

No. 690,665.

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C. H. SCHOPBACH.

APPAREL CORSET.

(Application filed Aug. 3, 1899. Renewed Aug. 12, 1901.)

(No Model.)

Fig 1

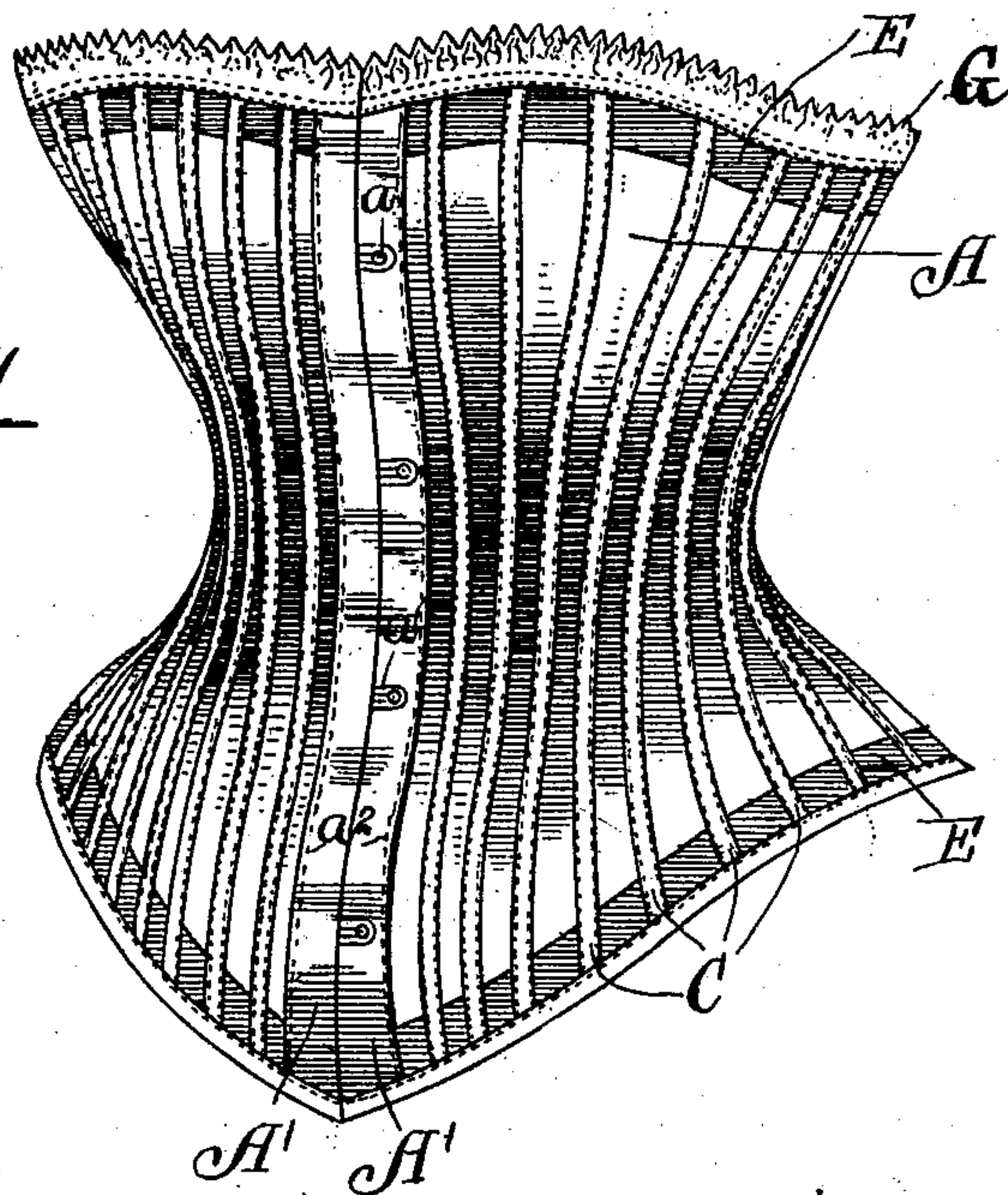


Fig 2

