(No Model.)

M. K. BORTREE.

LOOP FOR LACING STEELS.

No. 585,638. Patented June 29, 1897.

Fig. 5.

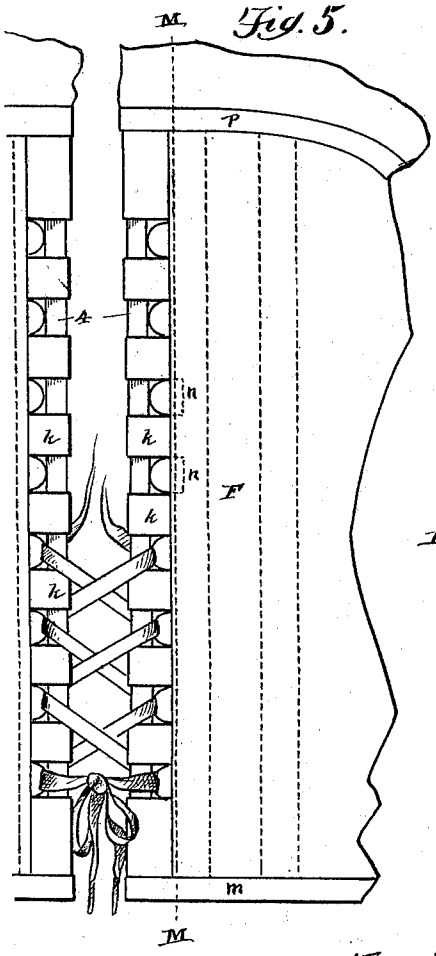


Fig. 1.

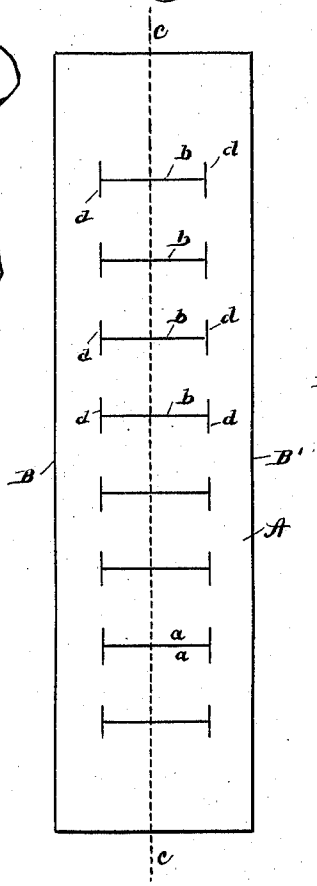


Fig. 2.

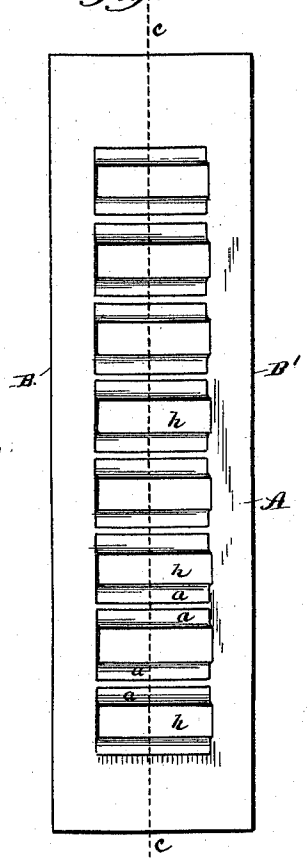


Fig 3

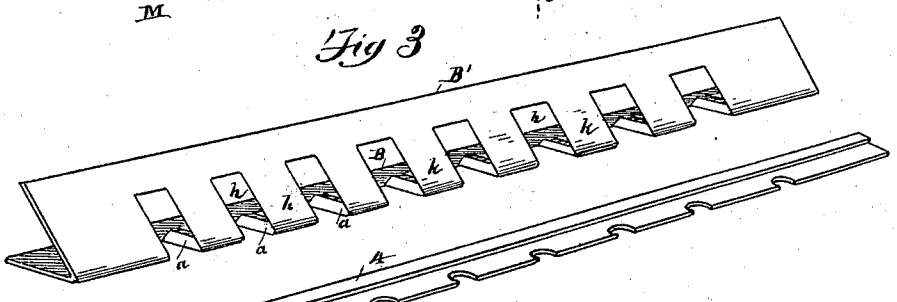


Fig. 4.

