

(No Model.)

A. A. FEARN.
LIFE PRESERVING CORSET.

No. 345,960.

Patented July 20, 1886.

Fig. 1.

Fig. 3.

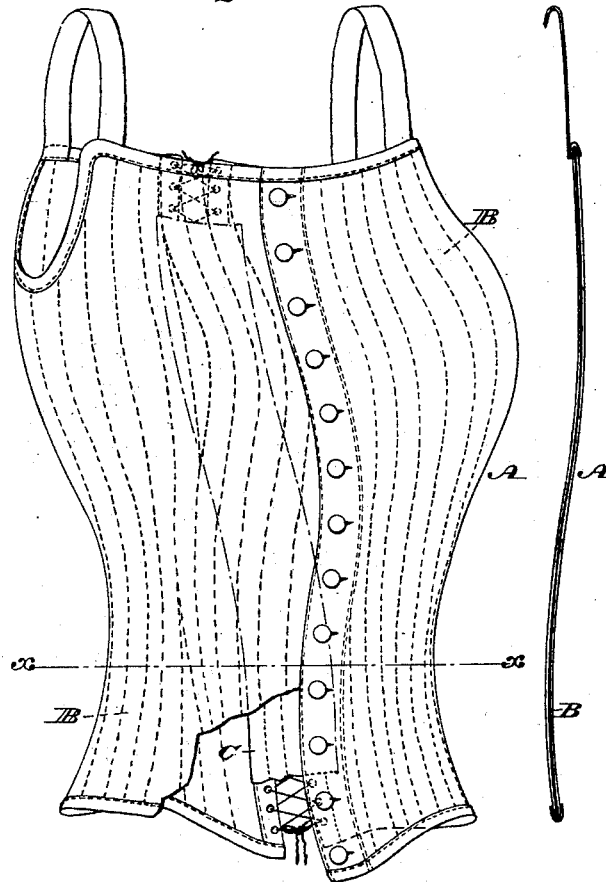
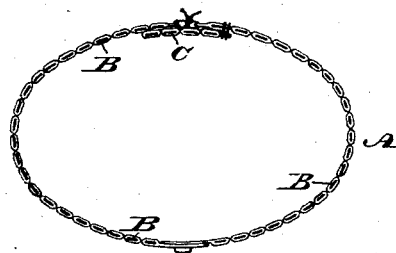


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

L. Douville
W. F. Fischer

INVENTOR:

Amelia A. Fearn
BY John A. Diersheim
ATTORNEY.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

AMELIA A. FEARN, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

LIFE-PRESERVING CORSET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 345,960, dated July 20, 1886.

Application filed March 6, 1886. Serial No. 194,297. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, AMELIA A. FEARN, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city and county of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Life-Preserving Corsets, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification and accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a corset embodying my invention. Fig. 2 represents a section in line *xx*, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 represents a vertical section thereof.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures.

My invention consists of a corset which is provided with stays of cork, which stays extend from the top to the bottom of the corset, whereby it forms a life-preserver, is prevented from rusting, and sets comfortably on the body.

It further consists of a guard for preventing chafing action of the lacing of the corset.

Referring to the drawings, A represents a corset, and B represents the stays thereof, said stays being formed of pieces or strips of cork, which are fitted in pockets of the corset.

The corset may be worn as usual, but is more especially designed for use by one traveling on water, in which case, owing to its buoyant nature, it is admirably adapted for life-preserving purposes. The stays, owing to their flexible nature, set comfortably in position, and yield with the motions of the body, and preserve the shape of the corset. They are not liable to break or rust, nor cut through the fabric, and may be made thin and light, so that the weight of the corset is materially reduced.

It is evident that travelers on water, male and female, may constantly wear corsets of the kind, so as to be prepared for shipwrecks, &c., the corset in other respects possessing advantages as usual in articles of its kind.

In order to prevent chafing or rubbing action of the lacing on the body, I employ a guard, C, consisting of a flap or strip of corset fabric, or other material, secured at one side to the adjacent section of the corset at the back thereof, and covering the lacing, said guard also containing cork stays, thus increasing the buoyant nature of the corset.

I am aware that it is not new to place in or attach to various kinds of garments pieces of cork of different sizes for the purpose of adding to the buoyancy of the same, and thereby afford protection to the wearer thereof, and such I do not claim; but I am not aware that strips of cork have been used as stays or supports in corsets, the same possessing the advantages over the stays now used, as hereinbefore fully set forth.

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

1. A corset having stays formed of strips of cork, each strip composed of a single piece extending from the top to the bottom of said corset, and secured in a pocket therein, substantially as described.

2. A corset having a lacing-guard provided with strips of cork extending from the top to the bottom thereof, substantially as described.

AMELIA A. FEARN.

Witnesses:

JOHN M. HURLBURT,
MARY B. S. DRURY.