

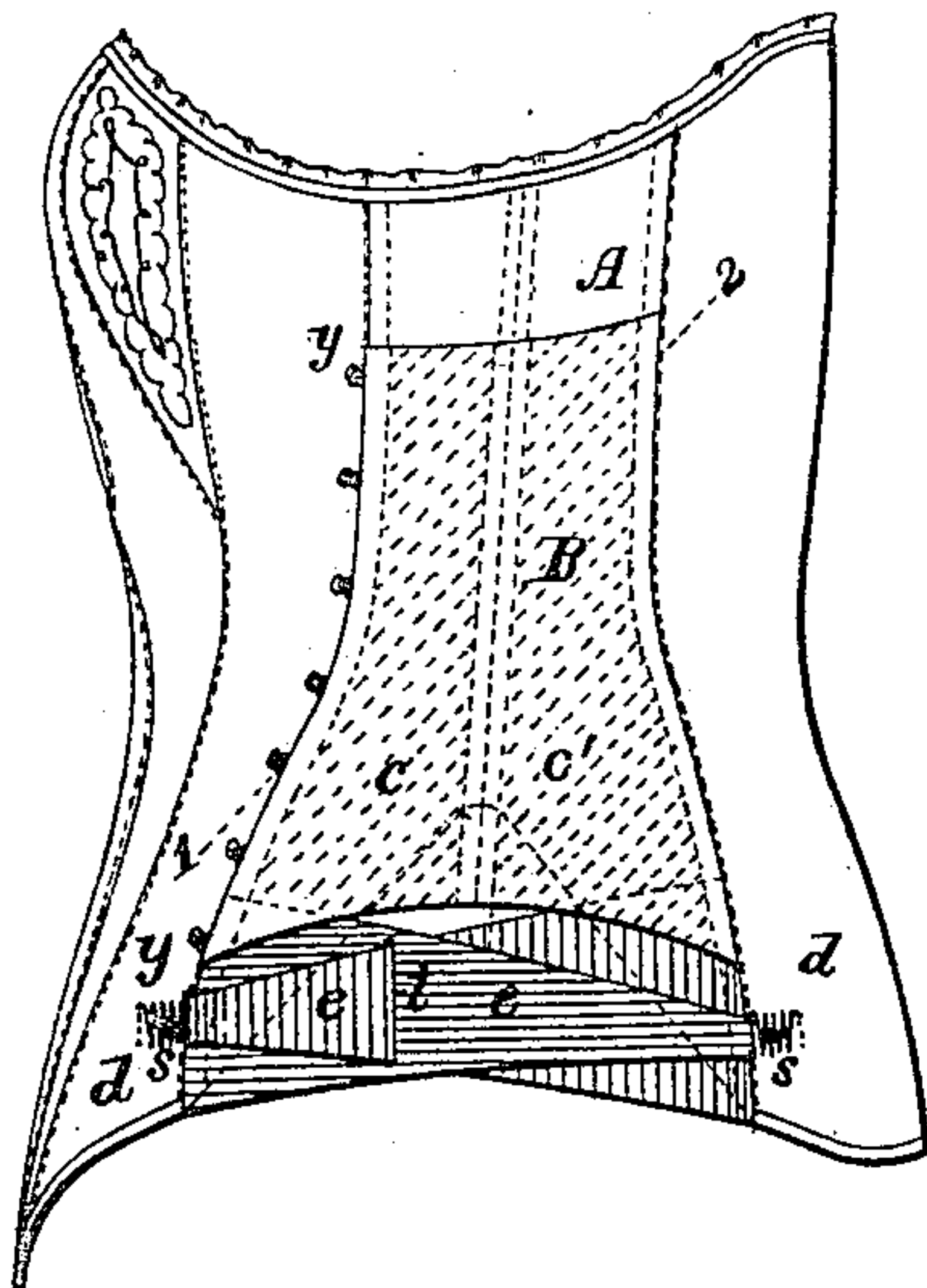
(Model.)

