

C. W. FOSTER.  
Corset.

No. 198,881.

Patented Jan. 1, 1878.

Fig. 1.

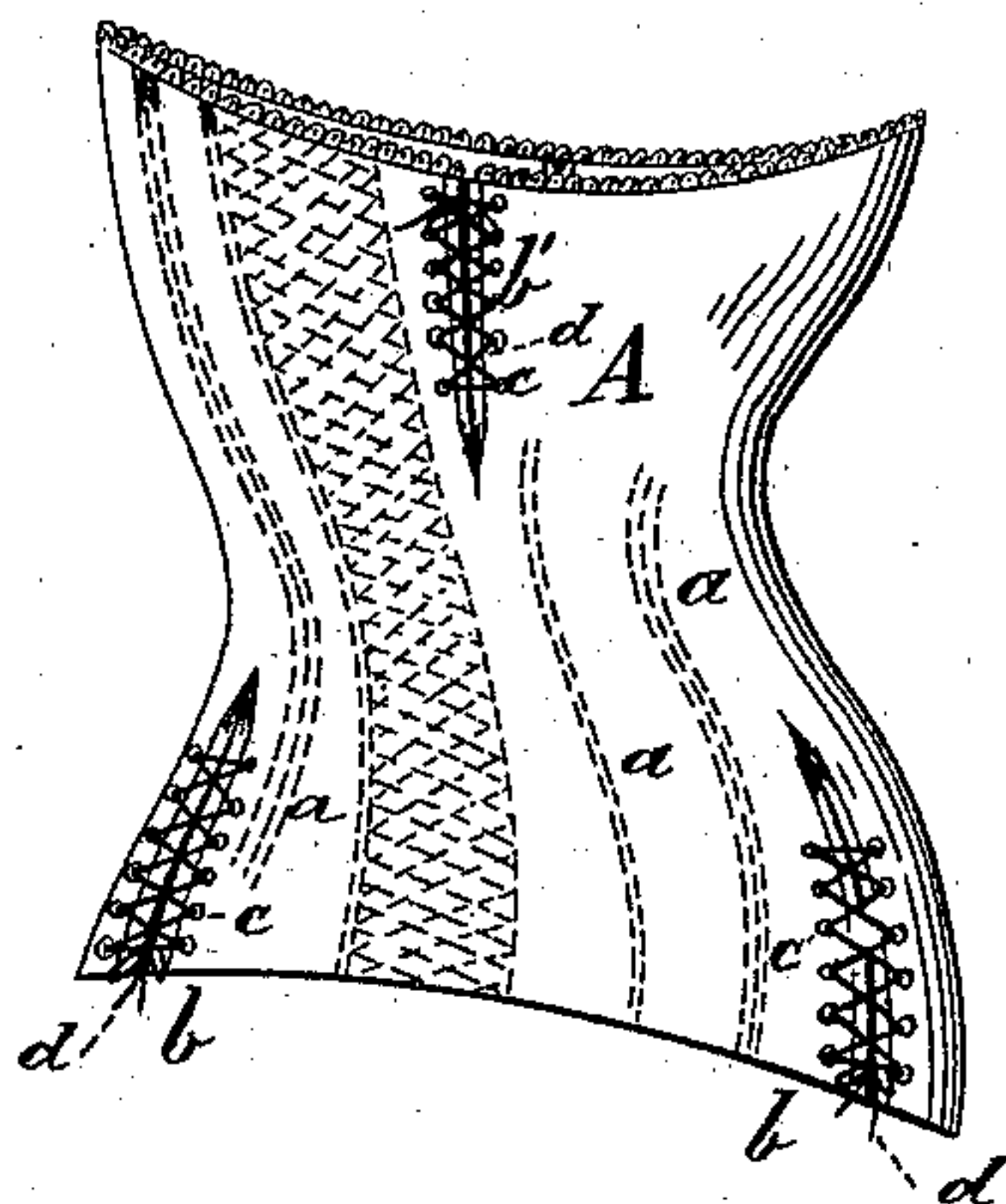
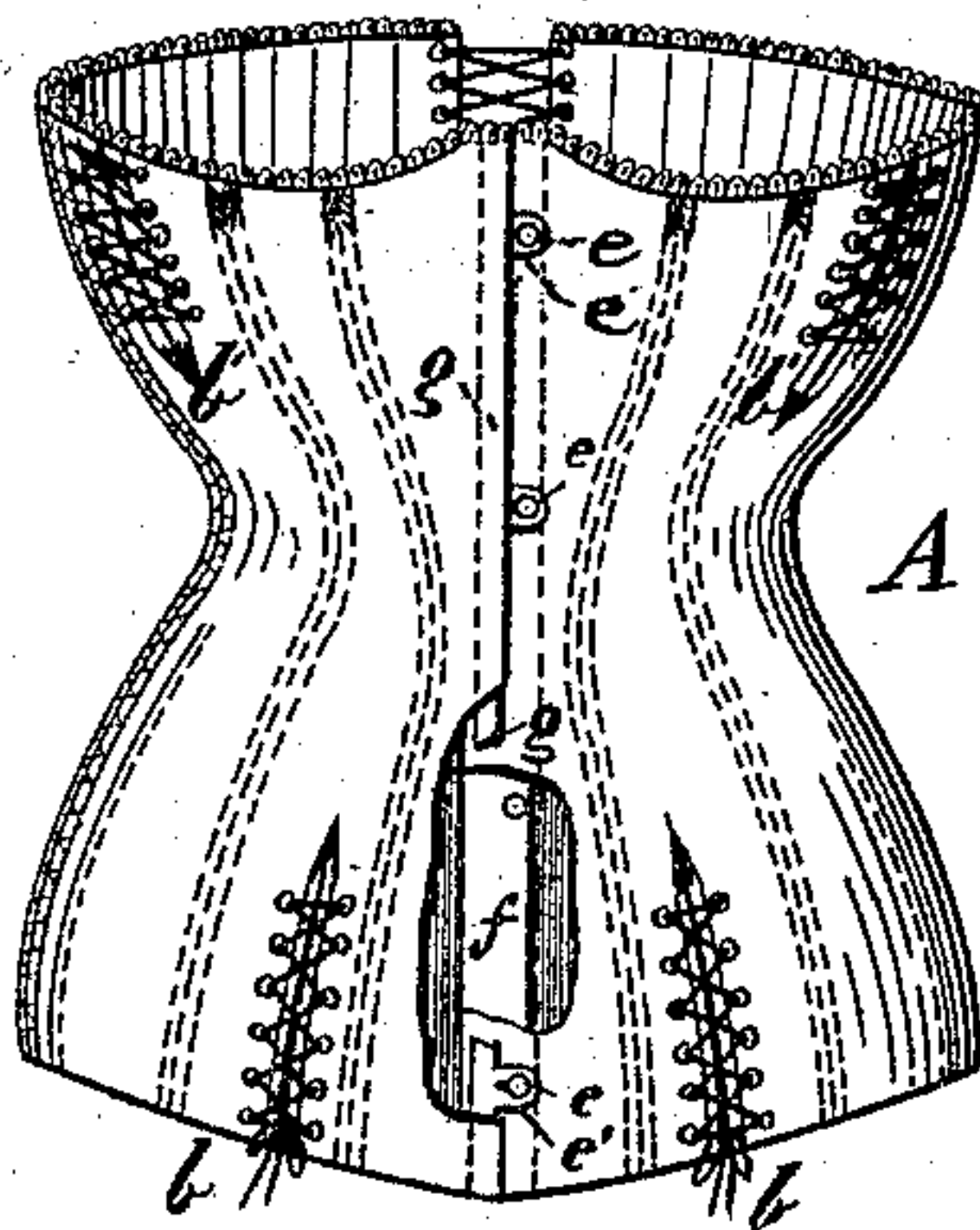


