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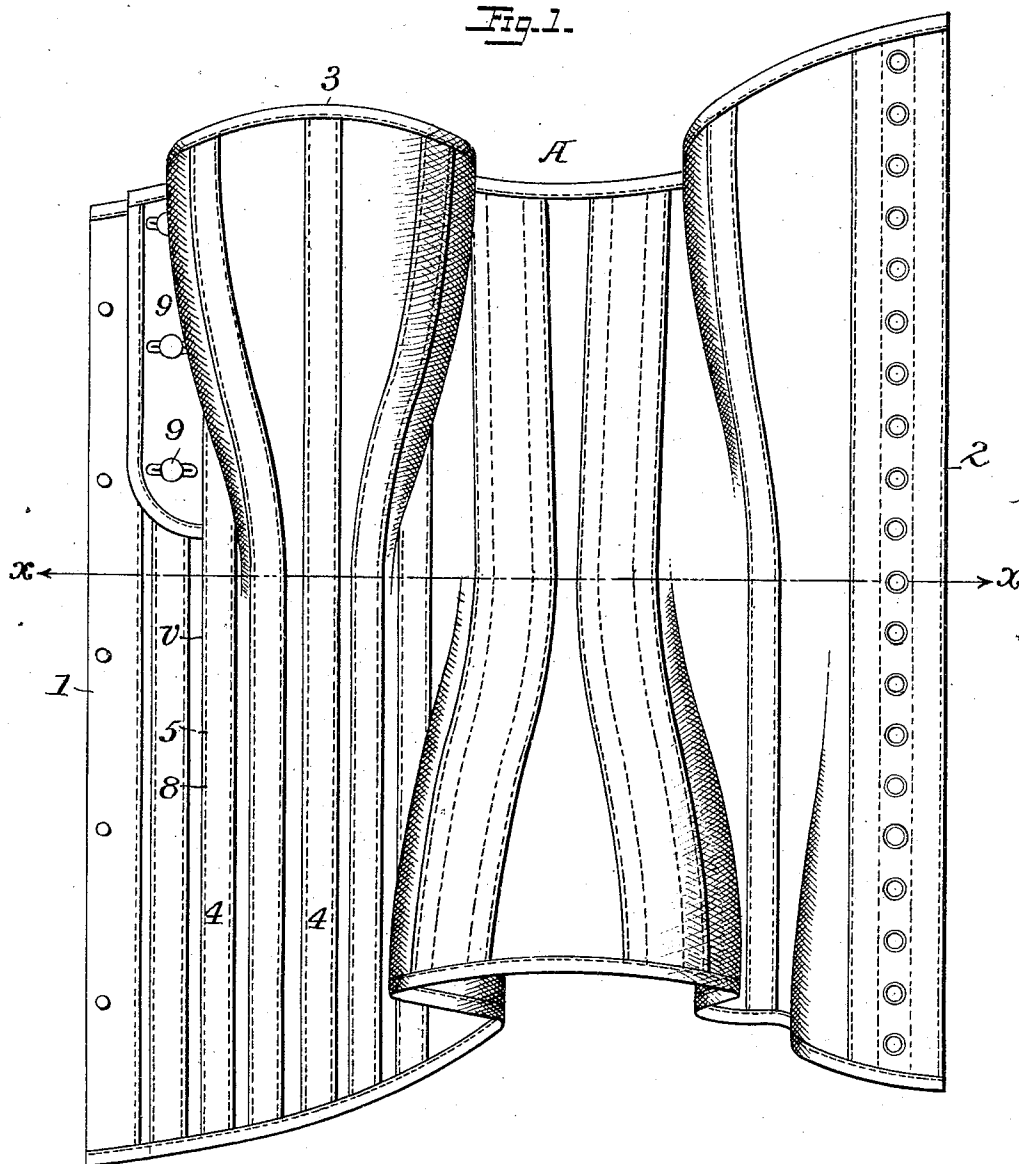
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DE VER H. WARNER.
CORSET.

No. 469,616.

Patented Feb. 23, 1892.

Fig. 1.



