

No. 715,516.

Patented Dec. 9. 1902.

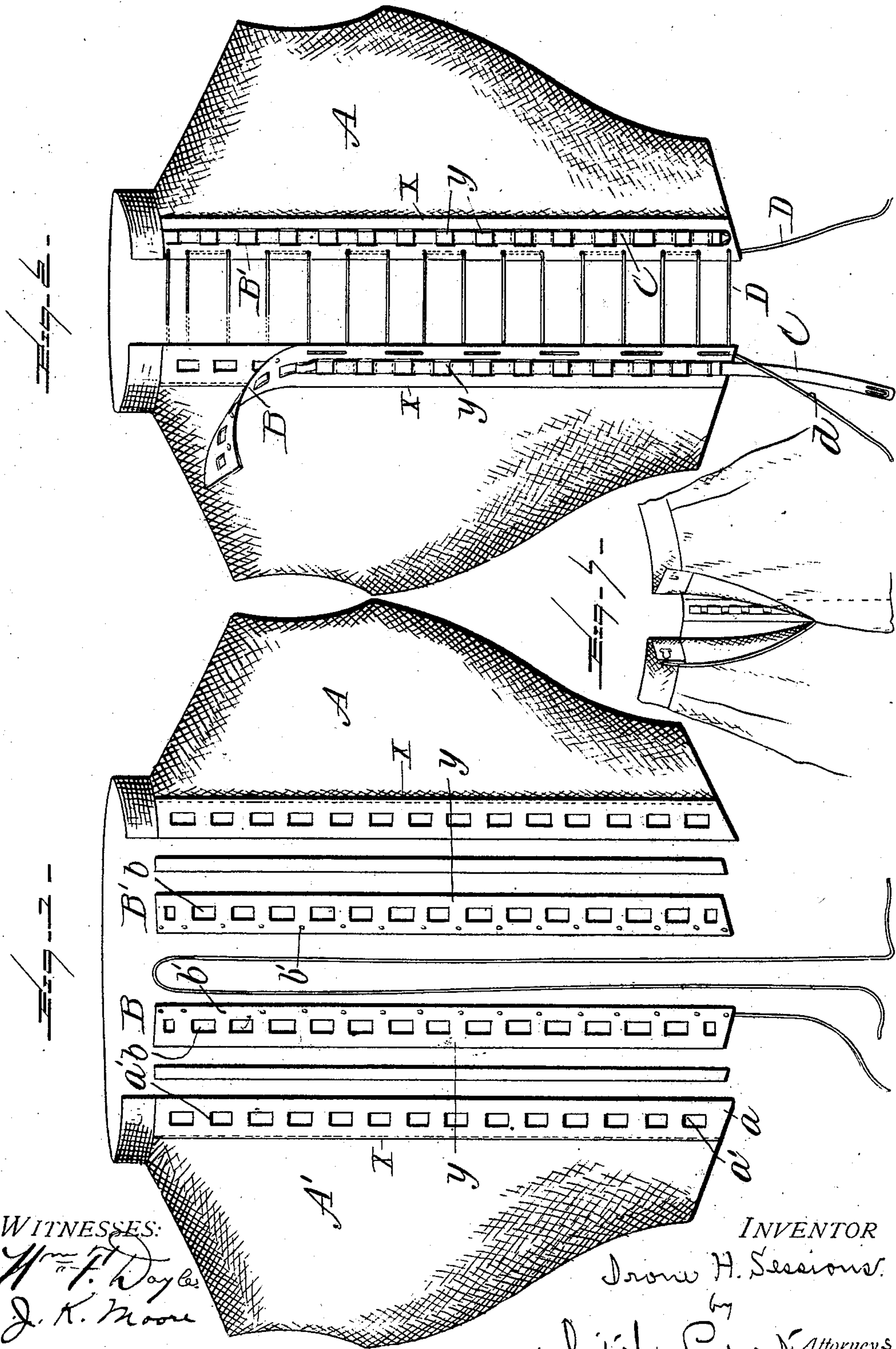
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(Application filed Mar. 24, 1902.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.



