A. R. Brown,

Bandage,

No. 84,255, Patented Nov. 24, 1868.

Fig. 1

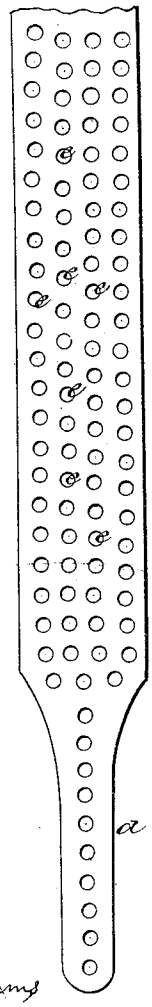
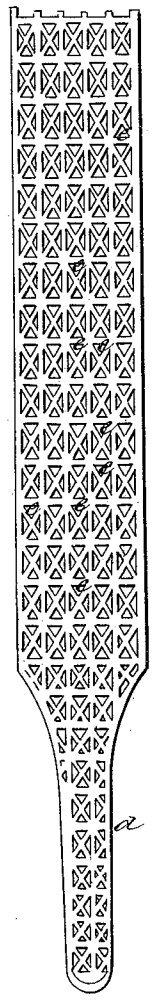


Fig. 2.



Witnesses
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ANSON R. BROWN, M. D., OF ALBION, MICHIGAN.

Letters Patent No. 84,255, *dated November* 24, 1868.

IMPROVED BANDAGE FOR PRETERNATURAL ENLARGEMENTS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANSON R. BROWN, M. D., of the village of Albion, in the county of Calhoun, and State of Michigan, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Bandages for the Compression of Preternatural Enlargements of parts of the human body, such as varicose veins, &c.; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, forming and making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 exhibits a broken-off portion of my ordinary bandage.

Figure 2 represents a modified construction of the same.

I construct my improved bandage of any of the well-known elastic textile fabrics that may be suitable for the special cases to be treated.

It is woven into bands of different widths and thicknesses, and may be secured, when wound around a limb, by a tongue, *a*, formed in the manufacture, and a buckle (not shown) at the other end, or by any other of the well-known modes of fastening bandages.

I construct my bandages with numerous openings, interstices, or perforations, as at *e*, which may be formed, in the process of manufacture, according to pattern in fig. 2, or any other desirable pattern; or, said openings may be formed by cutting out of the material simple round or other-shaped perforations with punches, substantially as seen in fig. 1.

Varicose veins, and many other preternatural local enlargements, are mainly caused by local or general debility, and consequent relaxation of parts. In such cases, a state of tumefaction, in serpentine courses, is developed, which can only be removed by a combined local and general course of treatment.

I treat such cases locally, by compression of the parts affected with my elastic perforated bandage, which may be applied, to swathe an enlarged limb, by winding it around in one thickness, without overlap, so as to produce uniform elastic pressure all over the abnormal or diseased structure; or, by employing different bandages, and compressing the remote portion of an enlargement, so as to arrest or check the flow of venous blood through it, I graduate the compression in the other portions, so as to best promote the formation of new channels, of proper size and healthy structure; but, whether the compression be uniform or varied, I have found atmospheric action, on as large a portion of the skin of the diseased part as may be compatible with the requirements of pressure, to be indispensable to the new construction, or to the healthy and vigorous reconstruction of the enlarged and tumefied parts.

The perforations or interstices *e* of the bandage, through which air is admitted to the surface of the skin, may be made, therefore, of any requisite calibre, relatively with the strands of the belt or bandage, to suit the necessities of the special case under treatment.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is as follows:

I claim an elastic bandage, having numerous perforations or interstices, *e*, in its structure, to admit air to the surface of a diseased portion of the human body while under compression, substantially as and for the purpose herein set forth.

ANSON R. BROWN, M. D.

Witnesses:

FITCH R. WILLIAMS,
RIENZI LOUD,
SAML. J. HENDERSON.