

(No Model.)

R. I. PEARSON.
TRUSS.

No. 566,530.

Patented Aug. 25, 1896.

Fig. 1.

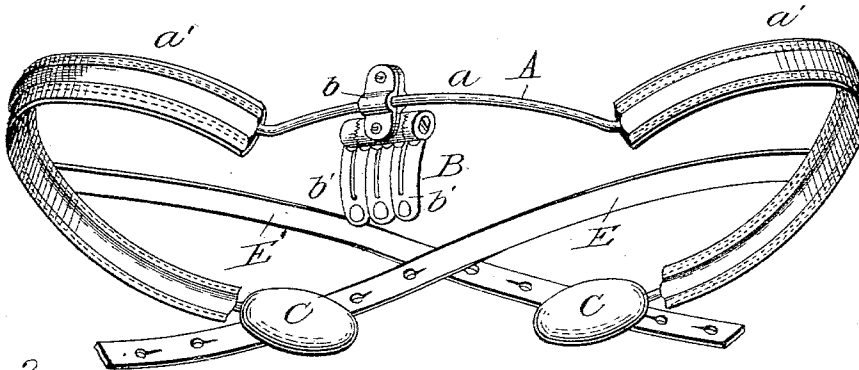


Fig. 2.

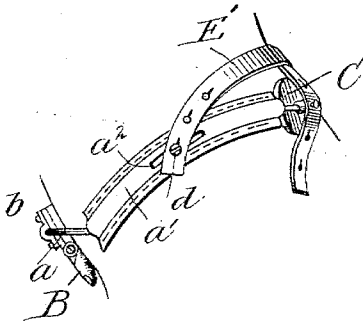


Fig. 3.

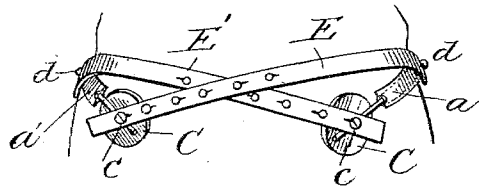


Fig. 4.

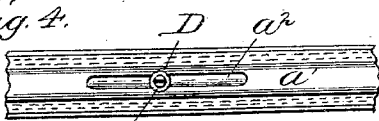


Fig. 5.

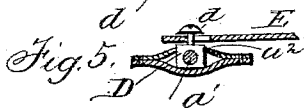


Fig. 6.

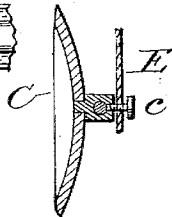
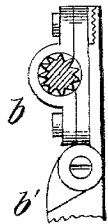


Fig. 7.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RICHARD I. PEARSON, OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI.

TRUSS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 566,530, dated August 25, 1896.

Application filed January 21, 1896. Serial No. 576,308. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RICHARD I. PEARSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Kansas City, in the county of Jackson and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Trusses; 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 has relation to improvements in trusses for the treatment, relief, and ultimate cure of hernia and like ruptures; and the object is to provide a device for the retention of hernia that relieves the spine of any pressure and insures an absolute stability of position, thus avoiding the objections arising from constant changing of position in walking, sitting, stooping, &c.; and to these ends the novelty consists in a truss formed of a body-spring having its ends curved upward, rearward, and downwardly in the form of an arch on each side, the finger-pad adjustably secured in place upon the spring, a strap connecting one end of the spring and attached at a point in front of the summit of the arch.

It also consists of a truss formed of a body-spring having its ends curved upward, rearward, and downwardly in the form of an arch on each side, the pad adjustably secured in place upon the spring, straps connecting each end of the spring, and attached at a point in front of the summit of the arch.

It further consists in the construction, combination, and arrangements of the parts of the same, as will be hereinafter more fully described, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

I have shown my invention applied to a truss in which the truss-pad is formed of one, two, or more parts formed of elastic material in the shape of fingers of the human hand, and supported in such a manner as to be capable of individual adjustment to any desired position to facilitate the retention of the hernia; but I do not wish to limit myself to this particular form of pad, but may employ my improvement on trusses having other and various forms of pads if I desire to do so. In the drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my improved truss. Fig. 2 represents a side view of a portion of a human

figure, showing the truss properly applied. Fig. 3 is a rear view of the same. Figs. 4, 5, 6, and 7 are detail views of parts of the device.

