

No. 869,797.

PATENTED OCT. 29, 1907.

H. M. McCORMICK.  
CORSET STAY.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 8, 1906.

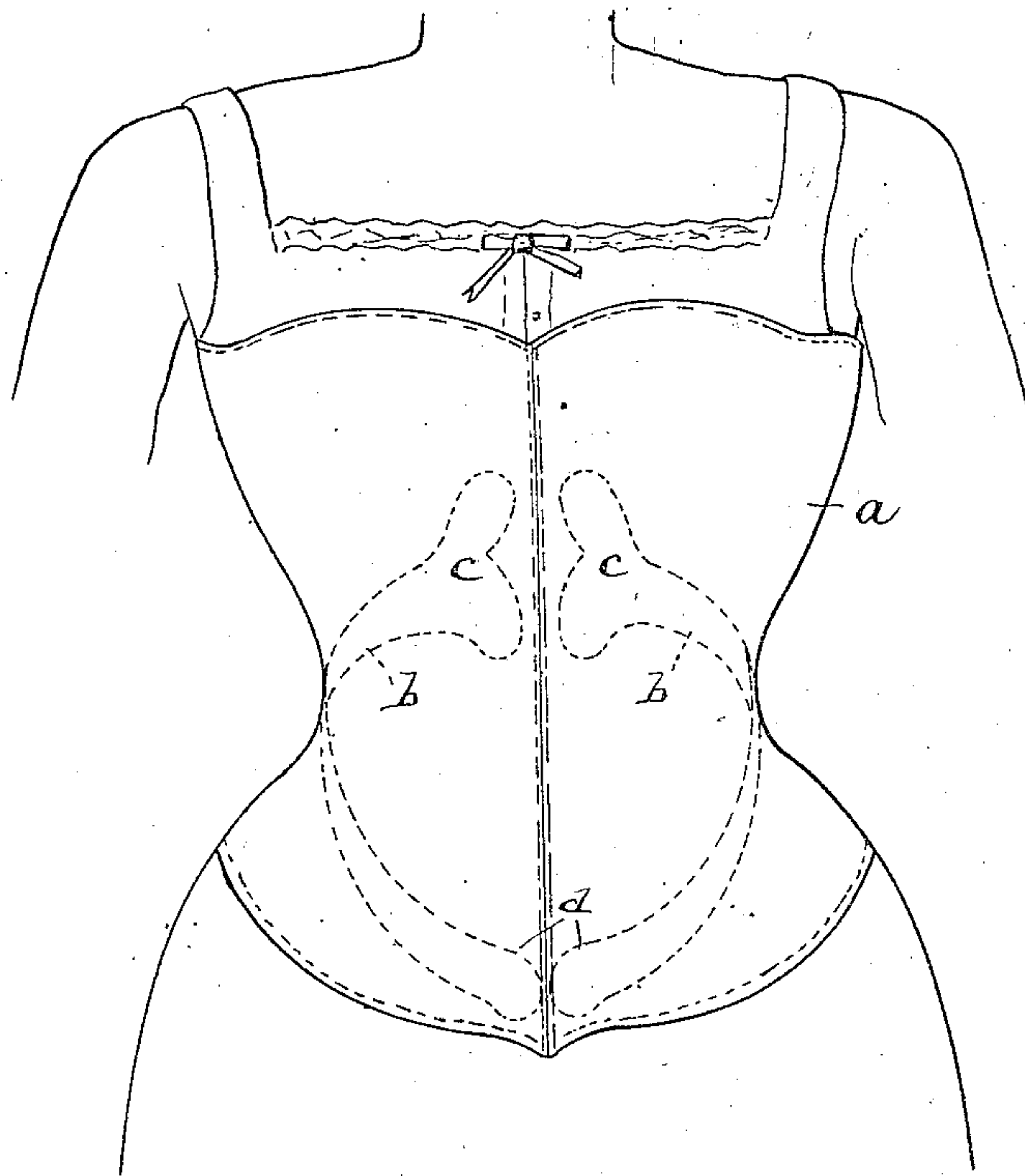


Fig. 1

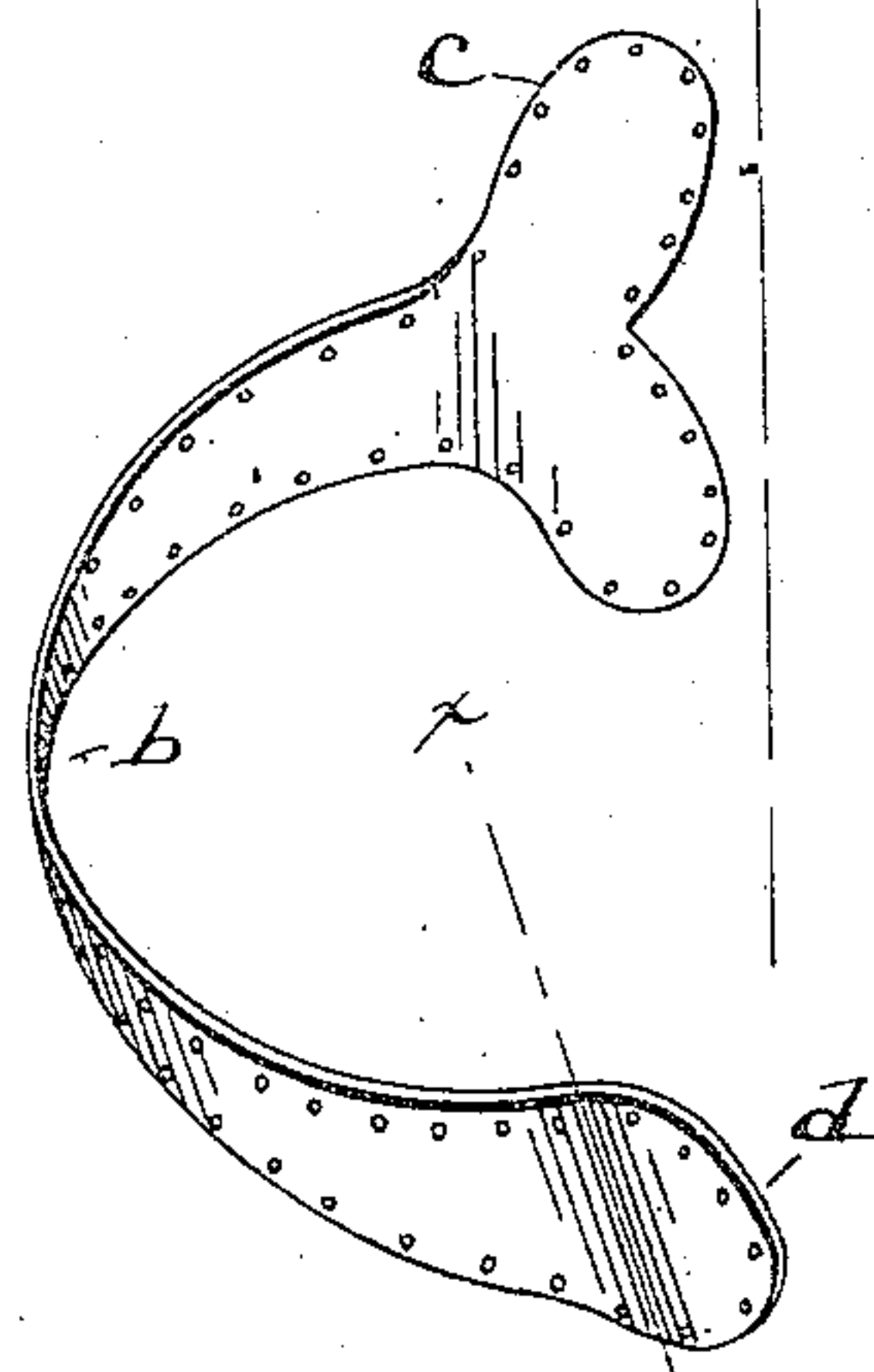


Fig. 3

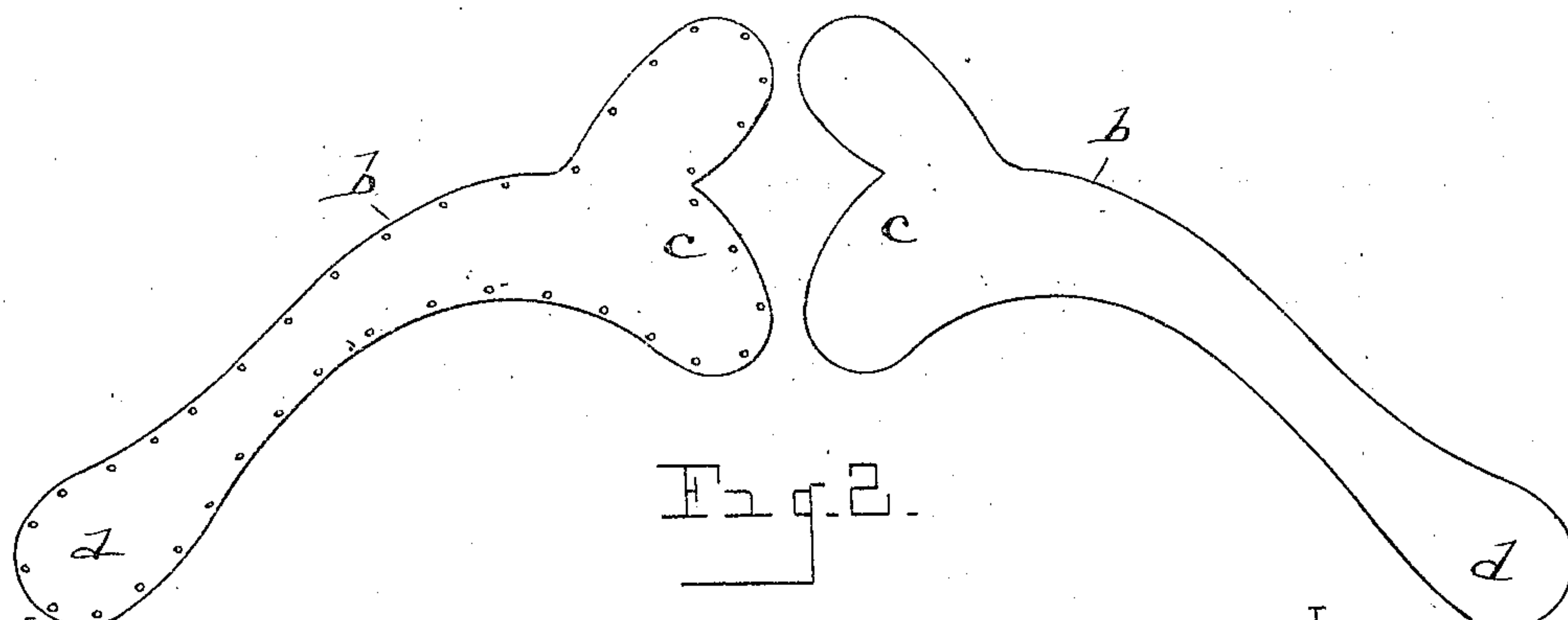


Fig. 2

WITNESSES.

*G. B. Baenziger*  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HUGH M. McCORMICK, OF ROYAL OAK, MICHIGAN.

## CORSET-STAY

No. 869,797.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 29, 1907.

Application filed October 8, 1906. Serial No. 338,054.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HUGH M. McCORMICK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Royal Oak, in the county of Oakland and State of Michigan, have invented a new and useful Corset-Stay, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in the article of female wearing apparel, commonly designated "corset"; which article of apparel is designed to accomplish two principal ends; first, to support the bust above and the skirts, petticoats, and attached nether garments below; second, to improve the female figure, and permit the wearing of various styles of garments designed to be worn with corsets.

It is a well-known fact that many physicians deplore the use of the corset by women, condemning it chiefly because of its injurious pressure upon the abdomen, causing greater or less displacement of the viscera or parts thereof; being particularly injurious often, after child-birth, or illness causing weakness or displacement of the female internal organs.

