

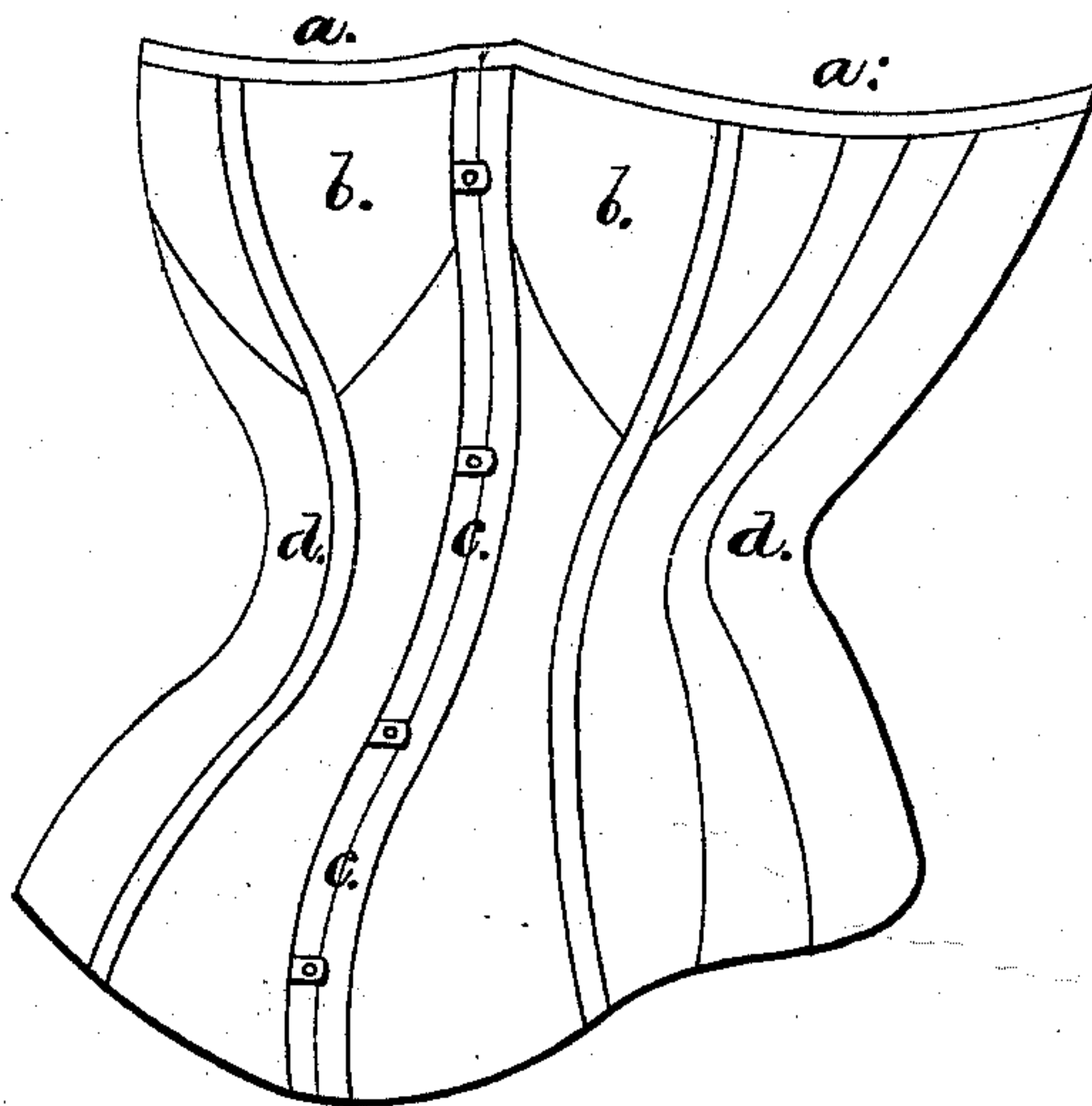
(No Model.)

