

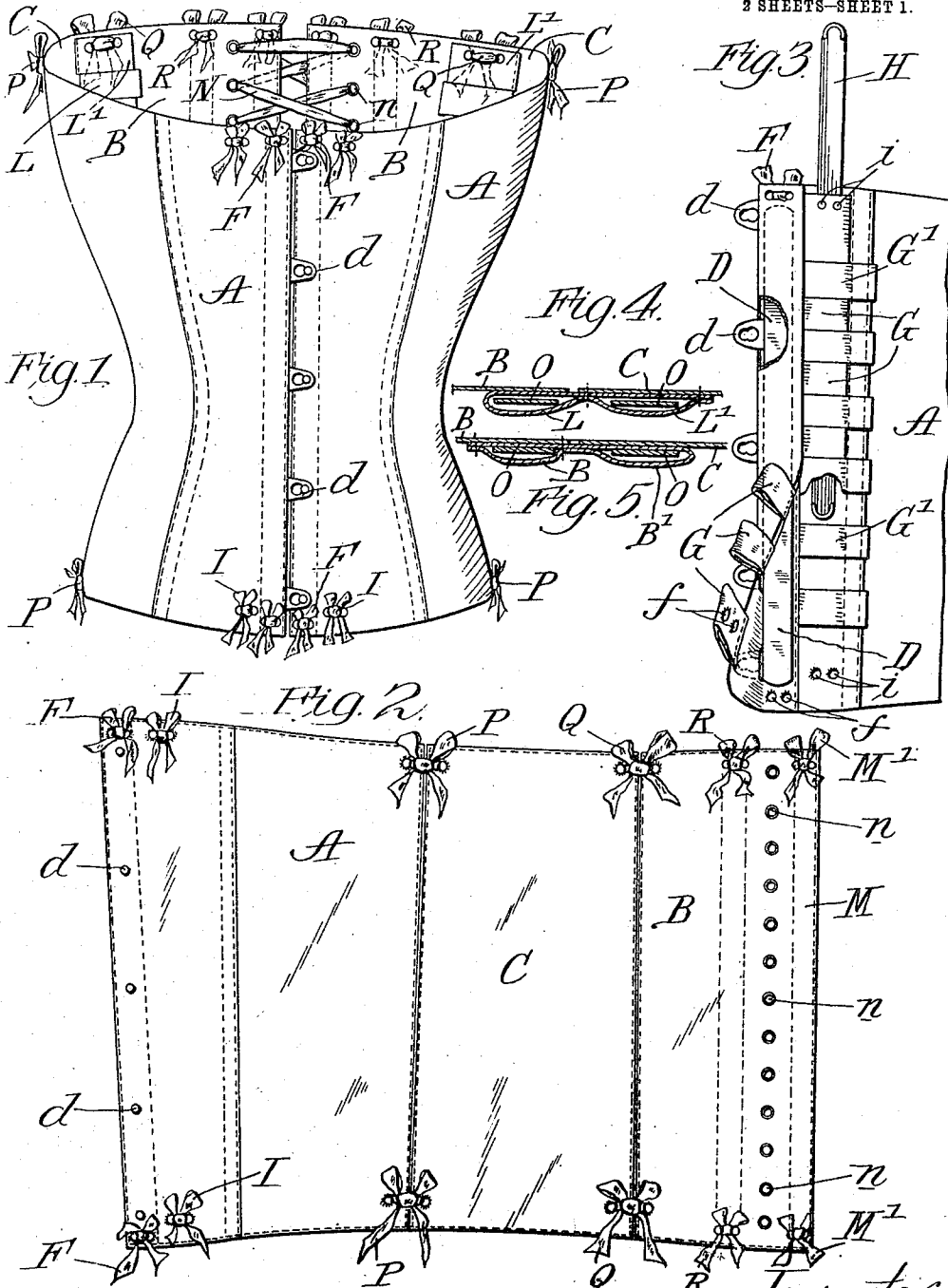
K. LUKE.
CORSET.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 3, 1912.

1,041,311.

Patented Oct. 15, 1912.

