

ELIZABETH S. WELDON.
PANNIER OR BUSTLE.

No. 173,701.

Patented Feb. 15, 1876.

Fig. 1.

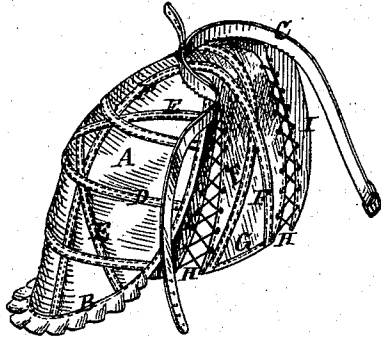


Fig. 2.

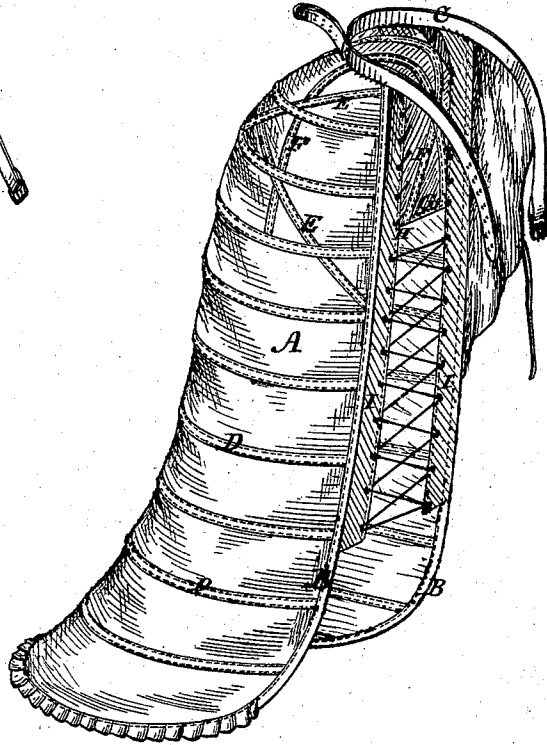
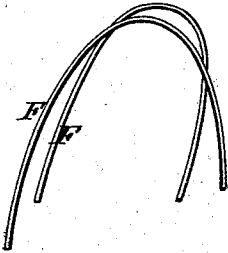


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:

J. S. Grooms
A. B. Norris.

Inventor:

Elizabeth Powell Weldon.
By James L. Norris.
att'y

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELIZABETH S. WELDON, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN PANNIERS OR BUSTLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **173,701**, dated February 15, 1876; application filed October 23, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELIZABETH STOWELL WELDON, of New York, in the county of New York, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Panniers, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to certain improvements in ladies' Pompadour panniers, its object being to produce a pannier that will set gracefully to the body of the wearer, and adapt itself to the various movements of the same, and which will bear any amount of crushing-strain, immediately resuming its proper shape when the pressure is withdrawn, whereby all injury by the sitting or reclining of the wearer, or by the pressure attendant upon crowded assemblies, is avoided.

The invention consists in the combination, with the ordinary curved springs employed to distend the skirt of the pannier, of two flat springs extending from one of the curved springs upward at the rear of the pannier, where they are bent inwardly, and extended downward a convenient length, crossing each other, and being secured to a strip of fabric attached to the skirt of the pannier, forming a spring-pad or bearing-surface, which will rest against the body of the wearer when the pannier is in position, keeping the same gracefully extended from the body when in an upright position, and at the same time allowing it to be pressed in contact with the body in any position, when the wearer sits or reclines, without injury.

In the drawing, Figure 1 represents my improvement applied to an ordinary bustle or pannier, and Fig. 2 represents it applied to a skirt of full length.

The letter A represents the skirt of the pannier, which may be of any suitable material and convenient length, being generally constructed, however, of satin jeans. B represents a flat spring or wire extending from the waistband C entirely around the edge of said skirt, hemmed in or otherwise secured to the same. The letter D represents a series of the usual curved wires, commonly employed to distend the skirt of a pannier, secured in any convenient manner to the same—preferably, however, by means of a strip of fabric sewed over each spring. The letters E E represent

two springs crossing each other, and extending from the ends of the springs B at the waistband of the skirt to one of the lower springs in the short pannier shown in Fig. 1, or to one of the intermediate springs in the full-length pannier shown in Fig. 2, said springs E E being secured to the skirt in the same manner as the springs D. The letters F F represent two elastic springs or wires—preferably the flat springs of the usual construction. Said springs extend, in the case of the short pannier, from one of the lower curved springs D, and in case of the long pannier from one of the intermediate springs D upward at the rear of said pannier to its top, and are there bent inwardly and downwardly to a convenient distance, as shown, crossing each other in their course. The said springs are secured to the fabric of the skirt in any convenient manner—in the present instance being secured in the same manner as the springs D and E, by a strip of fabric stitched to the fabric of the skirt—and the downwardly-projecting portions at the top are secured in the same manner to a flap or strip, G, of fabric of suitable length sewed to the fabric of the skirt at its top edge, or forming a continuation of the same. Said strip of fabric is provided along its sides with a series of eyelet-holes, H, by which it is laced to two strips of fabric, I, secured to the edges of the skirt. By means of said lacing the shape or curvature of the upper part of the pannier may be regulated and adjusted.

The waistband K of the pannier is made in two parts, which are attached to those portions of the upper edge of the skirt lying on opposite sides of the springs F, the two adjoining ends of said straps at the rear being connected by means of a buckle to allow the upper part of the pannier to be enlarged or contracted to suit various figures or styles of dressing. The front ends of the waistband are provided with any convenient fastening devices, by means of which the pannier may be secured around the waist of the wearer.

In order to give the lower edge of the skirt a more finished and ornamental appearance a ruffle or other trimming may be attached to the same, if desired.

Having thus described my invention, what I

claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In combination with a lady's pannier or bustle, the two springs F F, extending from one of the curved springs which distend the same, or from any other rear portion of the skirt, up to the top of the skirt, and then bent inwardly and downwardly, and attached to a flap secured to the skirt, thereby forming a spring-pad or bearing-surface to rest against the body, which will yield to the different positions of the wearer, substantially as described.

2. The combination of the curved springs D, the crossed springs E, and the springs or wires F F, extending upward at the rear of the pannier, and bent inwardly and downwardly at the top, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I hereunto set my hand in the presence of the subscribing witnesses.

ELIZABETH STOWELL WELDON.

Witnesses:

W. H. MELICK,
W. READ.