

(Model.)

C. A. McGEE.

CORSET.

No. 265,690.

Patented Oct. 10, 1882.

Fig. 1.

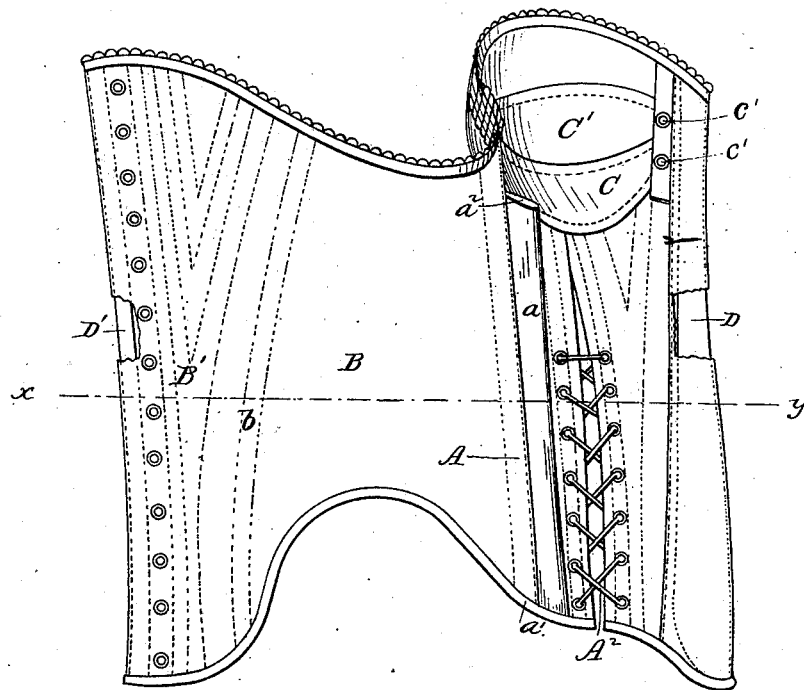


Fig. 2.

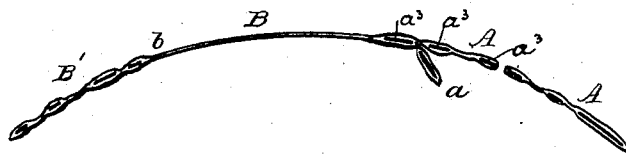


Fig. 3.

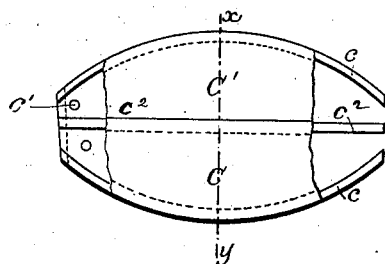
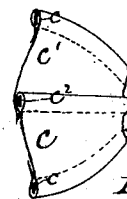


Fig. 4.



Witnesses:
W. B. Marston.
J. S. Barker

Inventor
Charlotte A. McGee
by Doubleday and Bliss

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLOTTE A. MCGEE, OF JACKSON, MICHIGAN.

CORSET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 265,690, dated October 10, 1882.

Application filed January 28, 1881. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLOTTE A. MCGEE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Jackson, in the county of Jackson and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Corsets; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters or figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 is an inside elevation of a portion of a corset having my invention applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a horizontal section taken on the dotted line $x y$ of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a detached view of the breast-pocket spring, a portion of the woven fabric being removed to show the construction and arrangement of the metallic or other elastic distending springs or bars. Fig. 4 is a section taken on line $x y$, Fig. 3.

The improvements are shown as applied to a corset like that patented to me August 14, 1877; but they are equally applicable to many other forms of corsets.

In the drawings, A represents one of the front sections of a corset, in the lower part of which is formed an opening or slit provided with the usual lacing, A^2 . The corset-front is provided with a number of bones or steels, A^3 , which are seated in pockets formed between the two layers of material by lines of stitching in the usual manner, and which therefore need not be specifically described. At the front edge of the section A there is a spring or stiffening-strip, D, and at the back edge of the rear section the corset is provided with one or more springs, D' , these parts being of the ordinary construction.

a is a supplemental bone-pocket formed of a piece of fabric separate and apart from the fabric from which the section A is made, and secured to said section by a line of stitching. The pocket is closed at its lower end preferably by means of the binding a' ; but it need not be included at its lower end within the said binding. The pocket is open at its upper end for the reception of the bone or steel, as shown in Fig. 1 at a^2 , and it will be readily understood that such construction facilitates the removal

of the bone or steel for the purpose of reversing its position relative to the body of the corset or for the purpose of replacing it with either a stiffer or a more flexible bone or steel. The bone or steel may be withdrawn from the pocket at any time, if the wearer so desires, as it is of the nature of a supplemental stay, whereby the stiffness of the corset may be regulated at the option of the wearer.

The supplemental breast-pocket consists of a lower portion, C, and an upper portion, C' , provided with upper, lower, and central metallic or other elastic ribs, $c c c^2$, covered with a suitable woven fabric, and secured to the body of the corset preferably by means of eyelets c' , two at each end, so as to bear against the upper and lower parts of the fabric of the outer pockets.

A supplemental pocket is situated inside the corset and behind the springs a^3 , which are permanently seated in the pockets in the body of the corset. Thus these springs which are placed in the supplemental pockets are made to re-enforce the springs a^3 , and may be employed to produce any amount of additional support which the wearer may require, whereby the desirability of the corset as an article of sale and wear is largely increased, this increase in value as an article of sale arising partly from the fact that a dealer can increase the supporting capability of the corset at will to suit the requirements of each purchaser by inserting in either or both of the supplemental pockets such spring or springs as may be needed. By thus providing the corset with bone-pockets separate from and supplemental to those which are formed between the two thicknesses of fabric of which the corset is composed I am enabled to largely increase the number of springs which may be applied to a corset, whereby each spring may be made very flexible and elastic, so that the desired stiffness can be imparted to the body of the corset, while at the same time each spring may be made of thin material having great flexibility. Thus not only the durability of the springs but the comfort of the wearer may be largely increased.

I am aware that corsets have been made with supplemental pockets adapted to receive re-enforcing springs; also that corsets have been so constructed that springs could be taken out

and replaced at will; but I believe that I am the first to conceive the idea of constructing a corset with supplemental removable springs seated in supplemental pockets having openings, whereby the desired stiffness of the corset may be increased or diminished at will, and whereby, also, the supplemental springs may be inverted in their position as desired.

I do not in this application claim the supplemental spring-pocket *a*, as I prefer to embody that invention in another application which I have filed as a division hereof.

What I claim is—

The combination, in a corset, of a supplemental breast-pocket permanently secured to the inside of the breast-pocket at both ends,

and composed of the central horizontal rib, *c*², the upper part formed of a fabric, *C'*, and an edge rib, *c*, curved downwardly at its ends, and the lower part formed of a fabric, *C*, and an edge rib, *c*, curved upwardly at its ends, the two pieces of fabric being stitched together at or near the central rib, *c*², and adapted to bear against the upper and lower parts of the fabric of the outer pocket, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

CHARLOTTE A. MCGEE.

Witnesses:

N. C. LOWE,

MELVILLE MCGEE.