

A. S. McLean.

Corset.

N^o 22443

Patented Dec. 28, 1858.

Fig. 1.

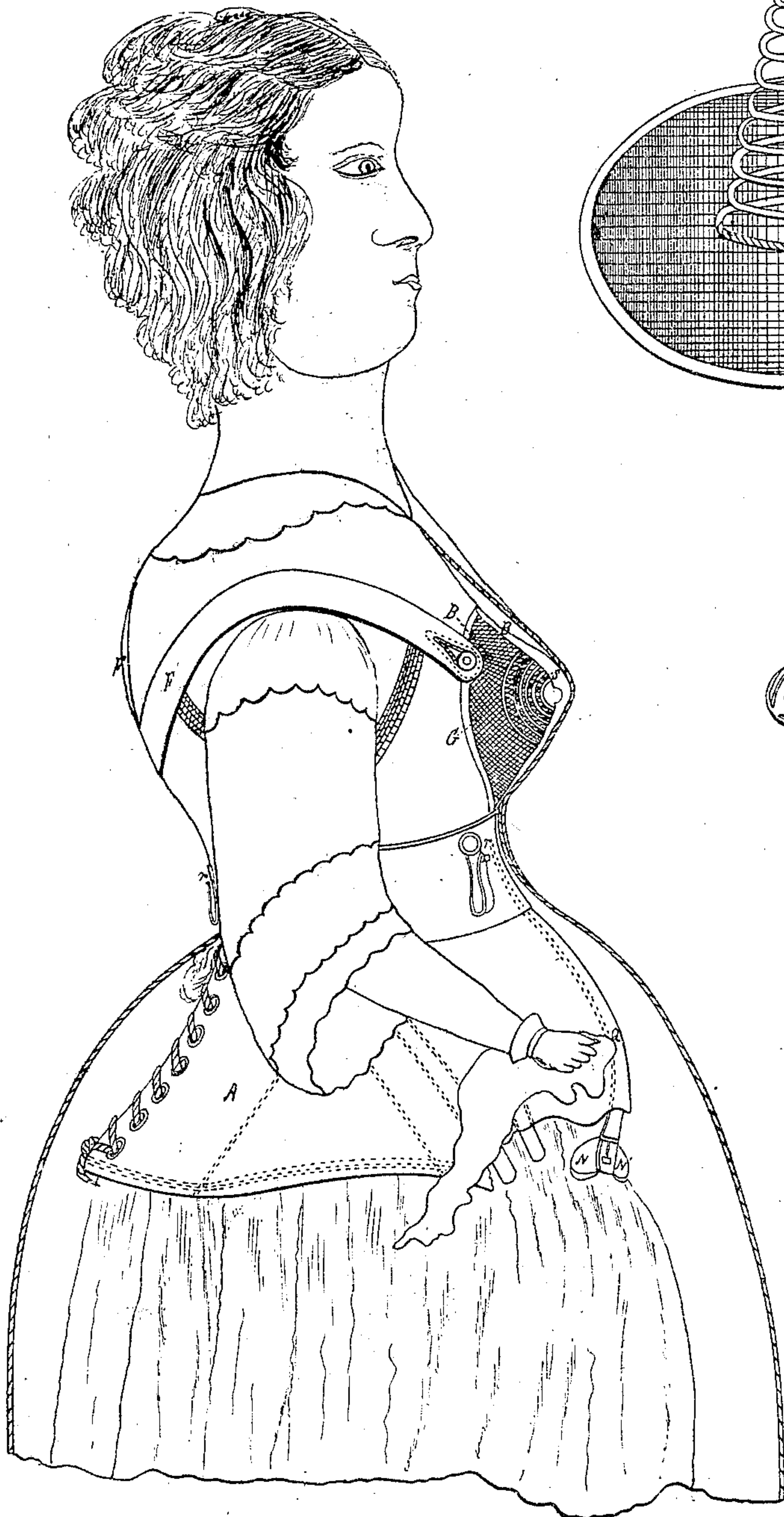


Fig. 2.

