G. SCHILLING & S. FLORSHEIM.

Corset.

No. 222,082. Patented Nov. 25, 1879.

Fig: 1.

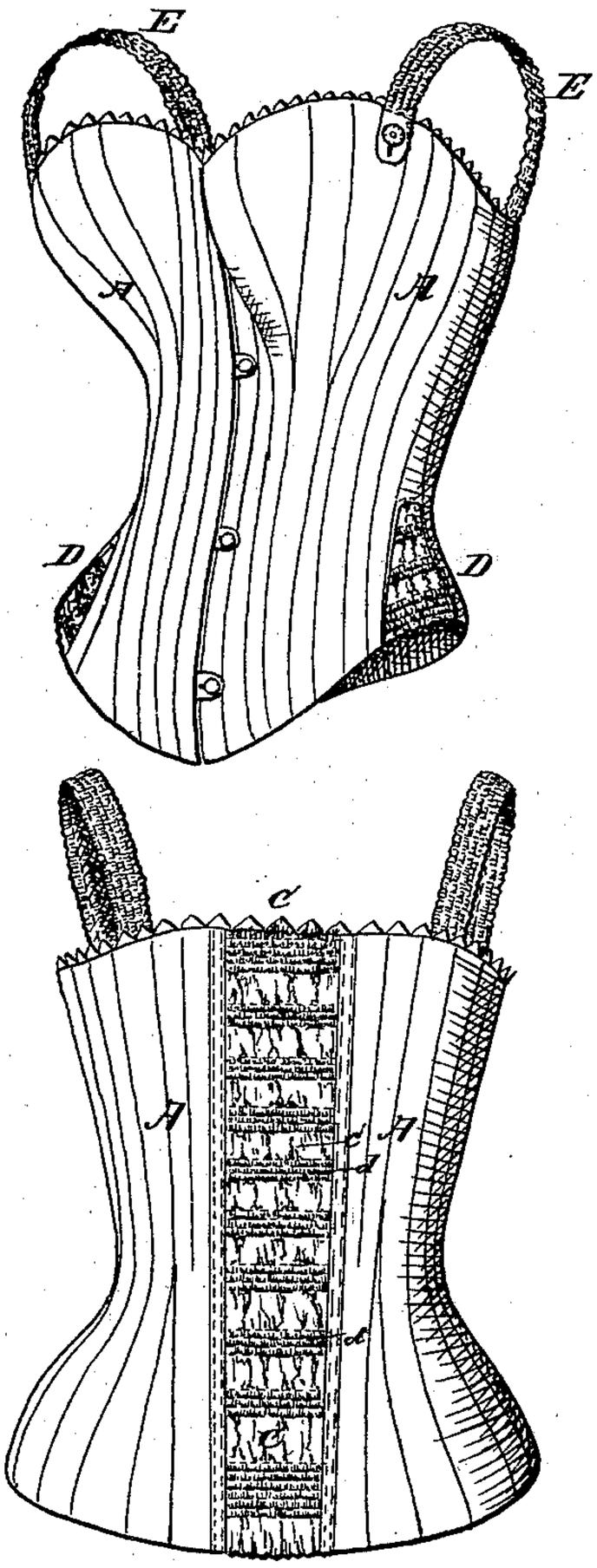

Fig: 2.

Fig: 3.

Witnesses.

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GUSTAV SCHILLING AND SIMON FLORSHEIM, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN CORSETS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **222,082**, dated November 25, 1879; application filed March 10, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, GUSTAV SCHILLING and SIMON FLORSHEIM, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Corsets; and we do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to which this invention appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