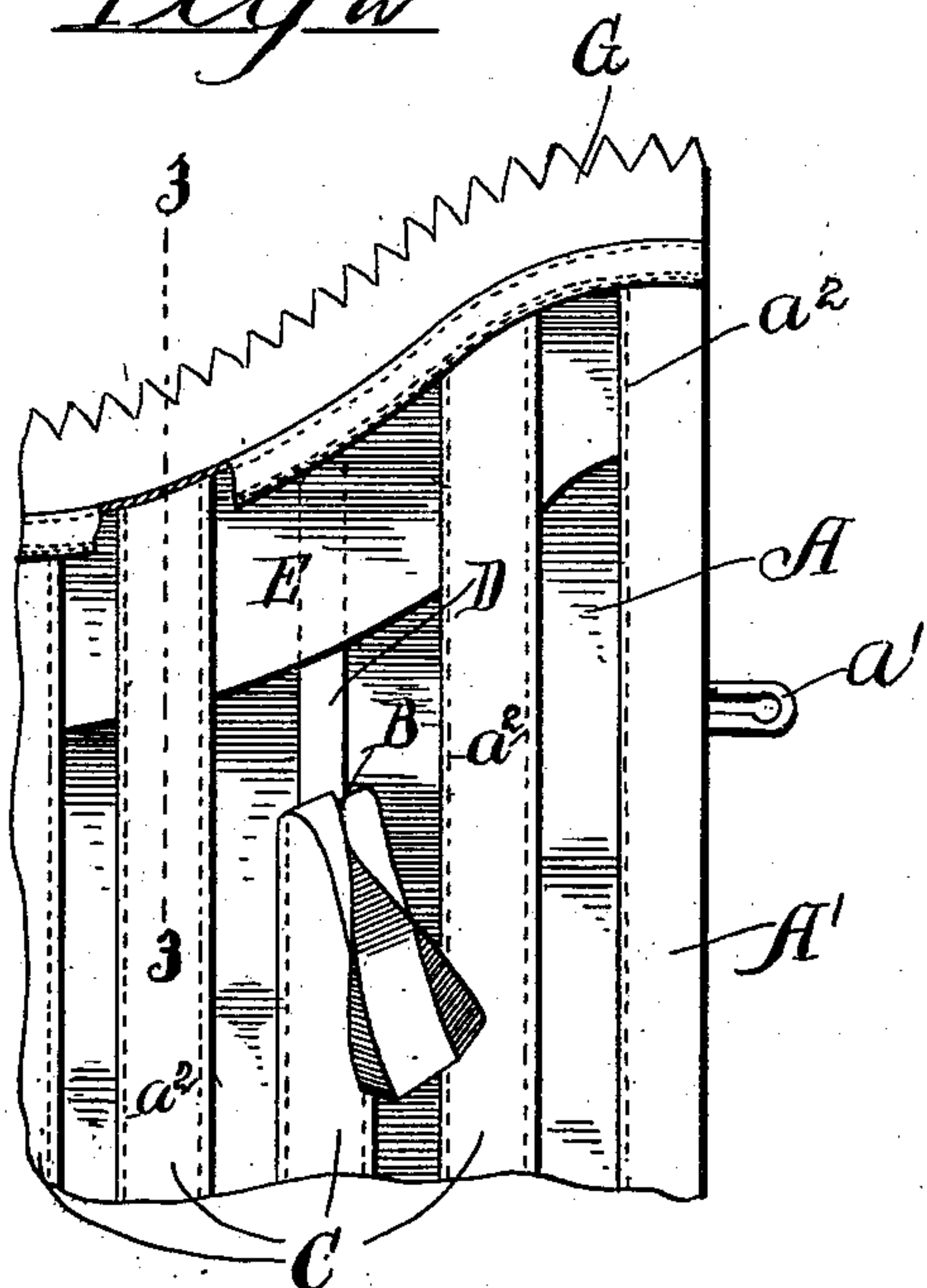


Fig 3

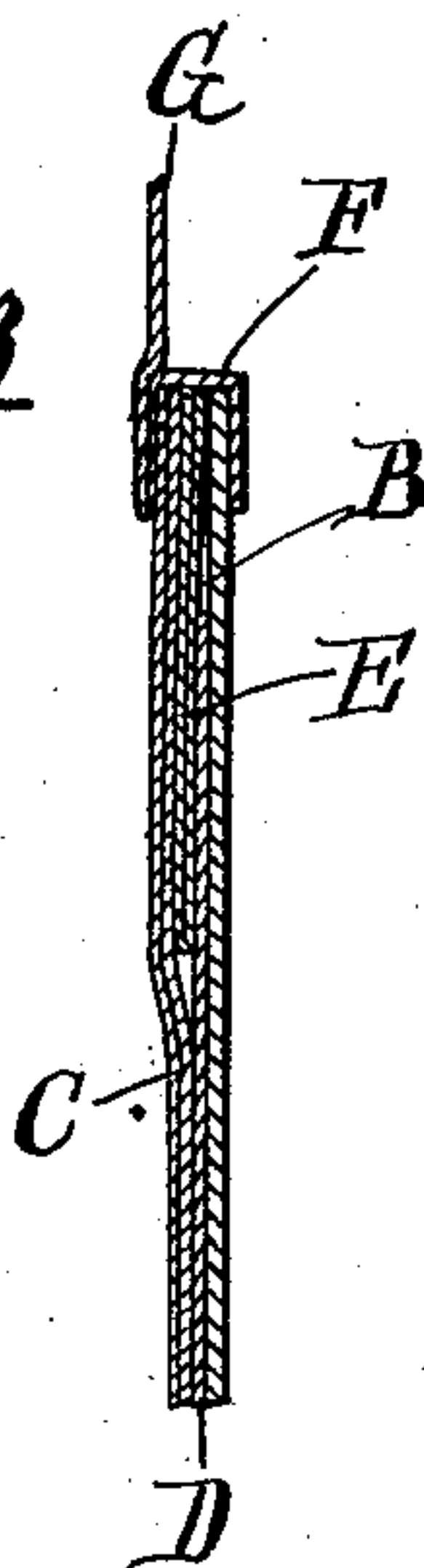
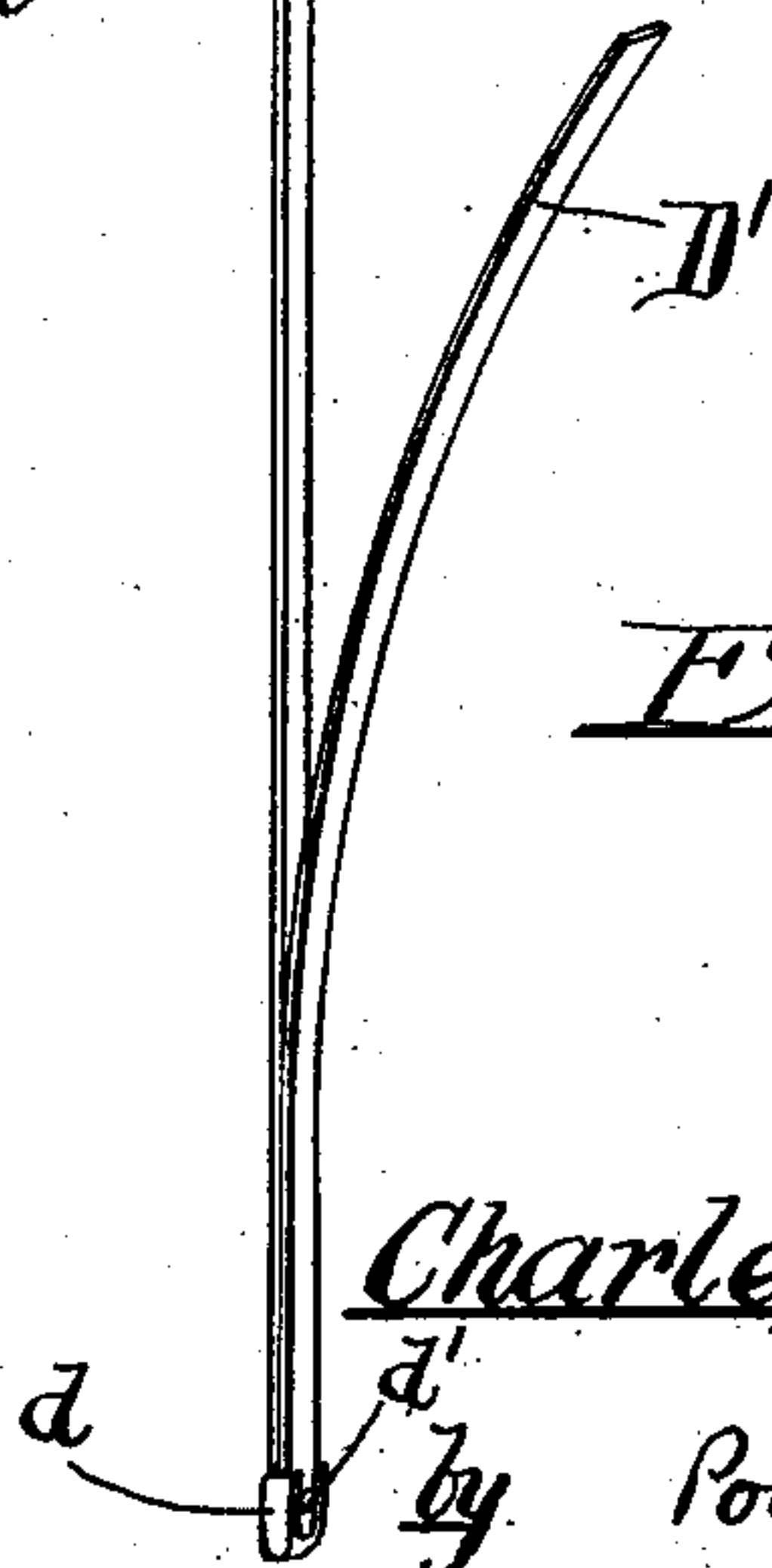


