Feb. 19, 1935. L. M. JACKS 1,991,677

SLING OR HARNESS ARRANGEMENT FOR AFFORDING SUPPORT FOR INJURED SHOULDERS

Filed Nov. 19, 1932

Fig. 1.

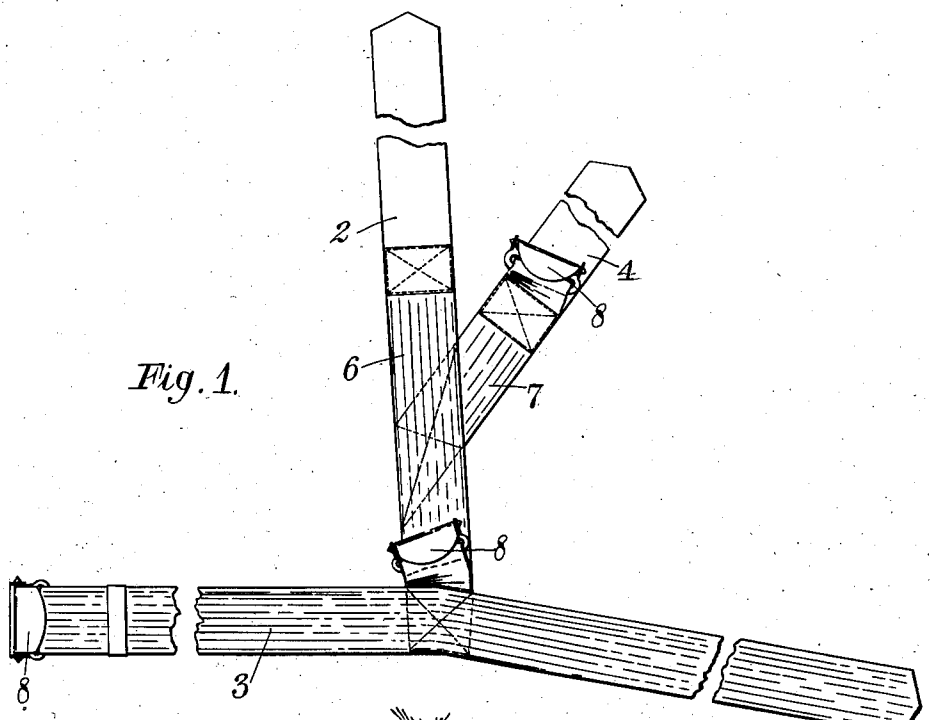
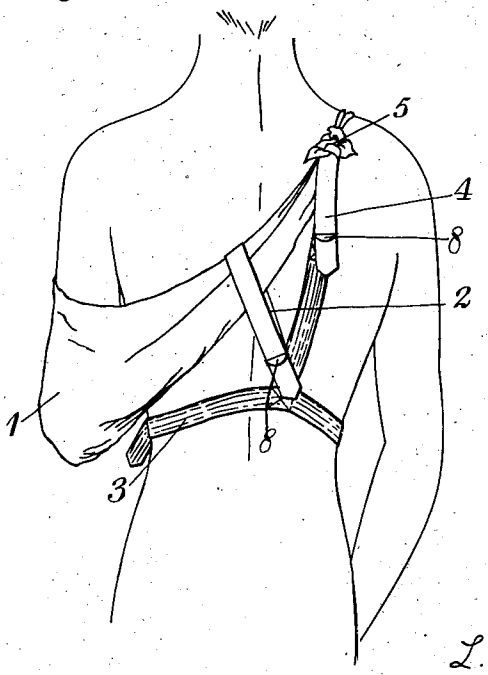


Fig. 2.



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Patented Feb. 19, 1935

1,991,677

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

1,991,677

SLING OR HARNESS ARRANGEMENT FOR AFFORDING SUPPORT FOR INJURED SHOULDERS

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Application November 19, 1932, Serial No. 643,457
In Great Britain September 29, 1932

2 Claims. (Cl. 128—94)

This invention relates to an improved form of sling or attachment which may be applied to known forms of slings which pass diagonally across the body of the wearer and are supported upon the uninjured shoulder and such as are used for supporting the arm and shoulder of a patient suffering from injury to the shoulder or adjacent parts, for example, in the case of a broken shoulder, broken collar bone or dislocated shoulder blade, although it will be appreciated that it is applicable to other injuries where a like support is desired.

When injuries of the above character have been sustained the affected shoulder tends to drop which puts an additional strain on the spine and throws the body out of balance with the result that the cure of the affected part is not only retarded but fresh troubles may arise due to the unnatural or strained position of the body.

It is the object of the invention to provide a simple and effective remedy for the disadvantages referred to above and one which may be readily applied to existing cases.

In the accompanying drawing:

Figure 1 illustrates one form of the straps by which the invention may be carried out, and

Figure 2 is a rear view showing the application of the invention with an arrangement of straps according to Figure 1.

According to the invention the sling 1 which supports the injured arm or shoulder is supplemented by a strap 2 or the like arranged to apply a downward pull to that portion of the sling which passes across the back of the patient, such pull being preferably taken by a strap or belt 3 passing round the waist, and a second strap 4 or the like arranged to exert a pull, preferably oblique in direction, upon the uninjured shoulder and tending to preserve the proper balance of the body and the correct level of the two shoulders. The function of the first mentioned strap 2 is to maintain the back of the patient upright and take the pressure of the sling away from the spine.

According to the form of the invention illustrated in Figure 1 the straps 2, 4 are attached to the belt 3 at a point near the centre of the back and the strap 2 is attached in the form of a loop to a point on the sling 1 vertically or substantially vertically above its point of attachment to the belt and the other strap 4 is directed obliquely and secured preferably by means of a loop to the knot 5 in the sling which is usually positioned on the uninjured shoulder of the patient. It is preferred that the point of connection between the strap 2 and the sling should be such as to afford relative movement therebetween whereas the second strap is connected to the sling or the knot therein in such a way that no slipping can occur.

The waist belt may be made from substantially inelastic material while the said straps are preferably formed from elastic material and are secured to inelastic end parts secured to the centre of the back of the belt, these inelastic parts comprising a substantially vertical part 6 connected to the belt and an oblique part 7 connected to said vertical part. Any suitable means, such as buckles 8 may be provided in association with the belt and straps for the purpose of effecting the required adjustments thereof.

It is to be understood that the invention is not limited to the above details of construction but may be modified to meet any particular requirements or conditions which may exist.

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

1. In combination a sling for supporting an injured arm or shoulder comprising an endless member adapted to be passed diagonally across the body and be supported upon an uninjured shoulder, a belt adapted to be secured around the waist of the person, a strap attached to the said belt at a point thereon disposed near to the centre of the back of the wearer and attached also to the sling so as to exert a downward pull upon the latter and a second strap attached to the belt and connected to the sling at a point near to the uninjured shoulder so as to exert a transverse pull upon the same.

2. In combination a sling for supporting an injured arm or shoulder comprising an endless member adapted to be passed diagonally across the body and be supported upon an uninjured shoulder, a belt adapted to be secured around the waist of the person, a strap fastened to the belt at a position thereon disposed near to the centre of the back of the person and attached in the form of a loop to the sling so as to exert a downward pull upon the latter and at the same time permit relative movement between the strap and the sling and a second strap fastened to the belt and directed obliquely to the first strap and secured to the sling at a point near the uninjured shoulder so as to exert a transverse pull upon the sling while preventing relative movement between this second strap and the sling.

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