(No Model.)

H. C. RASH.

TRUSS.

No. 503,000. Patented Aug. 8, 1893.

Fig. 2.

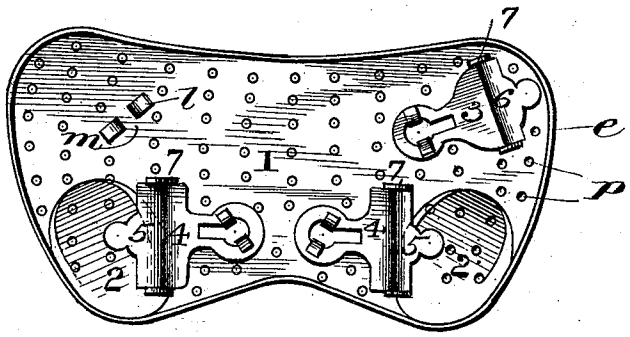

Fig. 3.

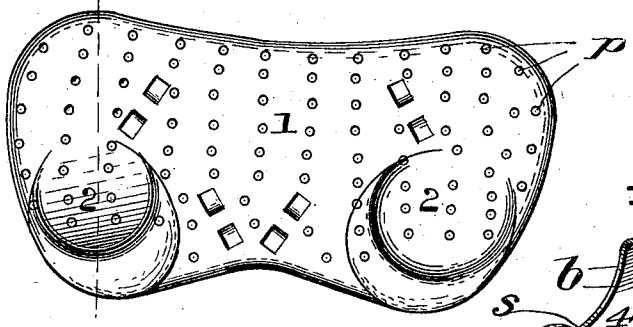

Fig. 5.

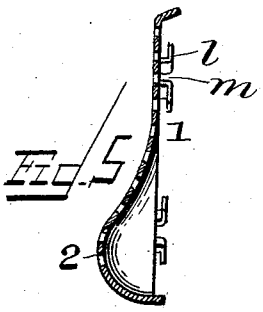

Fig. 4.

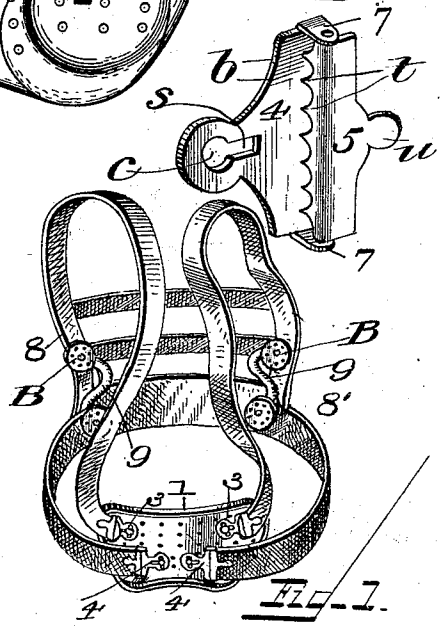

Fig. 1.

WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HOWARD C. RASH, OF SALINA, KANSAS, ASSIGNOR TO THE NATURAL BODY BRACE COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

TRUSS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 503,000, dated August 8, 1893.

Application filed August 4, 1892. Serial No. 442,116. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HOWARD C. RASH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Salina, in the county of Saline, State of Kansas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Abdominal and Spinal Braces; 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 relates to an improvement in trusses.

The invention will first be described in connection with the accompanying drawings, and then pointed out in the claim.

In the drawings—Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved truss. Fig. 2 is a front elevation of the same. Fig. 3 is a rear elevation of the same. Fig. 4 is a detail view of the clamps. Fig. 5 is a cross section of Fig. 3 taken on the line *x*—*x*.

Referring to the drawings, 1 is a pad-plate, preferably of nickel plated metal and having the usual perforations and flanged edge *e*. This pad-plate is curved longitudinally to fit the body of the wearer and is provided with two pads 2, raised from the surface of the pad-plate by stamping.

To secure the pad-plate in place, a series of straps or webs 8, 8′ is used, each strap being fastened to the pad-plate by a clamp 3, 4, of novel construction. These clamps consist of a base-plate *b* having a circular opening *c*, and a slotted opening *s* connected therewith, being also, provided with upturned bearings 7, in which are journaled the clamp pieces 5 and 6, having teeth or points *t* and a thumb-piece *n* at an obtuse angle to the teeth. These clamps are secured to the pad-plate by means of a cleat stamped up from the metal of the pad-plate and consisting of a pair of upward extending lugs *l* whose tops are bent away from each other, as shown at *m*, the distance between the bases of the lugs being equal to, or a little less than the diameter of the circular opening in the clamp-plate, and the distance between the outward ends of the lugs being a little less than the distance from one extremity of the slotted opening in the clamp plate to the opposite side of the circular opening, as will be readily understood from the drawings.

I am aware it is old to stamp up projections from the pad plate to engage and hold the clamps, but the previous constructions of which I have any knowledge have always been open to the objection that the buckle or clamp was held rigidly to the pad-plate, thereby bringing a cross strain on the webs or straps, unless they pulled in a direct line with the buckle or clamp, while in my construction a considerable amount of lateral movement of the clamp is permitted, whereby the clamp may adjust itself to the direction of the strain upon it; furthermore, as the slot is forward of the circular opening, all danger of the clamp being pulled out of engagement with the cleat is avoided.

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

In a truss, the combination, with a pad plate having lugs stamped upward from the pad plate, the ends of said lugs being bent outward, of a clamp having a circular opening less in diameter than the distance between the outer ends of the lugs and larger in diameter than the distance between the bases of said lugs and a slotted opening forward of a circular opening connected therewith, substantially as described and for the purpose set forth.

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

HOWARD C. RASH.

Witnesses:

E. L. WILDER,

D. A. VAN TRINE.