Fig 4



Witnesses:-

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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APPAREL-CORSET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 690,665, dated January 7, 1902.

Application filed August 3, 1899. Renewed August 12, 1901. Serial No. 71,876. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES HENRY SCHOPBACH, of Aurora, in the county of Kane and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Corsets; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to improvements in corsets, and refers more particularly to the construction of the stays used to give stiffness to the corset and to a construction of the stay-pockets intended to prevent the ends of said stays from breaking through the walls of the pockets.

The invention consists in the matters hereinafter set forth, and more particularly pointed out in the appended claim.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a front perspective view of a corset made in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a fragmentary front elevation of the upper marginal part of the corset shown in Fig. 1, with parts broken away to more clearly illustrate certain features of the invention. Fig. 3 is a detail section taken on line 3 3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a view of one of the corset-stays removed from the corset.

As shown in said drawings, A designates the fabric composing the main or body portion of the corset, the same being shown in this instance as being made of a single layer or thickness.

B B designate vertical stay-pockets, which are formed by means of strips of cloth C, sewed at their side edges to the outer surface of the body A. Within said pockets are located stiffening-stays.

A' A' designate the usual steels placed at the front meeting edges of the two sides of the corset, one of which is provided with a plurality of studs a and the other of which is provided with an equal number of eyelets or loops a' , adapted to engage said studs and by which the front margins of the corset are joined in a familiar manner.

The strips C, forming the outer walls of the stay-pockets, will preferably have their side margins or edges folded inwardly, as shown

in Fig. 2, said side margins meeting or overlapping at the center of the strip, and thereby providing a double layer or thickness of the material for the outer walls of the said pockets. Said strips are secured to the body of the corset by lines of stitches a^2 , which pass through the folded side margins thereof. The said stiffening-stays referred to are made of metal, preferably spring-steel, and extend from the upper to the lower margin of the corset in the usual manner. They are shown as provided at their upper and lower ends with the usual protecting-caps d , which prevent the sharp ends of the stays from coming in contact with the cloth forming the walls of the pockets. As a separate improvement, said stays each consist of two layers or strips D and D', both preferably of the same width. The outer strip D' is attached at its lower end to the lower end of the inner one by a suitable attaching means, so that the strips may slide freely endwise on each other, as the stay is bent in all parts except at their attached ends. The two strips are shown as secured together by a rivet d' and also by the lowermost protecting-cap, which is arranged to embrace the lower ends of both strips. The outer strip D' will desirably be made of less length than the strip D, it being herein shown as somewhat greater than one-half the length of said strip D. The upper and lower ends of said pockets are provided with reinforcing means adapted to strengthen the same and prevent the ends of the stays from breaking through the material forming the outer walls of said pockets. This construction is illustrated in detail in Figs. 2 and 3, which shows the same applied to the upper part of the corset; but it will be understood that the lower margin of said corset may be provided with the same construction, and the corset shown in Fig. 1 is so made. As shown in said figure, E designates a strip of cloth, which is attached to the main body of the fabric A of the corset parallel with the upper edge thereof and transversely of the stay-pocket strips C. There are two strips E, one on each lateral side or half of the corset. Each of said strips E is secured to the body of the corset between the strips C and said body and will preferably be folded longitudinally upon itself to form a double layer or thickness, as shown in Fig. 3.

