

(No Model.)

R. THEILER.

CORSET STAY.

No. 397,401.

Patented Feb. 5, 1889.

Fig:1

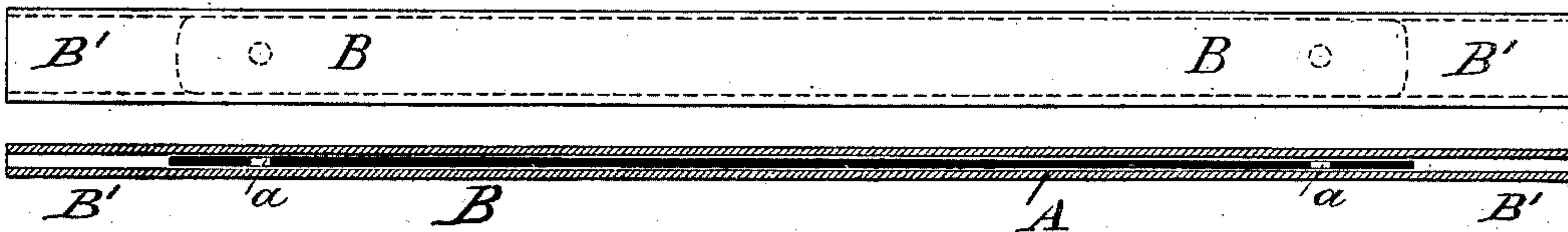


Fig:2

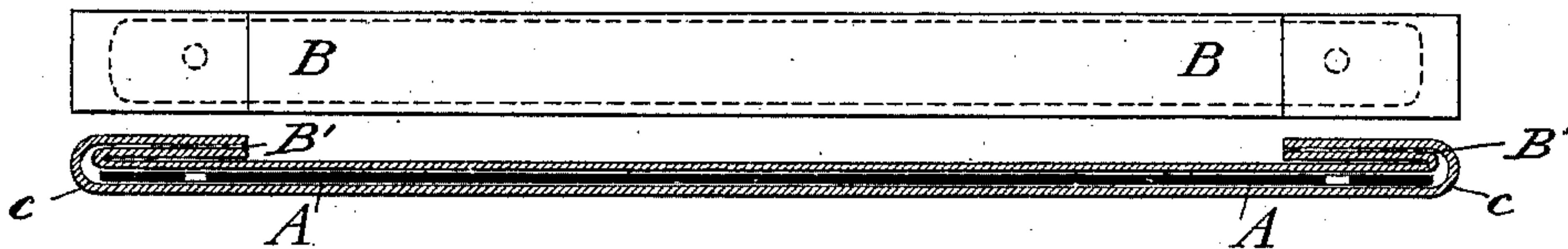


Fig:3

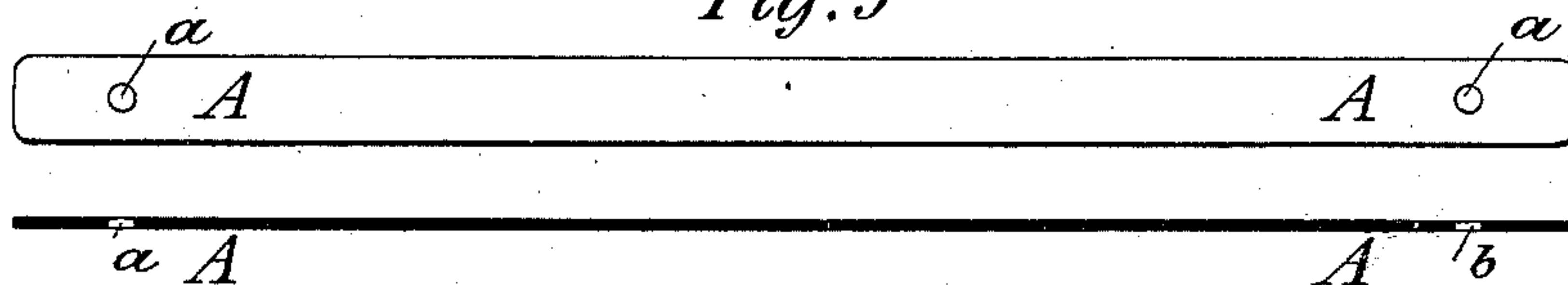


Fig:4

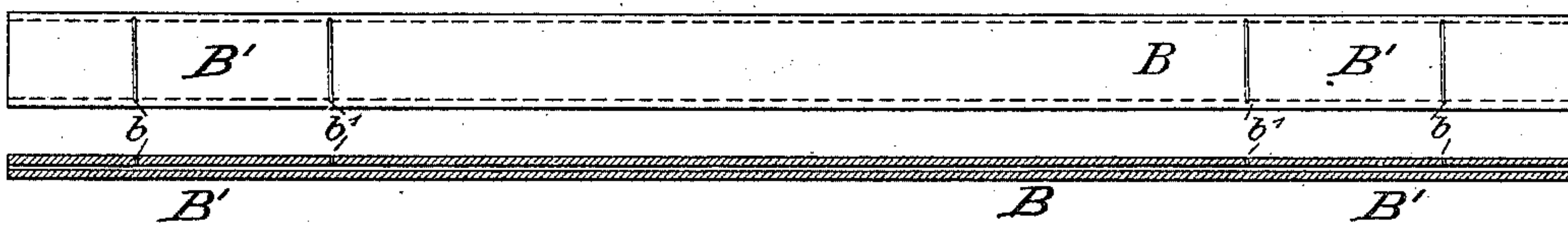


Fig:5

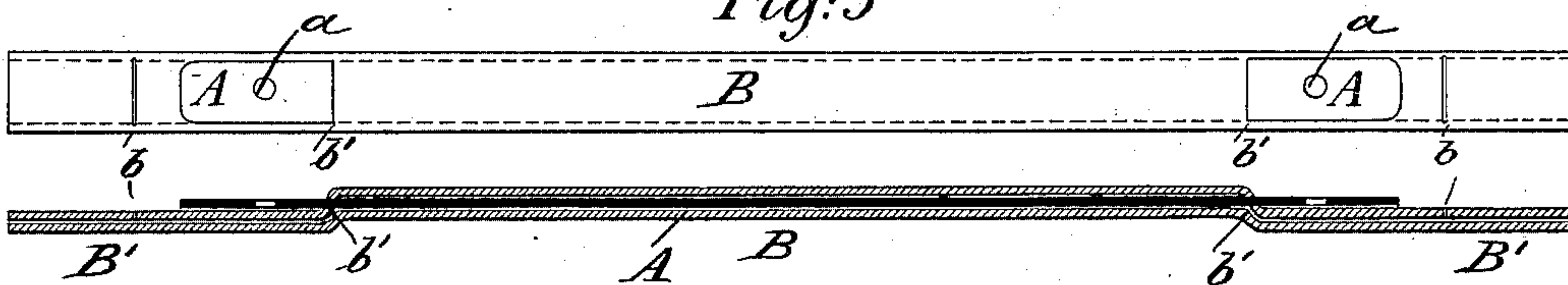


Fig:6

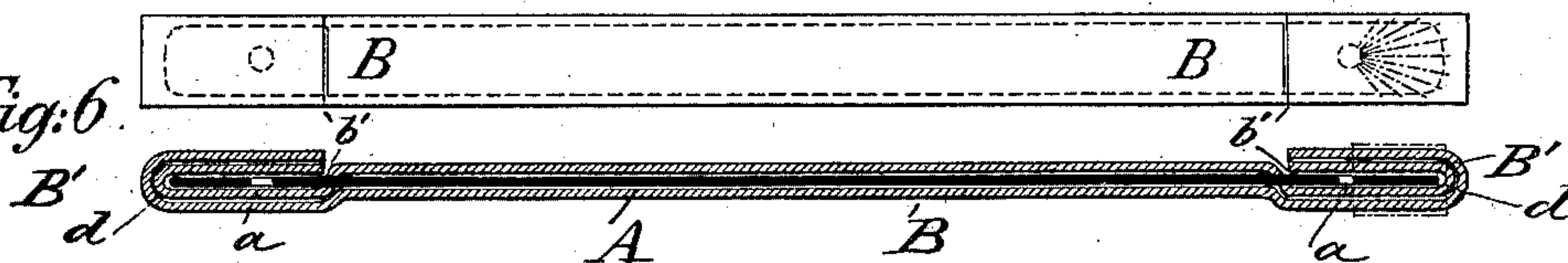
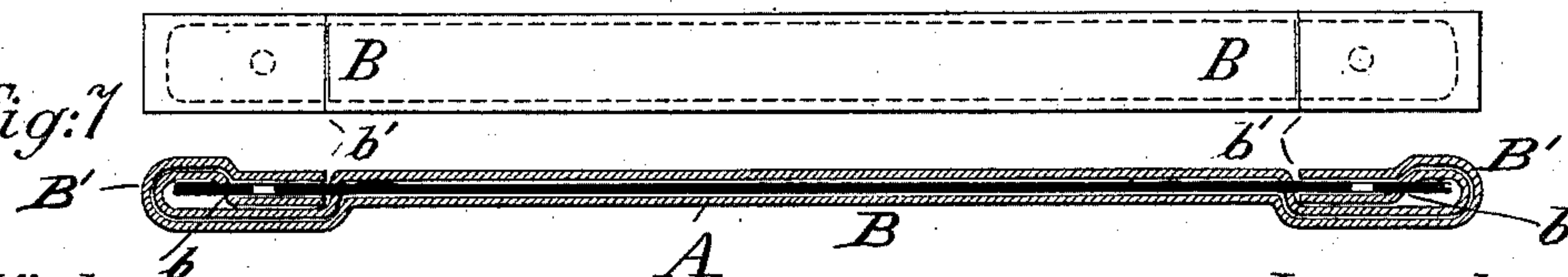


Fig:7



Witnesses:
Arthur L. Morsell.
Geo. A. Wooster.

Inventor:
Reinhold Theiler
by Louis Bagger & Co.
his atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

REINHOLD THEILER, OF LUCERNE, SWITZERLAND.

CORSET-STAY.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 397,401, dated February 5, 1889.

