

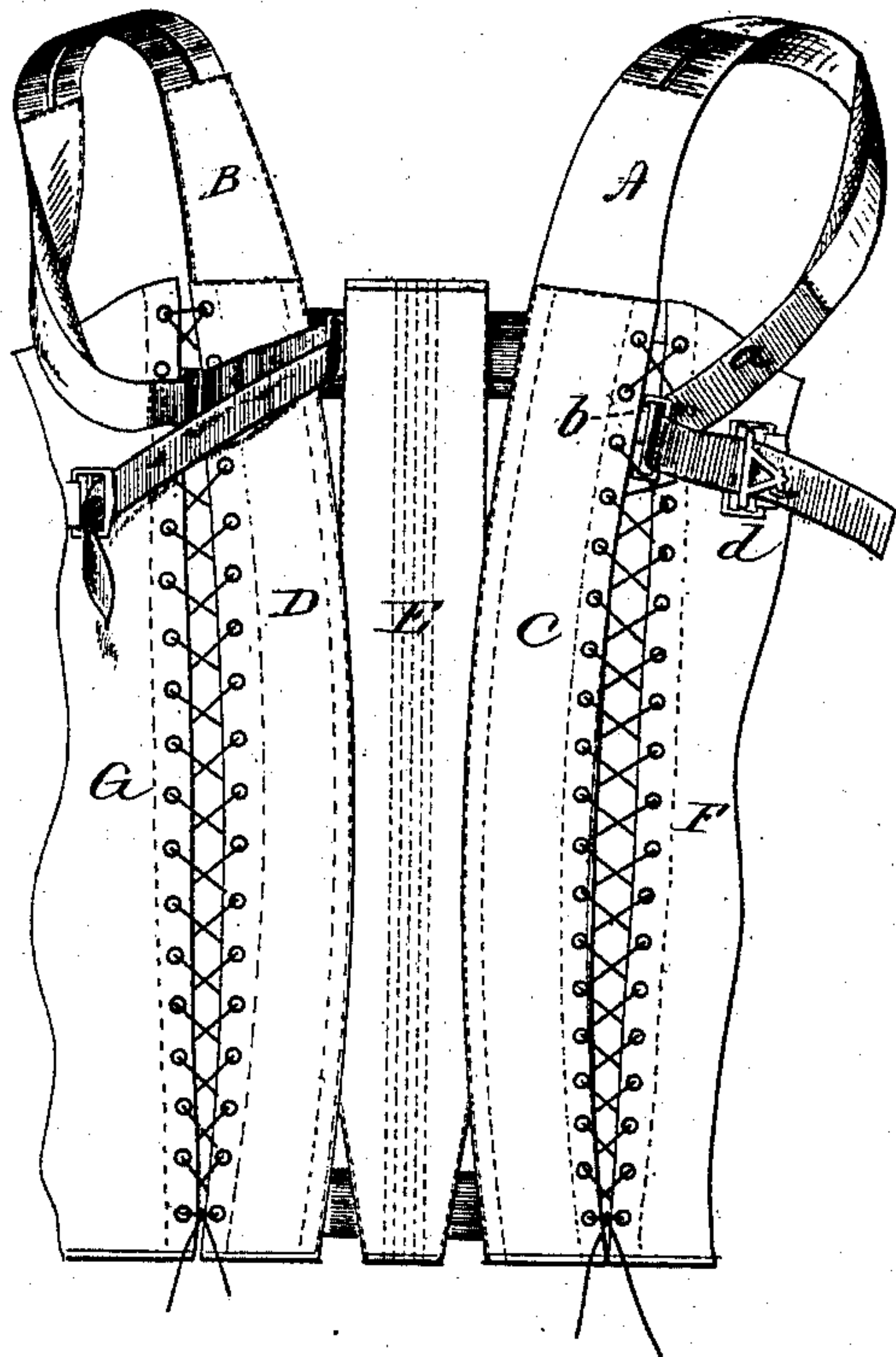
(No Model.)

