P. LAFLIN.
Corset-Steel.

No. 218,386. Patented Aug 12, 1879.

Fig. 1.

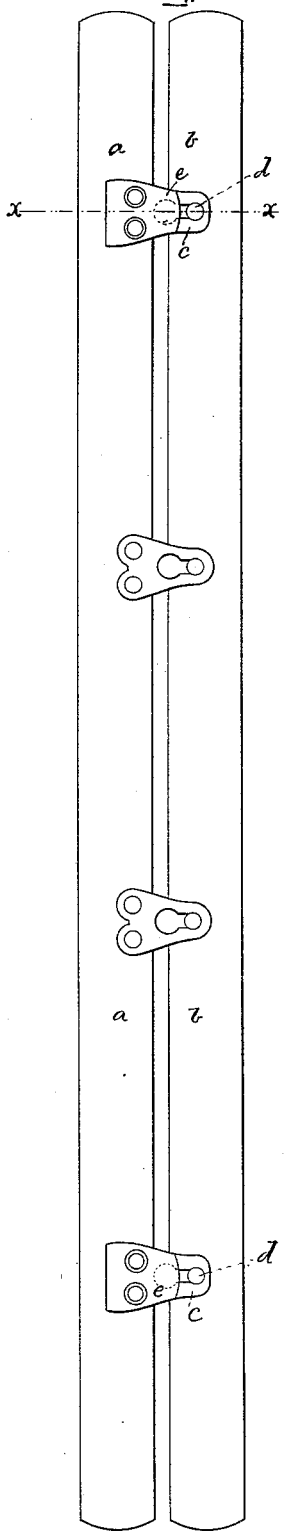

Fig. 2.

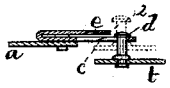

Fig. 3.

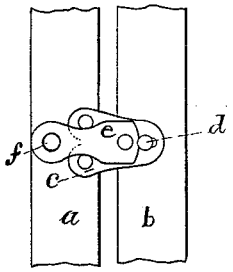

Fig. 4.

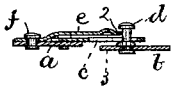

Fig. 5.

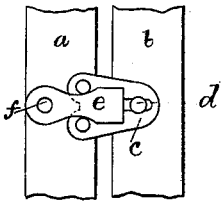

Fig. 6.

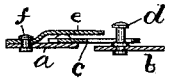

Fig. 7.

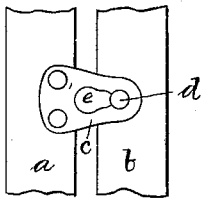

Fig. 8.

Witnesses.
N. E. Whitney.
J. T. Brown

Inventor.
Perley Laflin
by Crosby & Gregory
Attys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PERLEY LAFLIN, OF WARREN, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO WORCESTER CORSET COMPANY.

IMPROVEMENT IN CORSET-STEELS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **218,386**, dated August 12, 1879; application filed June 19, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be in known that I, PERLEY LAFLIN, of Warren, county of Worcester, and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Corset-Steel-Fastening Devices, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification.

This invention relates to the fastening devices of corset-steels; and consists in a steel provided with the usual eye-pieces and with elastic or yielding stops to fall below the heads or at the sides of the studs of the opposite steel when the studs are in the eye-pieces, the yielding stops abutting against and preventing the studs moving laterally into the enlarged parts of the said eyes without first lifting the said yielding stops.

Prior to this invention it has been common to extend a spring forward over the stud, the said spring being adapted to bear upon the top of the head of the stud, as in United States Patent No. 62,848, to prevent the eye-piece rising from the said stud.

Figure 1 represents, in front elevation, a pair of steels, the upper and lower eye portions of the pair being provided with stops in accordance with my invention, and with common eyes and studs between them; Fig. 2, a section on the line *x x*, Fig. 1; Figs. 3 and 4, a top view and section, respectively, of a modification; Figs. 5 and 6 and Figs. 7 and 8, top views and sections of other modifications.

The steels *a b* may be of any usual kind and shape. Each steel *a* has connected with it any suitable number of eye-pieces, *c*, while the steel *b* has a corresponding number of studs, *d*, to co-operate with the said eyes, all in the usual manner.

In Figs. 1 and 2 the stop *e* is represented as integral with the eye portion *c*, and the stop overlaps the enlarged opening in the eye portion, as shown in dotted lines, Fig. 1, but does not extend over the whole length of the said opening.

When the eye-piece is being engaged with the stud, the latter, before it can get into the narrow or contracted part of the eye, has to lift the stop, and the stud once within the narrow part of the eye cannot get back again without lifting the said stop, for the end of the stop rests sufficiently close to the eye-piece and sufficiently far from the narrow end of the eye to abut against the side of the stud or the side of its head, and prevent the stud moving laterally into line with the enlarged part of the eye without again lifting the stop. This can, however, be done readily by forcing the head against the inclined end 2 of the stop, the lower side of the head sliding along over and in contact with the top of the eye portion *c*.

In Fig. 2 the full-line position of the stud *d* and steel *b* is that which it will occupy when about to be disengaged from the eye portion to unfasten the corset, the dotted-line position showing the said steel and studs in the position they will occupy when hooked and being worn regularly.

In Figs. 3 and 4 the stop is attached to the steel *a* by a rivet, *f*; and back of the beveled or inclined front end of the stop I have countersunk the stop, as at 3, Fig. 4, to partially receive the head of the stud *d*.

In Figs. 5 and 6 the stop *e* is made separate, as described of Figs. 3 and 4; but the beveled end and countersink are omitted.

In Figs. 7 and 8 the stop is formed by striking it up from the eye portion, and then separating the said struck-up portion by cutting away the sides of the struck-up parts, as shown in Fig. 8, leaving the outer free end of the struck-up part to serve as a stop to abut against that side of the stud next the extreme outer edge of the corset in which the steel *b* is stitched.

I do not broadly claim a spring piece or portion on one steel to cover or embrace the head of the stud of the other steel; nor do I broadly claim a spring-plate attached by rivets to the eye portion and extended forward so as to cover the entire opening in the said eye portion, the spring resting centrally upon the top of the said stud.

I claim—

1. A corset-steel fastening composed of a stud attached to one steel, and an eye portion and yielding stop to co-operate with the stud and the other steel, the end of the yielding stop being arranged to drop below the head of the stud at the side of the stud next the front edge of the corset, substantially as described,

so as to abut against the said stud and prevent it being moved laterally into the enlarged part of the said eye portion without lifting the free end of the said stop above the head of the stud.

2. The eye part and yielding stop made in one piece, and adapted to co-operate with the stud *d*, substantially as described.

3. The combination, with the eye portion, of the yielding stop, the free end of which terminates between the outer or narrow end of the eye and its enlarged portion, the stop being provided with an inclined forward end, to assist in introducing the head of the stud under it to unfasten the corset, the end of the stop being free to fall below and rest against the side of the stud, all substantially as described.

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

PERLEY his × mark. LAFLIN.

Witnesses:
JOHN W. CHADSEY,
GEORGE M. NEWTON.