

A. A. Starr,
Catamenial Sack,

No. 11,574,

Patented Aug. 22, 1854.

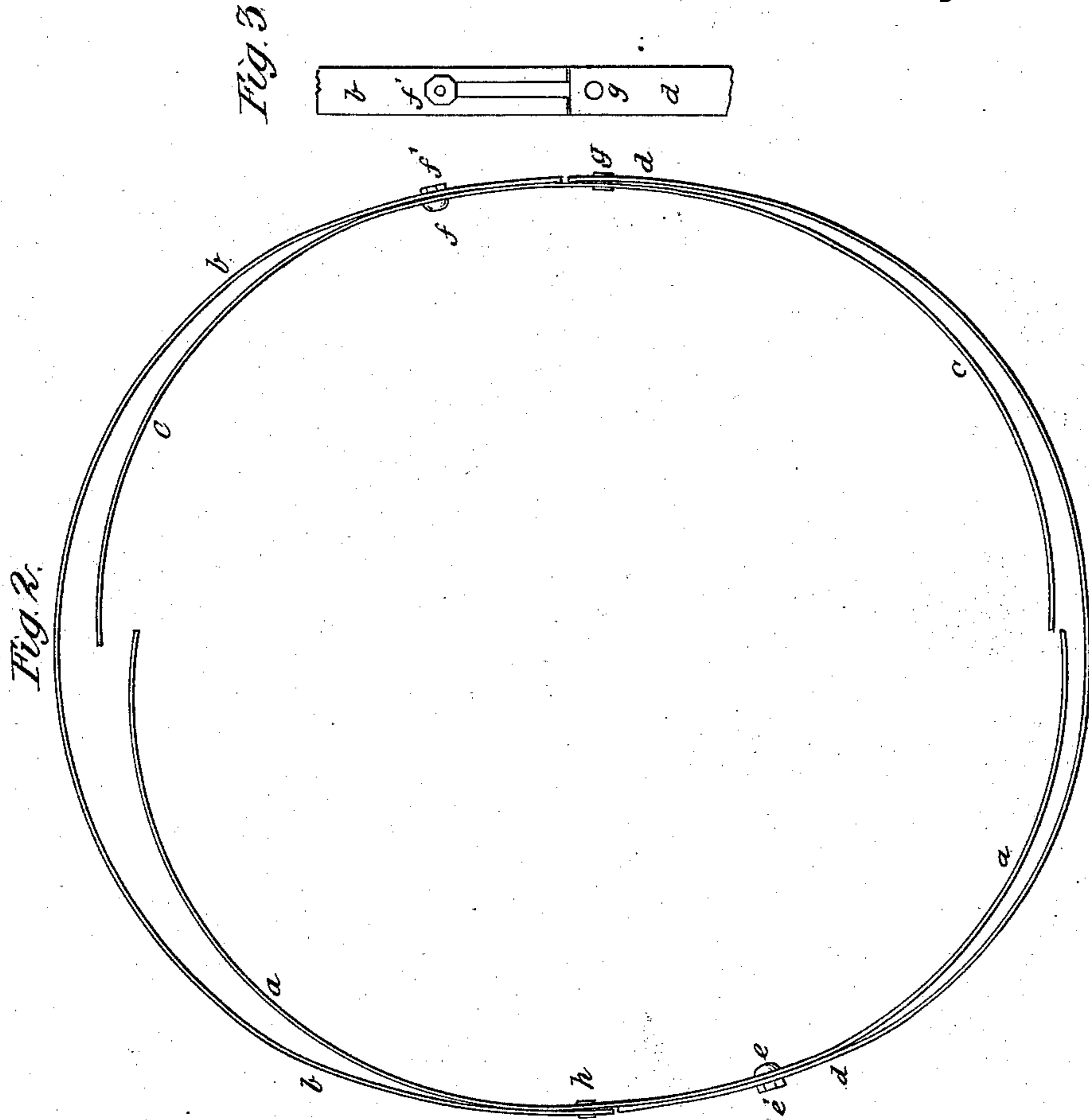


Fig. 3.

