

(Model.)

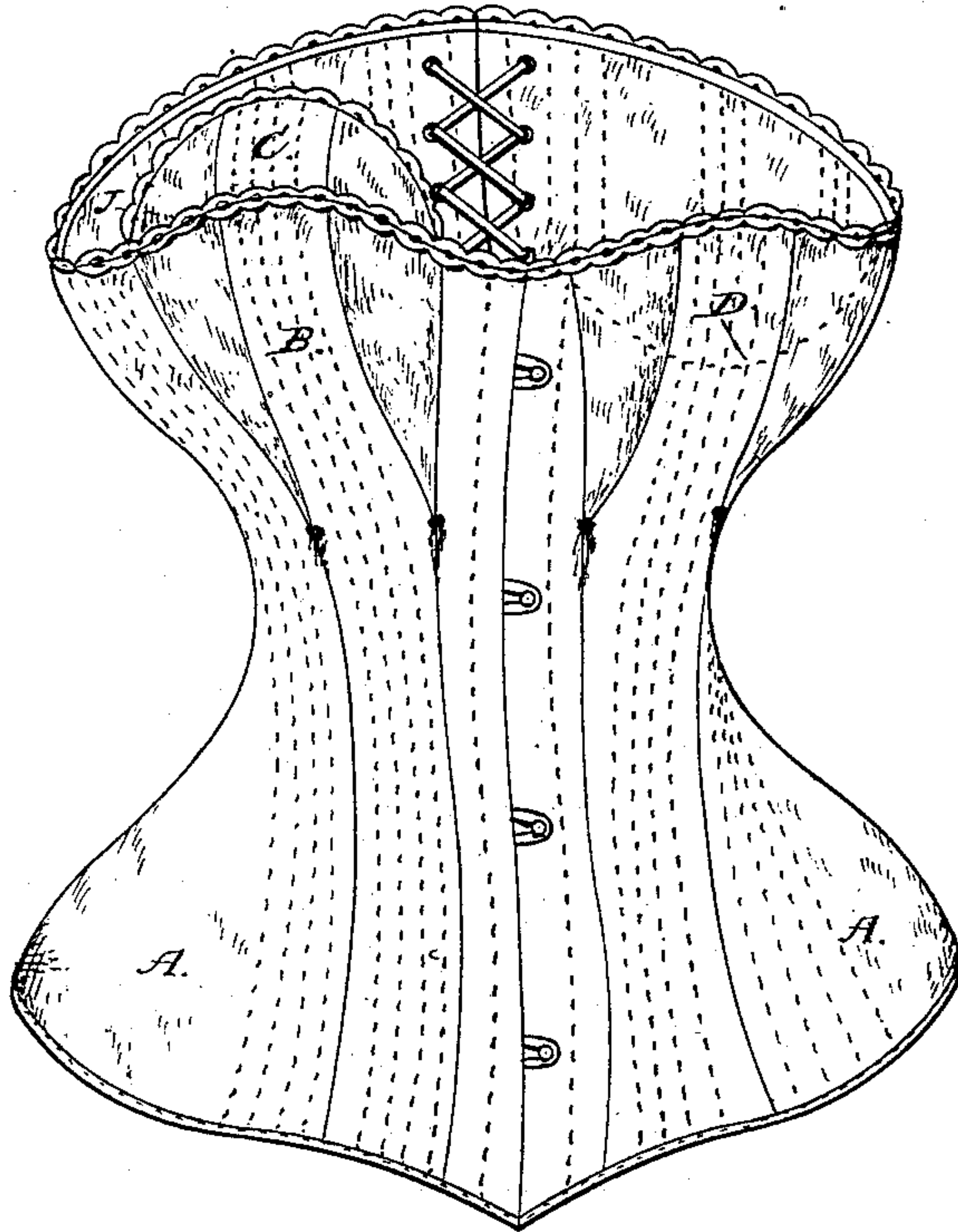
M. R. BORTREE.

CORSET.

