

No. 755,547.

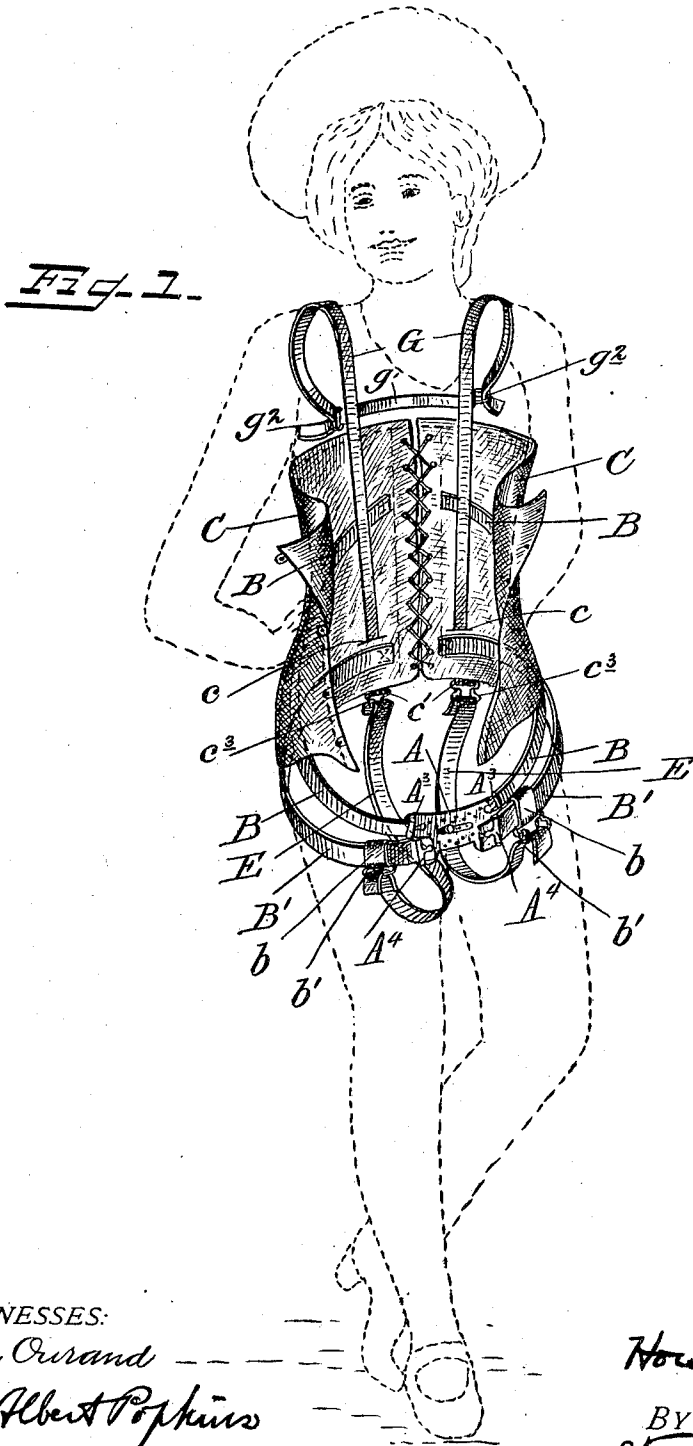
PATENTED MAR. 22, 1904.

H. C. RASH.
COMBINED BODY BRACE AND CORSET.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 14, 1903.

NO MODEL.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



WITNESSES:

