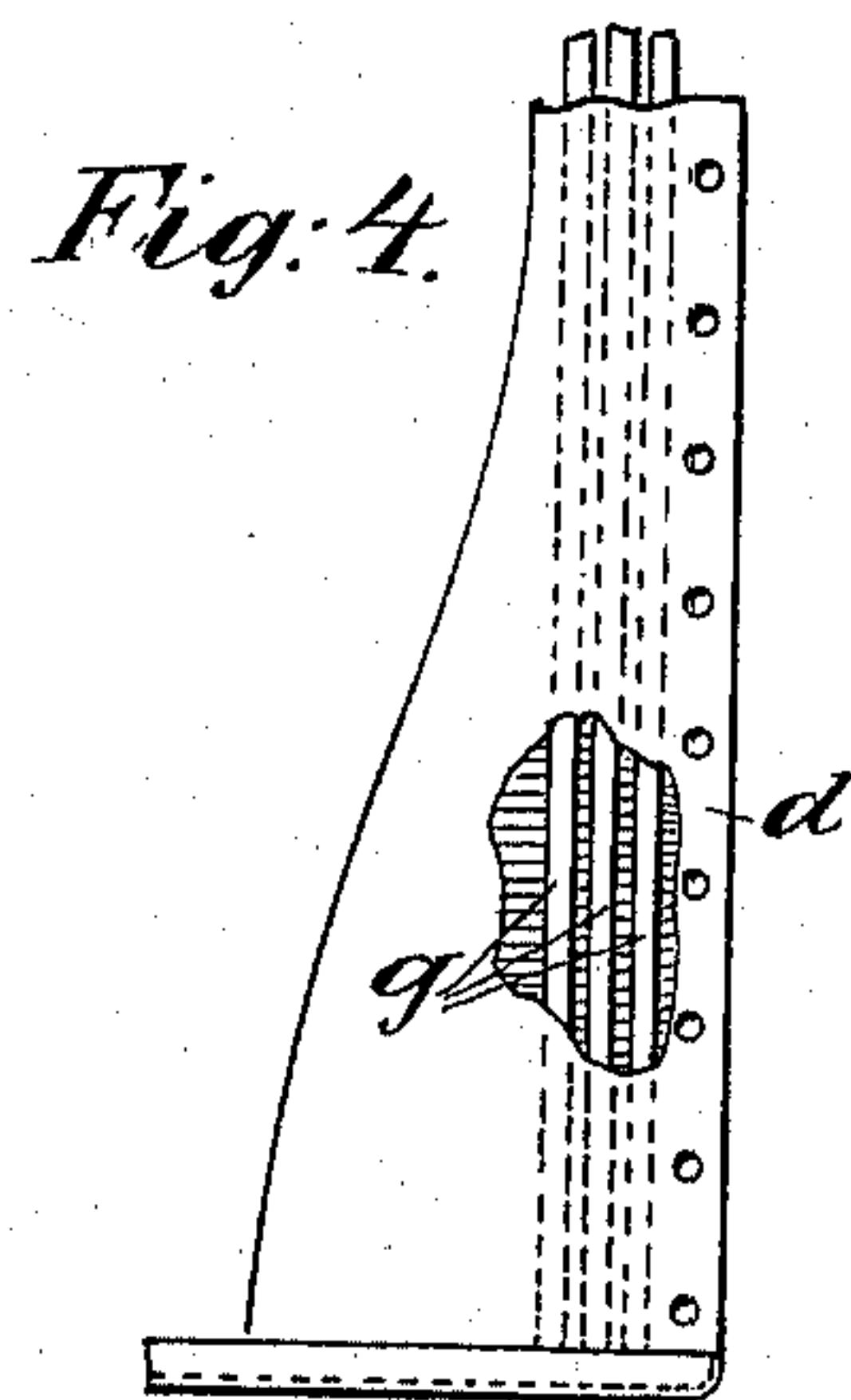
