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DEVICE FOR DIFFUSING EXCESSIVE SHOULDER FLESH.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 11, 1916.

1,269,690. Patented June 18, 1918.

Fig. 1.

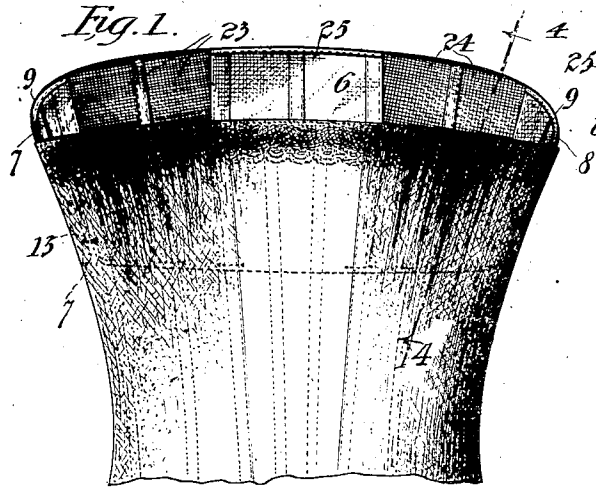


Fig. 2.

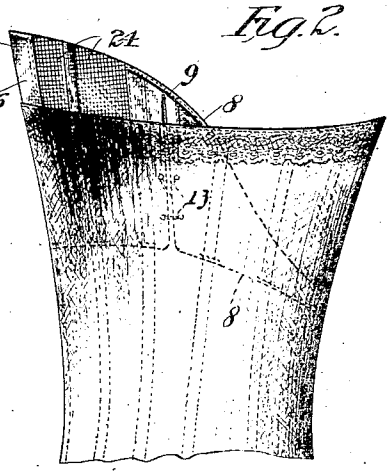


Fig. 3.

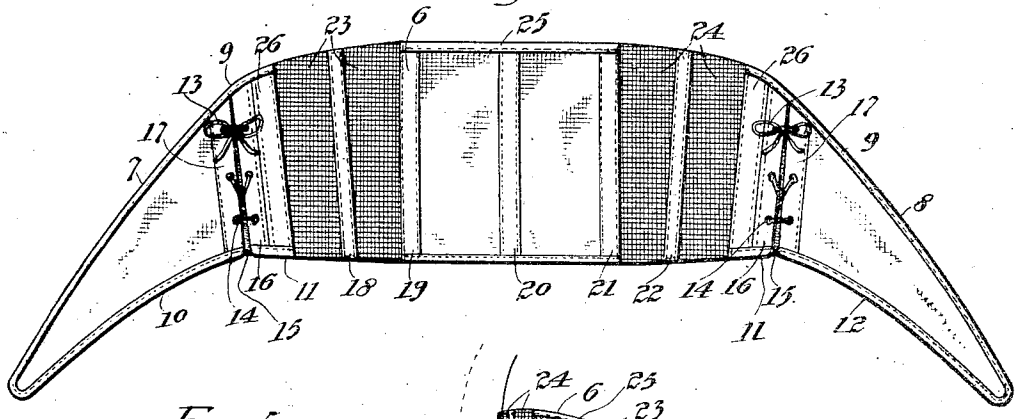


Fig. 5.

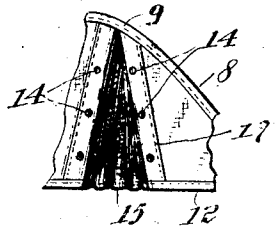
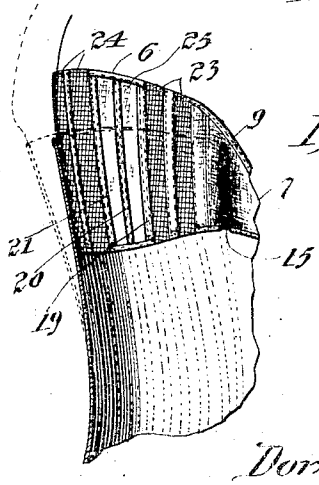


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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DEVICE FOR DIFFUSING EXCESSIVE SHOULDER-FLESH.

