Jan. 20, 1925. 1,523,914

C. THORP

CORSET ATTACHMENT

Filed April 14, 1922

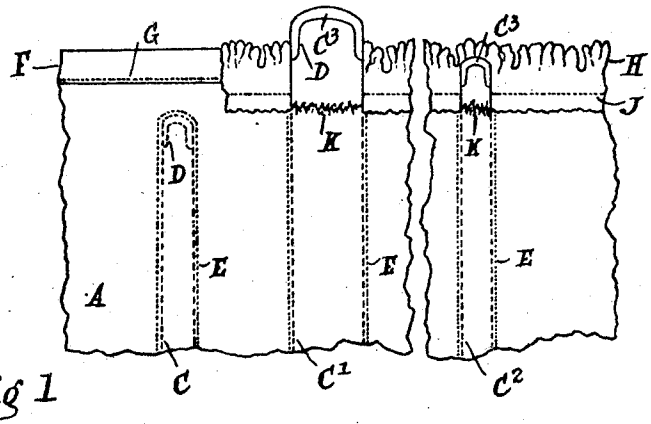


Fig 1

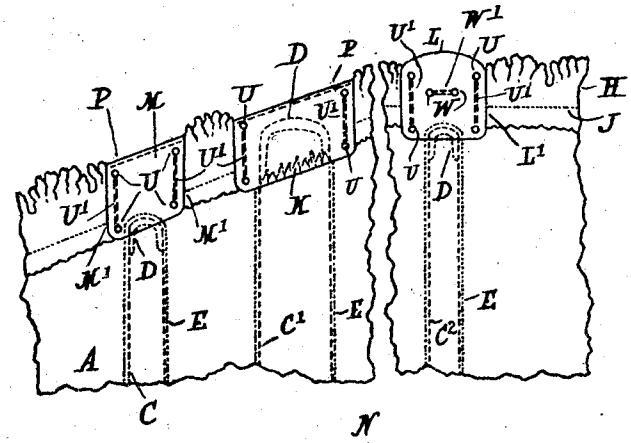


Fig 2

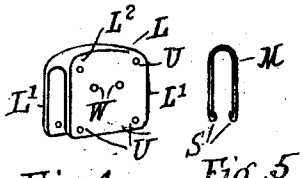


Fig 4

Fig 5

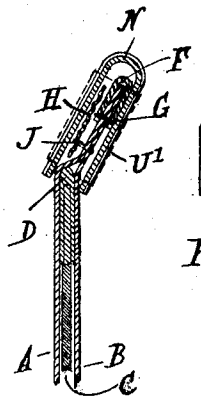


Fig 3

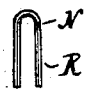


Fig 7



Fig 6

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CATHERINE THORP, OF TOWNSVILLE, QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA.

CORSET ATTACHMENT.

Application filed April 14, 1922. Serial No. 552,457.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CATHERINE THORP, a subject of the King of Great Britain and Ireland, residing at Hermit Park, Townsville, in the State of Queensland, Australia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Corset Attachments; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention is applicable to corsets and similar garments (all hereinafter referred to as corsets) containing "bones" or stiffeners of material such as whalebone, steel, celluloid, wire coil. or so on, having plain or capped ends. The invention is useful for repairing corsets after bones have broken through their coverings; and is also applicable before repairs become necessary.

The corset fabric enclosing bones is generally delicate, but even when strong is often broken by the friction and outward pressure of bone ends, which perforate the fabric, protrude in an unsightly manner, damage other clothing, produce pain, and/or have other disadvantages.

These drawbacks have long existed, and bone caps have been introduced to cope with them; but although their thickness and blunt ends give caps value, they also—being stiff—break through the corset fabric in many cases.

I provide bone protrusion limiting and controlling shields, not to be attached to bones, but to be attached to the corset, and so that both shields and bones will be to a considerable extent movable independently of one another. My shields are to be made of various materials, each shield adapted to straddle the corset edge near a bone end. When there is lace on the edge of the corset each shield is to be attached over or under the lace as found convenient. Thus my shields do not act like extensions on bone ends which would produce discomfort, but leave the corset where it carries bones, movable—with considerable freedom—relatively to the corset where it carries shields.

Each shield is wider than the bone end to be protected, and thus provides a pocket in which the bone end will be housed if it breaks through the corset fabric. My shields will cost little and are found by test to light, efficacious, and comfortable. They can be sewn on quickly and easily, and corsets repaired or protected by them can be worn long after they would otherwise have been discarded.

