

No. 677,673.

Patented July 2, 1901.

D. H. MAHAN.
STRETCHER.

(Application filed Jan. 2, 1901.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

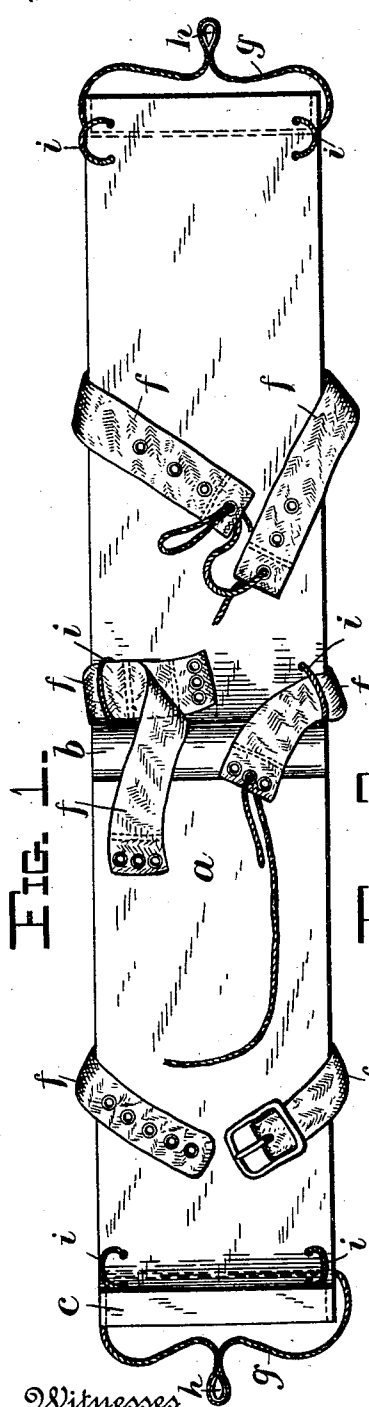


FIG. 1.

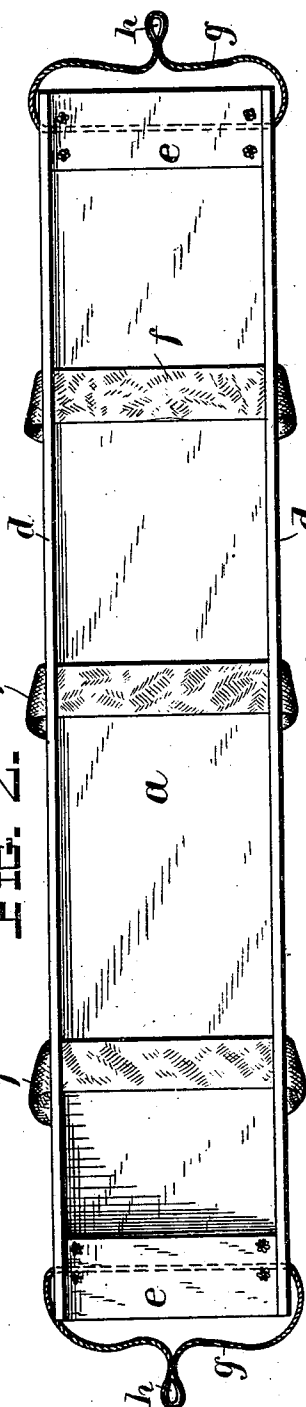


FIG. 2.

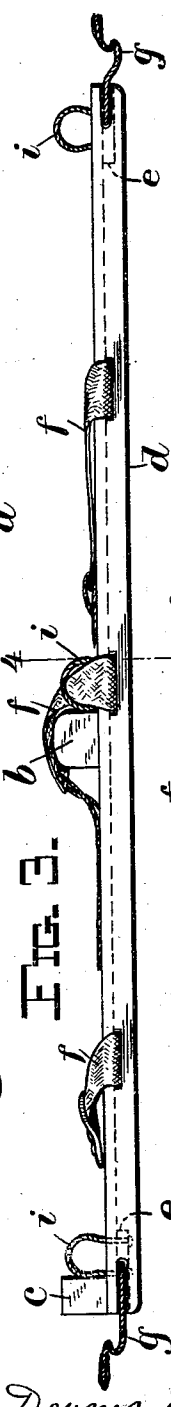


FIG. 3.

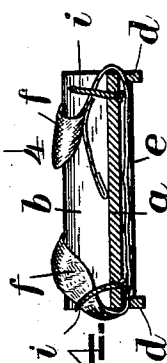


FIG. 4.