1,269,690. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 18, 1918.

Application filed February 11, 1916. Serial No. 77,546.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DORA E. DUFFY, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Devices for Diffusing Excessive Shoulder-Flesh, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact specification.

This invention relates to improvements in devices for diffusing excessive shoulder flesh, which on tightening a corset to fit the wearer, forms an unsightly roll about the adjacent upper edge of the corset, and which, moreover pushes the corset away from the center of the back, and thereby sharply outlines the edge against the corset cover or other clothing, as may be, to an objectionable degree.

In efforts to remove the unsightliness of this excessive shoulder flesh, corsets have heretofore been provided with an upward extension across their back consisting of a non-elastic fabric stitched to the upper edge of the corset, and normally projecting at a right angle to that of the corset, so that when and from tightening the corset to fit the wearer, there is produced in the extension piece a tension forcing upwardly and compressing the flesh, with the result that on finally tightening the corset the surface of the flesh is curved on a line merging into that of the back of the corset.

It is here to be observed, however, that the pushing of the excessive flesh upwardly from a corset in efforts to reduce the unsightliness of the fold before referred to, unavoidably produces a fullness in the curvature and massiveness of flesh imparting to the shoulders an appearance so unnatural and undesirable as to practically prohibit the use of an extension piece, requiring the tightening of a corset for its operation.

From the foregoing it will now be apparent that any means by which it is possible and practical to dissipate excess flesh from the upper edge of the corset, waist, etc., and from the shoulders, and thereby restore the natural curve will be a material and substantial improvement in the art.

The prime object of my invention broadly stated is to provide a means, which when supported in its operative position from either a corset, a waist, a waist band or other support suitable therefor, is capable of exerting a force dissipating excess shoulder flesh downwardly and outwardly therefrom, and confining it in part at the sides and below the shoulder and also the arm pits of the wearer, and whereby the natural curvature of the shoulders is restored, and the unsightliness of excess flesh is substantially concealed from view.

A further object of my invention is to provide such a device with means adapted to substantially reduce, if not eventually remove in its entirety, the surplus flesh, so dissipated and confined, and without discomfort to the wearer.

Another object of my invention is to provide a shoulder flesh reducer with means for its adjustment from time to time for dissipating and following the subsequent removal of the excess flesh from the shoulders.

With these ends in view, my invention finds embodiment in certain features of novelty in the construction, combination and arrangement of parts by which the said objects and certain other objects are attained, all as hereinafter fully described with reference to the accompanying drawings, and more particularly pointed out in the claims.

In said drawing:

Figure 1 illustrates in rear elevation in its operative position upon a corset, a shoulder flesh reducer in which my invention finds its embodiment.

Fig. 2 is a side elevation thereof.

Fig. 3 is an elevation of the reducer detached from a corset.

Fig. 4 is a vertical section through the reducer and a corset on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1, with dotted lines indicating the relative position of excess shoulder flesh to the corset before the operation of the reducer, and,—

Fig. 5 is a sectional detail showing the adjusting devices for the reducer and the concealing gore therefor.

Similar characters of reference indicate the same parts in the several figures of the drawing.

The form of the device in which my invention finds embodiment may be generally described to be that of a crescent divided into three sections, the dimensions of which are such that the middle section 6 is adapted to extend across the back from arm pit

to arm pit, with its lower edge extending along and touching a line about midway between the waist line and shoulder blades with its upper edge touching a plane about on a line with the shoulders, as indicated in Figs. 1 and 4, with the end sections 7 and 8 of a length adapting them to be projected downwardly below and forwardly of the arm pits of the wearer, as indicated in Fig. 2.

The middle section 6 and the end sections 7 and 8 are preferably connected at their upper edges by a binding 9, but are separated at their lower edge and may be separately provided with bindings 10, 11 and 12.

Below their upper edge these several sections are connected at intervals with lacing cords 13, passed through opposing perforations 14 therethrough, the open space between which sections is preferably concealed from view by means of a foldable gore 15 of any material adapted therefor.

