D. H. FANNING.
Corset-Clasp.

No. 199,277. Patented Jan. 15, 1878.

Fig. 1.

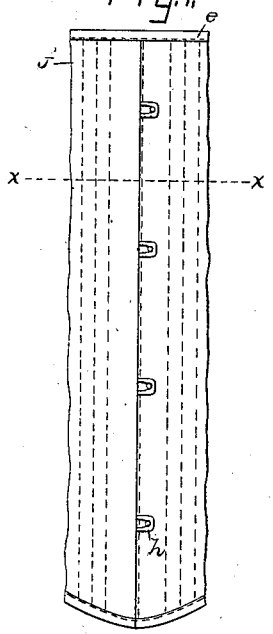


Fig. 3.

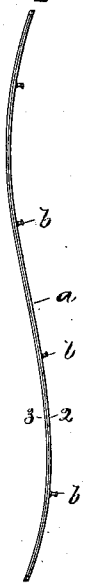
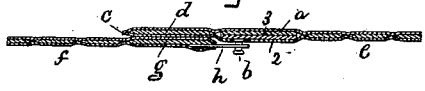


Fig. 2.



Witnesses.
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W. J. Pratt.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID H. FANNING, OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN CORSET-CLASPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **199,277**, dated January 15, 1878; application filed December 13, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID H. FANNING, of Worcester, in the county of Worcester and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improved Corset, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to corsets, and has special reference to the method of applying and using the steels at the front thereof, to insure stiffness and prevent the liability of the steels being broken.

Figure 1 represents sufficient portion of the front of a corset to illustrate my invention; Fig. 2, a cross-section of Fig. 1, enlarged; and Fig. 3, a side elevation of that portion of the steel provided with the studs or pins.

The majority of corsets now made are provided at the front, one half with a steel having pins, and the other half with a steel having eyes to fit over the pins, and when hooked together the steels rest edge to edge. Other steels have been made, one broader than the other, so that one could lap over the other when hooked together, and other steels at each edge of the corset-front have been strengthened for a portion of their length by the application of a second shorter steel.

In this my invention I make the steel *a*, from which the hooks or pins *b* project, double, or in two pieces, 2 3, and stitch such double steel into the corset somewhat back from the front edge thereof, as shown in Fig. 2. Then between such double steel *a* and the edge *c* of the corset I stitch a second narrow steel, *d*, thus providing that one half, *e*, of the corset, at its extreme edge, with one single steel and a double steel, the latter having hooks or pins *b*. At the front edge of the other half, *f*, of the corset I place a single steel, *g*, having eye-pieces *h*, all as usual, to engage the hooks or studs *b*.

When the corset is secured about the person its front edges are caused to overlap, as shown in Fig. 2, the single steel *g* overlapping the single steel *d*, the eyes *h* engaging the studs *b* of the double steel *a*, thus making at the front of the corset, for a stiffening, two double thicknesses of steel.

It is obvious that the steels applied in this way will be stronger and less liable to break than are the single steels; and by placing the single steel *d* at the side of the double steel *a* (the two steels *d a* being connected by a flexible hinge, in this instance of my invention the cloth forming the outer and inner faces of the corset) the steel *d* is permitted to move independently of steel *a*, and is made much more comfortable to the wearer than would be the case were the two steels *d a* made as one single wide steel.

It is obvious that instead of two steels, 2 3, I might employ a single steel thicker than the steel *d*.

These steels may be applied to any usual form of corset.

I claim—

In a corset, two single steels, one at each edge of each half of the corset, and a double or stronger and stiffer steel placed near one of the single steels, but farther back from the edge of the corset, one of the single steels being provided with eyes, and the double or thicker steel with studs, whereby the two single steels at the extreme edges of the corset, when the corset is hooked together at the front, will fall, the one over the other, and alongside of the double or thicker steel, the connection between the two steels *a b* at one edge of the corset being flexible, to operate substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

DAVID H. FANNING.

Witnesses:

BENJ. L. SAMPSON,

H. H. FAIRBANKS.