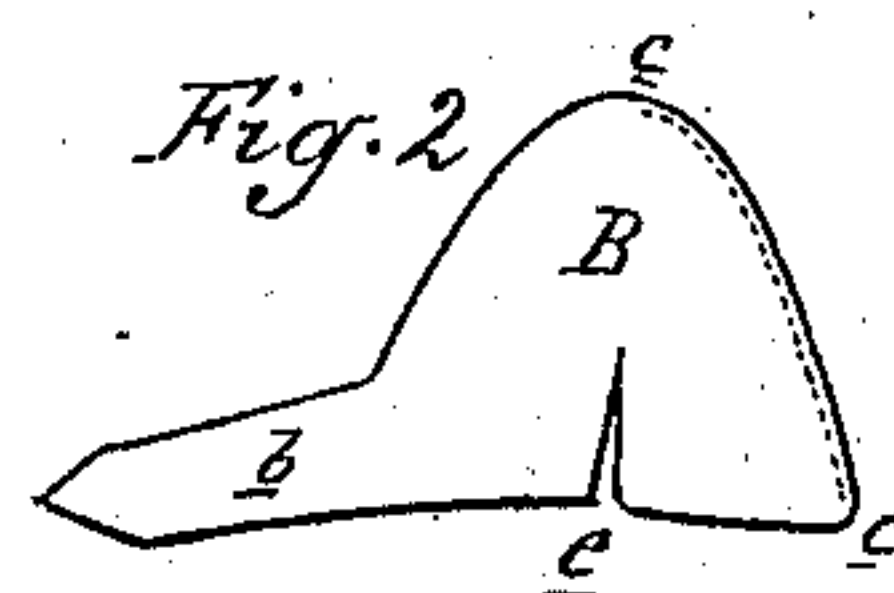
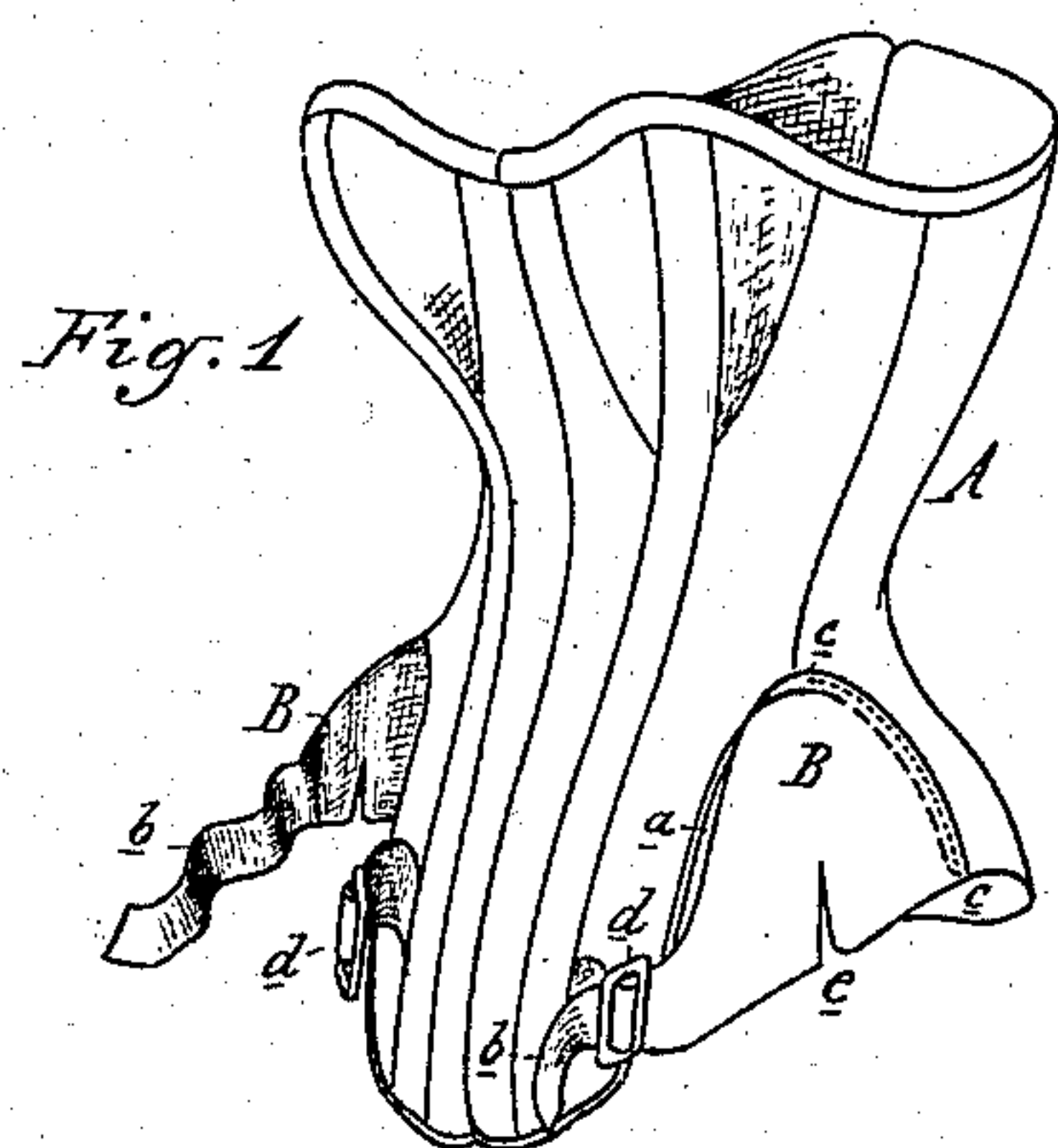


