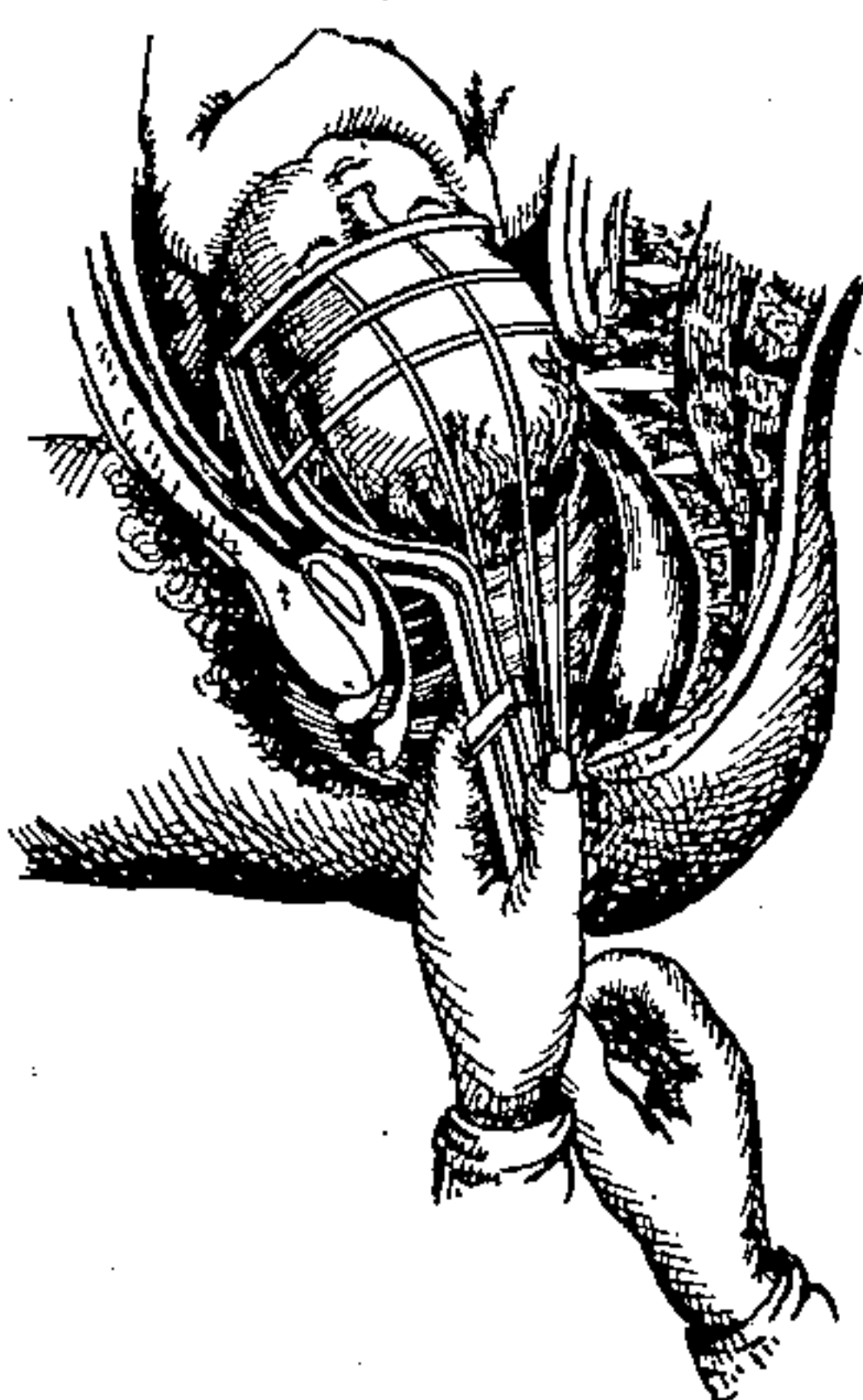


*A. C. Buffum,*  
*Obstetrical Instrument.*

*N<sup>o</sup> 13,453.*

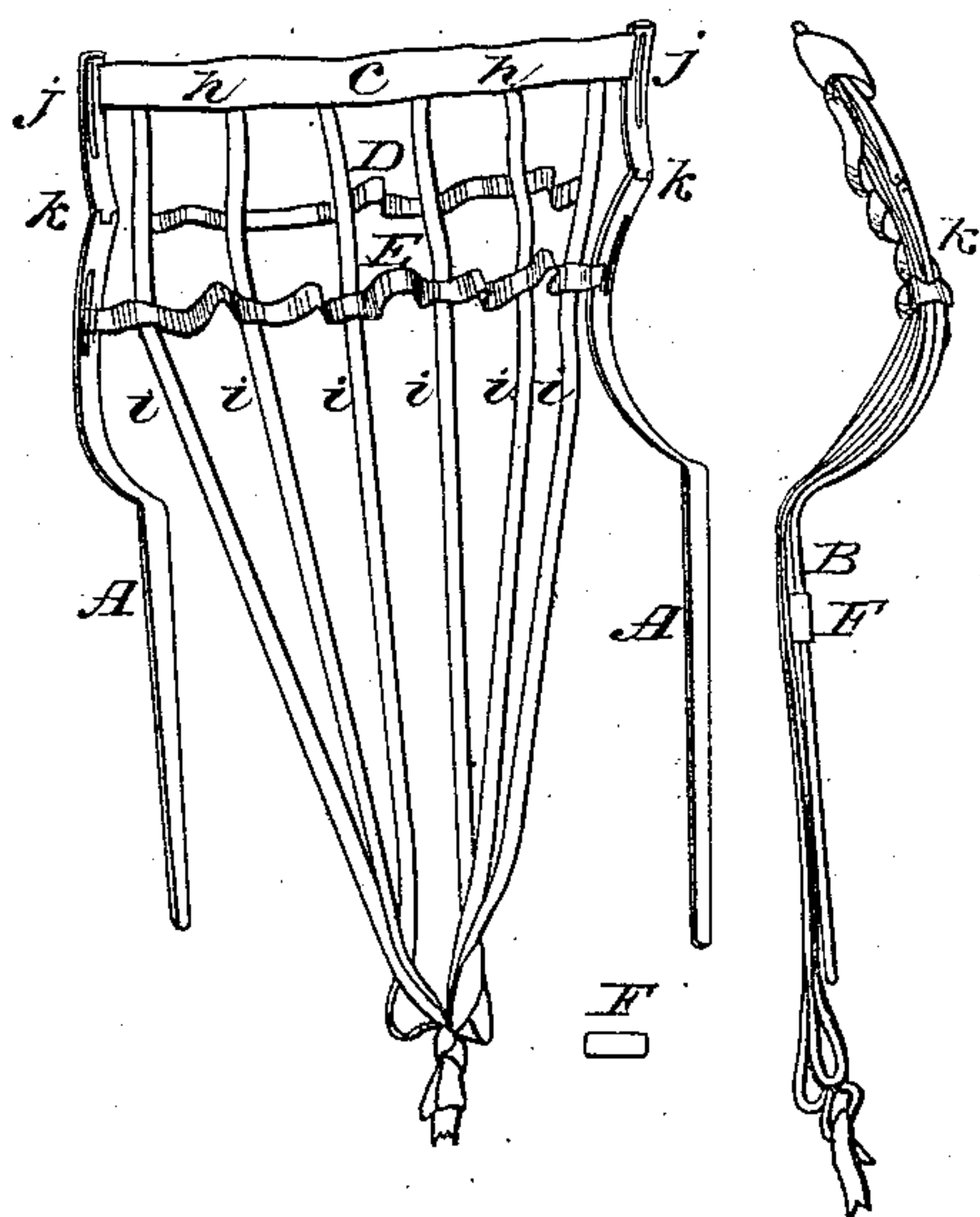
*Patented Aug. 21, 1855.*

*Fig 3*



*Fig 1*

*Fig 2*



*Witnesses:*

*Chas A Fowler*  
*E John Warren*

*Inventor:*

*Almond C. Buffum*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

A. C. BUFFUM, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

## OBSTETRICAL EXTRACTOR.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 13,453, dated August 21, 1855.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ALMOND C. BUFFUM, of the city of Chicago, county of Cook, and State of Illinois, have invented a new Instrument to Aid in the Delivery of Children, and which I call an "Obstetrical Extractor;" and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description of the same.

10 The obstetrical extractor (of which we have a perspective view in the accompanying Figure 1) consists of two finely polished steel fingers A A each twelve inches in length, one half an inch in width and 15 one eighth of an inch in thickness, six inches or one half of the length being curved, and having a joint, *k, k*, two inches from the upper end of the instrument; these fingers are connected by two cross bands, C and E. 20 The band C is eight and one half inches in length and one inch in width and connects the fingers at the upper extremity of the instrument. The band E, is fourteen inches in length, one half inch in width and of 25 double thickness. It connects the fingers at the center of the curve. To the crossband C are attached six straps, eighteen inches in length and one half inch in width; they are represented in the figure by the letters, *i, i,* 30 *i, i, i, i.* These down straps are kept in their proper position by a third cross band D, which however is not connected with the fingers of the instrument; the down straps are made to pass through the cross band E. 35 The fingers of the instrument, at the places where the cross bands C and E are connected with them, have in them fenestræ *j, j,* *j, j*, an inch and a quarter in length and a quarter of an inch in width. There is also 40 a steel slide F, which is used to keep the fingers A, A, in their proper position and for other purposes, as will more fully appear when I come to a description of the manner of using the instrument. All the bands and 45 straps are made of sewing silk.

