

No. 626,422.

Patented June 6, 1899.

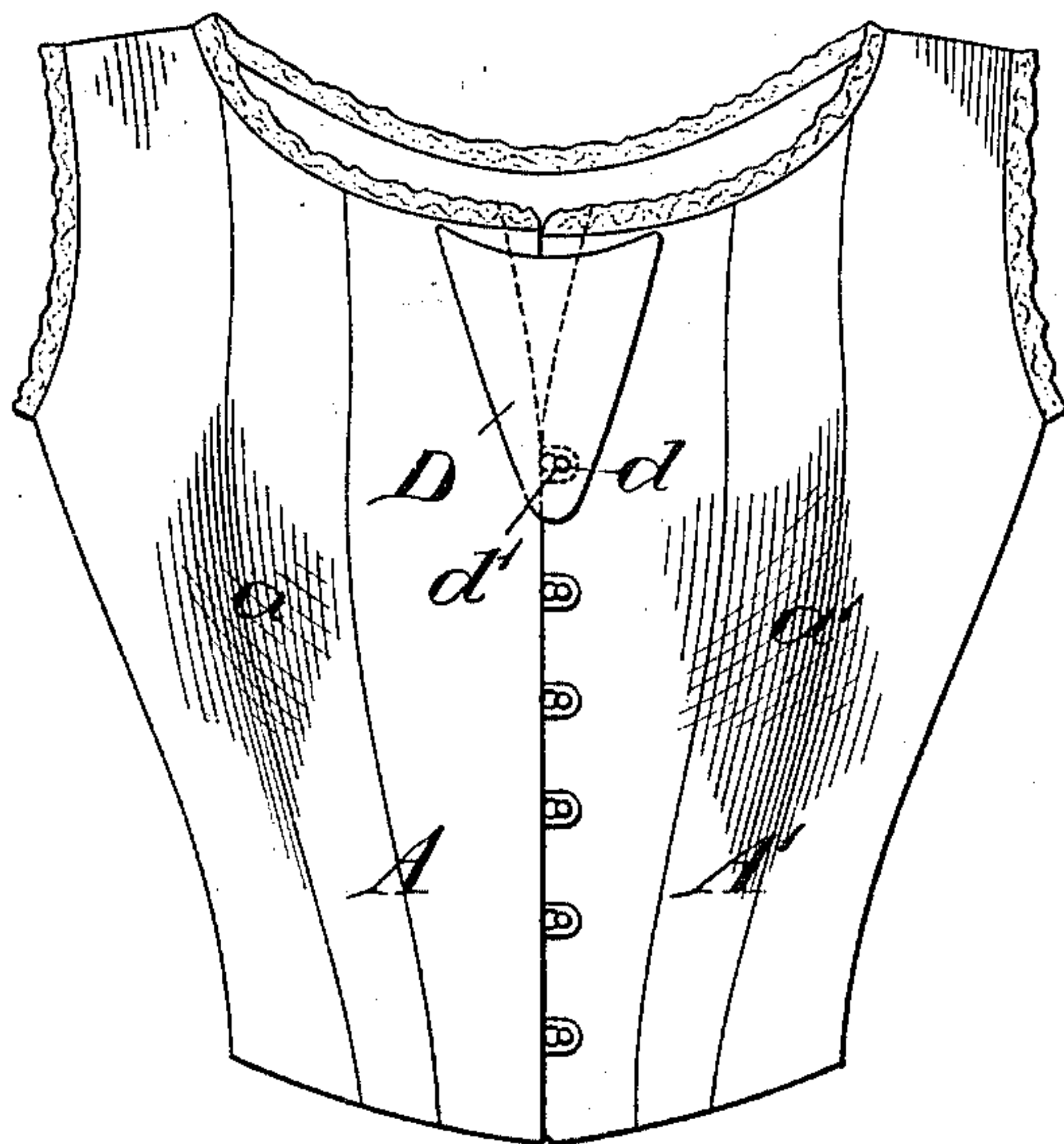
L. E. HACHERELLE.  
UNDERWAIST.

(No Model.)

