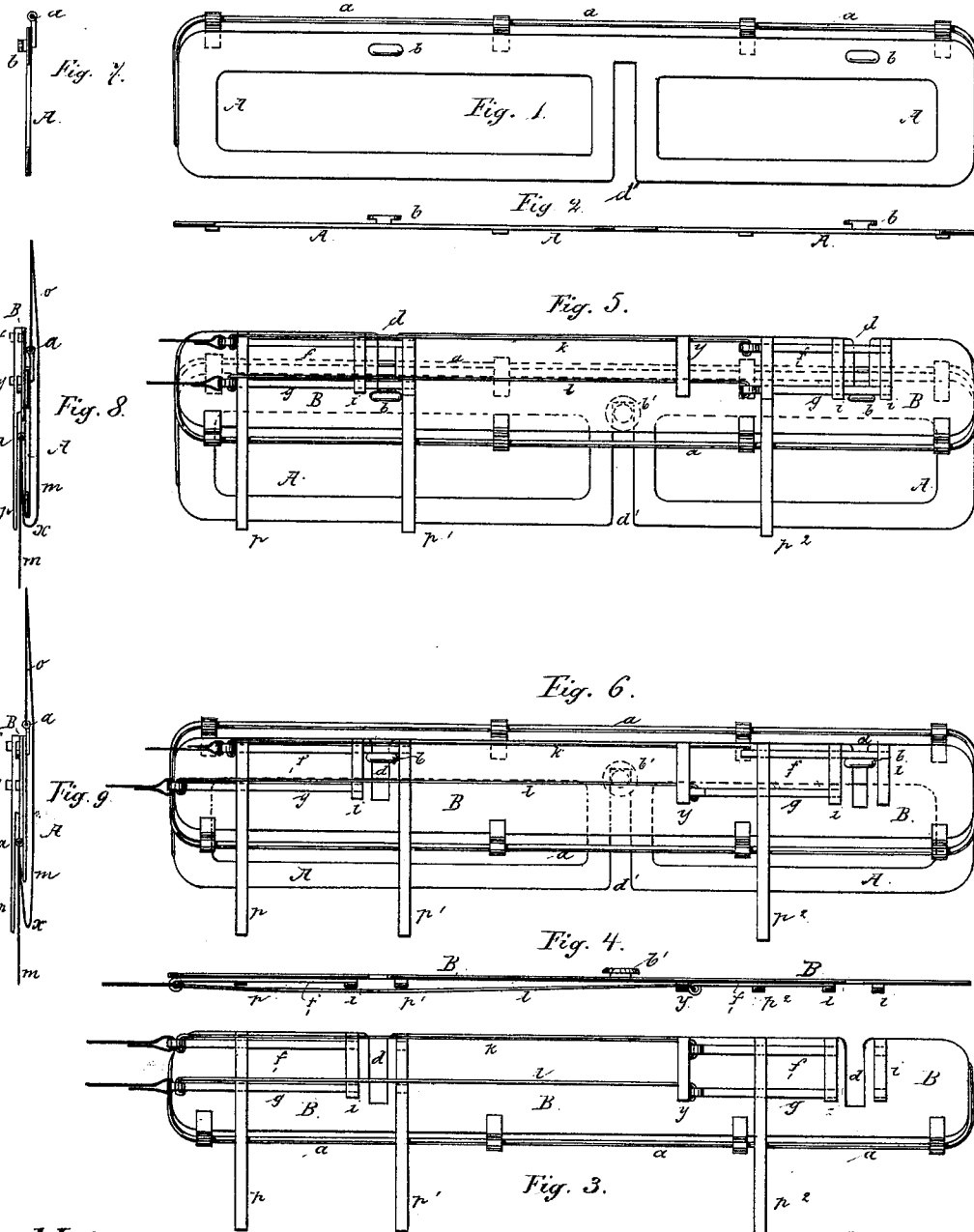


E. EBNER.
Dress-Adjuster.

No. 220,588.

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Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDUARD EBNER, OF BERLIN, PRUSSIA, GERMAN EMPIRE.