Witnesses
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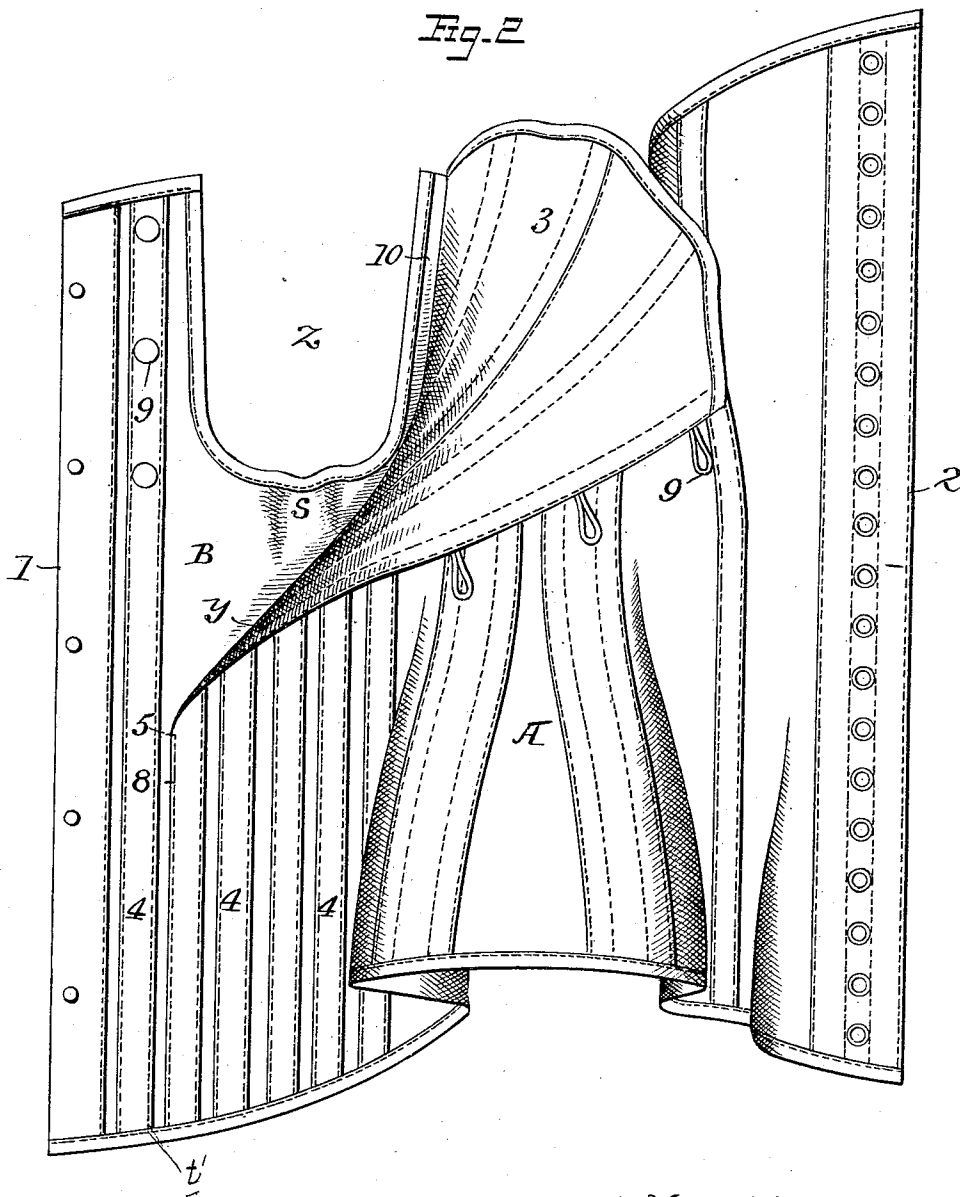
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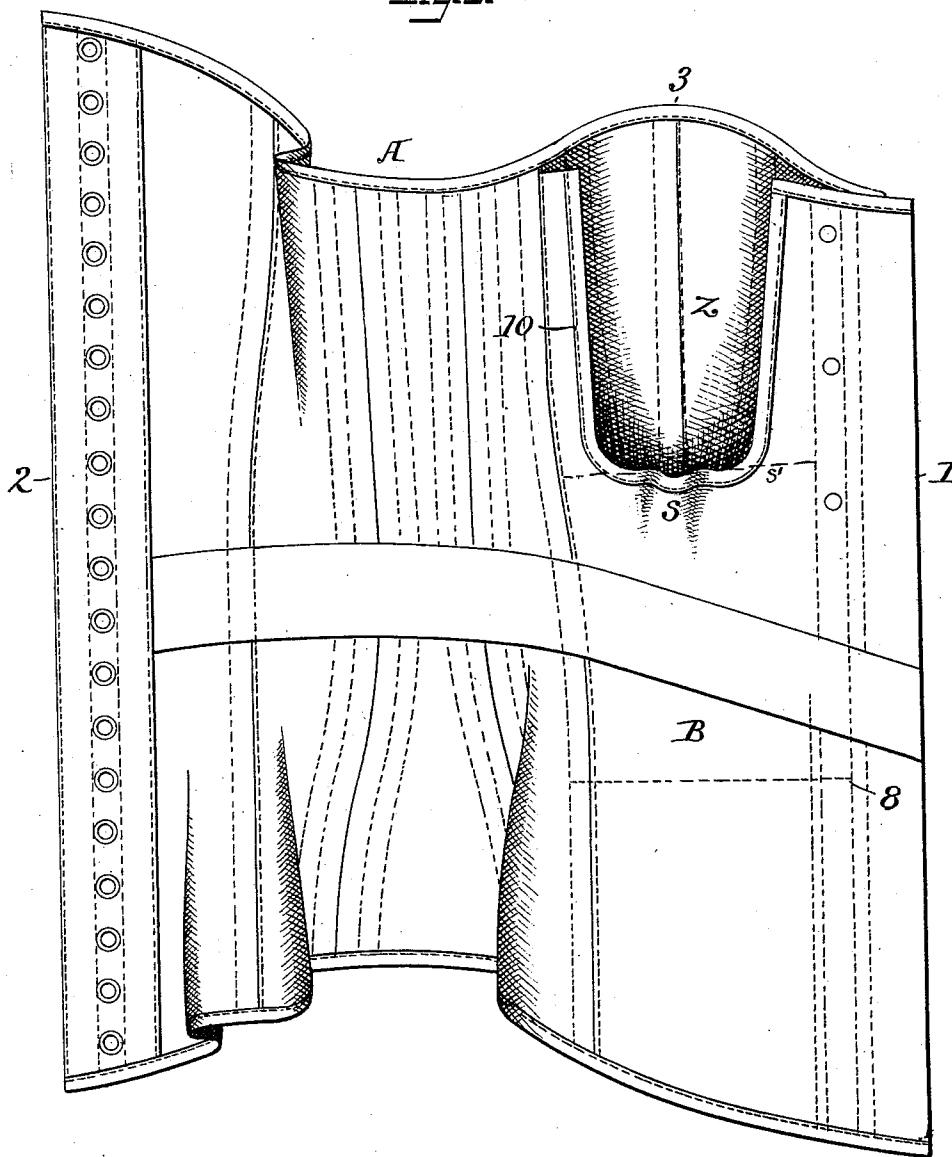
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Fig. 3.



