

(No Model.)

D. GROTTA.
GARMENT STAY.

No. 478,961.

Patented July 12, 1892.

Fig. 1

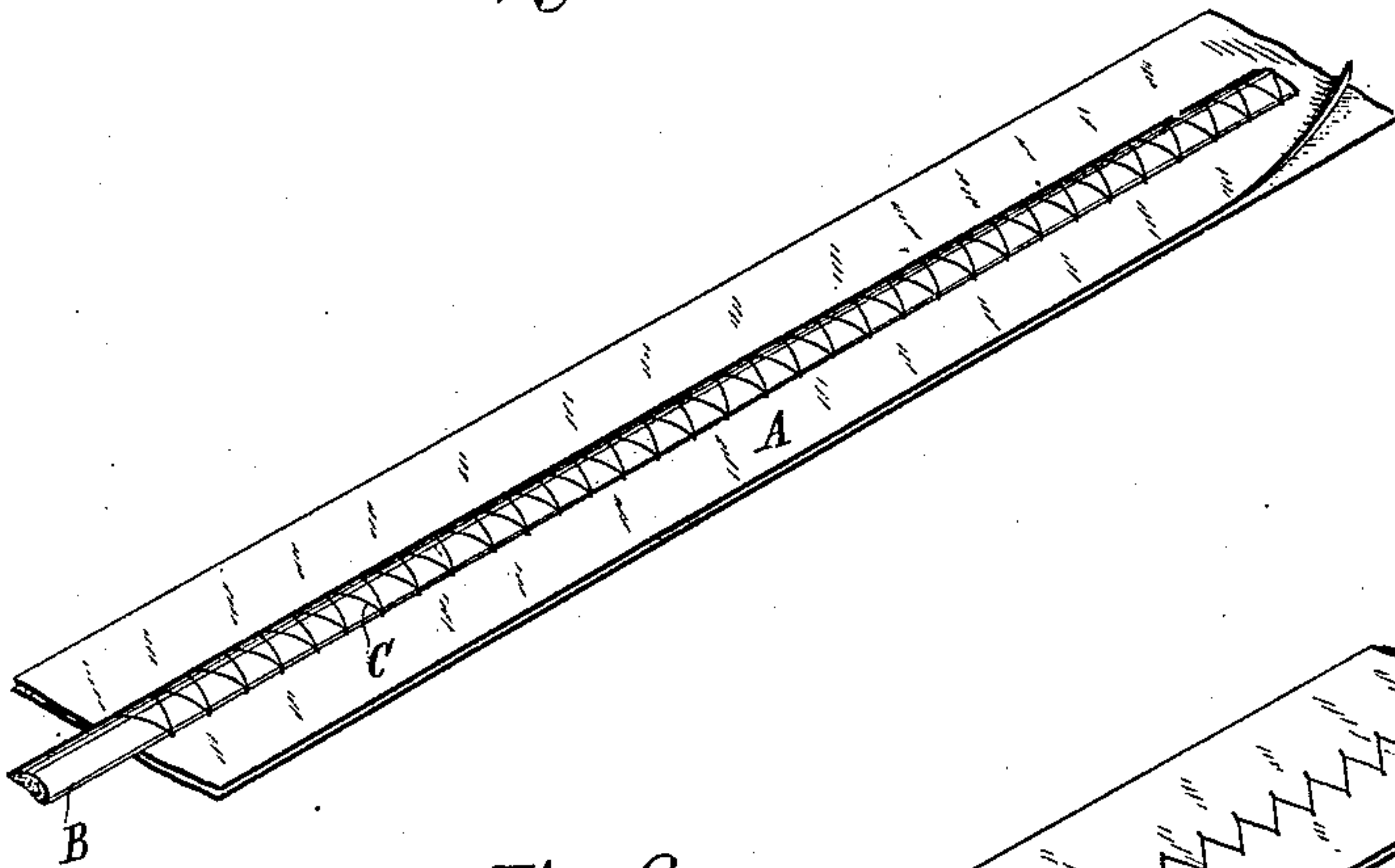


Fig. 2

