No. 880,041. PATENTED FEB. 25, 1908.

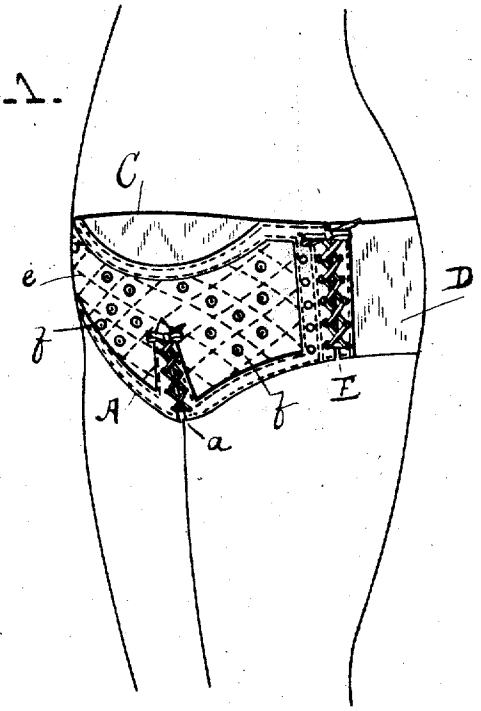
H. T. RENTON.

BELT AND SUPPORT FOR ABDOMINAL TREATMENT.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 22, 1906.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.



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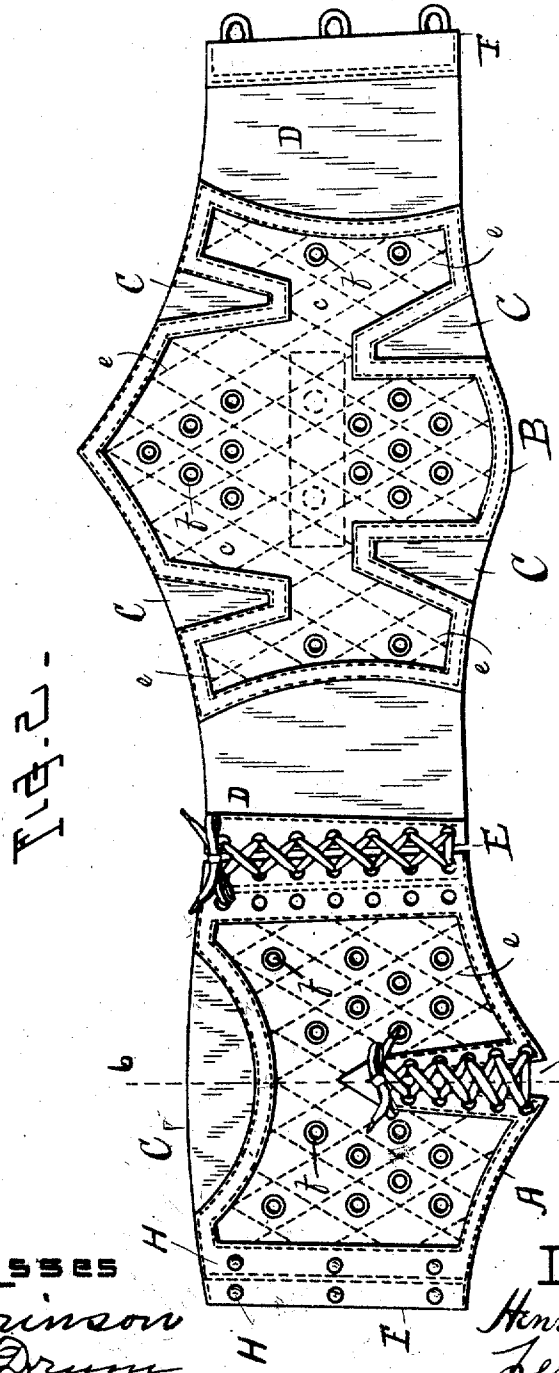


Fig. 2.

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3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.

Fig. 3.

