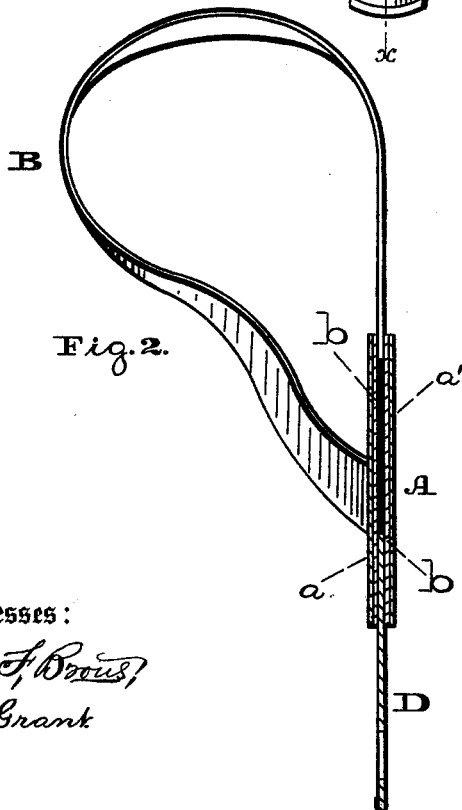
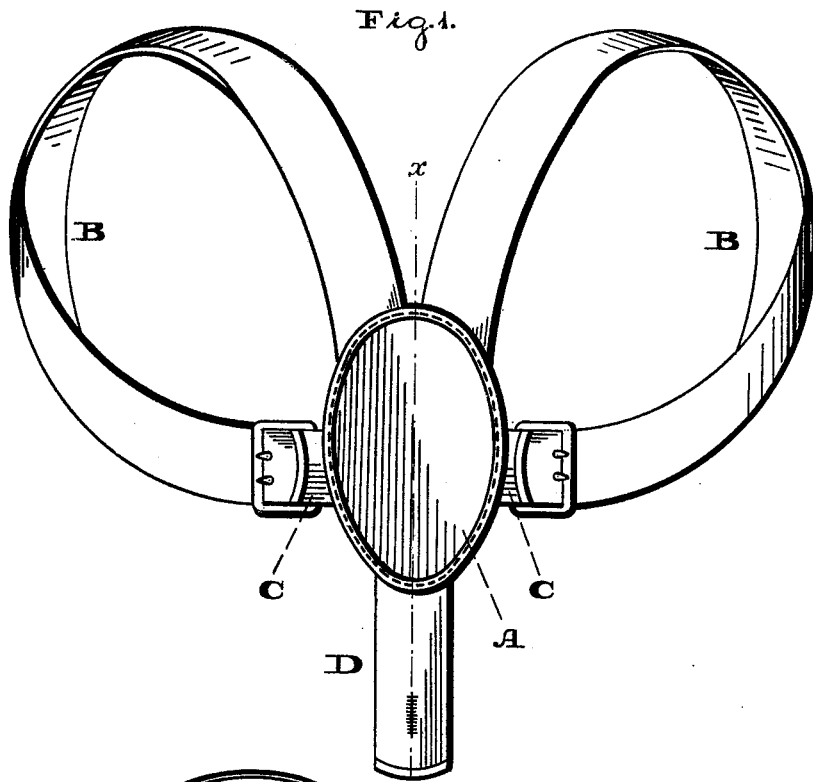


M. ALTMANN.
Shoulder-Braces.

No. 198,503.

Patented Dec. 25, 1877.



Witnesses:
Lewis F. Brown,
So. P. Grant

Inventor:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MORITZ ALTMANN, OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY.

IMPROVEMENT IN SHOULDER-BRACES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **198,503**, dated December 25, 1877; application filed November 9, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MORITZ ALTMANN, of the city and county of Camden, and State of New Jersey, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Ladies' Braces, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification and accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a rear view of the brace embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a central vertical section through the device shown in Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the two figures.

My invention relates to a lady's brace constructed of two elastic straps, adapted to be passed over the shoulders of the wearer, said straps being connected to a pad, which will occupy a position above the small of the back, from which pad is suspended a strap, to be connected to the waistband of a garment, for holding down the brace. The shoulder-straps are adjustable to size and to the amount of pressure required on the shoulders, and the pad is formed of material that is soft, preserves its shape, and of parts between which the ends of the shoulder and suspension straps are secured, so as to provide a flat and unbroken surface, which will bear on the bones of the back without harshness or liability of chafing.

Referring to the drawings, A represents a pad, to which are secured the shoulder-straps B and connecting-straps C. From the lower side of the pad there is suspended a strap, D, the several straps being elastic in their nature, the straps C having buckles or slides for adjustably connecting one end of the straps B to the pad A.

When the brace is in position the straps B pass from the pad up the back, over the shoulders, then under the shoulders, and return to the pad, and the strap D is connected to the waistband of the skirt or some other garment, so as to hold the brace in operative position.

It will be seen that the tendency of the brace

is to throw back the shoulders and chest of the wearer, the beneficial effects of which are apparent.

The elastic nature of the straps causes the brace to act powerfully, but without severity; and, owing to the adjustable connection of the straps B C, the brace may be made to fit persons of various sizes, and the degree of pressure may be nicely regulated.

The pad is made of pieces of fabric *a a'*, to each of which is united a stiffening and shaping piece, *b*, of leather, or other proper material not easily affected by moisture. The ends of the straps B C D, which are directly connected to the pad, are applied and clamped between the pieces *b*, the pieces *a b a' b* being stitched or otherwise connected, whereby said ends of the straps do not obstruct the inner surface *a* of the pad, or form irregularities thereat, so that said surface is flat and unbroken, and it will rest gently against the back without liability of rubbing or chafing the same. Moreover, the pad will retain its shape, so that crimping or wrinkling thereof is prevented.

The cheapness and simplicity, also, of the brace are apparent, there being no complication of parts, and no appearance of "surgeons' bandages," so called.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

As a new article of manufacture, the herein-described lady's brace, composed of the pad A, elastic shoulder-straps B, elastic connecting-straps C, with buckles, and the lower elastic suspended strap D, all substantially as herein shown and described, and for the purposes set forth.

MORITZ ALTMANN.

Witnesses:

JOHN A. WIEDERSHEIM,
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