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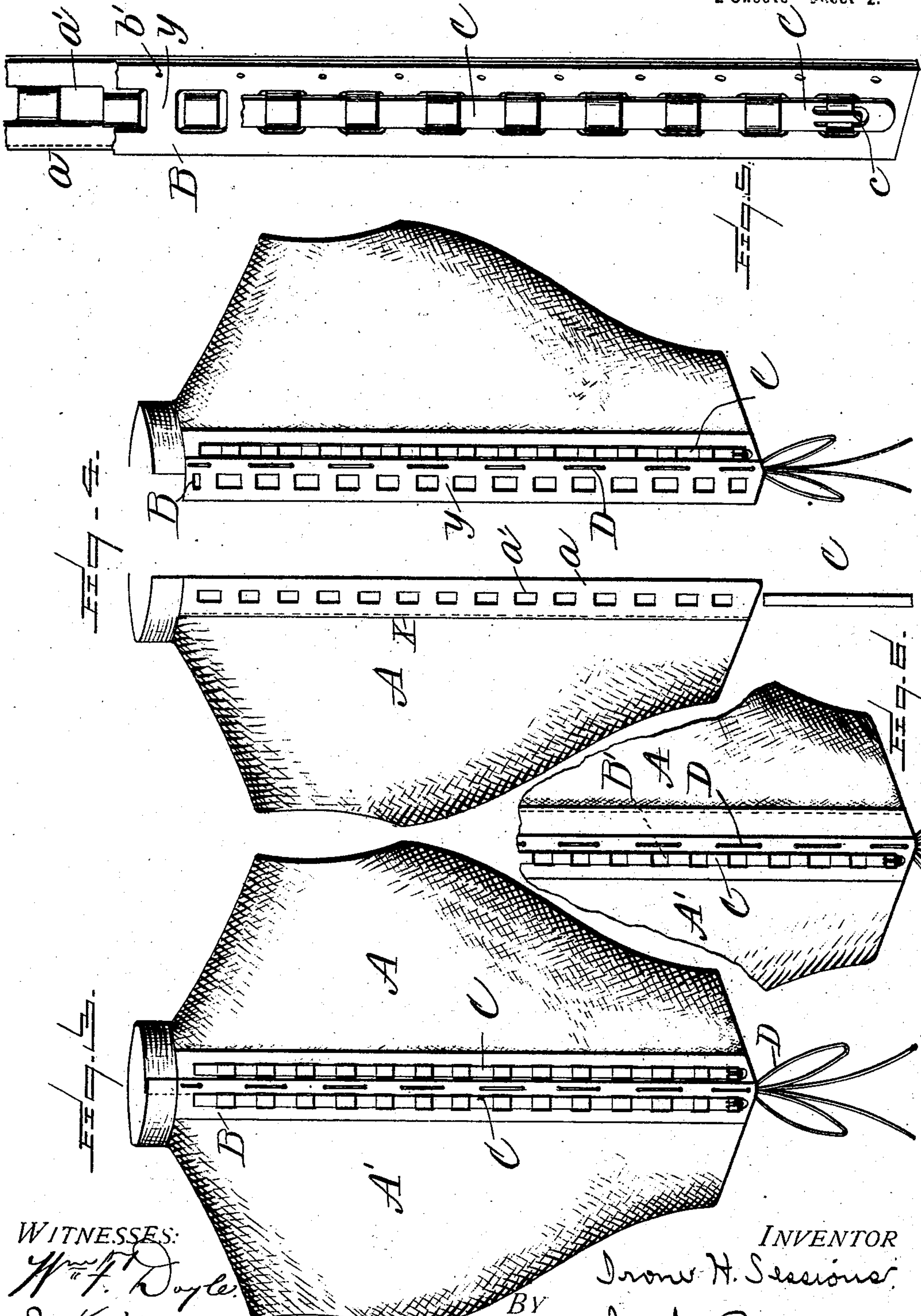
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WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

IRONE HANCOCK SESSIONS, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

FASTENING DEVICE FOR ARTICLES OF WOMEN'S WEAR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 715,516, dated December 9, 1902.

Application filed March 24, 1902. Serial No. 99,690. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, IRONE HANCOCK SESSIONS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fastening Devices for Articles of Women's Wear; and I do hereby 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.

My present invention relates to articles of women's wear, and has for its object the applying of securing devices to such articles in such manner that the principal parts can be readily attached to and detached from the article; also, to produce securing devices which will enable the wearer to effectively secure the article without assistance and enable her also to unfasten and quickly remove the same.

My invention is more especially intended for the securing together of the waists of dresses and the fronts of corsets.

The best form in which I have contemplated embodying my invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and the invention is set forth in the following description and claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a view showing in a conventional way the lining of a waist with two parts of my dress-fastener attached to the meeting edges of said lining and the other parts separated therefrom. Fig. 2 is a view of the like parts with the lacing-cord inserted but relaxed and one side in partial readiness for closing the waist by the said cord. Fig. 3 is a view showing the position of the parts when the waist is closed. Fig. 4 is a view of the parts when one of the retaining-strips have been removed to unfasten the waist. Fig. 5 is a partial view showing the manner in which the retaining-strips are inserted and held. Fig. 6 is a partial view of a modified and slightly simpler construction. Fig. 7 is a view of the top of a dress or gown skirt, showing my invention applied to closing the placket.