The opposing edges of the middle and end sections are preferably reinforced respectively by stiffening strips 16 and 17, preferably feather bone, as is also the middle section 6 at intervals of its length, as indicated at 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22 for the purpose of preventing folds in the foundation of the fabric across the back between the arm pits from tension, when in its operative position exerting a force sufficient to dissipate the excess flesh from the shoulders of the wearer.

When for any reason it is not necessary or desirable to remove the excess flesh dissipated from the shoulders, the strip may be constructed in its entirety of any strong flexible, but non-resilient material, such for example as drilling.

When, however, it is proposed to remove the flesh dissipated from the shoulders, the strip is provided with panels 23 and 24 of elastic webbing interposed between and secured to the vertical edges of a central panel 25 of non-resilient material and the fabric sheathing the featherbones 16—16, and which inwardly therefrom may sheath featherbones 26—26.

Secured to and dividing the resilient panels 23 and 24 are featherbones 18 and 22, before described in connection with a dissipator constructed in its entirety from a non-elastic fabric.

The elastic webbing panels take the form of downwardly converging gores so that they extend over the surface of a greater area of excess flesh next their upper portion and where the excess flesh is thicker and the tension of the panels is correspondingly greater than at their lower ends, in order that confined excess flesh at this point may be removed quicker if need be, than downwardly therefrom toward the lower portion of the shoulder blades, and which removal is made possible by the use of the flexible panels as will now be described.

When the device of my invention is supported from either a corset, a waist, or a waist band these articles of wearing apparel, as may be, must be first adjusted to the wearer, and while in their operative position, the device is pushed downwardly until its bottom edge projects a short distance above and in a plane parallel with the waist line, followed by temporarily pinning it, preferably to the upper edge of the support, then adjusting the lacings of the device until as a whole it exerts a pressure sufficient without discomfort to the wearer, pushing the excess flesh downwardly from the shoulders, and away from the middle of the back, and finally tacking the device at intervals of its bottom edge to its support.

When the device is constructed in its entirety of non-resilient fabric such for example as drilling, its operation is confined to dissipating excess flesh from the shoulders and back and it is therefore only when it becomes desirable or necessary to provide a means for removing the excess flesh so dissipated that the device is provided with a resilient webbing forming resilient panels located as shown in the drawings and as before described, and which for obtaining the best results are in direct contact with the dissipated excess shoulder flesh.

It will now be observed that with every movement of the arms and back of the wearer, these resilient panels are expanded and contracted, which expansion and contraction is frictionally resisted by the excess flesh with the result that such flesh is moved under pressure back and forth, and thereby massaged with sufficient frequency to substantially if not in time entirely remove such flesh.

In short, the resilient panels not only cooperate with the other and non-resilient portions of the device for pushing the excess flesh downwardly, and thereby dissipating it from the shoulders, but to massage, and thereby remove it as far as may be, and at a point where the greater part of the excess flesh is held and confined by the device, namely below the shoulder blades at a point removed from the center of the back.

So far as I am now aware my invention is the first to provide any means or devices, which when supported from either a corset, a waist, a waist band, or other suitable support is adapted to exert a force capable of dissipating excess flesh from the shoulders in a direction restoring the shoulders to their natural appearance, and at the same time so distributing excess flesh as to conceal its unsightliness from view, or which is provided with any means operating auto-

matically without discomfort to the wearer adapted to remove the excess in shoulder flesh.

With this understanding, it is now observed that my invention is not limited to the specific construction or materials of construction hereinbefore described and shown in the drawings, but includes any constructions or materials adapted to produce the same results and which may be included within the terms of the claims hereinafter made.

Having described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A device for dissipating excessive shoulder flesh adapted to be supported at its lower edge from a corset, a waist, a waist band, or other suitable support, consisting of a strip of flexible fabric extending transversely across the back to about the arm pits, and from a plane about midway between the waist line and shoulder blades, and thence upwardly to a plane about touching a line drawn across the shoulders of the wearer, and means for adjusting the tension of said strip for exerting a force dissipating excessive shoulder flesh downwardly from the shoulders, and away from the center of the back.

