

No. 680,112.

Patented Aug. 6, 1901.

J. D. BELCHER.

CORSET.

(Application filed Nov. 7, 1900.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1

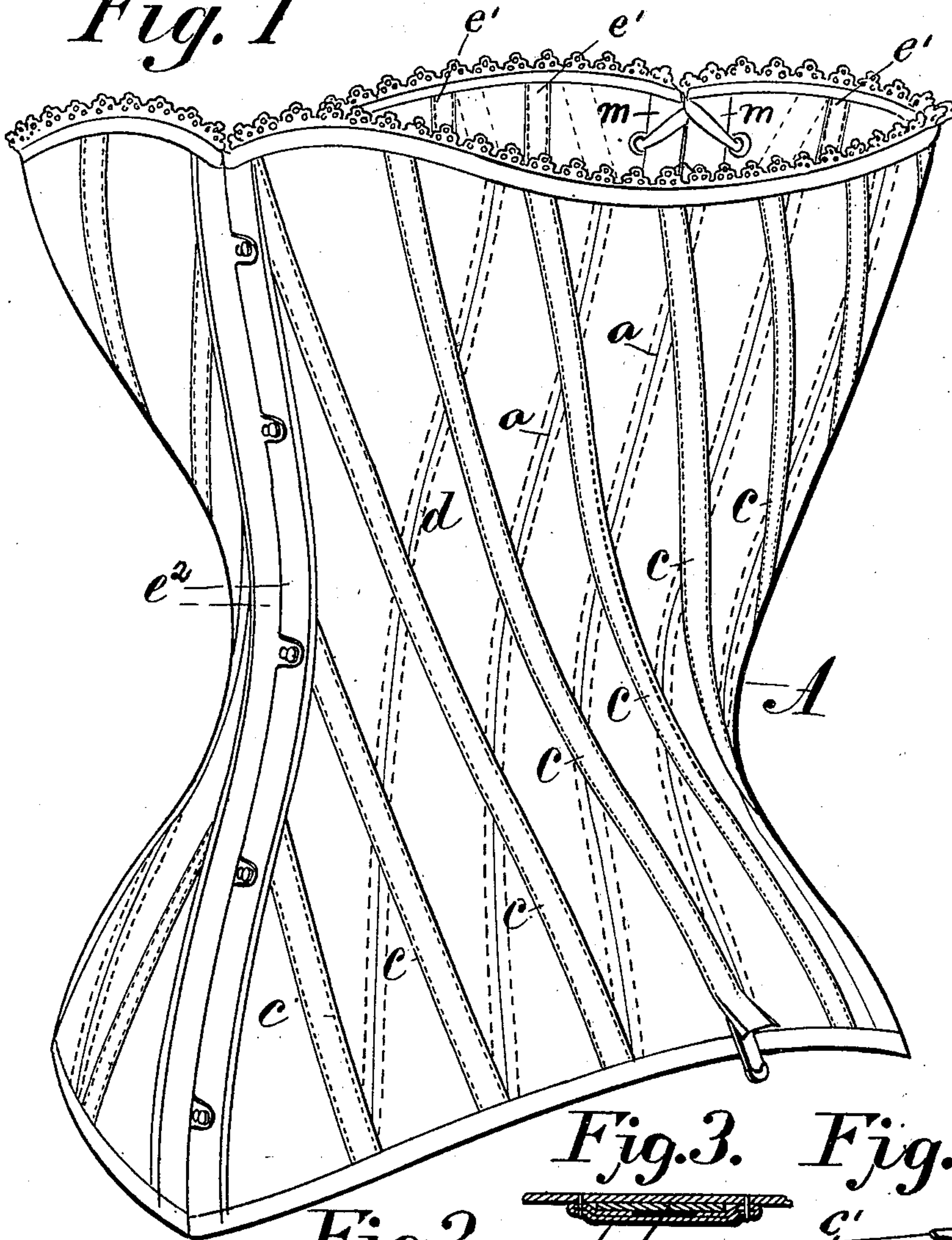


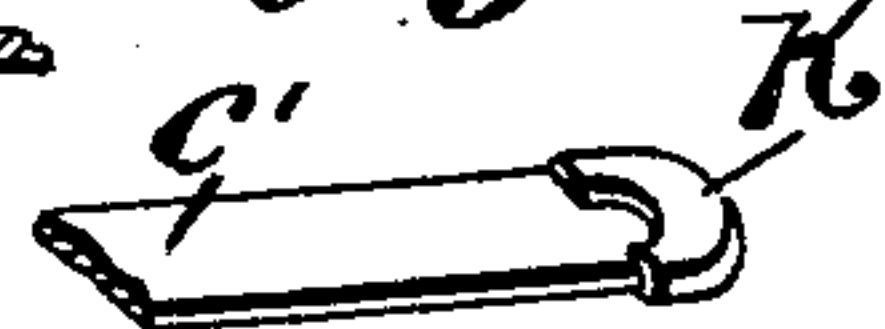
Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.