In Figs. 1, 2, 3, and 4, A A' designate the opposite or meeting edges of a waist-lining. To these edges are attached two strips *a*, having perforations *a'*. These strips I term "securing-strips" and are composed of two thick-

nesses of material, preferably of linen or other durable material, and when prepared for attachment to a waist-lining have the two parts of which it is composed left open at the edge *x* for the insertion of the edge of the lining to which it is sewed.

The strips B B', I term "eyelet-strips" and are made of like material and are provided with openings *b* and eyelets *b'*. The openings of the eyelet-strips are made to bring the bar *y* between them across the openings of the strips A, as will be clearly seen in the enlarged view, Fig. 5. The bars *y* are narrower than the openings *a* and permit of the insertion of the retaining-strips C, as shown in Fig. 5. I prefer to have these retaining-strips provided with a fastening device *c* of the character shown in Fig. 5, which is formed by a tongue cut from the material of the strip and pressed slightly to one side to engage the edge of a bar *y* or the lower edge of one of the openings *a* in the securing-strips. While I prefer this form, other securing devices may be employed. These retaining-strips are made of any material having sufficient rigidity to secure the parts together and sufficient flexibility to adapt themselves readily to the form of the wearer. They should also be of material which will not rust or corrode. I prefer to make them of celluloid, rubber, or whalebone. The eyelet-strips are connected by a single lacing-cord D, as best shown in Fig. 2, passing into one of the eyelet-strips from the under side and into the other from the upper side, so that when the lacing-cord is drawn to bring the eyelet-strips together one of them will pass beneath the other, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4.

One of the eyelet-strips is provided with the short cord *d*, by which the lacing-cord may be secured by tying after the eyelet-strips have been drawn to the required position. These parts being secured to the lining of the waist are covered and effectually concealed by the outside or waist material.

In using my dress-fastener the two eyelet-strips are united to the securing-strips A A' by the retaining-strips C. The lacing-cord is then loosened until the waist can be easily put on by passing the same over the head. When the waist is adjusted to its proper place, the lacing-cord is drawn and the eyelet-strips

brought together, with one overlapping the other. The cords *d* are then tied together, and the waist is secured. If the fastening is at the front of the dress, one of the retaining-
5 strips can be inserted after the wearer has put on the waist.

When it is desired to remove the waist, one of the retaining-strips is slightly raised and the tongue *c* detached or its fastening device
10 otherwise released, and the strip is then drawn downwardly and out, thereby instantly releasing the waist.

The eyelet-strips will ordinarily be made of two thicknesses of material and the eye-
15 lets inserted through them. If preferred, however, an additional thickness of material may be inserted where the eyelets pass through or a thin strip of some stiffer substance may be inserted in lieu thereof.

20 In Fig. 6 I have shown a construction in which but one securing and one retaining strip are employed, one of the eyelet-strips being secured directly to one side of the waist-lining.

25 In Fig. 7 I have shown a part of my waist-fastening construction employed to close the placket of a dress. In this instance the two securing-strips are secured to the inside of the skirt adjacent to the placket-opening,
30 and these two strips are held together by a retaining-strip. The retaining-strip holds the placket closed through its entire length and can be instantly released.

While I have shown my devices applied to
35 the dresses of women at these two points, it is to be understood that I propose to use it for closing corsets or wherever it may be found convenient or desirable.

It will be seen that in the case of waists
40 made of wash goods there is nothing permanently connected to the waist that can be injured by water or by the wringers ordinarily used, as by removing the retaining-strips nothing but the securing-strips remain at-

tached to the article of dress. It is further 45 obvious that two lacing-cords may be employed instead of one.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A fastening for articles of women's wear 50 consisting of the perforated securing-strips, the eyelet-strips, the retaining-strips, and a lacing-cord, substantially as described.

2. A fastening for articles of women's wear 55 consisting of lacing construction including an eyelet-strip, a securing-strip, and a retaining-strip, substantially as described.

3. In a fastening device for articles of women's wear, the combination of two perforated strips and a retaining-strip uniting the 60 two perforated strips, substantially as described.

4. In a fastening device for articles of women's wear, the combination with parts forming a lacing construction, of an instantly 65 detachable means for connecting said lacing construction to one of the parts to be united, substantially as described.

5. In a fastening device for articles of women's wear, the combination with a lac- 70 ing construction, of an instantly detachable means for connecting said lacing construction to both of the parts to be united, substantially as described.

6. A fastening for articles of women's wear 75 comprising a lacing construction consisting of two eyeleted strips and a lace, each of said eyeleted strips being also perforated, two perforated securing-strips and two retaining-strips each for uniting an eyeleted strip to a 80 securing-strip, substantially as described.

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

IRONE HANCOCK SESSIONS.

Witnesses:

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GEORGE M. BOND.