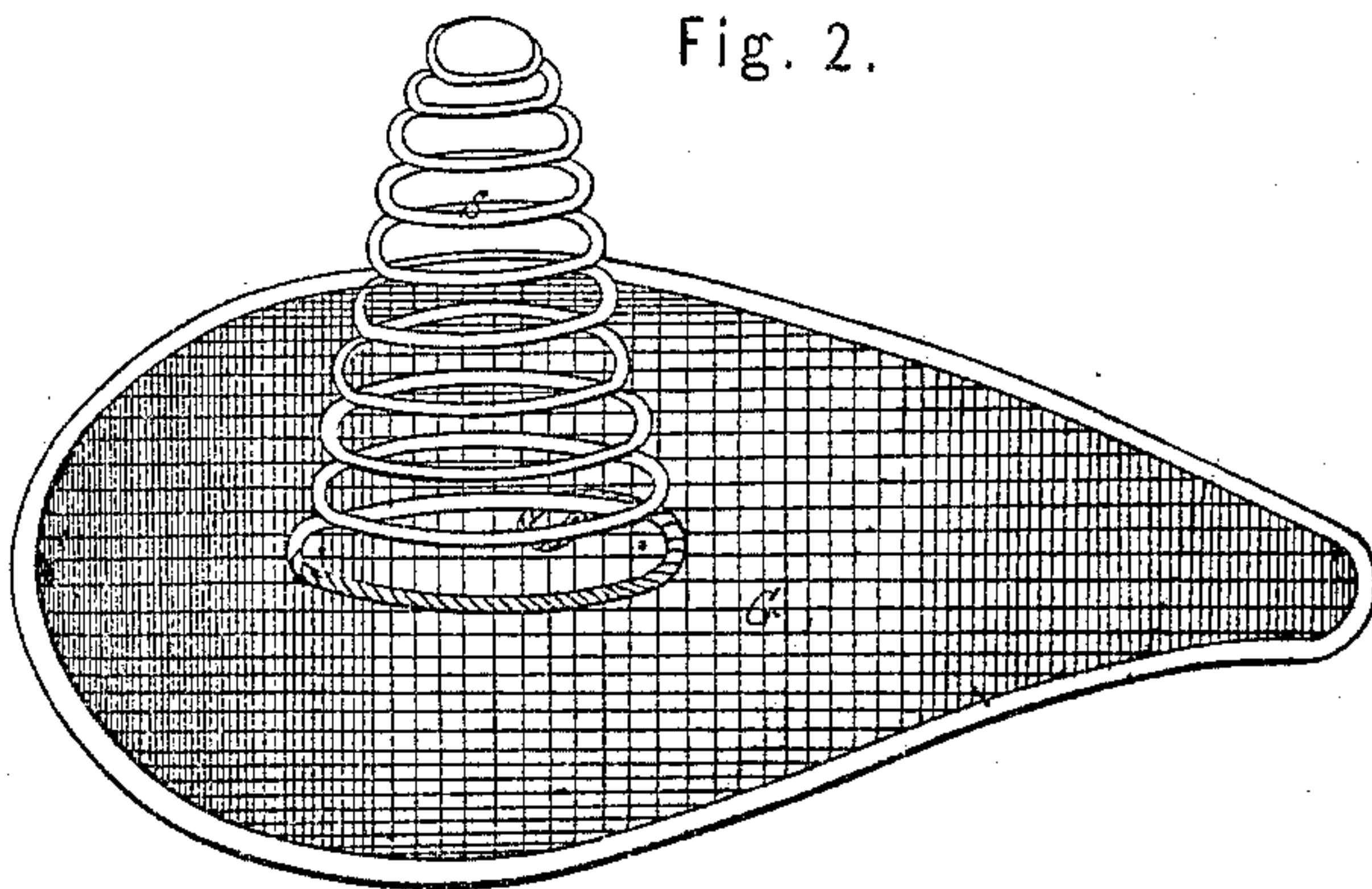


Fig. 3.

