

(No Model.)

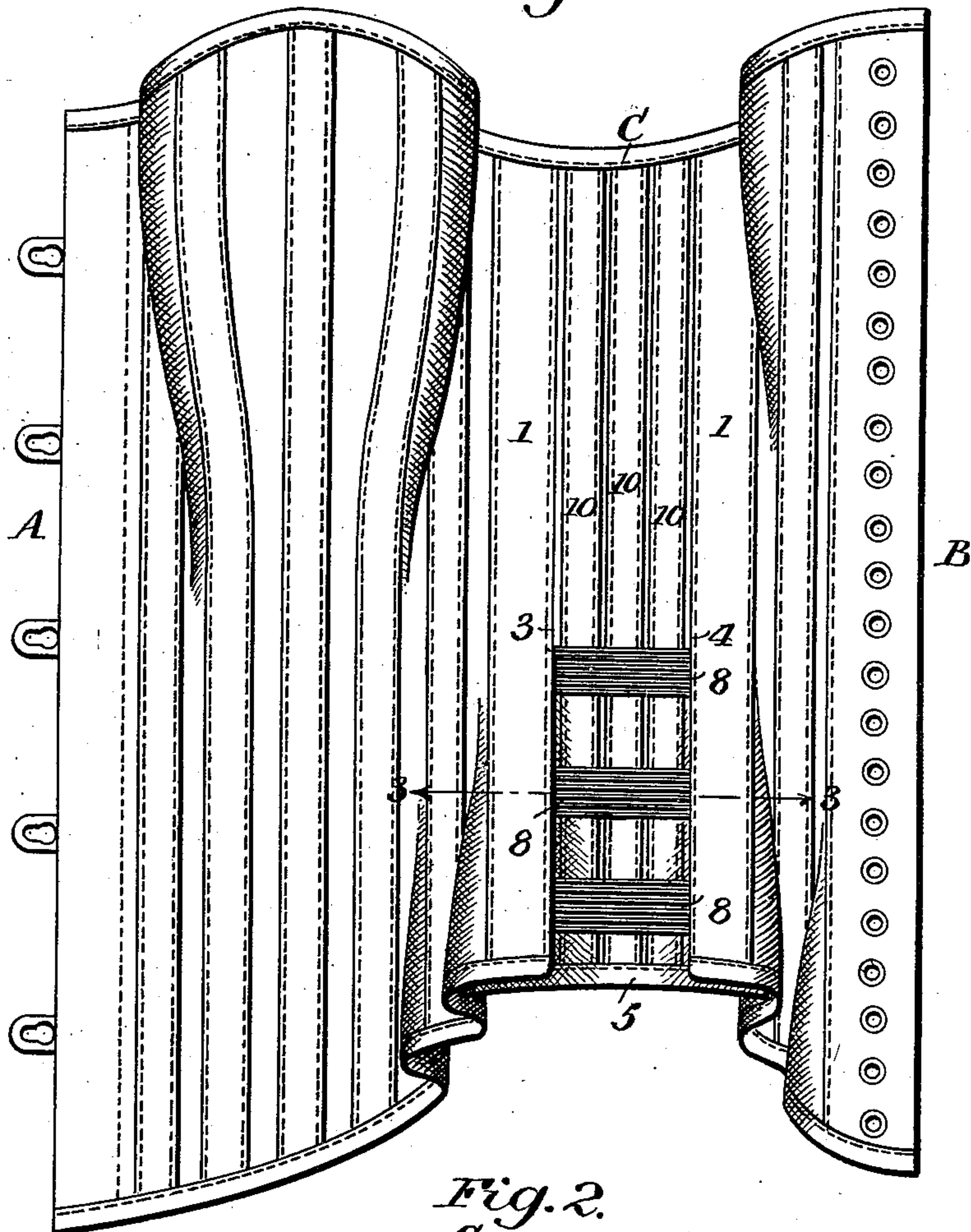
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W. W. GOULD.  
CORSET.

