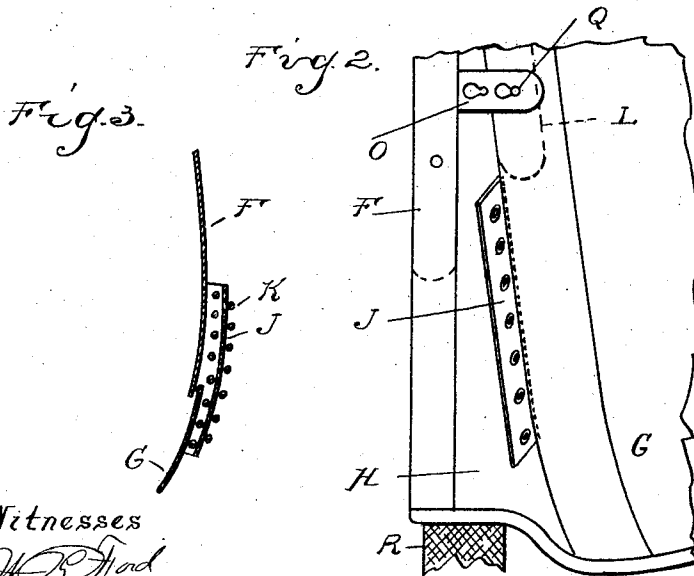
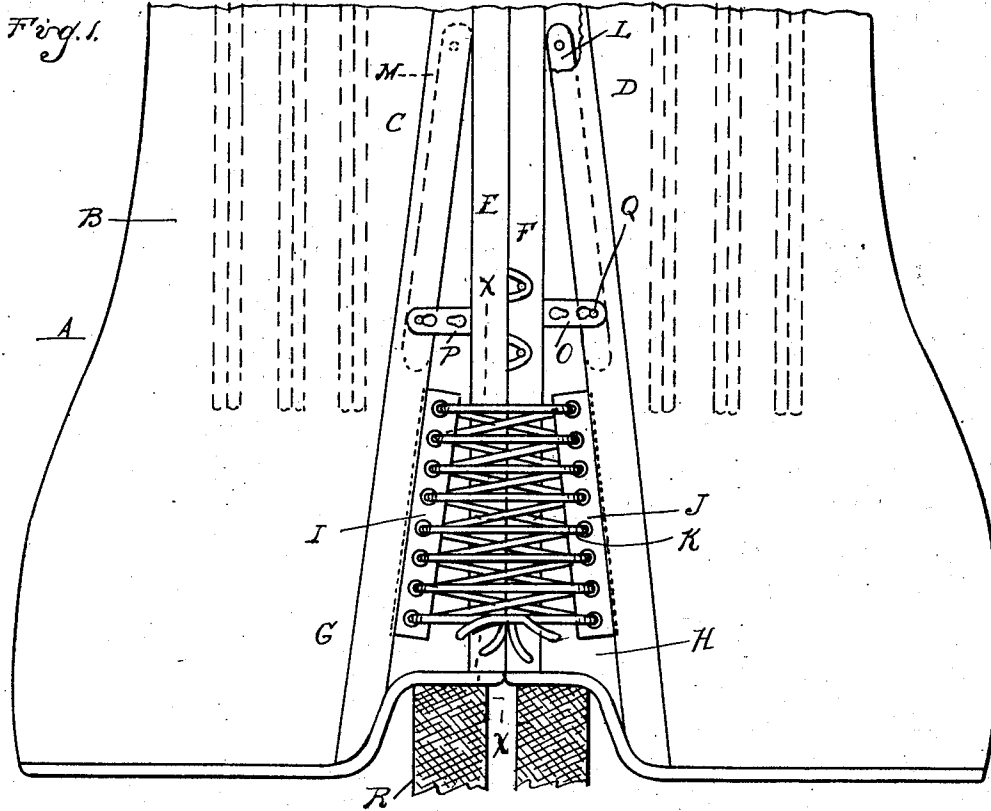


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CORSET.
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Witnesses

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CORSET.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE H. COLLEY, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Detroit, in the county of Wayne and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Corsets, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

The invention relates to a corset construction having means extending below the stiffened body of the garment for supporting the abdomen, the construction being particularly serviceable in connection with the type of corset wherein the abdominal portion of the body is contractible for producing the straight or flat front effect.

