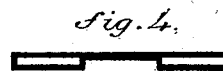
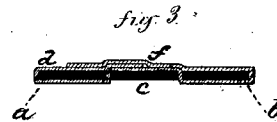
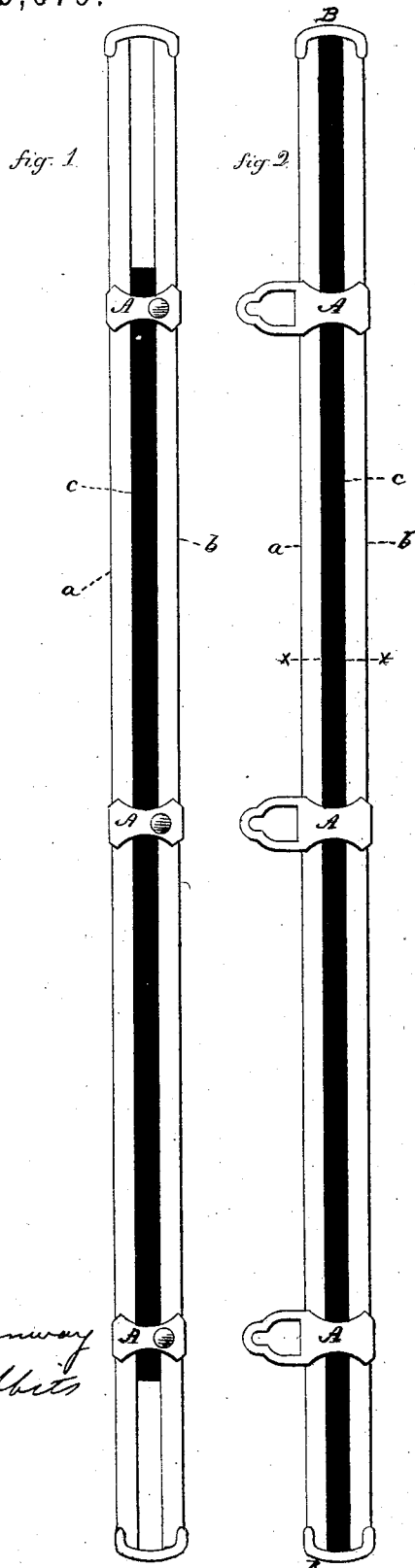


C. S. CHAFFEE.
Corset-Steels.

No. 135,079.

Patented Jan. 21, 1873.



Witnesses
J. H. Shumway
A. J. Libbitts

Charles S. Chaffee
Inventor
By Atty.
John E. Eade

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES S. CHAFFEE, OF BIRMINGHAM, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO
ROBERT N. BASSETT, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN CORSET-STEELS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 135,079, dated January 21, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES S. CHAFFEE, of Birmingham, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new Improvement in Corset-Steels; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawing and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, and which said drawing constitutes part of this specification, and represents, in—

Figure 1, a front view of one of the steels, showing the center spring shorter than the steel proper; Fig. 2, a front view of the other steel, showing the center spring the full length of the steel proper; and in Fig. 3, a central section enlarged.

This invention relates to an improvement in what are known to the trade as corset-steels, the object being to form each part from several strips of steel or similar metal, whereby a better elasticity is attained than in a single strip of steel of the same width and less liability to break. The invention consists in forming the steel from two or more strips or wires to form the extreme edge, and these inclosed within a covering and distant from each other at the center, the covering which incloses the springs extending across the space between the two, this space forming a recess for the reception of the center spring, as more fully hereinafter described.

I represent each steel as formed from three strips, *a b c*, denoted in solid black, Fig. 3. These springs may be formed from steel or other suitable metal. The two outer springs are inclosed in a covering, *d*, as denoted in Fig. 3, by preference, from a fabric folded around the two and across the space between the two, but it may be in a fabric woven or braided for the purpose, it only being essential that a web, *f*, extend across the space between the two springs and unite them, the extreme width from outer edge to outer edge being in accordance with the width of the complete steel required. This covering is sized and rolled or pressed so as to form a recess be-

tween the two—that is to say, the web is pressed so as to come flush upon one side, leaving the recess upon the other. When the web or central portion is thus pressed down it will be smooth upon the reverse side; but for convenience of illustration, in order to clearly show the covering as formed from a strip of fabric, in Fig. 3 the thickness of the fabric is magnified to such an extent that the reverse side appears woven. In Fig. 4 a covering is illustrated as woven or braided for the purpose. Thus prepared, the material is cut to the proper length for the steels; then the third spring *c* is placed in the said recess, as seen in Fig. 3, and as denoted in solid black in Figs. 1 and 2, and is there secured by the clasps *A*, or in other convenient manner.

The third spring *c* may extend from end to end, as in Fig. 2, and be covered by the tip *B* at each end. In some classes of steels, however, it will be sufficient that it extend from the upper to the lower clasp, as in Fig. 1; or, if preferred, from one extreme end of the steel to the clasp nearest the other end.

While I prefer to make the steel from the three strips shown, the outer strips or portions may be composed of two or more strips. Each part of the spring may be covered in the usual manner of covering steel wire prior to their final covering; and in the use of a strip of fabric as the covering, a preliminary covering of paper will be advantageous.

I do not wish to be understood as broadly claiming a corset-steel composed of several strips of metal; but

I claim as my invention—

A corset-steel having the outer or edge portions inclosed within a covering, the said covering forming a web longitudinally through the space between the said outer portions, leaving a recess between the said edge portions into which the center spring *c* is placed, substantially as described.

CHAS. S. CHAFFEE.

Witnesses:

S. M. GARDNER,
J. M. GOULDING.