In the drawings herewith, which are diagrammatic, several slightly modified shapes of my shields are illustrated, and there may be other modifications as to form and size, and minor details, while keeping within the scope of my claim.

In these drawings 1 is a front view of part of a corset upper part, some bone ends being shown protruding through fabric they have broken.

Figure 2 is a front view of part of a corset fitted with my shields, the bone end under one shield having broken through its fabric cover, its protruding part being enclosed by the shield.

In practice corset edges extend either substantially at right angles to the length of the bones, or obliquely, or curve relatively thereto. An edge in Figure 2, is, by way of example, shown oblique.

Figure 3 shows (but not to scale) in transverse section part of a capped bone the end of which has not protruded through its fabric cover, but which is within the space protected by the lower part of my shield. This figure shows the shield in one position it is capable or assuming relatively to the bone, the flexibility of the corset edge thus being made evident.

Figure 4 shows a domed shield, in perspective.

Figures 5, 6, and 7 show end views of shields of which minor details vary.

My shields are at will attachable somewhat higher or lower than is illustrated.

In these drawings A and B show the front and rear respectively of the corset body, containing bones, C, C^1, C^2. D indicates caps fixed on bone ends, my invention being usable whether such caps are present or not. E shows stitches by which pockets or channels are ordinarily formed in the corset body to contain the bones. F is the corset body edging, sewn on at G; and H indicates edge lace sewn on at J.

Breaks in fabric A made by bone ends are marked K, C^3 being bone ends which protrude and are exposed to view. L represents a domed shield; shields M, N, and O have no domes. Shields N and O are of sheet material as aluminium, having a covering R which may be of textile material;

the covering of shield O is doubled or folded inwardly at T. Shield M has edges doubled or folded inwardly at S.

These shields are made from aluminium, other metal, celluloid, composition, vulcanite or other suitable material, which is useful whether stiff or flexible, and whether or not it is thickened at its folds and edges. Such material can be moulded or bent from sheets, and I may cover it with linen, silk, lace, or the like, adapted to be cemented or sewn on. To facilitate such cementing the surface to be covered is, when desired, roughened by sand blasting.

Shields L, M, have respective sides L^1, M^1, parallel with the bone sides, as shown in Figure 2.

The straddling fold P of the shield is in some cases oblique to the shield sides in order to be parallel, or approximately parallel, to the corset edge. The fold of shield L is domed, angular upper corners being avoided, a shallow pocket L^2 being formed adapted to be initially empty when the shield is attached; or it may receive corset lace; or be provided with cushioning material, as rubber, which when worn out can be easily removed.

I provide, for sewing each shield on the corset, holes U in the shield sides, but the attachment could be by eyelets. U^1 shows stitches through holes U, locating the shield straddling the corset edge while allowing the shield to swing relatively to the bone to be protected. The stitches U^1 are wider apart than the bone width so that the aforesaid pocket is formed ready for the protrusion of a bone end; and whether or not a bone end has broken through the corset fabric A when the shield is attached, in each case the shield base protects that fabric and end of the bone.

When a bone C, or C^2, protrudes from the fabric slightly under a shield, it would in many cases, during subsequent wear, enter the shield further, and would in some cases vary in position longitudinally; but its end, which could at will be pushed back longitudinally by the wearer, would still be protected within the shield.

I may provide a stop to limit bone end protrusion into the shield, as shield holes W connected by stitches W^1, or I place cushioning material in the shield top, whereupon increase of protrusion of a bone end will be arrested by the stitching W^1 or the cushioning material. If such stitching were broken by the bone end, it could be easily replaced.

What I claim is:—

The combination with a corset having a stay pocket with a stay therein and a top edging extending beyond the end of the stay pocket, a U-shaped attachment body adapted to fit over the edging with its side portions extending downwardly at opposite sides of the edging and in slightly overlapping relation with the upper end of the stay pocket to permit uninterrupted flexing of the said edging, securing means along the opposite edges of the attachment body fastening the same to the edging and to the corset in said position, said securing means being spaced apart a greater distance than the width of the stay pocket and the closed upper end of the attachment body being spaced from the upper end of the stay pocket to permit free normal working of the stay both laterally and longitudinally, said closed upper end of the attachment body being adapted to engage and confine the stay when the latter breaks through the end of the stay pocket.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

CATHERINE THORP.