

T. FRANZ & H. JANSSEN.
Corset-Clasp.

No. 227,513.

Patented May 11, 1880.

Fig. 3.

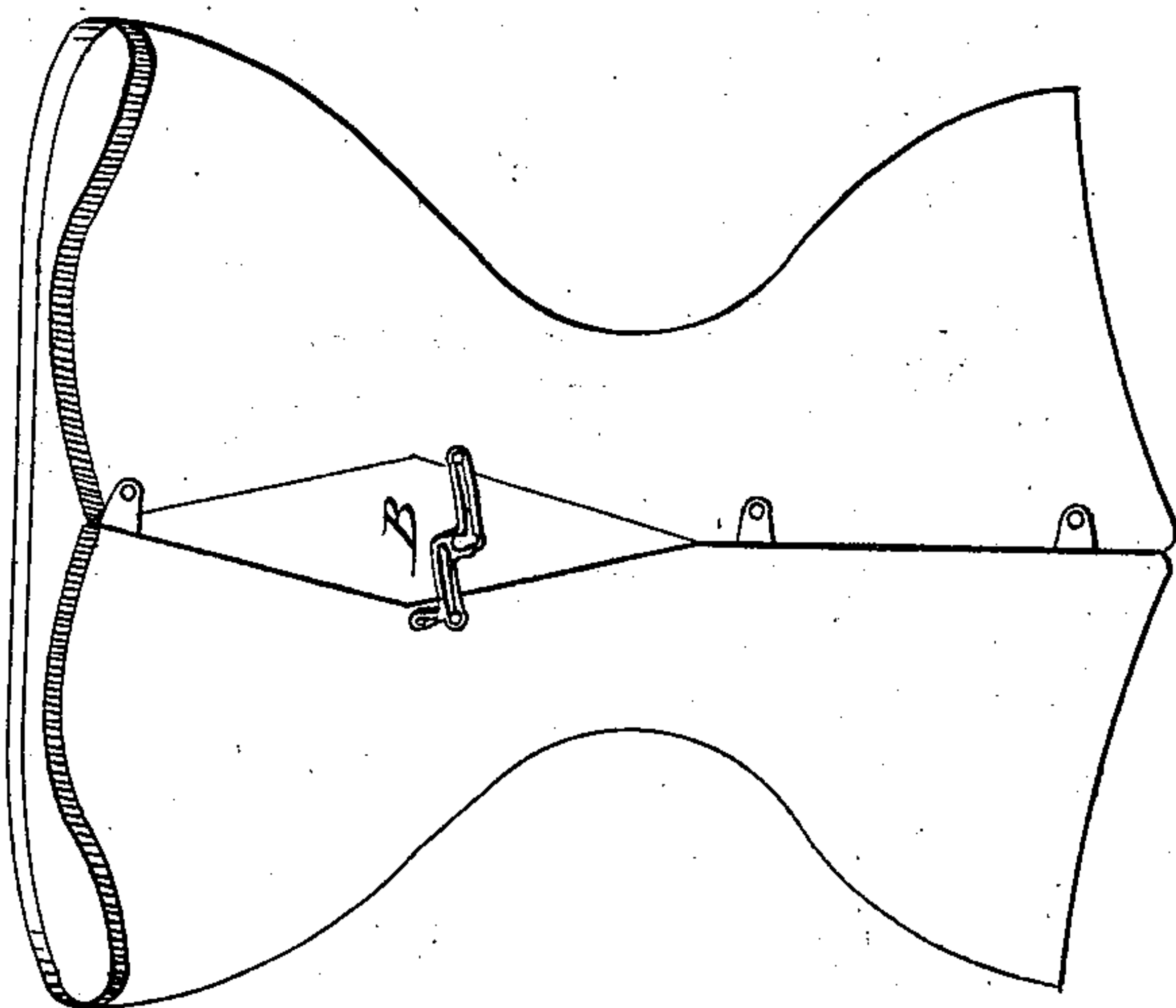


Fig. 1.

