(No Model.)

O. C. HASKELL.

Corset Clasp.

No. 237,974. **Patented Feb. 22, 1881.**

Fig. 3.

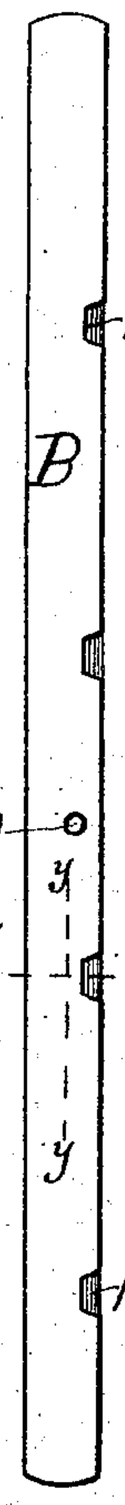


Fig. 4.

Fig. 1.

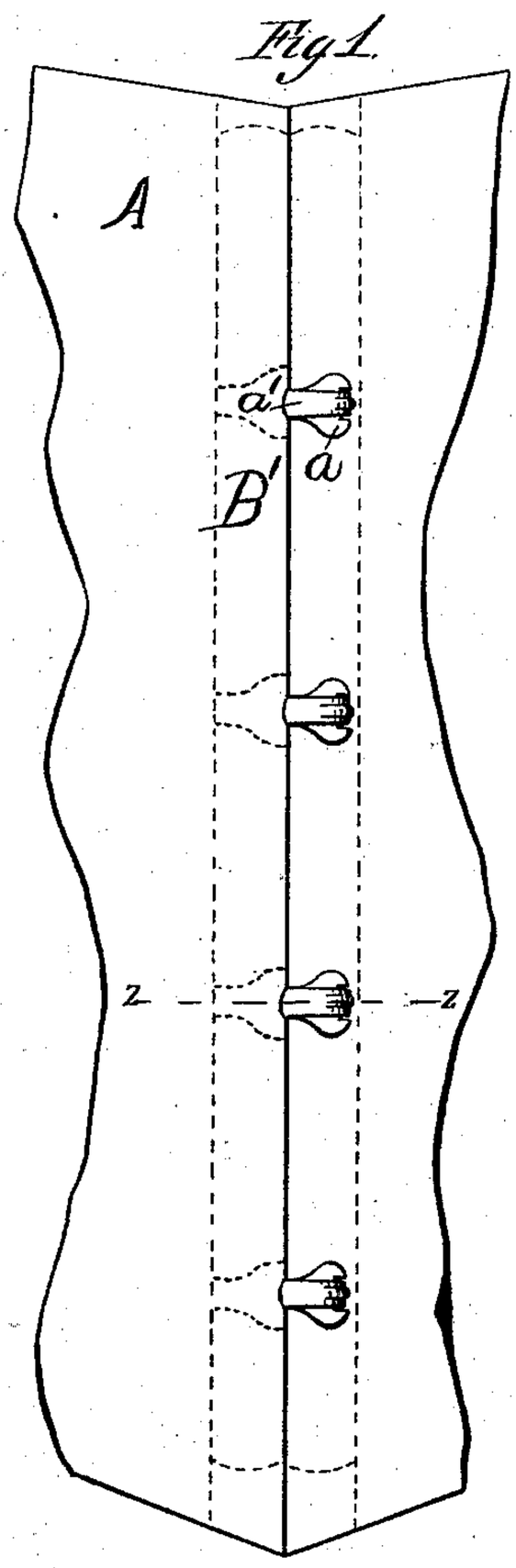


Fig. 2.

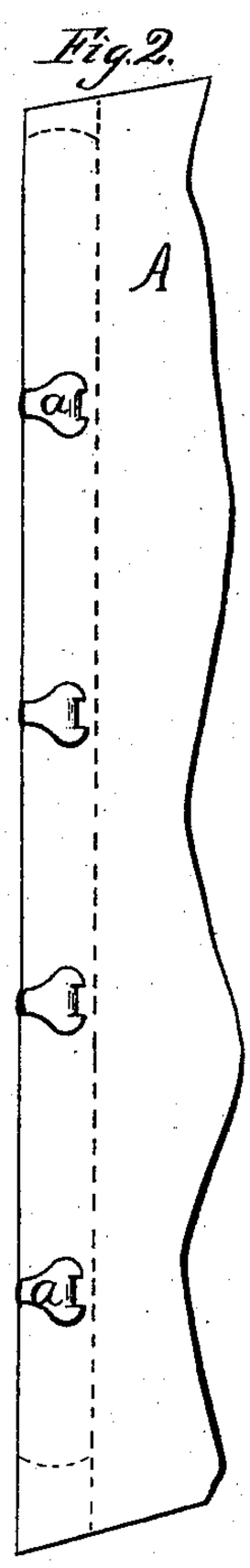


Fig. 5.

Fig. 6.

