

(No Model.)

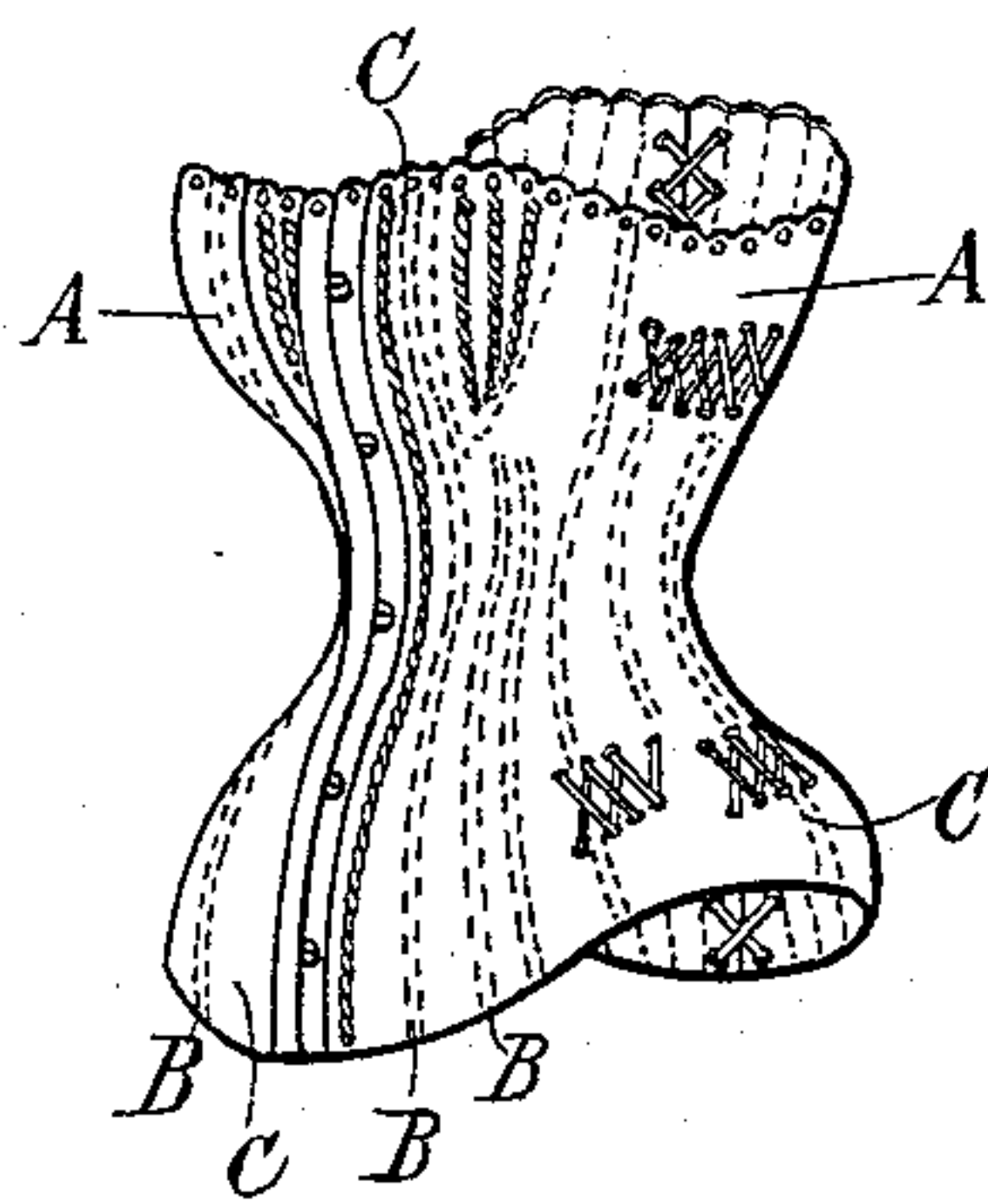
G. D. NICHOLS.

CORSET.

