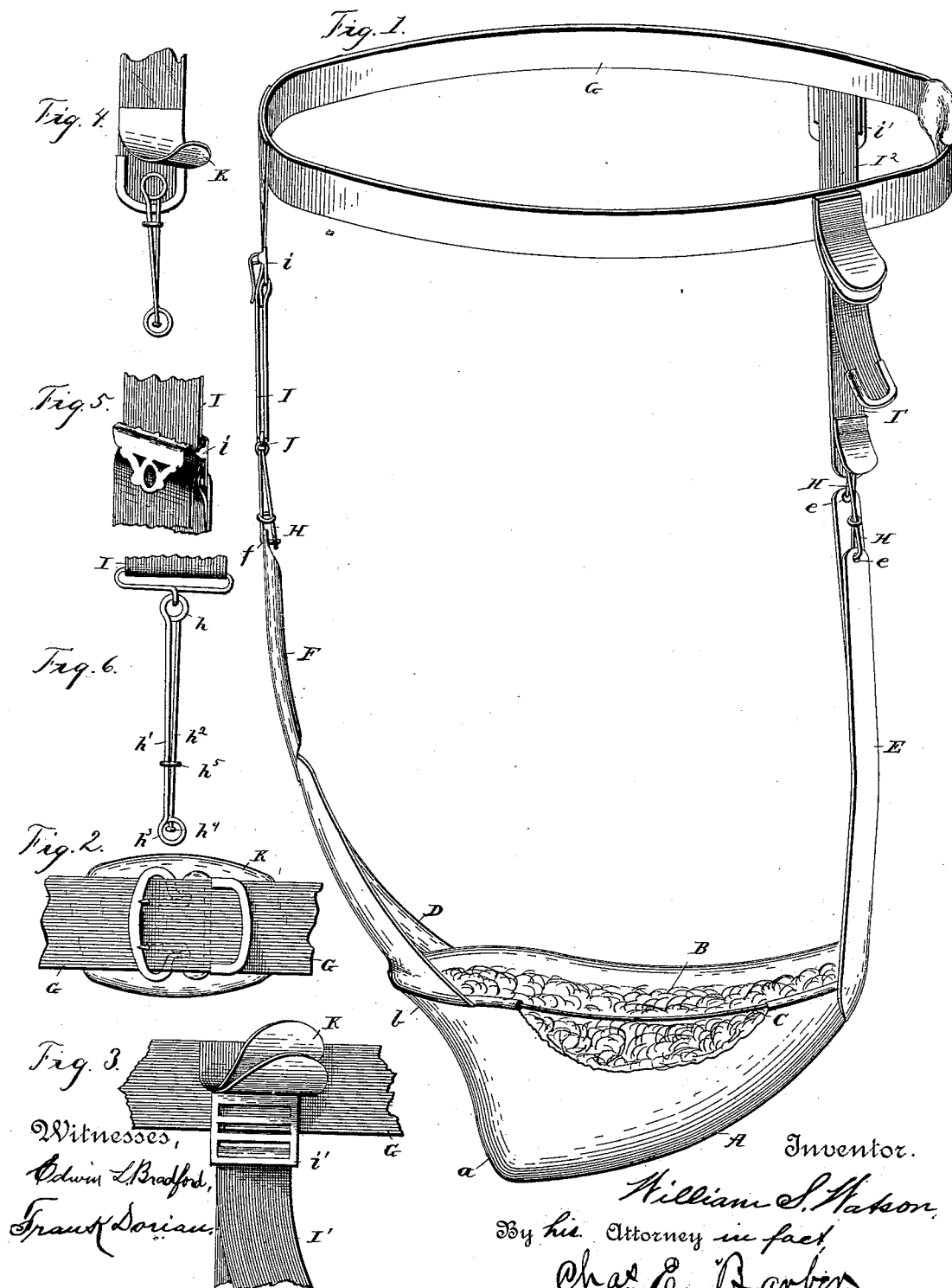


(No Model.)

W. S. WATSON.
CATAMENIAL SACK.

No. 393,408.

Patented Nov. 27, 1888.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM S. WATSON, OF MATTEAWAN, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO HENRY B. BEVIER, OF SAME PLACE.

CATAMENIAL SACK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 393,408, dated November 27, 1888.

Application filed November 21, 1887. Serial No. 355,832. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM S. WATSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Matteawan, in the county of Dutchess and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Catamenial Sacks, of which the following is so full, clear, and exact a description as will enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to an improvement in catamenial sacks, or sacks designed to be worn by females during the menstrual period; and it consists in certain peculiarities in the construction, arrangement, and combination of parts, substantially as will be hereinafter described, and particularly pointed out in the claim at the end of this specification.

In the accompanying drawings, illustrating my invention, similar letters of reference denote corresponding parts throughout the several views.

Figure 1 is a perspective of my improved catamenial sack, showing it in its entirety. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the form of buckle which I employ on the waist-belt. Fig. 3 is a detail of another form of buckle which I employ. Figs. 4 and 6 are detail representations of the clasps or hooks, showing the different manners of connecting them with the supporting-straps. Fig. 5 is a perspective of one form of buckle used on the depending straps.