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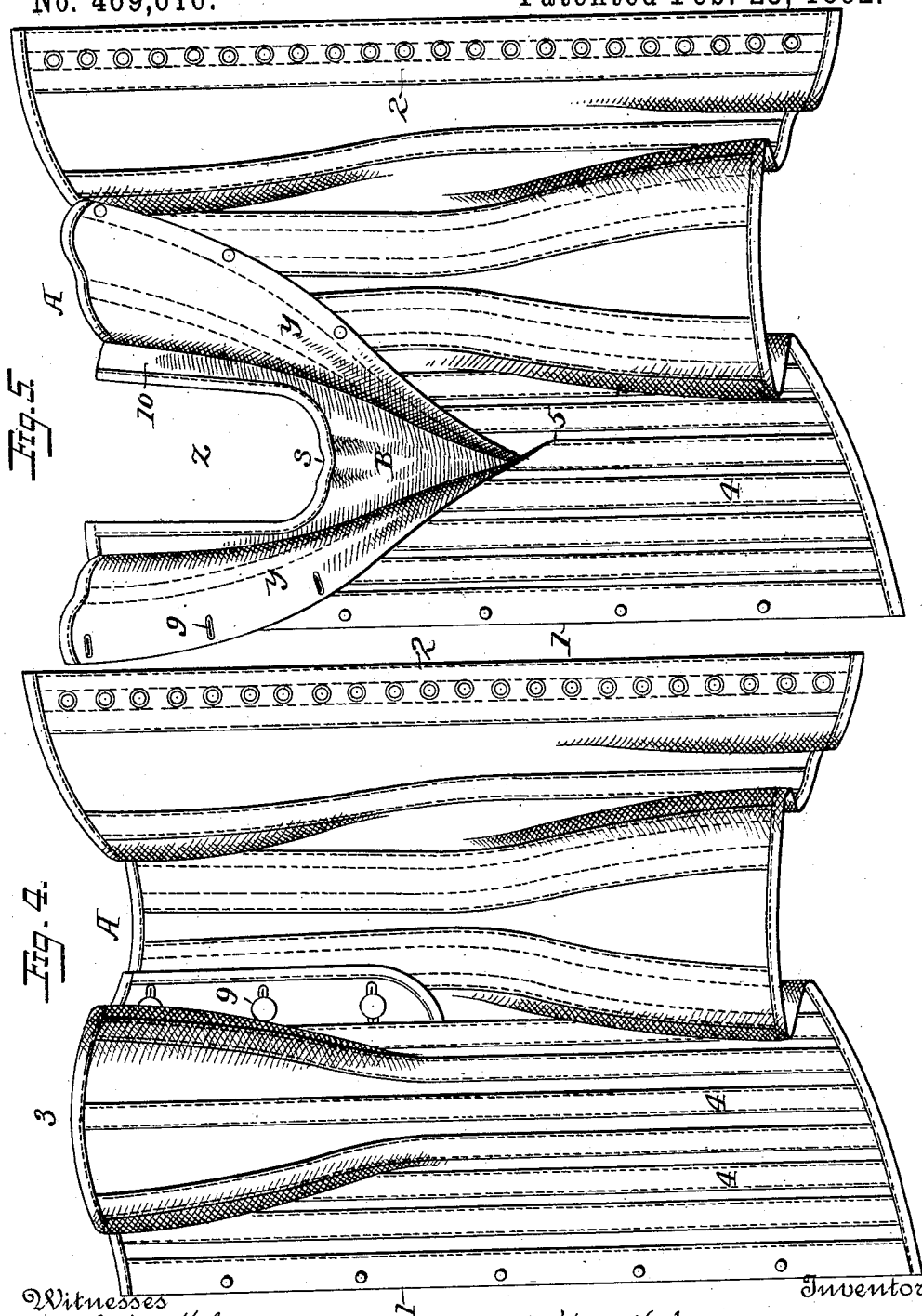
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DE VER H. WARNER, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT.