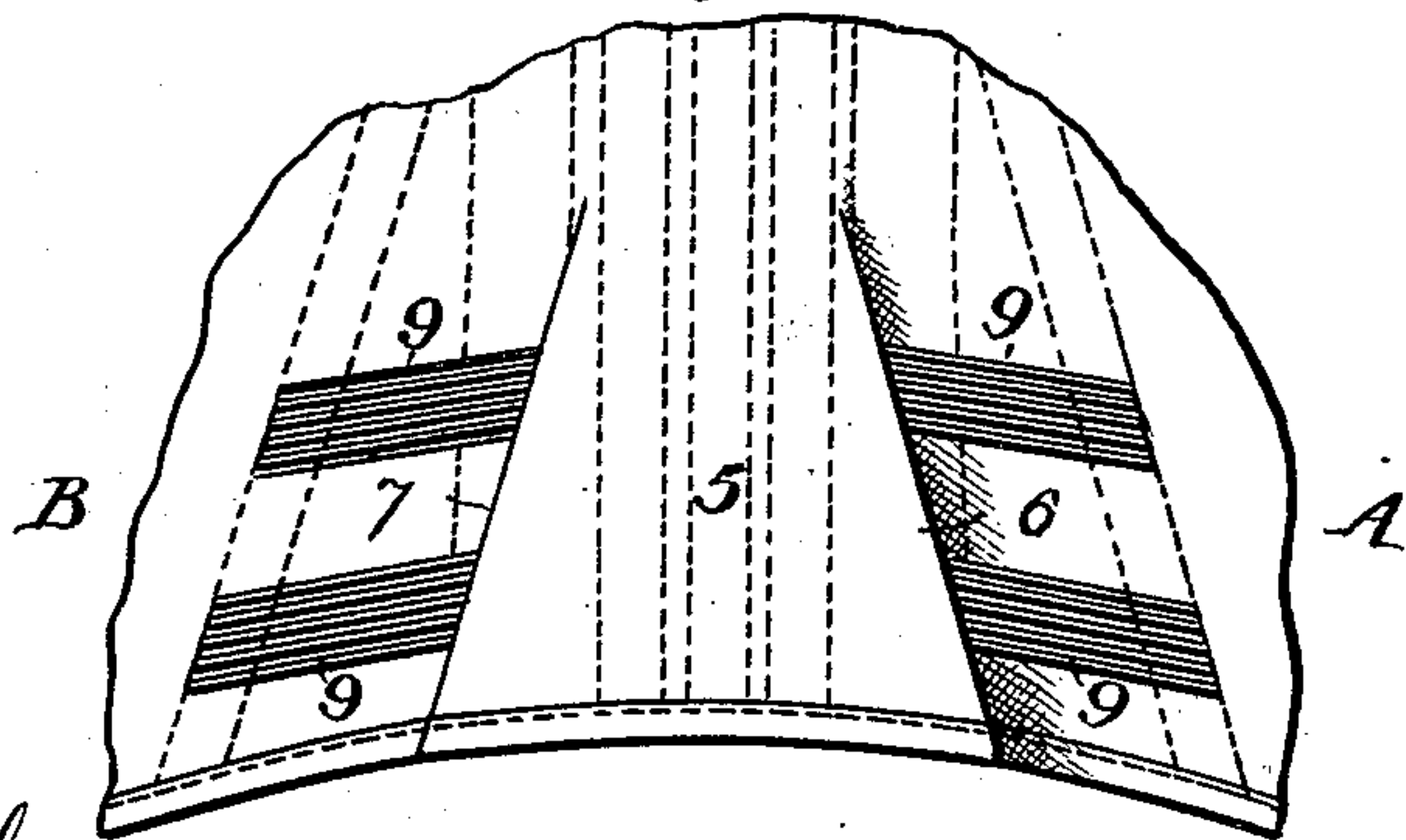
No. 561,222.

Patented June 2, 1896.

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



Witnesses  
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(No Model.)

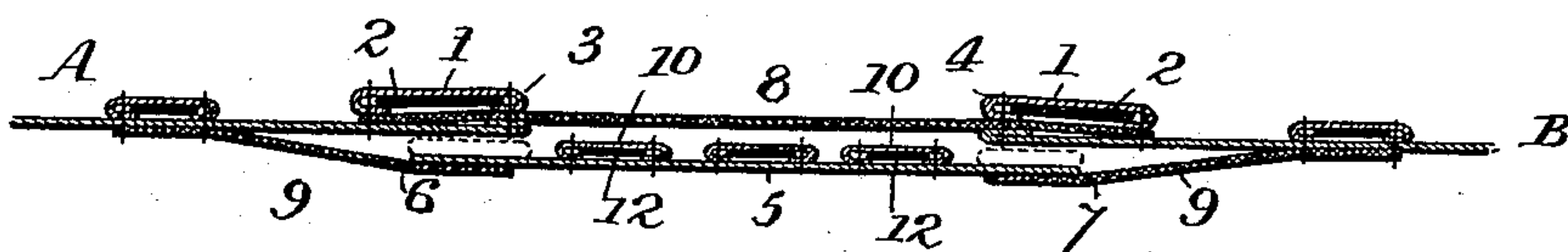
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CORSET.

