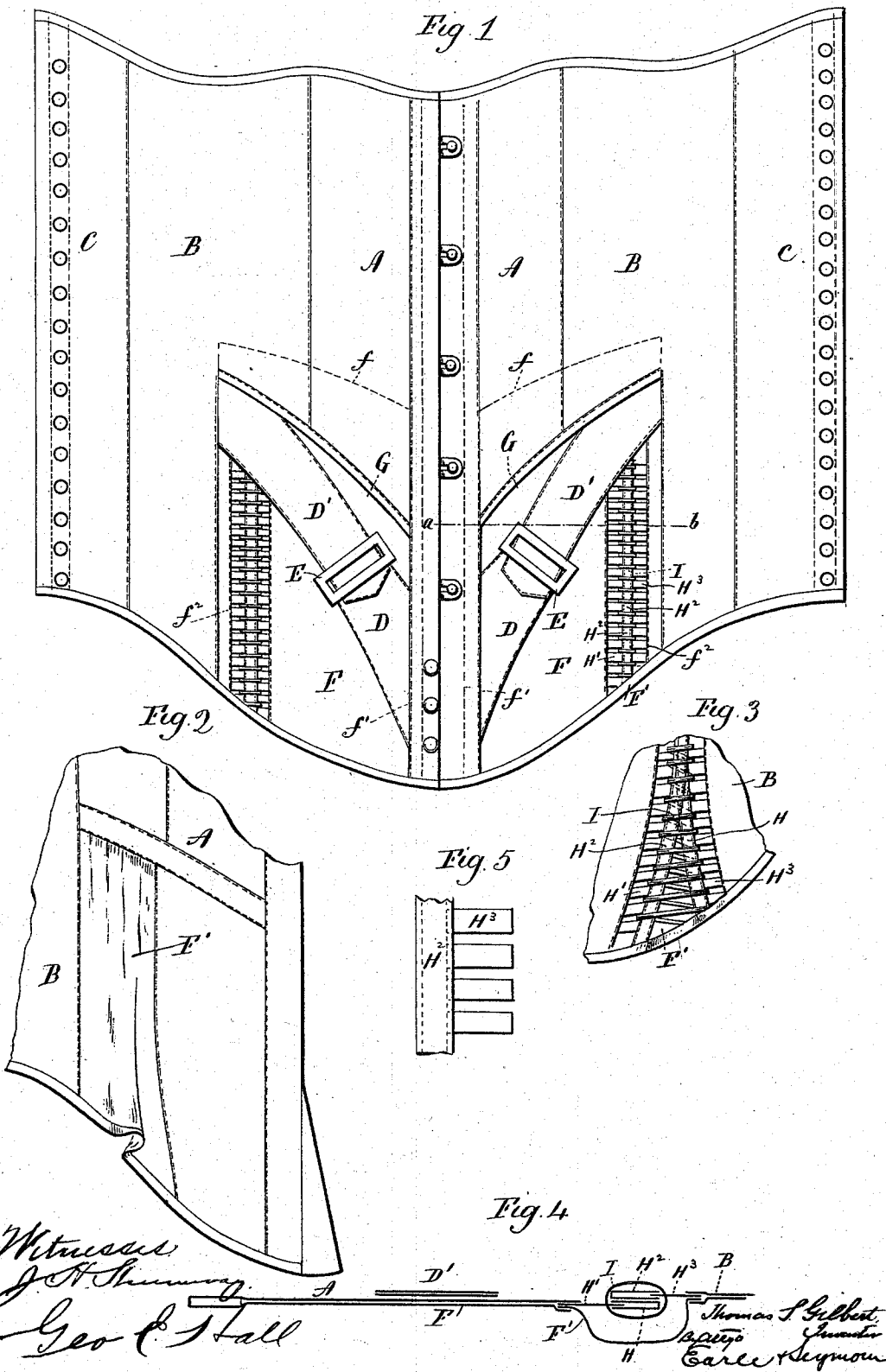


(No Model.)

T. S. GILBERT.
ABDOMINAL CORSET.

No. 527,966.

Patented Oct. 23, 1894.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS S. GILBERT, OF SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO THE
GILBERT CORSET COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

ABDOMINAL CORSET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 527,966, dated October 23, 1894.

Application filed August 24, 1894. Serial No. 521,209. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS S. GILBERT, of Springfield, in the county of Hampden and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new
5 Improvement in Abdominal Corsets; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description
10 of the same, and which said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1, a view in front elevation of a corset constructed in accordance with my invention, the corset being shown spread out flat; Fig. 2, a broken view in inside elevation, showing one of the auxiliary sections, as well as portions of the front and hip sections with which the same is connected; Fig. 3, a broken
20 view in front elevation of a portion of one of the auxiliary sections, showing it under tension and its elastic lacing extended to bring the gore into play; Fig. 4, an enlarged view in horizontal section, on the line *a-b* of Fig. 1; Fig. 5, a broken view, drawn to full size, showing a portion of one of the flying, lacing stays, and several of the short straps by means of which the same is connected with the corset.