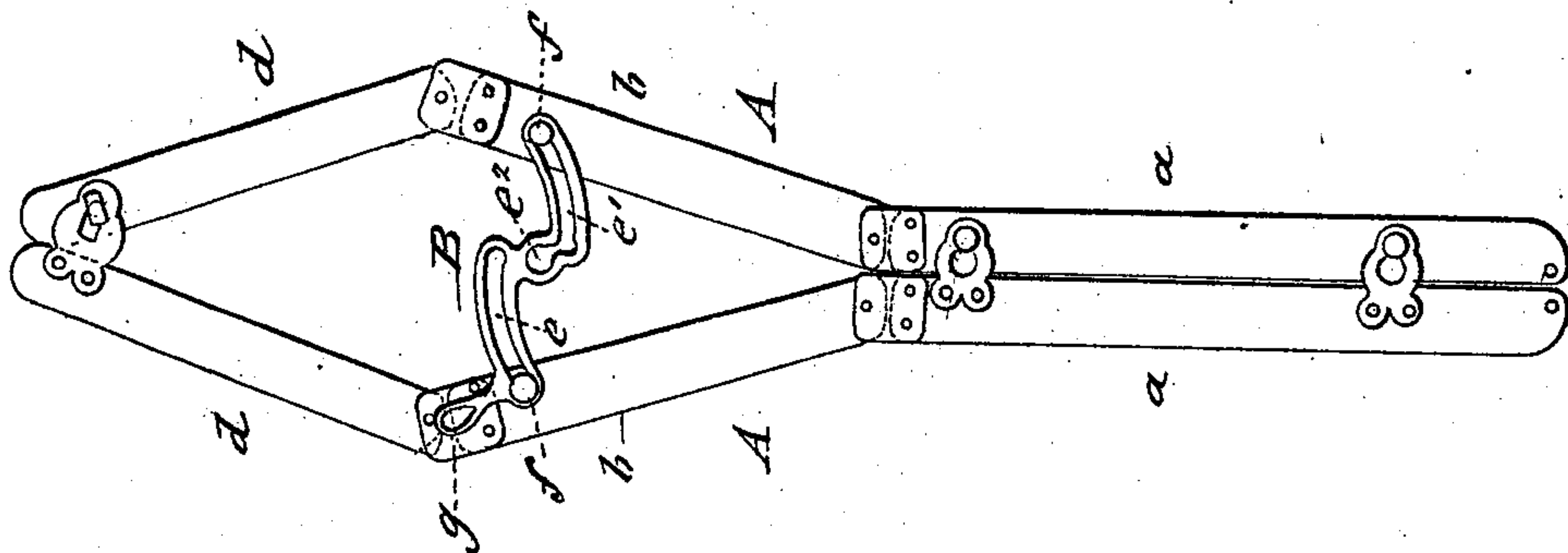
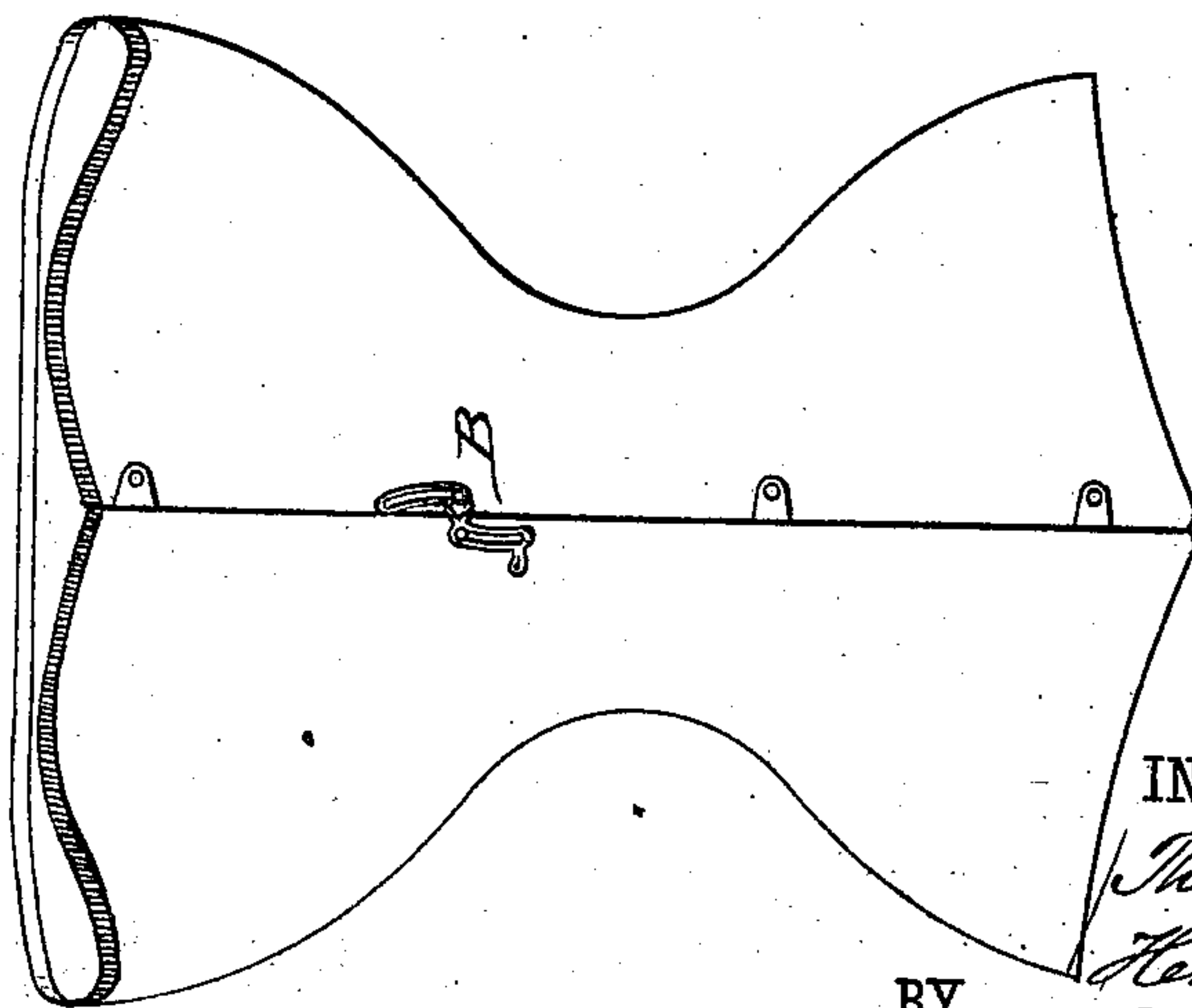


