No. 806,403. PATENTED DEC. 5, 1905.

A. G. DU PELL.

ABDOMEN DEPRESSING MEANS.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 9, 1905.

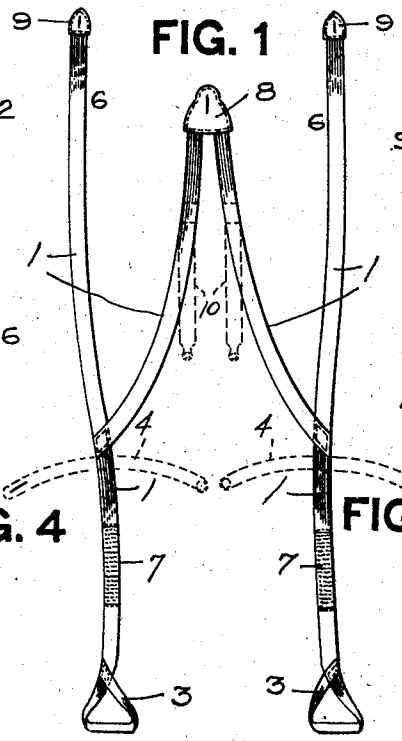


FIG. 1

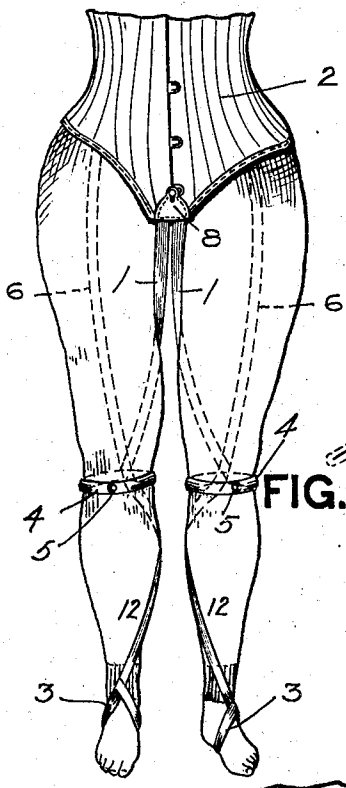


FIG. 4

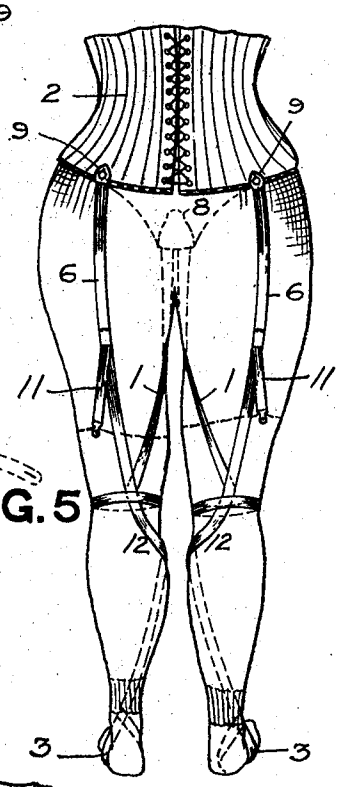


FIG. 5

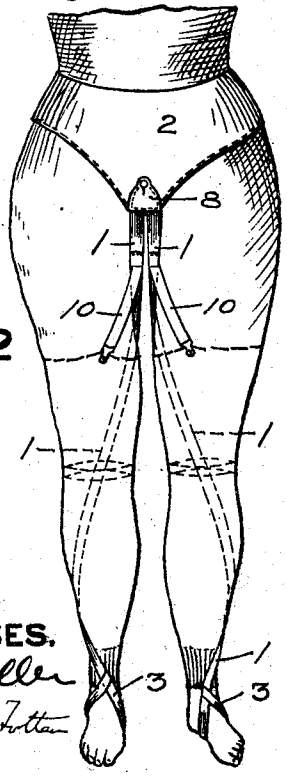


FIG. 2

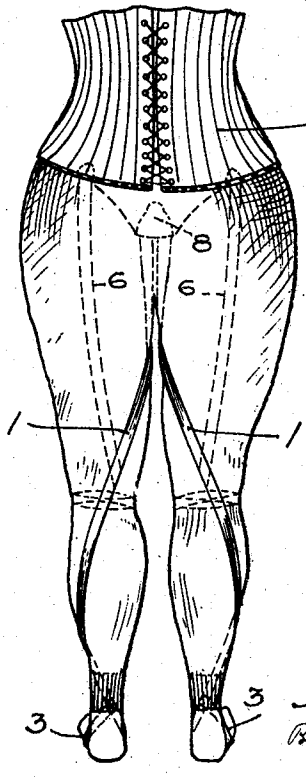


FIG. 3

WITNESSES.

J. R. Keller

Robert C. Sutter

INVENTOR.

Abbie G. Du Pell

By Kerr Sutter & White

attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ABBIE G. DU PELL, OF ALLEGHENY, PENNSYLVANIA.

ABDOMEN-DEPRESSING MEANS.

No. 806,403. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 5, 1905.

Application filed February 9, 1905. Serial No. 244,916.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ABBIE G. DU PELL, a resident of Allegheny, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Abdomen-Depressing Means; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

My invention relates to abdomen-depressing means for use with corsets, abdominal bandages, hip-forms, and like devices, its main object being to provide simple and suitable means to draw the lower portion of the corset or like device inwardly and backwardly, and so depress or hold in the abdomen and greatly improve the figure, and to accomplish the same by simple means and without bringing strain upon the stockings or other portion of the wearing-apparel.

