

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ARTHUR L. HOWARD, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT.

FABRICATED PAPER OR VULCANIZED FIBER APPLIED TO CORSET-STAYS AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR WHALEBONE, &c.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 231,045, dated August 10, 1880.

Application filed May 20, 1880. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern :

Be it known that I, ARTHUR L. HOWARD, of New Haven, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented certain
5 new and useful Improvements in Fabricated Paper or Vulcanized Fiber Applied to Corset-Stays as a Substitute for Whalebone, &c.; and I do hereby declare the following to be a
10 full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying
15 drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification. This invention consists in the application of
20 vulcanized fiber in the manufacture of stays for corsets. They are cut, stamped, or formed in any desired way from the fiber and applied to the corset in the usual manner, giving an
25 article far superior to those in which whalebone, metal, wood, &c., are used for shaping and stiffening.

It is found from experience that corset-stays made from wood are not elastic enough, are
25 troublesome in making, are easily broken, and liable to injure the person, do not yield easily to the form, and discolor the garments. Metal stays are open to the same objection as wooden,

and also are liable to rust. Metal stays covered or coated with rubber only avoid rust, 30 and are troublesome and costly to manufacture.

By the present invention a corset is provided which can be manufactured much cheaper than any heretofore made and on the market, and 35 which is open to none of the objections cited where stays of other materials are used. The fiber is yielding and elastic, will not break, accommodates itself easily to the person, does 40 not discolor the garments, and yet, when used as set forth, gives to the trade a cheaper and more comfortable article than has been heretofore made, and differing radically in the features set forth.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure 45 by Letters Patent, is—

The application of vulcanized fiber in the manufacture of corset-stays, as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 27th day of 50 April, 1880.

ARTHUR L. HOWARD.

Witnesses:

JOHN MCCARTHY,
ANDREW O'NEILL.