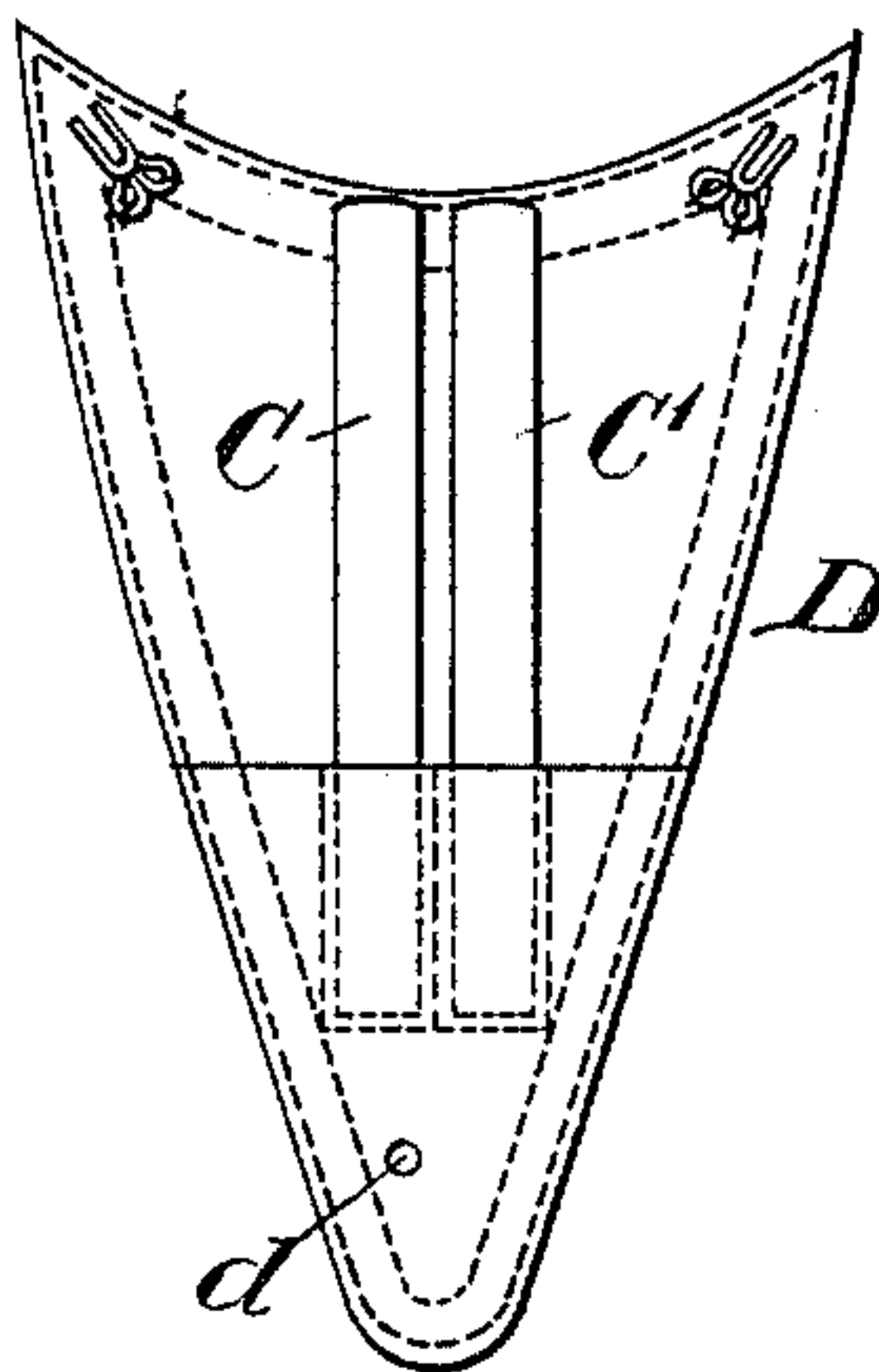
(Application filed Nov. 26, 1897.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Witnesses:-*