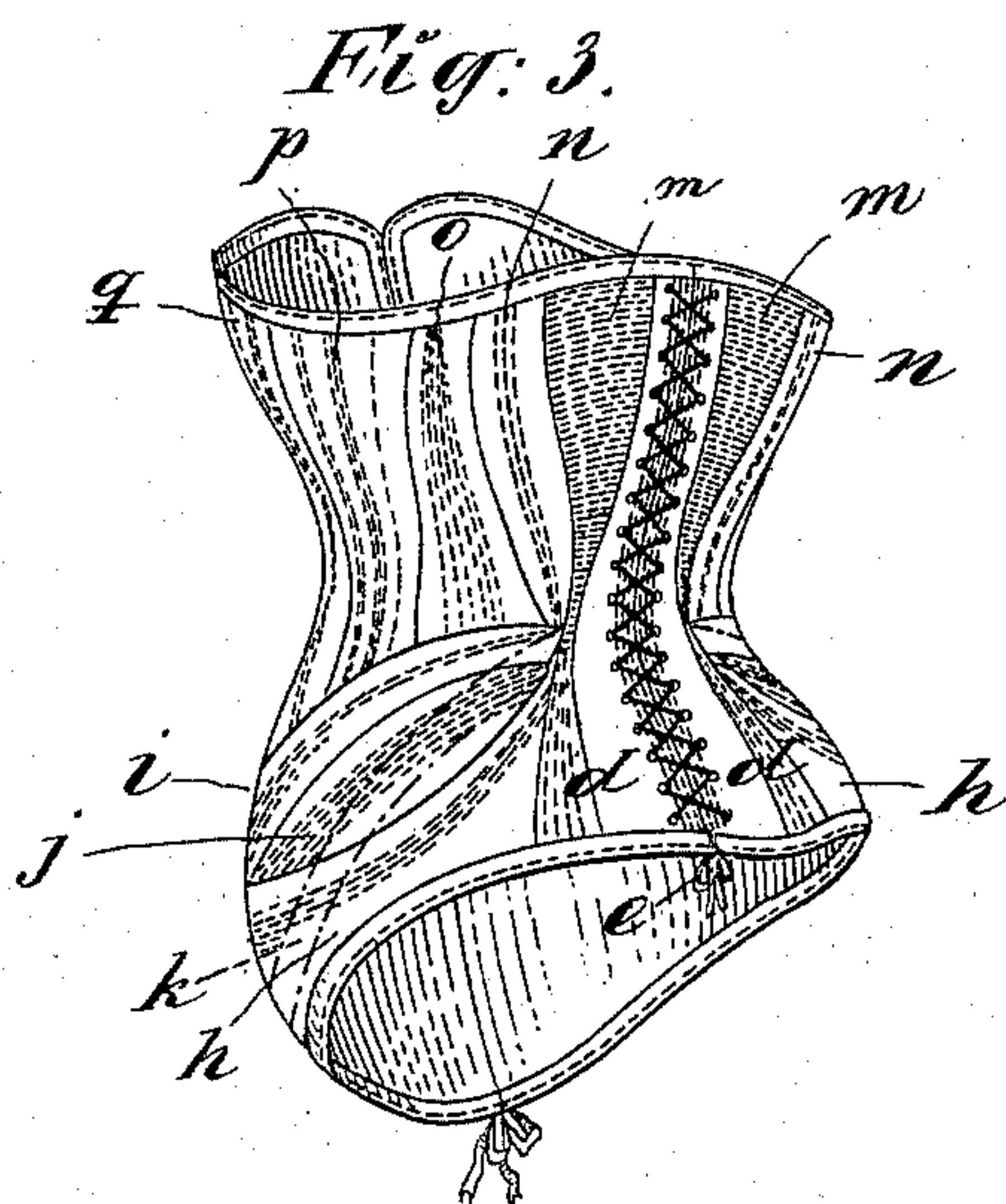
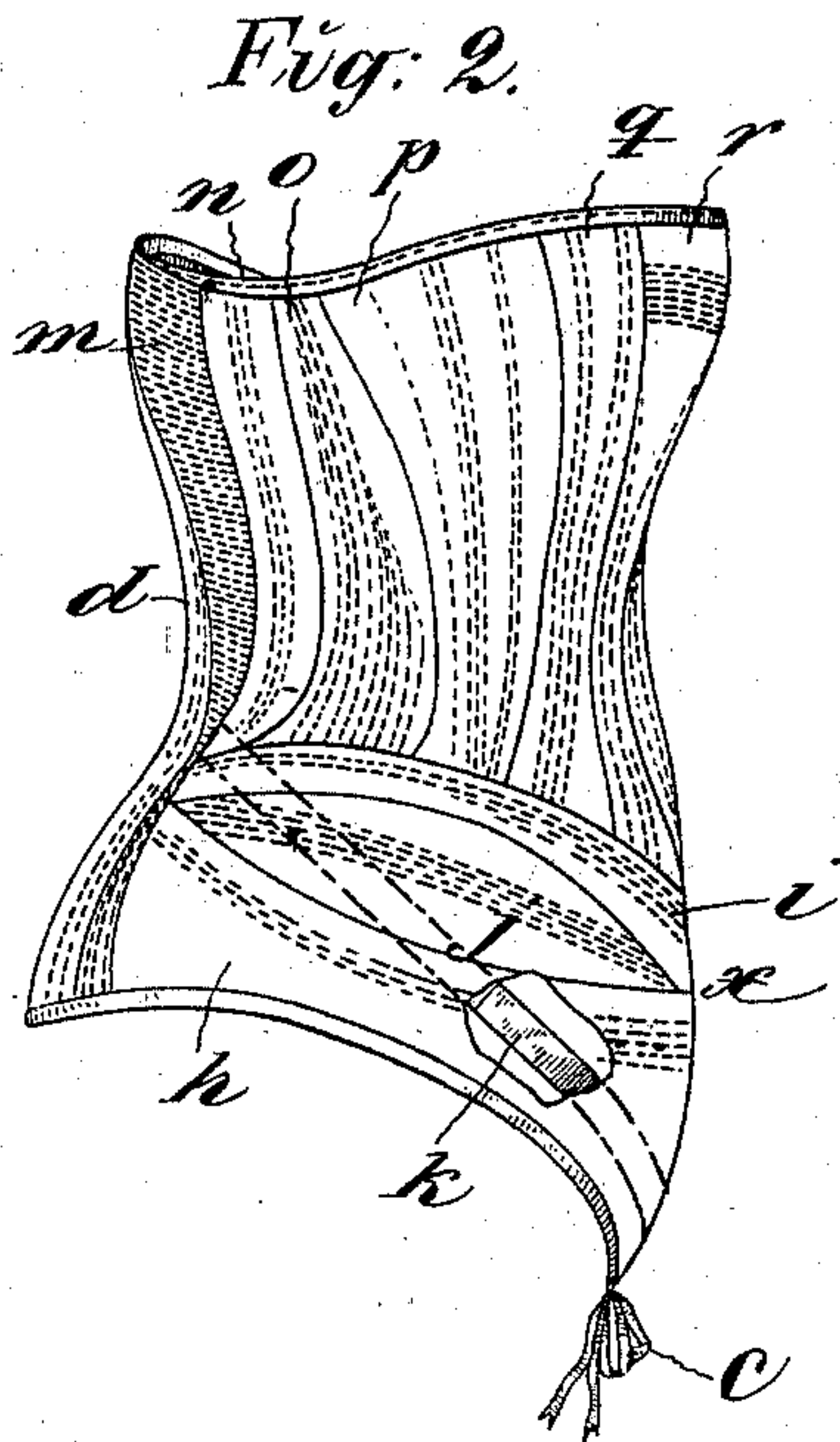