E. C. HURLBUT.  
CORSET.

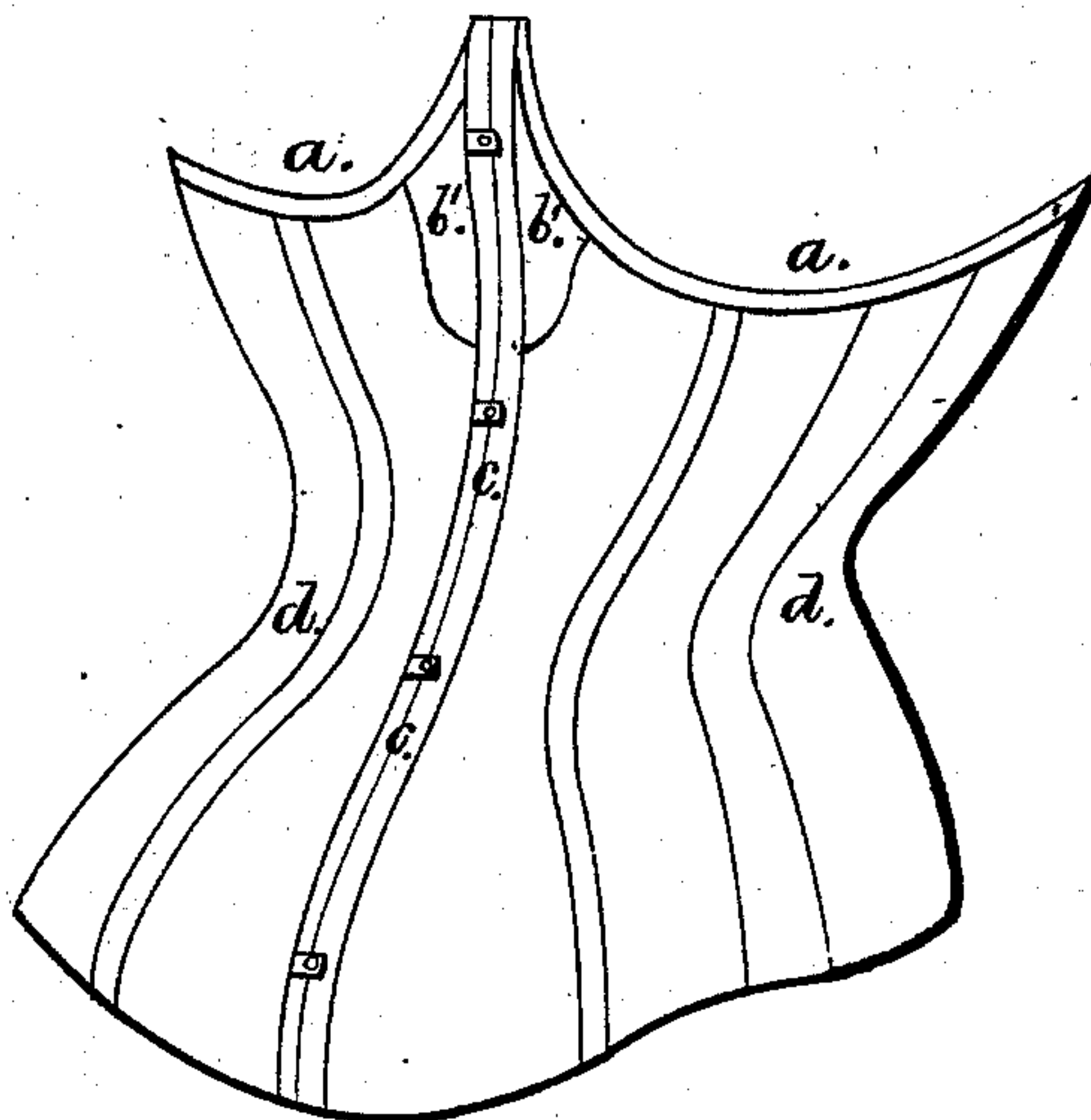
No. 270,222.

Patented Jan. 9, 1883.

