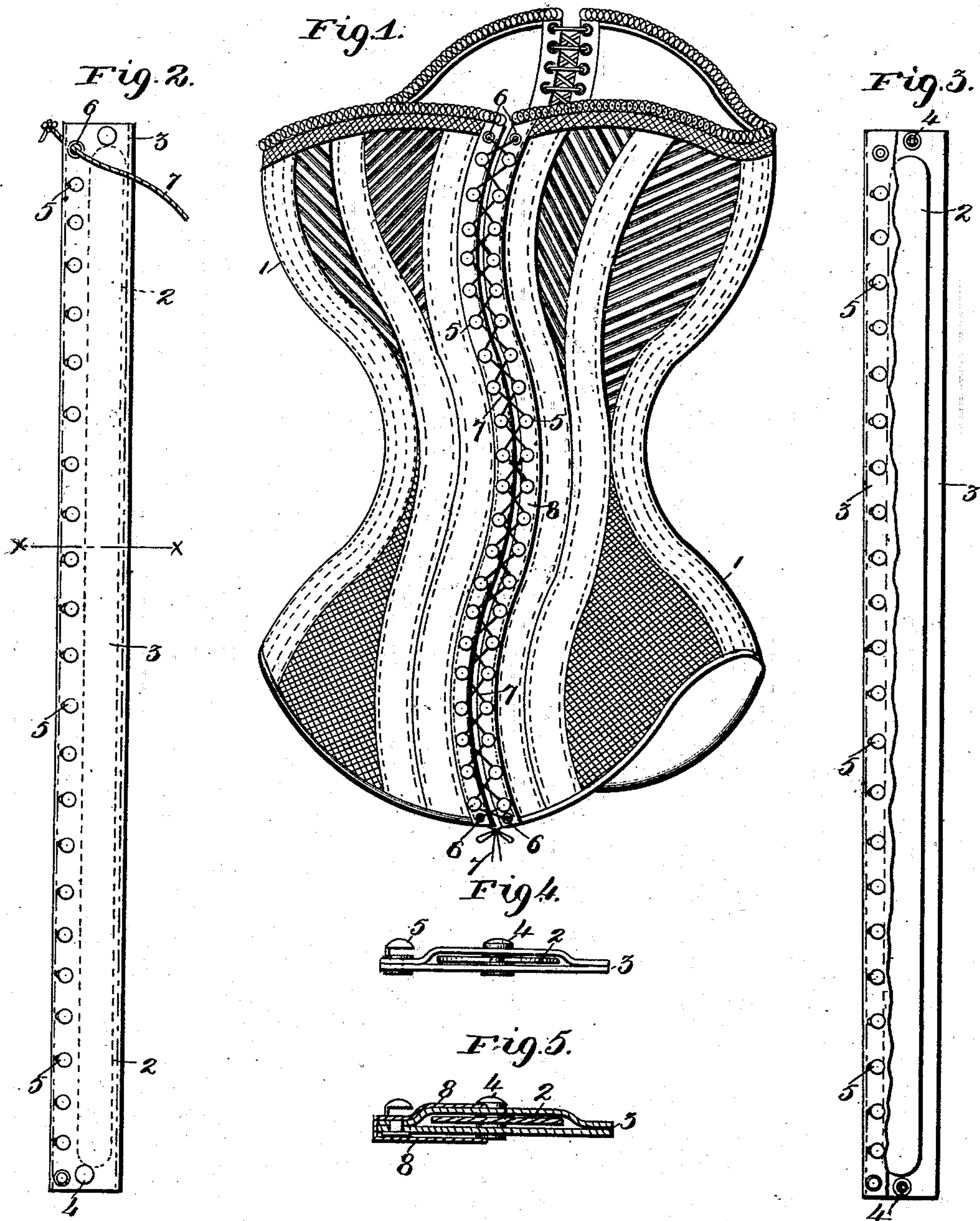


(No Model.)

H. G. STIEBEL, Jr.
BUSK STAY FOR CORSETS.

No. 524,874.

