

(No Model.)

I. BRAY.
DRESS STAY.

No. 469,442.

Patented Feb. 23, 1892.

Fig 1

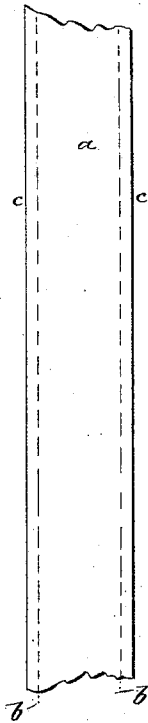


Fig 2

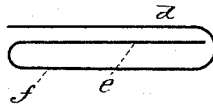
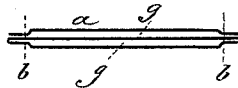


Fig 3



Fig 4



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ISABELLA BRAY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

DRESS-STAY.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 469,442, dated February 23, 1892.

Application filed November 2, 1891. Serial No. 410,571. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ISABELLA BRAY, of New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented a new Improvement in Dress-Stays; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with accompanying drawings and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, and which said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1, a face view of the stay complete; Fig. 2, a transverse section illustrating the method of folding the material; Fig. 3, a transverse section illustrating the stitching of the material so folded, and Fig. 4, a transverse section of the material complete, showing the two pockets formed by the three thicknesses of material.

This invention relates to an improvement in that class of dress-stays in which the elastic material as bone, steel, or otherwise, is inclosed within a fabric cover, and in which the covering projects beyond the edge of the pocket containing the spring, so as to give a width of flexible material at the edge sufficient for the attachment of the stay to the garment, it being understood that this class of stays are adapted to be stitched directly to the garment instead of forming a pocket in the garment itself.

The object of the invention is a simple construction; and it consists in a fabric covering of a width substantially three times the width of the finished stay, the fabric folded so as to produce three thicknesses, and then parallel lines of stitches run through the three thicknesses distant from the edge, so as to leave the fabric free outside the lines of stitches, the space between the stitches forming two pockets into either or both of which springs may be introduced, as more fully hereinafter described.

In the formation of the stay, the central portions *a*, between the two lines of stitches *b b*, form the pocket or pockets to contain the stay, the projecting edges *c c* affording the material necessary for the attachment of the stays to the dress, such projecting edge being adapted for the running of a line of sewing-

machine stitches therethrough. The strip from which the covering is to be formed is made of a width substantially three times that of the finished article, and it is folded to bring it to the required width, as seen in Fig. 2, the edges overlapped so as to form three thicknesses *d, e*, and *f*. Through these three thicknesses the lines of stitches *b* are run, as seen in Fig. 3, the width between the lines of stitches corresponding to the width of the spring to be introduced, leaving the edges *c* projecting outside the lines of stitches. By thus overlapping the edges of the fabric to produce the three thicknesses the said three thicknesses form two pockets *g g*, Fig. 4, and into which springs may be introduced, the intermediate thickness of fabric separating the two, so as to give them perfect freedom, one of the other—that is, without the rubbing effect which would naturally come upon each other were the two springs introduced without the intermediate thickness of material between them. This stay is adapted therefore to be used as a single or double pocket, as occasion may require, the stays being supplied with double springs from which one may be removed, or the strip furnished to consumers that they may introduce one or more springs, as they may require.

From the foregoing it will be understood that I do not claim, broadly, a pocket for dress-stays consisting of two thicknesses of material wider than the spring itself and having parallel lines of stitches run through the said thicknesses, so as to leave a projecting edge of material at each side of the pocket; but

What I do claim is—

A covering for dress-stays made from a single strip of material in width greater than three times the width of the steel or bone to be introduced, the said material folded to produce three thicknesses *d e f*, one upon another, and so that each thickness will be of greater width than the steels to be introduced, the said three thicknesses secured by lines of stitches *b b*, distant from each other corresponding substantially to the width of the steels to be introduced and distant from the folded edges, so as to produce projections

c c at each side outside the said lines of stitches, the intermediate thickness *e* forming a division between the two outer thicknesses *d f*, thereby forming two pockets *g g*, one
5 upon the other, each corresponding to the steel to be introduced, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ISABELLA BRAY.

Witnesses:

J. E. MUHLING,
AGNES J. MASON.