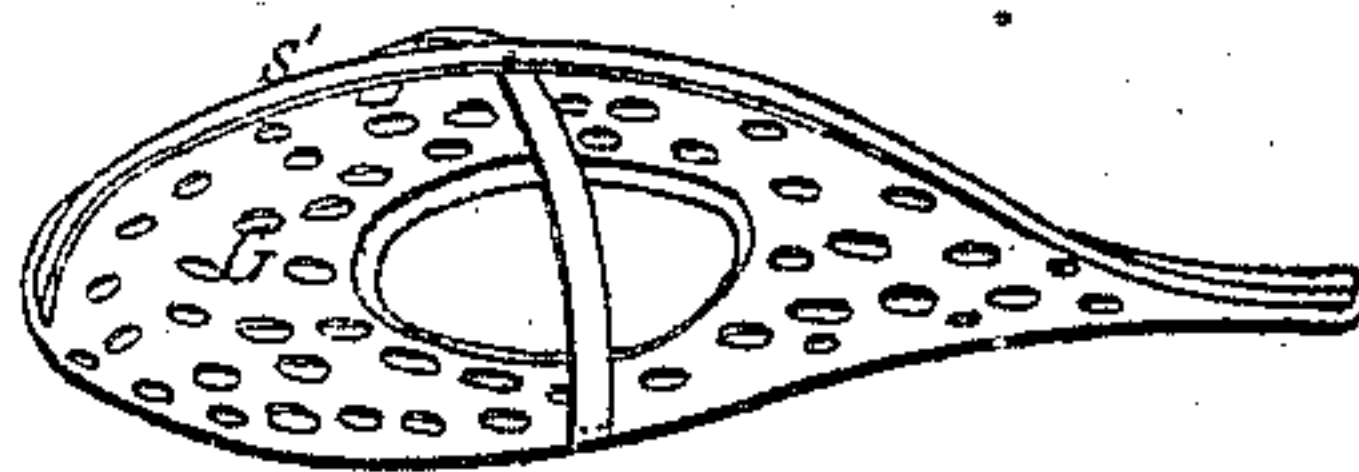


Fig. 4.

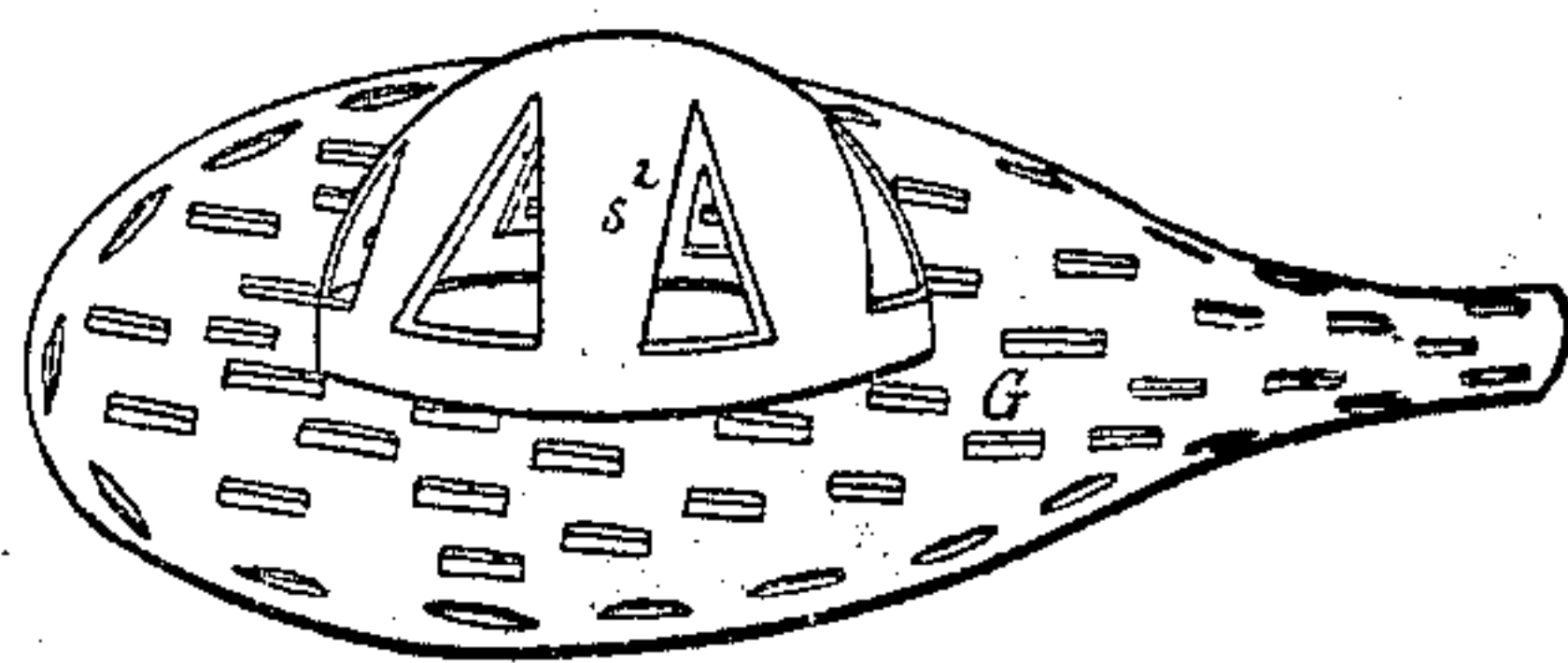
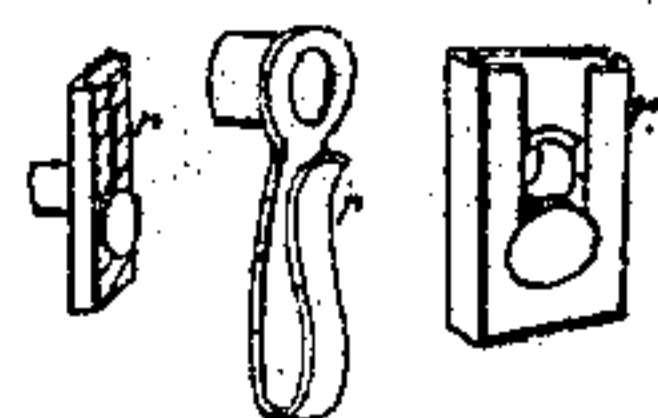