(No Model.)

W. S. ALLEN.
CORSET.

No. 257,911.

Patented May 16, 1882.



Attest:
A. Barthel
Charles J. Frank

Inventor:
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per *Wm S Sprague*
Atty

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM S. ALLEN, OF HILLSDALE, MICHIGAN.

CORSET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 257,911, dated May 16, 1882.

Application filed August 25, 1881. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM S. ALLEN, of Hillsdale, in the county of Hillsdale and State of Michigan, have invented an Improvement in Corsets, of which the following is a specification.

The nature of this invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in the construction of corsets of that character which are made with a semicircular opening in the side to leave the hip uncovered; and the invention is especially designed as an improvement upon the corset patented to Moses K. Bortree July 13, 1875, in Patent No. 165,534. In said Bortree corset the two sides of the opening which discloses the hip of the wearer are connected together by an adjusting-strap, and in persons of a large development at the hips, when such persons wear said corset (as it is designed to be worn) closely embracing the waist, the hips protrude uncomfortably through such opening, and the adjusting-strap will imbed itself into the flesh.

The object of this invention is to completely cover such semicircular opening without interfering with the adjustability of the corset around the hips, and at the same time not interfere with the undulations of the body in walking or sitting; and to this end my invention consists in the employment of a flexible shield, adapted to entirely cover the hip, and provided with a slit to render it less rigid and prevent undue pressure on the hip-bone.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the aforesaid Bortree corset with my improvement attached thereto. Fig. 2 is a plan view of my attachment detached.

In the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, A represents a corset with a semicircular opening, *a*, cut in each side of the same to disclose the hips of the wearer.

B represents my improved hip-shield or attachment, the main part of which is cut of the same form as the opening. This shield is sewed to the corset at one side of the opening by a seam extending from *c* to *c*, and the free side of the shield terminates in an adjusting-strap, *b*. This strap may be an elastic one, if pre-

ferred, with its free end secured to the corset; or it may be non-elastic and adjusted by means of a buckle, *d*. By this shield the hip-opening is covered, and the protrusion of the hip of the wearer is prevented without interfering with the adjustability of the corset. In order to not allow the shield to be so rigid when the corset is adjusted upon the form of the wearer as to prevent the free undulations of the body in walking or in the act of sitting down, a slit, *e*, is cut in the shield from the bottom, and extending part way to the top, substantially as shown. This shield, from the fact of its having no bones or stiffening, is soft and flexible, and is further provided with a slit to prevent any undue pressure on the hip-bone.

I do not in this application broadly claim a corset provided with an adjusting-strap provided with a shield at its point of attachment to the corset, as this improvement forms the subject-matter of a separate application of even date herewith; neither do I claim merely an adjusting-strap for a hip-opening, as such a strap would, by reason of its small size, not only allow the flesh to be cut into by the edge of the hip-opening, but also cut into the flesh itself.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. In combination with a corset having a side opening to entirely disclose the hip of the wearer, an adjusting-strap provided with an enlargement forming a flexible shield adapted to entirely cover said hip-opening, whereby said shield prevents the flesh of the wearer from protruding through the hip-opening, and at the same time prevents undue pressure thereon, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

2. In combination with a corset having a hip-opening, as described, the flexible shield B, adapted to entirely close said hip-opening, and provided with a slit, *e*, and terminating in an adjusting-strap, *b*, substantially as and for the purpose described.

WILLIAM S. ALLEN.

In presence of—

H. W. MOULTON,
E. L. SMITH.