

A. SPEIRS.
TRUSS PAD.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 17, 1908. RENEWED AUG. 12, 1912.

1,056,227.

Patented Mar. 18, 1913.

Fig. 1.

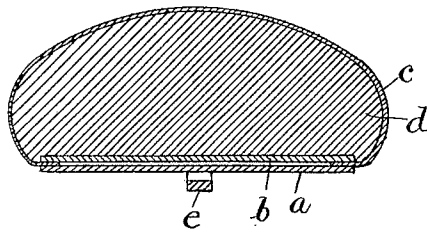
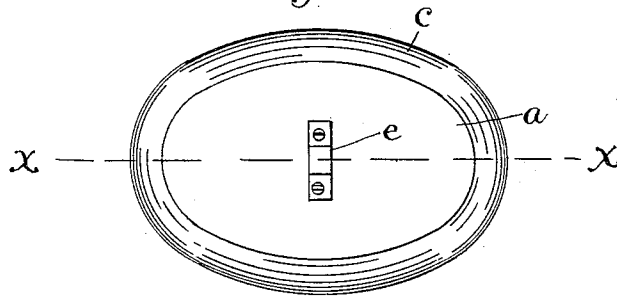


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALEXANDER SPEIRS, OF WESTBROOK, MAINE.

TRUSS-PAD.

1,056,227.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Mar. 18, 1913.

Application filed December 17, 1908, Serial No. 467,957. Renewed August 12, 1912. Serial No. 714,708.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALEXANDER SPEIRS, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of Westbrook, county of Cumberland, State of Maine, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Truss-Pads, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to truss pads such as are used for the treatment of hernia. Such pads have heretofore been commonly made of wood or other rigid material in which case they do not conform to the parts against which they bear. They have also been made of rubber or other resilient material in which case the pad springs back to its original form when removed and at each application it must be accurately located. Pads have also been made of material which is plastic at a temperature above that of the body so that they can be heated and fitted in place and then allowed to harden. Neither of these forms of pad are entirely satisfactory particularly for a device which is to be put on the market, kept in stock and fitted by the wearer and the object of my invention is to make a truss pad which may be cheaply made, which may be put on the market and sold generally and carried in stock and which will have the right amount of resiliency to conform itself to the body, preferably being so compounded as to have the quality of gradually hardening so that it finally becomes rigid and accurately and permanently shaped to the body.

With the above objects in view my invention consists of a pad the body portion of which is composed of a gelatinous material preferably of printer's roll composition which may be made with any desired amount of resiliency and pliability but which will slowly harden when applied to the body until it becomes substantially rigid. A composition which I have found well adapted to the purpose is composed of glue 14 lbs., glycerin 16 to 24 lbs., according to the resiliency required, sugar 3 lbs., Venice turpentine $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. This composition is heated

and molded into suitable shape according to the form of pad desired and it becomes somewhat stiff and self-supporting but resilient enough to conform easily to the body. It may be covered with silk, leather or any other suitable fabric and supported on a suitable rigid plate in any well known manner. Such a pad is easily applied, it readily conforms to the body and gradually hardens when in use so as to fit perfectly in its place without any careful adjustment. It also remains pliable for an indefinite length of time when kept in a suitable place. This pad may be cheaply made, sold generally on the market and kept in stock for an indefinite length of time without losing its resiliency or pliability and it possesses all of the necessary qualities of a perfect pad. It may also be kept in a pliable state for an indefinite length of time even when in use if covered with a non-porous covering such as sheet rubber. A further advantage of this pad is that when the outer covering is worn out or soiled, it may be easily recovered since the body of the pad is self-supporting and does not depend for support upon the covering as in water pads and others of similar nature.

I illustrate my invention by means of the accompanying drawing in which—

Figure 1 is a section on the line $x-x$ of Fig. 2 and Fig. 2 is a rear view.

d represents the molded body of the pad which may be of any desired form, c is the covering, a and b are the supporting plates and e is the fastening device which may be of any well known construction according to the position of the pad and the truss to which it is to be applied.

I have specified a gelatinous composition which has the qualities necessary to form my pad but it will be understood that many other gelatinous compositions of this general character may be made which will come within the terms of my invention and which may remain flexible and resilient for an indefinite time or it may have the quality of gradually hardening as above specified. In either event the gelatinous body has all the

necessary qualities of a truss pad and is exceedingly cheap in construction durable and resilient.

I claim:

5 1. The herein described truss pad having a body portion composed of printer's roll composition.

2. In a truss pad, a body part comprising the following ingredients in substan-

tially the proportions stated: 14 parts glue, 10 16 to 24 parts glycerin, 3 parts sugar, and $\frac{1}{2}$ part turpentine.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 1st day of December, 1908.

ALEXANDER SPEIRS.

Witnesses:

S. W. BATES,

E. W. DENNIS.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."
