

J. L. Newton.
Corset.

No. 56438.

Patented July 17. 1866.

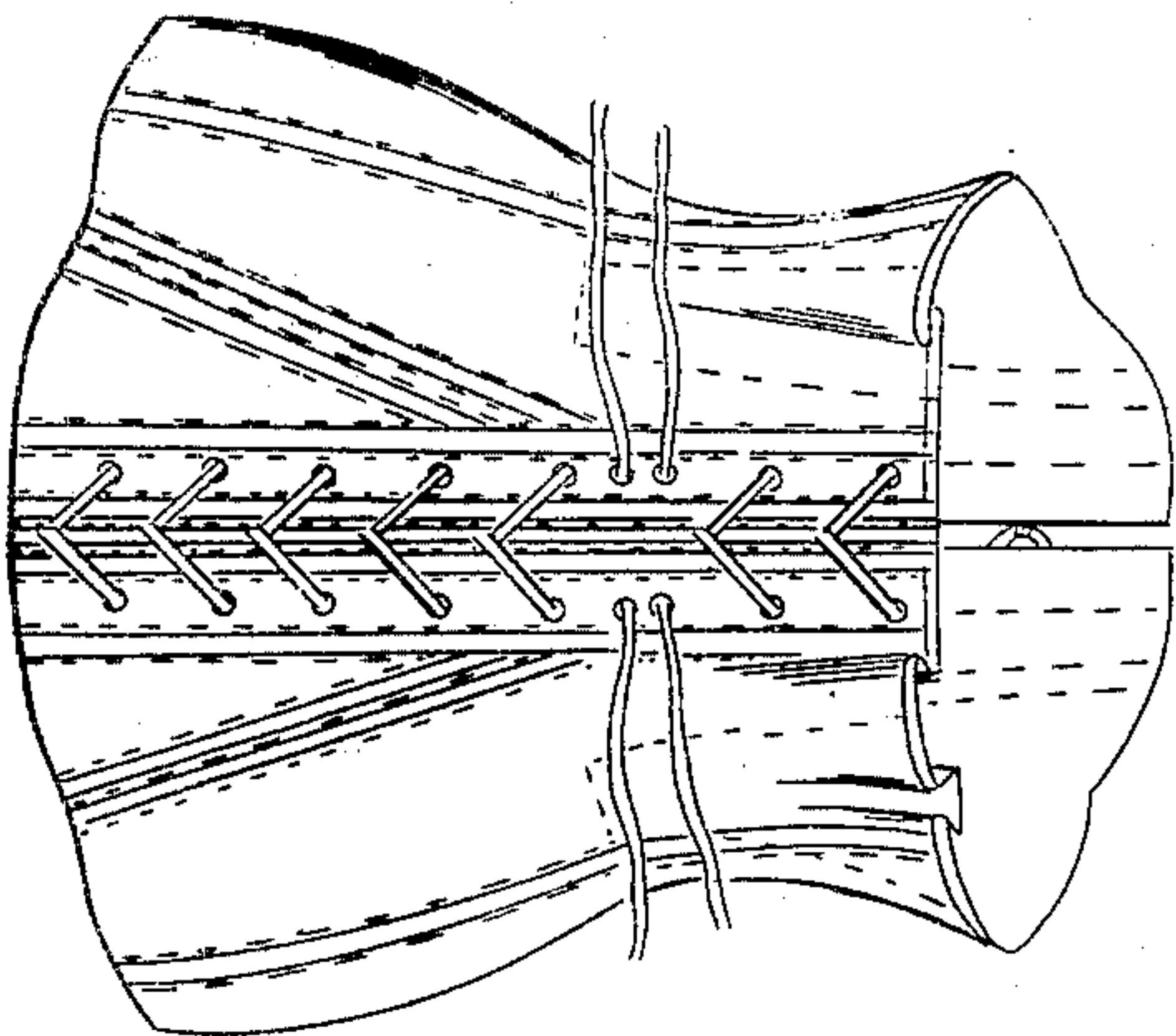
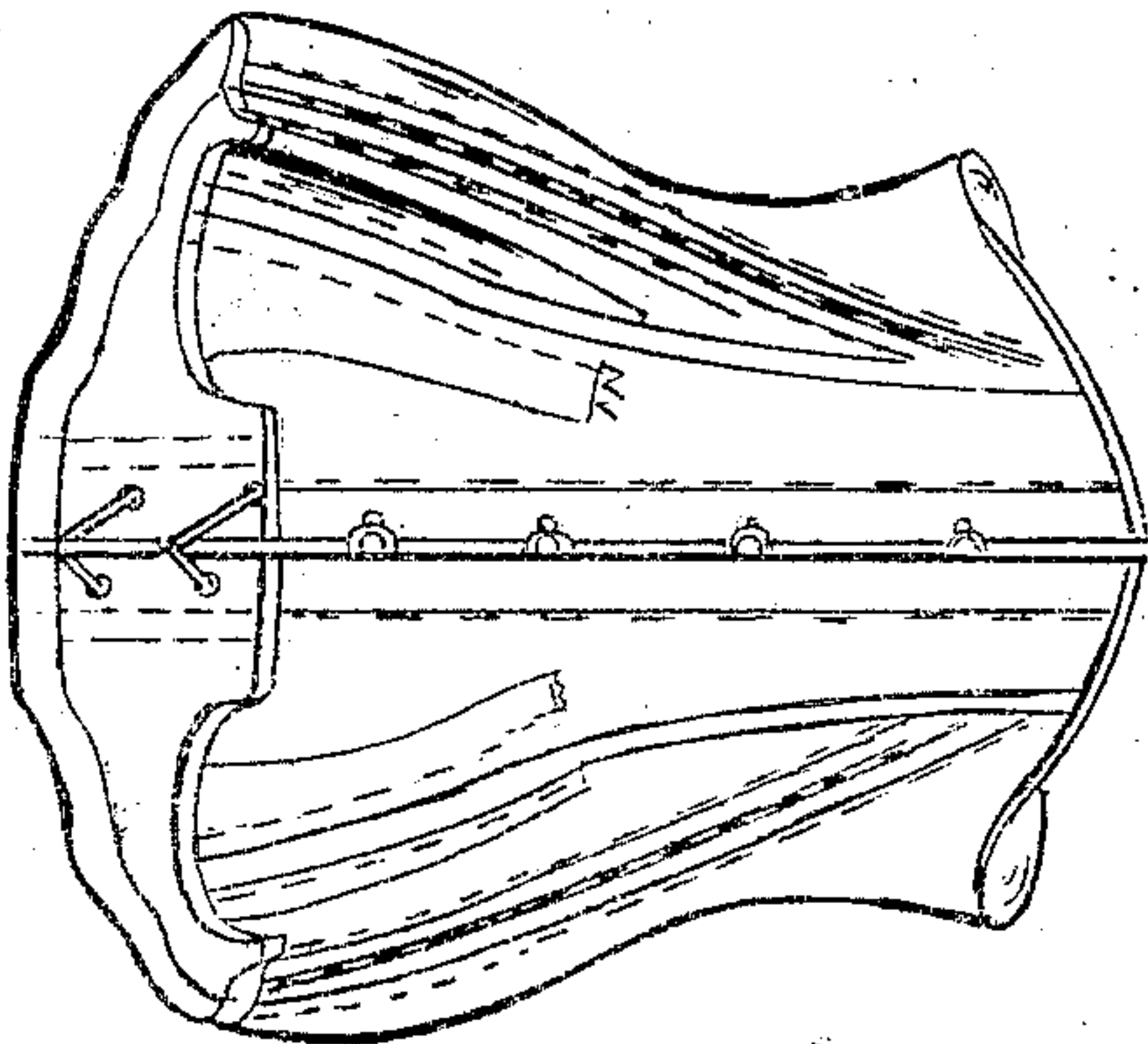


Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.



Witnessed

John S. Holmes

E. R. Drake

Inventor

J. L. Newton

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JEREMIAH L. NEWTON, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN STAYS, SPRINGS, AND EXTENSORS IN WEARING-APPAREL.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **56,438**, dated July 17, 1866.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JEREMIAH L. NEWTON, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented and discovered a new and useful Material for Elastic Supports in Wearing-Apparel; and I hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and the letters of reference marked thereon, making a part of this specification, of which—

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of the strip. Fig. 2 represents a section of the strip.

The nature of my invention consists in adapting rawhide for use in corsets and all wearing-apparel where and for the purposes for which whalebone, steel, and other materials are commonly used.

Take the skin of any animal, remove the hair by any of the known processes preparatory for tanning, stretch and dry the same, and then cut into such strips as to length and breadth as may be suitable for corsets or waists of dresses, or for the purpose intended; or take the rawhide before it is dried, and pass it under a paring or shaving machine to make the skin smooth and of even thickness. Then it may be cut into strips by knives set in a machine so as to cut up a whole or half a hide at one stroke, the machinery being impelled by steam or other power. These strips, pressed in a mold under heavy pressure, as in a hydraulic press, will become clear and solid, flexible, and, of course, more or less stiff, ac-

ording to the thickness of skin. They may be colored so as to resemble whalebone or any other color.

I wish it to be distinctly understood that rawhide prepared substantially as herein indicated is superior in many respects to all other articles heretofore applied to such purposes, being more tenacious, more safe and comfortable to the wearer, and more economical than either whalebone, steel, wood, or any other article so applied.

Whalebone at present prices retails at four and five dollars per pound, while rawhide prepared in the same manner for use can be furnished for less than forty cents per pound. It is less likely to break in using, or to be injured by heat or moisture, and as a substitute it is far superior to any substance now in use. It is durable, cheap, and of great practical utility to the public, while it is incapable of inflicting the injury so often resulting from spicular jagged edges and fractures of these several materials.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

As a stay, extensor, or spring in wearing-apparel, rawhide cut in strips or otherwise adapted for giving stiffness to and supporting corsets, stays, waists, and skirts of dresses and other articles of wearing-apparel, as and for the purpose above set forth.

JEREMIAH L. NEWTON.

Witnesses:

JOHN S. HOLMES,
E. R. DRAKE.