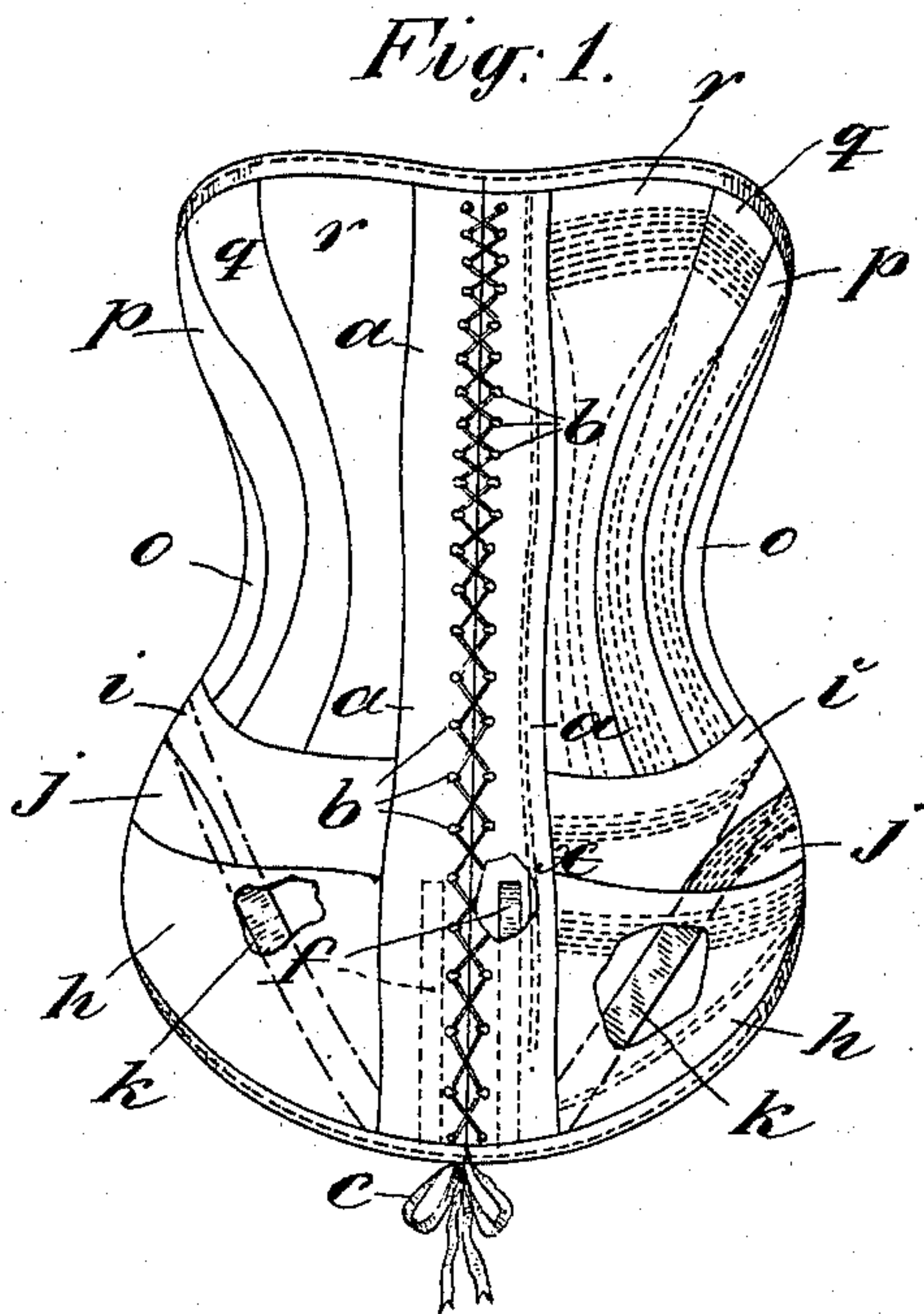