C. F. ALLEN.  
CORSET.

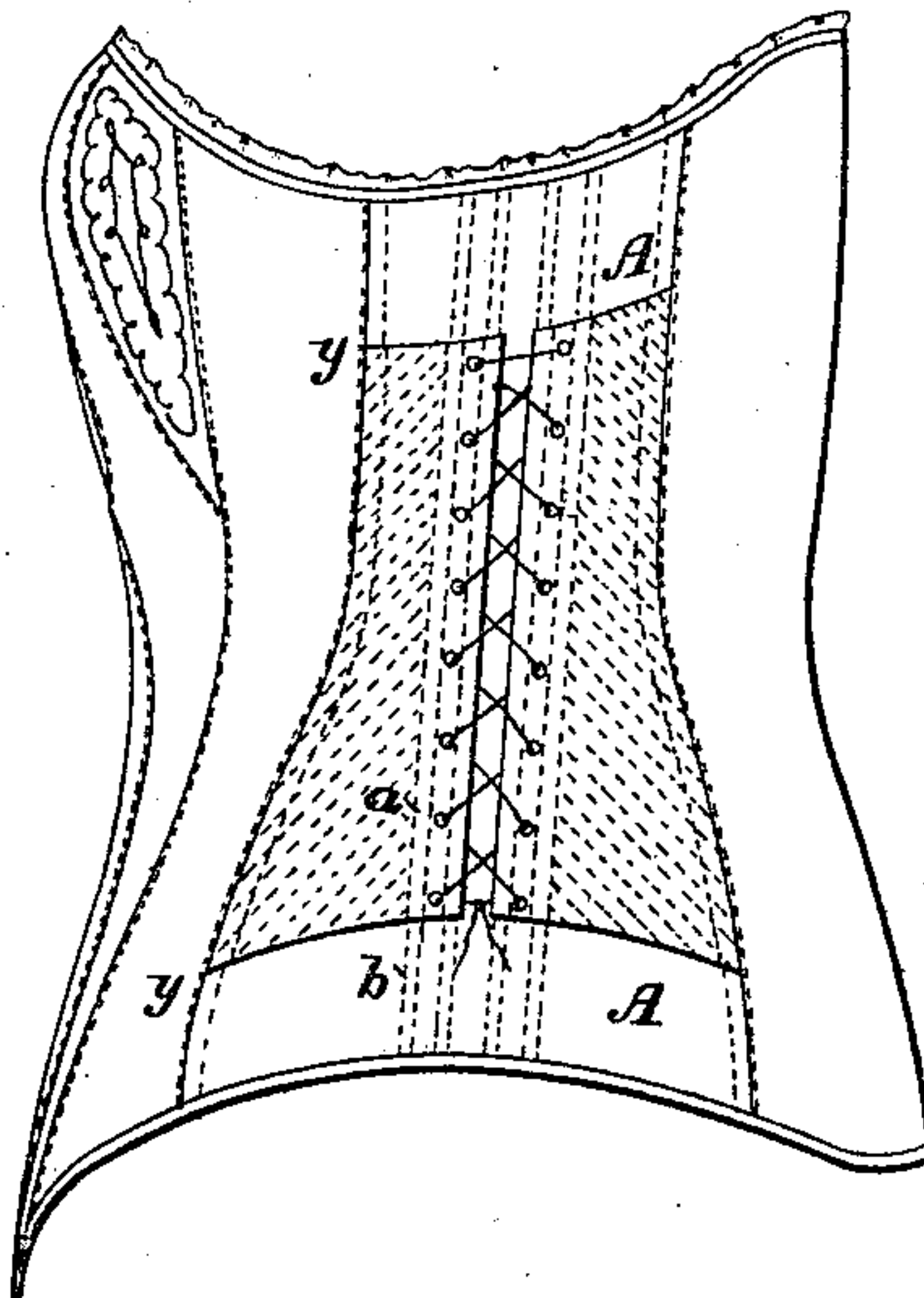
No. 270,360.

Patented Jan. 9, 1883.

