(No Model.)

# L. F. HOWE.

## DRESS STAY.

No. 532,784. Patented Jan. 22, 1895.

*Fig. 1,*

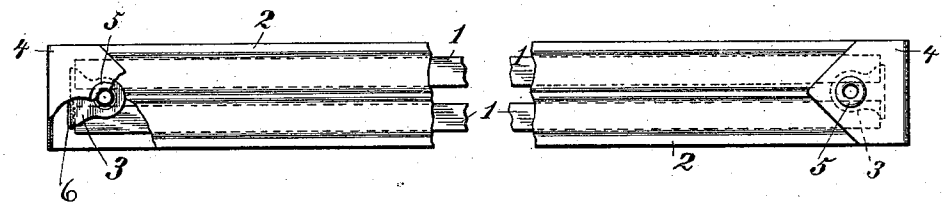


*Fig. 2,*

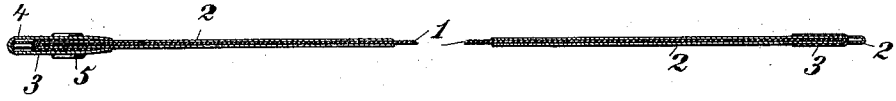


*Fig. 3,*

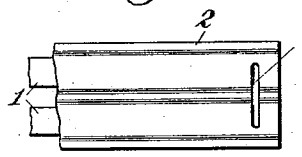


*Fig. 4,*

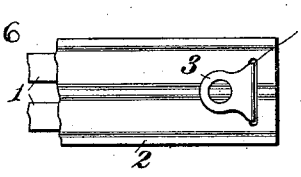


*Fig. 5,*

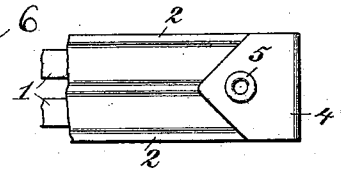


*Fig. 6,*


*Fig. 7.*


*Witnesses:-*

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LUCIAN F. HOWE, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO.

## DRESS-STAY.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 532,784, dated January 22, 1895.

Application filed April 6, 1894. Serial No. 506,391. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, LUCIAN F. HOWE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cleveland, county of Cuyahoga, State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Dress-Stays, of which the following is a specification.

Dress stays are now formed ordinarily, of one or more "steels" or "bones" inserted in a suitable covering. Where two steels are used, it is customary to form two independent parallel pockets therefor in the covering. My invention relates specifically to this form of stay and is especially intended for those in which the covering is woven.

The object of the invention is to more safely secure the steels in the covering, prevent any longitudinal movement of one steel on the other, and protect and strengthen the ends of the stays.

To this end, my improved dress-stay consists in a plurality of steels inclosed (preferably in separate pockets) in a suitable covering and having U-shaped guards which pass through the covering near its ends and embrace the ends of the steels and are held in place by suitable eyelets or rivets and protected by suitable sateen or other flexible end pieces.

Referring to the accompanying drawings which form a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a front view of one of my improved dress-stays, partly broken away to show the interior construction. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view of the same. Figs. 3, 4 and 5 are front views of one end of the stay showing three steps in the process of construction. Fig. 6 is a face view of the blank for the metal stirrup. Fig. 7 is an edge view of the stirrup.

1, 1 are two plain "steels" of suitable material, inclosed in pockets in a fabric sheath or covering 2. They are held apart by eyelets 5 and from relative endwise movement by metal stirrups 3, applied in the manner hereinafter described. The covering 2 is made of greater length than the steels and has a transverse slot 6 (see Fig. 3) near each end and immediately adjacent to the ends of the steels 1, 1 when they are placed in their pockets in covering 2. The metal stirrups 3 are slipped into these slots as shown in Fig. 4 and a sateen or equivalent fabric end-piece 4, is then put on and fastened as shown in Fig. 5 by the eyelet 5 which passes through the fabric end piece, through the stirrup 3 and covering 2 and between the steels 1, 1. The parts are thus held firmly together and, by reason of the extension of the covering 2 beyond the stirrup 3, a cushion of fabric is provided between the ends of the steels and the fabric and piece 4 which adds to the life of the stay.

In Figs. 6 and 7 the steps of making the stirrup are illustrated. The stirrup is first formed in the flat blank shown in Fig. 6, roughnesses or serrations, and is then bent up to the U form shown in Fig. 7.

Having thus described my invention, the following is what I claim as new therein and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

A dress stay comprising a plurality of steels 1, 1, a fabric covering 2 longer than said steels and having slots 6 near their ends, metal stirrups 3, 3, passing through said slots and embracing said steels, fabric end pieces 4, and eyelets passing through the end pieces, stirrups and covering and between said steels, substantially as set forth.

LUCIAN F. HOWE.

Witnesses:
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M. V. BIDGOOD.