

J. M^c Neven. *Sheet 12, Sheets.*
Corset &c.

N^o 80988

Patented Aug. 11, 1868.



WITNESSES

Wm A Morgan
Chas. C. Cotton

INVENTOR.

John M^c Neven
per M^c Neven &
Attorneys

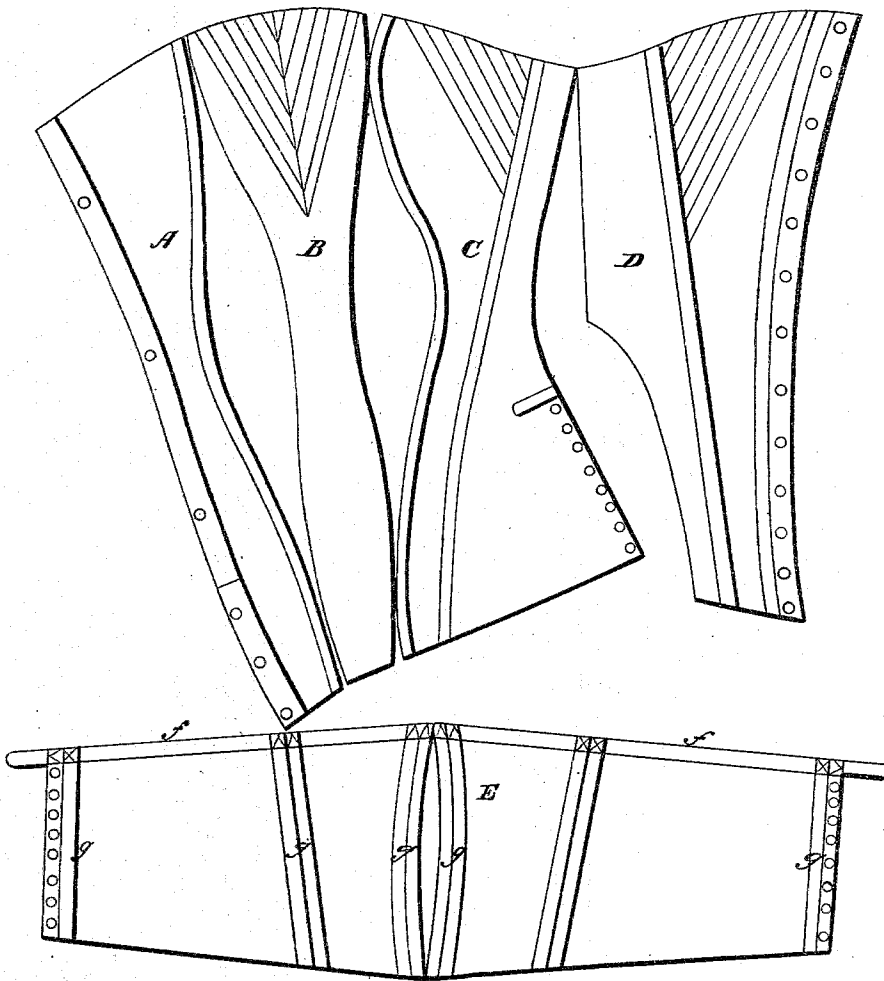
J. McNeven. *Sheet 2, 2 Sheets*

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Fig. 2



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United States Patent Office.

JOHN McNEVEN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

Letters Patent No. 80,988, dated August 11, 1868.

IMPROVEMENT IN CORSET, ABDOMINAL AND SKIRT-SUPPORTER.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, JOHN McNEVEN, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and improved Combined Corset and Skirt-Supporter; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable those skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

This invention relates to improvements in female wearing-apparel, whereby many advantages are obtained, and many objections are obviated.

And it consists in so constructing a corset that it becomes a support for the skirts, and also for the abdomen, thereby relieving the more susceptible portions of the body of undue stress or strain, and, from its peculiar construction and application to the body, it preserves the intestines in a normal position, relieves the loins by transferring the weight of the skirts to the hips and lower portion of the body, and overcomes many of the objections made against the ordinary method of wearing skirts.

The drawing—

Figure 1, sheet 1, represents the combined corset, as worn on the body.

Figure 2, sheet 2, represents the method of construction, showing the combined corset in sections, previous to being sewed or fastened together.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The corset is cut in or formed of eight pieces, half of which are represented in fig. 2, and marked A B C D.

These parts or sections, when connected, assume a convex form in front, below the waist, so that, when connected with the skirt-supporter, (as will be hereinafter described,) it forms a complete and comfortable abdominal supporter.

The skirt-supporter (or bustle) is composed of two or more pieces of material, of sufficient length and width for the purpose, as represented in fig. 2, and marked E, into which stiffeners are inserted, for the purpose of receiving and transferring the weight of the skirts from the loins to the hips and buttocks, as represented in fig. 1.

The horizontal stiffener is marked *f*, and the upright stiffeners are marked *g*, in the drawing.

The stiffener *f* extends the whole length of the bustle, with which the short stiffeners *g* are firmly united, as indicated in the drawing.

The short stiffeners may vary in length as well as in number, as taste may dictate.

This bustle and skirt-supporter is connected with the corset by lacing or otherwise, and when applied to the body, as represented in fig. 1, the stiffener *f* will extend, in circular form, from hip to hip, projecting from the waist as much as fashion may require.

The skirts, loosely fastened around the waist, rest upon the upper edge of the supporter *f*, and, being itself supported by the stiffener *g* upon the fleshy part of the hips or buttocks, the whole weight of the skirts is transferred from the loins to a muscular and fleshy part, which is well calculated to resist pressure without injury.

It will be noticed that the corset is cut without hip-pieces.

The hip-joints are left free, and without restraint or obstruction, and the swaddling effect so often complained of in other corsets is avoided.

The corset is applied to the body in the usual manner, with clasps in front, and with lacings behind.

In consequence of the extreme length of the corset in front, (to render it an abdominal supporter,) if I were to use the steel stays the whole length of the front, or allow them to extend to the bottom of the corset, they would create inconvenience in sitting or stooping.

I therefore use steels, of ordinary length, and fasten the bottom of the corset around the abdomen with hooks, clasps, or straps and buckles, without which the abdominal supporter would be incomplete.

The ordinary method of fastening the skirts to the waist, with their weight drawing upon the loins, has been repeatedly condemned by medical men as producing most injurious effects upon the system.

My object in this improvement is to obviate all objections of this kind, and, in addition, to provide a comfortable and efficient abdominal supporter for the wearer.

I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The corset and skirt-supporter, constructed as described, of the sections A B C D, cut out upon the hips, and extended in front to completely cover the abdomen, and the stiffened section E, removably attached at its ends to the extended portion of the section next the hips, substantially as described for the purpose specified.

JOHN McNEVEN.

Witnesses:

ALEX. F. ROBERTS,
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