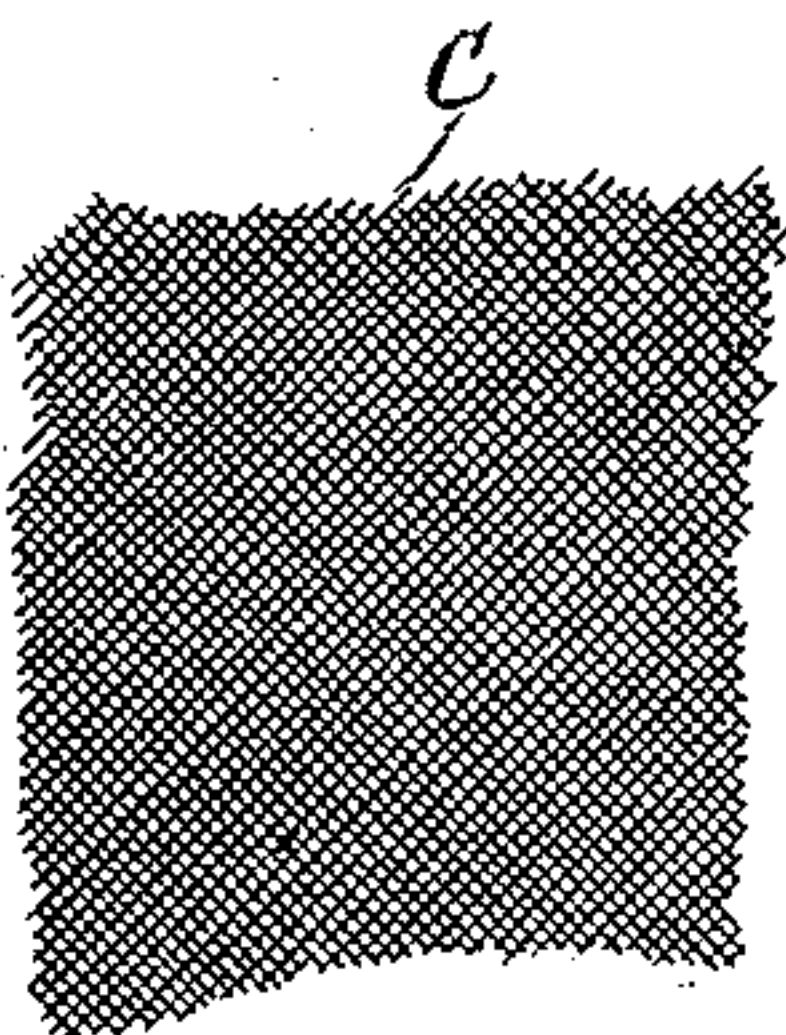
No. 354,610.

Patented Dec. 21, 1886.