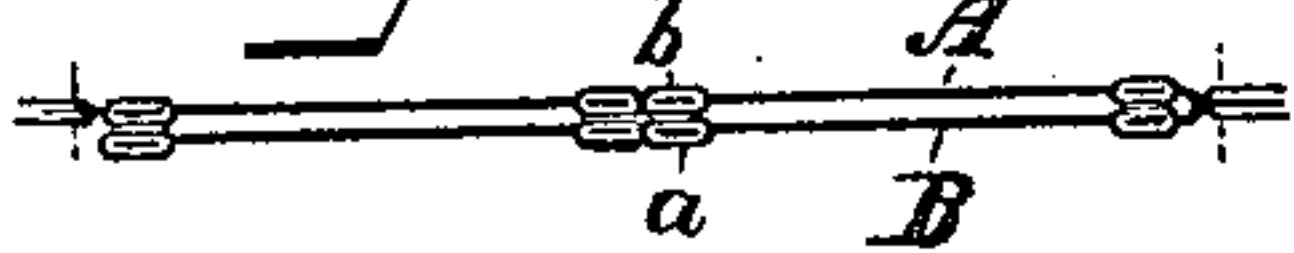
*Fig. 1.*



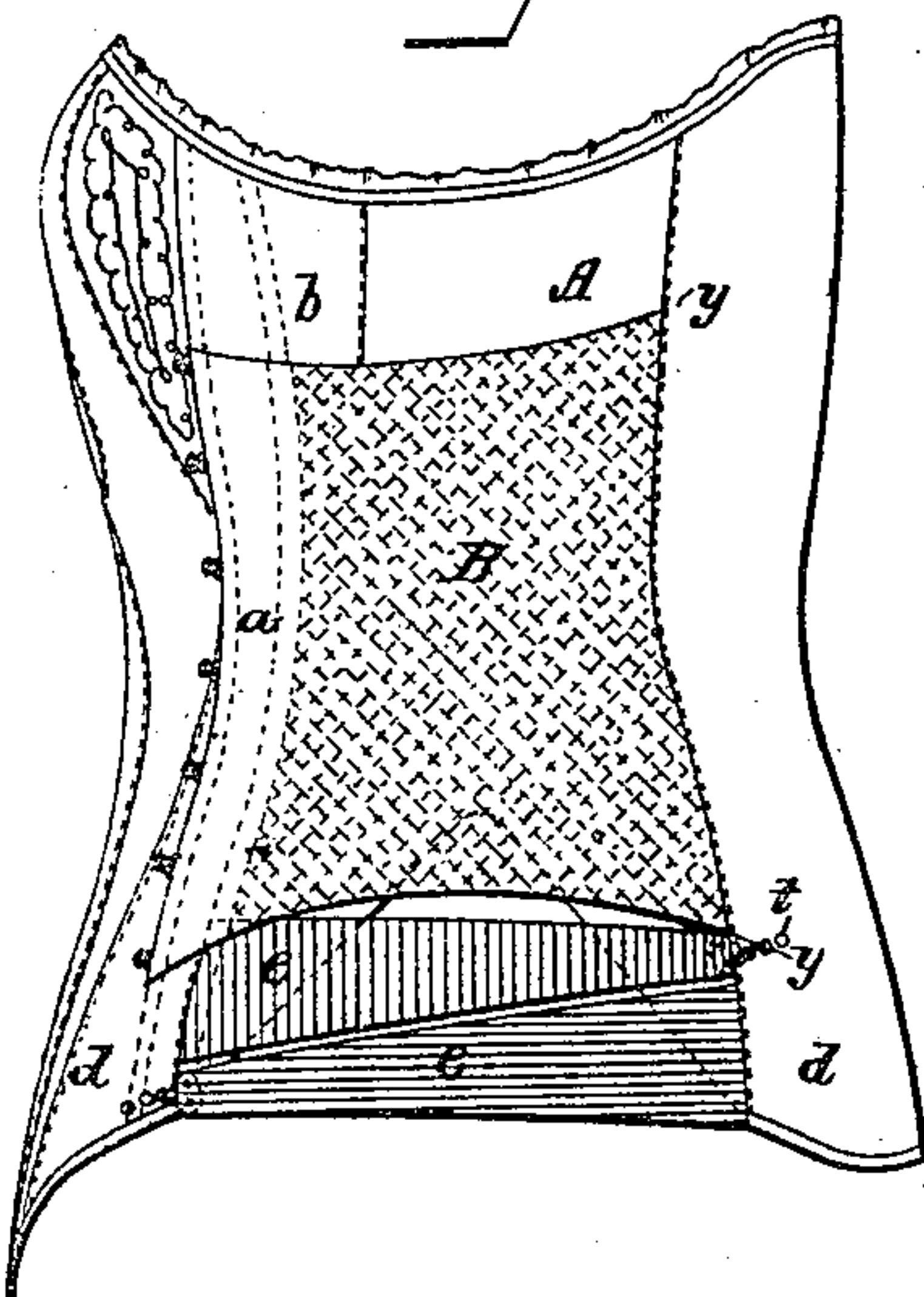
*Fig. 3.*



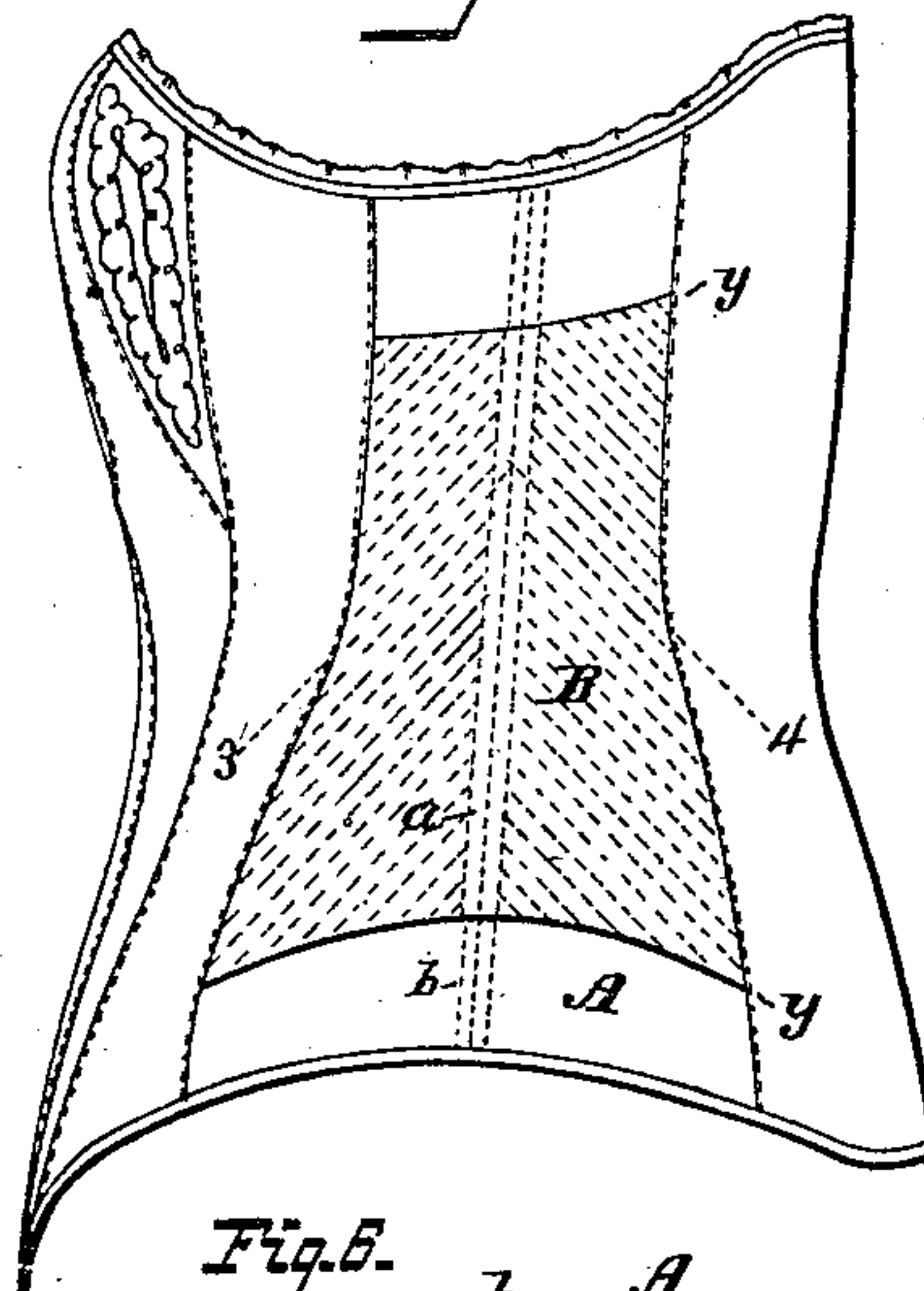
*Fig. 2.*



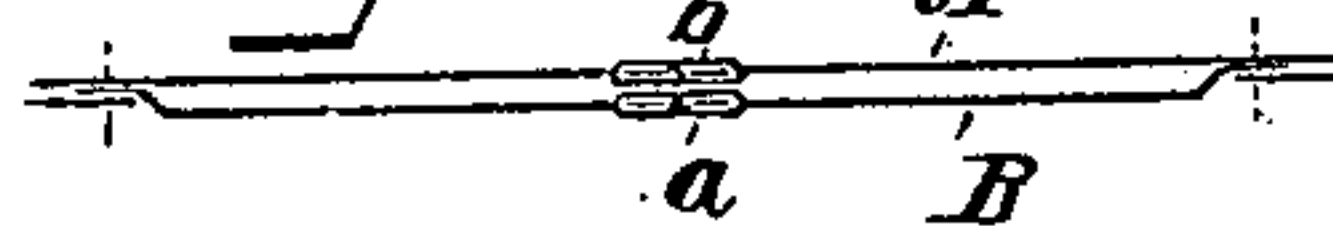
*Fig. 4.*



*Fig. 5.*



*Fig. 6.*



Attest:  
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By his attorney  
Charles E. Foster



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHAUNCEY F. ALLEN, OF WATERBURY, CONNECTICUT.

