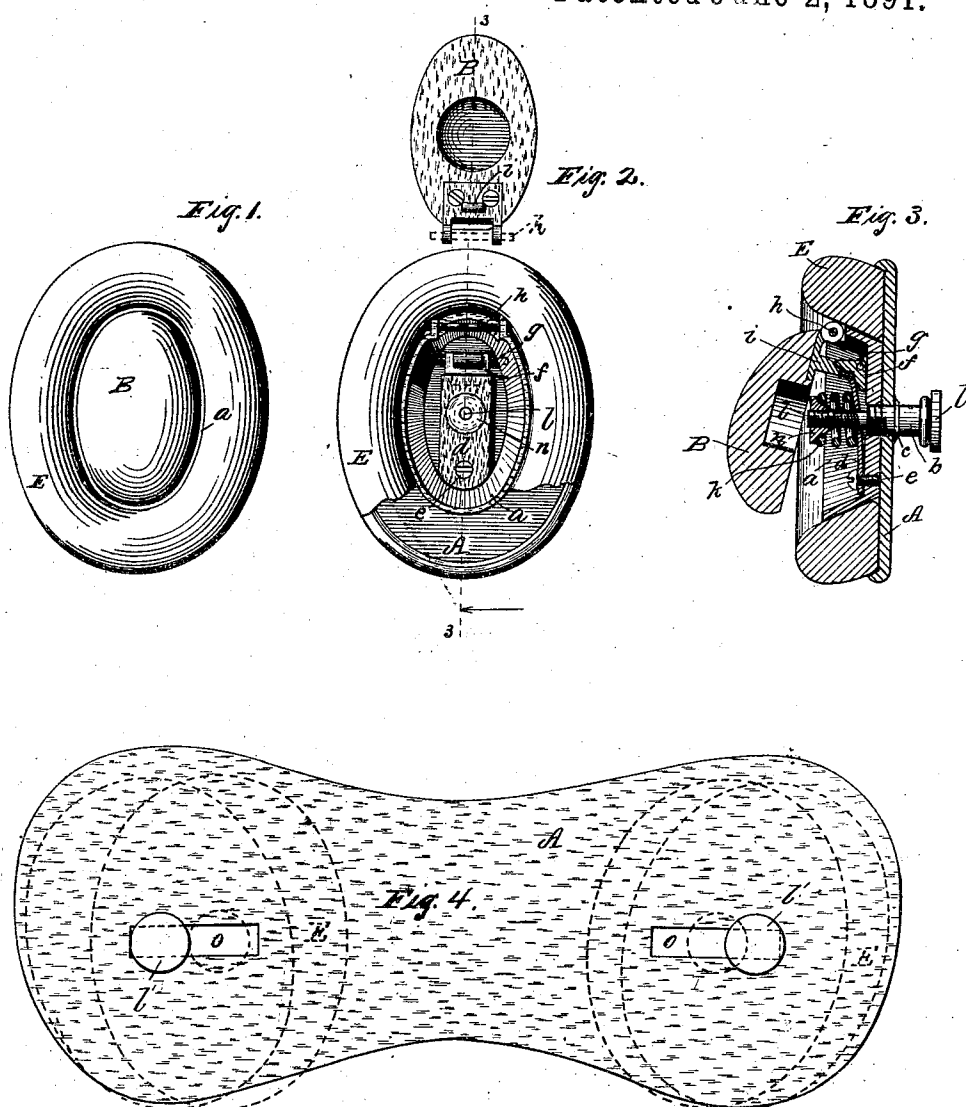


(No Model.)

G. R. FULLER.
TRUSS PAD.

No. 453,298.

Patented June 2, 1891.



Attest:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE R. FULLER, OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK.

TRUSS-PAD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 453,298, dated June 2, 1891.

Application filed December 8, 1890. Serial No. 373,915. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE R. FULLER, of Rochester, in the county of Monroe and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Truss-Pads, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification and shown in the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to the pads of trusses worn or used more particularly to support the parts in the case of rupture or hernia; and the object of the invention is in part to hinge the pressing part or pad proper at one side or edge, so that it may have a swinging motion to more nearly imitate a finger-pressure against the disordered parts.

The object of the invention is also to furnish means for conveniently adjusting the pressing piece or pad proper, so that it may exert a greater or less pressure against the weakened or disordered parts.

The invention is hereinafter fully described, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a view of the pad, showing the side or face turned next the wearer; Fig. 2, a similar view with the pad proper turned up and detached, a part of the rubber ring being broken away; Fig. 3, a central longitudinal section of the device, taken on the dotted line 33 in Fig. 2; and Fig. 4, a view of a plate commonly used with these pads, showing the latter in various positions of adjustment by dotted lines.