CORSET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 469,616, dated February 23, 1892.

Application filed October 3, 1891. Serial No. 407,637. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DE VER H. WARNER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bridgeport, Fairfield county, State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Corsets, of which the following is a specification.

My invention has for its object to so construct a corset as to serve perfectly as a dress-corset and also as a nursing-corset, and to maintain its proper position on and support the body when the breast is exposed; and to this end it consists in a corset constructed as fully set forth hereinafter, and as illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a face view showing one side of a corset having my improvements, the bust portion closed. Fig. 2 is the same, the bust portion turned back. Fig. 3 is a view of the parts shown in Fig. 1, looking from the inner side. Figs. 4 and 5 are views showing other forms embodying my invention.

What I term the "body" A of each section of the corset consists of the clasp portion 1, lacing portion 2, and bust-section 3, and may be constructed, proportioned, and boned, or otherwise stiffened in any suitable manner, and except as hereinafter set forth may correspond in its general features with the body of any ordinary dress-corset, having the vertical bones 4 4 extending at all points through the bust portion continuously from the upper to the lower edge without any necessary interruption or break, the other portions being stiffened in any suitable manner. All parts of the body, however, are not permanently connected together, as in ordinary bodies, as one edge *y* of the bust-section, preferably the edge adjacent to the clasp, is loose and connected separably to the adjoining part for a part of its length, forming a slit *v* from the upper inner edge of the bust-section to a point 5 near and preferably below the waist-line *x x*, to thereby permit the entire upper or breast portion of said bust-section to be folded or moved back onto the body of the corset.

