

H. M. CHAPMAN.  
Corsets.

No. 198,348.

Patented Dec. 18, 1877.

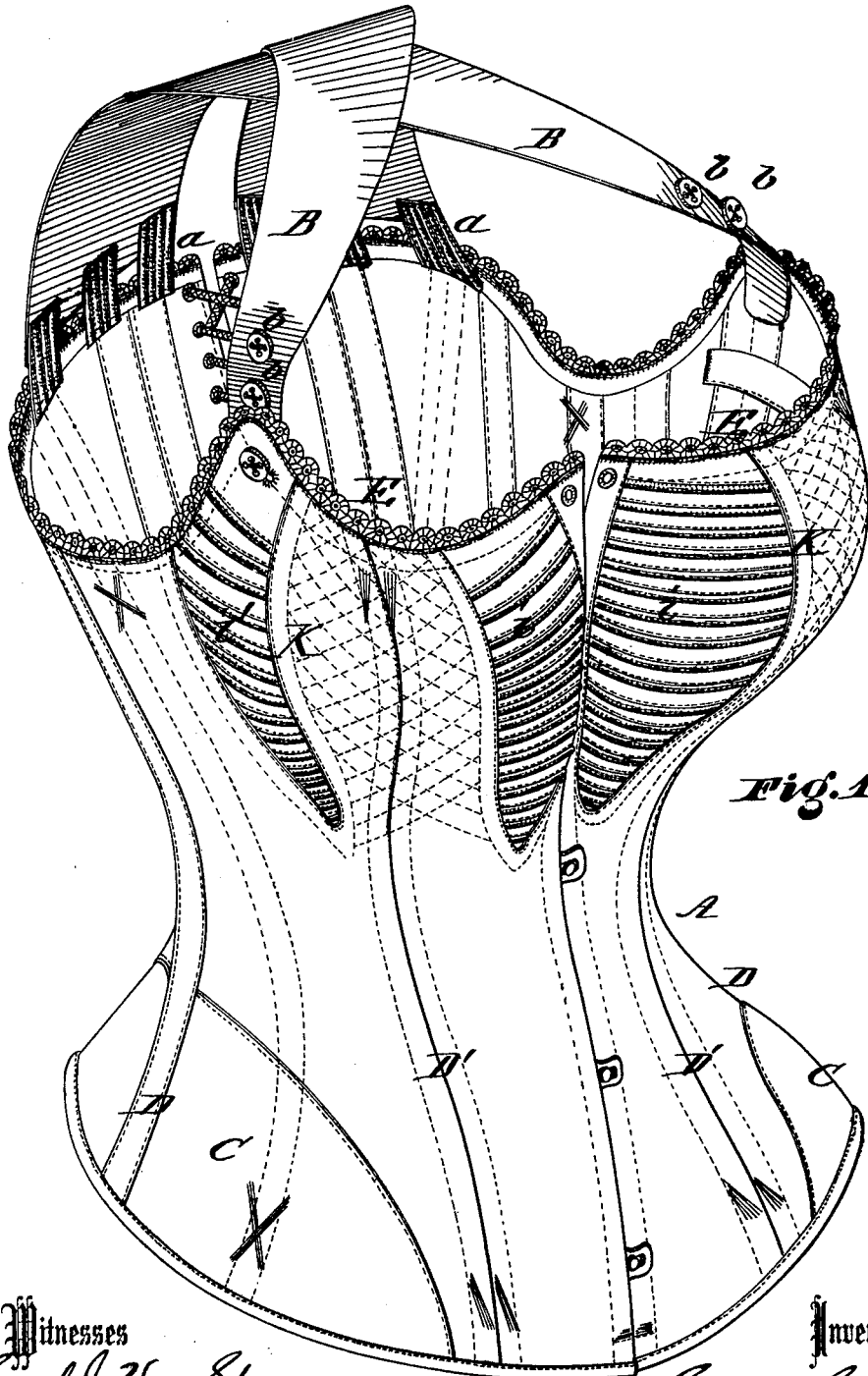


Fig. 1

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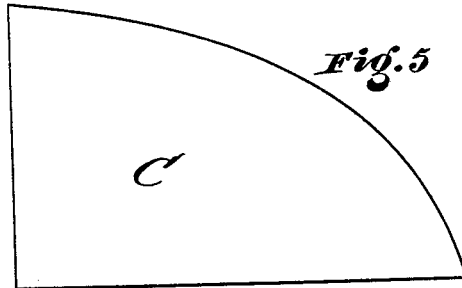
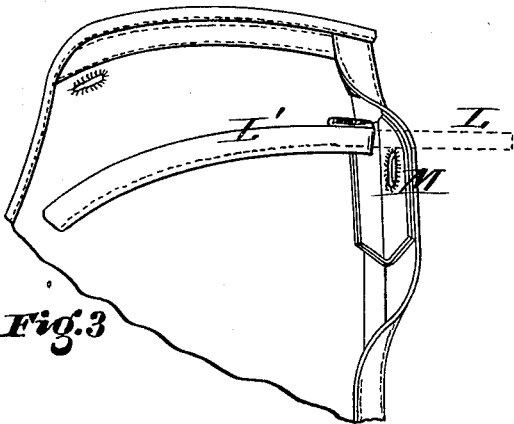
