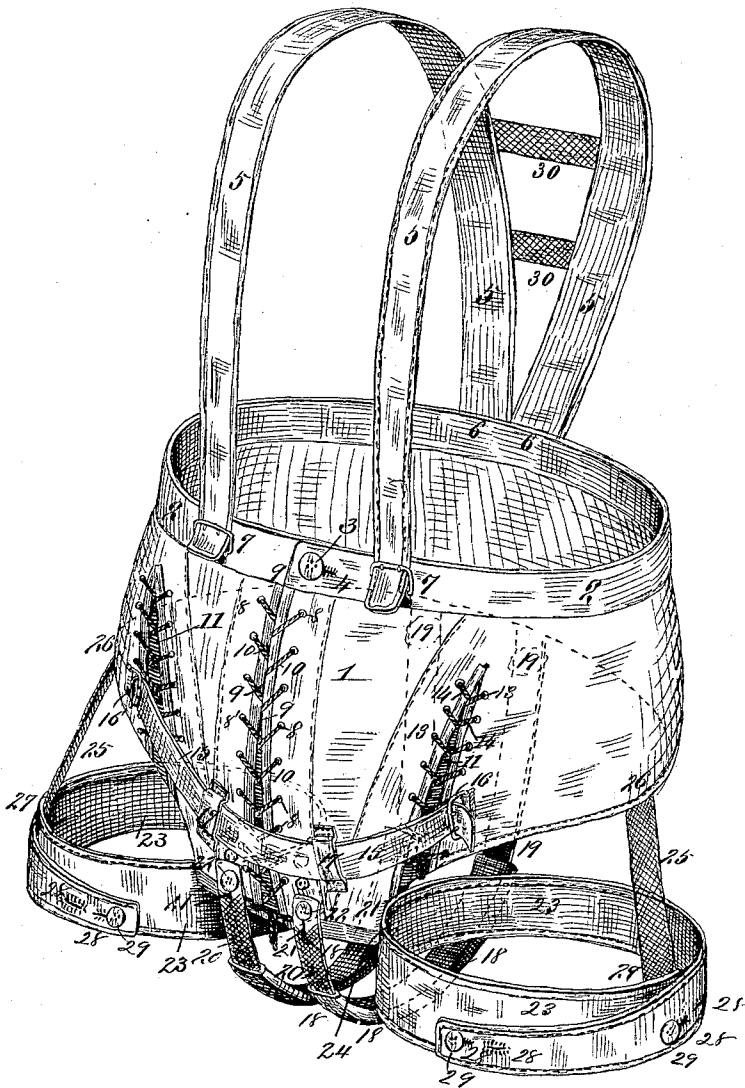


(No Model.)

L. B. CRAIG.
ABDOMINAL SUPPORTER.

No. 390,570.

Patented Oct. 2, 1888.



Attest:
Charles Pickles
Emma Arthur

Inventor:
Lewis B. Craig
By Knight
Atty's

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEWIS B. CRAIG, OF SALEM, MISSOURI, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO HENRY C. LONG, OF SAME PLACE.

ABDOMINAL SUPPORTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 390,570, dated October 2, 1888.

Application filed August 19, 1887. Serial No. 247,373. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEWIS B. CRAIG, of Salem, in the county of Dent and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Abdominal Supporters, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming a part of this specification.

The drawing is a perspective view of my improved abdominal supporter, showing it laced and fastened as worn.

This invention relates to devices for supporting the relaxed abdominal walls at times of especial necessity, to assist the muscles in holding the viscera in place; and the invention consists in features of novelty hereinafter fully described, and pointed out in the claims.

Referring to the drawing, in which similar figures indicate like parts in the view, 1 represents the abdominal corset or body of my supporter provided with a band, 2, around the top, which is secured together in front by the engagement of the button 3 with the button-hole 4. The device is supported by a pair of suspenders, 5, that are secured to it behind at 6, and adjustably held in front by buckles 7, attached to the band that holds the suspenders to any required adjustment as to length.

The corset is made open in front and provided with a series of eyelets, 8, near its corresponding edges, 9, in which the lace 10 engages to regulate relatively the expansion and contraction of the corset in conformity to the abdominal regions that it embraces.

11 represents gore-openings that ascend from the bottom of the abdominal corset a sufficient distance from its front opening to be convenient for adjusting the rotundity of the corset. These openings curve somewhat and diverge from each other as they ascend, reaching nearly to the band 2, that surrounds the corset. These openings, like that in front, are supplied with eyelets 13, in which laces 14 engage to regulate the relative expansion and contraction to accord with the condition and contour of the abdominal region at such time.

15 represents a re-enforce frontal supporting-band, which is adjustably secured by buckles 16 that are attached to the corset beyond

the gore-openings on each side. This strap is held in a downward curve from its attached ends by loops 17, that are secured to the front of the corset, and is thereby held in the most advantageous position to re-enforce the corset in its support of that part of the abdominal region during and after parturition.

18 represents two soft elongated pads that pass between the thighs to give support to the body beneath the vagina. These pads are suspended from the back of the abdominal corset by elastic straps 19, and are also provided with elastic straps 20 at the front ends, which are supplied with button-holes 21, that are adjustably engaged on buttons 22, which are fastened to the front of the corset. The elasticity of these bands that carry the pads makes them self-adjusting, and while they are efficient as supporters they are at the same time easy on the wearer. It will also be seen that they are easily unbuttoned in front, as occasion may require.

23 represents broad adjustable leg-bands that are secured to the front of the corset by stitching at 24, or by any other suitable means, and are suspended on the outside by elastic straps 25, which are stitched to the side of the corset at 26 and to the band at 27. The band is secured around the thighs by button-holes 28, (two series of which on each band are shown for adjusting the same,) each end of the over and under lap of the leg-bands being secured by said button-holes, which engage the two places on each band where are located the buttons 29. Elastic tie-straps 30 attach the suspenders together.

The various parts of this abdominal supporter are arranged and adjustable with a view to conform to the exact contour of the abdominal regions that they are desired to embrace. They form a bandage for the support and compression of the relaxed abdominal walls, and are intended to assist the muscles in holding the viscera in place. To enable the supporter to effect its said purpose, the front and gore lace-openings 9 and 11, the downward-curved re-enforce strap, and the soft elongated elastic pads that pass under the body beneath the vagina and are adjustably secured in front to the series of buttons 22, are all arranged while they allow the necessary expansion to the re-

laxed muscles, at the same time to gently hold the inclosed viscera in place.

I claim as my invention—

5 1. In an abdominal supporter, the combination, with the corset having laced front and gore openings, of a pair of adjustable supporting-pads having elastic connections, and the adjustable leg-bands, substantially as described.

10 2. The combination, in an abdominal supporter, of the abdominal corset and waist-band, the laced and buttoned opening 9 in front, and the laced curved openings 11, the strap 15, adjustably secured at its ends by
15 buckles 16 and held down by the loops 17 in a position to advantageously re-enforce the supporter and bear the weight of the relaxed

abdominal walls to assist the muscles in holding the viscera in place, substantially as set forth.

20 3. The combination, with the corset having laced front and gore openings and the re-enforcing band, of a pair of adjustable supporting-pads having elastic connections, a pair of adjustable leg-bands having connections directly to the lower outer edge of the front of the corset, and the outer flexible straps for connecting the outer portions of said leg-bands with the sides of the corset, substantially as described.

LEWIS B. CRAIG.

In presence of—

JOHN R. REDDICK,
WILLIAM J. JONES.