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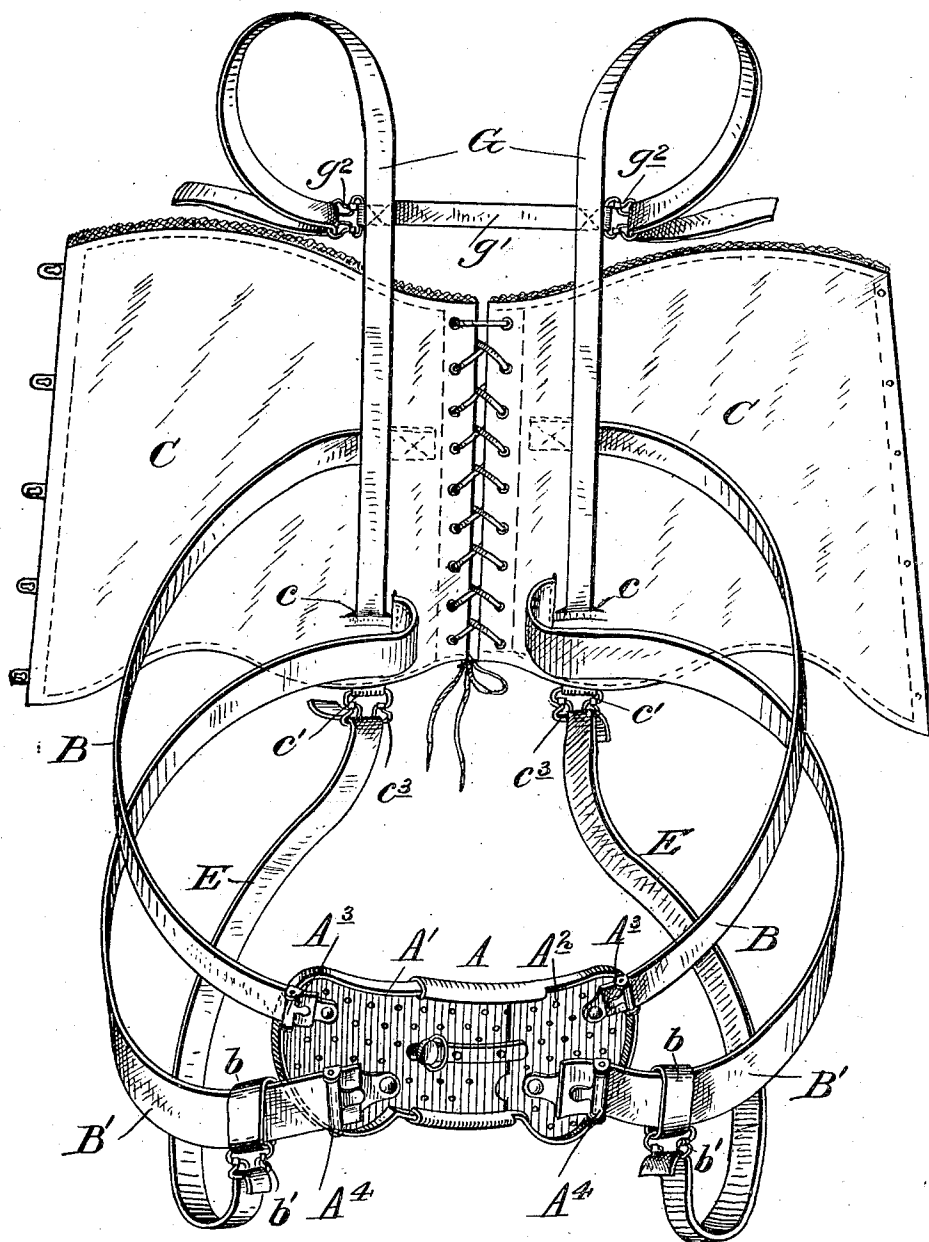


Fig. 2.