Said reinforcing-strip is of such width that when folded and secured in place, as shown in Fig. 3, it overlaps the adjacent ends of the stays and is located between said ends of the stays and the strips forming the outer wall of the stay-pockets. Said reinforcing-strip E will usually be primarily secured in place by basting, and the adjacent ends of the strips C after the stays have been inserted in place are lapped over said reinforcing-strips and sewed in place by the laterally-separated lines of stitches a^2 , said stitches passing through said transverse reinforcing-strip E in the part thereof between the strips C and the body of the corset and serving to permanently secure the same in place. It will thus be seen that the outer wall of the said pockets at the opposite ends thereof are composed of four layers of material, so that said walls are greatly strengthened and the ends of the stays are prevented from breaking there-through.

When the pocket and reinforcing-strips have been sewed in place in the manner described, a binding-strip F is applied over the upper edge of the corset and engages on one side the pocket and the reinforcing strips and on the other side the body of the corset and is secured thereto by lines of stitches passing through the several layers, as clearly shown in Fig. 3. An ornamental embroidering-strip G may be attached to the upper edge of the corset, if desired.

The provision of the additional layer or strip D', attached at one end to the strip D, is of much importance, as it affords a metal stay having a great degree of resiliency combined with ample strength, it being obvious that a stay so made while possessing the same strength is at the same time more flexible than a stay which is equal in cross-section to the combined cross-sectional areas of the two layers D and D', and is therefore much more comfortable to the wearer. Moreover, such two-part construction is more durable, as stays so made are not so likely to break under extreme or continued flexure as is a single stay possessing the same strength. An important advantage is gained by attaching two stay-strips together at their ends, because thereby the conjoint or united action of the strips is obtained, which would not be true if said lower ends of the strips were detached and relatively movable. In the latter case, furthermore, the flexing strain on the stay would not be uniformly distributed as is true of the construction illustrated. Moreover, the detachment of the upper ends of the two strips constituting the stay from each other is of considerable importance, as it enables said stays to readily conform to

the shape assumed by the corset, and thereby greatly increases the comfort of the garment. If both ends of said strips were attached to each other, the strip on the inner side of the curve when said stay is flexed would, owing to its longitudinal immovability with respect to the other strip, act to restrict the flexure of the strip on the outside of said curve and to that extent impede the movements of the wearer. The construction described enables both of the attached ends of said strips to be covered by one protecting-cap d , which obviously simplifies and cheapens the construction. The length of the outer or shorter strip may be varied to suit the requirements of each particular case.

The strips E, which are contained partly within the upper and lower ends of the stay-pockets and are located at such places between the ends of the stays and the pocket-strips C, prevent the ends of said stays from cutting through said strips and becoming exposed. The construction wherein the reinforcing parts contained within said stay-pockets form part of a strip which passes around the corset is a desirable one, for the reason that it greatly simplifies the construction and also strengthens the part of the corset to which it is applied. If such reinforcing parts, forming part of the stay-pockets, were made separately from each other, it would obviously require the expenditure of a greater amount of labor and time to form said parts and insert them in place than where said parts are a part of a continuous strip which may be attached at one operation.

I claim as my invention—

A corset comprising a body-layer, a plurality of superposed strips attached to the body-layer and forming stay-pockets, stays in said pockets, and a reinforcing-strip of substantially uniform width attached to the marginal part of each side of said body-layer beneath the strips which form the stay-pockets and extending continuously from the front to the rear margins thereof, the outer margin of the strip extending in all its parts beyond the extremities of the stays, and the strip being parallel with the margin of the body-layer, the parts of said reinforcing-strip beneath said pocket-strips being located between the ends of the stays therein and said pocket-strips.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses, this 6th day of June, A. D. 1899.

CHARLES HENRY SCHOPBACH.

Witnesses:

W. H. PEASE,
JNO. C. WEILAND.