The invention has also the further advantage that it provides support for a weak instep, such as in the case of a flat foot, and is helpful in walking, while there is no binding of any of the parts such as would stop circulation.

To these ends the invention consists, generally stated, in abdomen-depressing means, such as a corset or abdominal bandage, combined with a strap connected to the front bottom edge of the corset or bandage and adapted to extend downwardly and backwardly to a loop adapted to pass around the foot.

It also consists in certain other improvements in connection with such strap, as will be hereinafter more particularly set forth and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a view of the retainer before it is applied to the person. Figs. 2 and 3 illustrate the application of the same in one form, and Figs. 4 and 5 another way in which it may be employed.

The simplest form of the retainer is a strap extending from the front lower edge of the corset or abdominal bandage downwardly and backwardly, passing thence around the outer portion of the lower limb and having a loop passing around the instep or hollow of the foot. This is illustrated in Fig. 2, where the main strap 1 is secured to the corset, abdominal bandage, or like device 2 and passes thence between the limbs along the back of the knee and around the outside of the lower limb, the loop 3 passing around the instep.

If desired, I may employ in connection with the main strap 1 a garter 4, arranged to fit below the knee, and which in its preferred form does not fit sufficiently tight to bind around the limb, its main purpose being to hold the main strap close to the back of the limb, though the stocking fitting over the limb after the retainer has been applied will generally serve this purpose sufficiently well. The garter 4 is shown in Fig. 4 as being secured by a button and buttonhole 5 or like device on the front of the limb. In connection with the retainer and to hold down the rear of an abdominal bandage or corset I may also employ the rear strap 6, connected to the lower edge of the rear portion of the corset or like device and extending down to and connected to the main strap 1 at a point back of and about opposite the knee, as shown in dotted lines in Figs. 3 and 4 and in full lines in Fig. 5. The main strap 1 is preferably non-elastic, except for a short portion thereof, such as the portion 7 in the lower part of the strap, which will give the desired yielding motion in walking and hold up the arch of the foot if it is weak and increase the springiness of the step in walking. The retainer may be arranged to be connected to the corset or like device in any suitable way, such as by the hanger 8, to which the two straps, one for each limb, are connected, this hanger being arranged to be hung at the forward end of the corset and, like hangers 9, connecting the straps 6 to the back straps when they are used. The several straps may of course be made separate and sewed to the different parts of the corset. Any suitable means may also be provided for the support of the stockings, such as the elastic strap 10, leading from the main strap 1 near its upper end and connected to the front portion of the stocking or elastic strap 11, leading from the rear strap 6 and connected to the rear portion of the stocking. These straps 10 or 11 may be made sufficiently elastic simply to support the stockings without bringing strain upon the same and tearing the same, as the entire strain of holding in the corset and supporting the abdomen is received by the retainer and carried down to the foot.

When the apparatus is in use, it may be connected to the corset before or after it is placed upon the body, and the strap 1 when used as illustrated in Figs. 2 and 3 is carried backwardly between the limbs and thence

around the outside of the lower limb and the loop 3 passed around the foot, resting over the arch or around the hollow thereof. If a garter or like retainer at the knee is employed, the garter may then be fastened around the knee and the stocking drawn on and connected to the stocking-supporter. The main strap may also be used as shown in Figs. 4 and 5, being carried to the rear of the limb at about the knee and held in about that position by the garter 4 or the back strap 6 and then carried around the inner side of the lower limb and passed around the foot, as shown at 12, Figs. 4 and 5. Either way of employing the retainer is comfortable, because the entire strain is carried to the foot instead of carried to the stocking or knee, and while the device serves to hold in the base or lower portion of the corset or abdominal support, it may be made sufficiently loose to free the parts from any binding effect such as would reduce or interfere with circulation, and in sitting the strain is relieved, while the parts hold naturally to position. At the same time a positive retainer is provided which draws backwardly or inwardly below the abdomen, causing the corset to fit neatly to the figure, insuring such retaining of the corset or bandage in position as to perform the necessary depressing functional action and improve the figure of the wearer and relieving the wearing-apparel from strain. If desired, the retainer can be put under such yielding strain as will act to positively support the arch of the foot in case of weakness at such point and will aid in raising the foot, imparting a special springiness in walking. The retainer naturally lies close to the limb when in use and is of course entirely hidden by the stocking covering the same.

What I claim is—

1. An abdomen-depressing device having a strap connected to the front bottom portion thereof and extending downwardly and having a loop adapted to pass around the foot.

2. An abdomen-depressing means having a strap connected to the front bottom portion thereof and adapted to extend back of the limb, and having a loop adapted to pass around the foot.

3. An abdomen-depressing device having a strap connected to the front bottom portion thereof and extending downwardly and having a loop adapted to pass around the foot, and a garter adapted to fit around the limb and hold the strap in place.

4. An abdomen-depressing device having a strap connected to the front bottom portion thereof and extending downwardly and having a loop adapted to pass around the foot, and a back strap connected to the rear bottom portion of the abdomen-depressing device and extending downwardly to and connected to the main strap.

5. An abdomen-depressing device having a strap connected to the front bottom portion thereof and extending downwardly and having a loop adapted to pass around the foot, a back strap connected to the rear bottom edge of the abdomen-depressing device and extending downwardly to and connected to the main strap, and a garter adapted to pass around the limb.

6. An abdomen-depressing device having a strap connected to the front bottom portion thereof and extending downwardly and having a loop adapted to pass around the foot, and a stocking-supporter connected to the main strap and adapted to engage the stocking.

In testimony whereof I, the said ABBIE G. DU PELL, have hereunto set my hand.

ABBIE G. DU PELL.

Witnesses:

ROBERT C. TOTTEN,

G. C. RAYMOND.