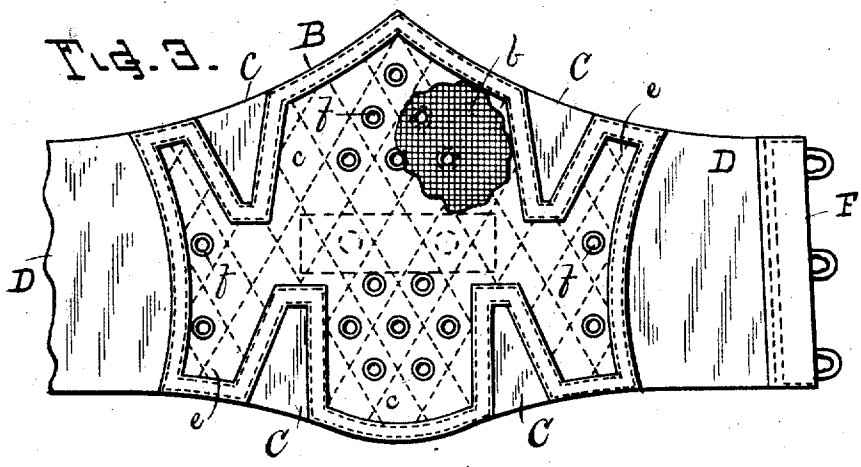


Fig. 4.

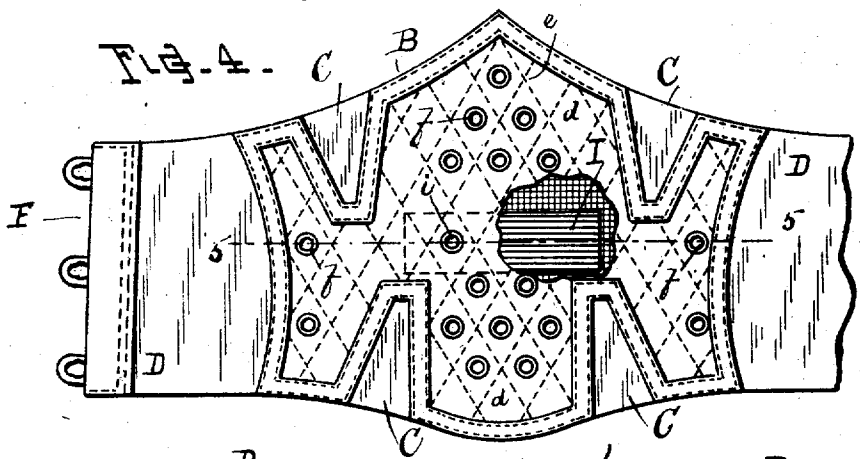


Fig. 5.

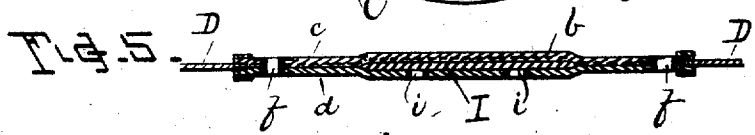
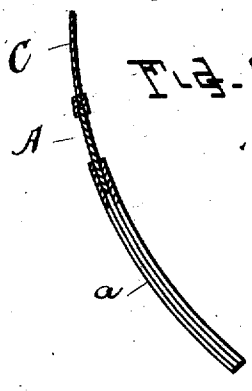


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY T. RENTON, OF OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA.

BELT AND SUPPORT FOR ABDOMINAL TREATMENT.

No. 880,041. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 25, 1908.

Application filed January 22, 1906. Serial No. 297,351.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY T. RENTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Oakland, county of Alameda, and State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Belts and Supports for Abdominal Treatment, of which the following is a specification.

In carrying out my invention I construct a belt or other similar article, which embraces the body in such position as to cover the abdomen, in front, and the kidneys, at the back, and also other parts of the body when desired. This belt I provide with elastic gussets to distribute the pressure and prevent jarring from the movements of the patient. I make the device of two or more thicknesses of material, stiffened by wire gauze and stitched or quilted through, thus combining them into one. The wire gauze may be simply inserted between the layers, or it may be interwoven in a separate inserted layer or incased in such layer by rolling in a prepared pulp, or otherwise. The belt, thus constructed, I perforate at suitable intervals and insert eyelets, which form an additional strengthening means and also provide an efficient ventilation. I also, at suitable points, insert a medicated pad between the layers of material, and perforate the inner layer so that the medicament may reach the body of the wearer. I also construct the device with a divided front, curving the edges of the division over the abdomen, with laces for lacing it up, so that it hooks under the abdomen and also provides an adjustable point which may be drawn up or let out as required as the treatment progresses. The belt is made in two parts, the points of separation being at the sides of the wearer, which parts are connected by lacing and otherwise. At these points of separation I provide two or more rows of lace holes, where lacing is used, and two or more rows of studs, where the stud and clasp fastening is used. Thus, as the treatment progresses, one or more rows of holes, or studs, may be cut off and reduce the size of the belt.