Fig. 5.



Witnesses.

A. Barlow
George Leach

Inventors.

Anne S. McLean

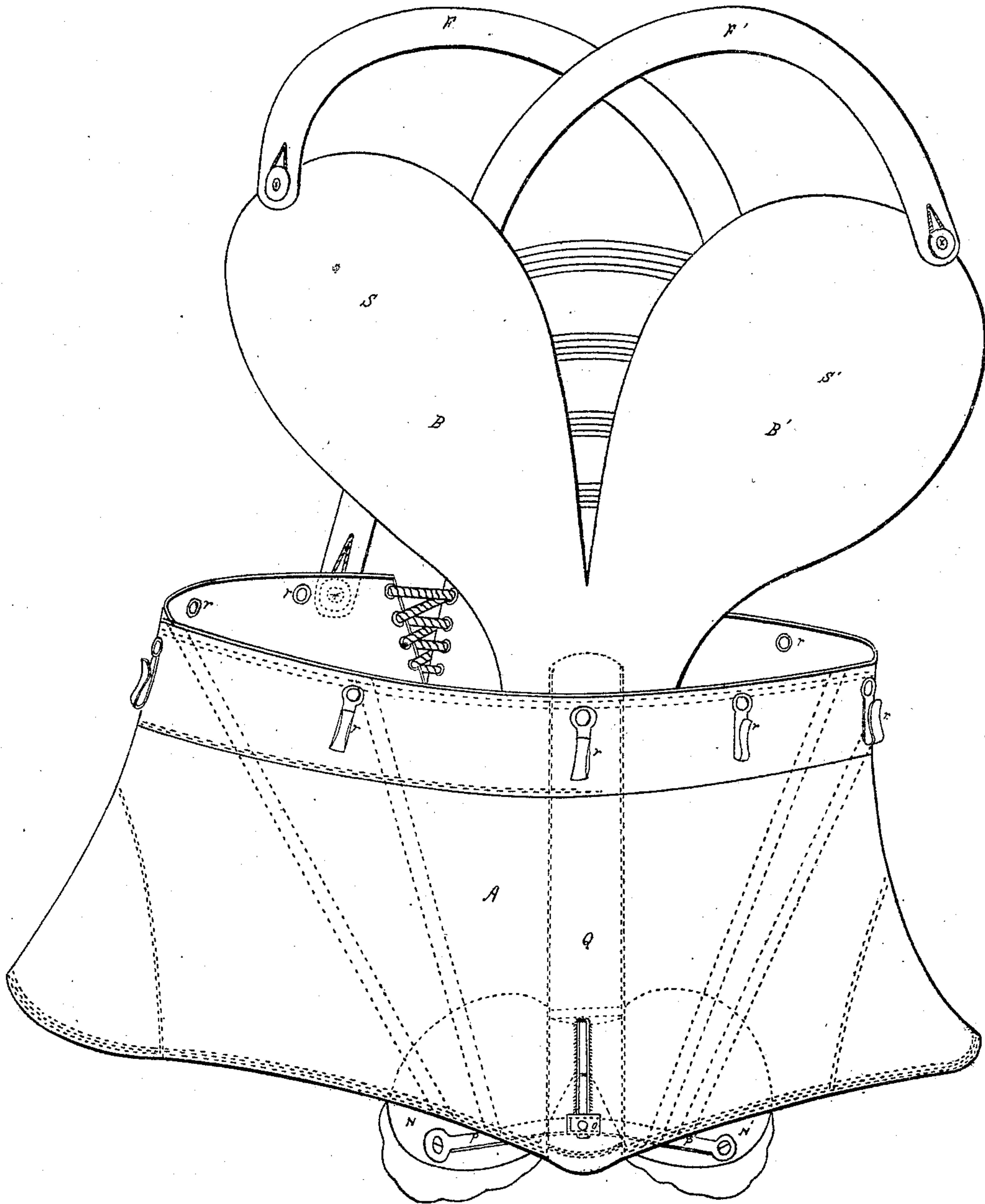
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Fig. 6.



