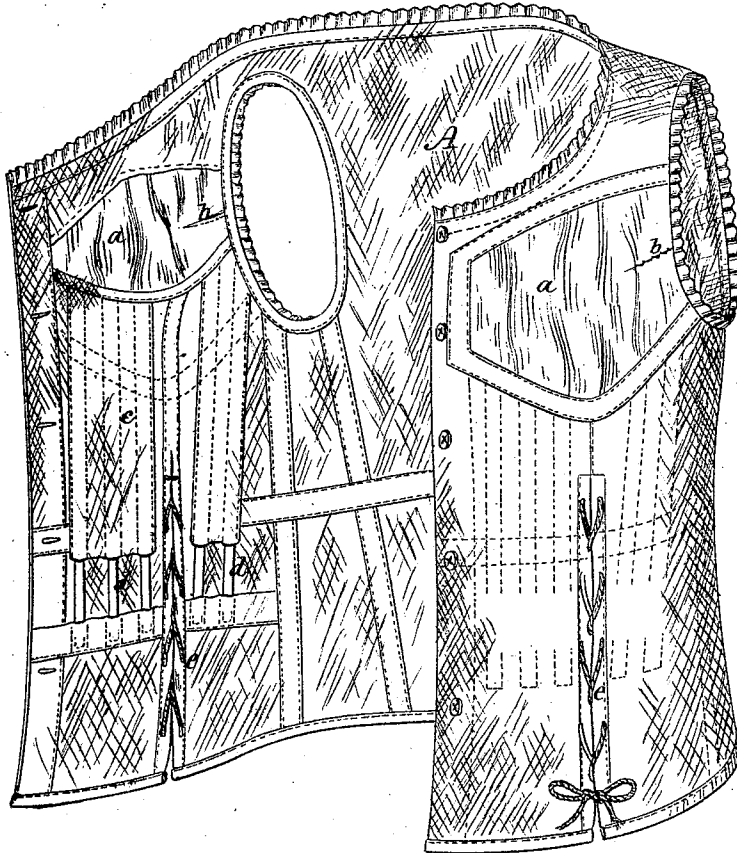


EMELINE W. PHILBROOK.

UNDER WAISTS.

No. 184,545.

Patented Nov. 21, 1876.



Witnesses:

*Emeline W. Philbrook*  
*W. H. Campbell*

Inventor:

*Emeline W. Philbrook*  
*by atty. Rollin Bailey*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EMELINE W. PHILBROOK, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

## IMPROVEMENT IN UNDER-WAISTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 184,545, dated November 21, 1876; application filed May 24, 1876.

*To all whom it may concern :*

Be it known that I, EMELINE W. PHILBROOK, of Boston, county of Suffolk, State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Women's Under-Waists, of which the following is a specification:

Having found the waist for girls described in my Letters Patent No. 175,154, of March 21, 1876, of material value and importance for proper growth and form, and for the support of the body without the use of corsets, I was led, by considering the evils attending the use of corsets, and of other modes of dress around the waist, to so improve and modify my patented waist as to adapt it for females of more mature age and growth.

In my improved waist, which I call the "equipoise waist," I have secured all the advantages of defense or protection of the stomach which corsets secure, without the confinement and pressure they exert on the chest and bowels, and the consequent muscular contraction or disarrangement of circulation, often injuriously affecting digestion, and producing feminine weaknesses.

The accompanying drawing represents an under-waist embodying my invention.

The waist A opens in front, as shown. In it I use all the improvements described in my Letters Patent aforesaid, and I add an original-shaped covering, *a*, for the bosom, by curving the same at both top and bottom, the top being gathered, and the bottom fullness graduated by small plaits. This covering thus formed is shaped to the arm size, and a gored seam, *b*, running from the same removes the fullness at that point.

For the support and defense of the stomach and chest, and to give shape to the figure, as well as protection against the pressure of

clothing, I simply introduce bones *d* in a plain gored piece, *c*, on each side, applied to the inside of the waist, and extending up under the full bosom-piece, so arranged that they can be easily removed for washing. For this purpose the pockets that receive the bones are not continuous, but are formed to expose a portion of each bone.

These applied in this form enable me to dispense with springs altogether, thus giving a waist with all the advantages of a corset, with none of the disadvantages, and making a garment as easily changed and washed as any other article of underwear.

The side pieces for the back and front are so fitted that they shape to the figure without bias-seams under the arm at the waist-line. Lacing *e* may be applied on each side of the front.

The bosom-pieces control the shape of the bosom, while the application, in the manner described, of bones in a plain gored piece extending up under the bosom-pieces protects and upholds the breast, preventing a draft upon the muscles which exhausts the vital powers of the chest.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

In an under-waist, constructed substantially as described and shown, the combination of bosom-pieces with bones arranged in plain gored pieces extending up under the bosom-pieces, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name this 23d day of May, A. D. 1876.

EMELINE W. PHILBROOK.

Witnesses:

S. M. ALLEN,  
GEO. T. ANGELL.