

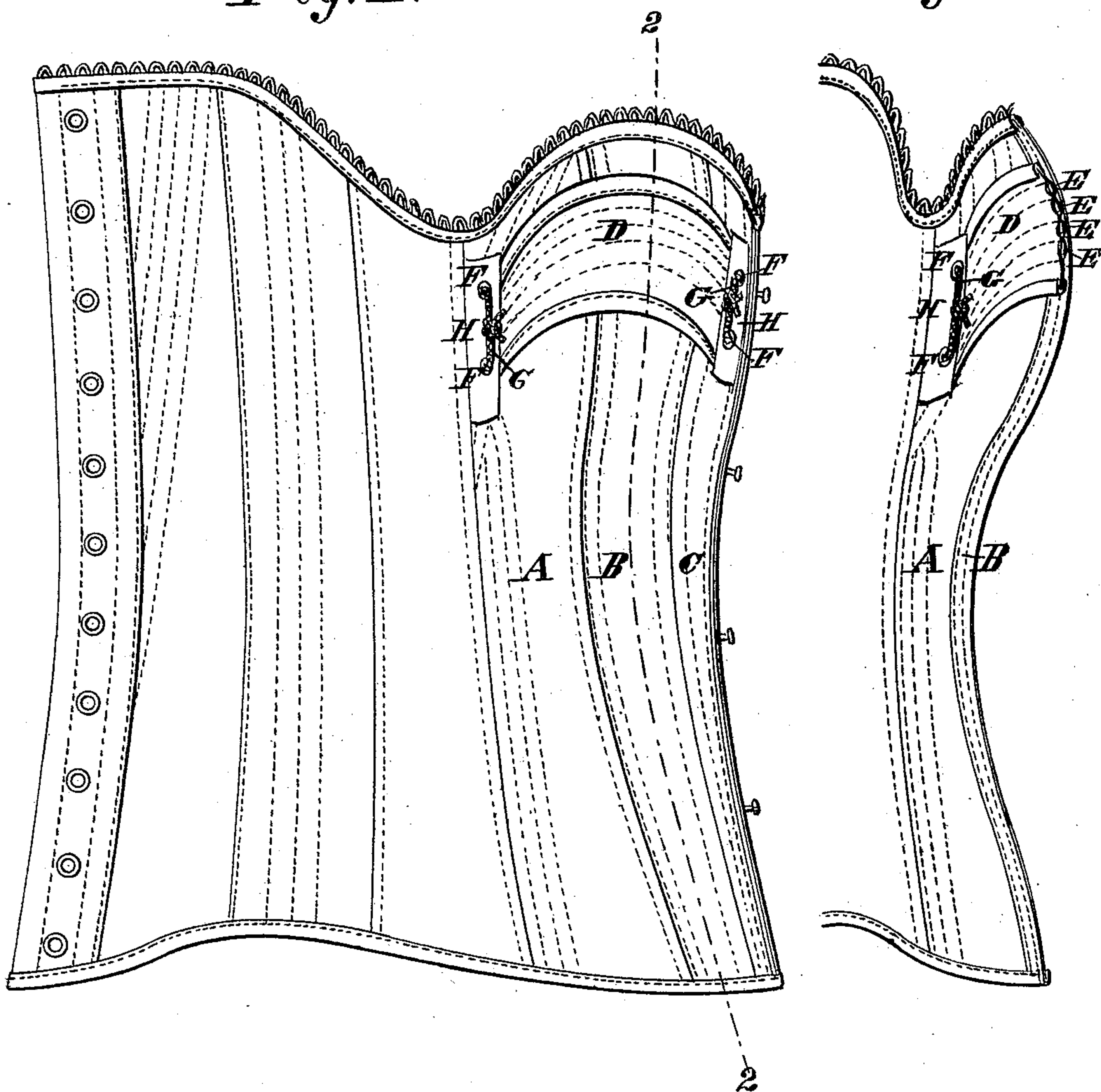
HARRIET H. MAY.
CORSETS.

