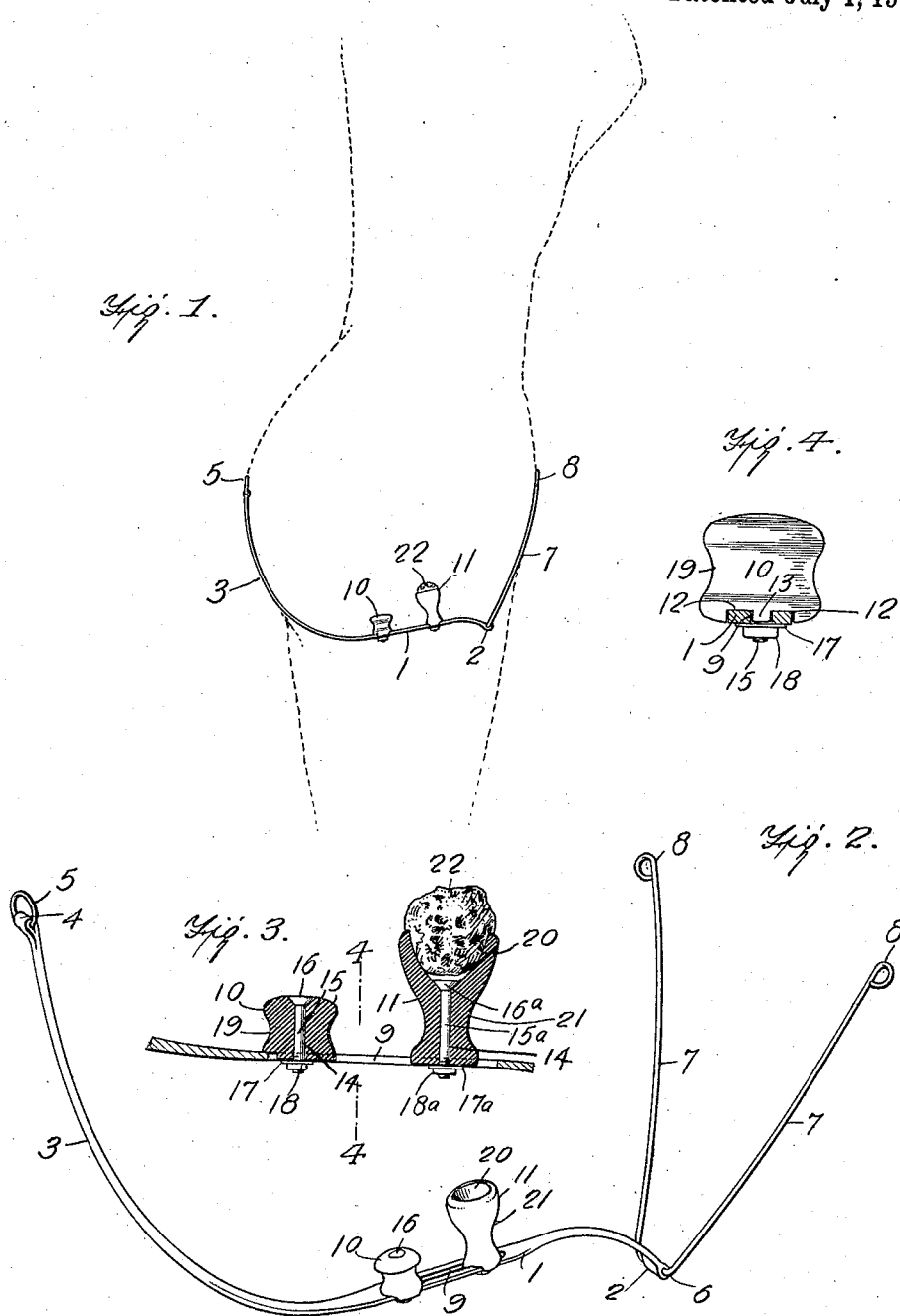


L. E. WOODWARD.
SURGICAL APPLIANCE.
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 6, 1913.

1,066,356.

Patented July 1, 1913.



WITNESSES

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SURGICAL APPLIANCE.

1,066,356.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 1, 1913.

