

(No Model.)

N. B. WILLIAMS.
CORSET FASTENING.

No. 403,166.

Patented May 14, 1889.

Fig. 1.

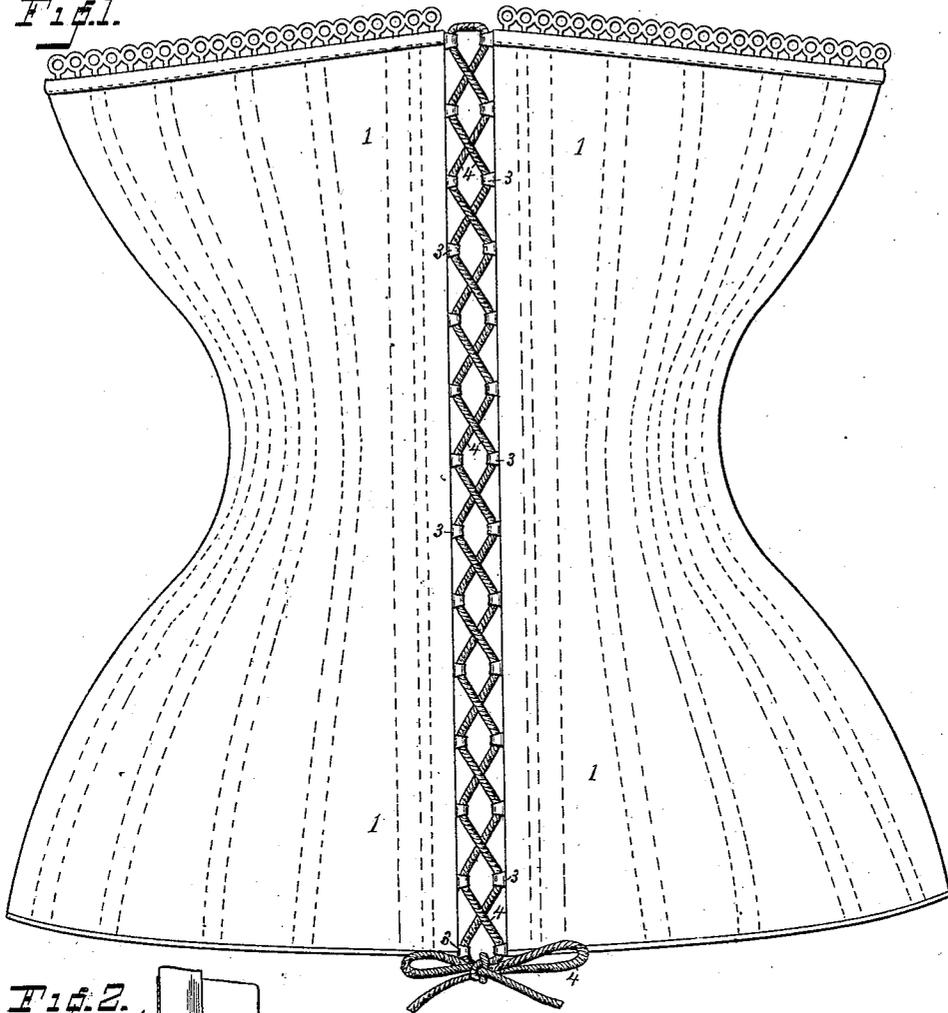


Fig. 2.

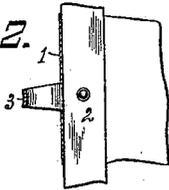


Fig. 3.

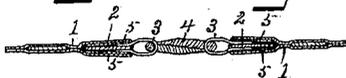


Fig. 7.

Fig. 4.

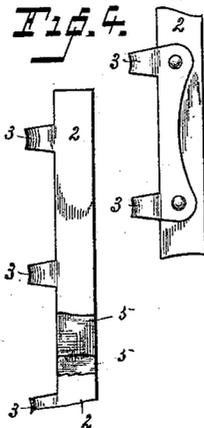


Fig. 5.

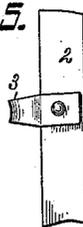
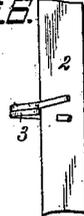


Fig. 6.



WITNESSES

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CORSET-FASTENING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 403,166, dated May 14, 1889.

Application filed January 8, 1889. Serial No. 295,751. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, NATHANIEL B. WILLIAMS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bridgeport, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Corset-Fastenings; and I do hereby declare the following to be full, clear; and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to an improved corset-fastening which is applicable to all classes of corsets, but which will be found of special advantage in connection with corsets worn with evening dresses or with any dresses made of light thin material.