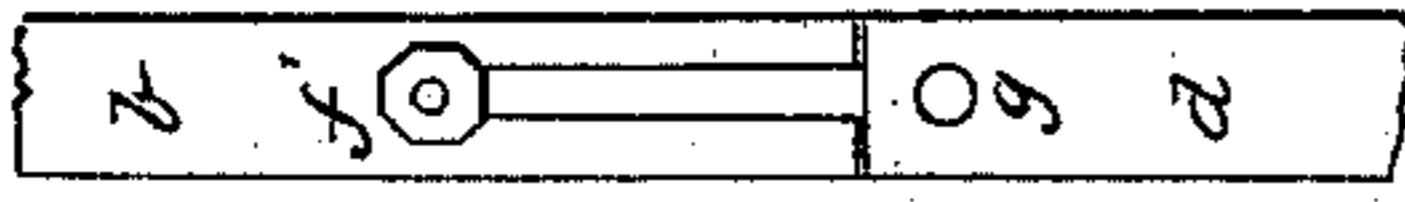
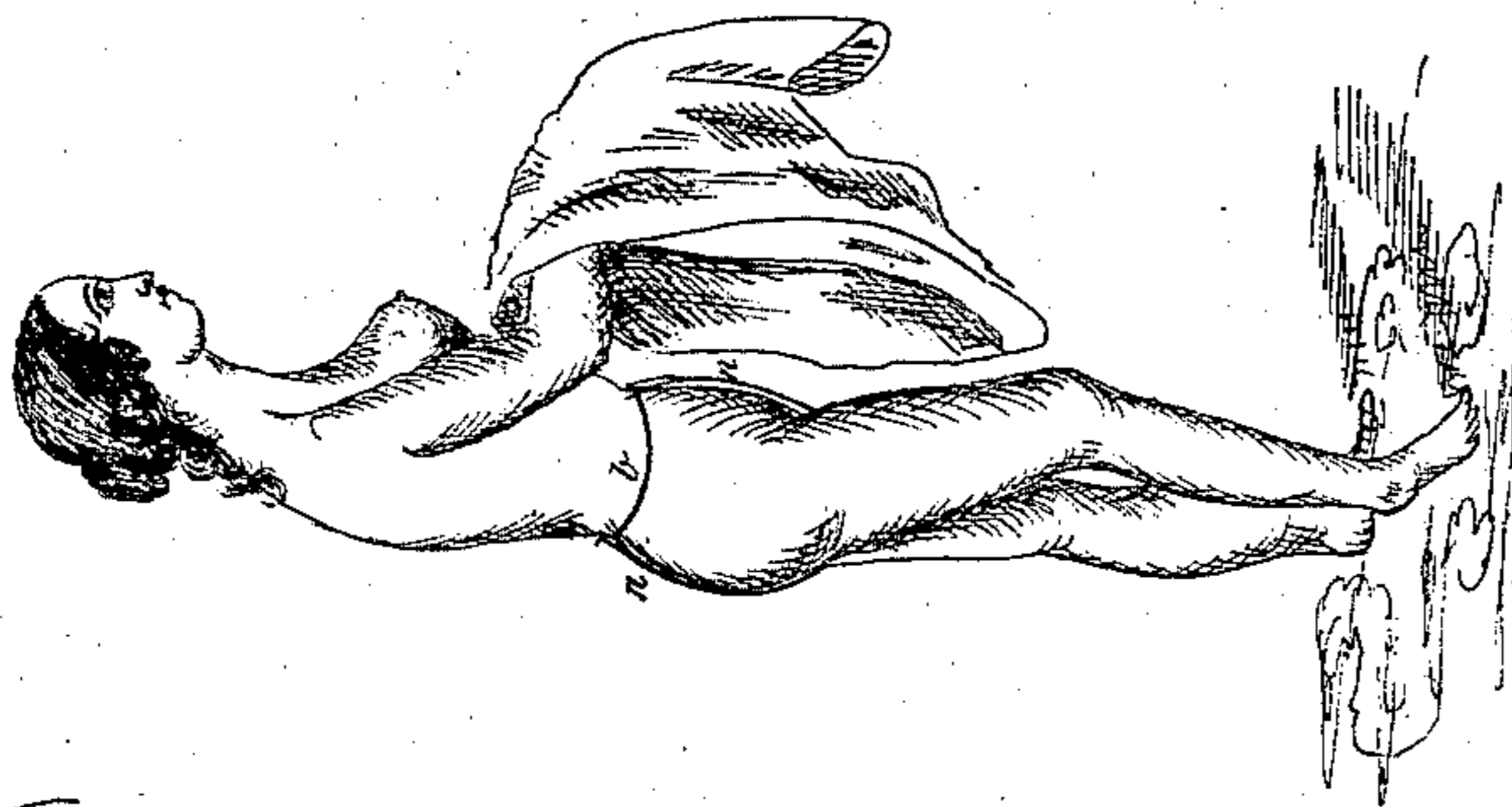


