J. C. TALLMAN.

BOSOM-PADS.

No. 185,362. Patented Dec. 12, 1876.

Fig. 1.

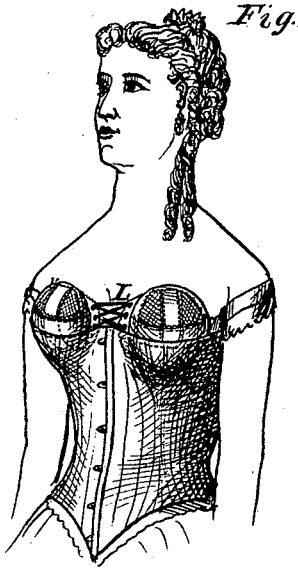


Fig. 2.

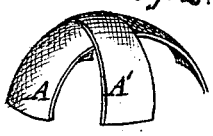
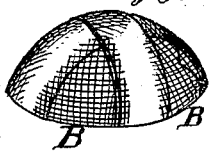



Fig. 3.




A' Fig. 4.

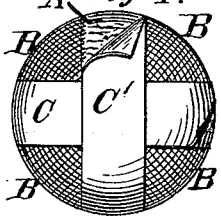
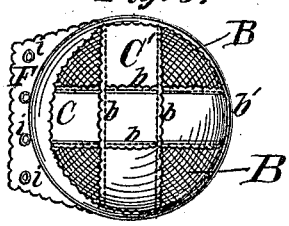



Fig. 5.




Witnesses
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## IMPROVEMENT IN BOSOM-PADS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **185,362**, dated December 12, 1876; application filed October 19, 1876.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN COOK TALLMAN, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain Improvements in Bosom-Pads; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, which forms a part of this specification.

My invention has for its object the supply of more durable, comfortable, and more conveniently-adjustable bosom-pads than those heretofore used; and it consists in a novel construction of such pads, of materials and in the manner substantially as hereinafter described.

I secure an elasticity resembling the natural bosom by means of cork, employed in the manner hereinafter described, as a basis for the pads, and to which the other materials employed are attached. Cork has heretofore been employed in the manufacture of bosom-pads; but the use of cork in combination with the other materials I employ obviates difficulties hitherto attending the use of cork alone for this purpose. When cork alone is used in a bosom-pad, it presents a hard edge to that portion of the breast just anterior to the armpits, and causes irritation by pressure. Moreover, when cork is used in thin plates, unstrengthened by other tougher materials, it is liable to crack, more especially when such plates are profusely perforated to afford the necessary ventilation and prevent undue heating of the breasts. By my invention I avoid all these disadvantages.

Figure 1 in the accompanying drawing represents my improved bosom-pads placed upon a female bosom, as they are designed to be worn. Fig. 2 shows the arrangement of the cork plates before and after the other materials are joined thereto. Fig. 3 shows the cork plates arranged in Fig. 2, with gores of reticulated material attached to said cork plates. Fig. 4 shows the pad in a still further advanced stage of manufacture, and Fig. 5 shows a pad finished.

The manufacture of the pad is commenced by the preparation of two thin plates of cork, A A′, placed transversely to each other, and one of which, A′, is superimposed upon the other, as shown in Fig. 2. The cork plates, faced with muslin on the inner side and so placed, are pressed in a mold or former to give them the required concavity on the inner side, and convexity on the outer side. When so pressed the cork plates are placed on a convex form, and flexible reticulated gores B, Figs. 3, 4, and 5, are pasted thereto, said gores overlapping said plates, as shown in Fig. 3. On the same or a similar form the muslin strips C C′, Figs. 4 and 5, are then pasted upon the cork plates, said muslin strips overlapping the edges of the reticulated gores, which are pasted to the cork plates. Ornamental borders, *b*, Fig. 5, may or may not then be pasted upon the edges of the muslin strips C C′.

The muslin strips C C′, the inner muslin facings of the cork plates, the reticulated gores B, and the ornamental borders *b b* are, furthermore, still more strongly attached to the cork plates by through-and-through stitching; but, instead of two cork plates, more than two, with intervening gores B, may be used.

The pad is then completed by pasting and stitching thereto an edge-binding, *b′*, Fig. 5, and a flap, F, Fig. 5, said flap being provided with eyelets *i*, Fig. 5, through which a cord or lace, L, Fig. 1, being passed, two pads may be flexibly and adjustably coupled together, as shown in Fig. 1, or otherwise equivalently connected. This arrangement provides a very convenient adjustment for two pads when worn, and the disposition of the eyelets along the broad eyelet-flap prevents the independent rotation and displacement of either pad.

The reticulated gores afford ample ventilation, and render the edges of the pads far more flexible, thus avoiding injurious pressure upon any part of the breast. For the muslin inner facings, covering-strips, ornamental borders, binding, and eyelet-flaps, any suitable flexible material may be substituted, such as silk or kid, and the flexible recticulated gores may be made of any reticulated material suitable for the purpose, as ornamental insertion, lace, &c. Finally, the parts constructed as described may or may not be furnished with removable or attached outer flexible coverings, as desired.

I do not claim a bosom-pad made entirely of cork, nor the employment of cork as a material in the manufacture of basom-pads; but

I desire to secure by Letters Patent the construction and arrangement embraced in the following claims:

1. A bosom-pad composed of the crossing cork plates A A′ and the intervening reticulated gores B, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

2. The combination, with two bosom-pads, of a flexible and adjustable connection, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

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