

(No Model.)

F. D. COOKE.

CORSET.

No. 281,462.

Patented July 17, 1883.

fig. 1

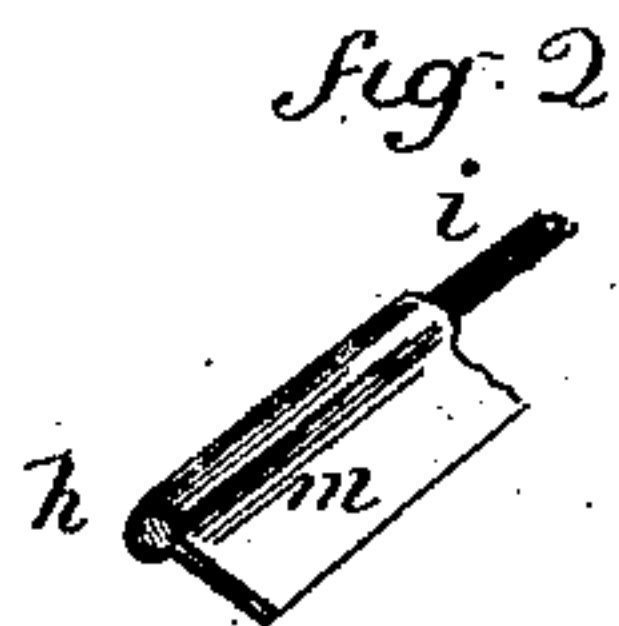
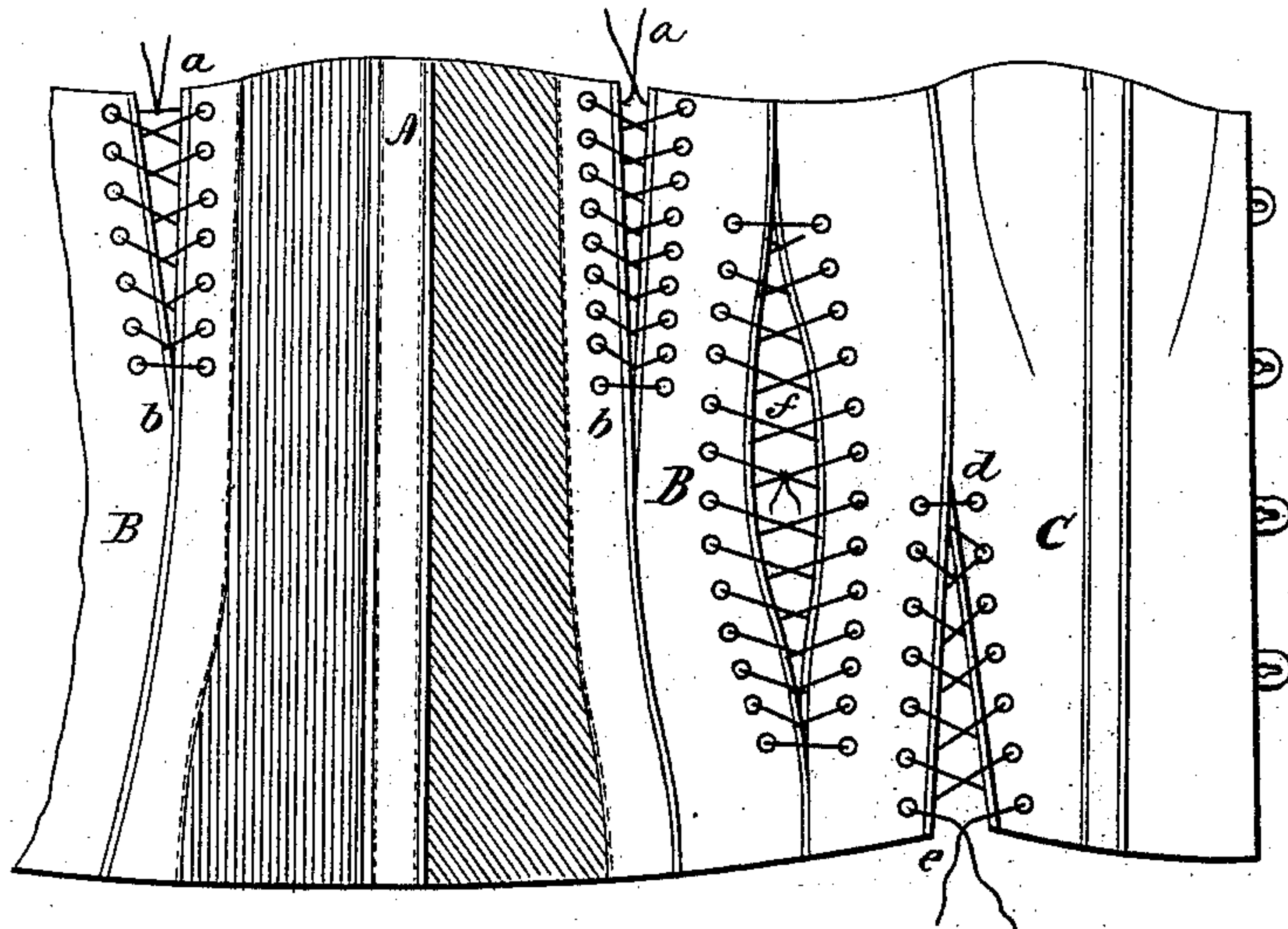
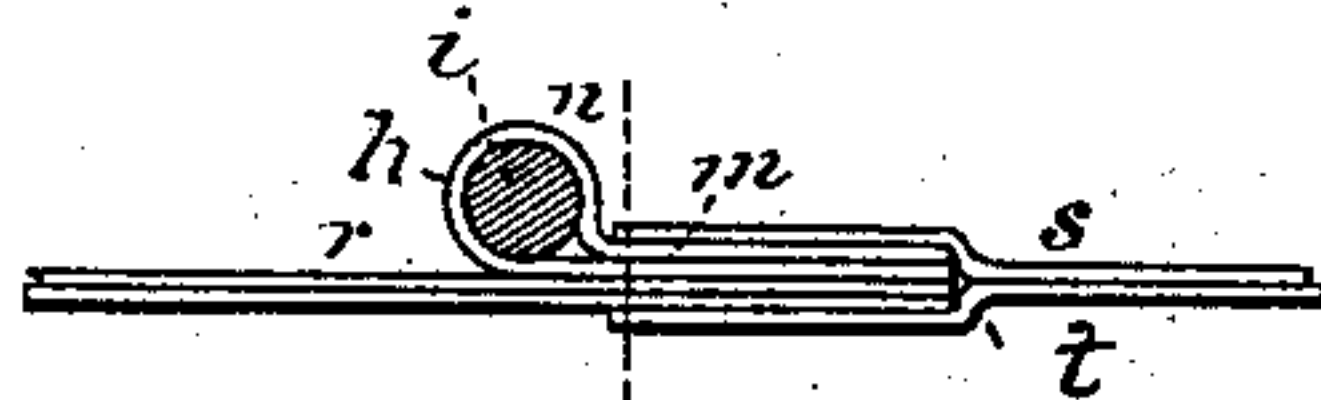