One of the objects of my invention is to provide an arrangement of supporting devices for the truss-pad which will bring the pressure anterior to the hips instead of relying upon a posterior pressure, as is usual in other trusses, thereby relieving the spine from any pressure and insuring absolute stability of position of the pad in all changes of position, as in walking, stooping, sitting, &c. I provide a supporting-spring A, consisting of a metallic strap or wire formed preferably of aluminium bronze on account of its lightness and rigidity, the said strap or wire being bent so as to provide a central curved rod *a* and a curved portion *a' a'* at each side of the central portion for engaging the hips of the wearer between the hip-joint and the top or crest of the hip. These curved portions *a' a'* may be described as being arched upward, rearward, and downward, so as to be adapted to rest upon the hips of the patient at a point approximately in the same plane with the pad. The curved side portions *a' a'* are preferably covered with leather or other material and padded in any desired manner to insure comfort, and the middle portion is left uncovered and is corrugated longitudinally, as shown in cross-section, Fig. 7, to allow the pad B to be securely attached by means of a clamping device *b*, with which it is provided, and enabling the pad to be adjusted along the rod *a* to bring it into the proper position, and the connection between the clamp *b* and the pad is such that it may also be set at any angle desired, as indicated in Fig. 7, and the fingers *b' b'* are also adjustable independently of each other.

The rear ends of the side portions *a' a'* are bared for a short distance, as shown in Fig. 3, and are each provided with an adjustable disk C, of hard rubber or other suitable material. These disks are each provided with a short shank, as shown in Fig. 6, perforated to receive the end of the wire *a'* and provided with a set-screw *c*, the head of which serves also as a button which is engaged by one of the crossed back-straps of the truss.

Where the side portions *a' a'* pass over the

hips the covering is provided with slots a^2 a^2 , as shown in Figs. 2 and 4, and in each of these slots the wire is provided with an adjustable strap-securing device, consisting in this instance of a sliding block D, (shown in detail in the sectional view, Fig. 5,) which is adjustable along the wire for the length of the slot a^2 , and may be secured in any desired position by means of a set-screw d , the head of which also serves as a button to engage one of the back-straps.

E E' represent the two crossed back-straps for securing the truss firmly against accidental displacement. Each of these straps is provided preferably with an aperture at one end and a series of adjusting-apertures at the other end, as indicated, although it might have a series of adjusting-apertures at both ends, if preferred. Each strap is secured at one end to the button d of one of the sliding blocks D and crosses over to and is secured to the button c of the opposite hard-rubber disk C, the two straps thus crossing, as shown in Fig. 3. In all ordinary cases the strap E will securely retain the truss in position and prevent the common form of upward displacement of the pad, but in the case of patients who have hips or buttocks of unusual size protruding outward additional means are required to prevent displacement of the spring and pad, and in these cases I employ the additional or auxiliary strap E', which is attached in a similar manner as the strap E, that is, it is attached to the spring at one end, thence crosses the other strap, and is adjustably secured to the spring at a point substantially at the summit of the arch. By means of the sliding block D the position of the buttons d d are adjusted so as to throw the pressure of the straps slightly forward of the hips, as shown in Fig. 2. This holds the truss and pad firmly in position in all the positions and movements of the body and insures the comfort of the wearer and the correct position of the truss at all times. After the blocks D have been adjusted once for a person they will not ordinarily have to be changed, but the wide range of adjustment afforded by this truss will be found very desirable in fitting them to the wearers and enabling slight variations in the adjustments to be made until a perfect fit is obtained. By

making the metallic wire or spring A of aluminium bronze it may be bent to conform to the shape of the wearer, but will hold its shape when fitted and will not tarnish. By means of the crossed back-straps the pressure is very evenly distributed and is thrown very largely forward of the hips, as before stated, so as to prevent the pad from slipping up, and relieving the spine from pressure or strain.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. A truss, substantially as described, consisting of the body-spring having its ends curved upward, rearward and downwardly in the form of an arch on each side, the pad B adjustably secured in place on the spring, and a strap connecting one end of the spring and attached at a point in front of the summit of the arch, as set forth.

2. A truss, substantially as described, consisting of the body-spring having its ends curved upward, rearward and downwardly in the form of an arch on each side, the pad B secured in place on the spring and straps connecting each end of the spring with a point in the front of the summit of the arch, as set forth.

3. A truss, substantially as described, consisting of the body-spring having its ends curved upward, rearward and downwardly in the form of an arch on each side, the pad B secured in place upon the spring, straps E E' connected to the spring and to the arch at a point in front of the summit thereof, as set forth.

4. A truss substantially as described, consisting of the body-spring having its ends curved upward, rearward and downwardly in the form of an arch on each side, the pad B secured in place upon the spring, a strap connected to one end of the spring, and an auxiliary strap E' attached at a point in front of the summit of the arch, as set forth.

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

RICHARD I. PEARSON.

Witnesses:

J. G. HOLLINGSWORTH,
SHIRLEY S. MILLETT.