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



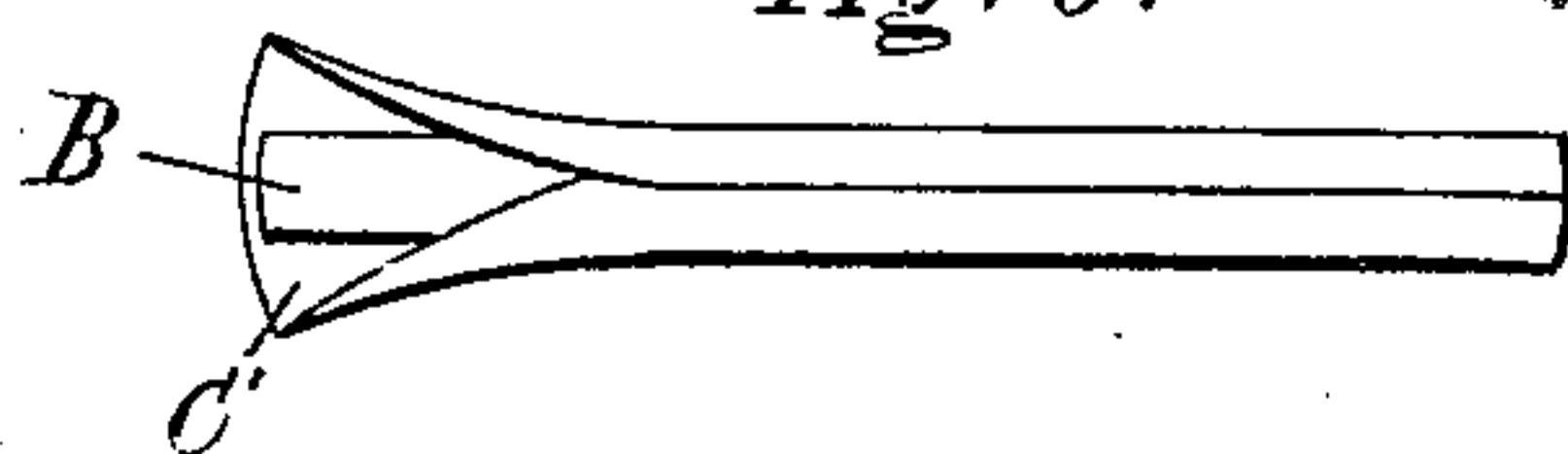
*Fig. 3.*



*Fig. 4.*



*Fig. 5.*



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE D. NICHOLS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## CORSET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 354,610, dated December 21, 1886.

Application filed August 4, 1886. Serial No. 210,029. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE D. NICHOLS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Corsets, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to produce a corset in whole or in part of asbestos; and to that end it consists, essentially, in the employment of that substance as a substitute for the bone, cord, and netting now used in the manufacture of ordinary corsets, whereby a very cool, comfortable, and exceedingly durable article is obtained, as hereinafter more particularly set forth.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a view of a corset embodying my invention. Figs. 2, 3, 4, and 5 are detail views of parts. Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A A designate the two similar sides or sections of a corset made of the usual general form, and having the button-clasps in front made in any ordinary manner.

B designates the clasps, which are composed of asbestos, and made in imitation of whale-bone now used for corsets; and C indicates a woven netting or webbing, also made of asbestos as a substitute for the cloth or fabric used in the manufacture of the body of corsets. The stays B are made of asbestos in strips in imitation of bone, possess more durability than bone, and are therefore not so easily broken as the latter, and, moreover, the ends thereof being smooth and even do not tear the material like the ordinary stays or bones, and they are thereby more comfortable and serviceable to the wearer.

The fabric C', composed of asbestos, may be used to cover the ordinary stays or steels, as shown in Fig. 5, and prevent them from coming in contact with the moisture or perspiration of the wearer, thereby insuring the stays against injury and the steels from rusting; or the asbestos may be woven into a suitable netting and used in the manufacture of entire summer or skeleton corsets. The said

material being non-productive of heat and impervious to perspiration is remarkably cool and light, and specially adapted for use in warm weather and in warm rooms and under circumstances of work or exercise which will produce free perspiration.

If desirable, the asbestos may be formed into cord, as shown in Fig. 4, to be woven or otherwise employed in the manufacture of the corset—as for example, as a substitute for the cord commonly used for “cording” each of the sections of a corset, this cording being separate from the stays B, and the cord of which it is formed being inclosed in suitable pockets in parallel lines, the advantage of the asbestos cord being its cheapness as well as its adaptability to retain the original color of the material, thereby avoiding discoloration of the corset from that source.

An important advantage gained by the use of asbestos, as described, is that the corset is rendered extremely light in weight, and, being a non-conductor of heat, affords a superior protection against cold by retaining the heat of the body, while it also tends to protect the person against any artificial heat, as of a stove, to which it may be exposed.

The asbestos cordage and stays are practically the same thing, being used for the purpose of stiffening the corset.

I am aware that a fire-armor has been made with an outer wrap of asbestos, and also a corset-stay has been covered in one instance with celluloid and in another with gutta-percha tissue, and I do not claim such as my invention.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A corset having the two sections of its body, together with the stays B, composed entirely of asbestos, substantially as described.

2. A corset having its cording composed of asbestos, substantially as and for the purpose described.

GEORGE D. NICHOLS.

Witnesses:

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