

(No Model.)

J. F. CORKER.
HYGIENIC DEVICE.

No. 496,816.

Patented May 2, 1893.

Fig. 1.

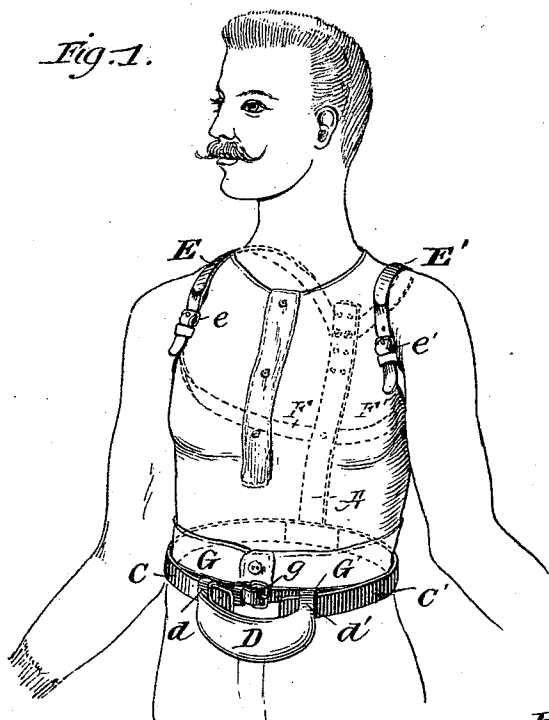


Fig. 2.

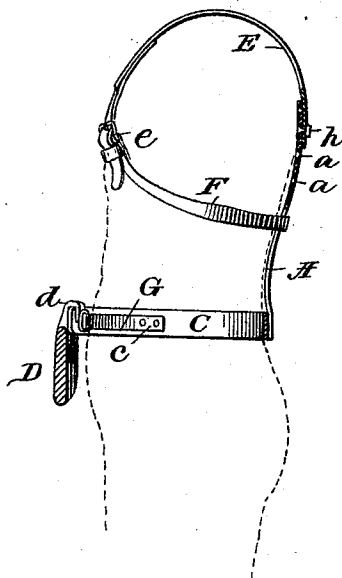


Fig. 3.

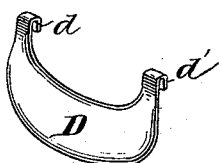


Fig. 4.

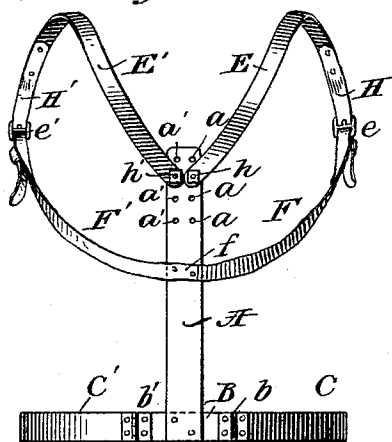
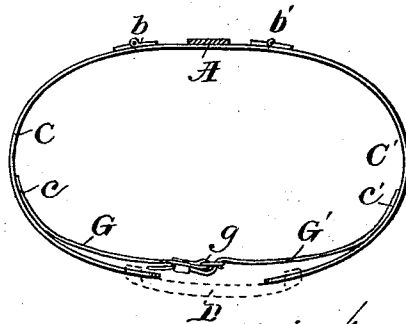


Fig. 5.



Witnesses:

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by

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN F. CORKER, OF SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH TERRITORY.

HYGIENIC DEVICE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 496,816, dated May 2, 1893.

Application filed August 10, 1892. Serial No. 442,651. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN F. CORKER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Salt Lake City, in the county of Salt Lake and Territory of Utah, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hygienic Devices, of which the following is a description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

My invention relates to improvements in shoulder braces, and consists in the various matters hereinafter described and claimed. It is well known that persons carrying heavy bundles in front of them tend to straighten their backs and throw back their shoulders. With this fact in view, therefore, I have invented a device by which a weight is applied to the front of the body and is supported by the shoulders.

In the accompanying drawings which illustrate my invention Figure 1 is a perspective view of my shoulder brace in position for use. Fig. 2 is a side elevation, one half of the brace being cut away. Fig. 3 is a view of the weight. Fig. 4 is a view of my device from the back; and Fig. 5 is a view of the belt, the weight being shown in dotted lines.

Referring now to the drawings, A is a plate designed to be applied to the back of the wearer and preferably enlarged at the bottom as at B. Connected by hinges *b, b'*, to this bottom are rigid curved sides C, C', on the inner surfaces of which are secured at *c, c'*, the straps G, G', provided with the buckle *g*. The upper portion of the plate A is provided with a series of holes *a, a'*, adapted to receive the bolts *h, h'*, by which the shoulder pieces E, E', are attached to the back plate, the height at which the pieces E, E', is attached being adjustable by reason of the holes *a, a'*. Straps F, F', are also secured to the plate A as at *f* and the straps can be connected by the buckles *e, e'*, to the straps H, H', secured to the shoulder pieces E, E'.

D is a weight provided with the hooks *d, d'*, and may be of any suitable construction, as, for example, a solid piece of metal, or a bag filled with shot or sand.

The straps F, F', G, G', H and H' are of leather or other suitable flexible material while the parts A, B, C, C', E and E' are preferably constructed of a rigid substance and then suitably bound and padded to prevent chafing.

In applying the device the pieces E, E',

are placed upon the shoulders and buckled to the straps F, F'. The straps G, G', are then fastened and the weight D hung upon the waist-pieces C, C'. These waist pieces are so placed with relation to the straps G, G', that when the latter are fastened across the abdomen, the former are some little distance from it so that the weight D cannot come in contact with the body, thereby avoiding bruising it. It will be readily seen, however, that the straps G, G', may be dispensed with and the waist-pieces C, C', fastened together in their stead. I may also support the front of the waist-pieces by straps leading from them to the front of the shoulder-pieces, but the preferable construction is the one first described.

When my brace is applied to the body the weight tends to pull forward, while the wearer to counteract this, straightens the back and consequently throws back the shoulders, this latter result being further aided by the shoulder-pieces E, E'.

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

1. A shoulder brace comprising a plate suitably connected to the shoulders, and provided with waist-pieces having a weight attached thereto; substantially as described.

2. A shoulder brace comprising a plate suitably connected to the shoulders, waist-pieces suitably secured to said plate, a weight attached to said waist-pieces, and straps for securing the waist-pieces about the waist attached to the said waist-pieces; substantially as described.

3. A shoulder brace comprising a plate, shoulder pieces adjustably secured to said plate, and waist-pieces having a weight attached thereto also secured to said plate; substantially as described.

4. A shoulder brace comprising a plate, shoulder pieces adjustably secured to said plate, straps secured to said plate and adapted to fasten upon the said shoulder pieces, and waist-pieces hinged to said plate provided with a weight; substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN F. CORKER.

Witnesses:

ROBERT WENDT,
WILLIAM LAPHAM.