

(Model.)

C. A. WILLIAMSON.

CORSET STAY.

No. 249,564.

Patented Nov. 15, 1881.

Fig. 1.

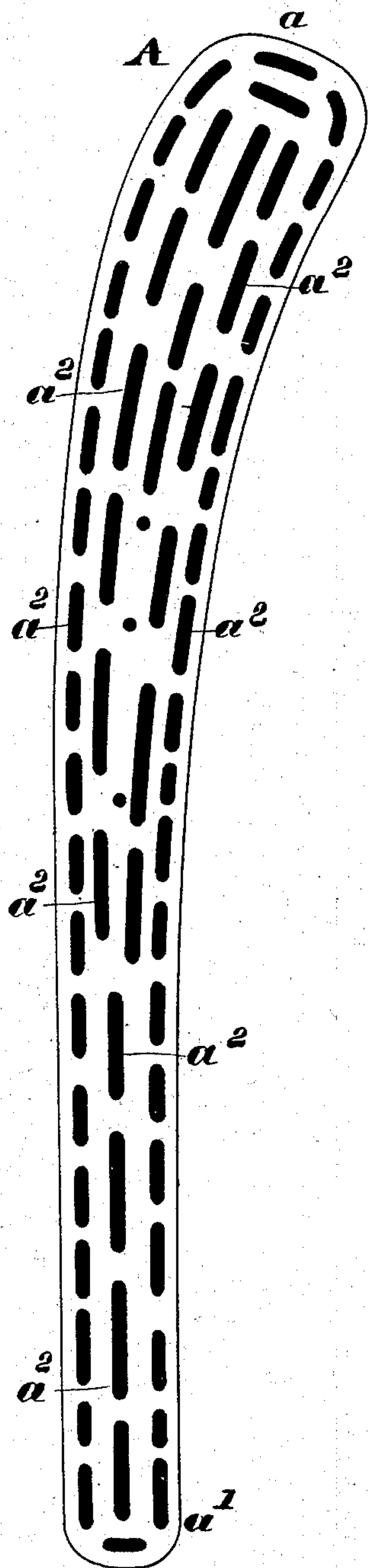
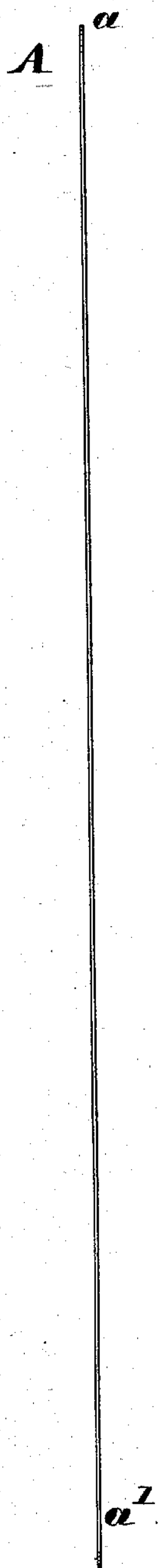


Fig. 2.



Attest:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CATHARINE A. WILLIAMSON, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

CORSET-STAY.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 249,564, dated November 15, 1881.

Application filed July 6, 1881. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CATHARINE A. WILLIAMSON, of St. Louis, Missouri, have made a new and useful Improvement in Stays for Corsets and Shoulder-Braces, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the improved support, and Fig. 2 an edge elevation.

The same letters denote the same parts.

The present invention is an improvement in what are styled the "supports" of the corset or brace, or the flat strips extending up and down each side of the spine, and constituting the main frame of the device.

A represents the improved support. It is made of strong elastic material, such as steel. In length it is made to extend from a little above the shoulder-blade downward to the lower part of the back. Its relative width and thickness is indicated in the drawings, being comparatively quite thin throughout its length. At its upper end, a , it is wider than at its lower end, a' , and, in place of being made straight, it curves around at its upper end—that is, in the support worn upon the right side of the back (the one shown) the upper end of the support curves to the right, and in the support worn upon the left side the upper end curves to the left. This adapts the support to the shape of the back, provides a better and a broader bearing upon the shoulder-blade, and enables the lower portion of the support, opposite the

waist, to be more elastic and to yield more than the upper portion. The prominent feature of the support, however, is its open-work construction. This extends throughout its length, in effect making the support what may be termed a "skeleton-frame," the openings a^2 being in all parts of the support and elongated in the direction of its length. This renders the support exceedingly light in weight without detracting from its strength or suppleness. Practically no obstacle is offered to the circulation of the air or the dissipation of the heat of the body. These supports therefore combine the maximum of efficiency with the minimum of discomfort. They can be used in many varieties of corsets and shoulder-braces, being inserted suitably in the casings of the corset or brace and spaced suitably apart therein, so as not to bear directly upon the spine.

So far as making the support in the form of a skeleton-frame is concerned, the openings a^2 may be of any shape and size. They should, however, be extended throughout the support.

I claim—

1. As a new article of manufacture, the herein-described corset and shoulder-brace elastic skeleton-support.

2. A corset and shoulder-brace support having the openings a^2 elongated and extended, as and for the purpose described.

C. A. WILLIAMSON.

Witnesses:

C. D. MOODY,
SOLON N. SAPP.