

(No Model.)

L. S. WALKER.
CORSET.

No. 601,722.

Patented Apr. 5, 1898.

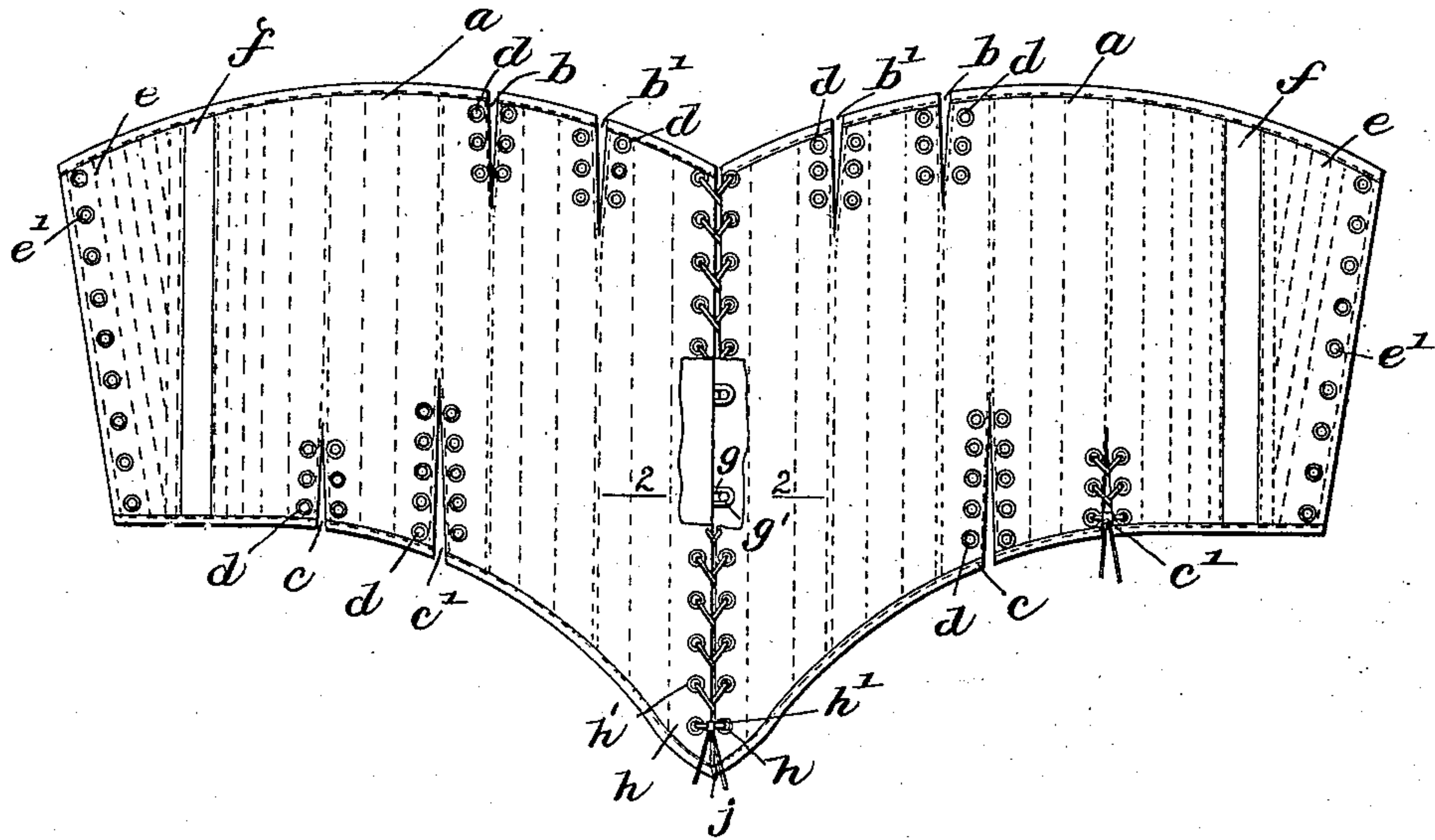


Fig: 1.

