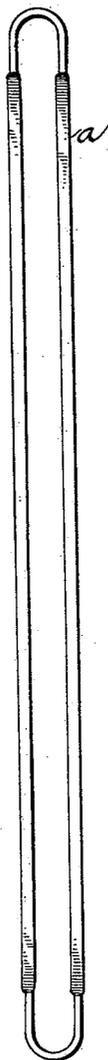


(No Model.)

H. J. WELDON.  
DRESS STAY.

No. 469,619.

Patented Feb. 23, 1892.



Attest  
*James H. Spear*  
James H. Spear

Inventor  
Henry J. Weldon  
by *Emil Spear*  
ATTY.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY J. WELDON, OF HELENA, MONTANA.

## DRESS-STAY.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 469,619, dated February 23, 1892.

Application filed August 11, 1891. Serial No. 402,392. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HENRY J. WELDON, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Helena, in the county of Lewis and Clarke and State of Montana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Dress-Stays, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is an improved stay for the dresses of ladies and children and is designed as a substitute for whalebones ordinarily used or the flat metal strips which are also common to this purpose.

My object is to provide a stay which will answer every purpose of the stays ordinarily used, but which will be less expensive and more desirable by reason of being made of wire, thus permitting the stay to be stitched directly to the dress and preventing its displacement in case the outer covering should be detached.

In carrying out my invention I make my improved stay preferably of a single piece of wire bent into an elongated loop, the sides of which are flattened and its ends rounded, so as to provide for its easy insertion, and at the same time presenting a perfectly smooth surface, which will prevent absolutely injury to the fabric.

In the accompanying drawing the figure represents my invention in side elevation.

My improved stays are made, preferably, of a single piece of wire, which is bent into an elongated loop formed substantially in the shape of the ordinary stays, being of a proper length and width. The wire at each end is rounded, so as to offer no obstruction to the easy insertion of the stay into the pocket provided for its insertion. After it has been inserted it may be secured in place by a few stitches taken around the branches of the stay, which will thus hold it independently of the covering. The sides of the wire loop are flattened, as at *a*, to within a half-inch of each end, thus giving more bearing-surface than the round wire and diminishing the general thickness of the stay. By making the wire rounded at the ends I dispense with the caps ordinarily used with metal stays, as there is not the liability in my construction to wear the material as in cases where caps are used.

I claim as my invention—

A dress-stay consisting of an elongated wire loop having substantially parallel sides and rounded ends, the said sides being flattened to within a short distance of the rounded ends.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

HENRY J. WELDON.

Witnesses:

P. J. SHELLHORN,  
H. F. SHEEHAN.