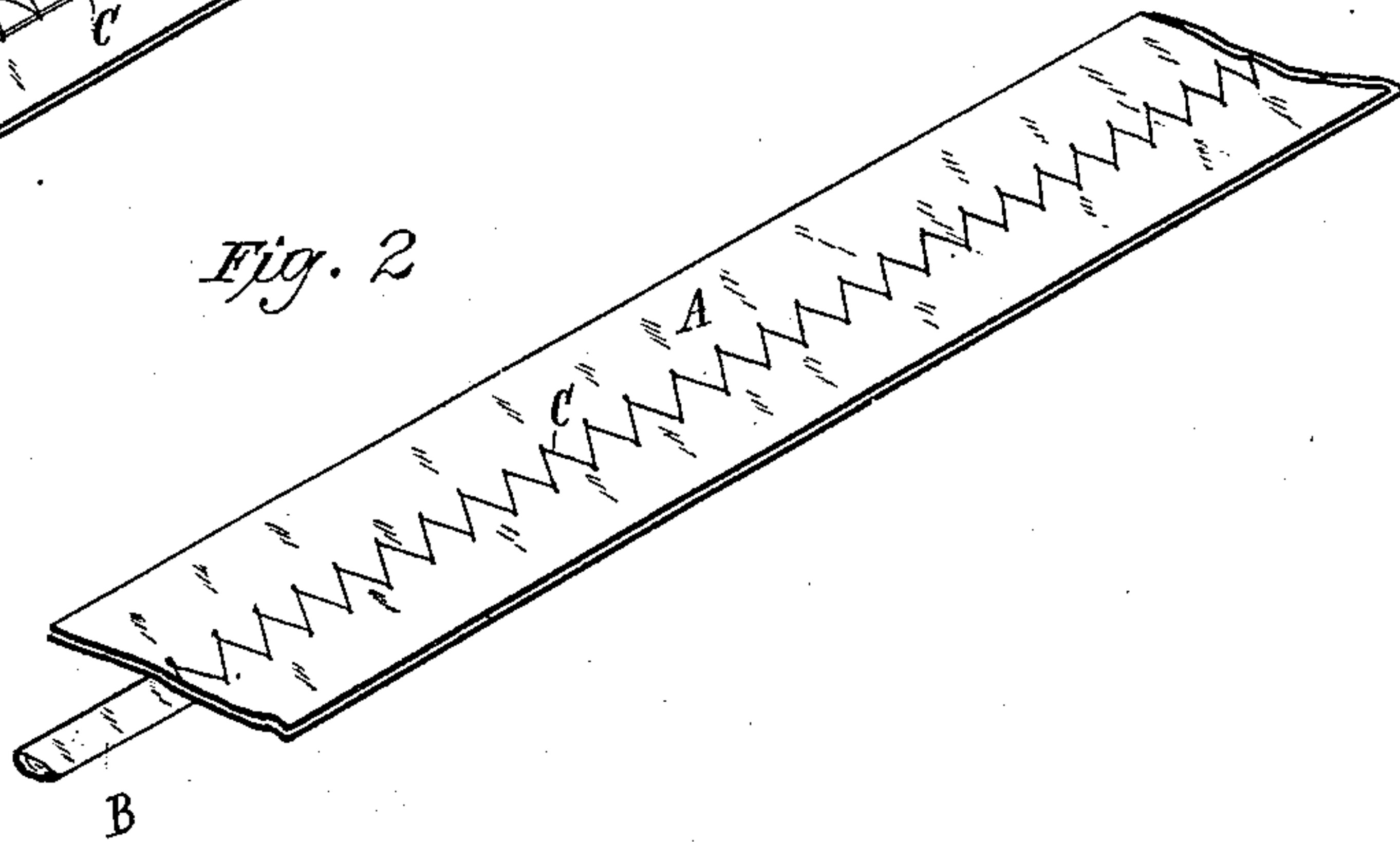
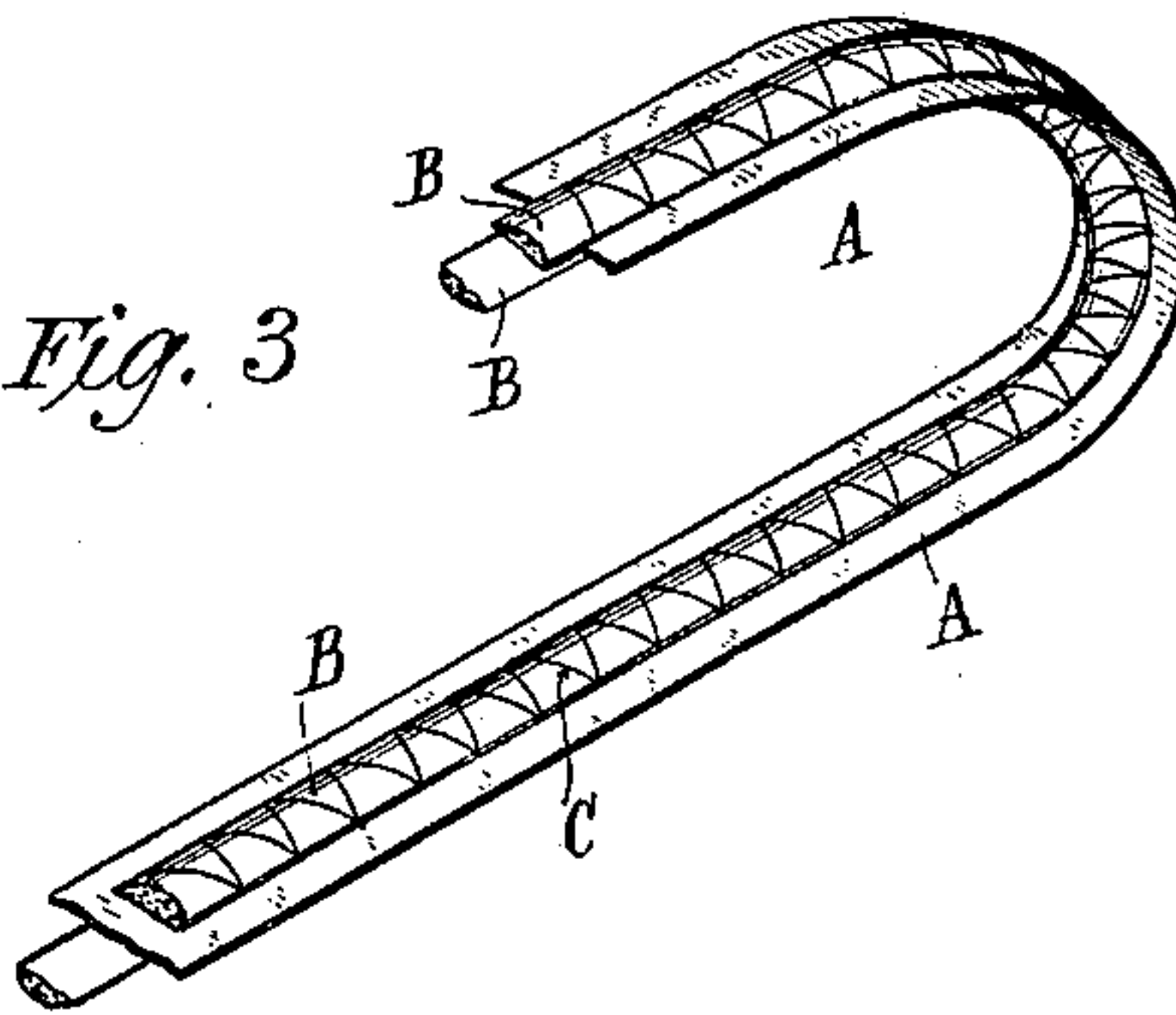


