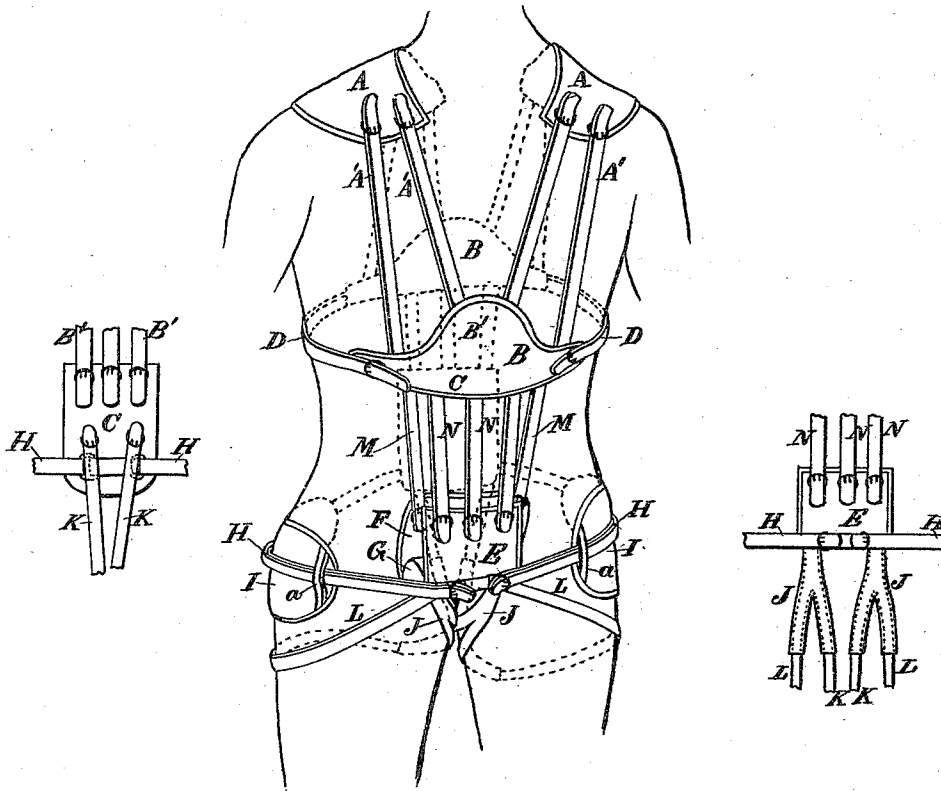


ABDOMINAL-SUPPORTER.

No. 172,694.

Patented Jan. 25, 1876.



Witnesses:

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IMPROVEMENT IN ABDOMINAL SUPPORTERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **172,694**, dated January 25, 1876; application filed February 25, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WM. C. BLAKESLEE, of Union, county of Broome and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Uterine Supporters, of which the following is a specification:

The nature of my invention consists in the construction and arrangement of a uterine supporter, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

It is well known that during the period of gestation the increasing size and weight of the uterus is attended by great tension of the muscular coats of the uterus and consequent pressure upon the adjacent organs, all of which causes a feeling of great weight in the abdomen. To relieve this is the object of my invention.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, I will now proceed to describe its construction and operation, referring to the annexed drawing, which forms a part of this specification, and which is a perspective view of my invention.

A A represent two shoulder-pads, which sustain the weight and hold the supporter in its proper shape. These pads are connected, by adjustable elastic straps A' A', with the front and back pads B B, which are connected together by elastic straps D D, and when thus connected form a belt. The pads B B are designed to support the pit of the stomach and the back or spine. The back pad B is, by short elastic straps B', connected with the lower pad C. I I represent two adjustable hip-pads, intended for protecting the hips, and are held in position by means of side straps H H, which run through loops *a* on the hip-pads, and are fastened to the pad C and to the compress G. This compress is made substantially in the form shown, with one or more metallic springs inside of the upper part, and the lower part is padded. It is intended to hold the uterus in its place, and is provided with the tipping piece or pad F

and the front piece or pad E. The compress is provided with straps L L to pass around the legs, and straps K K extend from the compress between the legs to the pad C.

The straps K and L run in sheaths J J to the compress, as shown, to prevent chafing or galling.

The front pad B is connected by straps M M with the tipping piece F, and by straps N N with the front piece or pad E.

When this supporter is in use and each part in place the elastic straps M M are drawn or buckled up, which draws the inside of the pad of the compress G upward, and the hip-straps H H hold the compress against or in the proper place.

It will be seen from the above that shoulder-pads A assist greatly, in combination with the intermediate belt, composed of pads B and elastic straps D, to support the principal pad, consisting of the parts E, F, and G, which is kept from lateral or downward displacements by hip-straps H and thigh-straps K. The pad C and its straps B' and K complete the dorsal connection and support of the main pad or supporter E F G.

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

1. The intermediate supporting-belt, composed of elastic bands D and front and back pads B, in combination with shoulder-pads A, all fitted to the upper part of the body, as herein shown, and for the purpose set forth.

2. The sliding hip-pads I, provided with loops *a*, and combined with straps H, as herein shown and described.

3. The uterine pad consisting of the parts E, F, and G, constructed and arranged as and for the purpose herein set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I hereunto affix my signature.

WM. C. BLAKESLEE.

Witnesses:

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