

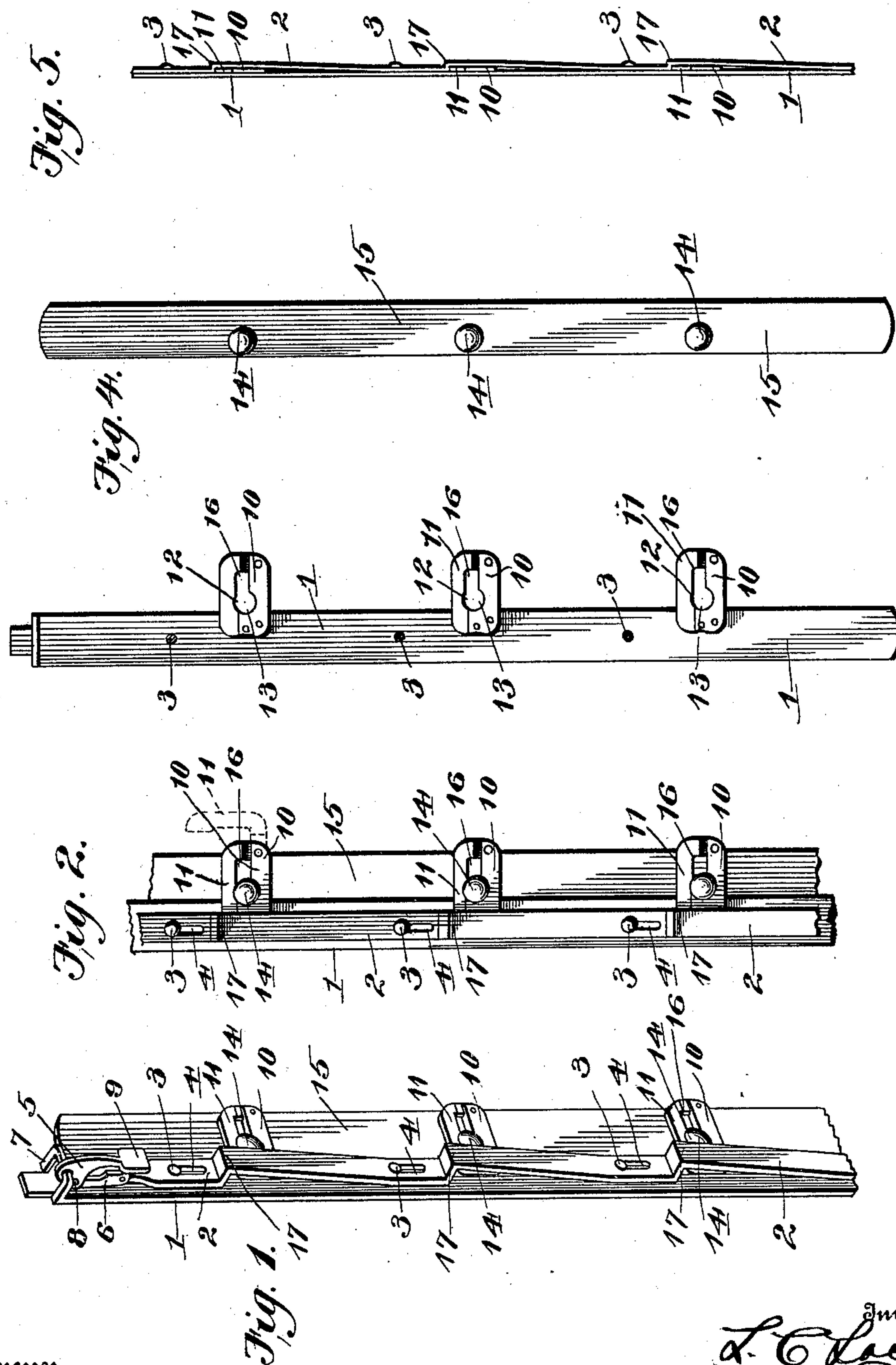
No. 671,520.

Patented Apr. 9, 1901.

L. C. LACOSTE.
CORSET CLASP.

(Application filed May 26, 1900.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LOUIS C. LACOSTE, OF NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-THIRD
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CORSET-CLASP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 671,520, dated April 9, 1901.