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Witnesses;*

H. S. Hoyt R.  
Thomas Hunt.

*Inventor;*

E. C. Hurlbut.

by  
J. W. Hindon  
Att.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELLA C. HURLBUT, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## CORSET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 270,222, dated January 9, 1883.

Application filed May 17, 1882. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ELLA CHILDS HURLBUT, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Corsets, of which the following is a specification.

The objects of my improvement are to give a graceful shape to the figure, and at the same time to reduce the apparent size thereof, and to produce a corset which shall confine the figure less than those now in use, and thereby increase the comfort and health of the wearer. I attain these objects by the corset illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 2 illustrates my improved corset, while Fig. 1 shows the form of a corset now used.

Each figure is a perspective view, and similar letters refer to similar parts in each figure.

Heretofore it has been the practice to cut the tops of corsets in a nearly-horizontal plane, giving only a slight droop at the front and back, as shown in Fig. 1 at *a*, and to provide for the necessary fullness in front by letting in gores of some loose material at *b*. This pattern of corset, however, is open to the objection that it makes it very difficult for a person to procure a corset which while it is the right size for the breasts shall also be the right size for the waist, or the reverse.

As the corsets are made on a model which is supposed to represent the average female figure, any slight variation in the actual figure is apt to cause discomfort in the corset to the wearer, corsets which fit the waist being frequently either unnecessarily large or uncomfortably small at the breasts, and vice versa. This old form of corset is also open to the objection that it increases the apparent size of the breasts needlessly at points where the corset is not necessary for support. Some of these disadvantages are of course modified by making corsets measured to fit accurately individual figures. I obviate these disadvantages, and am enabled to form a corset which may be made in quantities, and will always afford a good fit, the waist-measure being the only one which it will be necessary to observe.

I form my improved corset of the ordinary

shape at the waist, but cut it shorter than usual, so that it will not extend over or cover the breasts. The ordinary central busk will extend higher than the lower edge of the breasts, and the top front edge of my corset will therefore be cut or formed to slope downward and backward on each side from the central busk, following the curve of the figure, and must be cut low enough to leave the breasts free and uncovered by the material of the corset. The top edge of the corset extends under the arms at a height about the line of the lower edge of the breasts. The shape of the top front edge is shown in Fig. 2 at *a*, and the same form of sloping the upper edge may be used at the back of the corset, if desired; and to still further facilitate movement and respiration, let in the gores *b'*, which may be of some light and flexible or elastic material. The steel busks or fastening-clasps I prefer to leave of substantially the shape as in the ordinary corset, but prefer that they should be slightly shorter than usual. This busk from its central position gives form to the corset without interfering with the wearer.

It will be seen that by making the corset of the shape and construction which I claim as my invention I reduce the apparent size of the breast, while it becomes much easier to obtain a corset which shall be comfortable, as it is only necessary to fit the size of the waist. I also cheapen the cost of production, as I use less material and whalebones than are necessary with the old form.

*e* represents the busk of the corset, and *d* its body.

The corset may be trimmed in any suitable way at the upper edge, and is made to present a more graceful appearance than is the case with the old style.

I am aware of the patent of E. Pohl, No. 243,155, dated June 21, 1881, and do not claim the form of corset therein shown, as such form of corset could not be made to fit wearers by attention to the waist-measure only. My corset can be made with much less material than that therein shown.

What I claim is—

1. A corset formed to fit the waist of the wearer, having a busk, *c*, and the top edge of



the corset sloping downward and backward from the busks so as to leave the breasts free and uncovered, and extended under the arms to a height about the line of the lower edge of the breasts, substantially as and for the purposes described.

2. A corset formed to fit the waist of the wearer, having a busk, *c*, and gore, *b'*, and the top front edge of the corset sloped downward

and backward from the busk so as to leave the breasts free and uncovered, and extended under the arms to a height of about the line of the lower edge of the breasts, substantially as and for the purposes described.

ELLA CHILDS HURLBUT.

Witnesses:

MARGRET HANEY,  
THOMAS HUNT.