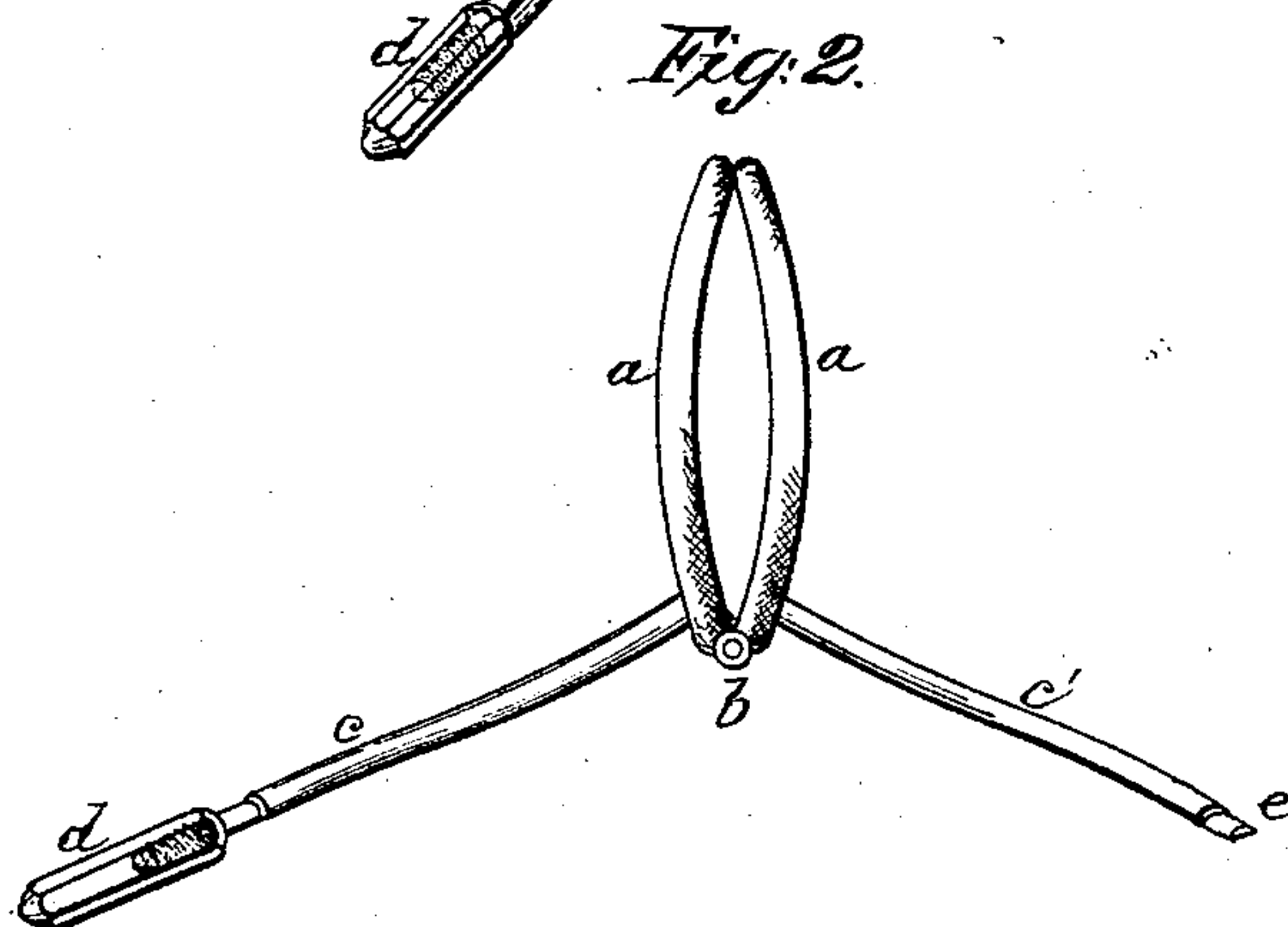
