

S. Dike.
Body Brace.

Nº 94,087.

Patented Aug. 24, 1869.

Fig. 1

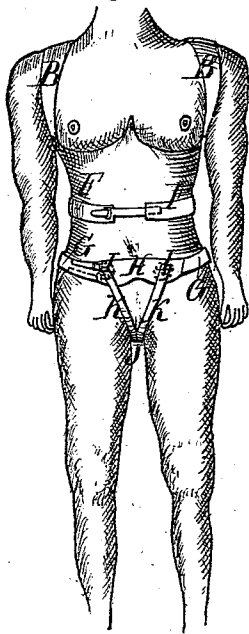


Fig. 2

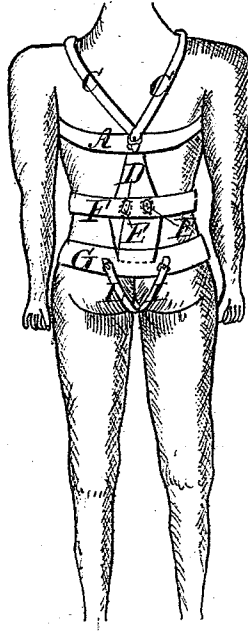
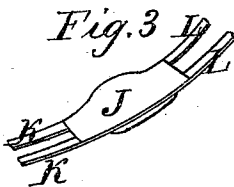


Fig. 3



Witnesses
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United States Patent Office.

SOLON DIKE, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND JOHN A. PHILLIPS, OF SAME PLACE.

Letters Patent No. 94,087, dated August 24, 1869.

IMPROVED COMBINED SUPPORTER.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern :

Be it known that I, SOLON DIKE, of New York, in the county of New York, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Body-Braces; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The nature of my invention consists in the construction and general arrangement of a complete body-brace, combining the shoulder-brace, spinal brace, abdominal and uterine support and brace, consisting of—

- First, a shoulder-brace;
- Second, a spinal brace;
- Third, an abdominal brace;
- Fourth, a rupture-brace; and
- Fifth, a uterine brace.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains, to make and use the same, I will now proceed to describe its construction and operation, referring to the annexed drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a front view, and

Figure 2, a rear view of a person with the body-brace on.

Figure 3 is a view of the pad of the rupture-brace.

A represents the elastic back-piece of the shoulder-brace, to the ends of which are sewed the pieces B B, which pass under the arms and over the shoulders.

At the shoulder the pieces B B are sewed to straps C C, which are fastened and adjusted to a buckle, in the centre of the back-piece A.

By this means the shoulder-brace can be adjusted to suit any-sized person, and is used for the purpose of correcting all drooping or stooping habits, and will, by a constant but easy pressure, bring the shoulders back to a natural position.

To the centre of the back-piece A, at or near its upper edge, is sewed a vertical piece, D, which extends downward, covering the spine.

This piece is provided with two adjustable or movable pads E E, applied, one on each side of the spine, and has also an elastic band, F, with buckle, to fasten around the body and keep the pads tight.

This spinal brace will be used to alleviate or remove all curvatures, and assist nature in strengthening and assisting the spinal column in supporting the upper trunk, and, with the shoulder-brace, holding and keeping the upper trunk in its proper position.

The lower edge of the spinal piece D is sewed to an elastic belt, G, which in front is provided with a broad piece, H, having two pads, I I, placed in an inclined position, as seen in fig. 1.

The belt G is fastened by straps and buckles in any suitable manner.

The abdominal brace is for the relief and cure of all abdominal weakness, falling or displacements of the womb, whether retroversion or anteversion of the uterus, and which, in connection with the shoulder and spinal braces, supports and holds up the lower

abdomen, producing a perfect leverage upon the internal organs, that holds them in proper place, draws back the shoulders, and gently presses on the spine, so as to bring the whole body into its natural position, thereby relieving the pains and weakness in the groins, pains and weakness in the back, forcing the chest out, and expanding the lungs, and giving the latent energies of nature the benefit of mechanical support, and enables her to restore the affected parts to their original perfection and usefulness.

The pads I I, which, as above mentioned, are attached to the abdominal brace H, are movable or adjustable, and are an excellent rupture-brace, for the relief and cure of hernia in all its forms.

This brace relieves the muscles about the rupture from the weight of the bowels, by its leverage-power holds them from pressing down, while the pads press just enough on the wound to keep it closed.

The elastic band, giving at every motion of the body, makes the pressure on the rupture the same at all times, and under all circumstances or positions in which the body may or can be placed.

The uterine brace consists of a pad, J, attached to a strap, and is covered on the inner side with fine oil-cloth.

It is further, by means of elastic straps K K, attached to the plates of the pads I I, being adjustable on the same, and, by straps L L, buckled to the back of the elastic belt G.

This uterine brace is used for *prolapsus uteri* or *prolapsus ani*, and supports the muscles and tendons of the parts, and takes off all the downward pressure, thereby relieving and giving nature the power of strengthening those parts, and enabling the patient to follow with ease and comfort the usual avocations of life, while a perfect cure is being accomplished.

These instruments are all elastic, and are under the entire control of the wearer. No steel springs are used; no cutting or chafing of the person. They are worn without pain or inconvenience by every-body.

Having thus fully described my invention,

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The back-piece A, shoulder-pieces B B, and straps C C, when the latter are adjusted, by one buckle, in the centre of the back-piece, to form an adjustable shoulder-brace, substantially as herein set forth.

2. A body-brace, when formed of the combination of a shoulder-brace, spinal brace, abdominal brace, rupture-brace, and removable uterine brace, all constructed and connected substantially in the manner and for the purposes herein set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses.

SOLON DIKE.

Witnesses:

T. H. ALEXANDER,
J. R. HAYES.