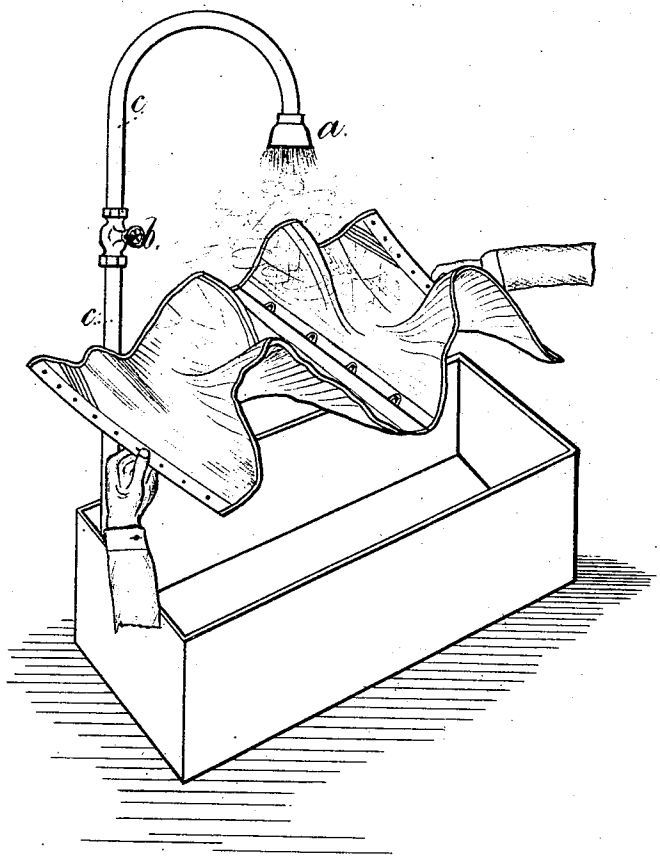
J. WATERMAN.

Method of Finishing Corsets.

No. 226,375. Patented April 6, 1880.



Witnesses
Harold Serrell
Chas. H. Smith

Inventor,
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JULIUS WATERMAN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO WATERMAN & MAYER, OF SAME PLACE.

METHOD OF FINISHING CORSETS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 226,375, dated April 6, 1880.

Application filed July 2, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JULIUS WATERMAN, of the city and State of New York, have invented an Improvement in Finishing Articles, such as Corsets, &c., made from Textile Fabrics, of which the following is a specification.

In making corsets and other articles linen and cotton fabrics are made use of that are highly finished in the manufacture. In consequence of the perfection of the machinery employed for sewing the seams there is but little hand-work, and the articles do not become soiled in making them up, but the fabric becomes crumpled.

Heretofore it has been usual to moisten or wash and starch such articles after they are made up. Hence in so doing the gloss and finish that are put upon the fabric by the calendering-rollers and hot-pressing employed in the manufacture of the fabric are entirely removed, and the ironing and pressing resorted to in preparing the corset or similar article for market never restore the original beauty of the woven fabric, and the starch is liable to become discolored, and the corsets or shirts are almost sure to turn yellow if kept from one season to another, and with corsets the fabric is more or less injured by discoloration from the metal busks or bones in consequence of the moisture in washing or starching the goods, and there are many corsets that are made of delicate colors that cannot be starched on the right side, and hence the starch has to be rubbed upon the inside by a brush or by hand.

Efforts have been made to dampen the corset or other article to soften the starch of the fabric; but the drops of water sprayed or otherwise applied to the same render the surface irregular in its appearance when pressed or dried.

My invention relates to a method of finishing the corset or similar manufactured article whereby the creases and inequalities consequent upon the manufacture are removed and the fabric restored to the original finished condition as it existed in the piece before being cut up and manufactured.

To accomplish this purpose I make use of a steam-pipe, *c*, and cock *b* and a rose having numerous very small holes, as indicated at *a* in the accompanying drawing. Steam under a reasonably high pressure is allowed to issue from this rose in a downward direction upon the fabric of the corset, shirt, or other article that is held beneath it, and the attendant moves the corset or other article back and forth rapidly, and so presents the same that the steam reaches all the parts uniformly that require to be moistened.

The steam is allowed to issue in such small jets through the rose that it becomes subdivided and cooled, and condenses in a form similar to dew upon the surface of the article presented to it. Care has to be taken to prevent the fabric becoming too much heated by the steam or from receiving too much moisture.

The article is taken and pressed and ironed before the dampness from the steam passes out of the fabric. By this method of moistening I am enabled to restore the original finish of the woven fabric, and to avoid the use of starch and lessen labor, and prevent the discoloration of the articles heretofore experienced.

It is generally preferable, especially in the manufacture of corsets, to introduce in the woven fabric more stiffening material than usual in the process of finishing the woven fabric, calendering, and pressing the same for market, in order that the corsets cut out of such finished material may be sufficiently stiff when manufactured and treated by my improved process aforesaid.

I am aware that steam has been allowed to pass upwardly through woolen cloths and also through other fabrics for moistening the same before pressing. This operation applies the warm steam throughout the fabric instead of upon the surface only. In my method the steam does not pass through the fabric, but condenses like dew upon the surface.

It will be apparent that, the steam being applied in a downward direction from above the fabric, the tendency of the steam is to rise. Hence it does not penetrate or pass through the fabric, as it would if the fabric were above the steam-jets, and only the condensed particles, similar to dew, remain upon the surface of the fabric.

I do not claim an apparatus in which steam is passed upwardly through material that is

to be moistened thereby, as there are numerous instances where this has been done, as will be seen by reference to Letters Patent Nos. 107,469, 142,088, and 190,786, and others.

I claim as my invention—

The method herein specified of finishing corsets and similar articles made of sized and finished goods, consisting in exposing the same to the action of jets of steam issuing downwardly upon the fabric, so that the surface only will be moistened by particles that condense and fall upon the material similar to dew, and the steam will rise from the fabric instead of passing into the same, and then pressing and ironing the fabric, as set forth.

Signed by me this 28th day of May, A. D. 1878.

JULIUS WATERMAN.

Witnesses:
HAROLD SERRELL,
GEO. T. PINCKNEY.