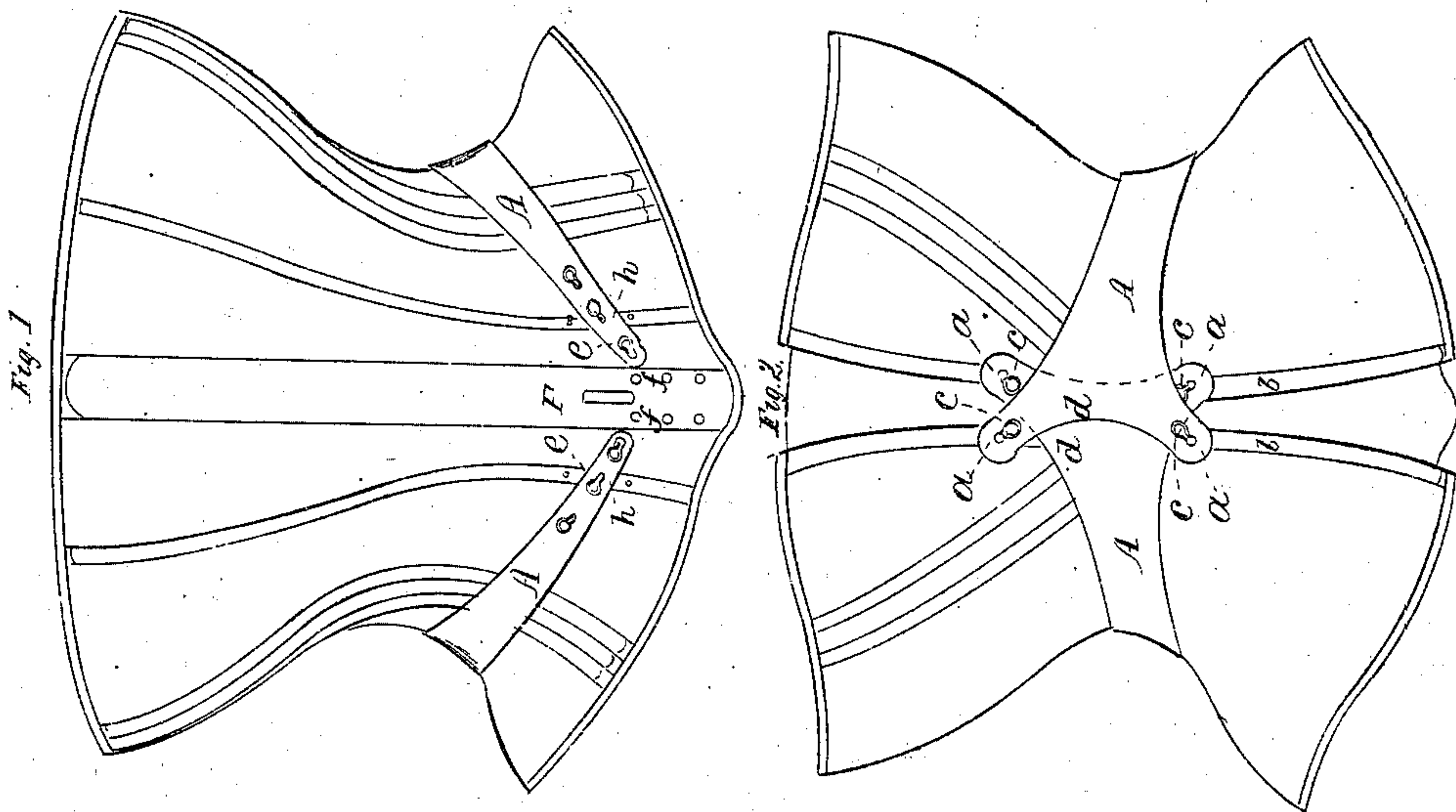