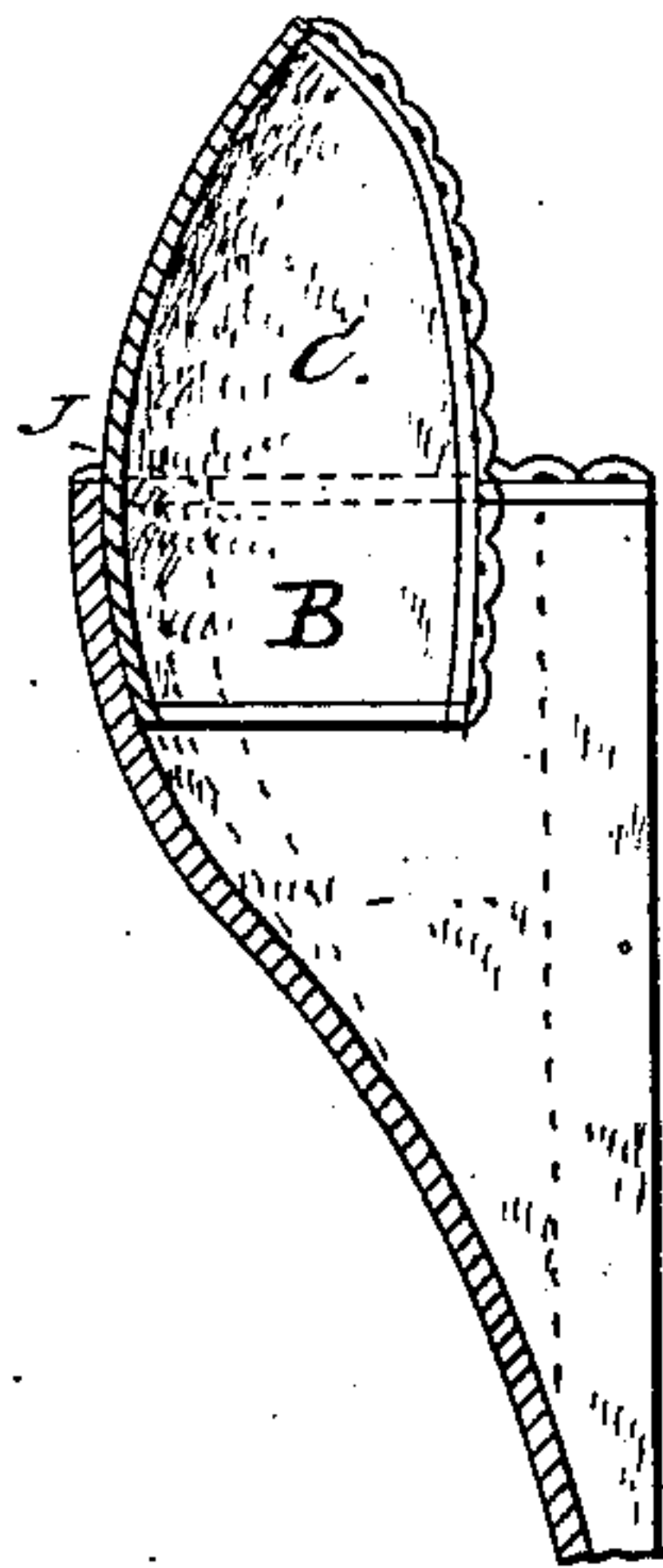
No. 318,344.

Patented May 19, 1885.

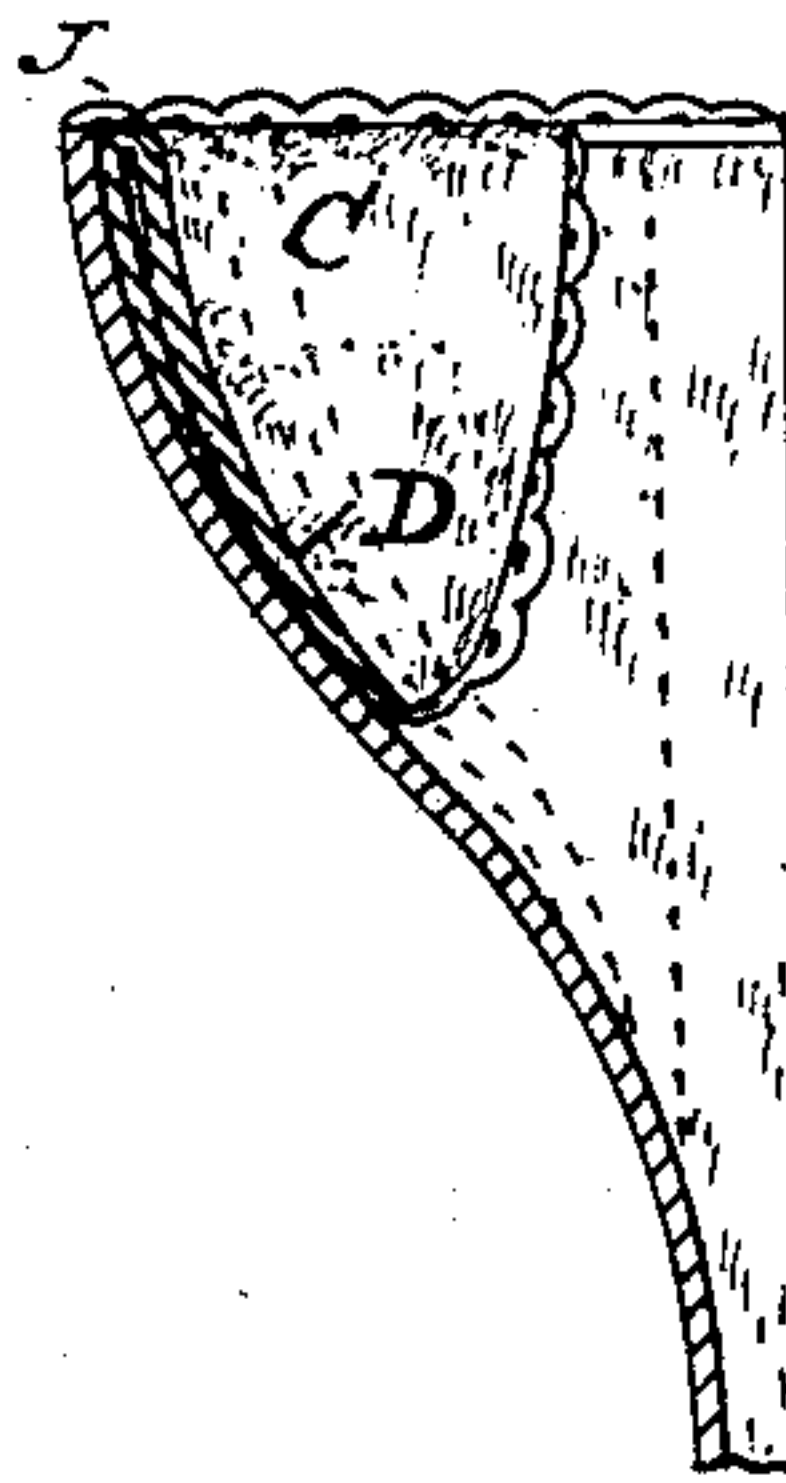
*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



