J. C. TALLMAN.

Manufacture of Corsets.

No 200,583. Patented Feb. 19, 1878.

Fig. 1.

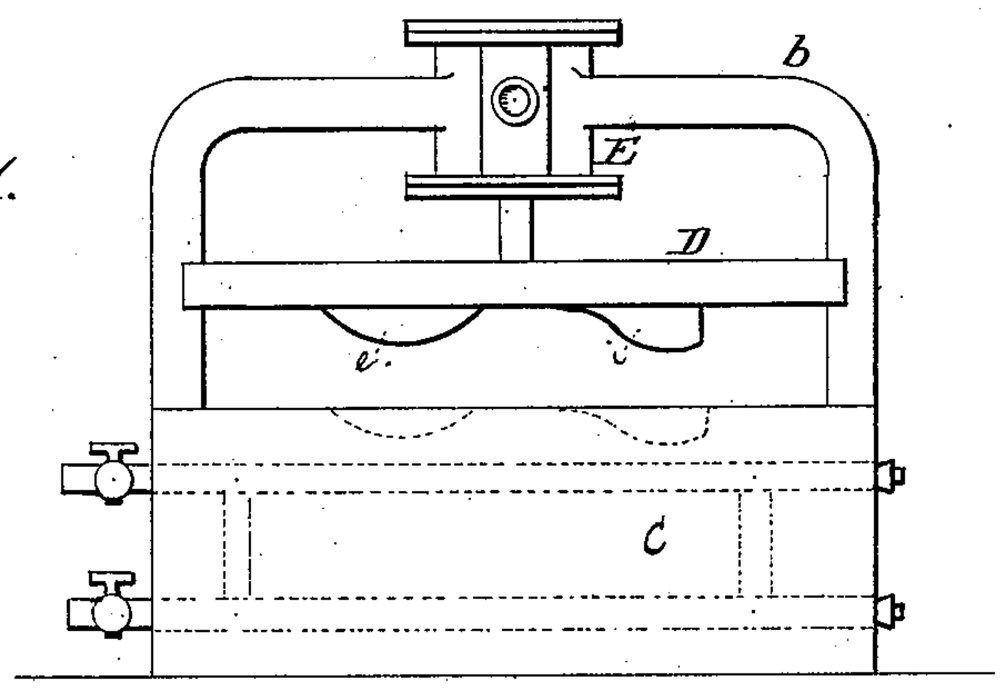


Fig. 2.

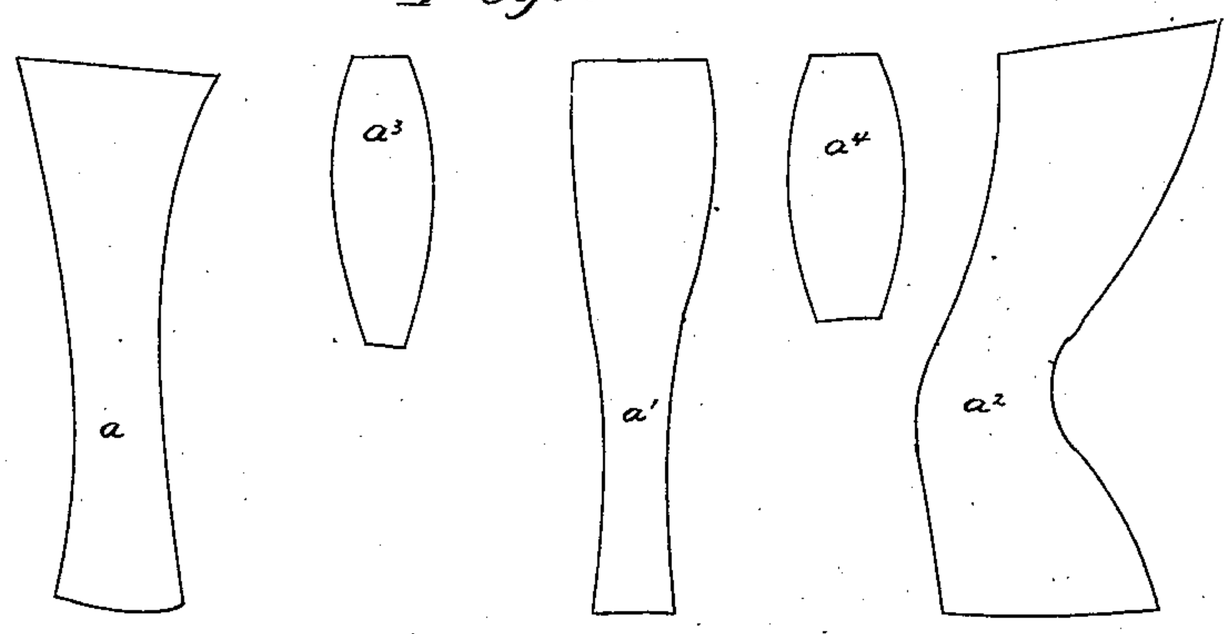
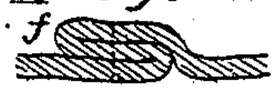