Fig. 2.



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THERESE FRANZ AND HENRI JANSSEN, OF BERLIN, PRUSSIA, GERMANY;
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CORSET-CLASP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 227,513, dated May 11, 1880.

Application filed January 10, 1880.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, Mrs. THERESE FRANZ and HENRI JANSSEN, both of the city of Berlin, in the Kingdom of Prussia, German Empire, have invented Improvements in Corset-Clasps, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in corset-clasps by which the corset may be conveniently opened to a considerable distance, either at the stomach or at the abdomen, or at any other part of the body, for the purpose of relieving the same of pressure, whenever desired, without necessitating the opening of the dress. The corset remains closed above and below the part opened, so that it retains the proper form on the body, it being also readily closed again without inconvenience whenever desired, so as to fit tightly to the body.

The invention consists in dividing both busks or steels of the corset into sections and connecting the sections by pivots at the part where it is desired to open the corset. The busks are locked at the terminals by the usual clasps, while the pivoted sections are connected at the point where the temporary opening of the corset is desired by a lever clasp device for opening or closing the corset.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a front elevation of our improved corset-clasp, shown as opened above the stomach; and Figs. 2 and 3 are front views of a corset with the clasp respectively in open and closed position.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A A in the drawings are the corset busks or springs, which are made of steel or other metal, whalebone, or other suitable material, and divided into three parts or sections, *a b d*. These sections are jointed to each other by pivotal connections, the pivoted sections being arranged at that part of the corset where the same is to be opened—namely, either at the stomach, abdomen, or other part of the body.

The busks A A are closed at the upper and lower parts by common clasps, while the connection of the pivoted sections is accomplished by a clasp device, B, which is clearly shown in Fig. 1. The clasp B is provided with two

arc-shaped slots, *e* and *e'*, which are guided, respectively, on headed studs *f f* of the pivoted sections *b b*. The clasp device B is provided at the end with a handle, *g*, while the slot *e'* has an enlargement, *e²*, at the inner end, by which the clasp B may be entirely disconnected from the stud *f*.

When it is desired to open the corset, so as to relieve any disagreeable pressure of the same on the stomach or abdomen, the handle is taken hold of outside of the dress, which can be readily done without opening the dress, and the clasp then turned by its arc-shaped slots on the studs from its closed position in line with the busks (shown in Fig. 2) into the open transverse position, (shown in Figs. 1 and 3,) producing thereby the spreading apart of the corset at that point to the distance of two inches, more or less, and relieving thereby instantly any pain or inconvenience produced by the pressure of the corset.

By attaching a cord to the handle of the clasp and pulling the same the opening of the corset may be facilitated. For closing the corset the clasp is carried back into its former position in the same manner as before described.

As the corset is kept closed by the clasps at the ends of the busks it retains its tight fit on the body even when opened at the stomach or abdomen, while it gives relief whenever a painful or unhealthy pressure is exerted on the stomach, abdomen, or other part of the body thereby.

We are aware that corset-clasps consisting of two busks, each of which is made of pivoted busk-sections, are well known, and we therefore lay no claim to the same, broadly.

Having thus described our invention, we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. As an improvement in corset-clasps, the combination of busks or steels made of several pivoted sections, and connected at the ends by the usual clasps, with an intermediate clasp device, which is adapted when operated to effect the opening or closing of the pivoted busk-sections, substantially as set forth.

2. As an improvement in corset-clasps, the

combination of the pivoted busk-sections *a b*
d, having the customary end clasps and studs
ff, with a lever clasp device, *B*, having arc-
shaped slots *e e'* and a handle, *g*, substantially
5 as specified.

3. In a corset-clasp, the busk - connecting
clasp device *B*, having arc-shaped slots *e e'*,
the latter slot having an enlargement, *e²*, and
having a handle, *g*, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof we have signed our
names to this specification in the presence of
two subscribing witnesses.

THERESE FRANZ.
HENRI JANSSEN.

Witnesses:

BERTHOLD ROI,
CARL FEHLERT.