(No Model.)

R. W. PARRAMORE.

CORSET SHIELD.

No. 490,495. Patented Jan. 24, 1893.

Fig. 1.

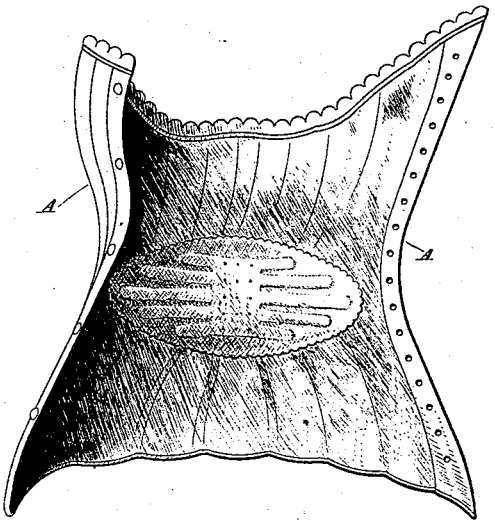


Fig. 3.

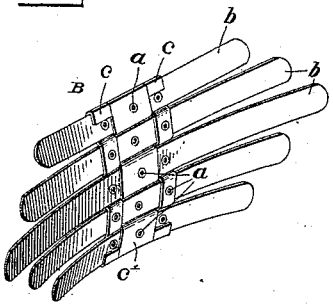
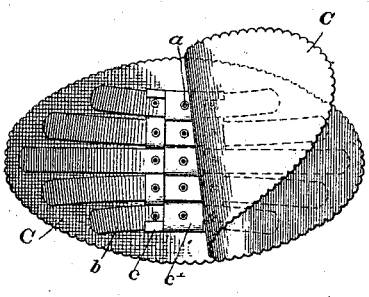


Fig. 2.



Witnesses

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REDDIN W. PARRAMORE, OF ASBURY PARK, NEW JERSEY.

CORSET-SHIELD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 490,495, dated January 24, 1893.

Application filed May 4, 1892. Serial No. 431,767. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, REDDIN W. PARRAMORE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Asbury Park, in the county of Monmouth and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Corset-Shields; 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.

My invention has reference to that class of wearing-apparel devices known as shields or protectors for corsets, which devices are employed for strengthening the corset and preventing the breaking of the steels or bones at the point where they commonly break, by providing a brace or stay piece applied to the corset near the waist line, where the strain upon the steels or bones thereof is commonly the greatest, whereby the steels are given a greater bearing surface and rendered less liable to break in consequence of any undue or irregular movement on the part of the wearer.

The object of the invention is to perfect and complete the construction of shields of this character, so that they will be stronger, more durable, simpler to make, of greater practical value and utility, and so that they will conform more perfectly and without wrinkling to the double curvature which such a shield must have when located at the waist line over the hips, being fully capable of yielding as may be required when the body assumes different positions.

The invention therefore consists essentially in the construction, arrrangement and combination of parts, substantially as will be hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings illustrating my invention: Figure 1 is a perspective view of a corset having my improved shield or protector applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a detail elevational view showing the preferred construction of the shield when manufactured complete and ready for application to the corset, a portion of the covering being turned back to reveal the inner foundation form of the shield and show the manner in which it is arranged in connection with its covering. Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view of the series of steels or bones and their interwoven transverse brace, which together form the foundation frame of the shield.

Similar letters of reference designate corresponding parts in the several figures of the drawings.

A denotes an example of a corset which may obviously be of any of the well known forms, since my improved shield is equally applicable to all kinds of corsets.

B indicates the foundation or base frame of the shield. It consists of a suitable number, preferably several—say five, for instance—of steels, whalebones or similar pieces *b*. They are slightly curved throughout their length from end to end. They are preferably substantially parallel, save slight divergences at their ends. These bones or steels may have any desired length and width. They preferably vary in length, the middle one being the longest, in order that the resulting shield may have a substantially elliptical form. Interwoven with these steels *b* are a number of transverse strips *c c'* (one or more or any suitable number). These transverse pieces *c c'* interlace with the steels *b* in the manner shown in Fig. 3, being woven back and forth between them so as to be thoroughly entwined. Said transverse strips constitute a transverse brace for holding the steels or bones in proper relative position in a series of parallel members, and yet they do not detract at all from the flexibility of the device. The hinge action between the parts is much more perfect than when simply a textile covering holds the steels in proper relative position and connects them, without the use of an interwoven brace, and furthermore when the transverse strips *c* are employed, the steels or bones *b* cannot slip past each other so as to allow one to overlap or lie upon the adjacent one, but they are all held firmly and fixedly in their proper relative positions. The strips *c c'* will be of such material as will permit the device to have great strength but at the same time may possess an unimpaired freedom of movement in all its parts, the joints between which will be perfectly flexible. In the drawings I have represented three transverse strips *c c' c*, the middle one *c'* being the wider, but of course there may be considerable variation as to the number, width, size and exact arrangement of these transverse pieces, which together con-

stitute the interwoven brace, and I can make these slight changes without departing from my invention. I preferably secure the strips *c c'* to the steels or bones *b* by means of the eyelets *a*. This foundation or base frame B of interwoven steels or bones is preferably incased in a textile covering in order to protect it as well as provide a convenient means for securing it in place upon the corset to which it is to be attached, which attaching is effected by stitching the cover to the corset body at the desired point. As shown in Fig. 2, the woven steels or bones of the frame B are located and secured between two pieces C C of some yielding and elastic textile fabric such as stockinette, said pieces being preferably of an elliptical form. The two textile pieces C C are secured together in any convenient manner, but preferably by the application to their opposing faces of an adhesive substance such as gum, soft rubber or any other suitable adhesive material which will not only preserve the pliability of the shields but will effect a strong union of the two pieces C C with the steels or bones between them, and will at the same time protect said steels or bones from rust.

By observing Fig. 2 it will be seen that a considerable portion of the opposing faces of the pieces C C will come in contact with each other, especially near the edges, after they have been laid together, with the frame B between them, and also that the two faces of the pieces C will adhere on lines provided by the small space between the adjacent edges of the several steels *b*, and also the adhesive gum or similar mixture will pass through the eyelets *a* and thus form a still further inter-binding adhesively of the several parts, whereby the resulting shield will be perfectly pliable with a capacity to adapt itself to every shape and movement, being smooth and free from wrinkles and being strong but yet neat, light, durable and resilient.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters-Patent, is:

1. As an improved article of manufacture, a corset shield consisting of a series of parallel stiffeners and a transverse centrally-located brace interwoven with said stiffeners for securely holding and connecting them with a hinged connection.

2. As an improved article of manufacture a corset shield consisting of a series of parallel stiffeners and a transverse brace interwoven with said stiffeners for securely holding and connecting them with a hinged connection, and a cover of elastic textile fabric upon both sides of the stiffeners, the opposing faces of the cover being united by an adhesive material, substantially as described.

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

REDDIN W. PARRAMORE.

Witnesses:

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