30 My invention relates to an improvement in abdominal corsets, the object being to produce a simple, compact, convenient, shapely and comfortable corset, made with particular reference to providing an adequate adjustable support for the abdomen of the
35 wearer and to permitting a free movement of the hips without the loss of fit in the corset.

With these ends in view, my invention consists in an abdominal corset having certain
40 details of construction as will be hereinafter described and pointed out in the claim.

For convenience of illustration and description, I have chosen to define the front-sections A A, the hip-sections B B, and the back-sections C C of the corset, by means of heavy vertical lines, which are not to be understood as of other significance than that of showing approximately those portions of the corset meant by the terms front, hip, and back sections. I
45 may add that, in some corsets, the structure of the corset itself clearly defines these sec-

tions, while in others it does not. As the terms mentioned are so well known, both technically and popularly, it seems desirable to use them.

In carrying out my invention, I provide the corset with two corresponding, oppositely located, diagonally arranged, adjustable abdominal straps, converging at their lower ends, and each composed of a lower member D and an upper member D', the upper end of the lower member being furnished with a buckle E, which receives the lower end of the upper member.

It will be understood that, by adjusting the straps in length by means of their buckles, the corset may be very readily adapted to fit the abdomen of the wearer and to give it more or less support, as desired.

The said adjustable abdominal straps extend over and are superimposed upon two independently formed auxiliary sections F F, located within openings G G formed by cutting away the lower portions of the front sections A and the hip sections B of the corset, the said openings being widest at their rear ends and tapering thence forward to their forward ends, and the said auxiliary sections being wider than the depth of the openings and located within the same, so that their upper edges extend up under the lower edges of the front and hip sections as cut away, throughout the length of the openings. The broken lines *f* in Fig. 1 of the drawings indicate the extension of the upper edges of the auxiliary sections up under the front and hip sections, as just described. Each of the said auxiliary sections is furnished at its rear end with an unstayed or soft gore F', which normally lies in a fold, as shown in Fig. 2. Each of the said sections is also furnished with a vertically arranged flying lacing stay H extending over the inner edge of the gore, and connected with the said edge of the section by means of regularly spaced short lacing-straps or tapes H', of heavy fabric.

The forward ends of the auxiliary sections are respectively attached to the front sections of the corset on the lines *f' f'*, while the outer edges of the gores, located at the rear ends of the auxiliary sections, are directly attached to the hip sections of the corset at *f² f²*. The

gores themselves are normally taken up, so to speak, by means of elastic lacings I, which are passed back and forth over the inner edges of the flying lacing stays H and between the lacing straps or tapes H', already mentioned, and over corresponding flying lacing stays H², extending over the outer edges of the gore and connected with the hip-sections of the corset by means of lacing straps or tapes H³. It will be understood, of course, that the elastic lacings will extend and permit the gores to play out as required, for the accommodation of the corset to the movements, position, and conditions of the figure.

It is apparent that, in carrying out my invention, the diagonally arranged abdominal straps may not be constructed nor applied in the exact manner shown, and furthermore that the auxiliary sections may be constructed and applied otherwise than as shown, and that other provision may be made for flexibly connecting one end of each of the said sections with the corset, so as to permit the required accommodation. I would therefore have it understood that I do not limit myself to the exact construction herein shown and described, but hold myself at liberty to make such changes and alterations as fairly fall within the spirit and scope of my invention.

I am aware, however, that a corset provided with adjustable abdominal straps is old, and do not claim such a construction broadly; and, having made the auxiliary sections the sub-

ject of an application filed by me under date of December 19, 1892, and serially numbered 455,609, I do not broadly claim that construction herein.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

An abdominal corset, having front sections, hip sections and back sections, of which the lower portions of the front and hip sections are cut away to form openings, widest at their rear ends and thence tapering forward to their forward ends; auxiliary sections located within the said openings, extending up under the lower edges of the hip and front sections as cut away, throughout the length of the openings, and attached to the corset at their rear and forward ends, one of their attachments being flexible; and two corresponding, oppositely located, diagonally arranged, adjustable abdominal straps, converging at their lower ends, superimposed upon the said auxiliary sections and connected with the front and hip sections of the corset respectively, substantially as and for the purpose described.

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

THOMAS S. GILBERT.

Witnesses:

FRANK H. BOWEN,
EDWARD N. BOWEN.