

E. K. BULLOCK.
Corset.

No. 221,393.

Patented Nov. 11, 1879.

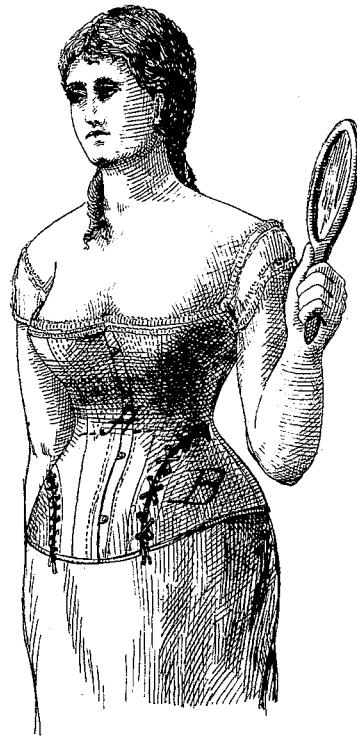


Fig. 1.

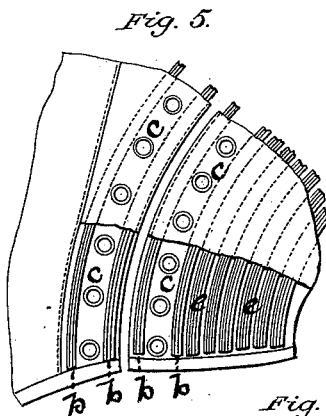


Fig. 5.

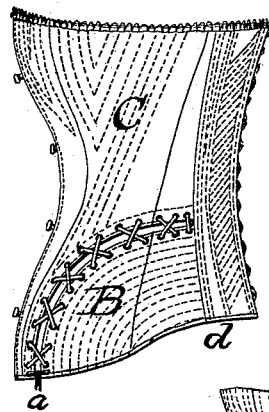


Fig. 2.

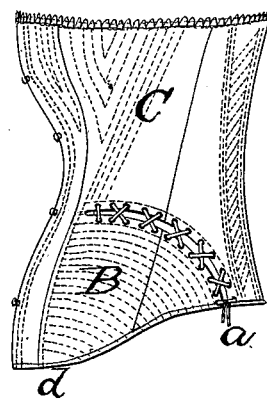


Fig. 3.

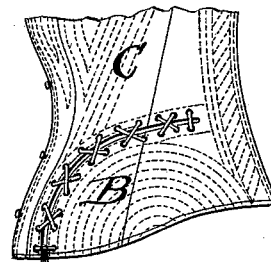


Fig. 4.

Attest:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

E. KOYL BULLOCK, OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN.

IMPROVEMENT IN CORSETS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **221,393**, dated November 11, 1879; application filed September 24, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, E. KOYL BULLOCK, of Detroit, in the county of Wayne and State of Michigan, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Corsets; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a representation of the upper portion of a female with my improved corset in position. Fig. 2 is a side view of the corset. Fig. 3 is a side view of the corset, showing a modification of the curved slit. Fig. 4 is a portion of a corset, showing the semicircular stays in the hip-piece. Fig. 5 is a detail view, showing the stays more fully.

This invention relates to that class of corsets having adjustable hip-pieces; and the object of the improvement is to draw the laced portions down upon the hips to prevent the lower edges of the corset from puckering, and at the same time leave that portion of the corset over the hip-bones smooth, so that a graceful sloping form shall be given to the hips of the wearer.

It is a well-known fact that corsets are worn by ladies for the purpose of improving their figures.

Heretofore the hip portions of the corset have been provided with vertical or straight slits, and adjusted by means of lacing directly over the hip-bones, and consequently left an unsmooth surface. This construction of a corset is objectionable, for the reason that the vertical or straight slits and lacing coming directly over the hip-bones causes a puckering at these points as well as presenting an unsmooth surface.

My improvement is designed to overcome these difficulties, and therefore it consists in so constructing the lower portion of each half of the corset with a quadrant-shaped piece with lacing means.

It also consists in the quadrant-shaped pieces provided with correspondingly-shaped stays or whalebones arranged in a proper manner in the pieces, so as to conform to the outlines or contour of the hip; and it also

consists in the novel construction and arrangement of the parts, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In the annexed drawings, forming a part of this specification, the letter A represents a corset composed of the two halves, which are united by the ordinary lacing behind and by any ordinary fastening in front.

In the manufacture of the corsets, which is in the usual way, the side portion of each half is cut at the lower end, commencing at the front near the busk and extending rearwardly in a curve to a point under or beyond the arms, completing the quarter of a circle, or nearly so. That portion of the now quadrant-shaped piece B between the letters *a* *d* remains a part and parcel of the corset half C, substantially as indicated by the drawings.

The curved edge of the quadrant-shaped piece and the curved edge of the corset-body are strengthened by the double row of curved stays or whalebones *b*. Between the double row of curved stays are arranged, at suitable intervals, eyelets *c*, to receive a lacing.

That portion of the corset in the shape of a quadrant or the quarter of a circle is filled at suitable intervals with curved stays *e*, corresponding substantially with the piece in which they are secured. These stays are usually made of whalebones, and are shaped by any suitable means, so as to readily conform to the outlines of the hips when the corset is adjusted to the wearer.

It will be observed that the stays all start from the lower edge of the corset and follow the curve of the quadrant-shaped pieces, the objects of which are to obtain firmness, a smooth surface over the hip-bones, and fullness of figure.

The size and shape of the lower portion of the corset may be varied by tightening or loosening the lacings, and the graceful sloping of the hips is accomplished by adjusting the quadrant-shaped pieces over the hip-bones and tightening the lacings at the lower ends of the curved slits, which draws the parts together closely, and gives greater convexity to the parts of the body called hips.

In lieu of the stays in the quadrant-shaped pieces a strong fabric of double thickness may be substituted to secure firmness and elasticity.

In Fig. 3 of the drawings the curved slit is shown extending from right to left, whereas in the other figures the curved slit is shown running from left to right.

Fig. 4 of the drawings shows the stays of a semicircular form. Therefore I do not wish to confine myself to the precise arrangement or construction herein described, as slight changes may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention.

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

1. A corset having quadrant-shaped hip-pieces adapted to be adjusted and laced over the hips of the wearer, substantially as described.

2. A corset having quadrant-shaped hip-pieces filled with stays corresponding with the shape of the hip-pieces, said quadrant-shaped pieces with stays capable of being adjusted and laced over the hips of the wearer substantially as set forth.

3. The combination, in a corset, of the body

half having a curved portion strengthened by stays and provided with lacing means, and a quadrant-shaped hip-piece provided with lacing means, substantially as described, and for the purpose set forth.

4. A corset of the class described, consisting substantially of the following elements, to wit: the body having a curved portion describing the quadrant of a circle, or nearly so, and provided with a plurality of eyelets, a quadrant-shaped piece forming a part of the corset-body and provided with a plurality of eyelets, and a lacing for adjusting the parts together, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name.

E. KOYL BULLOCK.

Witnesses:

JNO. B. CORLISS,

FRANK D. ANDREWS.