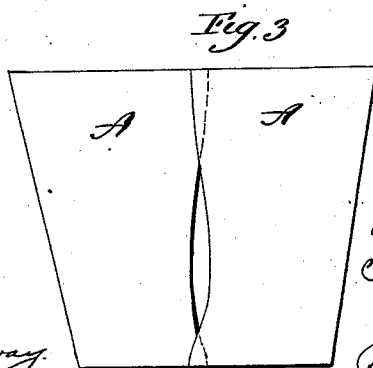
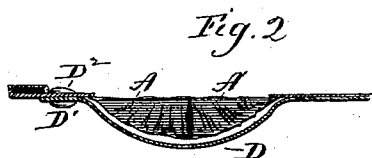
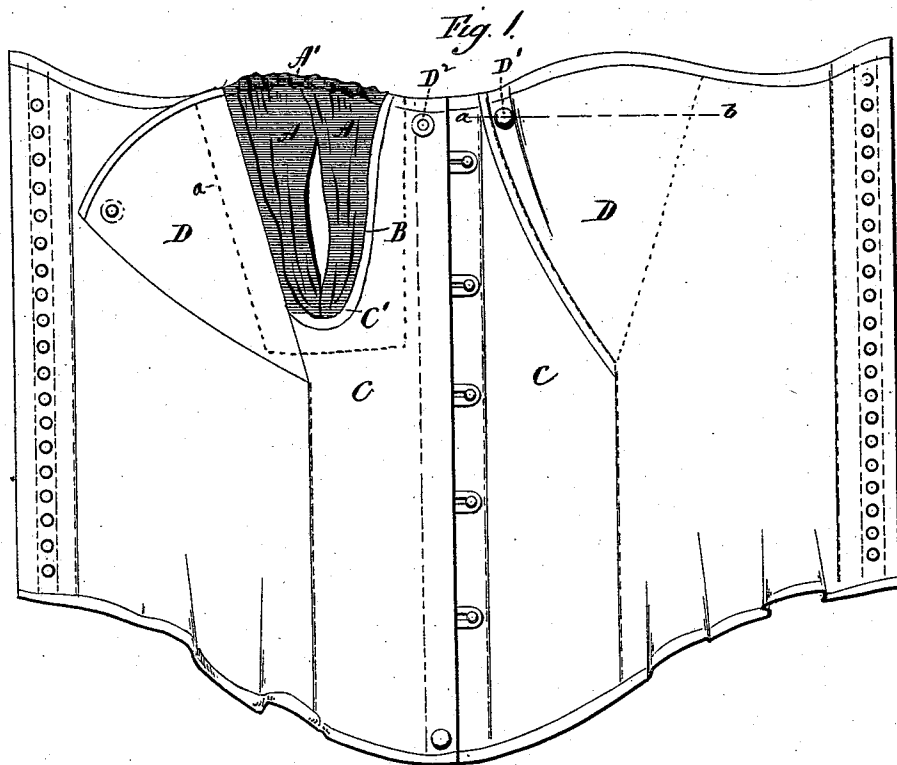


(No Model.)

T. S. GILBERT.
CORSET.

No. 531,179.

Patented Dec. 18, 1894.



Witnesses,
J. H. Shumway
Geo. C. Hall

Thomas S. Gilbert.
Inventor.
By attys
Earle & Seymour

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS S. GILBERT, OF SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO THE
GILBERT CORSET COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

CORSET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 531,179, dated December 18, 1894.

Application filed August 24, 1894. Serial No. 521,210. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS S. GILBERT, of Springfield, in the county of Hampden and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new
5 Improvement in Nursing-Corsets; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the
10 same, and which said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1, a view in front elevation of one form which a corset constructed in accordance with my invention may assume, one of the
15 flaps being open and the other closed; Fig. 2, a view in horizontal section, on the line *a-b* of Fig. 1, through one of the flaps and shields; Fig. 3, a detached view of one of the shields, as it would appear if spread out flat.
20 My invention relates to an improvement in nursing corsets, the object being to produce a simple, convenient, shapely, cleanly and comfortable corset, constructed with particular reference to concealing the breast when
25 the nursing feature of the corset is in use, and to protecting the breast at other times.

With these ends in view, my invention consists in a nursing corset having certain details of construction as will be hereinafter described and pointed out in the claim.
30

In carrying out my invention, I locate shields or covers *A A* made of some fine soft fabric, as muslin or lawn, in openings *B B* formed in the upper ends of the front sections
35 *C C* of the corset, the said shields being made full enough to receive the breasts, which they normally entirely cover and protect, but adapted to be parted enough for the requirements of nursing, when, however, there need
40 be no more exposure than of the shields to view. Normally the shields and the openings which they occupy are covered by flaps *D D*, secured by their outer edges to the corset at points near the rear edges of the said openings.
45 As herein shown, each shield is composed of two strips or pieces corresponding to each other in shape, wider at their upper than at their lower ends and having their inner corners overlapped. The upper ends of both pieces
50 are bound and secured together by a tape *A'*, while their lower ends are bound and secured

together by a tape *C'*, the said tapes finishing and reinforcing the upper and lower ends of the shield, which are not attached to the corset but left free. Preferably I shall apply the
55 shields in such manner that, when soiled, they may be readily removed, washed and replaced. I do not, however, limit myself to so applying them. One way of removably applying the shields is by tacking the outer edges of their
60 strips to the back of the corset by coarse stitches *a*, seen to the left in Fig. 1. By the term "tacking," I wish to be understood as referring to stitching of a temporary character. When tacked on to the corset the tapes pre-
65 vent the ends of the shield from being unduly strained and from getting out of place.

It is designed that the shields shall be fulled, so to speak, in the openings *B B*, and afford ample room for the breasts, which they en-
70 tirely cover and protect from the corset proper, and which, when the flaps are open, they conceal, the separation of the inner edges of the strips for nursing being effected without any exposure of the person.
75

The flaps *D D* are triangular in form, as shown, and fastened by spring studs *D'* and collets *D''*, familiar to all on account of their extended use as fastenings for gloves; but the flaps may be fastened in any other way
80 found convenient and effective.

I do not limit myself to making or applying the shields in the exact manner shown and described, nor to making the openings in the corset sections and the flaps as represented. I would therefore have it understood
85 that I do not limit myself to the exact construction set forth, but hold myself at liberty to make such changes as fairly fall within the spirit and scope of my invention.
90

I am aware that a corset having its front sections cut away to form openings in their upper edges, and provided with loose shields of knitted material located in the said openings, and with covers attached to it and adapted
95 to cover the said openings and shields, is, broadly speaking, old. I am also aware that a corset having the upper edges of its front sections cut away to form openings and provided with flaps secured near the rear edges
100 of the said openings is old, and I do not claim that construction broadly.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The herein described nursing-corset having
5 a front section constructed with an opening
located in its upper edge, a loose shield placed
in the said opening, and comprising two ver-
tically arranged pieces of soft cloth con-
10 structed and adapted to entirely cover and
protect the breast and nipple, and having
portions of their inner edges free to be pushed
back and separated to expose the nipple as

required for nursing, and a flap secured to
the outer face of the said section and adapted,
when closed, to cover the said opening and 15
shield, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed this
specification in the presence of two subscrib-
ing witnesses.

THOMAS S. GILBERT.

Witnesses:

FRANK H. BOWEN,
EDWARD N. BOWEN.