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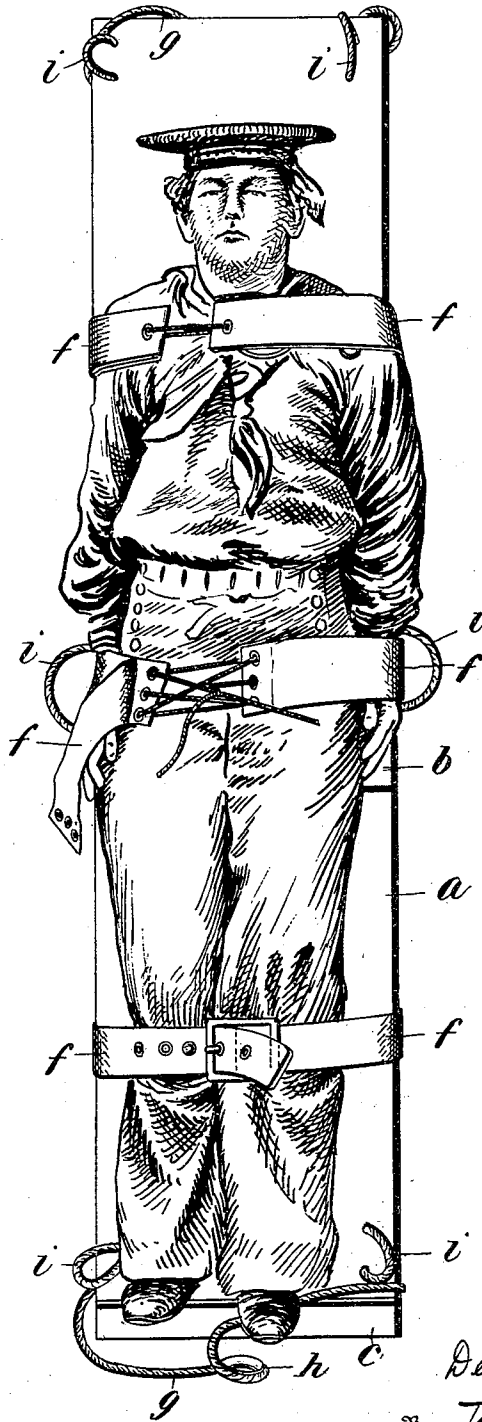
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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

FIG. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DENNIS H. MAHAN, OF THE UNITED STATES NAVY.

STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 677,673, dated July 2, 1901.

Application filed January 2, 1901. Serial No. 41,848. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DENNIS H. MAHAN, lieutenant-commander United States Navy, stationed at Bremerton Navy-Yard, State of Washington, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Stretchers; 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 stretchers; and it consists in the construction and combination of parts hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view of my improved stretcher. Fig. 2 is a bottom view of the same. Fig. 3 is a side view of the same. Fig. 4 is a transverse section on the line 4 4 of Fig. 3; and Fig. 5 is a view of the stretcher, showing a man fastened thereto.

a represents the main portion of the stretcher, which is preferably constructed of wood. Near the center of the board *a* is the buttock-piece *b*, and at one end of the board *a* is a foot piece or rest *c*. The upper surface of the board *a* is perfectly flat, excepting the parts *b* and *c*, which are fastened thereto by screws or in any other suitable manner.

The back of the stretcher is provided with projecting sides *d* and with strengthening end pieces *e*. The sides *d* are cut away at intervals to permit the passage of the bands *f*, which are used to fasten the patient to the stretcher. These bands are preferably provided with eyelets and lacing-strings, although buckles, as shown on Fig. 1, might be used, if desired. The middle one of the bands *f* is usually made broader than the others, of which there are usually two, and is provided with transverse rows of eyelets.

Along each of the sides of the stretcher are secured, in any suitable manner, hand-loops *i*, preferably made of rope and preferably three in number on each side. The central hand-loops are usually made larger than the others, and the central band *f* passes through them.

At each end of the stretcher is attached a larger loop or sling *g*, the bight of which is

brought together to form an eyelet *h*, which is preferably lined with sheet metal.

The uses to which my stretcher may be put are evident to any doctor or surgeon. The patient is laid flat on his back on the stretcher, with his buttocks in contact with the piece *b*. The bands *f* are then fastened around him. His arms are usually held at his sides by the central band *f*, as shown in Fig. 5. The patient can then be carried to the hospital or from a fighting-ship to the hospital-ship or moved in any desired way. By reason of the projecting side pieces *d* the stretcher carrying the patient can be easily slid up and down stairs. By means of the eyelets *h* the stretcher can be easily raised and lowered—as over the side of a ship, for example—and if the space in which the stretcher is moved is contracted it may be slid along on its edge, the loops *i*, either held by attendants or attached to ropes, serving to guide and steady the stretcher.

In case haste is necessary—as, for example, during the progress of a battle—the wounded men can often be placed upon the operating-table and operated upon without removing them from the stretchers, and the stretchers, with the wounded men fastened thereto, may be placed in an upright position, or flat, or inclined, as the nature of the wounds may require.

An especially valuable feature of my invention is the buttock-piece *b*, without which it is difficult to maintain the wounded man in the proper position on the stretcher. This buttock-piece may be applied with advantage to the ordinary canvas stretchers now in use.

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

1. A stretcher provided with a transverse buttock-piece, substantially as described.

2. A stretcher, made of unyielding material and provided with a transverse buttock-piece, substantially as described.

3. A stretcher, made of unyielding material and provided with a transverse buttock-piece and a foot-rest, substantially as described.

4. A stretcher provided with a transverse

buttock-piece and fastening-bands, substantially as described.

5 5. A stretcher provided with a transverse buttock-piece, a foot-rest and fastening-bands, substantially as described.

6. A stretcher, provided with a buttock-piece, a foot-rest, fastening means and means for carrying said stretcher, substantially as described.

7. A stretcher, provided with a buttock- 10 piece, a foot-rest, fastening-bands, hand-loops and slings, substantially as described.

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

DENNIS H. MAHAN.

Witnesses:

JAS. H. BLACKWOOD,
JOHN H. HOLT.