## CORSET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 270,360, dated January 9, 1883.

Application filed December 21, 1881. (Model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHAUNCEY F. ALLEN, of Waterbury, New Haven county, Connecticut, have invented certain Improvements in Corsets, of which the following is the specification.

My invention is a corset in which that portion between the arm and the hip, while sufficiently rigid to support the corset at this point, also possesses that flexibility which is necessary in order to accommodate itself properly to the movements of the wearer.

My invention further consists in means whereby the hip portion is rendered elastic, flexible, and adjustable.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a side view, showing a corset with my improvements. Fig. 2 is a section on the line 1 2, Fig. 1. Figs. 3, 4, and 5 are views showing modifications. Fig. 6 is a section on the line 3 4, Fig. 5.

My invention relates in the first instance not so much to the construction of the body portion of the corset, which may be of any suitable or usual form as to the combination thereof with of a stiffened overlying or underlying section so constructed as to permit the body portion to bend freely, but aiding in supporting the latter and supplementing the stiffeners thereof, so that they will not become broken or crushed by the bending of the body, as heretofore. Thus the section A of the body of the corset, which section is at the side between the arm and the waist, is most likely to be broken by the side movements of the wearer. The usual increase in the thickness and number of the bones at this point, while rendering the corset rigid and unyielding, is of little effect, as the heavier bones are more liable to break than those which are lighter. To obviate this I use the ordinary light stiffeners, *b*, in this section A, and may advantageously employ those which are even lighter than usual, and supplement such stiffeners by others, *a*, which are arranged in one or more overlying or underlying sections, B, shorter than the body-section, and secured to the latter at the edges alone, or throughout its width in any suitable manner. In Letters Patent Nos. 230,163 and 234,380, heretofore granted to me, I have shown such sections combined with the body of a corset, my present invention differing from those heretofore patented in the arrangement of the stiff-

eners or bones *a a* of the section B, so as to lie parallel to or upon the bones *b* of the body-section, so that the shorter bones supplement the longer bones, increasing the stiffness of the corset between the lines *y y*, while leaving it more flexible at the hip and under-arm portions, below and above the section B. By this arrangement the stiffness of the corset is maintained, while it will yield more readily than the ordinary stiffened corsets to the side motions of the body, and the two overlying series of bones are much less liable to break from bending than a single series of bones of the same thickness as the combined series.

In Figs. 3 and 5 the bones *a* at the center and edges of the two-part section B, overlying the long bones in the body portion, as shown, stiffen the corset between the lines *y y*, while permitting greater flexibility above and below.

The sections B may be stiffened by diagonal or inclined bones or cords, or by grass-cloth padding or otherwise, as may the sections of the body portion. In Fig. 1 I show inclined bones or cords *c c'*. In Figs. 3 and 5 the bones or cords converge. In Fig. 4 a quilted stiffening is shown. It will be apparent that whalebone, horn, cords, grass, or other stiffeners may be used at the parts *a*, depending upon the style, cost, and character of the corset to be made.

To secure increased flexibility at and adaptability to the hip, I may cut away the section A, so as to uncover the hip, and then connect the sections *d d* by straps or tongues *e e*, each attached to the end of one of the sections *d*, and one extending through a slot, *i*, of the other, as in Fig. 1, or one extending above the other, as in Fig. 4, the narrow end of the tongue being connected to the opposite section, *d*, by a flexible strap or metal spring, *s*, Fig. 1, or carrying a hook adapted to eyes *t*, in the section *d*, so as to permit adjustment to fit the corset to the wearer.

I claim—

1. A corset in which the stiffened body between the arm and hip is overlaid or overlaid by a stiffened section, the stiffeners in which are shorter than and arranged parallel to those of the body portion, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination, in a corset, of the stiff-

ened body and a stiffened overlying section arranged between the arm and hip, shorter than the body, and with its bones parallel to those of the body portion, substantially as set forth.

5 3. A corset having between the arm and the waist two series of overlying bones, arranged to form a double thickness of bones between the parts *y y*, and a single thickness above and  
10 below such points, substantially as set forth.

4. A corset cut away at the hip and pro-

vided with tongues *e e*, extending from opposite edges, and with appliances for connecting the ends of the tongues adjustably to the sides of the corset, substantially as set forth.

15 In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CHAUNCEY F. ALLEN.

Witnesses:

CHARLES E. FOSTER,  
A. E. T. HANSMANN.