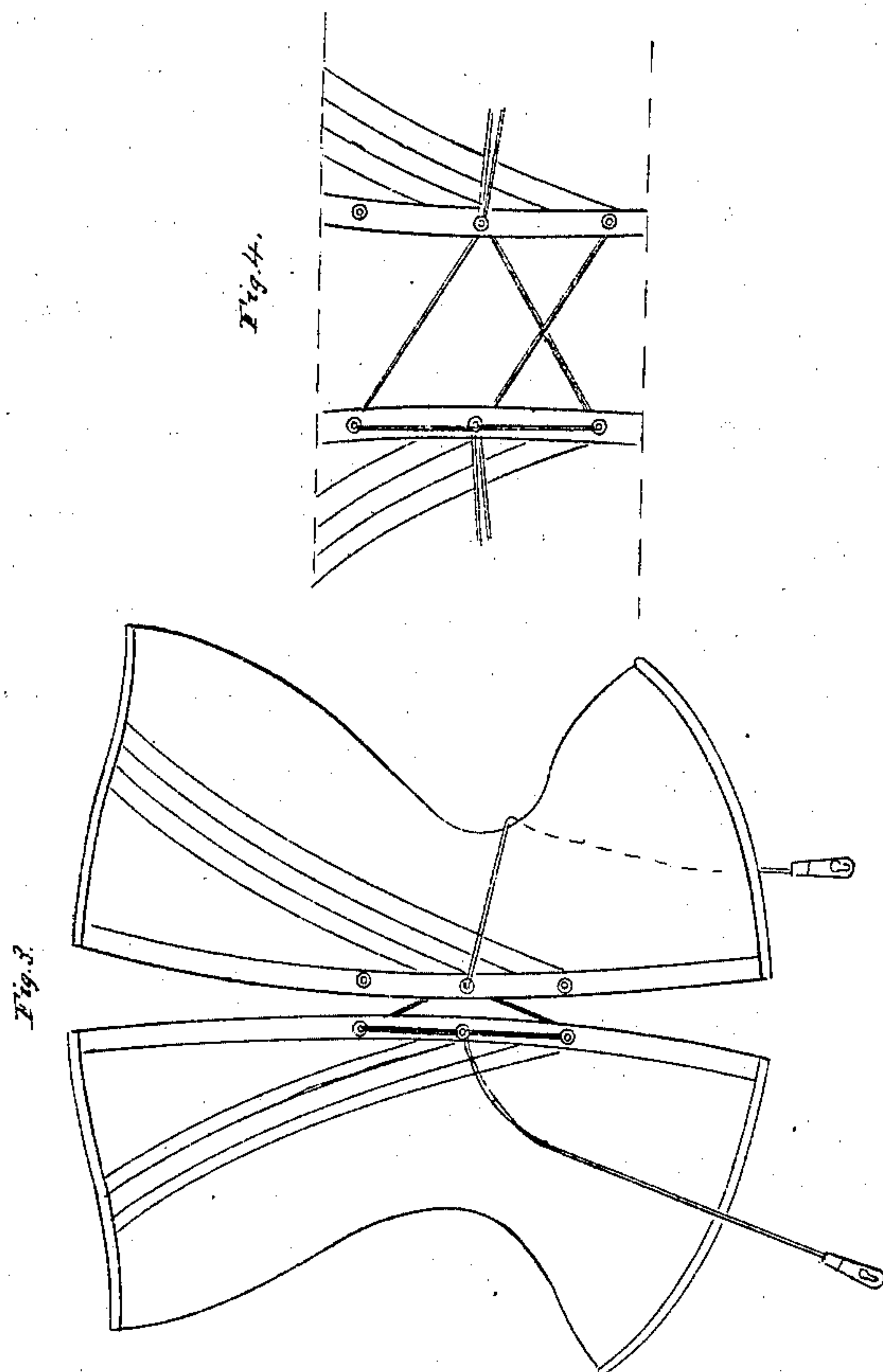