(No Model.)

J. A. GARNEAU.
CORSET.

No. 603,843.

Patented May 10, 1898.



WITNESSES:

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CORSET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 603,843, dated May 10, 1898.

Application filed November 16, 1897. Serial No. 658,671. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH A. GARNEAU, physician and surgeon, a subject of the Queen of Great Britain, residing at St. Rochs, (Quebec,) in the district and Province of Quebec, in the Dominion of Canada, have invented certain Improvements in Corsets, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to corsets for women; and it has for its object, broadly speaking, to provide a corset which will conform to the body of the wearer and support it properly in contradistinction to one which forces the body into conformity with it and in doing this tends to cause undue pressure on the internal organs and often to cause actual displacement of some of these organs. In this respect the invention is hygienic in its character.

The object sought is effected by a peculiar construction and arrangement of the parts of the corset, and in this construction and arrangement the novel features of the invention reside.

In the accompanying drawings, which illustrate an embodiment of the invention, Figure 1 is a front view of the corset, broken away in part to better illustrate the construction. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the corset. Fig. 3 is a perspective rear view of the same. Fig. 4 is a fragmentary view on a larger scale, showing the arrangement of the steels in the upright marginal strip *d* at the back.

The corset is composed, as usual in corsets, of two like sections or halves joined together along upright lines in front and at the back. Therefore the description of the details of construction of one half will serve equally well for the other.

Down the front of the corset from top to bottom extend two strips or marginal bands *a a*, one on the margin of each half, and these strips are provided each with a series or row of hooks *b*, the hooks in one series being arranged opposite to those in the other, as seen in Fig. 1. A lacing tape or cord *c* serves to secure the two halves of the corset together down the front by engagement with said hooks, as clearly shown in Fig. 1. At the back the two halves of the corset are each provided with an upright marginal band or strip

d, Figs. 2, 3, and 4, provided with eyelets to receive an elastic lacing-cord *e*.

I will now more minutely describe the construction of one of the halves of the corset, which, as before stated, are alike, so that a description of one will suffice for both.

The front upright marginal strip or band *a* has pocketed in its lower part a strip of spring-steel *f*, which extends from the bottom edge of the corset up to the point *x*, which, as seen in Fig. 2, is about the point of greatest projection of the corset at the front. The steel *f* is normally curved or has a set curvature to fit over the lower portion of the abdomen, and the strip *a* is made to conform from the upper end of the steel *f* to the top of the corset with the curvature of the front of the body of the wearer. This strip may have pocketed in it a whale bone or bones, if desired, the same extending from the steel *f* to the top of the corset.

The upright marginal strip or band *d* at the back, Figs. 3 and 4, has a special curvature to fit it to the form of the wearer's body, as best seen in Figs. 2 and 3, and this curvature is produced by pocketing in said strip or band three strips *g*, Fig. 4, of steel, arranged side by side and having a set form of the proper curvature. These strips *g* should be strong and quite rigid, so as to enable them to retain their shape and brace the back of the wearer.

