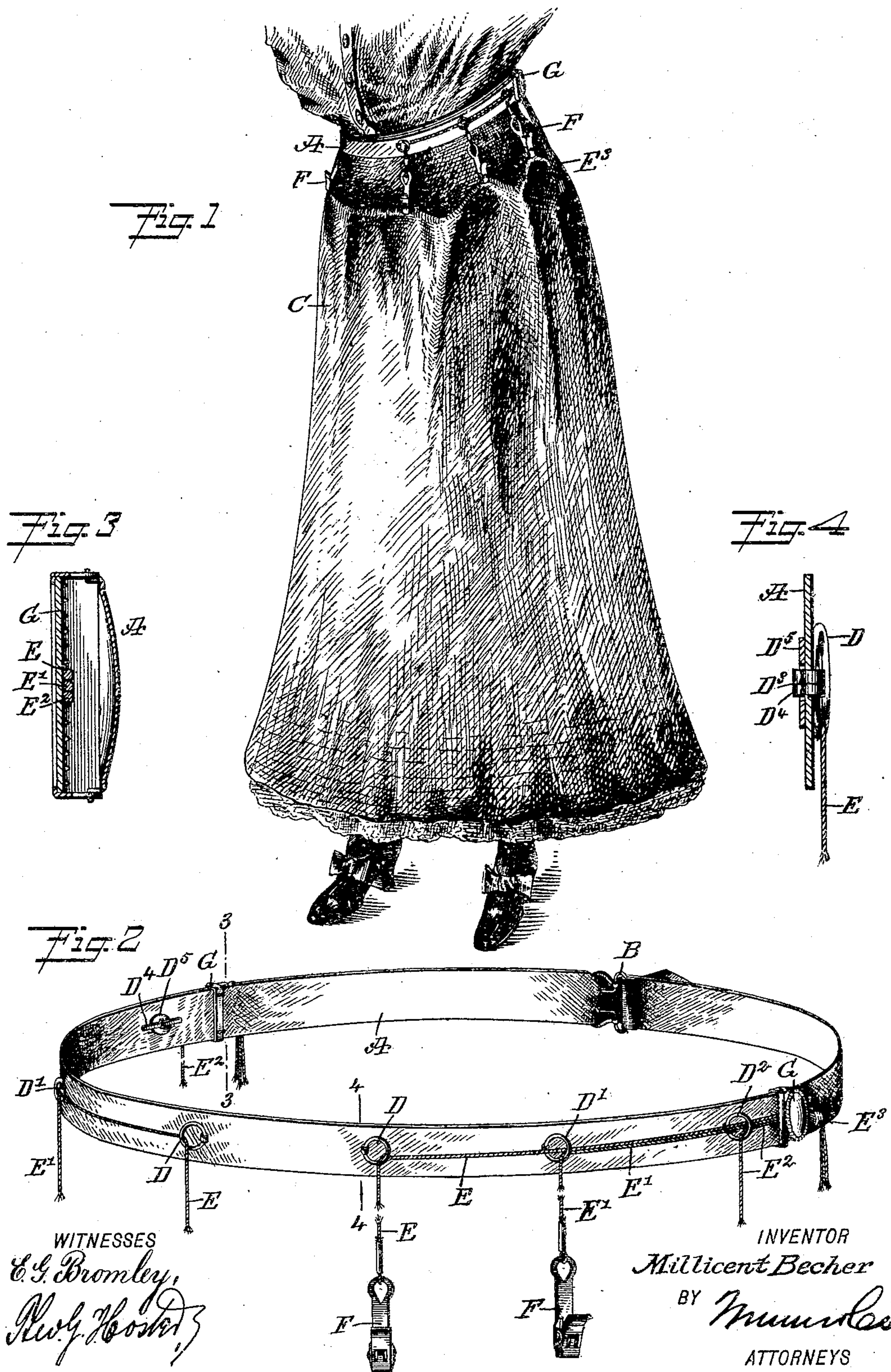


M. BECHER.
SKIRT LIFTING DEVICE.
APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 21, 1908.

930,026.

Patented Aug. 3, 1909.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MILLICENT BECHER, OF WILMINGTON, DELAWARE.

SKIRT-LIFTING DEVICE.

No. 930,026.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 3, 1909.

Application filed September 21, 1908. Serial No. 453,925.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MILLICENT BECHER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Wilmington, in the county of Newcastle and State of Delaware, have invented a new and Improved Skirt-Lifting Device, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of the invention is to provide a new and improved skirt-lifting or raising device, arranged for convenient attachment to the waist of a woman, to allow her to raise the skirt evenly all around and to support it in this position without requiring the use of a hand, and with a view to prevent the skirt from being soiled when walking outdoors in rainy weather, and to allow her to use both hands freely for carrying an umbrella or when entering or leaving cars and other vehicles.