2 SHEETS-SHEET 1.



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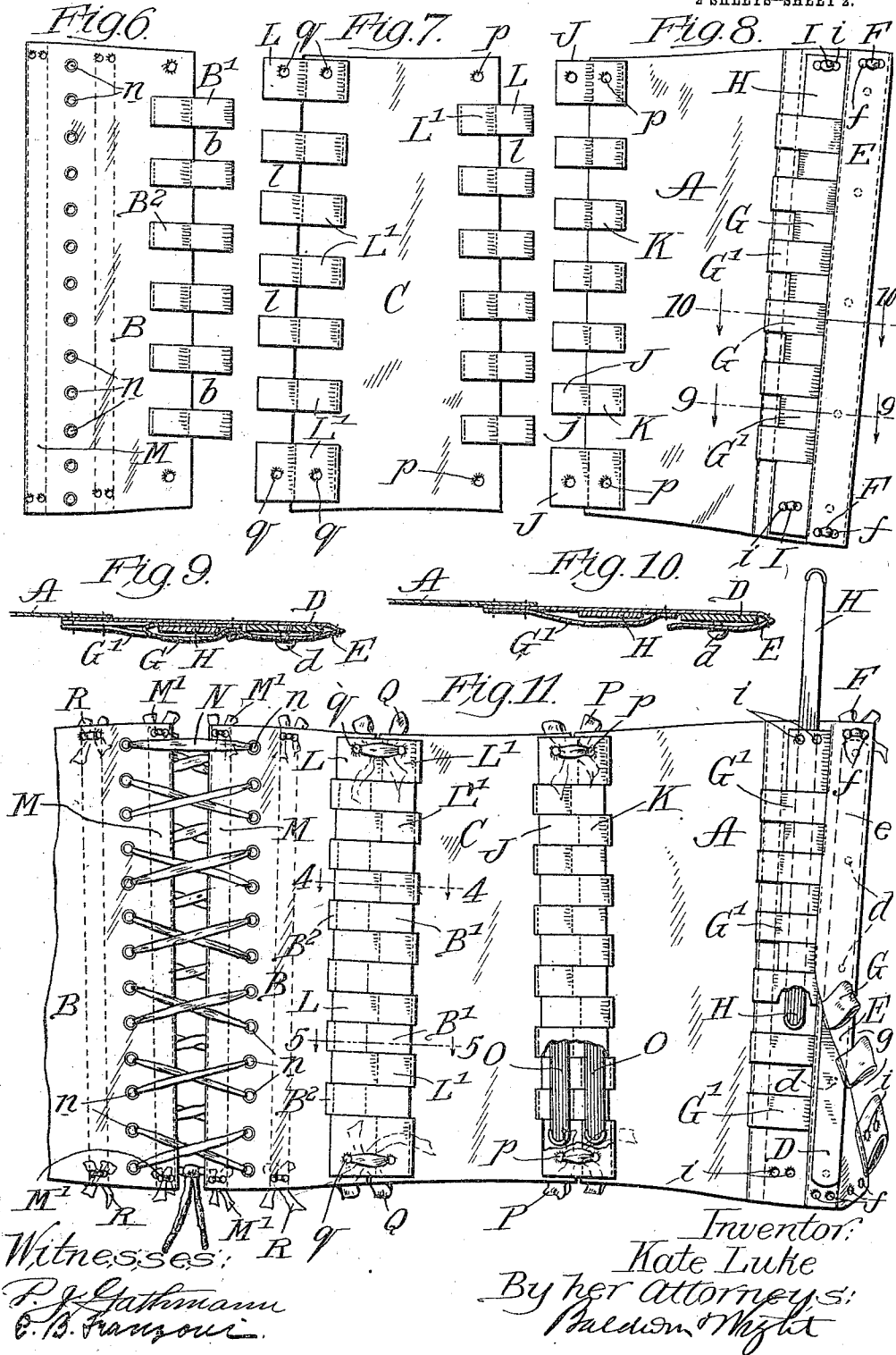
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

KATE LUKE, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

CORSET.

