

Vintage elastic corseting material with vintage stocking garters sewn on book spine.  
Images are digital iris prints on vintage cotton (including a few x-ray images of the artist's spine).  
Machine stitched, cotton embroidered text.

12 page book , including covers (6 pages, sewn in half)  
Height: 1 1/2" (pages closed)  
Width/Length closed: 6 1/4" x 5 1/2"  
Width/Length open: 12 1/2" x 5 1/2"

**Title of book** [embroidered picture of girl bending in plaster *Lorenz Girdle* jacket c.1897]  
front cover

### **CURVATURES**

inside front cover [x-ray picture curved spine]

"A structural [fixed lateral curvature with a rotatory component] lateral curvature of the spine presenting at or about the onset of puberty and before maturity for which no cause is established."

*We are all familiar with the graceful proportions and natural curve of the waist, which should be scrupulously preserved, both for beauty and health.*

While the human spine is supposed to curve in a gently "S" from back to front, in some youngsters the spine also curves abnormally from side to side, the defining characteristic of scoliosis.

---

**Page 2** front

**C**

Clever Lines Create Beauty

*back*

[Dr. Bridgman's Spinal Support Brace ad]

Their fit is certain—and what's to please

In all positions there is perfect ease.

---

**Page 3** front

**U**

Unequalled in style, grace, comfort and the admirable and superb proportions of the ideal figure.

*back*

[picture of girl in slanted corrective spinal seat]

Female Defects (*Woman, in her Social and Domestic Character*)

Scoliotic curves in girls tend to progress more frequently and more severely than in boys. All factors being equal, girls with scoliosis have a risk of curve progression ten times higher than in boys.

Attempts to spur the patient's back muscles into taking action have little impact on the curve's size and shape.

---

**Page 4** front

**R**

Rules for right Department

*back*

[x-ray picture of curved spine/rib cage]

It does away with the slouching figure, gives a good erect carriage; you'll appreciate its attractive lines.

Heavily Boned for distinctive figure molding

*Turn Corners into natural curves....* Makes you round, firm all over.  
Curves your upper hip, then reaches down in back to round your derriere.  
Easy-going roundness that moves right with you, but still holds its place

The type of curve also affects the risk of progression.

Double curves have a significantly higher risk of progression than do single curves.

---

**Page 5** front

**V**

Velvety to the skin, and they weigh next to nothing

*back*

[x-ray picture of curved spine/hip bone]

It fits the body like a glove, and yet affords Perfect Freedom of Movement, in every position of the wearer...will not merely *conceal* your figure faults – it will *correct* them.

The especially bulky, hard-to-hide Milwaukee brace, can promote feelings of isolation and estrangement.

From the first 23 hour day until 6 years later (when I was permanently free from wearing the brace) it became a security blanket of sorts – if I was feeling bad, I could blame the brace for all that was wrong in my life.

---

**Page 6** front

**A**

Achieve that Natural looking Beauty

*back*

[x-ray picture of curved spine with 2 support rods]

False ideas of structure, false standards of beauty, must give way...

The contours of a natural form must take such highest place in regard that they shall be imitated with most beauty, respect and veneration.

The severity of these changes varies according to the forces applied to a particular vertebra, which again depends on the position for the vertebra on the curve (with lateral deviation of the spinal column and unilateral compression of the vertebra).

Built along strictly scientific lines, to meet anatomical conditions and to perform definite physiological functions.

---

**Page 7** front

**T**

Tribute to Modern Beauty Research

*back*

[x-ray picture of curved spine with single rod]

{Fashion is a sort of measure, – straight, hard and inflexible.  
It recognizes no personality, bends to no individual grace}

In this way the depth of the curves was diminished, the spine elongated, and the patient rendered taller.

(... the result of lifting up the displaced bones of the back, and bringing them nearer to their natural position, which was accomplished in a manner imperceptible to the patient)

---

**Page 8** front

**U**

Undulating Curves create an Aura of Distinction

*back*

[picture of girl, front view, in early Milwaukee brace]

The net effect is to surround and compress the entire abdomen pelvis and lower back

*... pushing unforgivingly on my ribs with any movement and demand a most erect posture to prevent my shoulder braces cutting into me...*

(This splendid result is obtained by a soft apron extension which reaches down over the abdomen and hips and moulds the over developed proportions into shapely outlines)

---

**Page 9** front

**R**

Revelation of Style and Comfort  
(while it reduces and reveals)

*back*

[x-ray picture of corrected curved spine/shoulders]

The figure-revealing materials make it imperative that you should have a corset which will give you swinging, graceful lines.

She can move only in a restrained, dignified and ladylike manner.

It is constructed with the Patented Elastic Side Lace, especially to avoid undue pressure upon the Vital Organs of the Wearer.

*...after all these years, I still hear the creaking of the leather and metal on my body...*

---

**Page 10** front

**E**

Embarrassment

*back*

[picture of girl, side view, in Milwaukee brace]

A device which the weight of the body may be supported by the hands upon to points of support the relative heights of which may be gradually changed, while at the same time the body is also supported laterally by a fixed bearing opposite to, and on the outside side of the curvature as herein after more fully set forth...

{The figure is transformed into symmetrical, graceful lines of perfections, without any effort of the wearer}

Its shape-giving lines produce long, effective curves and stately carriage!

*I remember trying to decide if my breast or my brace stuck out more.  
I was self conscious about everything – my breasts, the brace...*

---

**Page 11** front

**S**

Sway in the natural rhythm of the body with those swinging lines!

*back*

[x-ray picture of curved spine with embroidered text “not corrected”]

Straight Contour Effect

Made on scientific lines and conforms with every one of nature's requirements.

Several years may elapse before *complete stabilization* is attained.

Then there is no progression.

When this stage is reached – the brace may be discarded.

*Although I have not worn my brace for 20 years, I keep having a reoccurring dream;  
I'm not wearing the brace, but – I'm waiting for my doctor's appointment  
expecting him to tell me that I need to be wearing the brace all along – and forever.*

---

**Page 12**  
inside back cover

[embroidered picture *Lorenze Supporting Brace for Scoliosis*, c.1897]

Tamar Stone © 2005

back cover

[embroidered picture of girl bending in plaster *Lorenz Lateral Traction jacket* c.1897]

---