Application filed May 26, 1900. Serial No. 18,123. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LOUIS C. LACOSTE, a citizen of the United States, residing at New Orleans, in the parish of Orleans and State of Louisiana, have invented a new and useful Corset-Clasp, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to corsets, and more particularly to the means for fastening the busks together and for quickly unlocking or separating them; and it has for its object to provide the busks with said means in a simple and efficient manner; and the invention consists in the improved construction and novel arrangement of parts of a corset-fastener, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In the accompanying drawings, in which the same reference-numerals indicate corresponding parts in each of the views in which they occur, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the busks of a corset made in accordance with my invention, the same being shown locked together; Fig. 2, a face view of the same, dotted lines showing the position of one of the latches when the same is in its opened position; Fig. 3, a face view of one of the busks with the locking member removed; Fig. 4, a similar view of the other busk, and Fig. 5 an edge view of Fig. 1.

In constructing the busks of a corset in accordance with my invention I form one of the busks with two members 1 and 2, one of which, 1, may be called the "base" member and the other one the "locking" member. These two members are secured together by the usual pin 3 and slot 4 to permit of the necessary longitudinal movement of the locking member upon the base member. The locking member may be moved longitudinally upon said base member in any desired manner, although I have found it very desirable to connect the upper end with a lever 5 by means of a link 6. The lever is pivotally secured to the base by means of the standard 7, formed on the latter and in the form of a loop, and the link is pivotally secured to the heel or pivotal end of the lever adjacent to said loop, as shown at 8. The free end of the lever may be flat, as shown at 9, and is adapted to be moved downwardly substantially par-

allel with the base member, so as to cause both ends of the link to lie below the pivotal point, whereby it will be impossible to move the locking member longitudinally after the lever has been moved down toward the base, as illustrated in Fig. 1. The base member is provided with laterally-projecting arms 10, to the outer end of each of which is pivotally secured a latch 11, the adjacent edges of the arms and latches being recessed, as shown at 12 and 13, through which the head of the pin 14 upon busk 15 is adapted to pass after the latch has been partially separated from its arm. The pivotal end of the latch is preferably curved, forming a recess 16 between the arm and the latch in front of the recesses 12 and 13 for the reception of the stem of the pin. The arm and latch are preferably formed separate from the busk, and the arm is rigidly secured thereto in any suitable manner, as by means of ordinary rivets. The free end of the latch, which is preferably beveled upon its sides, rests upon the rigid end of the arm when in its locked position. The latches are locked in their closed positions by means of said locking member 2, which is provided with a series of shoulders 17, one for each latch.

In using fasteners of this description the locking member is raised to its highest point by the upward movement of the lever at the top, which will withdraw the shoulders away from the tops of the latches a sufficient distance to permit of the latches being partially or entirely opened or swung outward upon their pivots. After the pins upon the other busk have been passed up through the recesses between the arms and the latches the latches are closed or sufficiently so to cause their free ends to lie in the path of the respective shoulders upon the locking member. The lever at the top of the busk is then swung downward, which will cause the locking member to be moved longitudinally upon the base, whereby the different shoulders will engage with the different latches and force each of them down into their closed positions. In this manner it will be impossible for the heads of the pins to pass out through the recesses and the two busks will be securely held together. When it is desired to separate the busks, the lever 26 is swung upward, which will withdraw the

shoulders away from the latches, after which the latches can be separated from the arms sufficiently to permit of the escape of the pins.

Although I have shown what I consider the best means for constructing a corset-fastener in accordance with my invention, yet I reserve the right to make such changes and alterations therein as will come within the scope of my invention.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

In a corset-fastener, the combination of the two busks, one carrying studs and the other laterally-extending plates formed with open-

ings to receive said studs, arms pivoted at their outer ends to the outer ends of the plates and adapted when swung inwardly to prevent the removal of the studs, a longitudinal-sliding locking member having shoulders formed thereon abutting the free ends of the swinging locking-arms, when moved in one direction, and means for effecting the movement of said locking member and the holding of the same in position locking the arms, substantially as described.

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Witnesses:

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