As corsets have heretofore been constructed it has been impossible to prevent the lacing-cords from showing more or less through the material of light or thin dresses. Where eyelets are placed near the edges of the back strips, this being the most common way of lacing corsets, the cords have to pass over both the inner and outer sides of the back stays—that is to say, the cords must pass between the back stay and the person of the wearer, and must also pass between the outer side of the back stay and the dress, thus producing discomfort to the wearer and also producing unsightly ridges down the back of the dress. It is absolutely impossible to prevent these ridges of cord from showing through the dress unless the corset is covered by several plies of thick material, which it is, of course, desirable to avoid.

I am aware that lacing-eyes for corsets have been formed to project inward from the edges of the back stays. They have not, however, been so constructed as to prevent the lacing-cords from showing. So far as I am aware these lacing-eyes have been placed in the vertical plane in the same manner as eyelets are ordinarily placed. Lacing-eyes formed in this way, however, have no effect whatever in remedying the objection which my present invention is designed to and does obviate. This I accomplish by providing lacing-eyes, preferably slightly elongated, which extend inward from the edges of the back stays and which lie in the horizontal plane, so that instead of being bent inward and outward, as

in the present form, the lacing-cords pass straight down through, simply curving from right to left between the edges of the lacing-stays to engage the eyes upon the opposite sides of the opening at the back. In addition to this I build up the back edge of each section of the corset slightly, so that the edge itself is quite as thick as the lacing-cord, thereby avoiding the possibility of the lacing-cord projecting above the edges of the back stays and wholly preventing the unsightly ridges in the dress, which have heretofore been unavoidable.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a back view of a corset laced as when worn; Fig. 2, a vertical section taken at the back edge of a corset and through one of the lacing-eyes; Fig. 3, a horizontal section across the opposite back stays, lacing-eyes, and the cord; and Figs. 4, 5, 6, and 7 are detail views illustrating different modes in which the eyes may be formed and attached to the back stays.

1 denotes the inner and outer plies of the corset.

Instead of two plies of material, the bone-pockets may, of course, be formed by stitching on overlays. That being a common way of making corsets is not deemed to require illustration.

2 denotes the back or lacing stays, and 3 the lacing-eyes attached thereto and extending inward therefrom. These lacing-eyes may be made from sheet metal, either singly or two or more in one piece, and riveted to the back stays, or the eyes and stays may be made integral, as in Fig. 7, or they may be made of coils of wire, the ends of the wire being passed through holes in the stays and clamped down, as shown in Fig. 6. It is essential, however, that, no matter how the eyes may be constructed, they shall lie in the horizontal plane, so that the lacing-cords may be threaded straight down through, instead of through from back to front, or vice versa, as in the ordinary way. In practice I preferably elongate the eyes, as shown in the drawings, for convenience in lacing.

The lacing-cord I have designated by 4.

5 denotes strips of canvas, paper, or other suitable thickening material, one or more of which may be used on each side of the back

stay to perform the double function of covering the rivets or attaching ends, by which the lacing-eyes are attached to the back stays, and also of giving increased thickness at the back edges of the corset without perceptibly increasing the weight. It will thus be seen that by causing the lacing-eyes to project inward from the edges of the corset in the horizontal instead of the vertical plane and by slightly thickening the edges of the corset at the back I insure that the lacing-cords, even at their mid-crossing, shall lie wholly below the outer surface of the corset, so that no ridges can be formed by the cords, nor can the inner bends of the cords be forced against the person of the wearer. The lacing-eyes are of course attached to the stays first and then the latter are stitched in in the usual manner, the eyes projecting through openings made in the material of the corset, where it is passed around the edge of the stay, as is indicated in Fig. 2. In the form shown in Fig. 7 the stays are made of lighter metal and double, the eyes being formed by blanking out pieces of metal between the two parts, leaving them connected by strips. The two parts are then placed parallel with each other, the eyes being formed from the strips. In this form I have shown the pieces of thickening material, as placed between the two parts of the stay.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. The combination, with a corset-lacing stay provided with projecting eyes extending beyond its edge and open in the direction of the length of the stay, of strips of thickening material placed at each side of the stay and between the latter and the corset fabric, to thicken the back edge of the corset, so that crossed lacing-cords will not project outside of the outer face of the corset, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination, with a corset-lacing stay provided with projecting metallic eyes extending beyond its edge and open in the direction of the length of the stay, said eyes being flattened in the plane of the stay to form elliptical openings through which the lacing-cord can freely pass, of strips of thickening material placed at the sides of the stay to thicken the back edge of the corset, so that the crossed lacing-cords will not project outside of the outer surface of the corset.

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

NATHANIEL B. WILLIAMS.

Witnesses:

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