Fig. 1.



Witnesses

A. H. Beach
P. M. & Son

Inventor.

A. A. Starr

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALFRED A. STARR, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

CATAMENIAL SUPPORTER.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 11,574, dated August 22, 1854.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALFRED A. STARR, of New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Apparatus for Females, entitled the "Catamenial Ameliator"; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof.

The nature of my improvement consists in providing a double-acting spring intended to girdle the waist of the female, to which the napkins used to cover the vulva during the period of menstruation may be conveniently attached.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my improvement I will proceed to describe its construction and operation, reference being had to the annexed drawings forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 exhibits the mode of using my improvement. Fig. 2, top view of the spring. Fig. 3, section of the same.

Similar letters refer to like parts.

a, inner spring. *b*, outer spring. *c* inner spring. *d* outer spring. *e e'* adjusting screw. *f f'* adjusting screw. *g, h*, rivets. *n* napkin.

The method usually adopted by females to secure themselves from inconvenience during their menstrual periods is to girdle themselves with a tape or string to which the ends of the napkin used to cover the vulva are attached. This method is attended with several objectionable features: such as the inconvenience of adjusting the napkins and the tendency of the girdling-string to chafe, and cut into the flesh, producing pain and soreness. By the employment of my catamenial ameliator these objections are done away with.

This apparatus consists of four light elastic steel-springs. The inner spring, *a*, is united to the outer semicircular spring, *b*, by means of a rivet at, *h*. The inner spring, *c*, is riveted to the outer semicircular spring, *d*, by means of a rivet at, *g*. The outer spring, *b*, is adjusted and fastened to the outer spring, *d*, by means of an adjusting screw at, *f*, of which *f'* is the nut. The outer spring, *b*, is slotted in the manner shown in Fig. 3. The other end of the outer spring, *d*, is slotted and secured in the same manner by means of an adjusting screw at, *e*, with nut *e'*, as shown. This combination forms an elastic girdle possessing the property of adjusting itself to the form of the individual wearing the same; while by its adjusting screws its pressure upon the body may be regulated at pleasure. In order to apply it to the waist the two parts, *b*, and, *e*, are supported and placed around the waist. The slotted ends are now placed under the nuts of their respective adjusting screws, and the nuts screwed up to the proper degree of tightness. The ends of the napkin are now attached to this elastic girdle in the manner seen in Fig. 1. The girdle may be bound round with a covering of fine leather or other suitable material, if desired.

Having thus described my invention I claim—

The combination of the elastic springs, *a*, *b*, *c*, *d*, in the manner and for the purposes set forth.

ALFRED A. STARR.

Witnesses:

A. G. BEACH,
P. McDONNELL.