The body of each corset-half has at its lower edge a broad piece *h*, which extends across the hip from a front upright strip *a* to the back, this piece being widest at its extremities and hollowed at its upper edge, so as to be narrowest at the middle. The top of the piece *h* in front, where it joins the strip *a*, is about on the same level as the upper end of the steel *f*. Above the piece *h* is another piece *i*, also extending from a strip *a* to a point at the back where the waist merges into the hip. This piece is widest at its ends and is hollowed at its lower side, the spindle-shaped space between it and the strip *h* being filled with a gore *j*. These three pieces, *h*, *i*, and *j*, give to the body of the corset the proper curvature and form to fit over the hip and find a point of support thereon, thus taking the weight off from the parts of the body in front

and at the back and avoiding the depression of the abdomen and consequent displacement of the internal organs therein contained.

On the inner face of that part of the body composed of the pieces *h*, *i*, and *j* is secured a band *k*, of thin elastic fabric, which extends over the hip from the upright strip *d* at the back, where it terminates at the waist, to the strip *a* at the front, where it terminates at the bottom of the corset. This band *k* may be from one and one-half to two inches wide, and it serves to strengthen the fabric over the hip and by its elasticity to cause it to conform to the body the better.

Above the piece *i* the body of the corset is formed of upright pieces, Fig. 2, *m*, *n*, *o*, *p*, *q*, and *r*, cut as to lateral dimensions and curvature to make the corset conform in shape to the contour of the body it embraces and to support it. The three pieces *n*, *o*, and *p* at the side, by their special form or cut, as best seen in Fig. 2, directly oppose or resist all pressure of the corset at the front. They have the effect to place in a rational manner—that is to say, at the back—the point of support, which is placed in front in most, if not all, the corsets now in use.

The corset may be made up of any of the ordinary materials or fabrics used in the manufacture of corsets.

It will be understood, of course, that I do not broadly claim upright marginal bands at the front and rear edges of the halves of the corset nor the making up of a corset of pieces cut to give form to the corset; but I claim for my corset that it has a special form which conforms to that of the human body, and that because of this conformity it produces no injurious compression on the internal organs, such as the lungs, liver, stomach, intestines, &c.; also, that by the cut and arrangement of the several pieces an abdominal support is provided, which is important in nearly all cases.

The quilting of the fabric is shown at the right in Fig. 1 of the drawings, but omitted at the left, so as to show the construction the more clearly.

Fig. 4 shows clearly the steels *g* in the strips *d* at the back.

It will be noted that this corset has no front steels or busks such as are commonly found in corsets, the front strips *a* being left flexible or pliable except as to their lower parts, where they are made stiff and rigid up to

about the middle of the abdomen by the short curved stiffening-steels *f*.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. A corset without front busks, having on each half or section an upright, flexible, marginal band *a* at its front edge, provided with a short and normally stiff curved steel *f*, at its lower part only and terminating above at about the point of greatest projection of the corset to the front, said steel fitting about the lower portion of the abdomen, substantially as set forth.

2. A corset having in each half a hip portion formed of the pieces *h* and *i*, extending over the hip from rear to front, and the intermediate gore *j*, of spindle shape, as shown, between and secured to the pieces *h* and *i*, said double-pointed or spindle-shaped gore being in position to rest on and fit over the point of the hip, substantially as set forth.

3. A corset having in each of its halves a hip portion composed of the pieces *h* and *i*, and the intermediate spindle-shaped gore *j*, all secured together, said hip portion extending over the hip from rear to front, and an elastic band *k*, under said hip portion, said band extending from the waist-line at the back to the bottom of the corset in front, passing over the hip, and being free to stretch, substantially as set forth.

4. A corset having in each of its halves an upright marginal band *a*, in front having in its lower part a short steel *f*, with a set curvature, an upright marginal band *d*, at the back, having steels *g*, with a set curvature, extending their entire length, a hip-piece *h*, widest at its ends and extending from one to the other of said marginal bands, a piece *i*, over the hip and extending from one to the other of said bands, a spindle-shaped intermediate gore *j*, between the pieces *h* and *i*, and these pieces and the gore secured together at their edges, the upright pieces *m*, *n*, *o*, *p*, *q* and *r*, of the contour shown, forming the body above the waist, and means for closing the corset at the front and back, substantially as set forth.

In witness whereof I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOSEPH A. GARNEAU.

Witnesses:

LOUIS DALLAIRE,
DAVID RACINE.