The invention consists of novel features and parts and combinations of the same, which will be more fully described hereinafter and then pointed out in the claims.

A practical embodiment of the invention is represented in the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improvement, as applied and showing the skirt raised by the device; Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the improvement, showing the parts in lowered or non-raising position; Fig. 3 is an enlarged cross section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2; and Fig. 4 is a similar view of the same on the line 4—4 of Fig. 2.

A belt A of any approved construction is provided with a buckle B, to permit the user of the skirt-lifting device to securely fasten the belt A in position around the waistband of the skirt C to be raised, the belt being applied with the buckle B either at the front or rear, to suit the convenience of the user.

On the outer face of the belt, and preferably at the sides thereof, are held two sets of guiding rings D, D', D², spaced apart and mounted to swing on loops D³, each having prongs D⁴ passing transversely through the belt material and through an apertured plate D⁵ held at the inner face of the belt, the ends of the prongs D⁴ being clenched on the inner face of the plate D⁵, as plainly shown in Figs. 2 and 4.

Through the guiding rings D, D', D² pass

sets of cords E, E', E², respectively, the cord E also passing through the guiding rings D', D², and the cord E' also passing through the guiding ring D², the cords having tied-up ends E³.

The ends of the cords E, E', E² hanging down from the guiding rings D, D', D², support spring clasps F, of any approved construction, and adapted to engage the skirt C a distance below the waistband, to permit of drawing up the skirt C on pulling the sets of cords E, E', E². The sets of cords extend along the belt A in opposite directions, and the ends of the cords in each set of cords are preferably united by tying the several cords into a knot, and the several cords of each set of cords pass through a clamping buckle G attached to the belt A, adjacent to the ring D², as plainly shown in the drawings, the buckle G serving to hold the free ends of the sets of cords E, E', E² securely in place after the skirt has been drawn up, as shown in Fig. 1.

In using the device, the belt A is placed in position on the waistband of the skirt C, as shown in Fig. 1, and with the clasps F hanging a desired distance down from the belt A, say six inches or so, and then the clasps F are engaged with the skirt material, after which the user pulls on the tied-up ends E³ of the cords, to draw the same through the guiding rings D, D', D² and thus lift the clasps F and the skirt, with a view to raise the lower end of the skirt a desired distance above the ground, and thus prevent the skirt from being soiled, when walking about in rainy weather. After the clasps F and the skirt have been raised, the clamping buckles G are closed to securely lock the cords E, E', E² in place, thus holding the clasps F and the skirt in the raised position without aid on the part of the user, who is thus free to use both hands for managing an umbrella or for other purposes. When it is desired to remove the device, after its legitimate use, it is only necessary for the user to disconnect the clasps F from the skirt and to unbuckle the belt, thus allowing its removal from the waistband. The device can then be folded up into a comparatively small space, for convenient storage in a hand bag or the like.

The device shown and described, is very simple and durable in construction, can be cheaply manufactured and easily applied or removed.

It is understood that the user may attach the clasp F to both the skirt and the petticoat, to lift both at the same time, if desired.

For long train gowns a number of extra long cords and clasps F are used for engaging the skirt at the rear, about eighteen inches below the waistband, to raise the train portion of the gown together with the front and sides.

10 Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

1. A skirt lifting device comprising a flat belt, sets of guiding rings spaced apart on 15 each side of the belt, each ring being pivotally secured to the exterior of the belt and adapted to swing into close contact therewith, sets of cords guided in the said sets of guide rings, each cord in a set passing 20 through a guide ring and arranged to hang down from the same, a clamp secured on the downward hanging end of each cord for engagement with the skirt a distance below the waistband of the skirt, and means attached 25 to the belt on the exterior thereof for adjustably securing the grouped ends of the cords.

2. A skirt lifting device comprising a flat belt adapted to fit closely to the body of the wearer, sets of guiding rings spaced on each side of the belt, a loop engaging each ring and 30 constituting a pivot therefor, an apertured plate at the back of the belt through which, and the plate, pass the ends of the loop, the said ends being clenched on the plate, sets of cords guided in the said sets of guide rings, 35 each cord in a set passing through a guide-ring to hang down from the same, clasps secured on the downward hanging end of each cord for engagement with the skirt a distance below the waist band of the skirt, and clamp- 40 ing buckles attached to the said belt and each engaging the free united ends of the cords of the corresponding set of cords to lock the cords in place.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

MILLICENT BECHER.

Witnesses:

JAMES W. ROBERTSON,
CHARLES GREEN.