Fig. 2.



Attest:  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES W. FOSTER, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT.

## IMPROVEMENT IN CORSETS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **198,881**, dated January 1, 1878; application filed December 3, 1877.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES W. FOSTER, of New Haven, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Corsets; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation, and Fig. 2 is a front view.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both the figures.

My improvement consists in the construction of the body of the corset in such a manner as to adapt it to fit various forms, such as slim, medium, and corpulent, substantially as hereinafter more fully described, and pointed out in the claim.

In the drawings, A is the body of the corset, and *a* denotes the stays or bones. At *b b'* are represented the adjusting recesses or openings, having eyelets *c* on each side, and a draw-cord, *d*, by means of which the recess may be opened or drawn. Four of these recesses are placed at the bottom, and two, *b' b'*, at the top of the corset, all being, however, similar in construction. But it is essential that the adjusting-recesses *b b'* are so arranged in relation to each other as to alternate—that is, each of the top recesses *b'* is placed between two of the bottom recesses *b b*. This arrangement admits of the proper adjustment

of the corset to the figure, the adjustment-recesses being so placed, relative to each other, as to admit of expansion at those parts of the figure where such adjustment would be most likely to prove desirable, without, at the same time, in the least impairing the shape of the corset.

On the drawing I have shown a busk or front clasp, in which the studs *e* are placed at that edge of the clasp which is farthest from the edge of the corset, so as to give the opposite clasp-stay *g* a bearing against the front face of clasp-stay *f*. The advantage of this construction and arrangement is twofold: first, the strength of both clasps is increased by their mutually supporting each other; and, second, the edges of the two clasps are not liable to chafe the body of the wearer, the edges of the narrower clasp being completely covered by that of the broader clasp-piece *f*, as clearly shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings.

Having thus described my improvement, I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States—

In a corset, the top recesses or openings *b'*, having eyelets *c* and draw-cords *d*, alternating with bottom recesses *b*, similarly constructed, substantially as and for the purpose hereinbefore set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

CHAS. WILLIAM FOSTER.

Witnesses:

HENRY D. RUSSELL,  
JOHN P. STUDLEY.