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CORSET.

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908,789.

Patented Jan. 5, 1909.

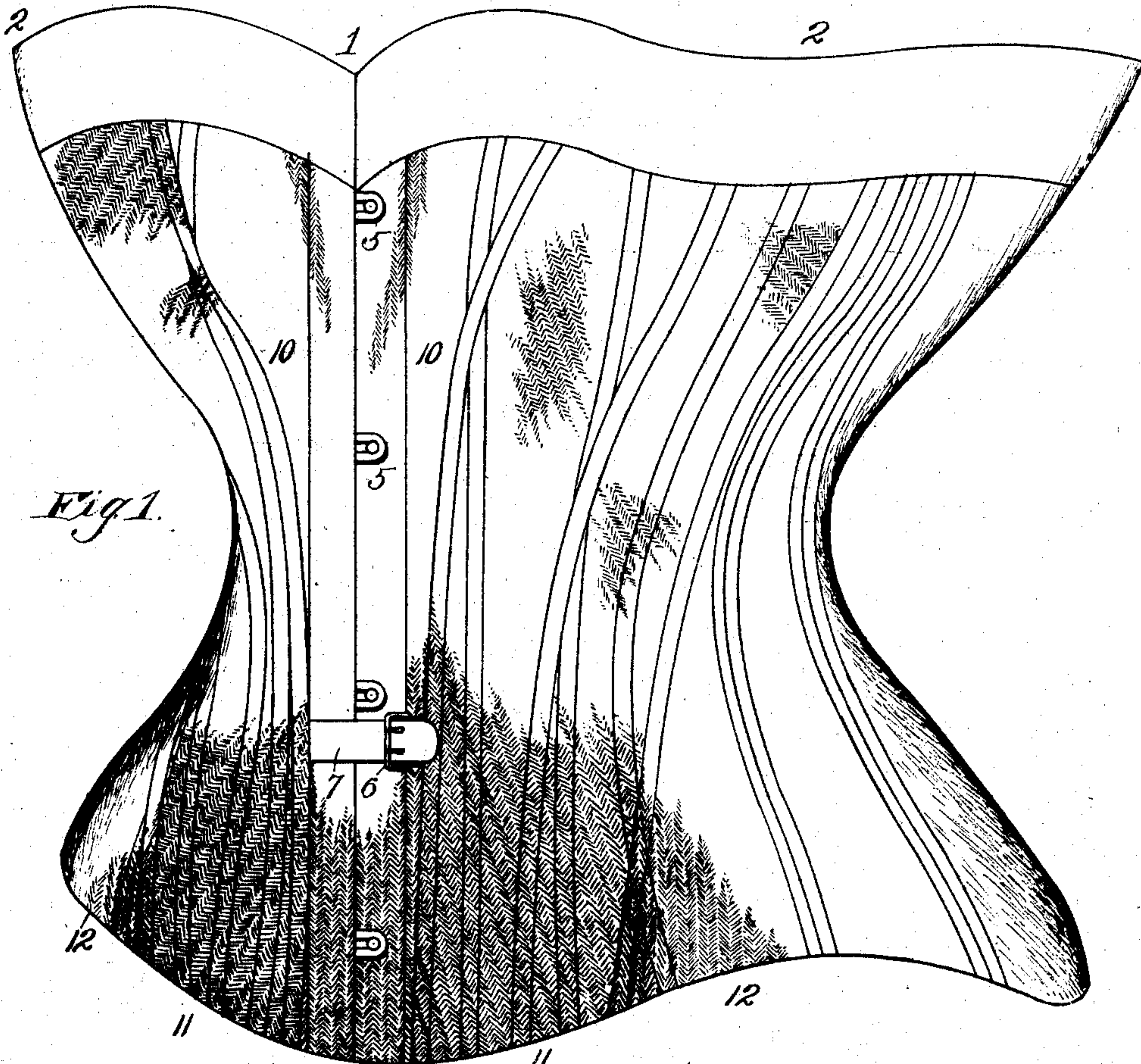


Fig. 1.

