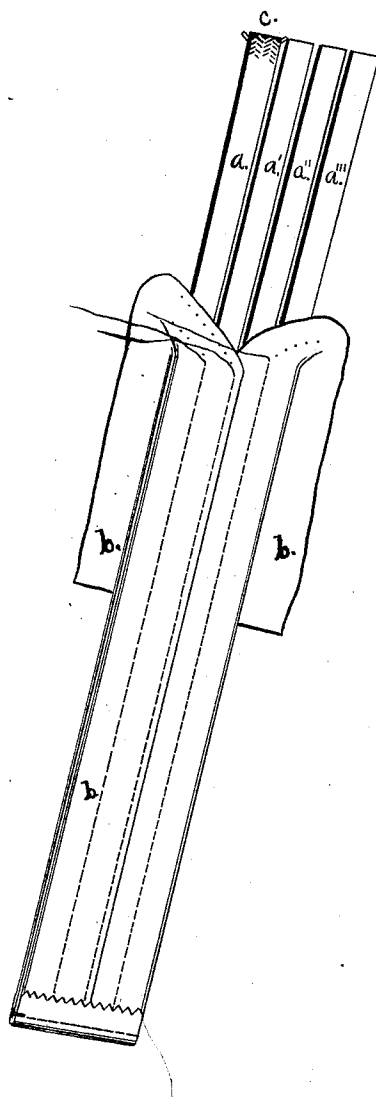


ANNIE L. HOBART.
Corset-Busk Protectors.

No. 149,040.

Patented March 31, 1874.



Witnesses,
Albert M. Moore,
Hester A. Hobart

Inventor,
Annie L. Hobart

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANNIE L. HOBART, OF LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN CORSET-BUSK PROTECTORS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **149,040**, dated March 31, 1874; application filed February 2, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANNIE L. HOBART, of Lowell, in the county of Middlesex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have invented an Improved Corset-Protector, of which the following is a specification:

The object of my invention is to prevent the breaking of the bent corset-springs at the waist of the wearer, and to promote the comfort of the wearer of the same.

My invention consists in two or more narrow, flat springs, placed nearly edge to edge, and covered with a suitable flexible covering, as hereinafter described.

The accompanying drawing represents my invention with the covering ripped open and laid back, showing the springs.

a a' a'' a''' represent thin, narrow, flat steel springs, placed nearly edge to edge, (with just space enough between them to allow the covering to be stitched together between them,) and inclosed in a covering of cloth, *b*. The covering *b* is stitched together between the springs, from end to end, and across the ends. The protector, when completed, should be a trifle longer than the corset-springs which it protects. The protector, when worn, is placed vertically within the corset, directly behind the bent springs which form the front edges of a corset, and is kept in place merely by the

pressure of the corset against the body of the wearer. The protector prevents the corset-springs from breaking by making the bend in them less abrupt when the wearer stoops, and it also protects the underclothing from being torn and the person from being injured by the ends of the broken corset-springs in case said corset-springs should break. The springs in the protector are not likely to break all at the same time. Instead of cloth, leather of some soft kind, like kid, may be used for the covering *b*, and would probably be preferred in warm weather. The covering *b* may be made of one or more thicknesses to increase the softness of the protector, and the springs *a a' a'' a'''* may each have a separate covering, as shown at *c*, in addition to the covering *b*.

I do not limit myself to any number of springs.

I claim as my invention—

As an article of manufacture, a busk consisting of the combination of two or more springs, *a a'*, arranged as herein set forth, with the covering *b*, as and for the purpose described.

ANNIE L. HOBART.

Witnesses:

ALBERT M. MOORE,
MYRA A. HOBART.