IMPROVEMENT IN DRESS-ADJUSTERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 220,588, dated October 11, 1879; application filed May 12, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDUARD EBNER, of Berlin, in the Kingdom of Prussia, German Empire, have invented a new and Improved Dress-Adjuster, of which the following is a specification.

In the accompanying drawings, Figures 1, 2, and 7 represent, respectively, a top view, a vertical longitudinal and a vertical transverse section of the lower plate of my improved dress-adjuster. Figs. 3 and 4 are a top view and a vertical longitudinal section of the top plate of the same. Figs. 5 and 6 are top views of the adjusting device, shown in different positions; and Figs. 8 and 9 are vertical transverse sections of the adjuster, showing the relative positions of the plates when applied to the dress.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The invention relates to an improved device for adjusting ladies' dresses, and more especially the waists of the same, in a convenient manner, so that they fit simply and comfortably to the body. The device admits the enlarging of the waist after the dress has been put on, so as to enable ladies to obtain an easy and perfect fit of the dress.

The invention consists of a dress-adjuster that is preferably arranged inside of the waist, below the arms, and constructed of two separate sections or plates, which are adapted to interlock with each other, the locking device being so arranged as to be separately released from the plates, so as to widen the dress when the same is on the body. Laterally-extending fingers of the top plate serve to keep the plait or fold flat and straight.

Referring to the drawings, A represents the lower, and B the top, plate of my improved dress-adjusting device, which is, by preference, applied to the waist below the arms, being attached by means of wire or other keepers, *a*, to the inside lining of the dress. The plates A B are made of suitable sheet metal, and are made to slide one below the other, the lower plate, A, being guided, by means of headed studs *b b*, in guide-recesses *d d* of plate B, as shown clearly in the drawings.

When one plate is pushed in below the other it is rigidly locked thereto by means of parallel sliding lock-bolts *f g*, which extend across the recesses *d d*, and prevent the release of the lower plate, A. One or more bolts may be arranged, according to the degree of adjustment desired. When two or more sets of bolts are arranged and the lower plate is pushed in as far as the slots will admit and locked by the bolts, the dress may be made wider by successively withdrawing one set of bolts after the other, the degree of widening being in proportion to the distance between the bolts. By finally withdrawing the outermost slide bolt *f*, the plate A becomes entirely detached from the plate B, and the waist expands thereby to its utmost extent.

The bolts *f*, which pass across the upper and lower guide-slots of plate B, are in line with each other, and are connected by wire rods *k* and *l*, which are guided in a transverse piece or bridge, *y*. The wire rods *k* and *l* bear on a raised rib or ribs of the top plate and are slightly bent thereby, the tension of the wires preventing the sliding and release of the bolts.

To the lower ends of the bolts are attached strings, by which they are withdrawn, as desired.

The dress is contracted before it is put on by connecting the plates and setting the bolts in locked position.

The fold *x* of the dress *n* is shown in Figs. 8 and 9, said figures indicating, respectively, the greater or less contraction of the dress.

The lower plate, A, is stitched onto a strip, *o*, of the lining. When the plates are entirely detached from each other the fold *x* spreads out to its full extent and becomes entirely flat.

The top plate, B, is further provided with lateral fingers *p p'* *p''*, that extend beyond the edge of the same, and serve to keep the fold *x* smoothly and evenly between them and the lower plate, A.

The dress-waist may be used with one adjusting device only, or with two, one at each side, as desired. If two are used the dress may be made considerably wider, as two folds may be entirely let out. The guiding of the plates, one on the other, as well as the locking

mechanism, may be varied from and constructed in simple manner, so that the device may be furnished at low rates.

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

1. In a dress-adjuster, the combination of two plates or sections, which are attached to the lining of the dress, with guiding and interlocking mechanism, by which the plates may be transversely adjusted, one below the other, or entirely detached from each other, as set forth.

2. The combination of plate A, having studs

b b and guide-recess *d'*, and of plate B, having stud *b'* and guide-recesses *d*, with one or more sets of locking slide-bolts, *f g*, substantially as described.

3. In a dress-adjusting device, the top plate, B, having lateral fingers *p p¹ p²*, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

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

EDUARD EBNER.

Witnesses:

GERARD VON NAWROCKI,
BERTHOLD ROE.