I. STROUSE.

COMBINED CORSET AND SHOULDER BRACE.

No. 317,473.

Patented May 5, 1885.



Witnesses,
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Jos. C. Earle

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ISAAC STROUSE, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT.

COMBINED CORSET AND SHOULDER-BRACE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 317,473, dated May 5, 1885.

Application filed November 24, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ISAAC STROUSE, of New Haven, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new
5 Improvement in Corsets, and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with accompanying drawing and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear,
10 and exact description of the same, and which said drawing constitutes part of this specification, and represents a back portion of the corset with the shoulder-straps in perspective.

This invention relates to an improvement in that class of corsets which are designed to
15 serve also as a back-support and shoulder-brace, and is an improvement upon the corset for which Letters Patent of the United States were granted to me March 20, 1883, No. 274,405.

20 In the said patented corset a back is made separate from the two sides, the back consisting of two curved stayed pieces with a vertical central section or part between them, the two curved pieces attached to the respective
25 sides of the corset by eyelets and lacings, whereby the extent of the corset may be increased or diminished as occasion requires. To adapt this construction to a shoulder-brace is the object of my present invention, and to
30 form a shoulder-brace with a back-support it is necessary, or at least desirable, that the shoulder-strap shall extend from the back portion over the shoulder, down under the arm,
35 and back into substantial engagement with the back portion. If this connection be made fixed, as by a buckle or clasp, any variation in the adjustment of the connections between the back portion and the sides, as in the working of the body, will cause the shoulder-strap
40 to draw with more or less power, to the inconvenience of the wearer.

To compensate for the working of the parts of the corset in the movements of the body and of the arm, I attach the shoulder-braces
45 A B to the respective curved stayed portions C D on the back of the corset, E representing the central vertical portion which connects the two curved stayed pieces D C. F represents so much of one side and G so much of
50 the other side of the body of the corset as is necessary for the illustration of the invention. The shoulder-straps extend from the parts D C as if a continuation thereof, and over the shoulder. Passing back beneath the arm, the

strap *a* is run through a loop, *b*, fixed to the 55 curved parts C. Thence the strap extends onto the side portion F of the corset, and is there secured by a clasp or buckle, *d*. By this arrangement the strap works freely through the
60 loop *b* under the movements of the body and arm, and, owing to the doubling of the strap through the loop, the yielding of the shoulder-strap will be twice as great as the movement
65 between the parts C F of the corset, thus giving a great freedom to the arm under the movements of the body or arm, yet in the normal condition of the body holding back the shoulders as a brace.

The loop through which the strap runs may be applied near the center of the back, say 70 as upon the central part, as illustrated at the left. In this case it will be well to apply a like loop at the edge of the curved part, or upon the edge of the side portion of the corset, as shown; but in either case the same re-
75 sult is attained—that is to say, the greater freedom of the arm due to running the strap back through the loop, thence forward, thereby doubling the strap, so that under the move-
80 ment of the body and parts of the corset the draft upon the shoulder will be one-half that movement, or the movement of the shoulder to draw upon the strap will be twice the movement imparted to the portion of the corset
85 where the loop is attached.

While my invention is specially applicable to my before-mentioned patented corset, and which I have illustrated, it may be applied to other solid-back corsets. I therefore do not
90 wish to be understood as limiting my invention to the solid back of my own invention; but

What I do claim is—

In a back-supporting corset, and in which a substantially solid or close back is employed, said back being in adjustable connection with
95 the side portions of the corset, shoulder-straps extending from the upper end of said close back over the shoulders, the back portion provided with loops *b*, through which, after passing under the arm, the straps will run, and an
100 engaging device upon the adjacent side portion of the corset and forward of said loops, with which said strap is engaged, substantially as described.

ISAAC STROUSE.

Witnesses:

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