No. 607,023.

Patented July 12, 1898.

W. B. H. DOWSE.

CORSET.

(No Model.)

(Application filed Feb. 23, 1897.)

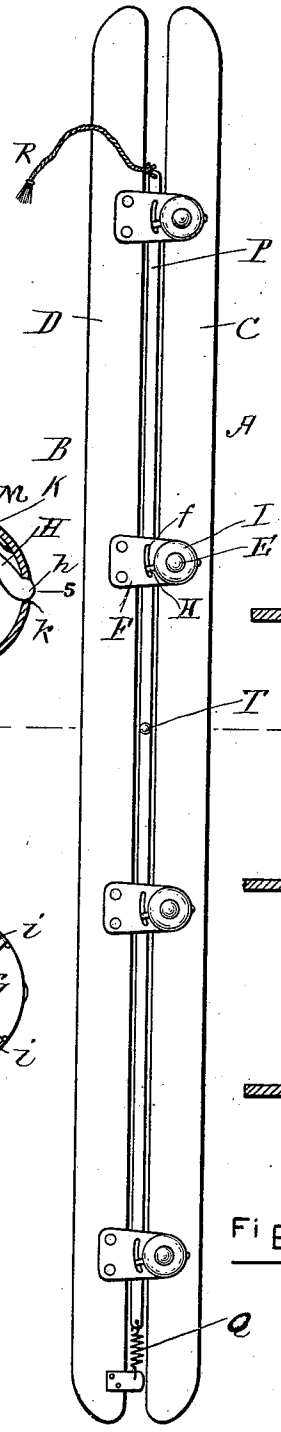


Fig. 1.

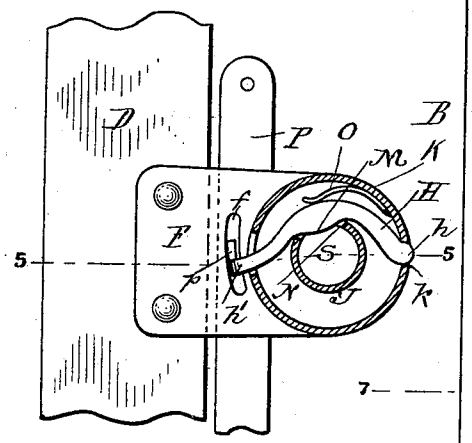


Fig. 2.

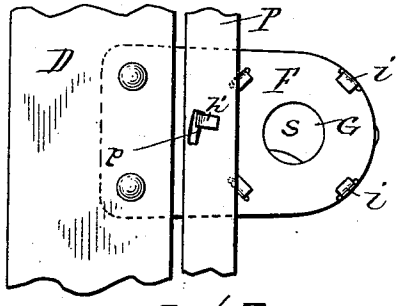


Fig. 3.

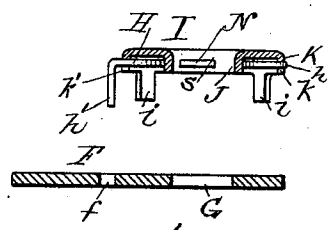


Fig. 4.

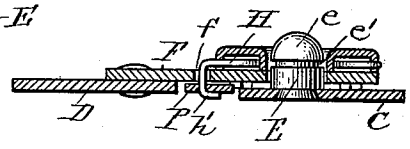


Fig. 5.

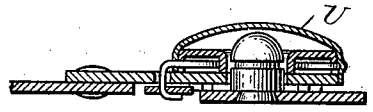


Fig. 6.

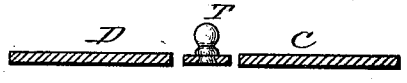


Fig. 7.

WITNESSES:
M. G. Stratton.
G. A. Holmes

INVENTOR:
W. B. H. Dowse

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

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM B. H. DOWSE, OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO THE CONSOLIDATED FASTENER COMPANY, OF PORTLAND, MAINE.

CORSET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 607,023, dated July 12, 1898.

Application filed February 23, 1897. Serial No. 624,554. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM B. H. DOWSE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Newton, in the county of Middlesex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Corsets, of which the following is a full specification.

My invention relates to and consists of an improved fastening for corsets, consisting of a male member and a female member, hereinafter described in detail, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 shows a plan of the fastening as used on the front of a corset embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is an enlarged plan of one of the female sockets with the lip-holding piece shown in section. Fig. 3 is an enlarged plan of the under side of one of the female sockets. Fig. 4 is an enlarged vertical section of a female socket before the plate and lip-holding piece are combined. Fig. 5 is an enlarged vertical section of one of my female sockets, showing a male member engaged therewith. Fig. 6 is the same as Fig. 5 with the addition of a cap. Fig. 7 is an enlarged vertical section on the line 7 7, Fig. 1.

