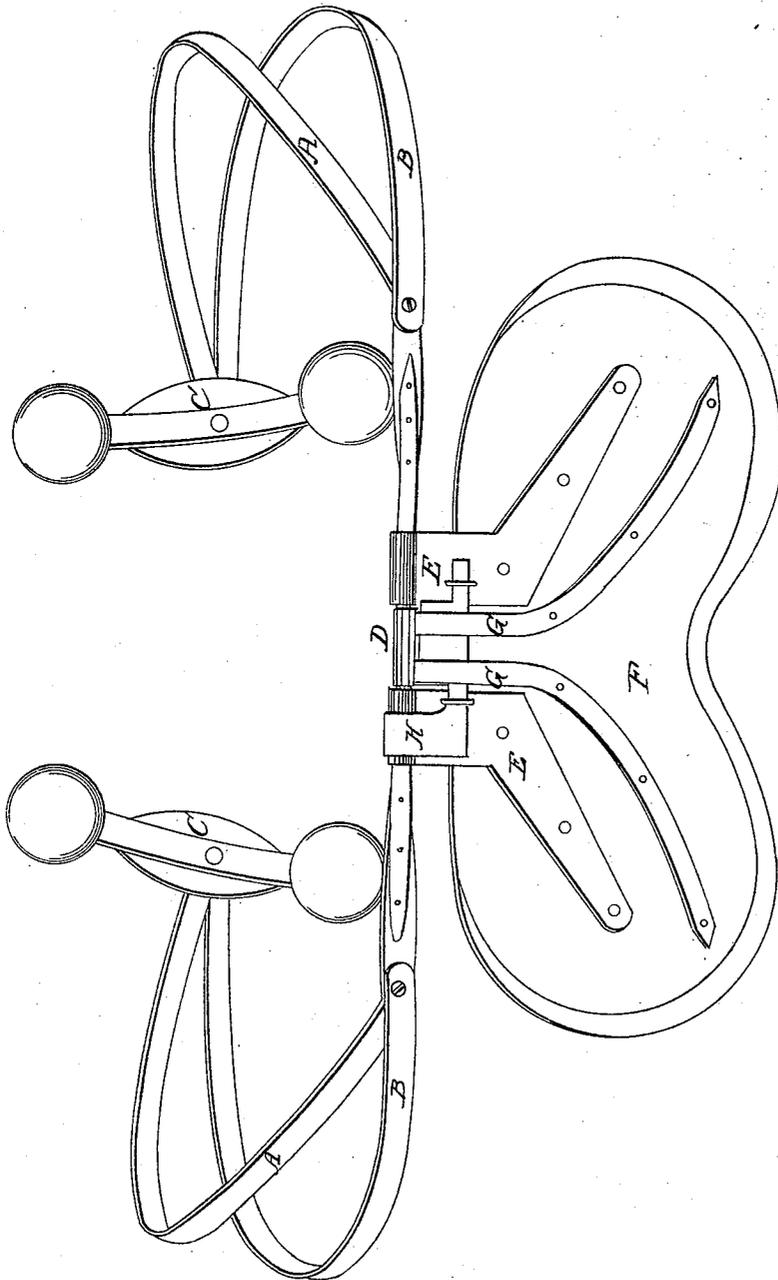


A. I. Hardin,

Truss.

No 16,835.

Patented Mar. 17, 1857.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANCEL I. HARDIN, OF SHELBY, NORTH CAROLINA.

HERNIAL TRUSS.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 16,835, dated March 17, 1857.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANCEL I. HARDIN, of Shelby, in the county of Cleveland, in the State of North Carolina, have invented a new and Improved Abdominal Supporter; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The nature of my invention consists of a ratch D and plate F to be applied over the lower part of the abdominal region, at each end of the ratch D a curved spring is riveted (the springs S and S may be made of silver, steel or any other material) which spring is to pass around each side of the abdomen above the pelvis to near the spine; and attached to the springs S and S near to their union with ratch D other springs B and B are attached by rivet or screw which springs B and B are to pass directly around the pelvis so as to be united by screw or rivet springs S and S at the end of each near the spine; and to the end of springs S and S and B and B is attached plates C and C. Plates C and C should be of sufficient length that the lower end padded may rest over or near to the union of the sacral with the iliac bone and the upper end padded to rest on each side of the lumbar portion of the spine or higher if desired. To ratch D plate F is united by two hinges E and E looping around D so as to let plate F turn around ratch D that plate F may be adjusted to any part of the abdomen. Plate F may be made of horn, shell or any metallic substance and so constructed as to give any desired amount of pressure or support on the abdomen so as to retain in the female the womb in its proper place and position or to in cases of hernia, keep closed any aperture that would allow egress to any of the viscera. Attached to plate F are two springs G and G so arranged as to allow plate F to revolve around ratch D in one direction the ends of springs G and G catching

in the ratch so as to make and retain at all times the desired amount of pressure and support. Attached to plate F is a lever H 50 by which the springs G and G may be freed from ratch D so as to diminish at will the pressure or support made by plate F.

The mode of applying the supporter is by springing apart plates C and C so as to pass 55 them on each side of the abdomen and pelvis to the back, having plate F in front, springs G and G resting on the upper smooth portion of ratch D, springs S and S above the superior crest of the ilium, springs B and B 60 around the pelvis, plates C and C on each side of the spinous portions of the sacral and lumbar vertebræ, C and C being secured to their position by strap of leather or gum elastic tape or webbing united to 65 each by knobs or buttons; the supporter being applied as above described turn plate F downward to give the amount of pressure or support required and springs G and G by means of ratch D will retain it in its po- 70 sition if it should be desired to increase the pressure turn plate F inward and G and G will retain it there, and when it may be desired to diminish the pressure or support or to take off the supporter by lever H 75 springs G and G may be raised from ratch D, plate F revolved upward, the buttoning or tying of C with C loosened and the supporter taken off.

From this description it must be clear 80 that the lever H can not be brought in operation by any accident, but solely by an intentional act of the wearer of the supporter as by its position it is entirely out of reach of any foreign body or object. 85

What therefore I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

The position and application of the lever H in the manner and for the purpose specified.

A. I. HARDIN.

Witnesses:

F. I. MURPHY,
WM. COOPER.