*M. C. Fletcher*

*Fred Hayes*

*Inventor*

*Louis E. Hachelle*

*by attorneys*

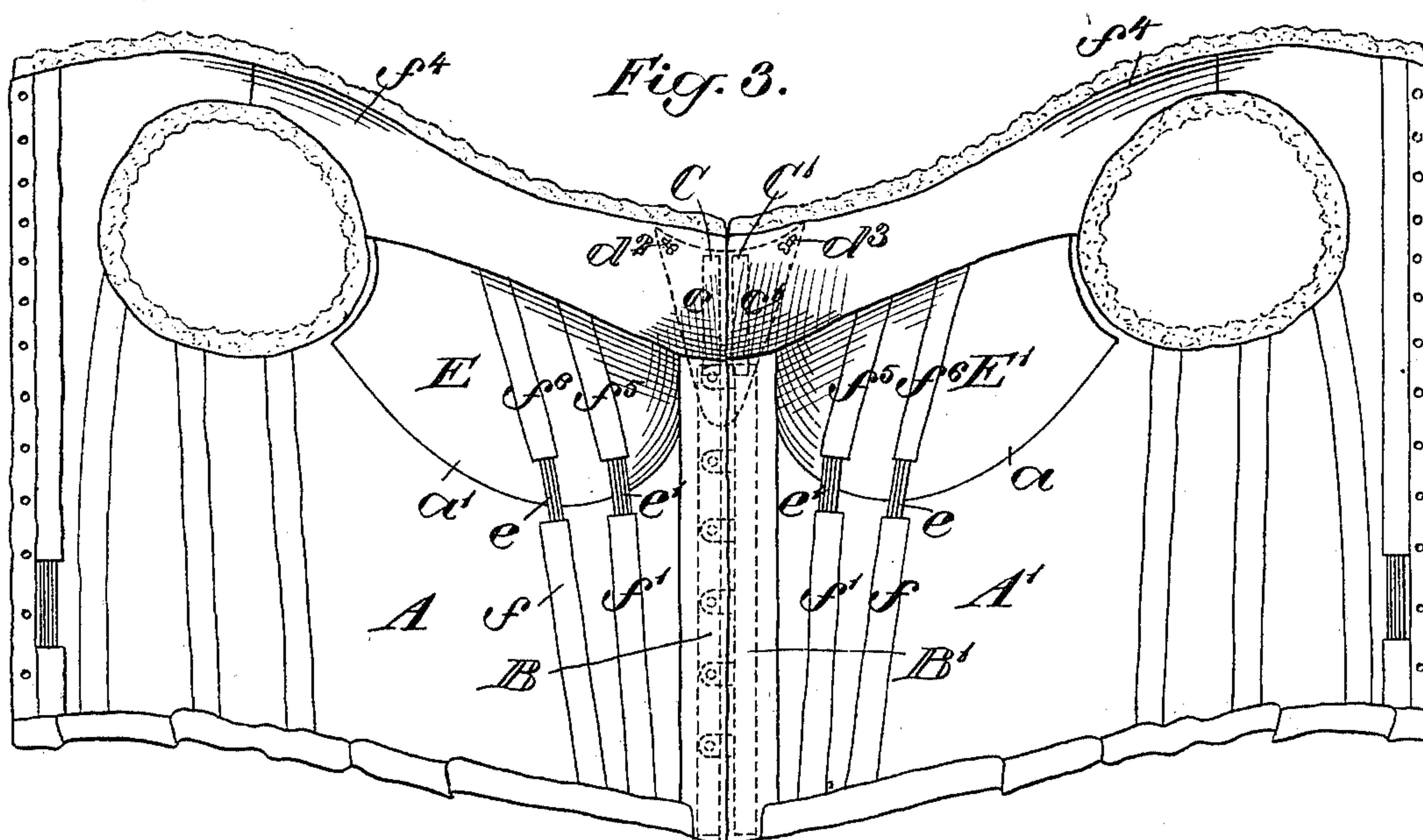
*Brown & Leonard*

L. E. HACHERELLE.  
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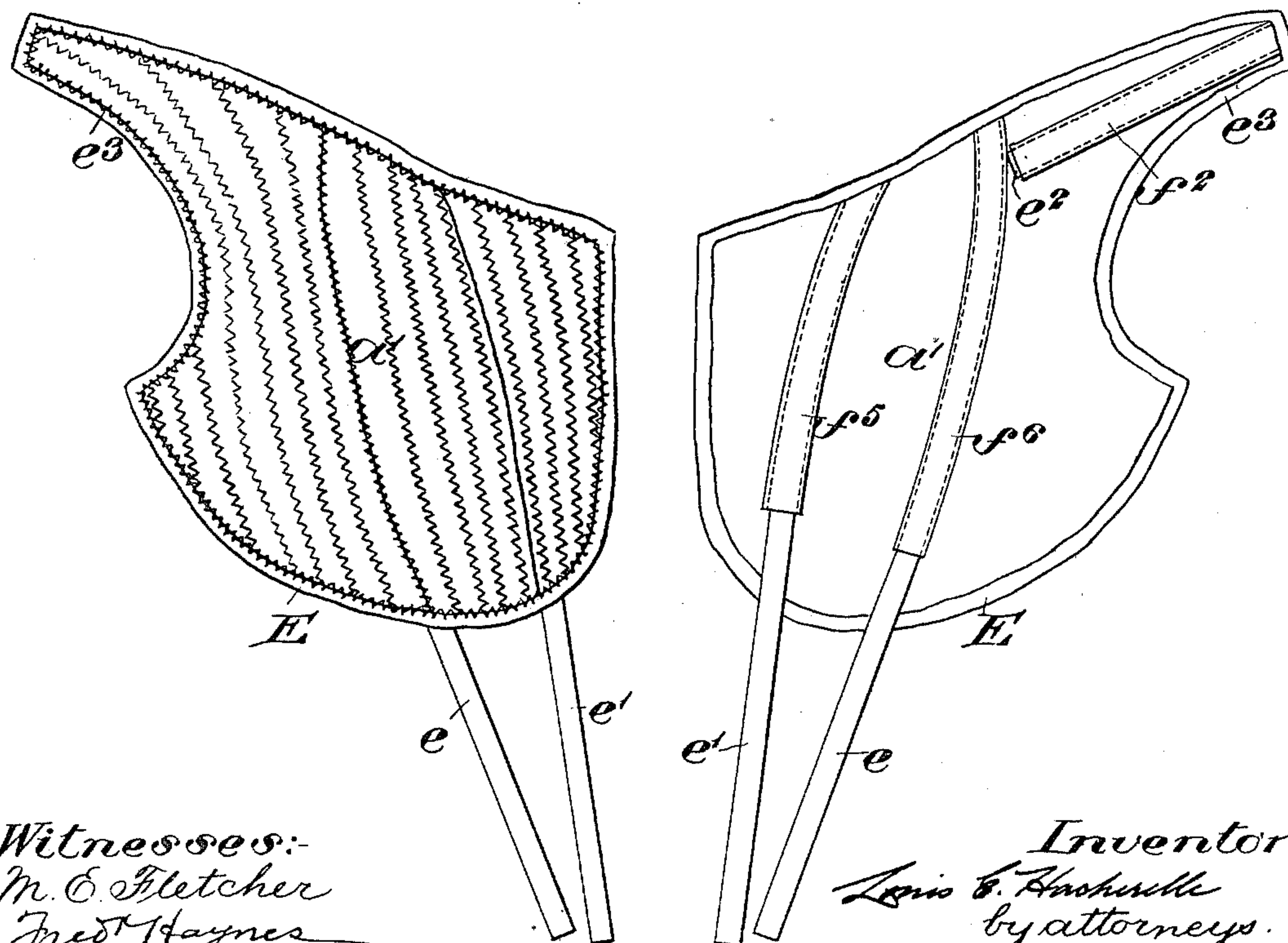
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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.



*Fig. 4.*

*Fig. 5.*



Witnesses:  
M. C. Fletcher  
Fred Haynes

Inventor:  
L. E. Hacherelle  
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Barnett & Seward



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LOUIS E. HACHERELLE, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO  
EDWARD C. SEWARD, OF MONTCLAIR, NEW JERSEY.

## UNDERWAIST.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 626,422, dated June 6, 1899.

Application filed November 26, 1897. Serial No. 659,788. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, LOUIS E. HACHERELLE, of New York, in the county and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Underwaists, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in underwaists in which provision is made for protecting the front of the bust of the wearer high up toward the neck, and while providing for holding the waist in graceful form and causing it to retain its shape providing at the same time perfect freedom for the movement of the chest in breathing and stooping forward.

A further object is to provide a waist in which the stiffening portions for holding the waist in shapely form may be readily removed to permit the cleansing of the waist.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents the waist as it appears when in use on the body of the wearer, showing in dotted lines the spread position at the upper central portion of the front which the waist assumes when the wearer inhales. Fig. 2 is a view in detail of the removable shield located at the upper front central portion of the waist. Fig. 3 is a rear view of the waist when separated at the back and opening out to the right and left, and Figs. 4 and 5 are views in detail of the detachable bosom-pieces for holding the bulge portions at the front of the waist in shape.