The invention further relates to a construction wherein a skirting forms a part of the garment, the support being supplemental thereto and acting in addition as a retainer to draw and hold the skirting smoothly about the figure, so as to produce the close and accurate fit desired.

The invention is further embodied in various details of construction, as will be more fully hereinafter set forth and illustrated in the drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a view in front elevation of a corset construction embodying my invention; Fig. 2 is a perspective view of one of the corset sections or fronts, showing more particularly the arrangement and construction of the abdominal support; and Fig. 3 is a section taken on line $x-x$ of Fig. 1.

A represents the garment in its entirety, comprising the body section or portion B, stiffened in the ordinary manner by the usual ribs or stays, and including the usual fronts C and D provided with the busks or clasps E F.

G represents the skirting of the garment, depending at some length from the lower edge of the body proper and extending entirely therearound, as shown in Fig. 1.

The garment thus described when fitted to the figure of the wearer has a tendency—particularly in stout persons—of forcing the abdomen downwardly below the body portion, and to support the depressed portion of the abdomen I have provided a section H, preferably adjustable, extending across the front of the garment and preferably united to the fronts of the skirting at a distance from the meeting edges, as illustrated. As

thus constructed, the supplemental section described, while affording the required support for the abdomen, also serves to draw the skirting closely about the figure, giving the desired set to the garment and a smooth unwrinkled surface throughout. The preferable form of support comprises short tabs I and J, positioned vertically upon the skirting at distances as previously pointed out from the meeting edges of the fronts, and a lacing K uniting these tabs, the lacing being desirable, as it permits the tabs to assume different angular positions in adjusting, without wrinkling or buckling, the entire support always lying flat upon the body of the garment in the desired manner.

In certain types of corset, means are provided for contracting the abdominal portion of the garment body to produce the desired flat or straight front effect. In such types, an abdominal support, such as above described, is particularly desirable for obvious reasons. In the drawings, I have shown an adjusting mechanism for contracting the abdominal section of the garment, the means comprising stiffening members L M adjoining the busks, pivoted at their upper ends and lying normally in angular relation to the busks, as indicated. Upon adjustment of these members inwardly, the desired flattening is produced, and for effecting the adjustment apertured plates, as O and P, may be employed, and studs, as Q, upon the stiffening members.

With the form of corset last described, the busks are preferably extended below the body proper a short distance, as shown in Fig. 1, and the adjustable abdominal support preferably overlaps the busk extensions, so that when the garment is in place the clasp ends will be bent inwardly to conform to the figure of the wearer.

The usual stocking supports R are attached to the skirting of the garment, the supports being arranged in pairs one upon each side of the corset, as shown.

What I claim as my invention is,—

1. In a corset, the combination with the corset fronts, the busks, a stiffening member for each front adjoining the busk, means for adjusting said members in relation to the busks, and an adjustable abdominal support carried by the fronts positioned below the stiffened body portion.

2. In a corset, the combination with the

fronts, of the busks, a stiffening member for each front adjoining its busk, means for adjusting said stiffening members in relation to the busks, an unstiffened skirting depending from the body, spaced tabs upon the skirting front below the body portion, and a lacing uniting the tabs.

3. In a corset, the combination with a stiffened body including fronts and busks, of a stiffening member pivoted to each front adjoining its busk, a plate upon each front having an adjustable engagement with its respective stiffening member, an unstiffened skirting depending from the lower edge of the body, spaced tabs upon the skirting front below the body portion, and a lacing uniting the tabs.

4. In a corset, the combination with the stiffened body portion including the busks,

of means independent of the fastening for the busks for contracting the abdominal portion of the corset body, a non-elastic unstiffened skirting depending from the body, and an adjustable section uniting the front portions of the skirting and acting as an abdominal support.

5. In a corset, the combination with the stiffened body portion, a non-elastic unstiffened skirting extending around the body and formed by an integral extension thereof, spaced tabs upon the skirting front below the body, and a lacing uniting said tabs.

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

GEORGE H. COLLEY.

Witnesses:

THOS. W. PARKER,
EDGAR E. ROSS.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."