

M. ROSENSTOCK.
Dress-Train Supporter.

No. 196,481.

Patented Oct. 23, 1877.

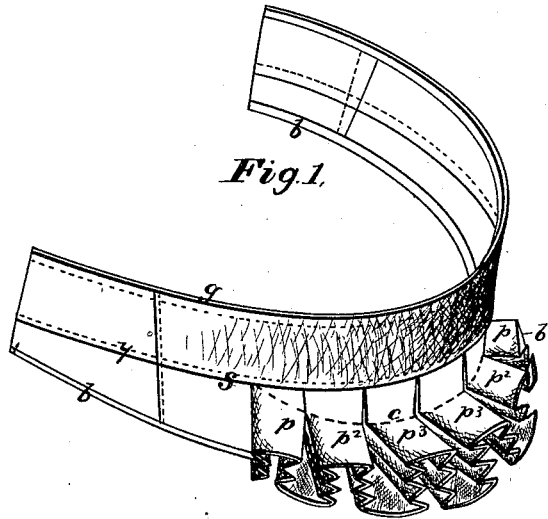


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

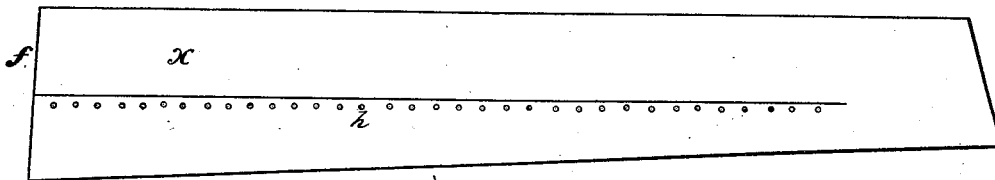
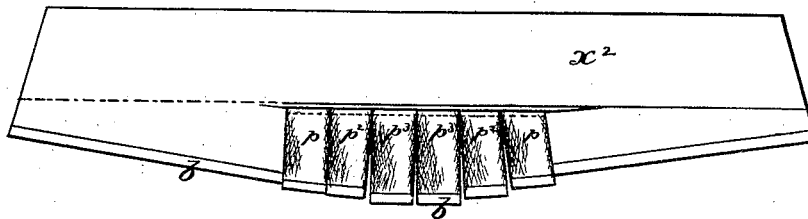


Fig. 3.



Witnesses.

H. R. Edelin.

Chas J. Gooch

Inventor.

Moritz Rosenstock

By Knight & Co

Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MORITZ ROSENSTOCK, OF HOBOKEN, NEW JERSEY.

IMPROVEMENT IN DRESS-TRAIN SUPPORTERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **196,481**, dated October 23, 1877; application filed October 4, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MORITZ ROSENSTOCK, of Hoboken, in the county of Hudson, New Jersey, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Dress-Train Supporters and Protectors, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to means for preventing the trains of ladies' dresses from trailing on the ground, and thus becoming soiled and worn; the object being to facilitate wearing trains on the street or promenade.

The present article is a very simple permanent attachment for the train, serving, when in use, to support the latter in the most elastic and graceful manner; the same being constructed in peculiar manner of a single piece of fabric, beside its water-proof binding and its spring or springs, as hereinafter set forth.

Figure 1 of the accompanying drawing is a perspective view of the said dress-train supporter and protector curved as worn. Fig. 2 is a face view of a double piece of fabric cut and punctured for use in making the improved supporter. Fig. 3 is a face view of a partially-finished protector, illustrating an intermediate stage of the process of manufacture.

Like letters of reference indicate corresponding parts of the several figures.