Application filed March 6, 1913. Serial No. 752,347.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEWIS ETHRIDGE WOODWARD, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Waco, in the county of McLennan, State of Texas, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Surgical Appliances, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is an improvement in surgical appliances, and has for its object to provide an appliance of the character specified, especially adapted for the treatment of rectal and uterine troubles, wherein a means is provided for supporting the uterus and for retaining it in its proper position, while at the same time applying healing medicaments, and a means for preventing the protrusion of piles or rectal tumors, both mounted on a common support, and adjustable with respect to the support, and with respect to each other to meet varying conditions, and wherein the support for the said means is especially designed to prevent discomfort to the wearer, while at the same time the support is sufficiently firm and rigid.

In the drawings: Figure 1 is a side view of the improved appliance in use; Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the same detached; Fig. 3 is an enlarged partial longitudinal section, and Fig. 4 is a section on the line 4-4 of Fig. 3.

The present embodiment of the invention comprises a support 1 formed on a double or reverse curve to fit the perineum, and at its front end the support is provided with a bearing 2. The rear end of the support is extended upwardly, as indicated at 3, the extension being arched outwardly and having a bearing 4 at its extremity.

A ring 5 is journaled in the bearing 4, and a substantially V-shaped hanger or yoke, comprising a body 6 and arms 7, is connected to the front end of the support, the body 6 being journaled in the bearing 2. The arms 7 of the hanger extend outwardly and upwardly, and the extremity of each is bent to form a ring 8.

The support 1 is slotted longitudinally at 9 and bulbs 10 and 11 are mounted to slide on the upper face of the support. Each bulb is provided with a pair of parallel transverse grooves 12 on its under or lower end, the rib 13 formed between the grooves fitting the slot 9. Each bulb is also provided with a vertical opening 14, and bolts

15 and 15^a are passed through the respective openings of the bulbs, the head 16-16^a of each bolt being countersunk in the bulb. Each bolt extends through the slot 9, and washers 17 and 17^a are arranged on the respective bolts below the support and nuts 18 and 18^a engage the respective bolts below the washers.

The bulb 10 is shaped to fit within the lower end of the rectum and the said bulb is annularly grooved at 19 to receive the sphincter of the anus. The bulb 11 is cupped or recessed at 20 in its upper end and the said bulb is reduced below the depression, as indicated at 21.

The bulb 11 is shaped to fit the vagina, and the depression 20 is designed to contain a filling 22 of cotton or the like, which may contain a medicament, if desired. The said bulb 11 is designed to support the uterus, engaging the neck thereof, and the said bulb is of such size that it will retain the uterus in the proper position.

The support 1 fits the perineum and the extension is designed to fit between the buttocks, and straps may be connected with the rings 5 and 8 to hold the support in adjusted position. The arms 7 of the hanger fit on the outer sides of the "labia," thus leaving the opening of the urethra free. The said arms fit in the groin at each side.

I claim:

1. An appliance of the character specified, comprising a reversely curved support shaped to fit the perineum and having a longitudinal slot and an upwardly extending outwardly arched stem at its rear, a ring at the free end of the stem, the support having a bearing at its front end, a substantially V-shaped hanger or yoke having a body journaled in the bearing, and arms, each provided with a ring at its free end, said arms extending upwardly and outwardly, a pair of bulbs, each having on its lower end a pair of parallel transverse grooves for receiving the sides of the slot of the support and slidable thereon, said bulbs each having a vertical opening, a bolt in each opening extending through the slot, a washer on the bolt below the support, and a nut threaded onto the bolt, one of the bulbs having a cup-shaped depression in its upper end, the heads of the bolts being countersunk.

2. An appliance of the character specified, comprising a reversely curved support

shaped to fit the perineum and having a longitudinal slot and an upwardly extending outwardly arched stem at its rear, a ring at the free end of the stem, the support having a bearing at its front end, a substantially V-shaped hanger or yoke having a body journaled in the bearing, and arms, each provided with a ring at its free end, said arms extending upwardly and outwardly, a pair of bulbs, each having on its lower end a pair of parallel transverse grooves for receiving the sides of the slot of the support and slidable thereon, means for fixing each bulb in adjusted position, one of the bulbs being of larger size than the other and having a depression in its upper end.

3. An appliance of the character specified, comprising a reversely curved support

shaped to fit the perineum and having a longitudinal slot and an upwardly extending outwardly arched stem at its rear, a ring at the free end of the stem, the support having a bearing at its front end, a substantially V-shaped hanger or yoke having a body journaled in the bearing, and arms, each provided with a ring at its free end, said arms extending upwardly and outwardly, a pair of bulbs, each grooved on its under face to receive the sides of the slot, and means for securing each bulb to the support, one of the bulbs having a depression in its upper end.

LEWIS ETHRIDGE WOODWARD.

Witnesses:

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Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."