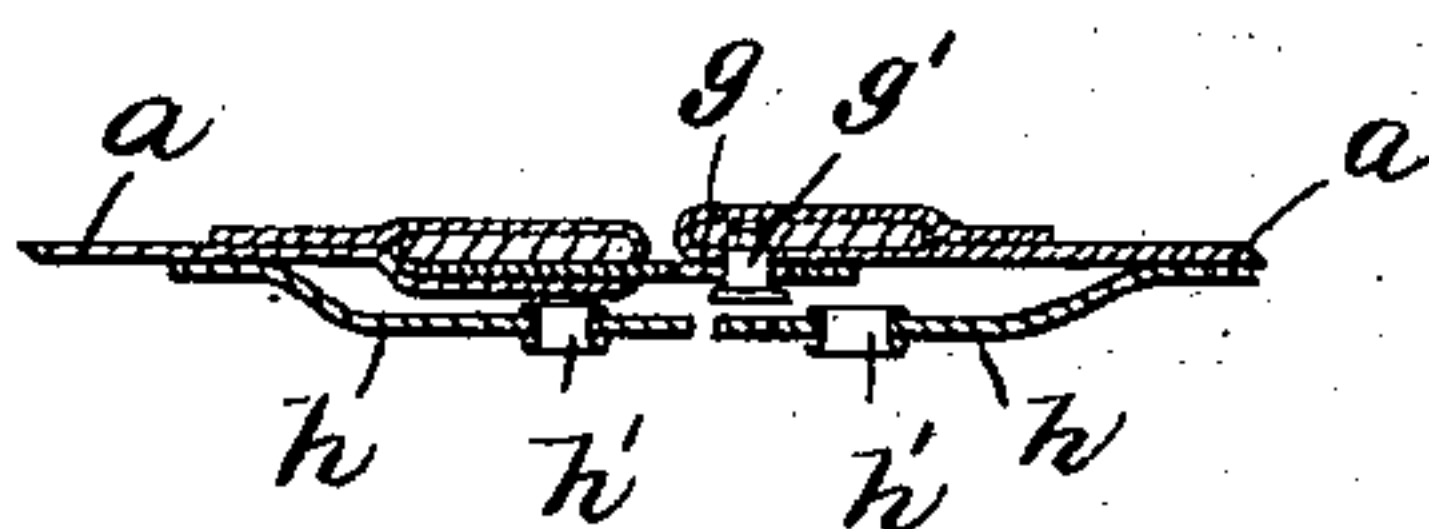


Fig: 2.

Witnesses
Peter Albertine Jr.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LILLIAN S. WALKER, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

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SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 601,722, dated April 5, 1898.

Application filed April 14, 1897. Serial No. 632,118. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LILLIAN S. WALKER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Corsets, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to improvements in a class of corsets particularly adapted for use by those engaging in athletic exercises—such as bicycle-riding, golf, tennis, the gymnasium, &c.—and has for its object the production of a corset of the above-described class which will fit perfectly about the person of the wearer without wrinkling at the sides and yet be sufficiently easy-fitting and flexible to allow perfect freedom of movement on the part of the wearer, and which will, while properly supporting the bust, also act as a bust-developer, and which is so constructed as to fully guard against undue wear on the outer garments by reason of exposed metallic trimmings on the corsets.

The invention consists of the novel features of construction hereinafter set forth and described, and more particularly pointed out in the claim hereto appended.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a view of the corset, partly broken away in front to show more clearly the method of securing the same about the person, with the back lacing removed and the corset spread out. Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the front-securing portion on the line 2 2 of Fig. 1.

Like letters refer to like parts throughout both views.

In the accompanying drawings, *a a* denote combined front and side portions of the corset, which are so constructed as to pass under the bust in such manner as to serve as a support for the same, and not over the bust, as in the ordinary corsets. Each of these parts *a* is provided, at the top and bottom thereof, with suitable slits or gores *b b' c c'*, which, by means of eyelets *d d* and a suitable ribbon or lacing, are used to adjust the corset to the person of the wearer.

e e are the back sections of the corset, which are adapted to be joined together by means of a ribbon or lacing passed through the eyelets *e' e'*, as in the ordinary corsets. These

back sections, however, are connected to the parts *a a* by means of flexible panels *f f*, which, unlike the remaining parts of the body of the corset, are without stiffening of any kind, thus allowing increased freedom of movement without the slightest inconvenience.

g g' denote, respectively, a hook and a stud as ordinarily employed to secure the corset about the person. This securing device in the ordinary corsets is not covered by a suitable shield for the protection of the outer garments, and consequently these garments are exposed to much additional wear and the danger of being torn by the studs. To guard against this undesirable yet common feature, I provide the parts *a a* with independent flaps *h h*, which are designed to be drawn together over the hooks and studs *g g'* by means of eyelets *h' h'* and a ribbon or lacing *j*, thus acting the double capacity as a shield over the studs *g'* for the protection of the outer garments and as an adjusting device for removing disfiguring wrinkles from the sides of the corset after the same has been donned by the wearer.

My improved corset, in so far as has not already been described, is used as follows: The corset, after having been so adjusted by means of the eyelets *d d* in the slits or gores *b b' c c'* in each of the parts *a* and the eyelets *e'* in the back sections *e* and their respective ribbons or lacings as to fit the person of the wearer as nearly perfectly as can possibly be insured by this means, is donned and secured in front by means of the hooks *g* and studs *g'*, the corset passing under the bust, as aforesaid, in order to act as a bust-supporter and at the same time allow free unrestricted movements on the part of the wearer. The parts *h h* are then drawn together over said hooks and studs by means of the eyelets *h' h'* and the ribbon or lacing *j* to such a degree as is necessary to remove any wrinkles which may be left in the sides thereof, thus making a perfect-fitting corset.

The corset as heretofore described is particularly adapted for use by persons engaging in athletic exercises, as by reason of its manner of fitting the person and of the flexible panels *f f*, which, it can be readily seen, tend to greatly diminish any inconvenience ordinarily occasioned by having the corset uni-

formly stiffened, it allows of greater freedom in all movements than the ordinary corsets.

Besides its utility as an athletic garment my improved corset is of exceptional value
5 as a bust developer and strengthener and is also adapted for use by young girls and as a hygienic corset.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim as my invention, and desire to have
10 protected by Letters Patent, is—

The improvement in corsets comprising a means for uniting the parts in front consist-

ing of a series of hooks *g*, studs *g'*, covering-flaps *h h*, provided with rows of eyelets *h' h'*, and a lacing *j*, substantially as shown and 15 described.

In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my signature, this 10th day of April, A. D. 1897, in the presence of two witnesses.

LILLIAN S. WALKER.

Witnesses:

N. L. FROTHINGHAM,
PHILIP A. CARNEY.