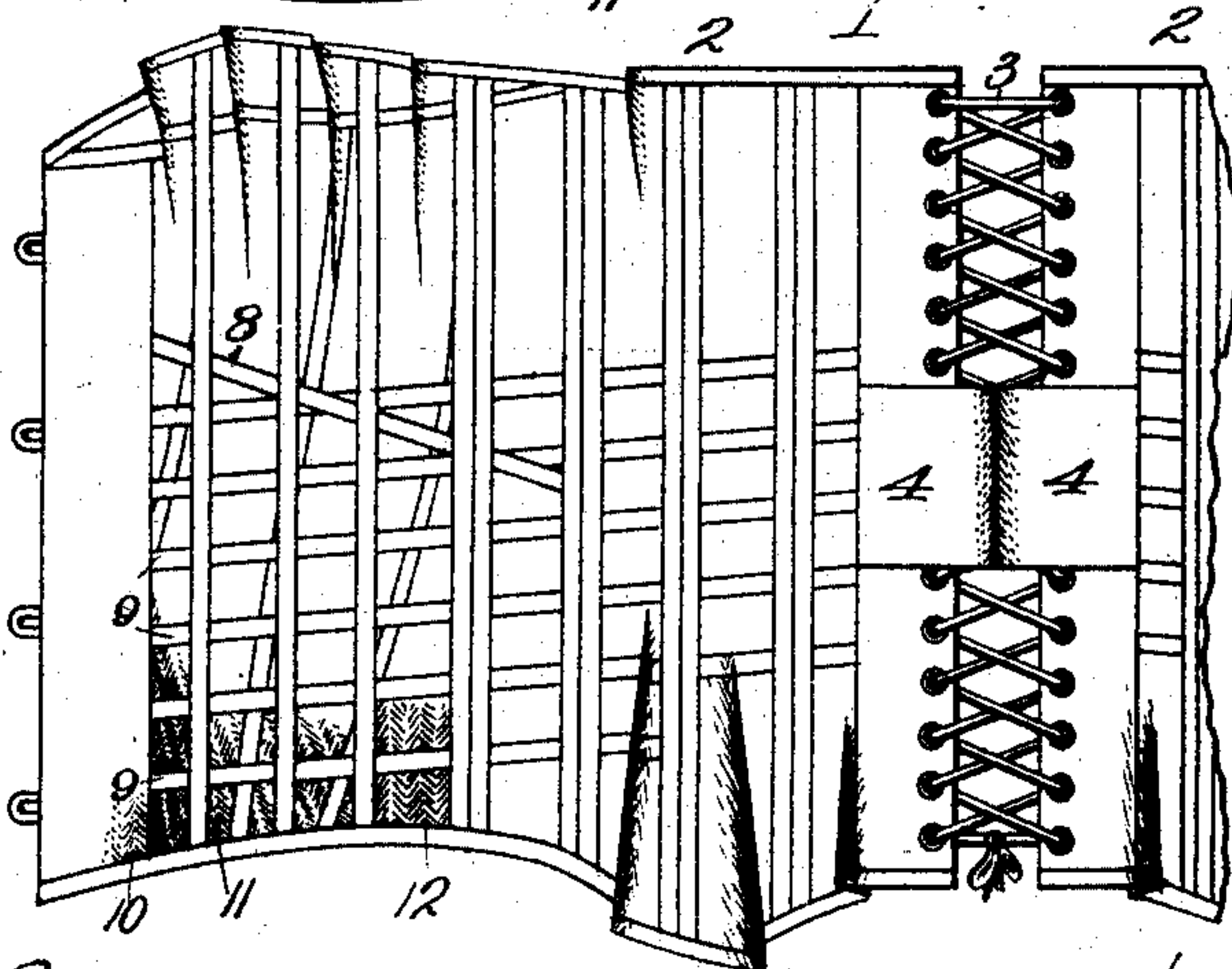


Fig. 2.

Witnesses:

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*By George L. Thorpe*  
*att'y*



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

VICTORIA E. MACK, OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI.

## CORSET.

No. 908,789.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 5, 1909.

Application filed June 30, 1903. Serial No. 141,124.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, VICTORIA E. MACK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Kansas City, in the county of Jackson and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Corsets, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to corsets.

Heretofore to the best of my knowledge and belief all corsets made, after a more or less extended period of service, stretch over the abdomen and as a consequence bulge or flare outwardly at such point, and in this condition annoy and incommode the wearer.

My object therefore is to produce a corset which will not stretch along the abdominal lines.

Other objects of the invention will hereinafter appear and it consists in certain novel and peculiar features of construction and organization as hereinafter described and claimed.

