

(No Model.)

A. M. AYLES.  
LEVER FASTENING FOR CORSETS.

No. 460,386.

Patented Sept. 29, 1891.

FIG. 1.

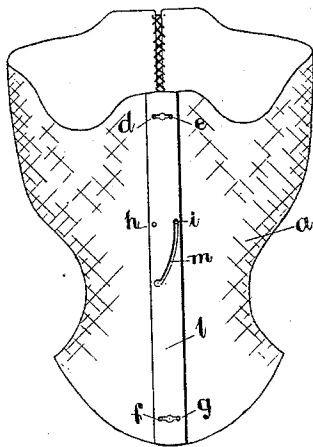


FIG. 2.

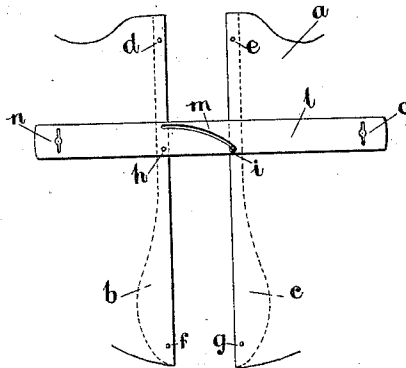


FIG. 3.

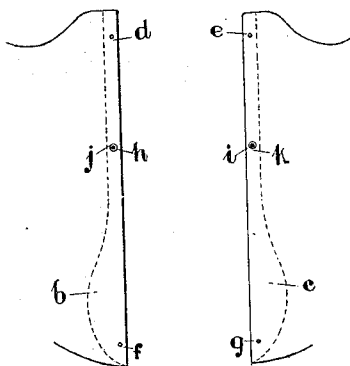


FIG. 4.

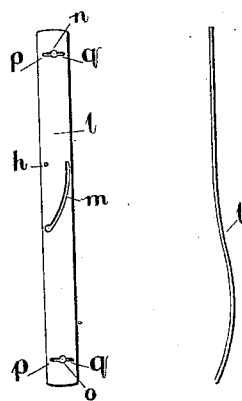


FIG. 5.



Witnesses.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALLAN MURRAY AYLES, OF MELBOURNE, VICTORIA.

## LEVER-FASTENING FOR CORSETS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 460,386, dated September 29, 1891.

Application filed May 19, 1891. Serial No. 393,305. (No model.)

### *To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ALLAN MURRAY AYLES, gas-engineer, a subject of the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, and a resident of 261 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne, county of Bourke, in the Colony of Victoria, Australia, have invented an Improvement in Lever-Fastenings for Corsets, of which the following is a specification.

My invention consists, essentially, in making a lever-fastening which can be easily operated for the purpose of obtaining a leverage upon corsets in order to tighten them upon the figure of the wearer.

My lever-fastening, when arranged in the manner hereinafter described, is for the purpose of drawing the two front portions of the corset together, and also for strengthening said portions when fastened.

My invention, which is made to form part of the corset, is applicable to either that class of corset which is provided with spoon-shaped busks or to those with straight busks, the same result in either case being obtained; but in order that my invention may be better understood I will now refer to the accompanying sheet of drawings, which are to be taken as part of this specification and read therewith.

Figure 1 is an elevation of a corset, illustrating its two front portions, termed the "busks," closed or drawn together by means of my lever-fastening. Fig. 2 illustrates the front of the corset opened and ready to be closed by the lever-fastening, which is shown arranged horizontally. Fig. 3 also represents the front of the corset opened, but without the lever-fastening, which is omitted in order to illustrate the position of the neutral fulcrum or pivot upon which it turns. Fig. 4 is a front elevation of the fastening, while Fig. 5 is an end elevation of Fig. 4.

Similar letters of reference indicate similar or corresponding parts where they occur in the several views.

In Figs. 1 and 2, *a* is the corset. *b* and *c* are the two ordinary spoon-shaped busks. There are six iron or steel studs securely riveted to and projected from the outer face of said busks, and the two studs *d* and *e* are termed the "upper locking-studs," while the two lettered *f* and *g* are termed the "lower

locking-studs." The remaining two studs are represented by *h* and *i*. The stud *h* acts as the neutral fulcrum or pivot for the fastening, while the other stud *i* is the medium against which said fastening operates as the two busks are being drawn together when tightening the corset upon the figure. Said studs *h* and *i* are provided, respectively, with washers *j* and *k*, which form seats for my lever-fastening. The studs before mentioned are each made with a button-shaped head and a plain shank with a reduced end, which is riveted upon the inner side of said busks and is hidden from view by the latter being afterward lined with the ordinary material.

*l* is the lever-fastening, which constitutes my invention. It consists of a pliable piece of flat spring-steel, which is made of the same length as or shorter than the busks and is carried by the stud *h*. Care should be taken so as to have the fulcrum or pivot *h* near one side of the fastening, and the distance between said pivot *h* and the tail end of the curved slot hereinafter mentioned should correspond with the distance between the studs *h* and *i* when the corset is closed.

*m* is the aforesaid curved slot formed in the said lever *l* for the purpose of engaging the stud *i*. This slot, which is two and one-half inches, or thereabout, in length, takes the form of a gradual curve from a point opposite to the neutral pivot *h*, carrying the fastening, and extends across the latter, as shown at Fig. 2. There are two perforations *n* and *o*, having each two slotted sides similar to *p* and *q*, made near each end of said steel strip for the purpose of fastening the upper and lower ends of the lever *l* with the locking-studs, which are projected from the aforesaid busks.

The mode of operating and action of my fastening are as follows: The corset *a* is first arranged in position upon the figure of the wearer. Then the fastening *l* is set horizontally, as shown at Fig. 2. When so set, it is supported only by its neutral fulcrum or pivot *h*. The wearer now moves the upper and lower ends of fastening *l* with both hands in the direction for closing. It is by moving the fastening *l* to a vertical position that the desired leverage is obtained. This is effected by means of the stud *i* working in and engag-

ing with the curved slot *m*. When the fast-  
ening *l* assumes the vertical position, the up-  
per studs *d* and *e*, as also the lower studs *f*  
and *g*, are slipped into the perforations *n* and  
5 *o*. The corset then slackens slightly, which  
has the effect of allowing the four studs *d*, *e*,  
*f*, and *g* to slide into the side slots *p* and *q* of  
each of the perforations *n* and *o*. It is in  
10 this way that the upper and lower ends of  
the fastening are locked, as shown at Fig. 1.  
For the purpose of releasing the fastening *l*,  
so as to undo the corset, it is only necessary  
to move the studs *d*, *e*, *f*, and *g* toward the  
15 perforations *n* and *o*, and then slip them  
through the latter.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Let-  
ters Patent of the United States, is—

In a corset, the herein-described lever-fast-  
ening *l*, having curved slot *m* and perforations  
*n* and *o*, provided with slotted sides *p* and *q*, 20  
pivot *h*, carrying said fastening, stud *i*, en-  
gaging said slot *m*, and studs *d e f g* for en-  
gagement with the slotted perforations *n* and  
*o*, substantially as set forth.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my 25  
hand in presence of two witnesses.

ALLAN MURRAY AYLES.

Witnesses:

W. D. ROWLINGSON,

W. H. CUBLEY.