This improved dress-train supporter and protector, which will be known as "Our Princess-Dress Fan," has the form represented in Fig. 1, when sewed or otherwise secured within the train of a lady's dress. When not attached, the supporter is straight or flat, its spring or springs *s* tending to hold it in this shape. It consequently occupies very little space as boxed for sale. Beside the said spring or springs, which are straight and horizontal, and the general characteristic of the supporter as a stiff facing, the salient features of the finished supporter are a curved lower edge, provided with a water-proof binding, *b*, and a series of compound box-plaits, *p p² p³*, increasing in length and fullness toward the middle of the supporter, and forming together a central fan-like frill, upon which the edge of the train rests; and, lastly, a curve, *c*, stitched through the plaits, which defines the line where the edge of the train should be fixed, and more conspicuously

serves, in connection with the stiffening-spring, to cause the said plates to be expanded or erected, as shown in Fig. 1, in the act of bending the supporter preliminary to securing it within the train. The binding, besides its primary protecting function, serves as an auxiliary to keep the plaits in shape.

The materials which I have employed in the manufacture of the said supporter are wigan as the main fabric, a thin oil-cloth as the binding, and flat hoop-skirt wire for the springs. Jean, hair-cloth, and other stiff fabrics may also be employed, however, as substitutes for wigan; any water-proof binding may be employed, and the springs may be of horn, hard rubber, or whale-bone. I have found a single spring sufficient, but two or more may be employed, as above indicated. Only one is shown in the illustration.

In manufacturing the said supporter, I employ a half-pattern of the shape represented in Fig. 2; and cut thereby a strip of wigan, for example, of the required form and size, the latter being what is shown in said figure. In doing this a double piece of the fabric is employed, and the square end of the pattern is placed at the fold *f*, Fig. 2, which is consequently the middle of the strip. The strip is, say, two and a half yards long, ten inches wide at the fold, and seven and a half inches wide at the ends. This strip is at the same time punctured with sixty-eight (more or less) small holes, *h*, Fig. 2, and is cut longitudinally, parallel to its straight upper edge and about five inches therefrom, from the fold to about ten inches from the ends, as indicated in Fig. 2, and the upper part is divided at the fold *f*. The binding *b* is now sewed on the lower edge of the strip. The plaits *p p² p³* are next folded and sewed, as indicated in Fig. 3, under the guidance of the punctures; the outer plaits *p p²*, at each end of the series, being each formed by eight folds, and the two central plaits, *p³*, each by twelve folds, with each inner fold of the width indicated by two successive punctures, and each plait of double this width. The flaps *x x²*, formed by dividing the upper part of the strip, are made to overlap the opposite ends on the respective sides, and are cut off at the extremities of the shortened strip, as also shown in Fig. 3. The

respective parts of the double upper portion, thus formed, are then turned down on the line of the lower edges of the flaps, and are stitched down onto the plaits, &c., parallel to the edge so formed. Said parts of the upper portion are then folded back again, and one or more parallel rows of stitching are sewed through them to form the pocket or pockets, *y*, Fig. 1, for the spring or springs *s*, which are inserted at the next operation, and are thus inclosed in the most simple manner, while the doubling of the entire upper portion affords additional stiffness, and obviates any necessity for many hoops or braces. Transverse gores *g* are next folded at the respective ends of the spring or springs, to hold the latter in place and to modify the shape of the supporter, and the curve *c* is stitched through the plaits. The upper edge and the ends are now closed by hemming them, and the article is finished.

A dress-train supporter and protector, constructed according to the first part of this invention, may be manufactured otherwise than as above specified, and this method of manufacture may itself be modified in unessential details as regards the number of folds—and the period at which the curve *c* is sewed, for example.

The following is what I claim as new and of my own invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, namely:

1. A dress-train supporter and protector, having at its lower edge a frill, composed of compound box-plaits projecting rearwardly at right angles to the upright portion of the supporter, substantially as herein shown and described.

2. The method of making a dress-train supporter and protector from a single piece of textile fabric, with water-proof binding and a spring or springs, consisting in slitting said piece of fabric longitudinally, leaving the ends whole, dividing the upper part, and subsequently doubling the entire upper portion, and forming a pocket or pockets for the spring or springs by means of the flaps thus formed, the lower portion being bound and plaited to form the wearing-surfaces of the finished article, substantially as herein specified.

MORITZ ROSENSTOCK.

Witnesses:

JAS. L. EWING,
WM. A. MAIN.