The object of our improvement is the production of a corset specially adapted for use in warm weather and in warm rooms, and under circumstances of work or exercise which will produce free perspiration; and to that end we have adopted a construction and an arrangement of parts which will insure a constant, uniform, accurate fit of the corset to the wearer under all changes of her position without chafing or annoying in any part, and will be cool, comfortable, and exceedingly durable. To that end india-rubber elastic portions are dispensed with, as these soon lose their elasticity and durability in the presence of animal heat and perspiration, and, instead of such, metallic spiral springs incased in puckered cloth tubes are used. For this same purpose, the corset, instead of being made in two parts, as usual, is made practically of a single part, the central back portion being made of the elastic material above referred to, inserted in the form of a piece with substantially parallel sides, so as to give an equal degree of elasticity to all parts of the corset. For this same purpose, also, gores of the elastic material above referred to are inserted at the sides, where an annoying pressure is ordinarily given by corsets to the hip-bones, and shoulder-straps of the same elastic material are provided, in order to hold the corset, which should not fit tightly in any part, from a tendency to slip down under some circumstances.

The novelty of our invention consists in the application to a corset constructed substantially as described of shoulder-straps composed of wire springs in puckered tubes, substantially as described, and of the entire corset as a new article of manufacture, having the elastic back, hip-gores, and shoulder-straps, all as more fully hereinafter described.

In order that those skilled in the art may understand how to make our improved corset, we now describe the same more minutely, having reference to the drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a front view of the corset; Fig. 2, a rear view of the same; and Fig. 3, a longitudinal central section through one of the elastic portions, the same being on an enlarged scale.

Similar letters denote corresponding parts in each figure.

A A represent the two similar sides or sections of a corset made of the usual general form, and having longitudinal whalebone ribs and buttoning-clasps in front, made in any ordinary manner. C is an elastic strip with substantially parallel sides interposed between the sections A A, and uniting them at the back. D D are elastic gores, inserted in the lower portions of the sides, so as to cover the hip-bones, and E E elastic shoulder-straps, either attached at both ends to the upper sides of the corset or arranged to button at one end.

The elastic strip C is composed of two pieces of cloth of about double the width of the space it is intended to occupy when puckered. Across the two pieces, placed one above the other, rows of stitching are run, so as to form tubes between each two of the seams, of a size to receive and hold quite closely the metallic spiral spring which is to be inserted. These spring-tubes are arranged in series of three or four, so as to leave spaces between the groups of tubes. Into these tubes, previously puckered to the proper degree, are inserted small springs *d*, preferably of brass wire, coiled spirally, with the coils in contact, and each of the required length, and fastened at the ends to the cloth, or fastened both to the cloth and the edge of the sections A A.

The springs in the gores D D differ only from these already described, in that they necessarily differ in length to conform to the angular sides of the gores, and are not put in groups, as, preferably, they are not put in groups in the shoulder-straps E E.

It will be observed that these metallic springs thus interposed in the thin puckered fabric can be extended only the length of the tube itself, which is properly proportioned in the first instance, and therefore such springs cannot receive an injurious tension, and there-

fore will be very durable; that from their arrangement in groups in the back portion of the corset there will be left vacant spaces, which will scarcely obstruct the transpiration at that part of the body; that from the shape of the elastic portion C there will always be an equal capacity to resist tension at every point and in every movement of the body; that the hip-gores will press with elastic force over the hip-bones and will not chafe or annoy, and that the elastic shoulder-straps will enable a corset uniformly more loose than usual to be worn without danger of its slipping down.

The springs themselves will be durable, not being affected by the heat or moisture of the body, and the whole corset thus will be durable, and in addition cool and comfortable, and thereby not become stained and serve by its stains to injure the dress which covers it.

We are aware that it is not original with us to use metallic wire coiled springs inclosed in cloth tubes in corsets, or to make a corset practically in one piece by inserting an elastic portion in the back, or to use elastic gores in corsets at the hips, or to provide corsets with partially elastic shoulder-straps, and we disclaim all such inventions, broadly; but, as we believe that we have certain novelties in our corset for which we are entitled to Letters Patent,

We do claim as new and our invention—

1. In combination with a corset, the elastic shoulder-straps composed of wire springs in puckered tubes throughout their entire length, substantially as described and shown.

2. As a new article of manufacture, the corset described and shown, having an elastic back-piece, elastic hip-gores, and elastic shoulder-straps, all constructed and arranged substantially as specified.

GUSTAV SCHILLING.
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Witnesses:
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