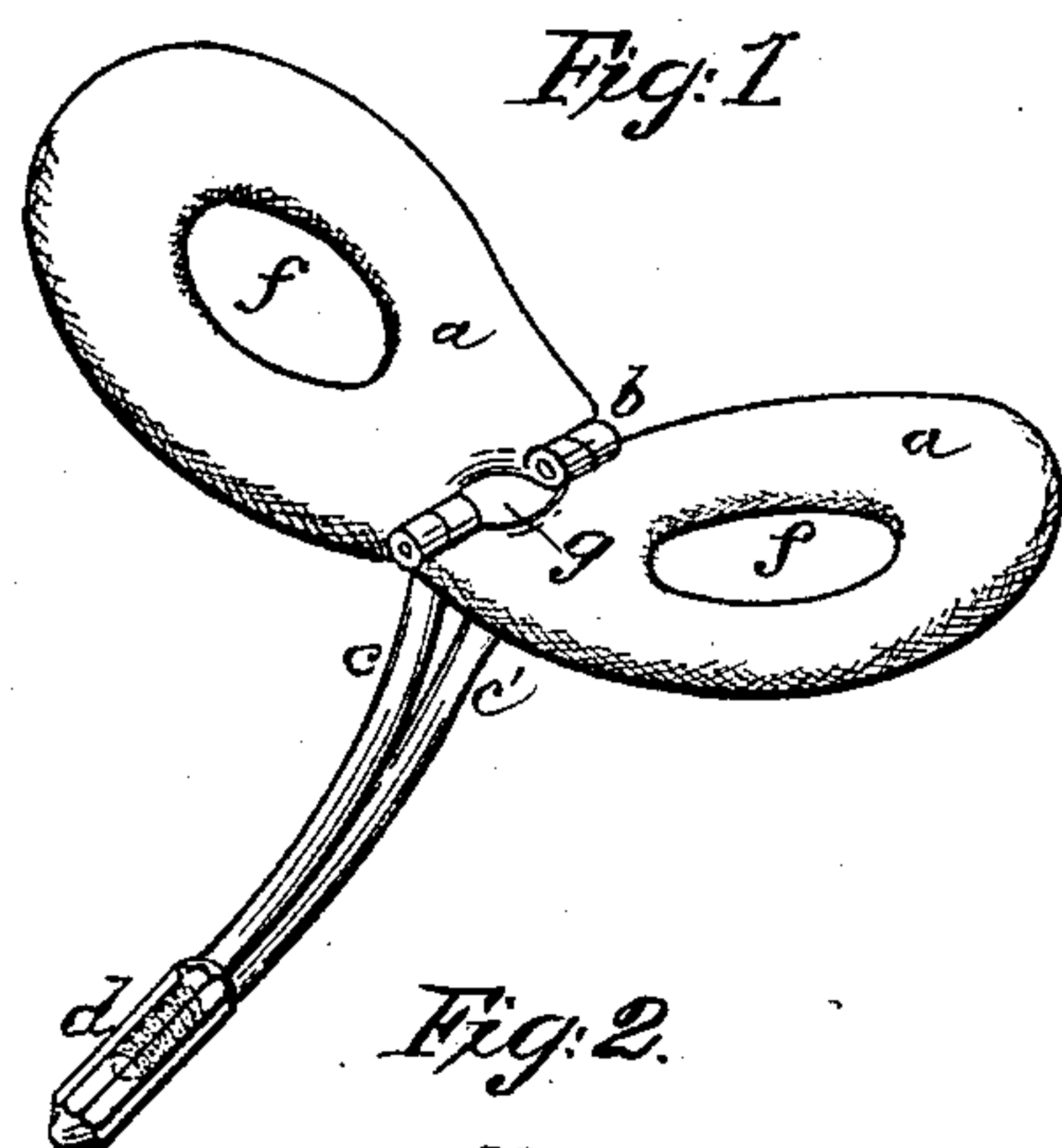


