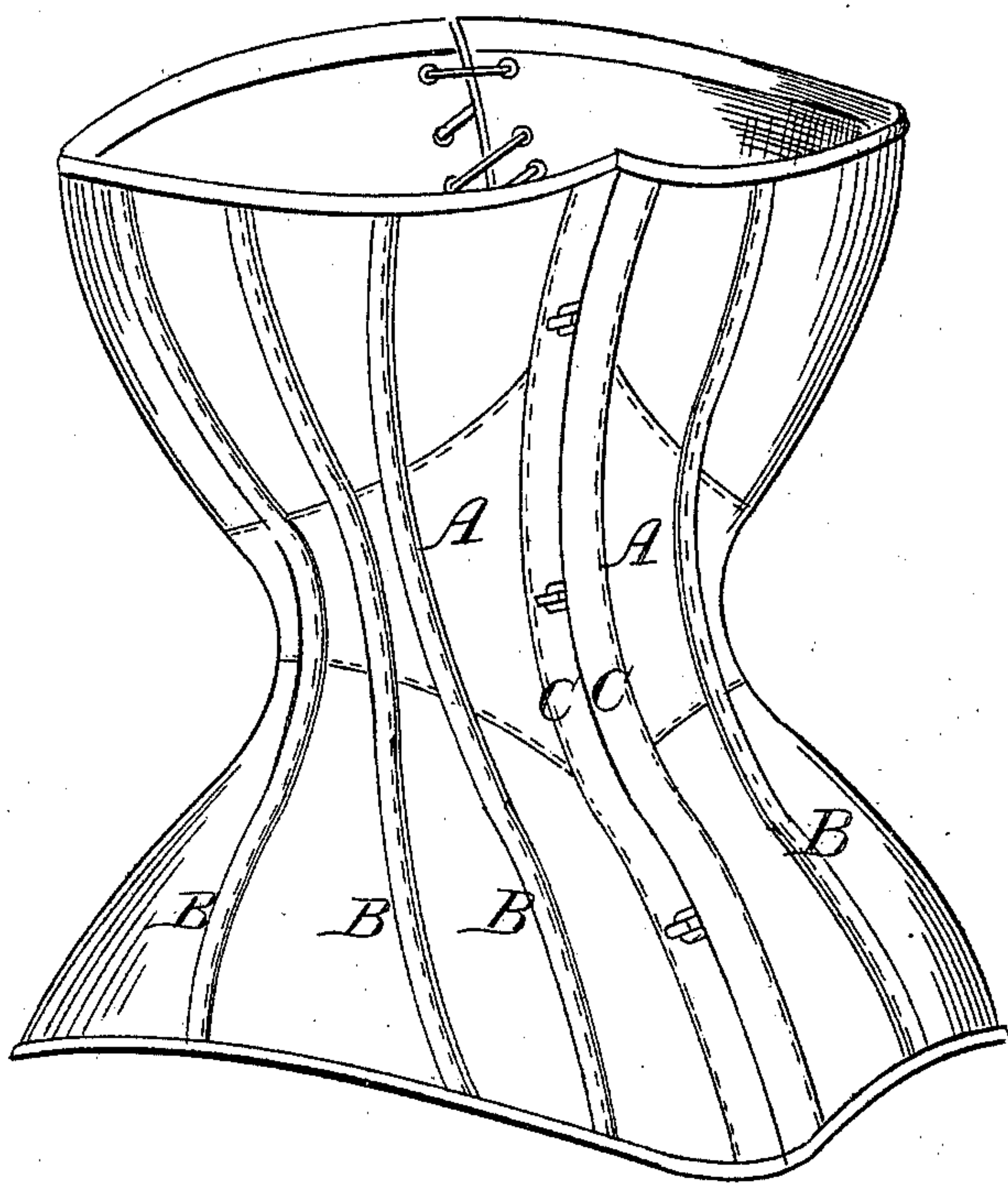


T. B. De Forest.
Corset.

No 80.462.

Patented July 28, 1868.



T. B. De Forest

Inventor.

By his Attorney.

John E. Earl

Witnesses
R. E. Munn
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United States Patent Office.

THOMAS B. DE FOREST, OF BIRMINGHAM, CONNECTICUT.

Letters Patent No. 80,462, dated July 28, 1868.

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, THOMAS B. DE FOREST, of Birmingham, in the county of New Haven, and State of Connecticut, have invented a new Improvement in Corsets; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description, and which said drawing constitutes part of this specification, and represents a perspective view of the corset complete.

This invention relates to an improvement in the general construction of corsets, and consists—

First, in constructing corsets of a felted material, whether it consists of all feltable or a part of non-feltable fibre, and whether blown upon an exhausted cone of the corset-shape, or wound upon a suitable-shaped block in several layers of sliver from the carding-engine, or blocked or stretched from a sheet of felt into proper shape upon a suitable former.

Secondly, in the attachment of covered stays to the surface of the material of the corset, either upon the inside or outside, whereby the necessity of pockets is avoided.

To enable others to construct my improvement, I will proceed to describe the same as illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

In forming the bat for the corset, I pursue any of the known methods practised by felt-manufacturers, preferring to form the bat by blowing the material upon a cone, or winding it upon the block in several layers of sliver, as I am then enabled to graduate its thickness at suitable points for strength, and to regulate the elasticity at suitable points by crossing the fibre.

These latter effects will be found advantageous in forming the belt or waistband of the corsets, as strength and non-elasticity are both required at that point, and thus I am enabled to dispense with the cloth stay hereinafter described; or upon a former of suitable shape I stretch, shrink, or block a piece of manufactured felt in like manner as hat-cones are brought into shape.

To strengthen the corset at the waist, I attach a cloth stay, A, extending from the front around the waist, as denoted in blue in the drawing. This cloth should be of sufficient strength to take nearly the entire strain at this point.

B B are the stays, which I prefer to form from steel wire enclosed within a covering, so as to leave an edge of covering-material. (This wire was patented to myself and T. S. Gilbert, dated February 18, 1868.) I cut the stays to the proper length, and lay them in proper position on the surface of the corset, upon the outside or inside, preferring the outside, and by a common sewing-machine stitch the stays to the body of the corset.

The busks C C are attached in like manner, and at the back of the corset, I place an arrangement for lacing in the usual or any known manner. Thus I produce a corset of any desired shape without cutting the material, consequently attain a perfection of form which cannot be in the cut corset, and this at a much less expense than can be done in the ordinary construction.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new and useful, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A corset formed from a felted material, substantially as herein described.
2. In combination with a corset constructed as above, the body-stay or band A, substantially as set forth.
3. The arrangement of the stays B B upon the surface of the corset, either inside or outside, without the formation of pockets in the body of the corset, substantially as set forth.

THOMAS B. DE FOREST.

Witnesses:

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