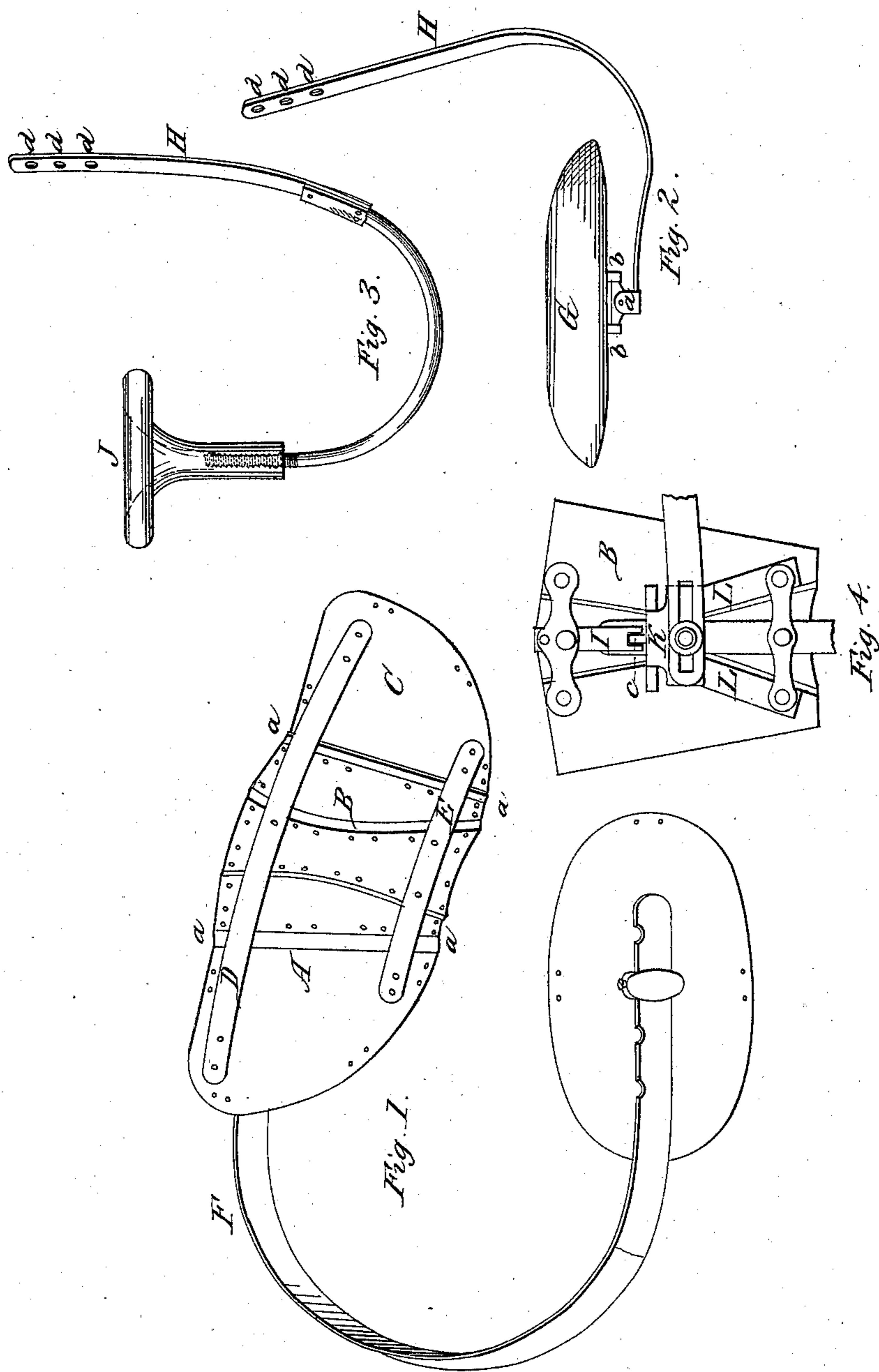


White, Marsh & Smith,

Peppars,

Nº 3,289,

Patented Sep. 24, 1843.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH WHITE, S. N. MARSH, AND H. SMITH, OF CANAJOHARIE, NEW YORK.

ABDOMINAL SUPPORTER.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 3,289, dated September 28, 1843.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOSEPH WHITE, SEYMOUR N. MARSH, and HENRY SMITH, of Canajoharie, in the county of Montgomery and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in the Manner of Constructing Utero Abdominal Supporters; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof.

