

(No Model.)

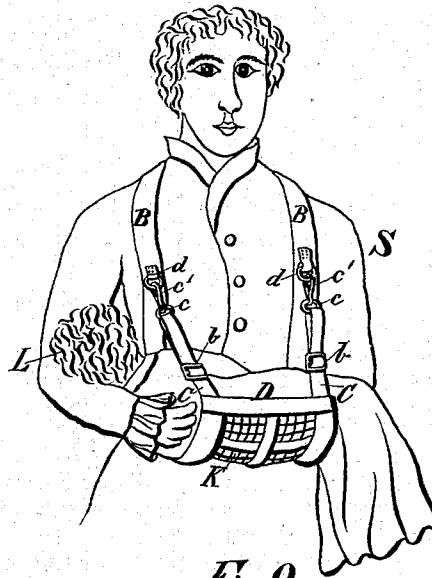
J. H. LANCASTER.

BABY CARRIER.

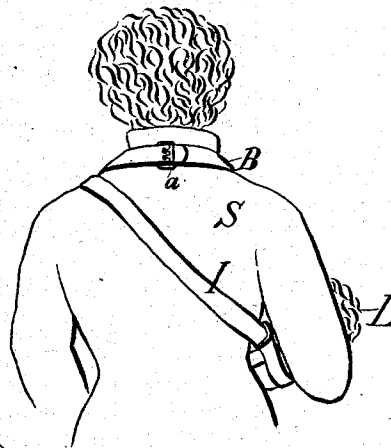
No. 278,437.

Patented May 29, 1883.

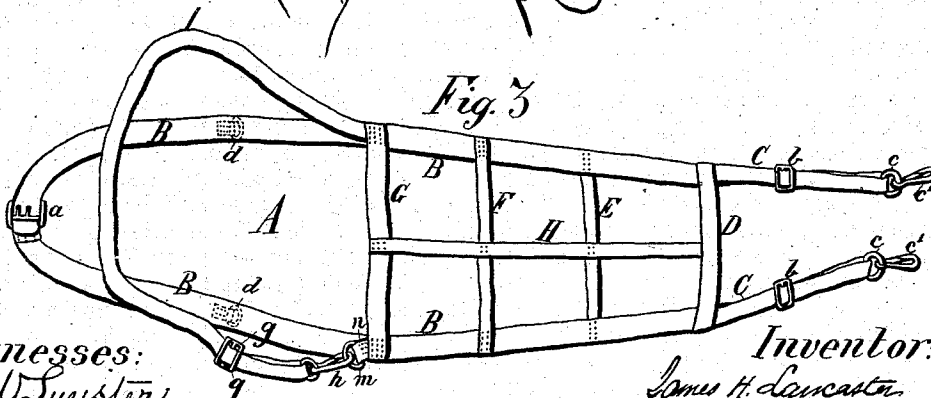
*Fig. 1*



*Fig. 2*



*Fig. 3*



Witnesses:  
Wm W Luyster  
K T Whelpley

Inventor:  
James H. Lancaster  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO ALBERT J. BAYLESS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## BABY-CARRIER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 278,437, dated May 29, 1883.

Application filed February 11, 1882. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES H. LANCASTER, of Southampton, county of Hants, England, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Baby-Carriers, of which the following is a specification.

The object of the invention is to provide a device for carrying an infant, one which shall not only be adjustable and distribute the weight of the child and carrier upon different parts of the wearer so as to equalize strain, but which shall allow the wearer to change the strain from one shoulder to another, and thus rest either; and the invention consists in the construction and adaptation of the device, as will be more fully hereinafter set forth, and specifically pointed out in the claims.

As ordinarily practiced, the act of carrying an infant not only engages the services of both arms, rendering them useless for other purposes, but the shoulders are brought together at the expense of the healthy free expansion of the lungs, and the weight of the child is continuously in the same direction. Not only is this practice tiresome and inconvenient, but unhealthy and dangerous.

By my invention the mother or nurse may use either or both hands for other purposes, the shoulders and arms may have free and independent movement and volition, the weight of the child bears both backward and forward on the shoulders, and may be partially changed from one shoulder to the other at will, and a person with one arm, or one arm disabled from any cause, may successfully carry a child.

I am aware of Patent No. 240,151 for a package-holder; but in that construction whatever weight is thrown upon the shoulders or neck bears constantly in a forward direction.

I am also aware of Patent No. 35,002 for a soldier's blanket-holder; but as the blanket or weight in that case is held behind the back, both objects and construction are different.

The invention is fully illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which Figure 1 is a front view of the device as worn and in operation; Fig. 2, a reverse view, showing the op-

eration of the shoulder-strap; and Fig. 3, a plan view.

Referring to the drawings, B represents a continuous strap, in two pieces, adjustably secured together by an ordinary buckle, *a*. At opposite points upon the main strap B are secured eyes *d*, and the free ends of said strap are provided with slides *b*, which, operating upon the main strap, form loops, the length of which may be adjusted at will. These loops carry eyes *c*, having snap-hooks *c'*, which are adapted to engage in the eyes *d* when the device is in operation. Secured at each end to the strap B are cross-bars D E F G, as shown, the series being connected at their centers by an elastic strap H. This portion forms the cradle or receptacle for the infant, and it may be further provided with a net-work, K, if desired.

In order to relieve the strain from the neck of the wearer, caused by strap B, I employ a shoulder-strap, I, one end of which is secured to the strap B at a point near the cradle, and the other provided with a snap-hook, *h*, held by an adjustable loop formed by a slide, *g*. The snap-hook *h* engages an eye, *m*, upon a strap, *n*, also secured to the main strap B near the cradle. This strap I passes up in front of the wearer and down behind, may be thrown readily over either shoulder, and may be readily adjusted in length, as may be desired.

What I claim as new is—

1. A baby-carrier formed of the adjustable strap B, having eyes *d*, the adjustable snap-hooks *c'*, and the cradle or receptacle formed of the bars D E F G and strap H, as set forth.

2. The baby-carrier herein described, consisting of the strap B, having eyes *d* and adjustable snap-hooks *c'*, the cradle or receptacle D, E, F, G, and H, and the shoulder-strap I, all constructed, combined, and adapted to serve as and for the purposes set forth.

JAMES H. LANCASTER.

Witnesses:

C. SEDGWICK,  
WM. W. LUYSTER.