

(No Model.)

C. H. WILLIAMS.  
CORSET.

No. 316,858.

Patented Apr. 28, 1885.

Fig:1.

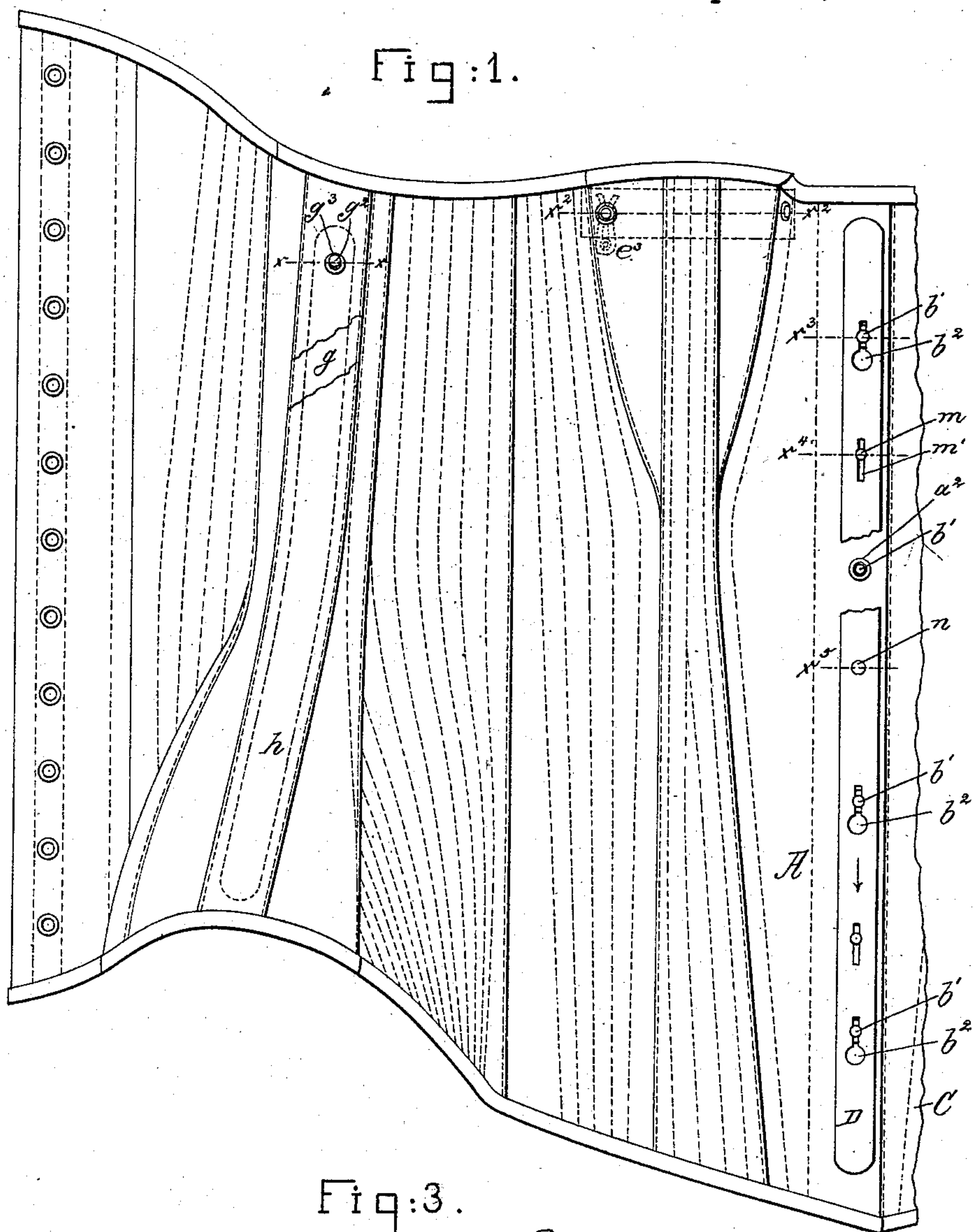


Fig:3.