1,041,311.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 15, 1912.

Application filed May 3, 1912. Serial No. 694,837.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, KATE LUKE, a subject of the King of Great Britain, residing in New York city, borough of Manhattan, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Corsets, of which the following is a specification.

The object of this invention is to provide a corset of such construction that parts which have become worn or soiled may be easily separated from the other parts and replaced by others, or in which parts may be detached, cleaned and put back in the corset, or in which parts of one shape or size may be removed and replaced by parts of different shapes or sizes.

In carrying out my invention I construct the corset of a plurality of sections of suitable shape, to constitute when assembled and connected a complete corset, and provide it with means whereby they may be quickly connected and separated.

The corset comprises two main members connected at the front by detachable fastenings of the usual construction and at the back by laces of any suitable kind, although, of course, this mode of connection may be changed, laces being employed at the front or at the side. Each type of corset of this general kind is well known, but I will show and describe a corset of the first named type.

Each corset member is composed of a plurality of sections of suitable shape joined with companion sections by connecting means which may be easily manipulated to attach or detach them. Preferably these fastening devices consist of loops of suitable fabric projecting from and arranged near the vertical meeting edges of the sections, interlocking and receiving the vertical stays of the corset which thus perform not only their usual function, but serve as connecting means for the sections. Preferably, also, two sets of loops are provided on each section at each joint, one set projecting from the vertical edge of each section and the other set being disposed within but close to the edge thereof, the loops projecting from the edge of one section being made to overlap the adjacent portion of the next section and being brought into line with the second or inner set of loops thereon. In this way the loops may be concealed being all disposed on the inside of the corset, and they are detachably connected at each joint by two parallel stays.

The corset steels are arranged in casings which are closed by means of a fastening means, consisting of loops and stays similar to those used for connecting the corset sections.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a corset embodying my improvements. Fig. 2 shows an elevation of one member of the corset straightened out or developed. Fig. 3 is a detail view with parts broken away showing the manner of inclosing one of the corset steels in its casing and the way in which this casing is held closed. Fig. 4 shows a section on the line 4-4 of Fig. 11. Fig. 5 shows a section on the line 5-5 of Fig. 11. Fig. 6 shows an elevation of one of the rear or lacing sections of the corset. Fig. 7 is a similar view of one of the middle or intermediate sections. Fig. 8 is a similar view of one of the front sections. Fig. 9 shows a transverse section on the line 9-9 of Fig. 8. Fig. 10 shows a transverse section on the line 10-10 of Fig. 8: and Fig. 11 shows an elevation of the inside of one member of the corset and a portion of the inside of the other member thereof, parts being broken away in order to better illustrate other parts.

The corset is formed of two parts or members, each comprising a plurality of sections. By way of example I have shown each member consisting of three sections, A, B, and C, although a greater or less number of sections may be used. I call the section A the front section, the section B, the rear or lacing section, and the section C the middle or intermediate section. Each section is made of any suitable fabric, preferably such as may be easily washed or cleaned and the sections are suitably shaped to accommodate different figures.

Each section A contains near one edge a vertically arranged corset steel D, of the usual kind, provided with fastening devices *d* of ordinary construction. The steel D is arranged in a casing E formed by doubling over the fabric, in the manner indicated in Fig. 3 and also in Fig. 11. The steel may be first placed in proper position and then covered by doubling over the portion *e* of the fabric so as to cover the steel and the doubled over fabric may be held in place by suitable devices, such as ribbons F, which extend through eyelets *f*. From the edge of the portion *e* of the fabric extend loops