To the end that the invention may be fully understood reference is to be had to the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1, is an elevation of a corset embodying the invention. Fig. 2, is an inner face view of the same on a smaller scale.

Referring to said drawing in detail, 1 designates a corset of the unlined type and of any desired shape or style. It consists of two similar sections 2, preferably laced together at the back as shown at 3, and equipped at their rear edges with shields or pads 4, to protect the wearer's back from abrasion by the lace at the point where the corset fits most snugly. At the front the sections are adapted to be hooked together as at 5, or otherwise connected, and below the waistline on the exterior side of one section is a buckle 6, and on the other section a strap 7 to engage the buckle and provide a support to which the wearer's skirt may be pinned more conveniently and easily than to the corset itself.

8 designates the customary waist tapes or straps (one only of which appears) which extend in a substantially horizontal direction when the corset is secured on the wearer, but which appears in Fig. 2, as sloping upwardly and forwardly, and extending substantially parallel with the abdominal margins of each section, or rather parallel with the direction in which said portions tend to stretch, are a number of tapes or straps 9, which prevent the corset stretching over the

abdomen and the consequent upward bulging of the abdominal portions, a most annoying and objectional feature which is inherent in all other corsets, as far as my knowledge extends.

The body portion of the corset is formed of any suitable material to which is stitched or secured in any suitable manner the usual vertical whalebones or steels, but in my improved corset each section 2 is composed of three subsections 10, 11, and 12. The subsections 10 form the front portions of the sections 2 and contain the hooks or fastening devices 5 which unite the sections 2 on the front of the body of the wearer. Subsections 12 form the sides and backs of the sections 2, and interposed between and connecting the sections 10 and 12 are the subsections 11, which latter extend from the top to the bottom of the corset, and with the warp threads of the material of which said subsections 11 are constructed extending or positioned at approximately right angles to the tapes 9, this being for the purpose of cooperating with said tapes to effectually resist any stretching of the abdominal portions of the corset in the direction in which the tapes 9 extend. It is not essential in which direction the warp threads of the subsections 10 and 12 extend, though it is preferable that said warp threads extend vertically or from the top to the bottom of the corset.

In Fig. 1 the weft threads of the subsections 11 are clearly shown, which weft threads are in zigzag lines at angles of 45 degrees relative the direction of the warp threads, and the general direction of said warp threads will readily be understood by noting the arrangement of said weft threads.

While I have shown the fabric sections 11, extending from the bottom of the corset to the top, as that is the most practical way of making the insertion, it will be understood of course that the requirement is that while the lower half of such portions must be set with the warp threads of the material as indicated—the disposition of the upper half is unimportant as regards the result desired.

It will be apparent that the provision of the corset with abdominal portions which successfully resist the tendency to stretch in a line substantially parallel with their lower margins, results in the imposition of a constant and non-relaxing pressure at the back. For this reason it is necessary to equip such corsets as are designed to be worn by fleshy



women, at least, with the back shields or pads, the latter bearing a coöperative relation to the abdominal portions of the type described. It is also apparent that a coöperative relation exists between the skirt supporting strap and the said abdominal portions of the type described, for the reason that such strap could not effectually retain the skirt in the required position, if said abdominal portions were so constructed that they would yield in a direction substantially parallel with their lower margins. If they did the skirt would slip as will be readily understood.

From the above description it will be apparent that I have produced a corset embodying the features of advantage enumerated as desirable, and which furthermore is of comparatively simple and cheap and at the same time strong and durable construction.

Having thus described the invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters-Patent, is:—

The improved corset, constructed in two parts, each part comprising a back and side

fabric sub-section 12, the narrow front fabric sub-section 10, the vertically arranged abdominal sub-section 11 arranged between and fixed to the sub-sections 10 and 12, the warp threads of which abdominal sub-section extend approximately at right angles to the direction in which the abdominal portion of the corset tends to stretch, waist straps 8 arranged on the inner faces of the two parts of the corset and which waist straps extend transversely relative to the subsections 10 and 12, and a series of non-elastic reinforcing tapes 9 secured to the inner face of each part of the corset, which tapes are arranged in parallel lines approximately at right angles to the warp threads of the abdominal sections, and which tapes extend from the front to the rear edges of the two parts of the corset; substantially as specified.

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

VICTORIA E. MACK.

Witnesses:

G. Y. THORPE,

WINNIE McDANIEL.