2. A device for dissipating excessive shoulder flesh adapted to be supported at its lower edge from a corset, a waist, a waist band, or other suitable support, consisting of a strip of flexible fabric extending transversely across the back to about the arm pits, and from a plane about midway between the waist line and shoulder blades, and thence upwardly to a plane about touching a line drawn across the shoulders of the wearer, and a lacing therein for producing and adjusting the tension of said strip.

3. A device for dissipating excessive shoulder flesh adapted to be supported at its lower edge from a corset, a waist, a waist band or other suitable support, consisting of a strip of flexible fabric extending transversely across the back to a point beneath the arm pits, and from a plane about midway between the waist line and shoulder blades and thence upwardly to a plane about touching a line drawn across the shoulders of the wearer, and means for adjusting the tension of said strip for exerting a force dissipating excessive shoulder flesh downwardly from the shoulders, and away from the center of the back.

4. A device for dissipating excessive shoulder flesh adapted to be supported at its lower edge from a corset, a waist, a waist band, or other suitable support, consisting of a strip of flexible fabric extending transversely across the back beneath and forwardly of the arm pits, and from a plane about midway between the waist line and shoulder blades, and thence upwardly to a plane about touching a line drawn across the shoulders of the wearer, and means for adjusting the tension of said strip for exerting a force dissipating excessive shoulder flesh downwardly from the shoulders, and away from the center of the back.

5. A device for dissipating excessive shoulder flesh adapted to be supported at its lower edge from a corset, a waist, a waist band, or other suitable support, consisting of a strip of flexible fabric formed in three sections, the middle section of which extends transversely across the back, with its lower edge touching a line about midway between the waist line and the shoulder blades, with its upper edge touching a line drawn through the shoulders in the vicinity of the upper surface thereof, and with its end sections extending downwardly beneath the arm pits, and means connecting said sections adapted to adjust their tension, and thereby increasing and diminishing their force dissipating excessive shoulder flesh away from the shoulders and downwardly below the upper edge of said sections.

6. A device for dissipating and removing excessive shoulder flesh adapted to be supported at its bottom edge from a corset, a waist, a waist band, or other suitable support, consisting of a strip of flexible fabric, extending transversely across the back to about the arm pits, and from about midway between the waist line and shoulder blades and upwardly therefrom to about the shoulder line of the wearer, which said strip is provided with alternating transverse panels, the materials of which are respectively elastic and non-elastic.

7. A device for dissipating and removing excessive shoulder flesh adapted to be supported at its bottom edge from a corset, a waist, a waist band, or other suitable support, consisting of a strip of flexible fabric extending transversely across the back to about the arm pits, and from about midway between the waist line and shoulder blades and upwardly therefrom to about the shoulder line of the wearer, which said strip is provided with alternating transverse panels, the materials of which are respectively elastic and non-elastic, and means for adjusting the tension of said panels.

8. A device for dissipating excessive shoulder flesh adapted to be supported at its lower edge from a corset, a waist, a waist band or other suitable support, consisting of alternating elastic and non-elastic panels of flexible fabric forming a strip extending transversely across the back to beneath the arm pits, with its bottom edge touching a line parallel with and midway between the waist line and that of the shoulder blades, with its top edge touching a line drawn through the shoulders of the wearer, and

means for adjusting the tension of the strip, whereby the resilient panels are operated by the movement of the arms and body of the wearer to massage and to remove excessive flesh opposed thereto.

9. A device for dissipating and removing excessive shoulder flesh adapted to be supported at its lower edge from a corset, a waist, a waist band or other suitable support, consisting of an approximately crescent shaped strip of flexible fabric, provided with alternating panels respectively of resilient and non-resilient material in alternate arrangement with the resilient panels interposed between and connecting a central and end panels of non-resilient material.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal, this 31st day of January, A. D. 1916.

DORA E. DUFFY. [L. S.]

Witnesses:
MILDRED ELSNER,
JNO. G. ELLIOTT.

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