G arranged even distances apart with spaces g intervening between them and they are arranged to interlock with another set of loops G' attached to the section A in such manner as to be in line with the loops G when the casing is formed and to interlock therewith. When thus arranged a stay H, of usual construction, is passed alternately through the loops G, G' and in this way the casing is closed. Endwise movement of the stays may be prevented by means of ribbons I extending through eyelets i . When thus assembled and connected the steel is securely held in place and by removing one of the ribbons I and withdrawing the stay H the casing may be opened and the steel removed. In this way a new steel may be easily made to replace a broken one, or the section A may be easily cleaned when detached from its companion section and both the steel and the stay are withdrawn. At its opposite edge the section A is provided with a set of outwardly projecting loops J arranged even distances apart with spaces j between them; and it is also provided with a set of inner loops K within but close to the edge of the section A. These loops are for the purpose of affording a detachable connection between the section A and the section C in the manner presently described. The section C is provided on each of its vertical edges with laterally projecting loops L arranged even distances apart with spaces l between the loops, and it is also provided within but near each edge with a series of loops L' . The rear or lacing section B is provided with a removable stay M and with a vertical series of eyelets n to receive the lacing cord N. The stay M may be readily withdrawn in an obvious way.

In Figs. 6, 7 and 8 the three sections of one member of the corset are shown separated, while in Fig. 11 they are shown assembled. The section C is connected with the section A by means of stays O which extend alternately through the loops K and L on the sections A and C respectively and through the loops J and L' respectively on the sections A and C. Endwise movement of the stays is prevented by means of ribbons P extending through eyelets p .

Figs. 6, 7, 8 and 11 show the inside of the corset sections, and it will be observed that the loops are all arranged on the inside of the corset.

Fig. 2 shows the outside of a corset section and it will be observed from an inspection of this figure that the loops are not visible. In this way the appearance of the outside is improved.

The intermediate section C is connected with the rear or lacing section B in a similar manner. This section is provided with a set of laterally projecting loops B' with intervening spaces b and with a set of inner

loops B'' . By bringing the sections B and C together so that the loops will interlock and the edges of the sections will meet, the loops L may be brought into line with the loops B'' and the loops B' into line with the loops L' . Then if stays are inserted in the manner before described, the two sections B and C will be firmly connected and endwise movement of the stays may be prevented by ribbons Q extending through eyelets q .

The other member of the corset is constructed in the same way.

A corset of this construction is both simple and economical, for it is obvious that one or more sections, if worn or soiled, may be removed and replaced by a new one, or cleaned and put back so that it is not necessary to discard the whole corset when one section is not usable. If necessary to materially enlarge or reduce the size of the corset or materially change its shape, one or more sections may be removed and replaced by others of different sizes or shapes. The corset for any purpose can be very easily taken apart and reassembled in a very few minutes.

I prefer to employ whalebone stays inasmuch as steel stays are apt to rust and cut the fabric.

Inasmuch as the corset sections are connected by the stays much time is saved by avoiding the sewing together of the sections.

If additional stays are embodied in the corset, I prefer that they should be inserted in piping or pockets closed at their ends by ribbons R, as shown in Fig. 1, so that the stays may be removed when it is desired to wash the corset sections.

I claim as my invention:

1. A corset, comprising two members, each member being composed of a plurality of sections having meeting edges and provided with interlocking loops which are arranged behind the meeting portions of the corset and are concealed thereby and a stay passing through the interlocking loops and connecting them.

2. A corset, comprising two members, each member being composed of a plurality of sections having meeting edges and provided with interlocking loops on opposite sides of each meeting edge which are arranged behind the meeting portions of the corset and are concealed thereby and stays passing through the loops.

3. A corset section carrying a set of loops which project from its vertical edge, and another set of loops adjoining those first mentioned and arranged within the edge of the section and are concealed thereby.

4. A corset member, comprising a plurality of sections having meeting edges, each section carrying two sets of loops at its edge, one of which set of loops projects from

the edge of the section while the other set is arranged within the edge of the section, said loops being interlocked and brought into suitable alinement and stays extending through the alined loops for detachably connecting them.

5 A corset section having a steel inclosing casing formed by doubling over the fabric upon itself, loops projecting laterally from the vertical edge of the folded portion of the fabric and which are exposed for purposes of manipulation on the rear

face of the section, another set of loops secured to the rear face of the fabric and also exposed for purposes of manipulation with which the first set of loops interlock and aline, and a stay passing through the loops and detachably connecting them.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name.

KATE LUKE.

Witnesses:

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Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."