My fastener consists of the male member A and the female member B, which are secured, respectively, to the front edges of a corset embodying my invention.

My male member A consists of the metal strip C, provided with the studs E, having the rounded head *e* and sharply-defined neck *e'*.

My female member B consists of the metal strip D, provided with the plates F, suitably secured thereto and projecting over the edge at right angles to its length, the plates F having in their outer ends a stud-receiving opening G, Fig. 4, and being provided with a handle-operated lipped lever or latch H for holding a stud within said opening, as hereinafter described. The lever H is held by the annular shaped lip-holding piece I, whose cross-section is that of an inverted U, as shown. This holding-piece I is placed upon the plate F around the stud-receiving opening G and is so proportioned that the cylindrical space or chamber S, inclosed by its internal walls J, forms a continuation of the opening G in the plate F. The outer walls K of the piece I have at intervals the downwardly-projecting tangs *i*, which project through corresponding holes in the plate F and are clenched on the under side, as shown in Fig. 3, thus securing the holding-piece I to the plate F.

The lipped lever H is of the curved shape shown in Fig. 2 and lies in the annular internal space of the lip-holding piece I.

The lever H is fulcrumed at its end *h* in the external wall K of the holding-piece at *k* and has on its concave side the lip M, which projects through the opening or slit N in the wall J into the chamber S. A suitable spring O, by pressing on the lever, as shown, constantly urges the lip M into the chamber S. It will thus be seen that when the stud member is pushed up through the opening G and into the space S its rounded head will force back the lip M of the lever H and slip past it until the said lip snaps into the sharply-defined neck *e'* of the stud. It will then be impossible to withdraw the male member until the lipped lever is drawn back, compressing the spring O. To this end I allow the end *h'* of the lever H to project out through the opening *k'* in the wall K, forming a handle by which the lever H can be drawn back in order to disengage the lip M from the neck *e'* of the stud. This handle *h'* is bent down at right angles to the lever and passes down through the suitably-curved slot *f* in the plate F, so that the lipped lever H may be operated from the under side of the plate F.

The levers H of the various sockets of the female member are simultaneously operated by the connecting lever-bar P, which lies between the strips C and D, passing beneath the plates F. The downwardly-projecting handles *h'* of the lipped levers H are passed through the elongated aperture *p* of the bar P and loosely turned under the under side, as shown in Figs. 3 and 6. The elongated aperture *p* in the bar P, as well as the slot *f* in the plate F, have the curve of an arc about the fulcrum *h* of the lever H, so that when a stud is snapped into the socket the lever H may be pressed back and be resisted only by the spring O, the handle *h'* moving freely in the slot *f* and aperture *p*. In this way, although the handles *h'* of a number of sockets are thus secured to the bar P, a stud may

be locked into each socket separately without disturbing the other sockets.

The apertures *p* are so arranged that when both the lever H and bar P are in their normal positions the handles *h'* rest against the end of their respective apertures *p*, so that by sliding the bar P longitudinally the levers of the various sockets will be operated simultaneously. The bar P is held in its normal position by the spring Q, and the lever is drawn back either by the cord R at its end or by a knob or handle T, suitably placed on the bar P.

As shown in Fig. 6, the lip-holding piece I may be provided with a cap U, suitably closed over its edge.

I claim—

1. A fastening device for corsets or other articles, consisting of a male and female member, the male member comprising a metal strip provided with studs, and the female member a metal strip provided with plates, each plate having a stud-receiving opening, a handle-operated lipped lever projecting across and above each of said openings, the ends of said levers being bent down underneath the plates, and a lever-holding piece I, substantially as described.

2. A fastening for corsets or other articles consisting of a male and female member, of which the male member comprises a metal strip provided with studs, and the female member a metal strip provided with a series of plates each having a socket, a lever having a handle and a lever-handle slot in the wall surrounding each of said sockets, substantially as described.

3. A fastening for corsets and other articles consisting of a male and female member, of which the male member comprises a metal strip provided with studs, and the female member a metal strip provided with plates and female sockets, and levers, in combination with a spring-actuated connecting lever-bar, substantially as described.

4. A fastening for corsets and other articles consisting of a male and female member of which the male member comprises a metal strip provided with studs and the female member a metal strip provided with plates having a lever and lever-holding piece, in combination with an operating-bar provided with elongated apertures whereby each fastener is locked separately and all simultaneously, substantially as described.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

WM. B. H. DOWSE.

Witnesses:
L. A. STACKPOLE,
A. H. FLANNERY.