Application filed August 18, 1888. Serial No. 283,093. (No model.) Patented in France April 13, 1888, No. 188,520.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, REINHOLD THEILER, a citizen of the Republic of Switzerland, residing at Lucerne, in the Republic of Switzerland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Elastic Stays for Corsets and Similar Purposes, (for which I have obtained a patent in France, No. 188,520, deposited February 3, 1888, and bearing date April 13, 1888,) of which the following is a specification.

Figure 1 represents a side elevation, and also a longitudinal sectional view, of a corset-stay of that particular class to which my improvement relates, as these have heretofore been manufactured, showing the ends of the pouch open, before doubling the ends upon the inside steel or stiffener. Fig. 2 represents a side elevation, and also a longitudinal sectional view, of the complete stay as heretofore manufactured, showing the ends of the pouch doubled over the inner steel or stiffener. Fig. 3 is a side elevation, and also an edge view, of a corset steel or stiffener adapted for use in connection with my improvement. Fig. 4 is a side elevation, and also a longitudinal sectional view, of my improved pouch, into which the steel or stiffener is inserted. Fig. 5 is a side elevation, and also a longitudinal sectional view, showing my improved pouch after the steel or stiffener has been inserted into the same, but before doubling the ends of the pouch over the ends of the steel. Fig. 6 is a side elevation, and also a longitudinal sectional view, of a complete stay constructed according to my improvement; and, finally, Fig. 7 is a side elevation, and also a longitudinal sectional view, of my improved corset-stay, illustrating a slightly-modified construction of the same.