*Attest;*

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MAURICE R. BORTREE, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

## CORSET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 318,344, dated May 19, 1885.

Application filed January 31, 1883. (Model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MAURICE R. BORTREE, of the city of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain  
5 new and useful Improvements in Corsets, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in corsets; and the object is to construct the upper part of the breast-piece in such a manner  
10 that it can be turned down out of the way when the wearer desires to wear a low-neck dress or a dress with a short or low waist, and be turned up to prevent the dress from falling in at the top of the corset.

15 It consists of an extension of the upper part of the breast-piece, which extension is united to the lower part of the breast-piece by a hinge or flexible joint.

Its construction and operation are illustrated  
20 in the accompanying drawings, in which Figure 1 is a front perspective view of a corset constructed in accordance with my invention; Fig. 2, a side sectional view showing the extension-piece turned up, and Fig. 3 a similar  
25 view showing the extension turned down.

In the drawings, A A represent the body of the corset, which may be constructed in any suitable manner.

30 B represents the lower part of a breast-piece, and C the extension, which, with the means by which it is connected to the lower part, constitutes my invention.

At or near the point of connection of the lower part of the breast-piece with the extension, which point is denoted in the drawings  
35 by the letter J, there is no boning, and thus the absence of stiffening at that point produces a joint, which may be termed a "flexible" or a "hinge" joint, as it permits the extension-  
40 piece C to be folded down upon the lower part, B.

It will be seen by the drawings that the breast-piece and its extension are so constructed, both at the point J and at the top  
45 of the extension, that whether a high or a low corset is desired the proper contour of the

corset is preserved whether the extension is turned up or down. At the point D in the drawings the position of the extension-piece when folded down behind the lower part of  
50 the breast-piece is indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 1 and shown in Fig. 3.

As herein illustrated, the boning is continued vertically through the breast-piece and its extension, except at their juncture. The  
55 flexible joint formed by the absence of boning at this point is transverse to the boning, so that when the extension is turned up it maintains firmly its position and contour, and when turned down to shorten the breast-piece  
60 it fits neatly, snugly, and securely within the lower part of the breast-piece without incommoding the wearer, but strengthening and supporting the lower part in that position, and giving the breast-piece a nice full form. 65

It is obvious that both parts of the breast-piece may be varied in size; that they may be made in one or in several pieces; that the joint may be made flexible by other means than by the absence of boning, and that other varia-  
70 tions in form or construction may be had without departing from my invention.

The essential part of my invention, and what I claim, is—

1. In a corset the breast-piece of which is  
75 stiffened by vertical boning, an upper extension of the breast-piece connected to the lower part by a flexible joint formed transversely to the vertical boning, substantially as described.

2. As a new manufacture, a corset having  
80 breast-pieces provided with vertical bones in the extension above the top line of the corset, and adapted to fold below or extend above said top line by means of a flexible joint, which separates said vertical bones from the  
85 lower part of said breast-pieces, substantially as described.

MAURICE R. BORTREE.

Witnesses:

MORTON CULVER,  
S. P. DOUTHART.