

J. K. ROSS.  
Corset.

No. 206,900.

Patented Aug. 13, 1878

Fig. I.

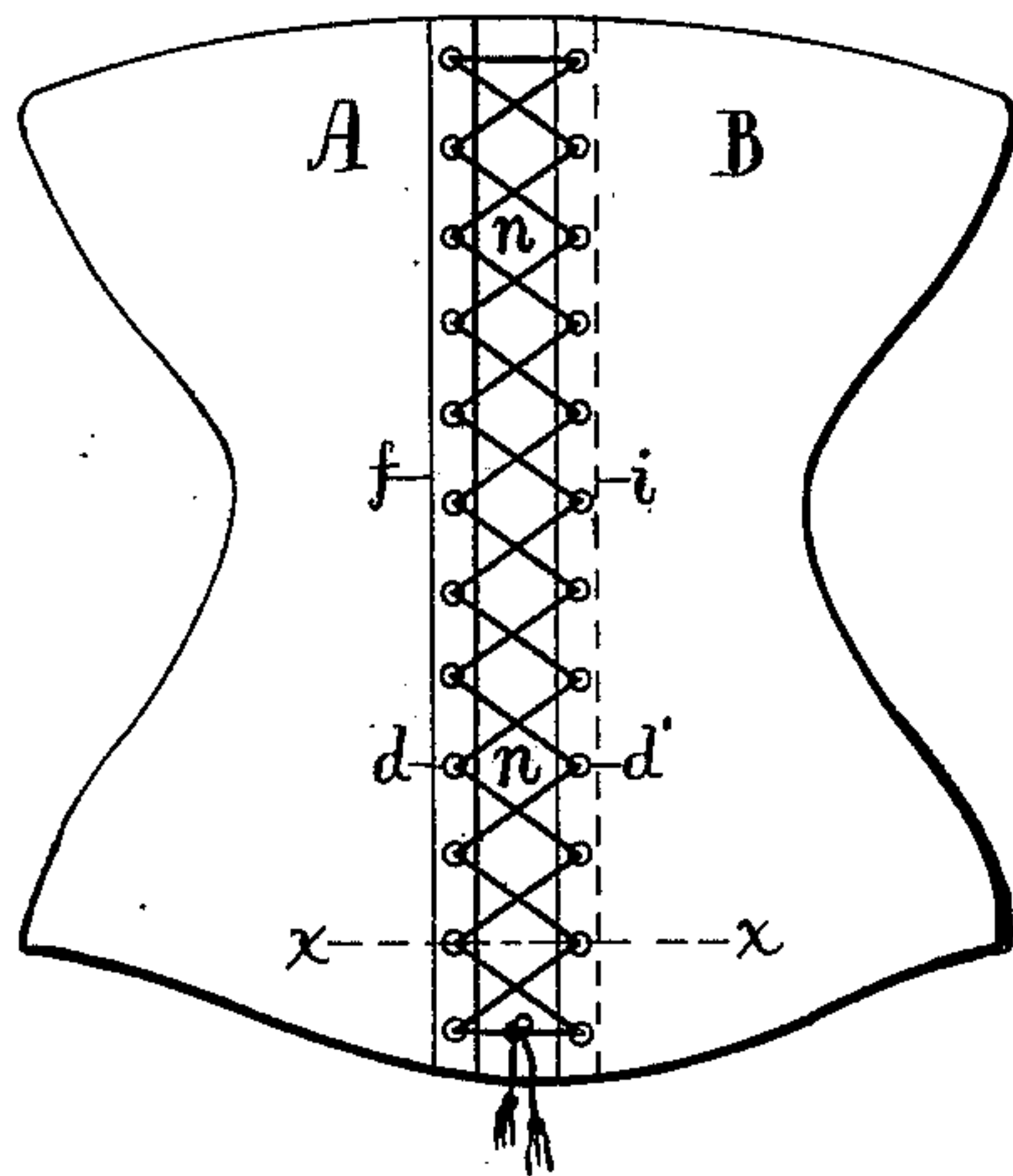


Fig. III.