WITNESSES

C. A. Bradford

H. J. Lount

INVENTOR

Moses K. Bortree

By Parker & Burton

Attorneys.

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MOSES K. BORTREE, OF GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN.

LOOP FOR LACING-STEELS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 585,638, dated June 29, 1897.

Application filed July 9, 1896. Serial No. 598,503. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MOSES K. BORTREE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Grand Rapids, county of Kent, State of Michigan, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Loops for Garments; and I 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 pertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to the attachment of portions of garments together by means of lacing, and is particularly adapted to be used in lacing the two half parts of a corset together at the back.

It consists more particularly of the construction of loops which project from the solid part of the fabric or garment and which carry and hold lacing-steels in place, thus forming perforations between the loops for the lacing-strings.

In the drawings, Figure 1 indicates the strip of material cut in such a way that it may be subsequently bent and turned to form the loops used to confine the lacing-steel. Fig. 2 indicates a similar strip of material cut in a similar way and partially folded. Fig. 3 shows similar strips cut and folded and ready to be stitched between the facing and lining of the corset. Fig. 4 shows the steel with its notched appendage that is used within the loops of the folded strip of Fig. 3. Fig. 5 indicates the appearance of the corset with the loop-strip stitched in place and the lacing-steel inserted in the loops.

The loop-strip A is preferably made of the same material as the facing of the corset. This is flexible material, the quality of which and the specific name as a textile differs with the quality of the corset that is to be made. A strip of the material of suitable width is selected and is cut at intervals with an H-shaped cut, in which that part of the cut which may be likened to the cross-bar of the H is twice the length of the loop that is to be formed and those cuts which may be likened to the standards of the H are of sufficient length to allow the fabric *a* to be folded back far enough toward the next adjacent cut to hold it in place when the fabric is bent and folded along the line *c c*. After the first cutting the strip of material has the appearance shown in Fig. 1, in which the lines *b b* indicate the cuts crosswise of the strip and the lines *d d* indicate the cuts parallel to the long axis of the strips.

In Fig. 2 is shown the strip as it appears after the flaps *a a* are bent back on that side of the strip which will subsequently become the inside of the loop. This bending of the flaps leaves the strip in the form of a long strip of flexible material, across which there are oblong holes *h*. The strip A is next folded along the line *c c*, bringing the edges B B′ together, thus holding the flaps *a a* in the loops *k k* in place. The edges B B′ are next inserted between the facing F and the lining of the corset and the edges of the facing and lining are hemmed down on line M M and preferably the strip A is inserted so far between the facing and lining that the raw edges of the hole H would be completely covered by the hemmed edges of the facing and lining strips, as shown by dotted lines *n n*. By means of this construction the loops are doubled in thickness, with the raw or cut edges turned under in the longitudinal center of the loops, while the hemming, running as it does crosswise through the loops at a point beyond or between their outer ends and the depth of the cutting, securely fastens the turned-under edges downward and also to the fabric into which they are placed. This obviates any necessity of weaving the loops in shape and while doubling the strength of the loop at the same time saves the loss of any material whatever. The garment now presents the appearance of a corset in which there is on each half at the back a number of projecting loops *k*. The loops at the extreme top and at the extreme bottom should be somewhat broader than the intervening loops, and the garment is finished by stitching the binding *m* at the bottom, inserting the lacing-steel 4, and stitching on the binding *p* at the top. The garment thus constructed securely holds the lacing-steel in place and provides at each of the lacing-holes a space between the hole and the extreme back and edge of the garment and between the loop and over the lacing-steel, which is thinner than the garment is where the loop passes over the steel, thus

furnishing a recess in which the lace is received or can be received if the garment is properly laced, and so prevents the lacing from being apparent through the overlying dress, even though the dress be of very thin material.

It is obvious that this construction of loops to hold the lacing-steels and their combination with the fabric of the garment can be employed in any garment when suitable, and I do not desire to limit myself to a corset in the combination.

What I claim is—

As a new article of manufacture, a strip of flexible material formed into loops for the purpose of confining a lacing-steel, said loops being formed of a strip of material having adjacent cuts partially across the strip, and having at each end of each cross-cut, short cuts lengthwise of the strip, the material between the short cuts mentioned being folded back and the entire strip folded along its longitudinal axis to produce a number of loops, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I sign this specification in the presence of two witnesses.

MOSES K. BORTREE.

Witnesses:

R. A. PARKER,

MARION A. REEVE.