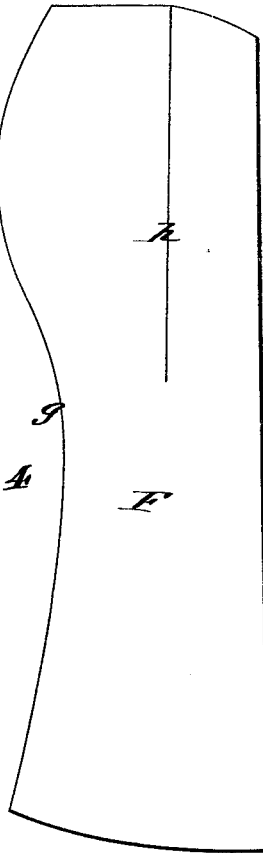
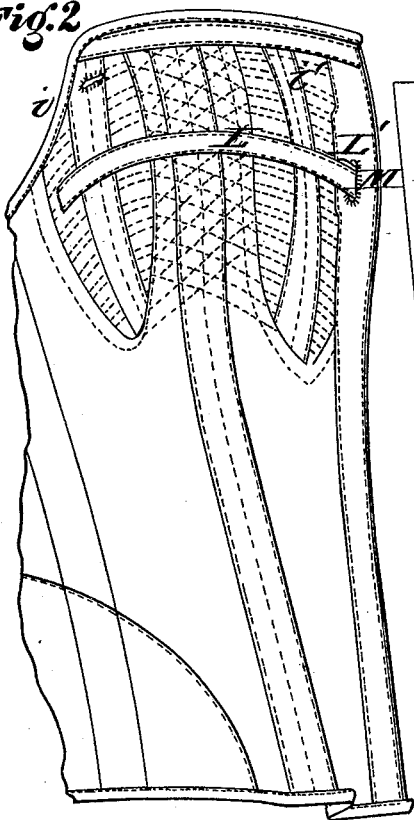
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Fig. 2



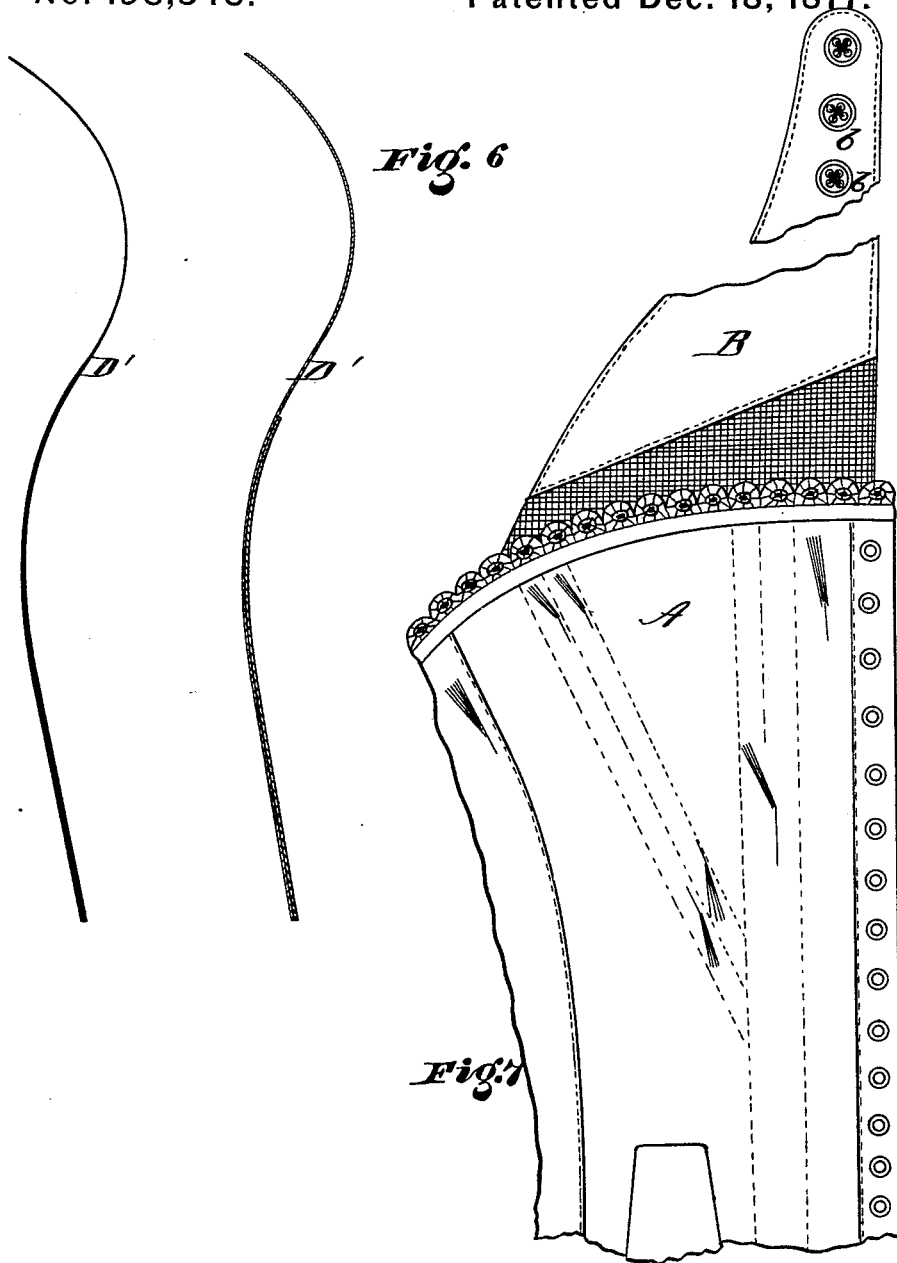
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*Fig. 6*