fig. 3



Witnesses.  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDERIC D. COOKE, OF WEST BROOKFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR  
TO C. L. OLMSTEAD, OF SAME PLACE.

## CORSET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 281,462, dated July 17, 1883.

Application filed March 7, 1883. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FREDERIC D. COOKE, of West Brookfield, in the county of Worcester and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new Improvement in Corsets; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with accompanying drawings and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, and which said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1, a view of the corset open, looking from the back; Fig. 2, a perspective view of the seam-stay detached; Fig. 3, a transverse section through the seam-stay.

This invention relates to an improvement in corsets, having for its object a better support for the back of the wearer, as well as to strengthen the corset at the seams, and thereby preserve the shape of the corset; and it consists in the construction of the corset as hereinafter described, and more particularly recited in the claims.

A represents the back portion, which extends each side of the center to about the shoulder-blade lines *a a*. On these lines the side sections, B, are stitched to the back portion to a little above the waist-line, as at *b*. From this point upward the sections are detached and the edges provided with eyelets and a lacing, as shown. The forward edge of the said sections is stitched to the front sections, C, from the top downward to a point, *d*, below the waist-line, and from that point *d* downward the parts are left detached, their edges fitted with eyelets, and provided with a lacing, as at *e*. In the hip-section, midway between the front and back sections, a vertical opening is made, extending from the waist-line upward and downward, as at *f*, but not so as to divide the section from top to bottom. The two edges of these openings *f* are fitted with eyelets and provided with a lacing, as shown. The back section is constructed with series of stays, as shown, to give strength to the back. By this construction there is no separation of the parts of the corset. It is substantially a continuous piece throughout. Placed upon the person, and clasped at the front with all the lacings loose, it is then adjusted to the wearer, the upper

lacings at the back adjusting it at the top, the lacings at the bottom, between the front and side sections, adjusting it at the bottom, and the central side lacings, *f*, serve to adjust it around the waist, and thus the most perfect adjustment may be obtained, and when once adjusted it will retain its shape, for the reason that the laced openings cannot change, as necessarily must an opening which extends entirely from top to bottom with lacings throughout.

In the manufacture, shaping, and laundering of corsets, a considerable difficulty is experienced, for the reason that the edges of the sections, necessarily cut in irregular shape, do not retain their shape, or readily assume it after having been laundered, and they are readily drawn or pulled out of shape on the person, their irregular edge yielding to slight strains. To overcome this difficulty I form a stay, as seen in Fig. 2. This consists of a pocket, *h*, formed by doubling a strip of fabric around a strong cord, *i*, the doubled edges extending to one side of the pocket, and a line of stitches run through the doubled edges close up to the cord. The stay thus prepared is introduced on the outside at the seam-line or edge of the sections, as seen at *n*, Fig. 3, it lying upon the surface of one section, *r*, the projecting edge of the section upon which it lies, the outer thickness, *s*, of the adjacent section overlying the edge *m* of the stay-piece, the other thickness, *t*, on the reverse side. The sections are then stitched together, as indicated by the broken line, Fig. 3, the stitches passing through the thicknesses of the corset in the usual manner, and also through the edge portion *m* of the stay, the projecting edge and the thicknesses of the sections lying in planes parallel with each other, as shown in Fig. 3, the projecting edge *m* and the thicknesses of the section upon which the cord lies between the thicknesses of the adjacent section. The stays *n* therefore follow the edges of the sections, and prevent those edges from stretching or being drawn out of shape. These seam-stays may also be made an ornament to the corset—as, for illustration, by employing a different or finer fabric to make the pocket for those stays.



I do not wish to be understood as claiming, broadly, the introduction of what is commonly called "piping-cord" on the line of a seam in a garment, as such, I am aware, is not new.

5 I claim—

1. The herein-described corset, consisting of the close back section, A, side sections, B, and front sections, C, all stitched together, the side sections to the back from the bottom up-  
10 ward to above the waist-line, and open from that point upward, the side sections to the front sections from the top downward below the waist-line, and open from that point downward, and the side sections constructed with  
15 a vertical central opening, *f*, extending from the waist-line upward and downward, the edges of the several openings having a series of eye-lets and provided with corresponding lacings, all substantially as described.

2. In a corset, the seam-stay *n*, consisting of 20 a cord inclosed in a strip of fabric doubled around the cord to form a projecting edge, *m*, from the cord, the said projecting edge laid over upon the outer surface of one section of the corset near its edge and toward the adja- 25 cent section, the outer thickness of the adjacent section overlapped onto the said projecting edge *m*, the other thickness on the reverse side, the said stay following the line of the edge of the section, a projection from the cord, 30 and the respective sections lying all in planes parallel with each other and stitched together, substantially as described.

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Witnesses:

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