

(No Model.)

J. F. J. GUNNING.

STIFFENING MATERIAL FOR CORSETS.

No. 347,034.

Patented Aug. 10, 1886.

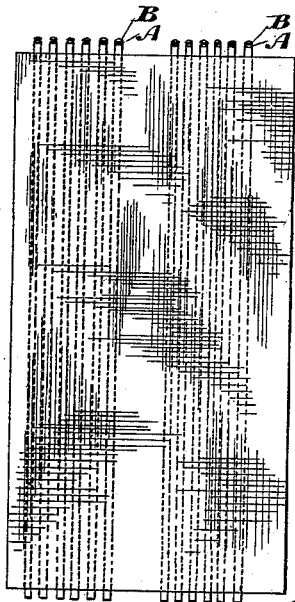


Fig. 1.

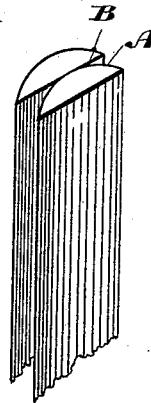


Fig. 2.

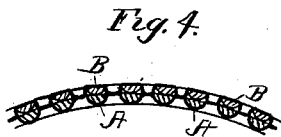


Fig. 4.

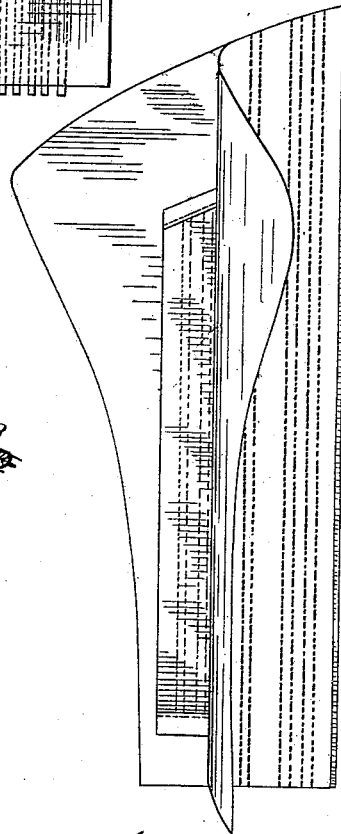


Fig. 5.

Witnesses.

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Att'y

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES F. J. GUNNING, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT.

## STIFFENING MATERIAL FOR CORSETS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 347,034, dated August 10, 1886.

Application filed December 21, 1885. Serial No. 186,288. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES FERRIS JOSEPH GUNNING, a citizen of the United States of America, of the city of New Haven, in the county of New Haven, in the State of Connecticut, now residing in the city of Toronto, in the county of York, in the Province of Ontario, Canada, have invented an Improvement in Stiffening Material for Corsets and other Garments, of which the following is a specification.

The object of the invention is to provide a cheap stiffening material which can be easily inserted into a corset or other garment; and it consists, essentially, in weaving into any suitable material rows of split cane, two pieces of cane in each row, placed together so that the cuticle side of one half shall be next to the split side of the other half, the said stiffening material, when inserted into a corset, being placed so that the split sides of the cane shall face outwardly, the cuticle sides being toward the body.

Figure 1 represents my improved stiffening material as it will appear when made. Fig. 2 is an enlarged detail showing the manner of placing the halves of the cane together. Fig. 3 represents how my improved stiffening material is inserted in a corset. Fig. 4 is a cross-section of a portion of a corset, showing the manner of placing my improved stiffener therein.

In my present invention I will adopt in a measure the invention described in my United States Patent No. 321,289, issued on the 30th June, 1885, and in placing the improved material into corsets I shall adopt the improved sewing machine guide patented by me in the United States on the 7th February, 1882, under No. 253,372.

By placing the pieces of split cane together so that the cuticle sides of A shall rest against the split side of the cane B, I obtain the greatest possible strength of the cane, provided it be bent toward the split side; consequently in inserting my stiffening material into garments I so place it that the split sides of the cane shall be on the side opposite to that from which the bending strain will be exerted.

When I place the stiffening material into a corset, the rows of cane are arranged in groups of, say, three to six rows, the said groups being placed about half an inch apart. I merely suggest this arrangement as the best plan

to be adopted, and do not intend to confine myself by this statement. The stiffening material, when thus placed in a corset, has its flat side—or, in other words, the split side—of the cane against the outside of the corset, as shown in Fig. 4, in which the concave side represents the inside of the corset and the convex side the outside of the same, so as to secure, as stated, from the cane the greatest strength possible.

As the stiffening material will be prepared in a loom, it will be merely necessary for the party desiring to use it to cut the material into the required width and length, care being taken that the groups thus cut shall be shorter than the body of the corset or other garment for the purpose described in my United States Patent No. 321,289. When thus cut and placed in position between the two thicknesses forming the body of the corset or other garment, I stitch the two thicknesses of the material together, running a row of stitches between each pair of canes, preferably using for that purpose the sewing-machine guide described in my United States Patent No. 253,372.

The ends of the cane may be capped, as described in my United States Patent No. 321,289, and it will be better to thus cap them.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. A stiffening material for corsets, consisting of rows of split cane secured between two thicknesses of fabric, two pieces of cane in each row, the two pieces in each row being placed together, so that the cuticle side of one half will be next to the split side of the other half, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

2. In a corset, a stiffening material consisting of rows of cane secured between two thicknesses of fabric, two pieces of split cane in each row, the two pieces in each row being placed together, so that the cuticle side of one half will be next to the split side of the other half, the said stiffening material being placed so that the flat sides of the cane shall face outwardly, the cuticle side being toward the body, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

Toronto, December 17, 1885.

JAS. F. J. GUNNING.

In presence of—

CHARLES C. BALDWIN,  
JAMES G. MAYBEE.