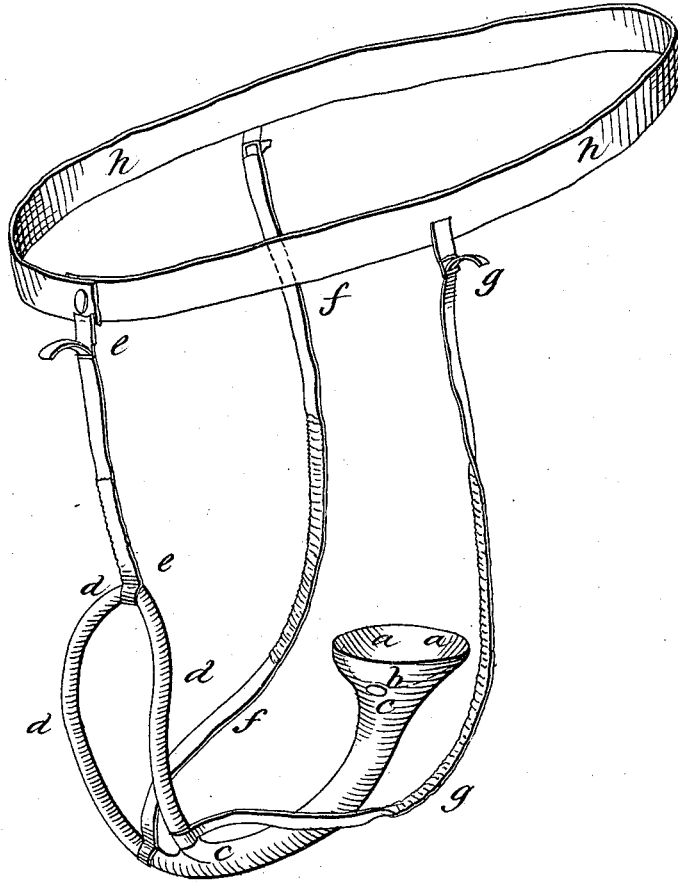


*J. H. Robinson,*

*Pessary,*

*N<sup>o</sup> 6,629.*

*Patented Aug. 7, 1849.*



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

J. H. ROBINSON, OF CHARLESTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS.

## PESSARY.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 6,629, dated August 7, 1849.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JONATHAN HOVEY ROBINSON, of Charlestown, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improved Pessary for the Radical Cure of Prolapsus Uteri, and that the following description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawing hereinafter referred to, forms a full and exact specification of the same, wherein I have set forth the nature and principles of my said invention by which it may be distinguished from others of the same class, together with such parts as I claim and desire to have secured to me by Letters Patent.

The pessaries which have heretofore been used, have been mostly either of an elliptical form or ring shape—which is pressed up so as to support the os uteri, having a hole through the center, and resting on the walls of the vagina, or with a silver tube, curved at the outer end and passing (straight) up the vagina, and having a cap of wood perforated which supports the os uteri; this last form being denominated the stem pessary. In the first named form for a pessary, as above suggested, the vagina has to support the instrument as well as the uterus, and by constant irritation serves only to increase the evil designed to be remedied. The stem pessary made with the silver tube and wooden cap, as above specified, is objectionable as being unyielding and non-elastic, and is exceedingly inconvenient, when the patient desires to attend to the calls of nature, as the supporting straps in all such cases, have to be unloosed.

By my improvements all these difficulties and objections are obviated, as in the first place, the several parts of the instrument are made of a compound, which is sufficiently rigid to give the proper support, and sufficiently elastic to be adapted to the parts, and to yield in case of a blow or great strain or unusual contortion or bending of the body. The substance of which the instrument is made, I denominate a carbonated mixture. It is compounded as follows: Take one half of a pound of gutta percha, and soften it in hot water, then add one quarter of a pound of chloroform and one

half of an ounce of carbon or pulverized charcoal; and mix them at a boiling heat, and the compound is then ready to be molded into the desired form.

The pessary as improved by me with the supporting bands, is represented in the accompanying drawing which is a perspective view of the whole.

*a a* is a bell shaped cap, made so as to fit appositely on, and receive the end of the prolapsed uterus. It should be made so small as not, by wearing contact, to irritate the walls of the vagina, and so as to permit the use of tonics or astringent liquids, introduced by syringe to contract the said walls that they may naturally sustain the falling part. A hole or perforation, *b*, of proper size is made near the front of this cap to allow the secretions to pass off. This cap is molded on the top of the bent cylindrical stem, *c c*, which is shaped as shown in the drawing, so as to pass up into, and rest in proper position in, the vagina. The bottom of this stem branches out in each direction into, or has molded onto it, an elliptical shield, as I term it, *d d d*, shaped as shown in the drawing, so as to fit properly around the labia. To the sides and front of this shield the supporting straps, *e e—f f—g g*, are connected, passing up, as shown in the drawing, to the body belt, *h h*. The two posterior straps, *f f* and *g g*, are connected to the shield on each side thereof near its junction with the stem, *c c*, and pass up behind the hips to the body belt, *h h*, but without covering, or coming very near to the anus, and opposing no obstacle to the operations of nature in this direction; while the front strap, *e e*, attached to the shield as represented, is connected to the body belt just over or near the umbilicus, and the use of the shield fitting the labia, as specified, permit urination to go on without moving or saturating the straps.

A stem pessary constructed of the substance above specified, will not be affected by heat of the body or the secretions of the parts, while its extreme lightness is of great importance; and the use of the shield for the reasons above specified, render it superior to any instrument heretofore devised.

Having thus described my improved stem-pessary, I shall state my claim as follows:

What I claim as my invention, and desire to have secured to me by Letters Patent is—

5 Forming a stem-pessary with a shield to fit around the labia, and to which the supporting straps may be connected, substantially in the manner and for the purpose herein above specified.

In testimony that the foregoing is a true 10 description of my said invention and improvements I have hereto set my signature this twelfth day of April, A. D. 1849.

J. H. ROBINSON.

Witnesses:

EZRA LINCOLN, Jr.,  
WM. SCHOULER.