The body of the waist is made up of right and left half-sections A A', provided with means for connecting them at the center of the front and center of the back, as is common in corset-waists. The sections A A' are each fitted with a bulge portion denoted, respectively, by *a a'* and with pockets for stiffening-bones.

The front edges of the waist are each provided with bones B B' for causing the waist to lie smoothly along the central portion of the bust and with fastenings for connecting the front edges together. The bones B B' do not, however, extend to the top of the waist at the front, but stop at a considerable distance from the top at a point sufficiently low to prevent them from interfering with the movement of the chest in breathing. Above

the point where the bones B B' terminate the waist-sections are provided at their front edges with pockets *c c'* for the reception of a pair of bones C C', connected at their lower ends to a removable shield D. The bones C C' by their attachment to the shield have a tendency to remain normally parallel, or substantially so, with their adjacent edges near each other, and when inserted in the pockets *c c'* tend to hold the front edges of the waist at their upper ends closed. These bones C C' are, however, attached to the shield at their lower ends only, so that their upper ends are permitted under slight pressure to separate a distance—such, for example, as is shown by dotted lines in Fig. 1—to relieve any binding effect upon the chest of the wearer during the action of breathing. Furthermore, the bones C C' are made so resilient as compared with the bones B B' that when the wearer wishes to bend forward the bones C C' will readily curve forwardly and permit an easy movement of the body without disagreeable pressure.

The shield D may be removably secured to the front of the waist by attaching a loop *d* at its lower end to a catch *d'* on one of the bones B B' and hooking its upper corners to loops *d<sup>2</sup> d<sup>3</sup>* at or near the upper edge of the waist and at considerable distance from the front edges of the sections A A'.

The pieces for distending the bulge portion *a a'* of the waist are denoted, respectively, by E E'. As they are made symmetrical, one for the right and the other for the left side, and their mechanical structure is the same, the description of one will answer for the description of both. The body portion of the piece E may be formed of any suitable resilient material, preferably some light material which will hold its shape well—such, for example, as hair-cloth—and from the upper and lower edges of the body portion E there project stiffening-bones, as follows: Several bones (in the present instance two, denoted, respectively, by *e e'*) extend downwardly and are adapted to be received in pockets opening at the lower edge of the bulge portion *a* of the waist and on the under side of it and denoted by *f f'*. Another bone (denoted by *e<sup>2</sup>*) projects upwardly within a pocket *f<sup>2</sup>* in a narrow neck *e<sup>3</sup>*



of the piece E, the said narrow neck being arranged to extend upwardly along the narrow portion of the waist between the neck and the arm, at the front, well onto or over the shoulder of the waist, to prevent it from sinking and wrinkling, as is often the case, between the neck and the front of the shoulder. The narrow portion of the waist is preferably provided with a pocket  $f^4$  to receive the narrow neck on the distending-piece E, the said pocket  $f^4$  having its lower open end enlarged to receive the upper portion of the body of the distending-piece. These distending-pieces E E' may be removed and inserted at pleasure by simply withdrawing the bones from the pockets or inserting the bones into the pockets, as may be required. The bones  $e$   $e'$  are preferably made to extend along the body portion of the piece E and are removably engaged therewith in pockets  $f^5$   $f^6$  on the under side of the piece.

What I claim is—

1. An underwaist provided with means for holding its upper front edges normally closed and at the same time permitting them to separate under slight pressure, in combination with a shield independent of said means for holding the edges closed and arranged to cover the opening as the said upper front edges of the waist separate, substantially as set forth.

2. An underwaist provided with a removable shield located at its upper front edges and bones attached to the shield and having a detachable engagement with the waist for holding the upper front edges of the waist normally closed while permitting them to open under slight pressure, substantially as set forth.

3. The combination with the body of the waist provided with bulge portions and with shoulder portions, of distending-pieces provided with bones projecting downwardly therefrom and upwardly along the shoulder extensions of the distending-pieces, the said waist-body being provided with pockets for removably receiving the bones on the distending-pieces, substantially as set forth.

4. The combination with the body of the waist, provided with bone-receiving pockets extending along up the front and along the shoulder portions, of distending-pieces provided with bones adapted to enter the said pockets and extend along up the front of the waist and along the shoulder portions for holding the waist in shape, substantially as set forth.

LOUIS E. HACHERELLE.

Witnesses:

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