Fig. 3



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

DAVID GROTTA, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT.

GARMENT-STAY.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 478,961, dated July 12, 1892.

Application filed January 11, 1892. Serial No. 417,624. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID GROTTA, of the city and county of New Haven, State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Garment-Stays, of which the following is a description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to a new and improved form of stay for corsets, waists, and other garments.

The essential object of the invention is to produce a stay of unusual flexibility and strength—one practically unbreakable, yet having the requisite elasticity or resiliency—and at a moderate cost.

I am aware that compound or built-up stays have been proposed heretofore, and particularly such as are made by inclosing in pockets or sheaths of fabric blades or strands of a resilient substance, by binding together side by side two or more of such strands, with a cord or fabric surrounding the same, as also by uniting face to face strips of fabric which inclose and are cemented or otherwise permanently secured to and along the length of a single blade of metal or other similar resilient or elastic material. All such constructions of stays of which I am aware are lacking in respect of not having the peculiar kind of combined strength and elasticity desired for a garment-stay and which is possible of a stay composed of a fabric and resilient strand or blade combined in accordance with my improvement. Thus I have ascertained that the best results are attained when a fabric and a resilient strand are combined face to face or side by side and are united at points separated by short intervals by a cord or thread passing over the strand and through the fabric, the fabric lying flat or at least (and particularly) not surrounding the strand or holding or binding the same except through the thread holding the strand to the fabric.

In the drawings, Figure 1 shows one face of a section of a stay embodying my invention. Fig. 2 shows the reverse side of the stay. Fig. 3 illustrates a modification of the forms of Figs. 1 and 2.

In the views, A represents a ribbon or strip of fabric which may be of one or more thicknesses.

B is a strand or blade of resilient material.

Preferably such strand consists of cane or rattan; but strands or blades of other substances—such as whalebone, featherbone, horn, and the like—may be used.

C indicates a cord or thread by which the strand B is held to the face of the fabric. The strand, in desired shape and size, is laid flat upon the fabric strip, which also is flat, or substantially so, and while held in position is bound to the face of the fabric by the cord or thread, which thread is passed over the strand and down through the fabric at each side of the strand, the ends of the thread being secured in any proper way. Another thread-loop is passed over the strip and through the fabric close to the first loop, and so on until the strip is bound to the fabric by a series of separate loops or stitches, which engage the fabric along opposite sides of the strand. Preferably the loops will be continuous one from another, being made by a sewing-machine adapted to do such work, in which case the stitches may run diagonally across the strand, as shown in the drawings, though other forms of stitches that serve the same purpose are obvious.

In Figs. 1 and 2 I show a resilient strand arranged on one side of the ribbon or strip of fabric; but when it is desired to make a stiffer or stronger stay a strand may be secured to each side of the fabric strip, as seen in Fig. 3. Figs. 1 and 2 also show a wide fabric strip. This form of stay is especially adapted to being secured directly to garments, the edges of the fabric strip being stitched thereto in the usual manner.

In Fig. 3 the fabric strip is but little wider than the resilient strand, and this form of stay is adapted to being inserted in pockets or sheaths formed in the corset or garment in which it is to be employed.

It is to be particularly noticed that in this stay the resilient strand in bending can move or slide on the face of the fabric strip, being adjustably held thereto at close intervals only by the series of thread stitches or loops. From this construction results all the strength and stiffness to be had from the combined fabric and resilient strand, especially since for this purpose they are united together at close intervals throughout their length; also, all possible elasticity is availed of by reason of the

strand being flexibly or adjustably secured along its length to the fabric strip, as distinguished from being fixedly connected, as by cement or by a binding-thread passing
5 through the strand or otherwise positively engaging it and the fabric strip. At the same time this peculiar union of the fabric and strip makes them to reinforce each other in such way that abrupt deflections or sharp bends
10 are not likely to cause breaking of the strip, while the strip can be bent in any desired direction, it being universally flexible in this respect.

What is claimed as new is—

15 As an improved article of manufacture, a

garment-stay consisting of a fabric strip having a strip of resilient material secured upon one or more of its faces in direct contact with the surface of said fabric strip by means of a series of thread or cord loops bearing directly
20 upon the resilient strip to permit of a slight backward and forward movement of the parts upon one another when the stay is bent, substantially as and for the purposes hereinbefore set forth.

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Witnesses:

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