*Fig. 7*

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARIET M. CHAPMAN, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

## IMPROVEMENT IN CORSETS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 198,348, dated December 18, 1877; application filed June 13, 1877.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HARIET M. CHAPMAN, of Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Corsets; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my invention; Figs. 2, 3, 6, and 7, detail views; Figs. 4 and 5, plan views of the patterns for bosom-pieces and circular gores.

This invention has relation to certain improvements in corsets, whereby they are rendered more comfortable and serviceable, and made to fit more neatly than those in ordinary use.

These improvements consist, first, in providing the corset with crossed supporting-straps or suspenders, to pass over the shoulders of the wearer; second, in providing the corset with a segmental or curved hip-gore, but extending only from the side bones to the bones coming down from the middle of the puff; third, splitting the bone or bones which extend down through the middle of the puff, so as to leave them very yielding in the puff, or, more broadly, having the puff bone or stay made thinner in than below the puff, as might be accomplished by bracing a thin bone by another below the puff; fourth, making the cross-bone inside the puff removable, so as to adjust the size of bust by means of a bone sliding out of its sheath; fifth, forming the pattern for the middle of the puff in two pieces of peculiar outline, which will give the requisite shape for the contour of the bust, all as hereinafter described.

Referring to the drawings, A designates the corset. B B are the shoulder-straps or suspenders, provided with elastic pieces *a a*, by which they are sewed to the back of the corset, thence crossing, and in front secured by buttons and button-holes above the puffs.

Each strap has several buttons, *b b*, which allow adjustment.

C C are the hip-gores, having their upper edges curved and extending from the side bones D D to the bones D' D', extending downward from the middle of the puffs. By means of this gore a neat and appropriate curvature and swell are given to the hip parts of the corset, and a perfect and comfortable fit obtained.

The bones D' D', which pass through the centers of the puffs E E, are either split at that part extending through the puff, so as to render the latter sufficiently yielding, while a certain degree of stiffness is preserved below, or an equivalent result is obtained by using a thin bone and bracing it below, or adopting any other suitable expedient.

The patterns for the middle of the puffs are made in two pieces, F F', instead of being made of three, as is usual. These, when sewed together at the middle of the puff, give a roundness and projection of remarkable uniformity and neatness. Fig. 4 illustrates these patterns. Pattern F forms one side of the front, while pattern F' forms the side of the corset.

The scroll-curved edges *g g'* are sewed together, and produce a seam through the center of the puff. The straight cuts *h h'* serve to receive the gores *i i'*. Between the gores the connected patterns or pieces F F' have a lateral swell at K, above and below which the outer lines or edges converge, as shown.

L is the cross-bow of the puff, and L' its sheath, open at one end for the removal and adjustment of the bow. M is a pocket, into which the ends of bow and sheath slip when in place.

Having described my invention, I claim—

1. The curved hip-gore C, extending from the side bones D to the center bone D', said gore having its upper edge segmental, its rear or side edge flush and on line with the side seam, and its lower and forward angle meeting the puff-stay D' at lower extremity of latter, as shown and described.

2. The crossed adjustable and elastic sup-

porting-straps B B, diminishing in width from rear to front, connected to the top edge of corset-back by elastic straps *a*, and to the top edge of front by buttons and button-hole adjustable fastening, as described.

3. In combination with a corset puff or puffs, the bones or braces D' D', extending through the centers of the puffs, and made thinner or more yielding at than below the latter.

4. The removable cross-bone L inside the

puff, for the adjustment of the size of the bust, substantially as described.

5. The patterns F F' for the puffs, as shown. In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand.

HARIET M. CHAPMAN.

Witnesses:

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E. NICHOLLS.