The object of the utero abdominal supporter, it is well known to physicians, is to remove the weight of the abdominal from the pelvic viscera, by the proper application of mechanical means. For this purpose, what is denominated an abdominal pad has been advantageously used; and this pad we have improved in its manner of construction, in a way that will be presently explained. When the muscles of the abdomen, and the ligaments supporting the uterus, are relaxed, from any cause, the removal of undue weight from the pelvis will allow the parts to return to a more natural and healthy condition, and this may be effected by the use of the abdominal pad alone; and whenever there is much displacement of the uterus, this removal of pressure is essential to a cure. It is, also, important in many cases to combine a perineal support with the abdominal pad; and in others, to sustain the uterus by means of a pessary; and in order to give to our instrument the utmost degree of perfection, we have improved the perineal pad, and likewise the pessary, and adapted them in an advantageous manner to the abdominal pad, so that either the perineal pad, or the pessary, may be used in combination with the abdominal pad, according to the nature of the case.

The abdominal pad, the spring by which it is connected to the back-pad, and the said back-pad, are to be covered with leather, stuffed, and otherwise prepared, in any of the ways now in use, and which do not need to be represented, or described.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1, represents a skeleton of the abdominal supporter, the straps, leather covering, and stuffing not being attached thereto. Fig. 2, shows the improved perineal pad, and Fig. 3, the improved pessary; either of which may be combined with the abdominal pad, at pleasure.

Our improvement in the abdominal pad consists in our making it of three sepa-

rate plates, A, B, and C, which lap on each other at the lines of their junction, *a, a*; these plates we connect together by means of two elastic springs, D, and E, which we denominate respiratory springs, and which are united to the plates by means of rivets. By this manner of forming the basis of the pad of three plates, and of combining them together by means of springs, they adapt themselves better to the difference of conformation, and to the respiratory motions of the body than under any of the modes of construction heretofore adopted. The spring F, by which the abdominal and back pads are connected, is attached to the abdominal pad by means of the hinge joint, and is acted upon by an adjusting spring in the same manner with that adopted in the inguinal truss for which Seymour Marsh obtained Letters Patent under date of the 29th of March 1830; by which device, the under part of said abdominal pad is thrown inward and is made the more perfectly to support the weight of the viscera.

Our improved perineal pad is made entirely of silver, or of other metal well plated with silver, or of any metal not liable to corrosion by the agents to which it is subjected. It is shown at G, Fig. 2. In its form, it resembles such perineal pads as have been covered with india-rubber, varnished leather, or other similar material; but by substituting a surface of silver, or other suitable metal, for any of these, all alteration from corrosion, temperature, or other agents is completely obviated, and the most perfect cleanliness is secured. This change of material constitutes, therefore, a substantial improvement in the instrument. The pad is connected to a steel spring H, by means of a double joint, there being a joint pin at *a*, and two entering the small studs at *b, b*. The spring, H, is plated with silver, or it may be made of German silver; and it is so connected with the abdominal pad as that it may be readily removed and replaced when requisite. Its mode of connection is shown in Fig. 4, where B, is the middle part of the abdominal pad, and I, is a spring, having a small friction roller *c*, at its lower end, which falls into one of the holes *d, d, d*, in the spring H, and holds it in place, allowing it to be moved up or down, or entirely detached.

J, Fig. 3, shows our improved pessary, attached to the spring H, by means of the plated, or other suitable, wire, K; the spring

H, is to be connected with the abdominal pad, in the manner already described. In this figure, the hinge and springs used in the inguinal truss are also shown as applied to this supporter; K, is the hinge, and L, L, springs which bear on its inner side, being furnished with small friction rollers, like that shown at c. This pessary is of silver, or is plated with silver, or made of, or coated with any metal not liable to corrosion, and it may be perfectly adjusted by means of the screw e, which is tapped into its neck. From the material employed, it presents all the advantages of cleanliness appertaining to the improved perineal pad, while the manner of keeping it in place is superior to any known mode.

Having thus, fully described the respective improvements made by us in the abdominal supporter, what we claim therein

as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The manner of forming the abdominal pad of three plates of metal, connected together by means of springs, as herein set forth. 25

2. We claim the combining of the perineal with the abdominal pad, under an arrangement of the respective parts such as is above described. 30

3. We claim, likewise, the combining of an adjustable pessary with the abdominal pad, substantially in the manner above fully made known.

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S. N. MARSH.
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Witnesses:

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