Patented Aug. 21, 1894.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY G. STIEBEL, JR., OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

BUSK-STAY FOR CORSETS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 524,874, dated August 21, 1894.

Application filed April 2, 1894. Serial No. 506,017. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY G. STIEBEL, Jr., of the city of St. Louis, State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Corset-Stays, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof.

My invention has relation to improvements in corset stays and consists in the novel arrangement and combination of parts more fully set forth in the specification and pointed out in the claim.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a corset having my improved stay attached thereto. Fig. 2 is a detached elevation of the front stay showing the casing confining the steel and the lace hooks attached to the casing. Fig. 3 is a corresponding view showing the casing or cover broken away so as to expose the steel or stiffening material. Fig. 4 is an end view of the covered stay, and Fig. 5 is a section on the line $x-x$ of Fig. 2.

The object of my invention is to construct a corset stay adapted to be inserted along the meeting edges of corsets, wherein each steel or stiffening strip will be incased in a suitable covering or casing of leather, chamois, or similar material, said covering to be evenly disposed about the steel throughout its full length, said covering being formed by sewing together along the sides two strips of leather of sufficient width to form a casing for each steel, the casing within which the steels are confined being of sufficient width to allow for the attachment of suitable lace hooks which serve as additional means for securing the members of the casing.

The steels or stiffening strips of my stays have no fastening devices or hooks and eyes secured to or formed therein, the steel being left intact throughout its length and thus no metal is removed from the steel which would have a tendency to weaken the same at the points along which it is punched. In the ordinary construction the steel is liable to snap at the weak points and the ragged edge of the metal is liable to enter the body of the wearer.

The invention consists in details to be described as follows: Referring to the drawings, 1 represents the ordinary corset having the steels 2 disposed along the meeting edges

thereof. Each steel is incased in and protected by a cushioning cover or casing made of two strips 3 of leather, chamois, or the like, the steel being prevented from being withdrawn from the casing by providing the latter at either end and beyond the limits of the steel with a fastener 4, this arrangement enabling the steel 2 to be withdrawn at any time in case the same is broken and a new steel can be inserted in its place. The casings are each provided with a series of lace hooks 5, said hooks being directly connected to the leather. By my improved arrangement the necessity of punching holes in the steel for securing the hooks is dispensed with, thus leaving the steels intact making them less liable to breakage. At each end, the stay is provided with the eyes 6 for the passage of the lace strings 7 as shown in Fig. 2. 8 represents the covering or material of which the ordinary corset to which my stay is attached, is composed.

It will be apparent that the casing of leather being made not of a single strip folded over the steel, but of two comparatively thick strips sewed together on either side thereof, disposes the leather evenly about the steel, leaving no ridge on one side of the length of the same as would be the case if the covering were made of a single piece folded lengthwise over the same. By this arrangement the leather covering acts as a pad or cushion for the wearer between the body and the inner steel; the steel being incased in a covering adapted to be opened at either end can in case of accidental breakage be readily withdrawn and a new steel inserted. The steel or stiffening material being thus incased is prevented from rusting so that its liability to crack is reduced to a minimum. Again, being incased in a thick covering there is less danger for the steel to enter the body of the wearer which in some cases has been known to produce blood poisoning. The stiffening material can of course have a substitute in the way of whale bone or the like.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

In a corset a cushioning casing composed of two strips 3 of flexible material stitched together along their opposite longitudinal edges, fastening devices located at the oppo-

site ends of the casing for temporarily closing
the ends, removable stiffening strips adapted
to be freely inserted into said casing from
either end thereof, a series of lace hooks ar-
5 ranged along one edge of said casing adjacent
to the stitching and assisting to secure the
strips together, an eye passing through and
secured to said casing, and a lace string se-

cured to said eye, the whole adapted to be
secured to a corset, substantially as set forth. 10

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in
the presence of two witnesses.

HENRY G. STIEBEL, JR.

Witnesses:

JAMES J. O'DONOHUE,
EMIL STAREK.