H. A. Rosenthal,

Pessary,

No. 12,965.

Patented May 29, 1855.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY A. ROSENTHAL, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

UTERINE SUPPORTER.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 12,965, dated May 29, 1855.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY A. ROSENTHAL, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Instrument to Support the Uterus in Cases of Prolapsus Uteri; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view natural size of my uterine supporter in the condition in which it supports the uterus, and Fig. 2, a front view of the same in the condition in which it enters the body.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both figures.

This invention consists in an instrument composed of two supporting plates or leaves and a double shank or stem; the said plates or leaves being connected together in such a manner as to be capable of folding to pass without difficulty into the vagina, and when inserted far enough into the vagina, of being extended into such form as to rest upon the parts at the sides of the upper part of the vagina to support the uterus, and the double shank or stem being for the purpose of folding the supporting plates or leaves together to insert them in and withdraw them from the body, and of extending them when in the body.

a, a , are the supporting plates or leaves, both of similar form having their inner ends straight to enable them to be hinged together by a hinge b , their sides nearly parallel and their outer ends rounded. They are curved in such a way that when extended they form an inverted arch as shown in Fig. 1. The best material for these plates or leaves is metal plate coated with gutta percha, or some other anticorrosive substance, c, c' , are two light metal rods attached one to the under side or back of each of the plates or leaves, forming the shank or stem above spoken of. These stand nearly perpendicular to the plates or leaves, but are slightly curved as shown in Fig. 1, so that when the plates or leaves are extended and the said rods are drawn together, the latter may occupy an easy position within the vagina. This curved form also prevents the shank turning, and thereby keeps the leaves from getting out of place. The

rod c , is formed with a screw on its extremity which is provided with a nut d , and the extremity of the other rod c' , is so formed as shown at e , Fig. 2 that when the nut is unscrewed to a suitable extent the part e , may be brought close to the rod c , and may be secured by the nut when it is screwed up the rod c . The nut should be so applied that it cannot easily be unscrewed entirely from the rod c . The rods, the nut, and the hinge should all be varnished with some varnish that will not be affected by the secretions of the body.

The instrument should be applied while the patient has been for some time in a recumbent position so that the uterus may have assumed its natural position or may be easily forced into that position by the act of inserting the instrument in the body. The instrument must be applied with the nut d , unscrewed, and the rods of the shank separated far enough to bring the supporting plates or leaves close together as shown in Fig. 2; the plates or leaves being kept as nearly as possible parallel with an imaginary plane intersecting the body centrally. When inserted as far into the vagina as the shank will allow, the plates or leaves should be extended by drawing together the two rods c, c' , forming the shank, and as they are extended should be gradually pushed inward. When they are fully extended as shown in Fig. 1, and the two rods of the shank are drawn close together the nut d should be screwed up to confine the shank, and keep the plates or leaves extended in which condition they will find a suitable resting place, and cannot be accidentally withdrawn. The shank will then be within the vagina with but little more than the nut d , protruding beyond the pubes. To withdraw the instrument it is only necessary to unscrew the nut d , and then gradually extend and draw out the shank c, c' , which will close and withdraw the leaves or plates.

The extended leaves or plates a, a , will form a proper and efficient support for the uterus and enable the female to perform her usual household or other duties and take all reasonable exercise without difficulty. In most cases she may apply the instrument herself, removing it on retiring to rest and reinserting it before rising.

I prefer to make the plates or leaves each with an opening f . This not only dimin-

ishes their weight, but gives them a better hold to retain their proper position and also provides for the escape of secretions. I also provide a central opening *g*, for the
5 escape of secretions and to allow the functions of nature to proceed while the instrument is worn.

The instrument in addition to serving as a supporter, will serve as a medium by which
10 medicines may be applied to the parts to effect permanent cure of the disease.

What I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The uterine supporter composed of the two supporting leaves *a*, *a*, and the double 15 shank *c*, *c'*, combined to be applied substantially as herein fully set forth.

HENRY A. ROSENTHAL.

Witnesses:

JAS. GEO. MASON,
WILLIAM TUSCH.