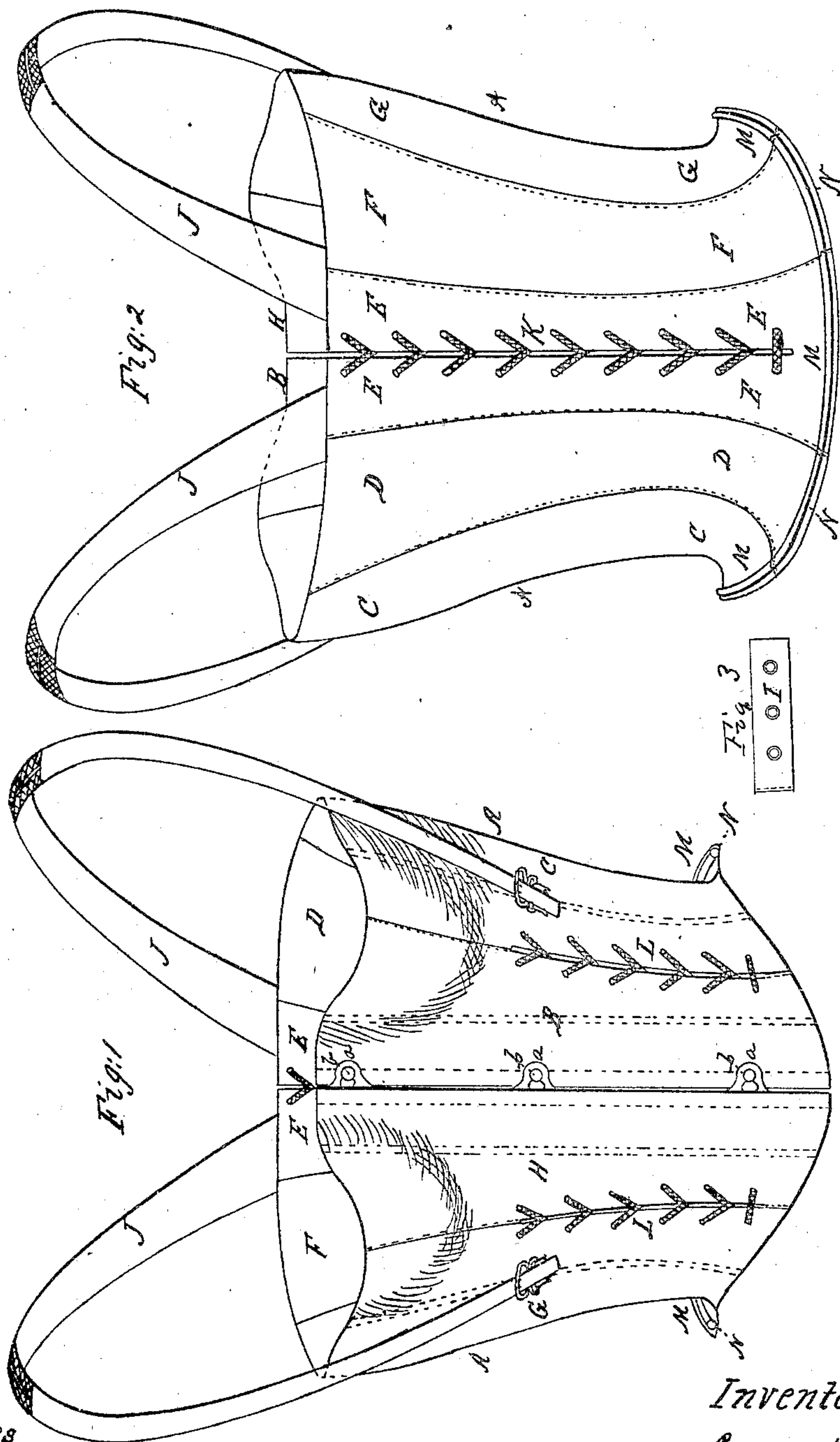


No. 45,296.

PATENTED NOV. 29, 1864.

L. H. FOY.  
CORSET SKIRT SUPPORTER.



Witnesses

J. S. S. Atkinson.  
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Inventor

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By her Attorney.  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LAVINIA H. FOY, OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO JAMES H. FOY, OF SAME PLACE.

## IMPROVEMENT IN CORSET SKIRT-SUPPORTERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 45,296, dated November 29, 1861.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, LAVINIA H. FOY, of the city and county of Worcester, and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Corset and Skirt Supporters; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 represents a front view of my improved corset and skirt-supporter; Fig. 2 represents a back view, and Fig. 3 a modification of the front fastening.

In the drawings, A represents the body of the article, made up in this instance from seven pieces B, C, D, E, F, G, and H. These pieces are so cut as to give, when sewed together, the desired shape to fit easily the form of the wearer. The front is provided with whalebones and the usual corset-clasps *a a*, attached to steel springs in the ordinary manner.

If desired, the adjusting-pieces I may be attached to one side of the front, so as to hook upon the catches *b b b*, and thus give greater adjustment than can be obtained by the lacings in front and back.

J J are the shoulder-straps sewed to the upper part of the back, one strap on each side of the laced opening K, and fastened in front by buckles *c c*, or otherwise, as may be preferred.

By means of the laced openings L L in front the article can be easily adjusted to fit the same or different-sized persons. The same result can be obtained by means of the laced opening K in the back, although the opening K, if extended down low enough to obtain the full and necessary adjustment, has a tendency when unlaced and opened to permit the back of the extensor or skirt-supporter M to fall or incline down, thereby impairing its efficiency as a safe and secure support to the skirts, unless they are fastened very tightly

about the waist. In practice, therefore, the opening K had better not extend more than one-third or one-half way down the back, whereby the straps J J can be thrown more or less off of the shoulders and the upper part of the body A adjusted at pleasure.

The lower part M, and which is designed to support the skirts, is caused to stand out by reason of the flaring shape of the bottoms of the pieces C, D, E, F, and G, in connection with the hoop N, which is inserted in a case or fold on the outer edge thereof, and which case I prefer to make from the same piece of material by which the lower edges of the pieces are bound.

By my invention the advantages of a corset are obtained together with a skirt-supporter, which enables the skirts to be worn without being fastened too tightly about the waist, while in addition thereto the weight is mostly sustained or supported by or from the shoulders. It is evident that the number of pieces which compose the body A may be varied without departing from the principle of my invention.

Different sizes may be produced by using different-sized patterns, or by the addition or omission of one or more of the back pieces.

Having described one practical mode in which my invention may be applied to use, what I claim as of my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination of the straps J J, body A, and extensor or skirt-supporter M, or the equivalent thereof, substantially as described.

2. The combination with the shoulder-straps J J, body A, and extensor or skirt-supporter M, of a laced opening K, or the equivalent thereof, extending down the back, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

LAVINIA H. FOY.

Witnesses:

ALLIN THAYER,  
ANNA B. JACKSON.