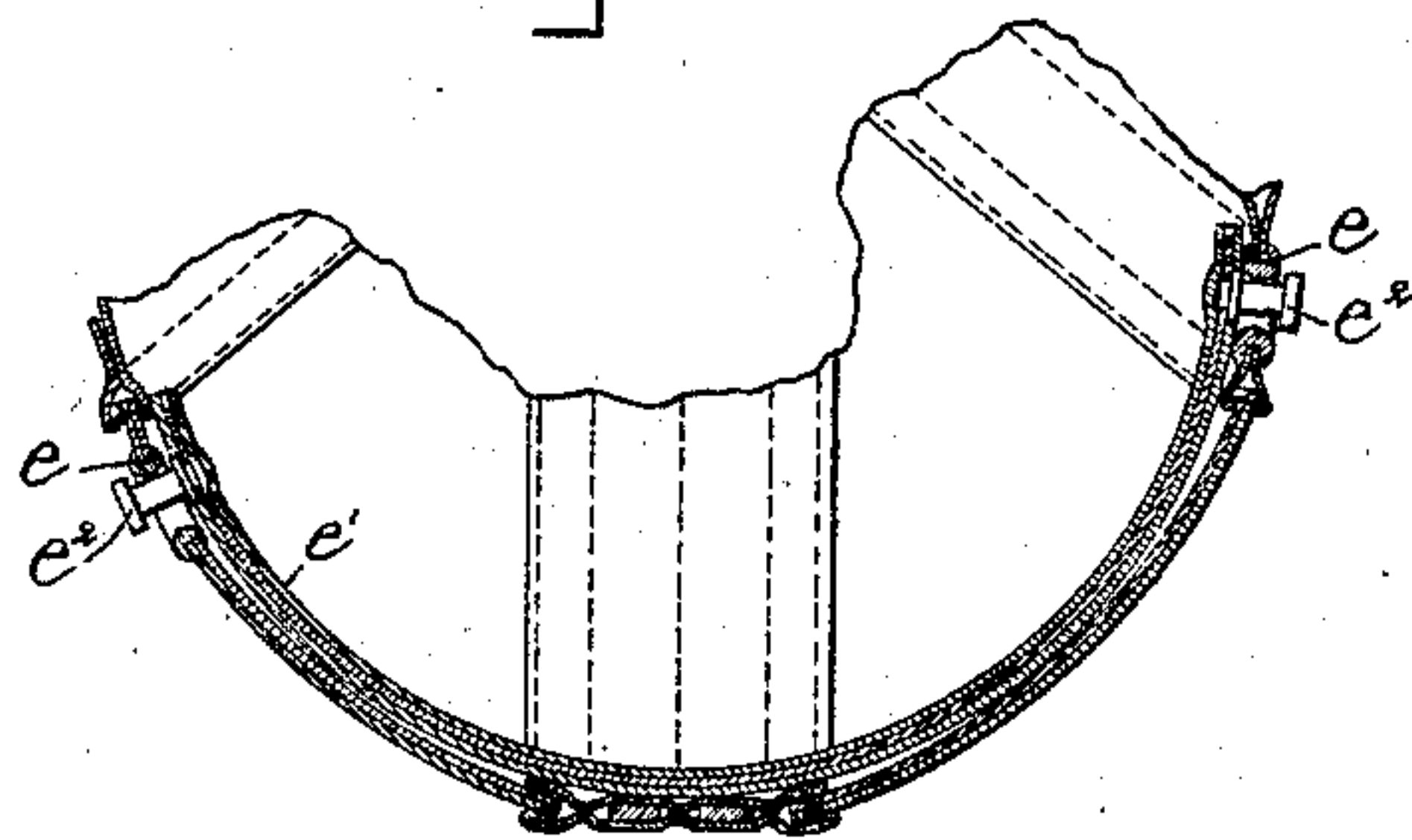


Fig: 2.

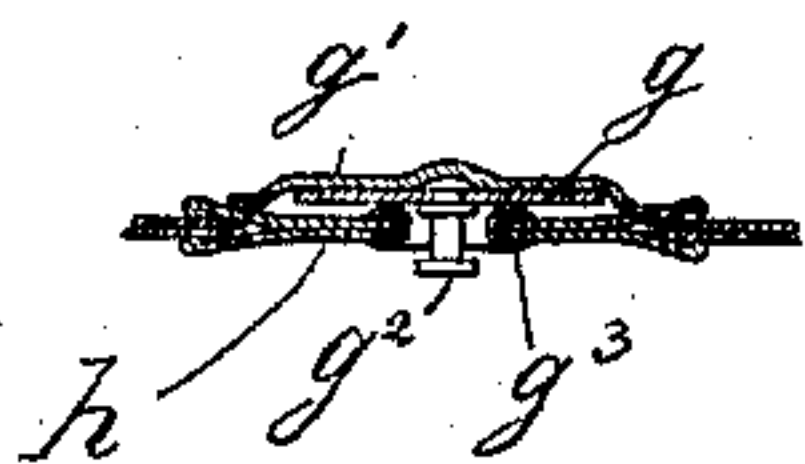


Fig: 4.

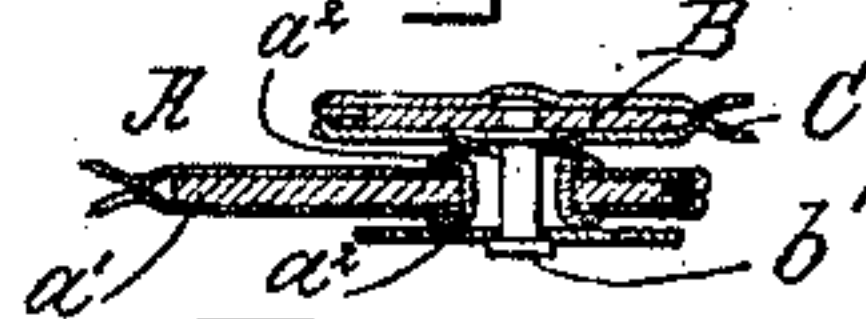


Fig: 5.



