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M. TUSUP

BODY SUPPORT

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FIGURE 1

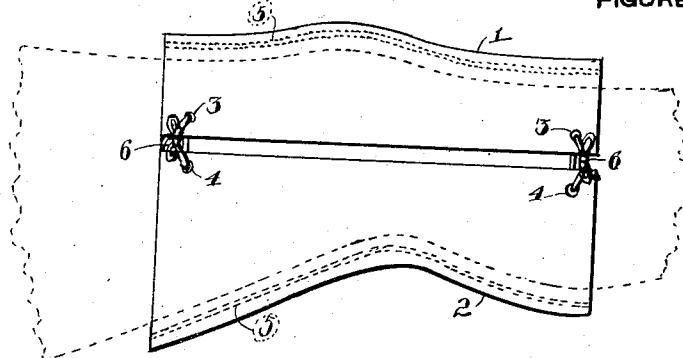
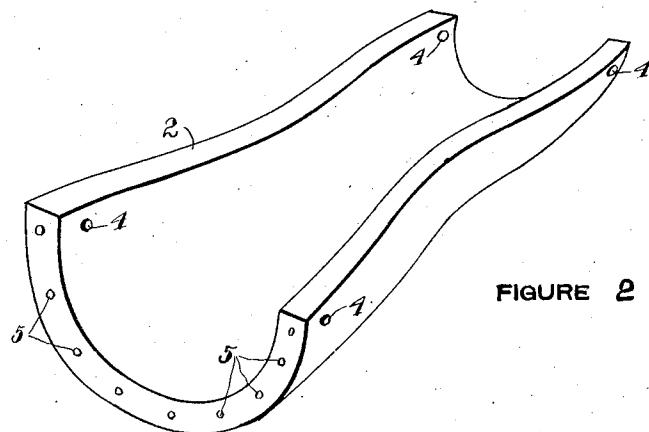


FIGURE 2



INVENTOR

Mat Tusup
John A. Fairsmith
ATTORNEY

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MAT TUSUP, OF CAMPBELL, CALIFORNIA.

BODY SUPPORT.

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This invention relates particularly to a device for properly supporting any portion of the human body that has been subjected to injury or disease of any kind, and that, although practically healed in so far as the knitting of the bone structure or flesh is concerned, is yet subject to more or less severe pain.

It is one object of the present invention to provide a device of the character above indicated that will not only properly support the portion of the body to which it is applied, but will also, through certain curative properties inherent in it, relieve the pain in that portion of the body over which it is applied.

It is also an object of the present invention to provide a device of the character hereinbefore set forth that may be readily molded in parts of suitable form to engage the various particular parts of the human body.

Furthermore, it is an object of the invention to provide a device of the character indicated that will be economical to manufacture, durable, quickly and easily applied or removed, and highly efficient in its practical application.

In the drawing:—

Figure 1 is an elevation of the device as applied to one portion of the human body.

Figure 2 is a perspective illustration of one of the parts used in the device disclosed in Figure 1.

Referring now more particularly to the drawing, I show at 1 and 2 a pair of complementary elements adapted to engage the knee joint of the human leg and the parts of the leg and thigh immediately adjacent thereto. These two parts have the following characteristics.

The part 1 has the general conformation of the forward part of the knee including the knee-cap and parts adjoining the same above and below and on both sides thereof. This part extends backwardly a distance on both sides of the knee, and is provided with holes as 3 in its corners.

The part 2 has the general conformation of the back of the knee, and is of substantially the same length as the part 1, and extends forwardly a distance on both sides of the knee to a point adjacent to the rear edges of the above described part 1. This

part 2 is also provided with holes in its corners as clearly shown at 4.

The parts 1 and 2 are shown as of considerable thickness, and this is of importance in the preferred embodiment of my invention, for reasons hereinafter more particularly set forth.

In the practical manufacture of this invention, the parts are molded in the desired form and size with copper or soft steel wires as 5 imbedded therein, and then burned. Fire clay is the material used in constructing the device, and this is also an important part of my invention. Since fire clay is mostly silica and contains but little lime or alkalies it forms a hard, though brittle, support that absorbs the heat from the painful member at a uniform rate of speed. This heat so absorbed is passed off through the brick and so distributed that the temperature of the brick is not materially raised even over a comparatively long period of time.

When, therefore, these two parts 1 and 2 are placed in position as shown in Figure 1, they may be fastened by tying with a cord 6 passing through the opposite holes 3 and 4.

It is to be understood, of course, that while I have herein shown and described my invention as applied to but one specific portion of the body, it may equally as well be applied to any other portion by merely changing its shape. It is also to be understood, that while I have above described a device made up of two complementary elements, but one element may be used upon occasion.

It is also to be understood that the brick may be heated in any desirable manner and then placed in position upon the body, the brick thereby supplying heat to the painful parts for a long period of time.

I claim:—

A device of the character described, comprising a pair of complementary elements molded to the general conformation of the portion of the body which they are to embrace and made of plastic fire clay hardened with reinforcing means bedded therein, the said elements having orifices formed in their opposing edges, and lacing means engaging the opposing orifices.

MAT TUSUP.