M. L. Changeur,
Corset.

No. 66,794.

Patented July 16 1867.



Witnesses.
J. M. Combs,
G. W. Reed.

Marie Louise Changeur
per *Brown Combs & Co*
Attys

United States Patent Office.

MARIE LOUISE CHANGEUR, OF PARIS, FRANCE.

Letters Patent No. 66,794, dated July 16, 1867.

IMPROVEMENT IN CORSETS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, MARIE LOUISE CHANGEUR, of the city of Paris, in the Empire of France, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Stays or Corsets, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 represents a front view of a pair of stays or corsets having my improvement applied to it.

Figure 2, a rear view of the same.

Figure 3, a rear view of a modification of the same, or as illustrating the use of cords or tapes in the place of bands or straps; and

Figure 4, a diagram or partial rear view in further illustration of the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

Stays or corsets as ordinarily or heretofore constructed are almost invariably stiff and constraining. Those which lace up all the way behind are very difficult to fasten, and must first be laced with equal tightness from top to bottom and afterwards by the insertion or slipping of the lace through suitable eyelets. This mode of lacing or fastening secures tightness, but in an objectionable manner as regards certain parts of the body to meet the requisite or natural movements of the same. On the other hand, those corsets or stays which fasten in front throughout their length or depth by means of agraffes or catches, while less difficult to lace are less easy to fasten, equally constraining, and are for various reasons objected to. The object of my invention is to obviate these objections, give increased freedom to the natural movements of the body, and consequently greater elegance to the waist without objectionable compression of the shoulders or hips, and producing a feeling of comfort in place of restraint, as well as admitting of a more rapid and easy lacing of such articles. This, my improvement, is not only applicable to stays or corsets, but also to belts or girdles.

The nature of my invention consists in a novel application or arrangement of two laces, straps, or bands, which, whether the stay or corset be open behind or in front, causes the same to be maintained or supported by the waist, around which portion the cords or bands are passed at about the centre in height of the article, and whereby, among other advantages, increased facility is afforded for adjusting or securing the same.

In figs. 1 and 2 of the drawing the stays or corset, which may be of the ordinary contour, and made of any suitable materials, both as regards its busk or stiffness and covering material, is represented as provided with buttons, *a a a*, secured on to or outside of the back end or edge ribs or busks *b b* at or about the centre or waist portion of the corset, and on to which hitch, through locking eyelets *c c c c* of a taper or key-hole form, double-ended tabs *d d* of bands or belts *A A*, said tabs lapping over or crossing each other and the bands *A A*, to which they form back ends, passing round the waist portion of the corset and hitching at their opposite ends through key-hole shaped eyelets *e e*, of which there may be any number, to buttons *f f*, of which also there may be any number, on the front of the busk *g*, or, it may be, on to buttons *h h* arranged on or down the adjacent whalebones or ribs. It is preferable, but not absolutely necessary, that these several buttons should be secured to the busks or stiffeners to give them stability, and any other suitable fastenings, such, for instance, as hooks and eyes, may, if desired, be used. In figs. 3 and 4, instead of bands *A A* being used, cords or tapes are substituted, said cords or tapes, of which there also should be at least two, being each one (as represented by red and blue lines) first passed through the centre eyelet of three arranged down one of the back busks or ribs, then through an upper eyelet of the opposite back busk or rib, afterwards through a lower eyelet on the same side of the division in the corset, and subsequently re-passed through the centre eyelet through which it was first passed. Thus threaded, the ends of said cords or tapes are secured to tabs which, after the cords have been passed round the centre or waist portion of the corset, may, as in the previous instance, be hitched on to buttons in front or be otherwise suitably secured. The principle of action, it will be perceived, is the same in both instances, and it is immaterial, so far as regards the peculiarity of my improvement, whether the stays or corsets are made to open in front or behind. By said improvement, in addition to or in further explanation of the advantages secured or objections obviated by it, the corset or other article, it will be perceived, is only tightened round the waist, the elasticity of the whalebones or ribs supporting the other parts of the body, which thus are sustained without being compressed. Furthermore, every facility is afforded for putting on or removing the corsets with dispatch, and securing the same when fitted to the body, also for adjusting them, letting out or

taking in, while in wear, without undressing, to meet the different sizes of the body assumed during the day, or adaptability of the latter to bear greater pressure at one time than another. When buttons, as described, are used to establish the fastening, said buttons may, if desired, to prevent them tearing out, be attached to plates secured to the busks or ribs, the front one of such plates, say, being riveted to the busk and having a piece stamped out of its centre and bent over to form the usual hook which is used to keep the petticoats from rising.

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

The corset or bodice, provided with bands A, made detachable at their one end and adjustable at the other end, arranged and operating substantially as shown and described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification before two subscribing witnesses.

M. L. CHANGEUR.

Witnesses:

DUMA,

PH. GENTES.