Witnesses

Wm. Wilson
Geo. C. Thomas x

Inventor

John D. Belcher
By *E. W. Anderson*
his Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN DOWNING BELCHER, OF ST. JOHN, CANADA.

CORSET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 680,112, dated August 6, 1901.

Application filed November 7, 1900. Serial No. 35,776. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN DOWNING BELCHER, a citizen of the Dominion of Canada, and a resident of St. John, in the county of St. John and Province of New Brunswick, Canada, have made a certain new and useful Invention in Corsets; and I declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my corset. Fig. 2 is a cross-section through one of the seams *d*, showing the taping. Fig. 3 is a cross-section through one of the pockets for the bones or steels. Fig. 4 is a fragmentary view of one of the steels or bones, showing the protecting-tip.

The invention relates to corsets; and it consists in the novel construction and combination of parts, as hereinafter set forth.

The object of the invention is to provide a strong and flexible corset which will have great elasticity and will yield readily to the movements of the wearer and will not be liable to breakage and yet will have great strength.

In the accompanying drawings the letter *A* indicates the corset, and *c c* indicate the oblique casings or pockets for the bones *c'*, said casings intersecting the corset-seams in a bias manner. All the seams *d* of the corset have their flanges *e* turned to the inside of the corset-cloth, pressed flat, and neatly covered with tapes *e'*. These casings or pockets are formed by strips having their seams turned inward and are directed in a bias or oblique manner on each side of the central opening of the corset downward and outward, extending in the oblique direction to the end of the corset. The strips are usually stitched to the exterior of the corset-cloth. The bones or steel fillings *c'*, placed in these casings or pockets, are therefore oblique or spiral, and being so arranged are not liable to breakage from direct pressure. In the central portion in front the bones of varying length extend upward and inward from the bottom of the corset and meet the clasp-steels *e²* at different

points, where they are protected by means of the brass tips *k*, with which they are provided.

Each side of the corset is provided with the oblique casings or pockets and spirally-arranged bones or steels, the direction in the back portion being downward and inward toward the central meeting stiffening-strips, (indicated at *m*.) The bias casings and the spiral bones or steels therein provide an elastic stiffening which will readily yield to any motion of the wearer. The casings being nearly parallel in the upper and lower portions gradually approach each other somewhat in the middle or waist part, thereby giving proper grace to the figure.

The bias arrangement of the casings intersecting the seams strengthens the latter, and the structure is designed to prevent the giving way of the corset at the seams, thereby avoiding stretching, which would injure the original shape, especially at the waist-line. The bones are not liable to breakage in the sharper curvatures from the motion of the wearer, particularly on the hips, the bias direction of the bones relieving the direct pressure on the filling.

This corset is designed to have great elasticity and to conform easily and gracefully to the figure. The manner of securing the casings and seams serves to give great strength to the structure.

Each section or half of the corset is provided with a series of bones or steels having an inward inclination from bottom to top toward the front joint of such sections and having an inward inclination from top to bottom toward the rear joint of such sections, whereby at the front of the corset the short lower steels at the abdomen yield readily when the wearer bends forward or backward and do not bind or present a stiff obstruction to movement, as in the present form of corset in use, and at the rear of the corset the short upper steels likewise move readily with the wearer, freedom of movement being thus greatly facilitated without detracting from the usefulness of the corset.

Having described this invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A corset having the double series of bias

bones or steels, having each series an inward inclination from bottom to top toward the front joint of the two sections of the corset, and an inward inclination from top to bottom toward the rear joint of the two sections of the corset, each such series terminating in short bones or steels, substantially as specified.

2. A corset having the double series of bias steels or bones, having opposite inclinations with respect to each other at front and rear

of the corset, and terminating each series in short bones or steels, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN DOWNING BELCHER.

Witnesses:

ALLAN A. DAVIDSON,
JOHN MCKEEN.