Referring to the parts, A is the front plate or part for holding the pad, which plate is usually made of hard rubber and may be in either of the forms shown or other convenient form, this particular part of the device not being a part of my invention.

a is an oval flaring cup-shape piece or cup secured to the plate by a hollow sleeve-screw b, passed through an opening o in the plate and threaded centrally in the bottom of the cup.

B is a thick soft-rubber ring or cushion surrounding the cup and in contact with the plate, it being held under the inclined or flaring sides of the cup against the plate. The sleeve-screw is formed with an external collar c to bear against the outside of the plate.

d is a strip of metal acting as a lever, held

within the cup and secured at one end to the bottom thereof by a fastening-screw e.

f is a bell-crank lever, held within the cup to turn on a cross-pin g, the latter having its ends resting in the sides of the cup, the pin being near to and parallel with the bottom of the cup, as shown. One arm of the lever f is beneath the free end of the lever d.

B is a depressing-piece to bear against the abdomen of the wearer and constitutes the pad proper of the device. This piece or pad is hinged at one end on a pin h, also secured in the sides of the cup in a position parallel with the pin g and at right angles to a longitudinal line of the lever d. Thus hinged the pad is permitted to swing toward or from the mouth of the cup, like a cover therefor. The pad B is formed with a rigid stud i in position to bear against the outer or free end of the lever f, as shown in Fig. 2.

The piece d is held rigidly to the bottom of the cup at one end by the screw e, as above stated, and acts as a spring-lever to bear against the inner end of the bent lever f, tending to keep said end of the bent lever down against the bottom of the cup. This lever d is re-enforced by a stiff spiral spring k, held to bear against it by an adjusting-screw l and cap-nut n. The screw l passes longitudinally through and has a bearing in the sleeve-screw b, and is provided at its outer end with a milled head l', which is also creased at its outer flat face to receive a screw-driver in the usual manner.

Now it will be understood that the bent lever f constitutes a spring-pressed lifter for the pad B, and that any pressure against the outer convex surface of the pad will be resisted by the spring and the lever d, or, in other words, the action of the spring and the lever d upon the lever f tends to throw the lower or free end of the pad B forward against the abdomen; also, on account of the pad being hinged to the cup at one end its motion is a swinging motion, causing it to press upward against the person, as well as forward, from the action of the spring, as above stated. By turning the adjusting-screw l in a manner to draw the nut n farther down against the spiral spring the pad B will be caused to press harder against the wearer, while if the adjusting-screw be turned in the

opposite direction the pressure of the pad will be reduced. By means of this adjusting screw and spring any desired degree of pressure may be brought to bear upon the person of the wearer by the pad.

If the plate is formed, as shown in Fig. 4, with slots *c* to receive the fastening sleeve-screw *b* for the pads, the latter may be adjusted in directions toward or from each other, while the pads may also be turned upon the plate as with a swivel movement, thus bringing them to any desired positions and to bear upon the affected parts as may be required in any given case.

It is plain to be seen that the piece *d* may be dispensed with by lengthening the inner arm of the lever *f*, so as to carry it under the spiral spring, having a hole formed in it to clear the screw *l*. I prefer, however, to employ the piece *d*, as shown.

The cushion *E* extends high above the mouth of the cup, the latter serving, however, to keep it clear of the swinging pad *B*.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. A truss-pad consisting of a thick soft annular ring of rubber, the bottom or flat portion of which is adapted to rest upon the front plate; a cup-shaped piece fitting within the ring with its sides projecting over the lower part of the inner portion of the ring and adapted to hold the same in contact with the plate, a yielding pad secured to the cup-shaped piece, and means for holding the bottom of the cup-shaped piece against the plate, substantially as described.

2. In a truss, the combination, with an annular ring, of a pad pivotally secured at one end within the same, the inner side of the pad being provided with an inwardly-projecting lug or projection, a lever pivotally secured within the ring, one end of which bears against the lug upon the pad, and a spring for actuating the opposite end of the lever, substantially as described.

3. In a truss, the combination, with a truss-plate, of a perforated front plate, a cup-shaped piece, the bottom of which is provided with a screw-threaded perforation, an annular ring outside of the cup-shaped piece, a spring-actuated pad within the ring, a hollow sleeve-screw through the plates and into the bottom of the cup-shaped piece, and an adjusting-screw through the hollow screw for regulating the spring-pressure of the pad, substantially as described.

4. An improved pad for a truss, consisting of a cup and a holding-plate therefor, in combination with a pressing piece or pad proper hinged to the cup, a bent lever pivoted within the cup, a lever *d* to press said bent lever, a spring bearing against said lever *d*, and an adjusting screw and nut to control the spring, substantially as shown and described.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand, this 4th day of December, 1890, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

GEORGE R. FULLER.

Witnesses:

ENOS B. WHITMORE,
M. L. McDERMOTT.