While the construction above described would alone permit access to and full exposure of the breast of the wearer, the integrity of the corset would be destroyed on disconnecting and turning back the bust-section, the article in such case being separated from

the upper edge to the waist and affording no support for the body or the breast, and causing the displacement of the article upon the wearer. To prevent such a result I combine with the body having a bust-section loose at one edge, as described, a waist portion or section B, the upper edge *s* of which is below the lower line of the breast of the wearer, and below the bust of the corset connected at one edge to the adjacent edge of the clasp-section and at its opposite edge to the body-section at the point where the bust-section is joined thereto, so that the bust-section of the body overlaps the waist-section B, and, as shown in Figs. 1 to 3, is permanently secured at its inner edge 8 below the point 5 to the edge of the clasp-section. Thus when the bust-section is closed or turned down it completely overlaps or covers the waist-section B, and when the said bust-section is turned back it freely exposes all the upper part of the waist-section and an opening *z* above the edge *s*. The bust-section and the clasp-section are provided with suitable fasteners 9 9 9, shown in the form of loops and buttons. The top edge of the waist-section may be at the point, as shown by the dotted line *s'*, Fig. 3, but preferably such waist-section is extended upward to the top line of the corset and cut to leave the breast-opening *z* of sufficient size to properly receive and expose the breast, and also form at each side a portion 10, constituting a loose or flexible flap guarding the side of the breast, and the said section is formed to leave a little fullness at the lower part of the opening *z*, so that the edge of the waist-section directly below the breast will flare outward when the breast-section is turned back and support the breast below without cutting. When the bust-section is closed, the fullness will form slight folds, which will flatten beneath the section without protruding or in any way injuring the set of the corset or discomforting the wearer. It should be understood, however, that the breast-opening always extends from the transverse edge of the waist portion to the upper edge of the corset. In other words, the opening *z* is U-shaped, not closed at the upper edge. This is important because if the opening was closed at the upper edge, leaving a mere hole in the breast portion of the corset, it would fail to permit

the proper exposure of the breast. These features may be combined in various ordinary constructions of corsets without impairing the identity of the same by the simple addition of the inner cut-away waist-section B and separating the bust portion from the body at one edge and without altering the boning or stiffening of the bust-section.

While I have shown the waist-section B as of about uniform width and extending the entire length of the corset, it may be of other outline.

If desired, the bust-section might be separated from the clasp-section along the edge v the full length of the corset to the lower edge to t' , Fig. 2, so as to be turned back its full length; but in practice it is generally sufficient to turn back the upper end only, and the use of additional fastenings is avoided by connecting it permanently below the point 5.

While the bust portion consists of one flap, the inner edge loose, it may consist of two flaps separably connected together at the adjacent loose edges, as indicated in Fig. 5; or the single section may have the outer edge loose, the inner edge connected with the clasp-section, as shown in Fig. 4.

Without limiting myself to the precise construction and arrangement of parts shown, I claim—

1. A corset the bust portion of which extends the full length of the corset, but is loose at one edge and provided at said edge with fastenings, and with an inner section B extending a part only of the height of the corset, with breast-opening z above an upper edge

s of said section B, the bust-section, when closed, covering said opening and said section B, substantially as described.

2. A corset having a breast-section extending from the top to the bottom thereof, but separable at one edge from the adjacent portion, and an inner section secured to the clasp portion and to the body portion at its opposite edges and cut away at the top to form a breast-opening extending to the upper edge of the corset, substantially as described.

3. A corset having a body the breast portion of which extends the length of the corset and is loose at one edge and provided with stiffeners extending the entire length, and an inner section below the said breast-section, shorter than the latter, with an upper transverse edge below a breast-opening z , which opening extends to the upper edge of the corset, substantially as described.

4. The combination, in a corset, of a body-section the breast portion of which is separable from the adjacent section at one edge, and an underlying waist-section shorter than and extending below the breast portion between the clasp-section and the body and having a fullness at the transverse edge s , with a breast-opening above said edge, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

DE VER H. WARNER.

Witnesses:

I. DE VER WARNER,
T. FISH.