My invention is specially intended to accomplish two ends; first, to assist the corset to lift the lower abdomen instead of depressing it, second, to increase and assist the adaptability of the corset to improve the female form and to strengthen and support those parts of the lower abdomen which most require such assistance, for any reason. I attain these objects by the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1, is a front view of a female trunk showing a corset "a" in place, provided with my corset-stay (see dotted lines "b, c, d"). Fig. 2, is a view of the right and left stays, the right perforated for attaching to the corset, the left unperforated, the stays outstretched flat, as they would appear were the corset opened fully from the front. Fig. 3 is a view illustrating the right stay curved into the form it should occupy in a corset, when in position on the person. This is substantially its natural position, that of a spring. (Note the inward and upward dip of the end "d").

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

The stay "b" is preferably built into the corset and should, preferably, be invisible; though it may be attached inside or outside if desired. It can be composed of any suitable material, attached in a great variety of ways, and its shape will necessarily be greatly modified to suit different kinds of corsets or to fit differ-

ent figures. The stay illustrated, is designed of fine spring steel, tempered to retain high elasticity under long and constant pressure. The winged ends "c" are built into the backs of the corset halves, right and left, the stay coming forward, preferably across the waist-line (though modifications of shape may sometimes bring it above or below) and terminating in the inward and upward dipping end "d", preferably low in the front of the corset (though this may be modified at need). The wings "c" are intended to act as a fulcrum for the rest of the stay "b", but particularly for the ends "d", which are the points in the lower fronts of the corset which are designed to support or raise the otherwise depressed abdomen. The fulcrum "c" is purposely widely distributed above and below the waist-line in the back, in most instances (though this may be modified at need) in order that no point upon the wearer's back suffer undue pressure.