Witnesses.

H. B. B. B.
George B. B.

Inventor.

Anne S. McLean

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANNE S. McLEAN, OF WILLIAMSBURG, NEW YORK.

CORSET.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 22,443, dated December 28, 1858.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANNE S. McLEAN, of Williamsburg, in the county of Kings, in the State of New York, have made certain novel and useful Improvements in the Construction of Corsets for Ladies' Wear; and I hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

Description.

Figure 1, represents a female figure provided with my improved abdominal supporting corset (A,) adjustable metallic spring pads (B,) for the breasts, and an adjustable abdominal pad (N, N') attached to the lower end of the corset board, which is a stiff steel spring in order to operate firmly upon the pad (N, N') in such a manner that the lower edges of the pad will press inward, and upward, at the same time, in proportion to the tightness of the corset which may be increased or diminished by means of the lacings or a strap at the back thereof.

By the above arrangement I do away with the application of the side springs which are commonly employed and attached to the abdominal supporter now in use. These side springs circumscribe the body and press against the spine, and oftentimes become very troublesome to the wearer, besides the great weight upon the hips, and the continuous heavy pressure upon the back, but by my arrangement the pressure may be increased or diminished at pleasure and the whole weight of the apparatus is removed from the hips and supported in a great measure upon the shoulders by means of the shoulder braces (F, F') which are connected to the top or spring pads (B,) of the corset, in front, and to the belt, or middle section thereof at the back.

The shield, or top of the breast pads, next to the outer dress, may be of any suitable material. I prefer to use that which would be impervious to perspiration, such as bark, grass, curled hair, or any other suitable substance to form the top of the pad.

The broad flat spring supporting surface (G,) is sufficiently flexible in its nature to adapt itself to the prominent portions of the bust with perfect ease to the wearer at

the same time being sufficiently firm to support the cone shaped spiral spring flat steel spring or their equivalents as shown at Figs. (1, 2, 3, 4,) which represents the cone shaped spiral spring (S) attached to a wire gauze surface, the flat steel spring (S') secured to a thin sheet brass surface, and the india rubber spring (S²) attached to a thin sheet iron or their equivalents.

Fig. 6, is a perspective view of the corset and its appendages, and are as follows: Letters (N, N') represent the abdominal pad, secured to the lower end of the steel corset board, by means of a set screw (O,) and transverse spring (P, P'). When the pad (N, N') is a spring of itself the transverse spring is not used as shown at Fig. 1. The steel corset board (Q,) is provided with a slot running lengthwise thereof through which the pad (N, N') may be moved up or down to suit the wearer.

I provide the middle, or waist, of the corset, with flat hooks (r, r, r,) having their tops formed like an eyelet, by which means they are secured to the corset as shown at Fig. 5. Studs or buttons may be used instead of hooks. Slides may be equally well applied to the middle or waist of the corset, for the purpose of holding up, or supporting the skirts.

The middle section of the corset may be made to be worn in connection with the upper section, or pads alone like a belt provided with slides or hooks (r, r, r,) to support the skirts, the weight of which keeps the pads down in their place, while the shoulder braces (F, F') holds them (the pads) at their tops; at the same time supports the entire weight of the skirts thereby leaving the hips free and easy.

This abdominal supporting corset comes much lower than the ordinary corset in order to more fully support and protect the lower portion of the body as shown at Fig. 1.

By the above described means, I am enabled to provide a fac simile of the natural developments of the human bust, the desired rotundity of the figure the contour of the body, free use of the muscles, the admission of air, and entire freedom from restraint which is not the case with any other corset ever worn. Therefore I believe the entire arrangement of the abdominal supporting corset board, hooks or slides, to support the skirts, spiral or equivalent springs, and

spring supporting plates (next the body) the whole being held in their proper places by means of the shoulder braces to be useful.

5 I disclaim looped fabrics of any kind for the purpose of forming the shield or top of the pad, next to the outer dress, neither do I claim the manufacture of eyelet hooks as they are in common use. But

10 What I claim as novel and wish to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

Providing the upper section, or pads of the corset, with cone shaped, flat steel, or

their equivalent springs and spring-supporting plate; next the body, for the purpose of giving elasticity to the pads, which 15 pads are held in their places by the weight of the corset.

In testimony whereof I hereunto subscribe my name in the presence of two witnesses.

ANNE S. McLEAN.

Witnesses:

EDWD. W. OWEN.

GEO. H. OWEN.