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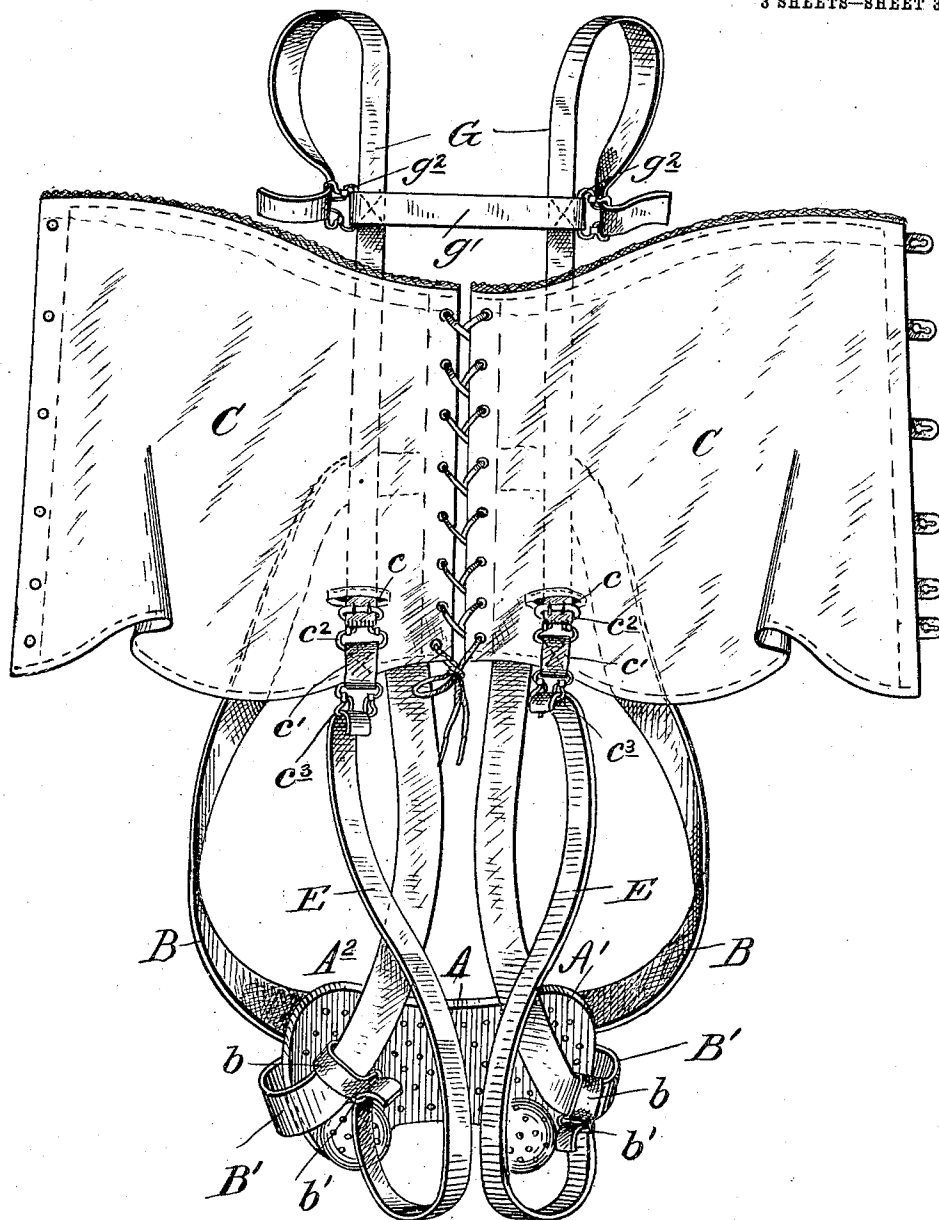
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3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.



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Fig. 3

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HOWARD C. RASH, OF SALINA, KANSAS, ASSIGNOR TO NATURAL BODY BRACE COMPANY, OF SALINA, KANSAS, A CORPORATION OF KANSAS.

COMBINED BODY-BRACE AND CORSET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 755,547, dated March 22, 1904.

Application filed December 14, 1903. Serial No. 185,064. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HOWARD C. RASH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Salina, in the county of Saline, State of Kansas, have
 5 invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Combined Body - Brace and Corset, of which the following is a description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

10 My invention relates to a combined body-brace and corset.

The objects of my invention are to provide a body-brace in which a corset forms an essential element; to provide the corset with
 15 shoulder-straps which extend down along the inner side of the back of the corset to and through openings near the lower edge of the corset, where they are connected to suitable fastenings on the outer rear side of the corset
 20 for adjustment by the wearer; to provide an abdominal plate in separable sections, each section being connected with the inner side of the back of the corset by means of two straps which pass around the hips at the proper
 25 points to secure the proper action upon the back of the wearer, while at the same time supporting the weight of the abdomen, also to provide perineal straps which pass from the rear of the corset downwardly and upwardly
 30 to the belt-straps near respective abdominal plate-sections.

These objects I attain from the construction shown in the accompanying drawings, in which—

35 Figure 1 is a front perspective view of my improved body-brace and corset. Fig. 2 is an enlarged perspective view, and Fig. 3 is a similar view looking from the rear.

A designates the abdominal plate, formed
 40 in two separable adjustable sections $A^1 A^2$ and forming the subject of Letters Patent No. 708,402, dated September 2, 1902.