No. 181,960.

Patented Sept. 5, 1876.

Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.



WITNESSES

Chas. J. Gooch
Walter Allen

INVENTOR

Harriet H. May
By *Knights* Attorneys

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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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Fig. 3.

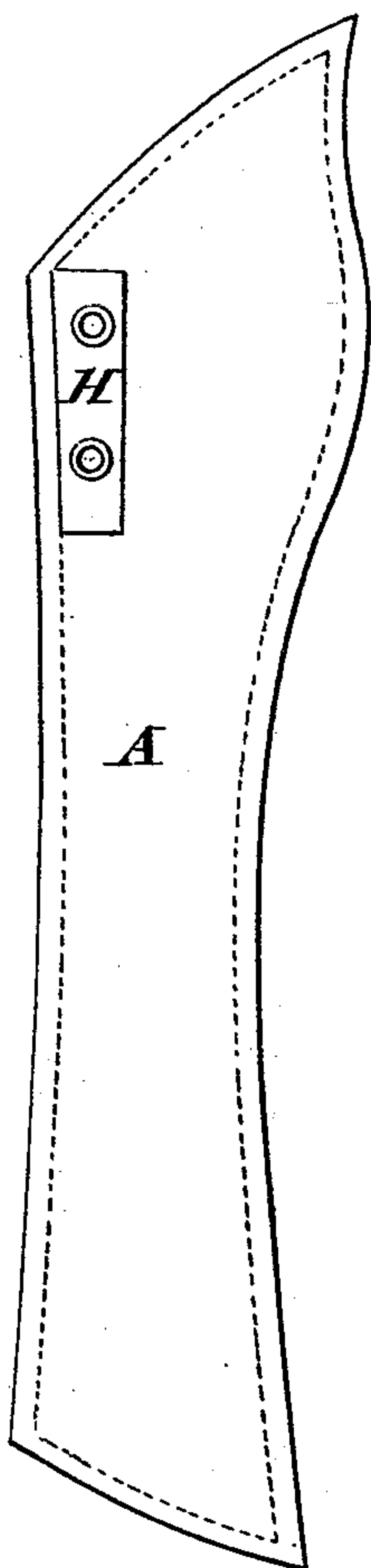


Fig. 4.