Fig. 3

Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.

Fig. 6.



Attest:

Fred Benjamin.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN C. TALLMAN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN THE MANUFACTURE OF CORSETS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **200,583,** dated February 19, 1878; application filed December 18, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN C. TALLMAN, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented Improvements in Corsets, of which the following is the specification:

The object of my invention is to construct a bosom-pad or a corset, in whole or in part, in such a manner that the requisite stiffness will be obtained without the necessity of employing bones or ribs for this purpose. The further object of my invention is an apparatus for carrying out the first feature of the improvement.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a side elevation of apparatus used in making the corsets or pads; Fig. 2, a view, showing the sections of a corset or pad; Fig. 3, an enlarged section, showing the formation of the seams after the pieces are stitched together; Fig. 4, the same, showing the seam after the corset is completed; and Figs. 5 and 6, modifications.

In corsets heretofore made, the requisite stiffness has been obtained by means of bones, which are apt to break or wear through the material, or by saturating the corset with some stiffening material, as starch, mastic, &c., which soon becomes broken and soft.

I discard both these modes and secure the requisite stiffness by utilizing the corset material itself, in the manner which I will now describe.

In Fig. 2, the pieces represented are those which form the front half-section of a corset. It should be understood, however, that the shapes of these pieces have nothing to do with my invention, which is applicable to corsets of any required make.

The pieces a a^1 a^2, with the gores a^3 a^4, are shown of the form required for a bosom-pad corset, and are preferably made of some stiff material, or combination of stiff material and fabric—as, for instance, hair-cloth and linen. The particular materials used, however, constitute no part of my invention. Each piece is sewed to the other, in such a manner as to form, when folded, a heavy seam—as, for instance, in the manner shown in Fig. 3, or in the modification, Fig. 5, such seams being made whenever two parts are sewed together, or, if necessary, by folding or plaiting the fabric upon itself, as shown in Fig. 6.

After being thus prepared, the connected pieces are subjected to the action of a powerful press, Fig. 1, consisting of the female die C, the male die D, and the pressure device E, the latter in the present instance being a hydraulic press, carried by a yoke, b, attached to the lower die C. The faces of the die conform to the form of the corset or part of the corset to be made, the full-corset die having the bosom-pad portion e and the hip portion i.

The lower die C is heated by steam, passed through channels formed in the body of the die by boring through the same, as shown in dotted lines, the ends of the openings being plugged up, and communication formed by boring between the adjacent openings.

The powerful pressure exerted by the dies, combined with the action of the heat, serves to mold and set the corset to the required shape, so as to produce a shapely and finely-finished article. The main effect, however, is to condense and solidify the ribs or plaits f formed by folding the material, so that when the article is removed from the press the condensed and hardened ribs will form rigid ridges, extending through the corset, and imparting the rigidity usually obtained by bones, without the disadvantages of the latter.

In some instances it may be best to insure a permanent set by coating the body of the material, or the folded portion alone, with a suitable stiffening or cement.

It will be apparent that detachable busts, pads, or other separate portions of the corset may be made and stiffened in the same manner as the body.

I claim—

1. The mode within described of manufacturing corsets—that is, by uniting and folding the various pieces to form heavy seams, and then condensing the latter, and molding the body of the corset by subjecting the same to heat and pressure between dies, as set forth.

2. A corset-pad or part of a corset, having

ribs *f* formed of folds of the body material, compressed in the manner and by the means substantially as specified.

3. The corset-press consisting of the lower die C and heating devices, upper die D, and pressing device E, supported by a yoke, B, connected to the die C, as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN C. TALLMAN.

Witnesses:

F. M. GREEN,

C. E. FOSTER.