

J. D. BANFIELD.
Corset-Busk.

No. 203,400.

Patented May 7, 1878.

Fig. 1.

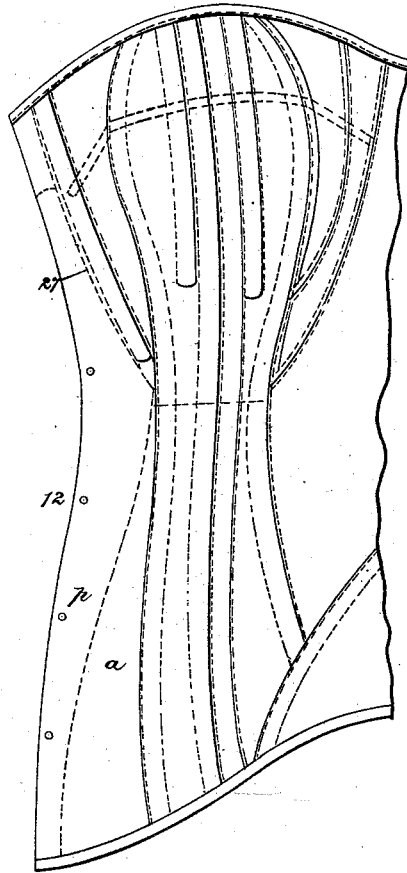


Fig. 2.

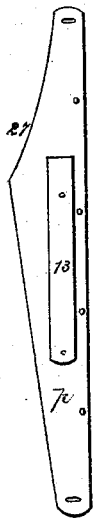
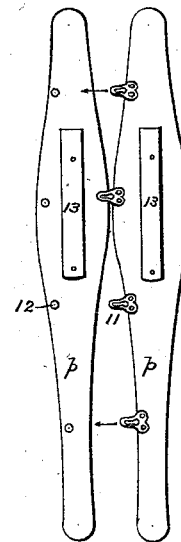


Fig. 3.



Attest:
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JULIA D. BANFIELD, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN CORSET-BUSKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **203,400**, dated May 7, 1878; application filed June 18, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JULIA D. BANFIELD, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented Improvements in Corsets, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to improvements in corset steels or busks; and consists in a steel or busk increased in breadth at or near the lower portion of the bust of the corset.

Figure 1 represents, in perspective, a portion of a corset, showing in dotted lines one of my improved steels in place therein. Fig. 2 represents one of the steels or busks removed, and Fig. 3 a modified form of steel.

The steel *p* is made broader at or near the lower portion of the bust of the corset, in order that the corset may be stiffened at or near the lower portion of the breast-bone of, and so as to act as a brace or support for, the person wearing the corset. This steel acts to keep the piece *a* of the corset extended, thereby retaining the upper portion of the bust in shape, and, by reason of such widened portion, the steel is so strengthened that it will not break, but act to support the person wearing it.

The upper inner edge of the steel may be shaped to conform with the side of the bust, and instead of being straight on its outer edge, as shown in Fig. 2, it may be rounded or curved. These steels are to be provided with the usual pins and eyes, to permit them to be held together.

I do not desire to limit my invention to steels or busks of the exact shape shown in

the drawings, Figs. 1 and 2, for such shape may be variously modified without departing from my invention, so long as the steel is made broad at or near the lower portion of the bust.

My invention is shown in connection with and is specially applicable to a so-called "full-bust corset."

In the modified form of steel shown in Fig. 3 the eyes 11 and pins 12 are so placed that when engaged the steels rest one above the other, or overlap.

In connection with my steel I employ short stiffening-springs 13.

The steels may be of any material of which steels or busks are now made.

The edge 27 of the steel is curved to fit the bust.

I claim—

1. The steel or busk made broader at or near the lower portion of the bust, substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. The steel or busk made broadest at or near its center, and narrow at its upper end, at the sides of the bust, to operate with the bust, substantially as described.

3. The combination, with a full-bust corset, substantially as described, of a steel, made broader at or near the lower portion of the bust, to operate substantially as set forth.

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

JULIA D. BANFIELD.

Witnesses:

W. J. PRATT,
E. C. PERKINS.