In Fig. 3, the line "x-x" shows the contour of the swelling abdomen relative to the position of the stay, in a normal woman. In Fig. 2, small perforations are shown, around the outer edge, in the right corset-stay; these are for threading or sewing to the body of the corset. There can be great latitude in the methods of attaching; for instance: Different makers may be found to favor different modes of attaching the corset-stay in some or all of their corsets with the same ends and purposes in view.

The design shown in the drawing is mine, but I am fully aware that there must be many modifications of form adopted to insure comfort to the figures of different women; therefore, I cover broadly the invention of a corset-stay designed to support the lower abdomen and improve the figure, which stay derives its fulcrum from itself, as herein described;

Therefore I claim:

A corset stay formed of spring material shaped and constructed, at its front end, to impinge supportingly upon the abdomen, and to be fitted into a corset beginning at or near one lower front extremity thereof, thence passing outward and upward over the hip at or near the waist-line, and extending well into the rear central portion of the corset with the center of its rear extremity at or near the waistline, said extremity being provided with oppositely directed laterally extending fulcrumic wings intended and adapted to receive and distribute upon the back of the wearer the strain imposed on the forward end by the abdomen, substantially as described.

HUGH M. McCORMICK.

Witnesses:

EDWARD G. WASEY,  
H. H. HATCH.