A represents a sack or pouch proper, and B the raw cotton, sponge, or other absorbent material contained therein and adapted to catch and retain the discharge, and which material may or may not be medicated to prevent septic poison. This sack or pouch A may be made of any suitable impervious material; but it has been found by experiment that india-rubber will perform the function in a perfect manner and can be readily and easily cleansed when desired. From the rear of this pouch or sack A extends a strip, D, preferably of rubber, the sides of which are slightly bent up in order to form a trough, by means of which any of the discharge which overflows the pouch or sack will be guided back to it; and from the front of the sack two inelastic strips, E,

extend upwardly and are formed with re-enforced perforations *e* in their outer extremity for the reception of hooks, catches, or buckles situated upon the supporting-strips, as will be hereinafter fully described. The mouth of this sack or pouch A is held open or in a distended position by means of a spring-wire or other suitable device, C, as shown in Fig. 1, and the ends of the sack overlap this wire, so that no hard surface is presented to chafe the person of the wearer. The bottom of the sack or pouch A is formed inclined and is deepest at its rear extremity, *a*, which rear extremity extends preferably straight up for a suitable distance, when it may be curved outwardly, as at *b*, and continue to the upper extremity of the sack. It will thus be observed that when the wearer is in a sitting or reclining position the discharge will flow toward the rear end of the sack and will be held there, so that all tendency to overflow and soil the person or clothing of the wearer is avoided, and even though some small portion should overflow it will be guided back into the sack by the trough D, as heretofore explained. Extending upwardly from this trough D, and secured thereto by cementing or otherwise, is a tube or strap, F, of rubber or other suitable material, and adapted to rest between the nates when the device is in position upon the patient. Obviously by forming this portion F tubular in form it will be more pleasant to the wearer and less liable to chafe her, and by friction from constant wear the device will get more smooth and comfortable, if possible, owing to its being formed of rubber and of the form stated. This sack or pouch A is supported from the waist of the wearer by means of the belt G and the depending straps I, I', and I". The straps I' and I" are preferably made of some elastic material—as, for instance, garter-web—the purpose of which will be readily seen, and they are made independently adjustable, preferably by means of the buckles *i* and *i'*, the buckle *i* being shown in detail in Fig. 2 and the buckle *i'* being shown in detail in Fig. 3. To the lowermost extremities of the straps I' and I" hooks or clasps H are secured by stitching or otherwise, and a similar hook is also secured to the strap I; but

owing to the difference of the manner of adjustment between the straps I' and I² and that of I the hook of the said strap I is attached to a ring or loop, J, which encircles the said strap, and is adapted to be situated in the lowermost extremity of the said strap, as shown most clearly in Fig. 5. These hooks H are a feature of prime importance in my invention, and may be formed of a single piece of spring-wire bent into the form of a loop, *h*, at its upper extremity, and having a pair of downwardly-extending arms, *h'* and *h''*, one of the arms—as, for instance, *h''*—being formed with a projection, *h'*, extending, preferably, at an angle to the said arm, and the other of the said arms, as *h'*, being formed with a loop, *h''*, to receive the said projection. These arms are adjusted nearer to or away from each other, in order to clasp or unclasp the device, by means of a collar, *h'*. The hooks H serve to connect the rubber strip E and the tube F with the dependent straps I, I', and I², and for this purpose the said rubber strips and tube are formed with perforations *e* and *f*, respectively, and obviously the hooks *h''* of the clasps are adapted to be situated on one side of the said strip and tube, and the arm having the projection *h'* on the opposite side, with the said projections extending through the perforations *e* and *f* and through the ring or loop *h''*. It will thus be observed that by slipping the collar *h'* toward or away from the loop *h''* the two arms will be caused to come together or spring apart in order to secure the sack to the supports or disconnect it from them, as the case may be. It will be observed, further, that when the collar *h'* is slipped back from the loop *h''* the two arms will, by reason of their elasticity, spring

apart, and the sack can be removed from its support without the necessity of unbuckling the belt.

Each of the buckles, and in fact all of the parts of my device which will present a surface liable to chafe the wearer, is covered with a pad, *k*, of some sort of material—as, for instance, chamois-skin—as shown in the drawings.

Although I have described my device as being adapted to be used by females during the menstrual period, it will be quite obvious that it can be used during the local drainage following childbirth; also in case of inconstancy of the urine, and as a receptacle for all other discharges from the parts.

Having now described the construction, combination, and advantages of my invention, what I believe to be new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, and what I therefore claim, is—

A catamenial sack or receptacle, of rubber, having double hemmed and extended edges and an inclined bottom, and provided with an auxiliary extended trough at the rear extremity, and a spring-wire for holding its mouth in a distended position, in combination with straps at its front end, a tube or strap at its rear, and a belt and depending straps independently adjustable by means of buckles, all constructed and combined for the purposes set forth.

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

WILLIAM S. WATSON.

Witnesses:

H. B. BEVIER,
CONRAD BEVIER.