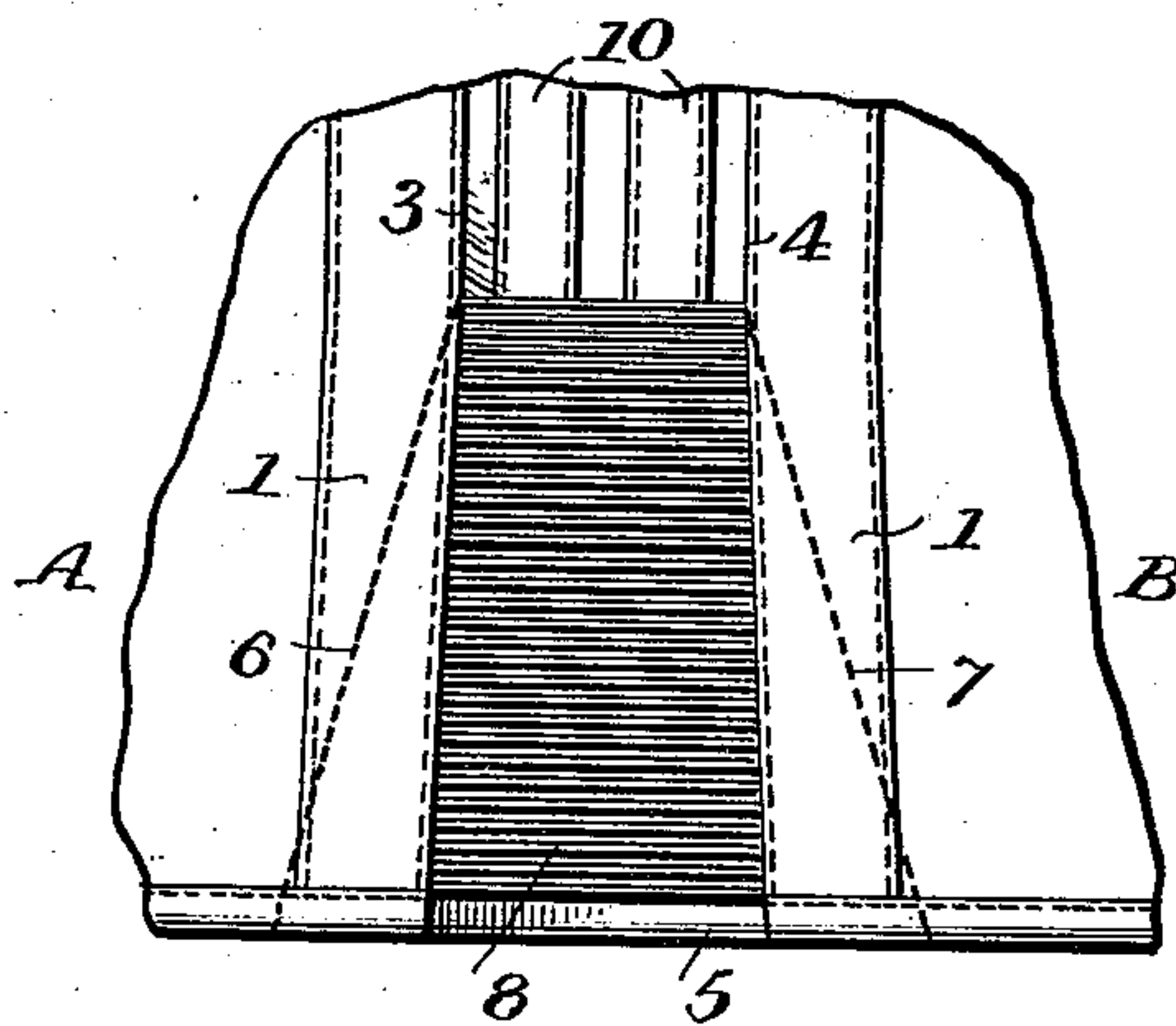
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*Fig. 3.*



*Fig. 4.*



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALLACE W. GOULD, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO THE  
WARNER BROTHERS COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

## CORSET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 561,222, dated June 2, 1896.

Application filed September 5, 1895. Serial No. 561,553. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WALLACE W. GOULD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bridgeport, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Corsets, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improvement in corsets and has more particularly relation to the hip-sections thereof; and it consists in the novel features of construction hereinafter described.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and in which like letters and numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts, Figure 1 is a perspective view of one side of a corset. Fig. 2 is a detail view of the same inverted. Fig. 3 is a sectional view on the line  $x x$ , Fig. 1. Fig. 4 illustrates a modification of the invention.