C designates the corset, of any suitable style and material, forming an essential feature of
 45 the general body-brace. The rear side of the corset near its lower edge and at opposite sides of the lacing is provided with openings c , and on the outer side of the corset adjacent to these openings and secured by tabs c' are

pairs of buckles or other suitable fastenings 50 $c^2 c^3 c^2 c^3$.

G G are the shoulder-straps, extending down along the inner side of the corset-back, with their lower extremities passed out through the openings c and in adjustable engagement
 55 with the upper buckles $c^2 c^3$. These shoulder-straps are connected by a cross-piece g' and have adjusting-buckles $g^2 g^3$, as in the before-mentioned patent.

B B' B B' are pairs of belt-straps, the rear 60 ends of each pair being secured to the back of the corset at the inner side, the straps B of each pair being secured at a higher point than the other straps B' and both pairs of straps extending forwardly around the hips 65 to the sections $A^1 A^2$ of the abdominal plate, to which they are adjustably connected by means of buckles $A^3 A^4 A^3 A^4$. These buckles $A^3 A^4$ are pivoted to the sections $A^1 A^2$, so as to yield to the movements of the body. The 70 lower belt-straps B' are provided at their front portions with slides $b b$, to which are attached depending buckles $b' b'$.

E E are the perineal straps, connected at their rear ends to the lower rear buckles $c^3 c^3$ 75 and at their forward ends to the buckles $b' b'$, and these straps E serve to hold the abdominal plate in position and also hold the back of the corset and assist in securing the right action of the corset upon the entire spinal 80 column.

It will be observed that the shoulder-straps secured to the corset as shown serve an essential purpose in straightening the back and shoulders, for the reason that they lift up and 85 pull the shoulders back from a point below the small of the back, thereby acting on the small of the back and straightening the spinal column in a manner that cannot be successfully accomplished by any device which pulls 90 on the shoulders from a point close to the shoulder-blades or above the waist-line.

The backstays in the corset and other parts of the corset assist in securing and maintaining the general bracing and supporting of the 95 whole trunk, taking the place of and serving in lieu of back plates, metal springs, &c., heretofore used.

The back and belt straps are not connected with the corset, save at their lower ends and rear ends, respectively, and so the corset and straps have independent movement, which affords great ease and comfort to the wearer and yet throws the strain just where it should be applied to successfully accomplish the results aimed at.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A body-brace comprising, a corset, shoulder-straps secured at their lower ends to the lower rear portions of the corset, an abdominal plate or support and straps extending from the back of the corset around to said plate or support.

2. A body-brace comprising, a corset, shoulder-straps secured at their lower ends to the lower rear portions of the corset, an abdominal plate or support, straps extending from the back of the corset around to the said plate or support and perineal straps to assist in holding the abdominal plate or support in place.

3. A body-brace comprising a corset having openings on the lower portion of its back, buckles or fastenings on the outer side of the back adjacent to said openings, shoulder-straps extending downwardly along the inner side of the corset-back and through said openings to the buckles or fastenings, an abdominal support and straps extending from the back of the corset around to the abdominal support.

4. A body-brace comprising, a corset having openings in the lower portion of its back, pairs of buckles or fastenings on the outer side of the corset-back and adjacent to said

openings, shoulder-straps extending at their lower ends through said openings into connection with the upper buckles, an abdominal support, straps extending from the corset-back around to said abdominal support, and perineal straps extending from the other rear buckles to buckles on the abdominal supporter-straps.

5. A body-brace, comprising a corset, shoulder-straps connected at their lower ends to the lower ends of the corset-back, an abdominal plate or support, straps secured to the corset-back and to the said plate or support, slides on the forward ends of said straps provided with buckles, and perineal straps secured to the corset-back and to said buckles on the slides.

6. A body-brace comprising, a corset, having shoulder-straps, a separable abdominal plate or support, pivoted buckles on each section, pairs of straps extending from the corset-back around to the said buckles, and perineal straps to assist in holding the abdominal plate in position.

7. A body-brace comprising, a corset, shoulder-straps secured at their lower ends only to the lower end of the corset-back, and separable abdominal support, having pairs of straps secured at their rear ends only to the corset-back at different heights.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

HOWARD C. RASH.

Witnesses:

C. L. DODGE,
A. M. DOW.