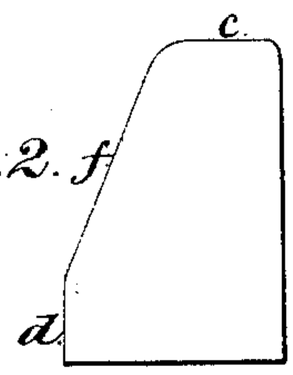
L. B. McLain, Sr.,

Truss Pad.

No. 21,767. Patented Oct. 12, 1858.

Fig. 2.



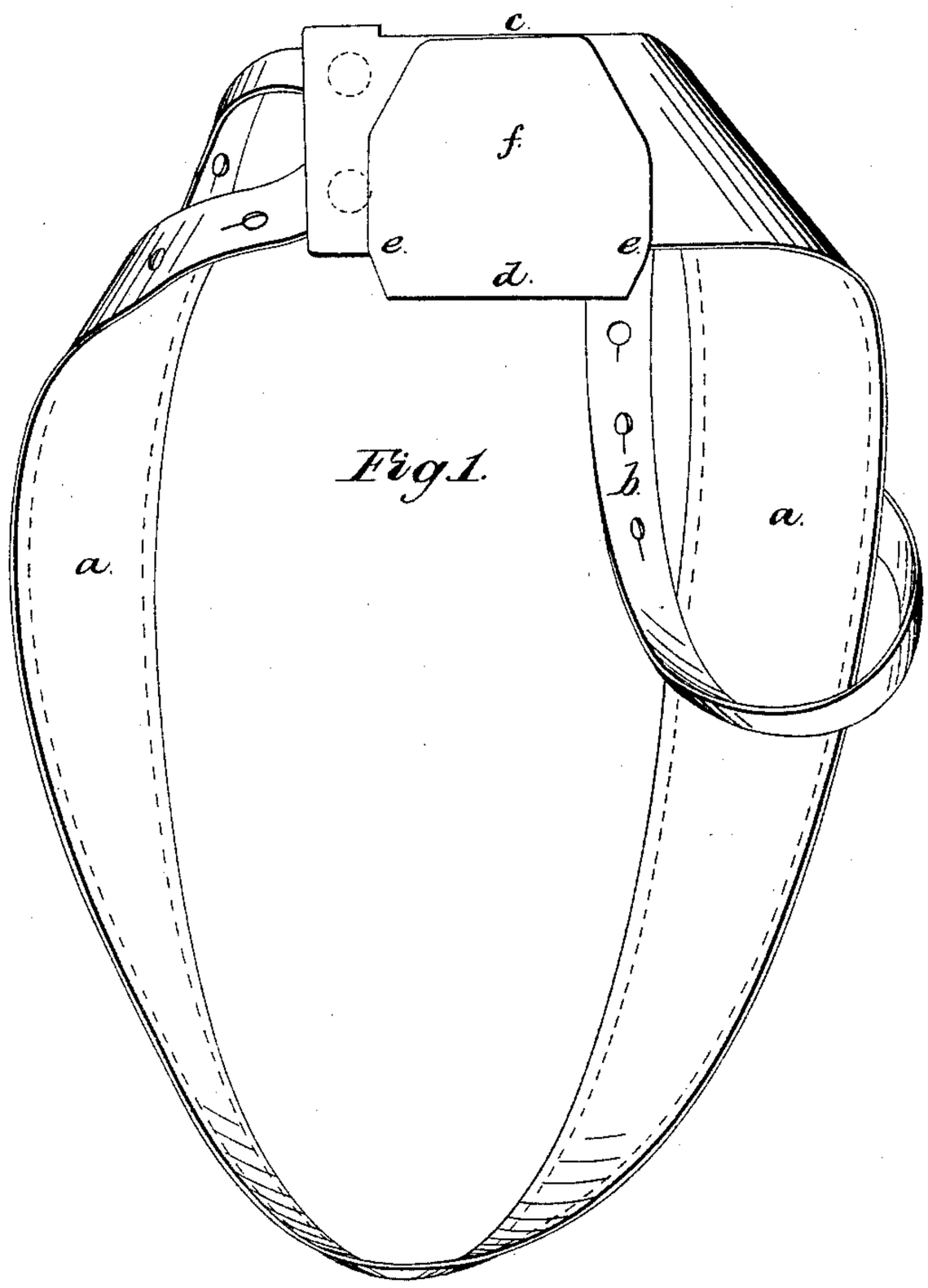


Fig. 1.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LAZARUS B. McLAIN, SR., OF NEW LISBON, OHIO.

TRUSS-PAD.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 21,767, dated October 12, 1858.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LAZARUS B. McLAIN, Sr., of New Lisbon, in the county of Columbiana and State of Ohio, have invented an Improvement in Pads for Trusses for Hernia or Rupture; 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, by Figure 1 of which is represented a front view of the pad and straps, and by Fig. 2 a side view of the pad.

My invention is the result of many years' experience in applying trusses for the radical cure of hernia.

The leading objects governing me in getting up the invention relate to efficiency, cheapness and durability.

A leading feature of my invention is its simplicity;—it can be constructed by any individual who can cut a piece of wood into form, can be readily and easily applied, and is not likely to get out of order, as are more complicated pads.

As shown by the drawing the pad has attached to it the ordinary body strap (*a*) with the usual thigh strap (*b*); but it may be used with springs, or a spring either with or without a strap, or with any other suitable means for holding it against the body and producing the required pressure.

The pad may be constructed of hardened india rubber; gutta percha; of glass; of metal or any unyielding or inelastic substance. When made of glass or metal it may be cast in suitable molds and made wholly solid or to some extent hollow, as may be preferred. I generally construct the pad of dry wood, and when so constructing it I take a block which has been turned into a cone having about one quarter less height than diameter at its base. I first divide this conical block into two pieces by a central vertical line; then on a horizontal line I cut off a small part of the top as shown at (*c*), beveling both of the edges of the cut as indicated by Fig. 2. I then make a plane face at the bottom edge of the block (*d*) and give curved faces to its sides. When the pad thus constructed is applied to an inguinal or a femoral hernia the plane face (*d*) is fitted against the abdominal ring or protruding opening of the hernia, the curved face (*f*) of the block above it being adapted to the walls of the abdomen. The other curved and beveled surfaces are formed with the view of accommodating the pad to the motions of the body, so that only rounded or curved surfaces of the block in the various movements of the body shall be brought in contact with the surface of the abdomen. It will be noticed, therefore, that the surface of my pad which makes pressure upon the protruding sac or rupture is a plane surface, and that I provide support to the abdominal walls immediately above the sac, by a surface whose line of curve or convexity is nearly if not quite parallel to the natural line of the abdomen in all the usual motions of the body.

The pad is one of very easy fitting and especially so to the laboring man for whose use it was more particularly invented. Its plane pressure surface has been found to act very satisfactorily.

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

Constructing pads for trusses, for hernia or rupture, of solid blocks of half cones with plane and curved faces, as herein set forth.

LAZARUS B. McLAIN, Sr.

Witnesses:

JNO. JOHNSON,

T. T. EVERETT.