Referring to the drawings, A denotes the front or bust section, and B the back section. These sections may be formed in any of the usual ways and are provided, preferably, at the edges 3 4 with pockets 1 for reception of corset-stays 2. C is the hip-section, arranged intermediate the front and back corset-sections A B and secured to the edges 3 4 thereof for a portion of its length. The lower end of this hip-section is widened to form a tongue 5, preferably by diverging its edges 6 7, and this tongue is detached from the front and back corset-sections at points just below the waist-line to the lower edge of the corset. The tongue 5 is wider than the space or opening between the edges 3 4 of the front and back sections A B and overlaps the inner faces of said sections.

The edges 3 4 of the sections A B are connected by elastic material, which is capable of yielding under pressure. As shown in Figs. 1 and 3, the edges of the sections A B are connected by means of a series of separated elastic tapes 8, which bridge the space or opening between the said sections and extend over the outer face of the tongue 5. In lieu of the tapes 8 an elastic webbing or gore may be secured to the front and back sections, as shown in Fig. 4. This webbing completely fills the space between the sections and hides the tongue 5 from view.

The edges 6 7 of the tongue 5 are connected with the front and back corset-sections, respectively, preferably by means of elastic tapes 9; but, if desired, an elastic webbing similar to that shown in Fig. 4 may be interposed between said edges and the sections A B. I prefer, however, to employ the tapes and to separate them, as shown, which construction prevents the wearer of the corset being made uncomfortable by reason of the heat apt to be occasioned by an elastic webbing being close to the body.

The hip-section is provided with one or more pockets 10, which extend from the lower edge of the tongue 5 throughout the length of the said section and are adapted to receive stiffeners 12. If desired, the edges of the tongue may be provided with stiffeners, which extend the whole or a portion of the length of said tongues, as indicated in dotted lines, Fig. 3.

From the above it will be apparent that when the corset is fitted to the wearer the front, rear, and hip sections are caused to conform to the contour of the hip of the wearer and a perfect fit will be effected at this point, which is very desirable. Furthermore, by providing the tongue 5 with stiffeners the said tongue is kept from bulging, which is very objectionable, not only because it mars the fit of the corset, but by reason of the discomfort it occasions the wearer. It will be seen, too, that the tapes which connect the edges of the tongue with the corset-sections A B not only serve to perfect the fit of the corset at the hip, but also tend to keep these edges from turning under and forming ridges.

By providing the edges 3 4 of the front and back corset-sections with stays said edges are prevented from turning under. These stays in practice extend upon opposite sides of the hips, and by holding the corset-sections in contact therewith they materially aid in perfecting the fit of the corset. In addition to the above the stays at the edges of the sections A B prevent said sections from being stretched or torn by the strain exerted upon them by their connecting elastic portions.

From the above it will be obvious that the



corset will be held in close conformity with the contour of the hips of the wearer regardless of whatever position is assumed.

I have not deemed it necessary to describe  
5 or illustrate but one side of a corset, as it will be perfectly well understood that both sides thereof are identically constructed. It will also be obvious that my invention may be applied to the top of a corset, particularly  
10 to the bust thereof, as well as to the bottom.

Without limiting myself to the precise construction and arrangement shown and described, what I claim is—

1. A corset formed at the edge of its hip  
15 portion with an opening, a tongue extending across said opening and overlapping the edges thereof to wholly close the same when it is open to its fullest extent, elastic connections between the edges of the opening and elastic

connections between each edge of the tongue 20 and the corset, substantially as described.

2. A corset formed at its edge with an opening, a tongue of greater width than said opening, normally extending across and overlapping the edges thereof, stiffeners in said 25 tongue, stays at the edges of the opening, and an elastic connection between said edges of the opening and between each edge of the tongue and the corset, substantially as described. 30

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

WALLACE W. GOULD.

Witnesses:

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M. M. WHEATON.