

A. W. THOMAS.
Shirt-Bosom Supports.

No. 150,631.

Patented May 5, 1874.

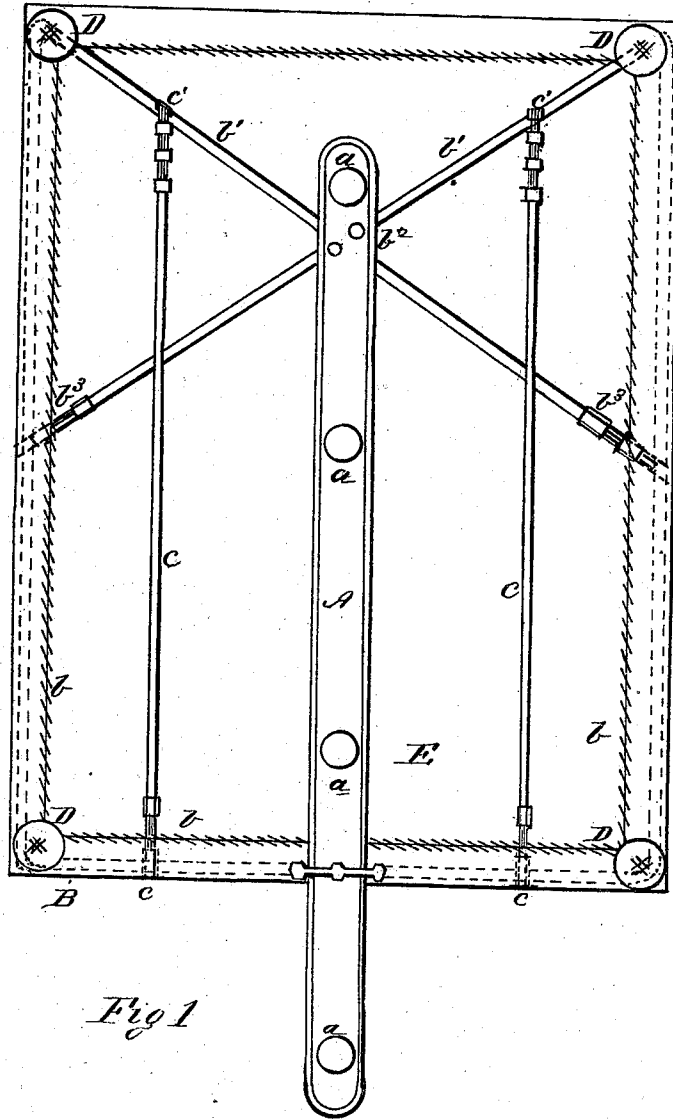


Fig 1

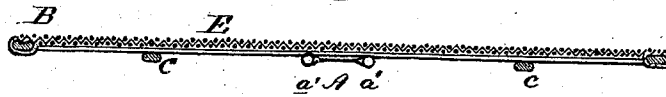


Fig 2

WITNESSES
Ernest C. Wilson
J. P. Connolly

By

Connolly Bros.

INVENTOR

Amos W. Thomas

Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

AMOS W. THOMAS, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN SHIRT-BOSOM SUPPORTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **150,631**, dated May 5, 1874; application filed September 29, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, AMOS W. THOMAS, of Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shirt-Front Supporters; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a front view of my invention, and Fig. 2 a horizontal section.

My invention has for its object to provide a device for supporting shirt-fronts, so as to prevent the latter from becoming crumpled or creased by bending while being worn.

The nature of my invention consists in the peculiar construction and combination of parts, having reference particularly to a method whereby the supporter and shirt-front may be secured together by means of buttons or studs passing simultaneously through both, as hereinafter more fully described.

Referring to the accompanying drawing, A shows the main stay of the skeleton which forms the supporter, said stay being constructed of material having sufficient rigidity or sustaining power for the object in view, and yet susceptible of being pierced for the purpose of forming stud or button holes *a a*. For the purposes of the case, two parallel wires, *a' a'*, woven in a textile covering or "twin-spring" wire, will answer admirably, that part of said covering between the wires affording ground for the button or stud holes.

In order to give a finished appearance, as well as to prevent injury to the wearer or unraveling of the covering, the stay is provided with metallic ends or caps.

B is a wire, bent, as shown, to form three sides, *b b b*, of an oblong, its ends being turned down obliquely and crossed, forming braces *b¹ b¹*, which are secured by suitable means at the points *b²*, said wire B being also further attached to the stay A at the point *b²*. C C

are auxiliary braces secured to the wire B at the points *c c'*. D D are buttons secured to the corners of the supporter, designed for attachment to the shirt-front, which should be furnished with holes or loops for that purpose, or the buttons may be dispensed with and the corners of the supporter fitted in suitable pockets on the shirts. E is a back of flannel or other suitable material to be employed when it is desired to secure warmth and make the device available as a chest-protector.

It is not designed, in the first instance, to pierce holes in the main stay A. The device is to be made up and sold, and the holes afterward pierced of a size, and at the requisite distances apart, to suit the studs and shirts of the purchasers.

It will be observed that by the peculiar arrangement of the wire B, with reference to the main stay A, the upper extremity of the latter is some distance below the higher corners of the former, thus leaving a depression or unwired space between said corners, which will be found to render the device more comfortable and easy to the chest than if the wire proceeded straight across from corner to corner, forming a perfect oblong. So, too, the wires B being crossed, as shown, at the upper extremity of the main stay, and proceeding thence to the points of attachment *b³*, form braces for stiffening the device, which should be less yielding above than below its horizontal diameter.

Further, it will be seen that the exterior outline of the device and the upper crossed braces are, by the peculiar arrangement shown, formed of a single piece of wire, whereby the troublesome and relatively costly expedient of uniting several pieces by clamps is dispensed with.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. In combination with a shirt-bosom support, the main stay A, constructed and adapted to be readily pierced with holes for studs or buttons, substantially as described and shown.

2. The combination, with the outline or border wire B and main stay A, of the oblique intersecting braces b^1 b^1 , arranged as shown and described, said braces being continuations of the border wire.

3. In combination with the oblique braces b b , the auxiliary braces C C, substantially as set forth and described.

4. In combination with the main stay A,

constructed as described, the flannel back E, for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing, I have hereunto set my hand this 26th day of September, 1873.

AMOS W. THOMAS.

Witnesses:

W. W. DOUGHERTY,

M. DANL. CONNOLLY.