Various other features and details of the invention will be fully set forth hereinafter, in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which I have shown a belt containing my invention in what I consider its best form.

In the drawings: Figure 1 shows the belt applied to the body of a wearer. Fig. 2 is an elevation of the belt stretched out flat. Fig. 3 is an elevation of part of a belt, a portion of the outer layer of material being removed to show the wire gauze between the layers. Fig. 4 is a similar elevation from the inner side, with a portion of the inner layer removed to show the medicated pad between the layers. Fig. 5 is a sectional view showing the medicated pad, and also the ventilating holes, on line 5, 5, Fig. 4. Fig. 6 is a cross section on the line 6, 6, of Fig. 2.

In these several figures: A represents the front of the belt, which is divided at its lower edge at *a*, as appears in Figs. 1 and 2. The edges of this division are curved so that when laced up, the belt will hook under the abdomen, so to speak, and support it and hold it up. The front of the belt, as well as the back shown in Figs. 2, 3 and 4, are made of at least two thicknesses or layers of material, between which I place wire gauze *b*, as shown in Fig. 3.

B represents the back of the belt.

The two layers of material, *c*, *d*, which constitute the surfaces of the belt, are stitched, or quilted through by rows of diagonal stitching *e*, and are further bound together by the eyelets *f* inserted at suitable intervals. The eyelets, in addition to their function of securing the layers together, also provide a very efficient ventilation, which is very necessary in an article of this kind, which is worn constantly.

C are elastic gussets suitably disposed at different parts of the belt to insure its conformity to the body of the wearer, and prevent chafing or jarring from the movements of the wearer. These gussets may be varied in size and extent, and some of them may be at times omitted. For example a belt for a masculine patient usually does not require the same number of gussets as one for a feminine patient, owing to the different shape of the body.

D are elastic sections of the belt, which not only assist the gussets in causing it to conform to the shape of the body, but also insure the front and back sections being drawn tightly against the body. The elastic sections D are made usually integral with the back B of the belt, thus throwing the joints between the front and back, sufficiently far forward to be easily reached by the wearer. One of these joints, between the front and

back, is formed with eyelet holes and laces, by which the parts are laced together, as seen at E, and the other joint F is formed with the metal clasps and studs of the ordinary corset fastening. The joint F I provide with two or more rows of studs, H, so that, when a patient has been under treatment for some time, and in consequence requires a smaller belt, the end row may be cut off and the next row used with the loops. Similarly, I provide the joint E with two or more rows of eyelet holes at one or both sides of the joint, so that one may be cut off and the next one brought into operative position, to reduce the size of the belt.

At suitable points of the belt, as for example over the kidneys, I introduce medicated pads, as I, see Figs. 4 and 5. I have obtained the best results by introducing these pads between the layers of the belt, as shown in those figures. In order that the medicament may reach the body of the wearer, and be absorbed thereby, I perforate the inner layer *d*, as at *i*. The medicament may be renewed from time to time by applying it to the pad through these perforations.

Obviously the structural details of the belt may be varied considerably, and in fact must be varied to make it conform to different wearers, and it may be made in the form of a belt, or in the form of a corset, or in the form of a simple support.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

In combination, a belt comprised of a plurality of layers of material, a reticulated body interposed between said layers, a medicated pad between the layers of the belt eyelets penetrating the belt, and rubber gussets positioned at intervals along the opposite edges of the belt and the medicated pad.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature in presence of subscribing witnesses this 7th day of October, 1905.

HENRY T. RENTON.

Witnesses:
W. F. FISHER,
WM. S. BATES.