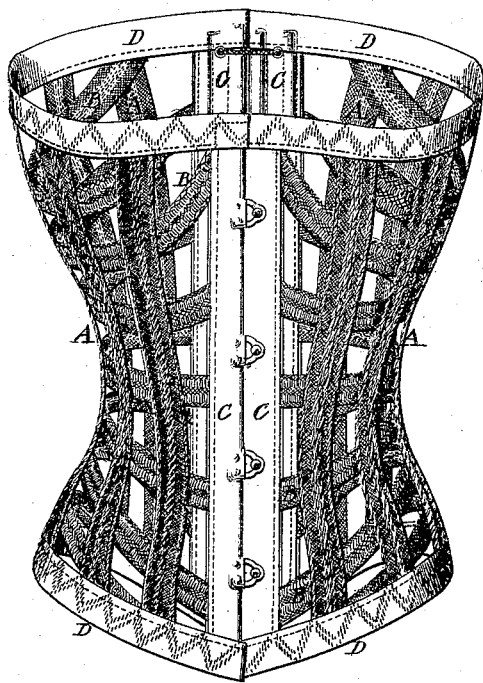


*T. S. Gilbert,*  
*Corset.*

*No. 113,418.*

*Patented April 4, 1871.*

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2,*



WITNESSES:

*Geo. L. Swine*  
*H. C. Elliott*

INVENTOR

*Thos. S. Gilbert*  
*By* *King & Sons*  
*Attorneys.*

# United States Patent Office.

THOMAS S. GILBERT, OF BIRMINGHAM, CONNECTICUT.

Letters Patent No. 113,418, dated April 4, 1871.

## IMPROVEMENT IN SKELETON CORSETS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

I, THOMAS S. GILBERT, of Birmingham, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Skeleton Corset, of which the following is a specification.

### *Nature and Objects of the Invention.*

The subject of my invention is an improved "skeleton corset," and it differs from skeleton corsets heretofore known in the following particulars:

First, it is made up of longitudinal (or vertical) and circumferential tapes, the latter being arranged at varying distances asunder, in manner hereinafter more particularly set forth, in order to conform to the natural shape of the body, instead of passing around the same in straight lines, as in skeleton corsets heretofore made.

Second, the vertical or longitudinal tapes are woven with pockets or shirrs, to receive the stiffeners without seams, and by this means the intersections of the tapes produce no protuberances which are perceptible to the wearer.

### *Description of the Accompanying Drawing.*

Figure 1 is a front view of the corset.

Figure 2 is a section of a longitudinal tape, showing the pockets for the insertion of a stiffening material.

### *General Description.*

A A, &c., are the vertical or longitudinal, and B B, &c., the circumferential tapes before mentioned. These are preferably made of a material woven expressly for the purpose, as described in my patent for an improvement in corsets issued August 10, 1869, and may or may not have open edges of the kind therein referred to.

The vertical tapes A have pockets *a* running longitudinally thereof, for the purpose of receiving and holding strips of whalebone or other stiffening material, which may be retained in position by a flap covering each end, as described in my patent above referred to, allowing them to be removed or inserted, as desired, or in any usual and suitable manner.

The circumferential tapes B are, as represented in the drawing, of varying lengths, and the intermediate ones are attached in front and rear, at unequal dis-

tances apart, to longitudinal strips C C of strong fabric, to which are fixed the hooks and eyes, eyelets for lacing, or other usual appliances for tightening and fastening. Those at top and bottom are attached to the upper and lower bands D D, to which the tapes A are fastened.

The strips C C D D are preferably made of a doubled thickness of fabric, to receive the ends of the tapes, permitting a smoother seam and affording additional strength.

The upper circumferential tapes B are so attached as to curve downwardly at each side from the vertical front and rear central lines, this downward curve being proportionately less in those toward the waist, which are horizontal or nearly so. Those below the waist curve upwardly from said vertical medial lines in proportion to their distance from the waist.

By these arrangements the shape of the corsets is adapted to that of the body when either erect or recumbent, and readily accommodates itself thereto in any position, the inclined circumferential tapes rising or falling so as to vary the form and area of the corset-section, as required, while the longitudinal tapes A conform themselves to any changes of the circumferential ones.

The tapes A and B may be attached to each other by sewing or in any usual and convenient manner, care being taken not to interfere with the free passage of the stiffeners through the pockets *a*.

### *Claim.*

I claim as my invention—

The skeleton corset herein described, consisting of vertical or longitudinal tapes, woven with shirrs or pockets for the reception of the springs, and circumferential tapes horizontal at the waist, and with the successive tapes above and below the waist diverging more and more from horizontal lines toward the front and back, as represented.

To the foregoing specification of my improvement in corsets I have set my hand this 23d day of December, 1870.

THOS. S. GILBERT.

Witnesses:

H. C. ELLIOTT,

WM. H. BRERETON, Jr.