Like letters of reference denote corresponding parts in all the figures.

My invention has relation to that particular kind of corset stays or stiffeners for ladies' wearing-apparel which consists of a stay or stiffener of suitable material—such as steel or other metal, wood, whalebone, or other suitable material—which is confined within a pouch made of any suitable textile fabric, and of such dimensions that it will fit snugly around the stay or stiffener inserted into it. This pouch is preferably made by cutting sec-

tions of suitable length from a continuous piece or band of tubular textile fabric, which may be made elastic or non-elastic, as desired, the pouch being somewhat longer than the steel or stiffener which is to be inserted into it, so as to overlap both ends of the same, as illustrated in the two views under Fig. 1 of the drawings, on which the letter A designates the steel or stiffener, while the letter B designates the pouch or envelope for the same, the ends of which are extended beyond the steel, as shown at B' B'. The steel or stay proper, A, is provided with the usual apertures, *a*, at opposite ends, by means of which the complete stay may be stitched to the corset or part of the dress—such as a lady's bodice or waist—of which it is to form a part.

As heretofore manufactured, it has been customary to double the ends B' of the pouch or envelope over the ends of the inner steel or stiffener, as clearly illustrated in the two views under Fig. 2 of the drawings, thereby forming a single thickness of textile fabric across the ends of the steel A, as indicated at *c* in Fig. 2. This construction is, however, objectionable for two several reasons—viz., in the first place, by having only a single thickness of textile fabric across the ends of the steel, these soon cut through or work through the fabric, cutting into the corset, or through the article to which the stay is attached, and, again, by doubling the overlapping part of the pouch on one side of the stay only, the opposite ends of the complete article will be of uneven thickness, thereby making it difficult to fit the same smoothly and snugly into its appropriate place.

Now the object of my improvement is to overcome these two several drawbacks, and this I accomplish in the manner clearly illustrated on Figs. 4, 5, 6, and 7 of the drawings. From these figures it will be seen that I use a pouch or envelope, B, of the ordinary character, the ends B' of which extend beyond the ends of the steel. At opposite ends of this pouch B, I make one or more transverse slits, as shown at *b b'*, and in placing the steel or stiffener A into the pouch its ends are projected through the slits *b'*, as clearly shown in Fig. 5, thereby exposing the apertured ends of the steel or stiffener to view. The next

step in my improvement is to double the ends B' across the exposed projecting ends of the steel, as shown in Fig. 6, and fastening the same either by stitches through the fabric and
5 through the apertures *a* in the steel, or by cementing the overlapping ends down into their proper position.

It will be seen that this construction has the twofold advantage of, first, providing a
10 double thickness of the fabric of which the pouch is composed at the ends of the steel, as shown at *d* in Fig. 6, and, secondly, there being two thicknesses of fabric on opposite sides of the ends of the steel, both ends of this will
15 be of even thickness on opposite sides, and not thicker on one side than on the other.

If desired, this construction may be further modified by slipping the extreme ends of the pouch on one side under the projecting ends
20 of the steel, which is done by inserting the projecting ends of the latter through the slits *b* on one side, after the ends of the steel have been first inserted through the slits *b'*. This modified construction is illustrated
25 in Fig. 7, and has the advantage of making an additional means of fastening the overlapping ends of the pouch or envelope to the steel.

Having thus described my invention, I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States—

1. The herein-described stay for corsets, consisting of a stiffener of suitable material having a covering of textile fabric upon both faces, the ends of which covering extend beyond and fold over the ends of the stiffener
35 in two thicknesses, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a corset-stay, the combination, with the stiffener having apertures at each end, of a covering of textile fabric provided at its
40 ends with transverse slits, through which the apertured ends of the stiffener extend, the ends of which covering extend beyond and fold over the ends of the stiffener in two thicknesses, substantially as and for the pur-
45 pose specified.

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

REINHOLD THEILER.

Witnesses:

F. WILLIAM HENRY DOER,
EMIL BLUM.