Fig: 6.



Witnesses.

Arthur Lippertsen.  
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Inventor.

Charles H. Williams.  
by Evelyn Gregory illus.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## CORSET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 316,858, dated April 28, 1885.

Application filed May 26, 1884. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES H. WILLIAMS, of Worcester, county of Worcester, State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Corsets, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like letters on the drawings representing like parts.

In this my invention the stiffenings are held in place in a novel manner, and the front of the corset is stiffened by means of a metal fastening-strip, which serves to keep the front of the corset together.

Figure 1 represents a sufficient portion of a corset to illustrate my invention, the fastening-strip being partially broken out. Fig. 2 is a partial section on the line  $x x$ ; Fig. 3, a partial section on the line  $x^2 x^2$ ; Figs. 4, 5, and 6, partial sections in the lines  $x^3 x^4 x^5$ , respectively.

The pieces of which the body of the corset is composed are of usual shape and material, with the exception that the piece A is provided with a pocket of sufficient width to receive the broad steel  $a'$ , which is provided with as many holes as the narrower steel B at the edge of piece C has studs  $b'$ , the said steel  $a'$  and cloth of which the piece A is composed being united by means of eyelets  $a^2$ , passed through the holes in the steel  $a'$ , and also through the cloth, as shown in Fig. 4.

The steel  $a'$  has applied outside of it a steel fastening and stiffening plate, D, provided with slots  $m'$ , to receive the bodies of headed pins  $m$ , by which the said steel is connected loosely with the steel  $a'$ , the said steel D having elongated contracted eyes or slots  $b^2$ , for the passage therethrough of the usual headed studs,  $b'$ , attached to the steel B.

The steel D is made longitudinally movable, and when the corset is first hooked about the body of the wearer the enlarged lower ends of the eyes  $b^2$  are in line with the eyelets  $a^2$ ; but the studs  $b'$  having been passed through the eyelets and slots  $b^2$ , the fastening-steel D will be engaged preferably by the projection or thumb-piece  $n$ , and will be moved in the direction of the arrow thereon until the narrow portions of the slots  $b^2$  are in line with and cover the eyelets, the edges of the steel

D each side the narrow parts of the said slots meeting the studs below their heads, the width of the slots at their narrowest portions being less than that of the heads of the studs.

In Fig. 1 the corset is fastened.

The shape of the studs  $b'$   $e^2$   $g^2$  may be changed or modified without departing from my invention, and other usual-shaped studs having heads may be used instead.

The breast-covering portion of the corset is provided with eyelets  $e$ , which receive the studs or hooks  $e^2$ , connected with the distending strip or spring  $e'$ , of metal, properly covered with cloth, buckskin, or leather, or of other stiffening material. This distending-strip will be employed when it is desired that the corset be distended artificially; but in case the wearer of the corset does not need the distender, the same may be easily and quickly removed by withdrawing the studs or hooks  $e^2$  from the eyelets  $e$ .

Heretofore distenders have been stitched into the material of the corset, and in case the person to wear the same does not need an artificial distender, the latter has to be ripped out, requiring considerable trouble, and injuring the appearance of the corset.

The side stiffening steel or strip,  $g$ , is placed in a pocket,  $g'$ , stitched to the inner side of the corset and left open at top for the reception of the stiffening-steel  $g$ , the latter at or near its upper end having a stud or hook,  $g^2$ , which is inserted through an eyelet,  $g^3$ , set into the piece  $h$  of the corset, the said stud and eyelet retaining the steel  $g$  down in the open-topped pocket, from which it may be removed whenever desired without cutting any stitches, it being only necessary to first remove the stud or hook  $g^2$  from the eyelet.

If desired, the shanks of the headed studs  $e^2$  may be grasped by a spring-clip,  $e^3$ , as shown in Fig. 1 by dotted lines.

I claim—

1. A corset provided with the broad steel  $a'$ , inclosed by the cloth at one edge of the corset, and connected therewith by eyelets extended through both, and the steel B, provided with headed studs, combined with the sliding fastening-steel provided with slots  $b^2$ , and connected with and so as to slide longitudinally

on the steel  $a'$  by means of the slots  $m'$  and headed studs  $m$ , as described, to operate substantially as described.

2. A corset provided with the breast-covering portion having an eyelet at each side thereof near its upper edge, as shown, combined with a single curved metallic distending spring having two headed studs on its convex face, one near each end thereof, to enter the eyelets from the inside of the breast-

covering portion, and so as to be readily attached and detached, substantially as shown and described.

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

CHAS. H. WILLIAMS.

Witnesses:

H. H. FAIRBANKS,  
BENJ. L. SAMPSON.