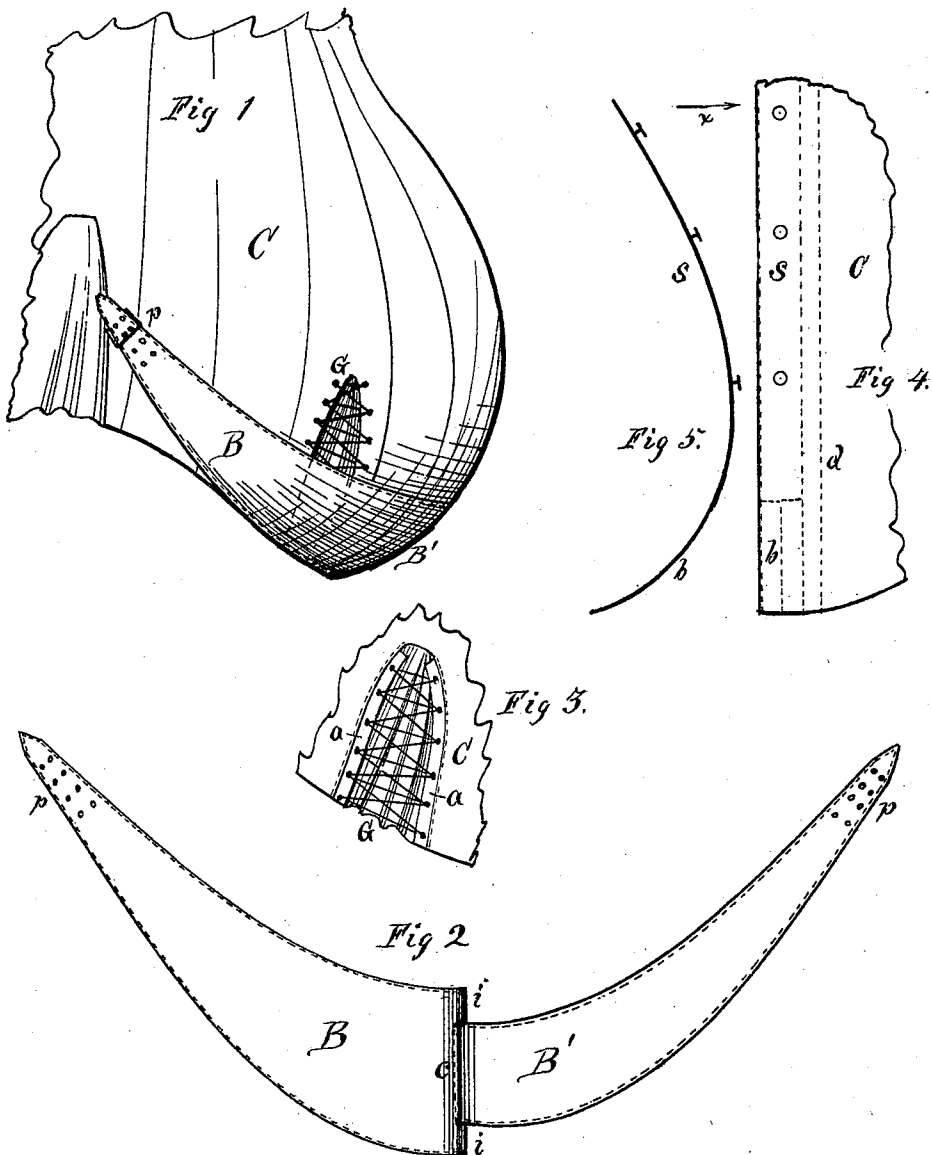


ELIZABETH TURNER.

ABDOMINAL-CORSET.

No. 171,748.

Patented Jan. 4, 1876.



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

ELIZABETH TURNER, OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN ABDOMINAL CORSETS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 171,748, dated January 4, 1876; application filed December 8, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELIZABETH TURNER, of Rochester, in the county of Monroe and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Corsets; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the lower front portion of a corset provided with my improvements. Fig. 2 is a front view of the duplex abdominal belt. Fig. 3 is a detached elevation, showing a modification of the adjustable gore G, provided with lapels *a*, for the lacer-eyelets. Fig. 4 is a front elevation of the steel stays *s* on the button side, and the extension-whalebones *b* at the lower end, and the long auxiliary bone *d*. Fig. 5 is an edge view of the same, looking in the direction of the arrow *x*.

The greatest difficulty has heretofore been experienced in providing either abdominal supporters or abdominal corsets which should be in any degree comfortable to the wearer, or at all efficient in accomplishing the result for which they have been employed.

To obviate these difficulties is the prime object of my invention. It consists in the employment of a duplex belt, so applied to the corsets as to afford a perfect and comfortable support to the abdomen from the hips; also, in the employment of an adjustable gore, and in a peculiar plan or method of connecting the extension-whalebones to the steel stays.

My improved corset is designed more especially for ladies of stout, corpulent form, although it is equally applicable to others.

The broad portion B of the duplex belt is provided with a central opening (shown at *c*, Fig. 2) at its junction with the corset-body C, to the left half of which it is firmly secured by stitching or otherwise, through the points *i*. The central loop or opening at *c* permits the passage of the other portion, B', of the belt, which is fixed to the opposite or right-hand half of the corset-body. The two portions B and B' of the belt are cut about as shown, so as to conform nearly or quite to the shape of the lower edge of the front portion of the corset-body. The belts are composed of a cen-

tral lamina of strong, heavy canvas, with a suitable lining and a face of firm drilling. Their narrow ends are provided with several sets of eyelets, as shown at *p*, to receive the tongues of the buckles. The latter are fixed to the corset-body C over or near the hips, as shown in Fig. 1.

It will be seen that while the steel stays and the whalebones act to secure the general shape and outline of the corsets this duplex belt serves as the abdominal supporter, and acts to prevent the stays from losing the form originally given to the corsets.

An additional adjustability may be given to the abdominal portion of the corsets by the introduction of an adjustable gore, G, on each side. This gore may be made and inserted in the usual way, and of any desired size or shape. I then apply a row of eyelets on each side of the gore, through the body of the corset C, and introduce a lacer. By this means the swell or fullness of the abdominal case may be measurably increased or diminished without a general change of the form or size of the corsets.

Instead of inserting the eyelets through the body of the corsets, I would preferably employ a narrow lapel, *a*, Fig. 3, fixed to the body of the corset on each side of the gore, to hold the eyelets. One advantage of this construction is, that the lacers are wholly upon the outside of the corset.

Owing to the fact that the steel corset-stays as furnished in the market are provided with a set curvature, that cannot be permanently changed, they cannot be fitted to different forms, as required in abdominal corsets. This difficulty I obviate by splicing extension-whalebones *b* to the lower end of the steel stays *s*. I provide a relay or support, consisting of a long bone, *d*, lying by the side of the steel, and extending down to the lower end of the short bones *b*. The bone *d* helps to hold the short bones in their proper relative position with the steel stays. Of course, any degree of curvature required may be given to the bones, and they will mainly retain it, although possessing the necessary flexibility.

Any ordinary compress may be attached in the usual manner, when required for the support of a rupture.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. In an abdominal corset, the duplex belt, constructed and arranged to be adjusted substantially in the manner shown, and for the purposes set forth.

2. In combination with the steel stays *s* and the abdominal extension-bones *b*, the long re-

lay or auxiliary stay *d*, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

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Witnesses:

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