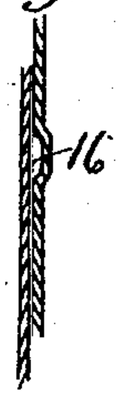


Fig. 7.

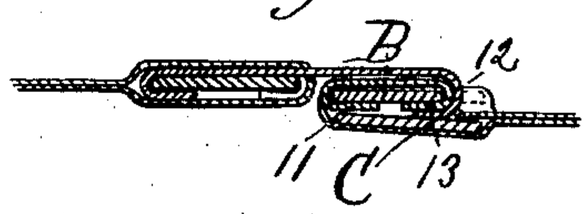


Fig. 8.

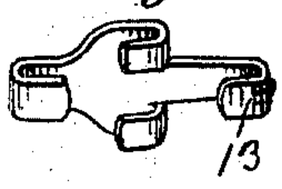
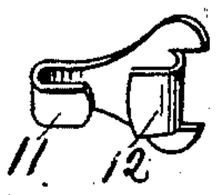


Fig. 9.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ORVILLE C. HASKELL, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

CORSET-CLASP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 237,974, dated February 22, 1881.

Application filed June 28, 1880. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ORVILLE C. HASKELL, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Corsets; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, that will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to construct and make use of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters and figures of reference marked thereon, forming a part of this specification.

This invention relates more especially to certain improvements in the arrangement of the corset steels and clasps for securing the corsets together in front, the precise construction and operation of which will be hereinafter more fully described in detail, and set forth in the claims.

This invention is intended as an improvement on Letters Patent No. 225,520, issued to me March 16, 1880.

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a corset embodying my improvements. Fig. 2 is a front elevation of the left side of the same, showing the form of the shield adapted to receive the hooks or clasps attached to the steels on the opposite side of the corset. Figs. 3 and 4 represent the pair of steels used in that side of the corset shown in Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is a transverse section in the plane *x x*, Fig. 3; Fig. 6, a longitudinal section in the plane *y y*, Fig. 3; Fig. 7, a transverse section in the plane *z z*, Fig. 1; and Figs. 8 and 9, detached details of the clasping devices.

Referring to the drawings, A represents the corset proper; *a*, the series of shields attached to the steel B; and *a'*, the clasps or hooks attached to the steel B', and which are adapted to engage with the shields *a*, as shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings. The two corset-steels B and C (shown in Figs. 3 and 4 of the drawings) are placed one on the top of the other and riveted together, at 10, before being placed in the corset, the steel C being placed on the inside or underneath the steel B, both steels being inserted in the same sheath provided for their reception in the hem of the corset. These double steels, as here shown, are designed to be used on that side of the corset carrying the series of shields *a*. The clasping ends 11 and 12 of the shields *a* are bent around the edges of and clasped to the under side of the steel B, thus passing between the two steels, but not being attached to the under steel, C, as shown in Fig. 7 of the drawings. This arrangement of double steels prevents the hook end 13 of the clasp *a'* from wearing through the cloth on the under side of the corset, and also permits of much lighter steels being used, which imparts a greater elasticity and flexibility to these parts, and gives more ease and comfort to the wearer. When but a single steel is employed on each side of the corset they must necessarily be much thicker than when two steels are laid together, in order to give the required strength to the parts; but by making use of two thin steels, arranged, in the manner hereinbefore described, on one or both sides of the corset, the parts are not weakened, and the corset more readily and easily conforms to the movements of the wearer by reason of the thin or light steels possessing a greater elasticity. These double steels may be secured to each other by means of a suitable band or clasp passing around the same, instead of being riveted together, as herein shown; but these steels should only be secured together at one point, and that near the longitudinal center of the same, leaving the ends free to adjust themselves relative to the movement of each other. If the steels were rigidly secured together near the ends, they would have a tendency to bulge or bow out and destroy the shape of the corset, and be very inconvenient for the wearer.

The under steel, C, is provided with the indentations 14, as shown in Fig. 4 of the drawings, which, when the two steels are laid together, form the pockets or recesses 16 for the reception of the hook ends 13 of the clasps *a'*. The upper steel, B, is provided with the notches 15 for the reception of the shields *a*. The series of shields *a* are attached to the steel B, and are adapted to receive the hook ends of the clasps *a'* when these parts are interlocked, as shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings. Fig. 9 of the drawings shows the form of this shield when ready to be attached to the corset-steel. The ends 11 and 12 of the shield *a* are flattened against the under side of the steel B, thereby

firmly securing the same to the steel, and the notches 15 prevent the shields from having a vertical movement.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a corset, the combination, with the steel B, of the auxiliary steel C, having the indentations 14, and the shields *a*, connected and arranged as herein shown and described.

2. In a corset, the combination of the following elements, consisting of the steels B and C, riveted or otherwise secured together at a point near their longitudinal center, the shields *a*, the hooks or clasping devices *a'*, and the steel B', all constructed and arranged as herein shown and described.

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