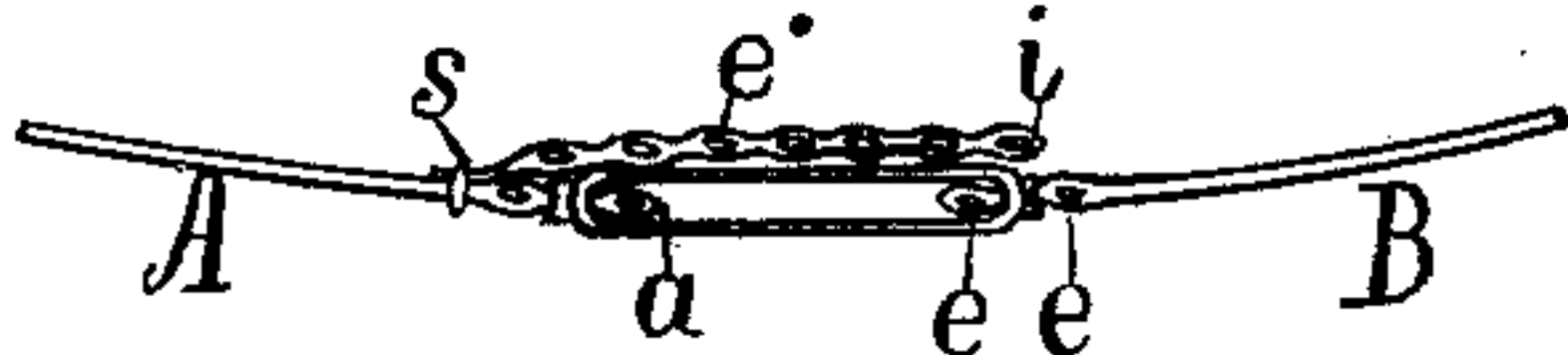
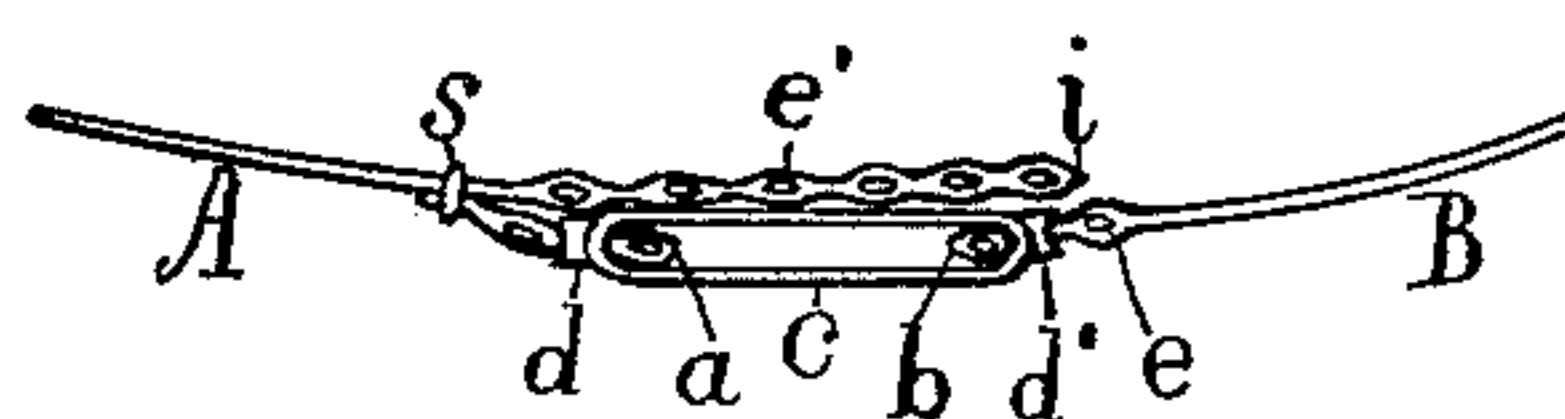


Fig. II.



Attest:

James W. Hall  
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Inventor.

John K. Ross, per  
Thos. S. Crane, Atty

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN K. ROSS, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY.

## IMPROVEMENT IN CORSETS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **206,900**, dated August 13, 1878; application filed June 21, 1878.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN K. ROSS, of Newark, in the county of Essex, State of New Jersey, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Corsets, which improvement is fully described in the following specification.

My invention is designed as an improvement upon the means at present used to close the laced joint at the back of a corset, the continuous back made for that purpose being open to various objections; and my method consists in setting the eyelets back several inches from one of the edges of the joint, so that the edge itself may project over the open joint and fully cover it.

The distance to which the eyelets will be set back depends, of course, upon the amount which the joint is intended to open, and that half of the corset whose edge is designed to cover the joint would be made wider than the other half to allow for the intended projection.

The mode of construction is fully shown in the drawings, where Figure 1 is a view of the laced joint in the back of a corset; Fig. 2, a section on a larger scale of the laced joint at the line *x x*, and Fig. 3 an alternative mode of construction.

A and B are the parts to be united by the lacer *c*. The part B is provided with an eyelet-strip, *b*, at its edge, in the usual manner; but the eyelet-strip for the part A, lettered *a*, is set back from the edge *i* of the part A the required distance, so that the edge of part A projects over the joint or opening *n* and keeps it properly covered.

*d d'* are the eyelets in the strips *a* and *b*, respectively. The eyelet-strips are shown stiffened with ribs *e* in the usual manner, and bones *e'* may also be inserted at intervals in the projecting edge of A, which covers the opening *n*. The ribs *e'* serve not only to keep the edge of A in shape, but serve a useful purpose in fitting around and supporting the spine of the wearer. In fact, the edge *i* would not be eas-

ily kept in place unless stiffened by some means, and anything wider than the narrow ribs shown would be incapable of curving sideways to fit the projections of the spine.

The eyelet-strip *a* should be secured by its edge *s* so that the lacer *c* may be readily passed through the eyelets *d*, and, if preferred, the projecting part of A may be made separately, as shown in Fig. 3, and secured to the eyelet-strip at *s*, the projection *i* being equally secured by either mode of construction.

I am aware that a projecting strip of fabric has been used without ribs in connection with the steel clasp at the front of a corset; but such a strip would be of no use in connection with an expanding or adjustable joint secured by the lacer *c*, as the strain of drawing the edges A and B would gather the strip into wrinkles, and if the joint were subsequently loosened the strip would fail to cover the opening. I therefore consider the ribs *e'* in the edge *i* as an essential feature of my invention, and disclaim the use of a strip of fabric or projecting edge, except in connection with a laced joint in the manner set forth, and stiffened by the ribs *e'*, or their equivalent.

This method of closing the laced joint is, of course, equally applicable to any such joint wherever used in a corset; and, therefore—

I claim as follows:

The laced corset-joint constructed with the eyelet-strip *b* on the edge of the part B, and the eyelet-strip *a* set back from the edge of the part A, as and for the purpose set forth, the edge *i* being stiffened by ribs *e'* in the manner described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I hereto subscribe my name in the presence of two witnesses.

JOHN K. ROSS.

Witnesses:

CLARENCE W. SMITH,  
THOS. S. CRANE.