To prepare the obstetrical extractor for application double the cross bands C, and E, at *h, h*, and draw the folds through the fenestræ *j, j*, entering on the concave side 50 of the fingers until the fingers are brought together, when the slide F, should be placed

upon the handles A, A, taking care to keep the down straps on the inner or concave side of the fingers, and the crossbands drawn through and folded on the back or convex 55 side of the fingers at an angle of about forty five degrees as seen in cut No. 2. The instrument thus prepared should be lubricated with soap or oil and warmed in warm water, and the patient having been placed in a 60 comfortable position either on the back or side, the accoucheur should take the instrument in his right hand with the index fingers upon the folds of the cross bands, on the convex side of the fingers of the instrument, 65 and having one or two of the fingers of the left hand at the presenting part of the head of the child, the instrument should be carried gently along the fingers of the left hand into the os uteri, thence over the convexity of the 70 head of the child until the angle of the instrument (B) touches the top of the head when the slide F is removed, the fingers of the instrument gently separated and carried around the head until they meet on the op- 75 posite side, when the slide is again placed upon the fingers of the instrument which holds them firmly together or in other words buckles the cross bands of the web of the instrument as seen in Fig. 3 hereto attached. 80 The force is to be applied to the down straps *i, i*, the handles serving as a guide in rotating the head as the occasion requires.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. An obstetrical extractor, which from 85 the peculiar form of its fingers, and by means of three cross bands interlaced by down straps (as shown in Fig. 1) so clasps and supports the head of the child as that the force necessary to assist its delivery can 90 be applied without injury to mother or child.

2. I also claim that by means of the fenestræ the instrument can be folded ready for application so small and of such shape that 95 it can be applied more readily and with less risk and pain to the patient than any forceps or other extractor in use.

ALMOND C. BUFFUM.

Witnesses:

CHAS. A. FOWLER,  
C. JOHN WARREN.