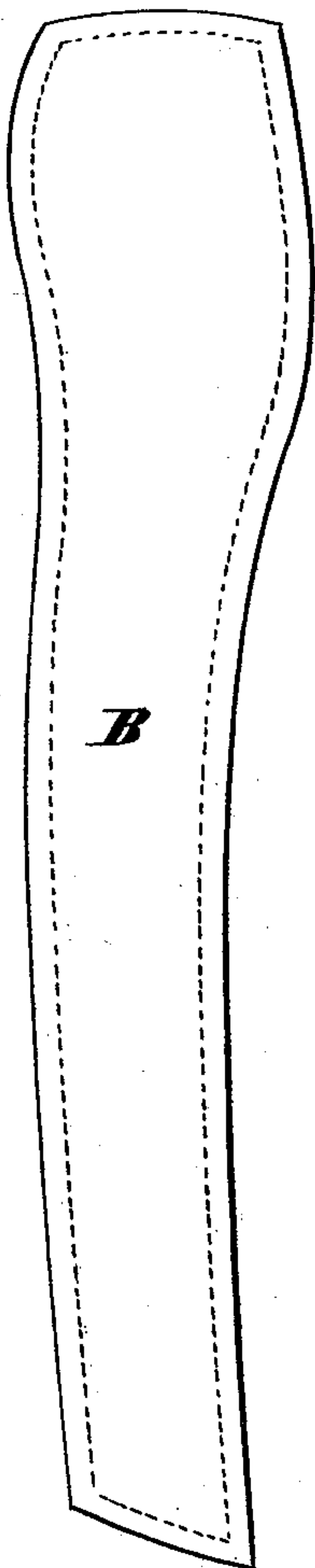
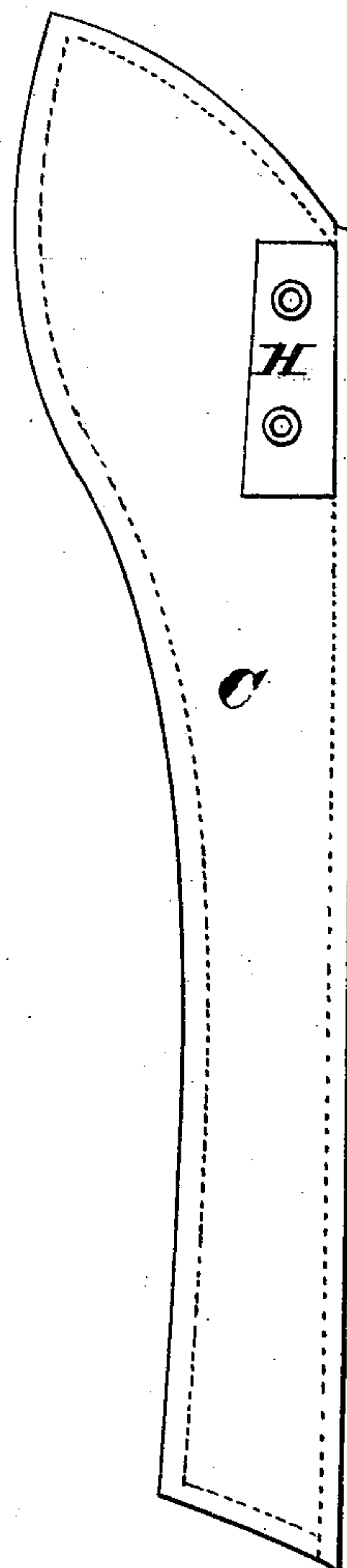


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARRIET H. MAY, OF BIRMINGHAM, CONNECTICUT.

IMPROVEMENT IN CORSETS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **181,960**, dated September 5, 1876; application filed July 29, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HARRIET H. MAY, of Birmingham, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Corsets, of which the following is a specification:

My invention relates to what are known as goreless corsets. The busts are formed by cutting the material in the manner hereinafter described, so as to dispense with gores. I also employ improved bust-distenders, consisting each of a number of grooved parallel springs of whalebone, or other material, applied in pockets in a removable pad, the ends of which are secured by lacing to ears or tabs permanently attached to the inside of the corset, as hereinafter described.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is an interior view of one-half of my improved corset. Fig. 2 is a section on the line 2 2, Fig. 1. Figs. 3, 4, and 5 are diagrams of the blanks or patterns of which the front portion of one side of the corset is made up.

A B C represent the three pieces by which the forward half, or somewhat less than half of one side of the corset is made up. By cutting them in the peculiar manner shown, the correct form is imparted to the bust without the use of gores.

My improved bust-distender consists of a web or pad, D, formed convex on its upper edge and concave on its lower edge. It is constructed with any necessary number of pockets, four being shown in the present il-

lustration, to contain springs E of whalebone, or other suitable material, which impart the required convexity to the front of the pad, in order to distend the bust and protect the breast from pressure. The ends of the pads are formed with any necessary number of eyelets, F, for the reception of lacings G, by which they are attached to ears or tabs H, permanently secured in proper position on the inner face of the corset, as shown. This mode of securing the pads permits of their being applied and removed with great facility, and causes them to assume their proper position when the corset is in use.

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

1. The ears or tabs H, permanently secured to the inner face of the corset, and employed for the attachment of removable breast-pads, in the manner herein described.

2. The breast-pads D E, constructed with a number of parallel curved springs, in combination with the ears or tabs H, by which said pads are secured, substantially in the manner described.

3. The combination of the breast-pads D E and ears or tabs H with a goreless corset, in the manner described.

HARRIET H. MAY.

Witnesses:

ISAAC J. QUIMBY,
ALICE E. MAY.