

No. 24,033.

H. S. Lesher's Combined Breast Pads
and Arm-Pit Shields.

Patented May 17, 1859.

Fig. 1

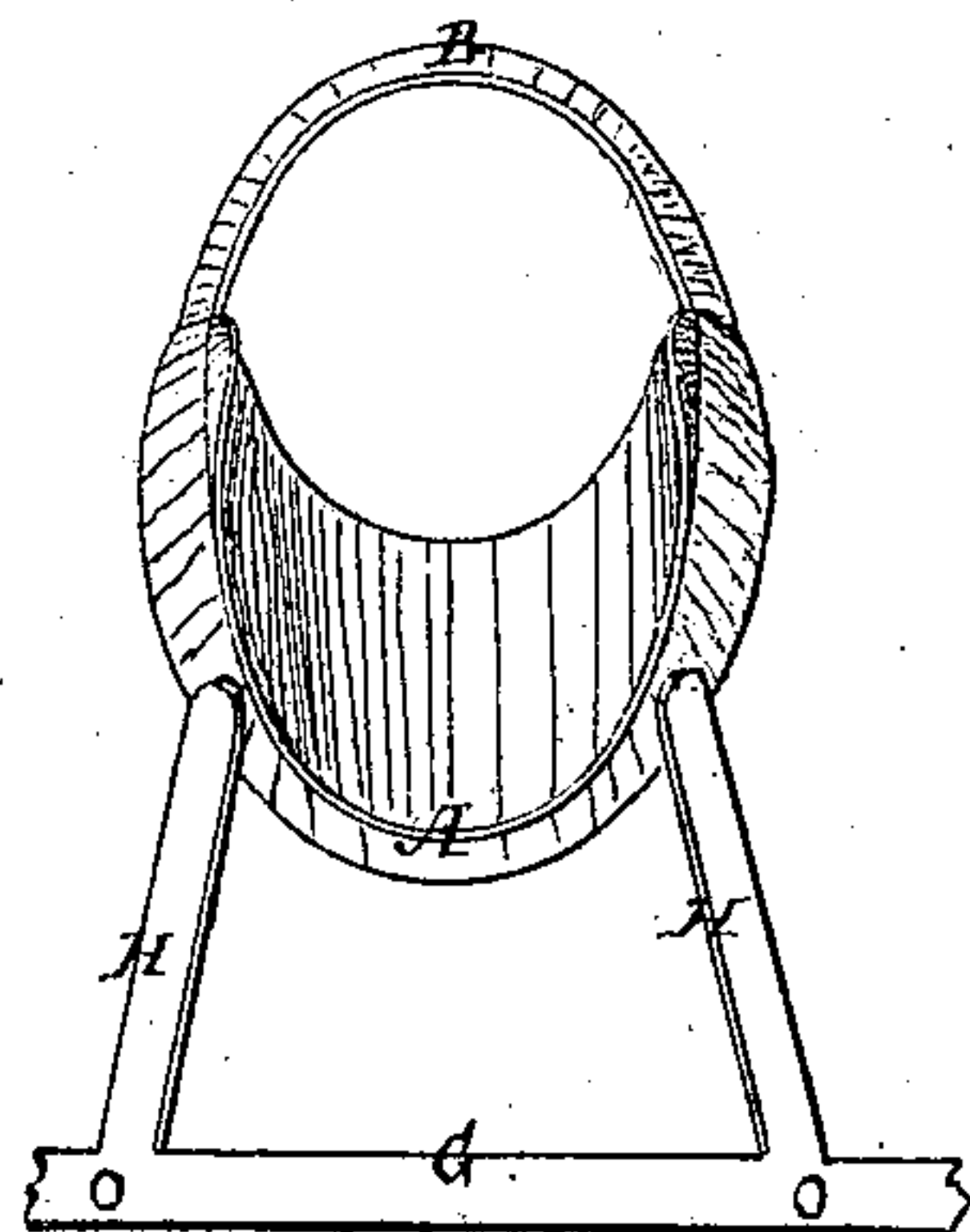
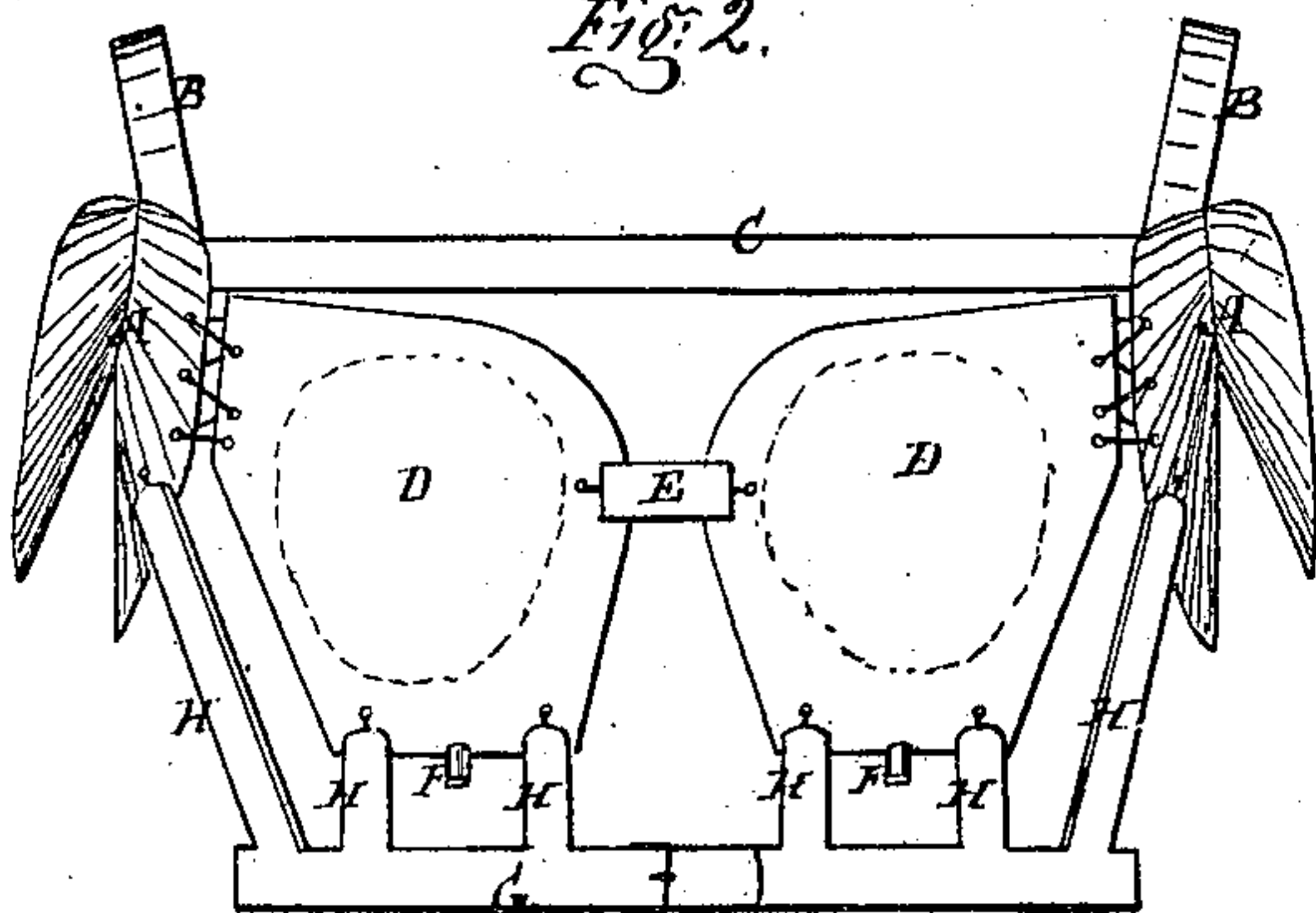


Witnesses
L. P. M. M.
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Fig. 3.

Fig. 2.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY S. LESHER, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

BREAST-PAD AND PERSPIRATION-SHIELD.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 24,033, dated May 17, 1859.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY S. LESHER, of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented a new and useful improvement, being a new article of wearing-apparel for ladies, produced by a combination of breast-pads and arm-pit shields; 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, making part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the article, applied to the person. Fig. 2 is a front elevation of the same, detached and partially flattened. Fig. 3 is a side view of one of the arm-pit shields, with the shoulder and suspending braces attached.

Similar letters in the figures refer to corresponding parts.

This invention and improvement consists in producing a new article of wearing apparel for ladies, which shall prevent the arm-pits of their dresses from becoming saturated and stained by perspiration, give a symmetrical rotundity to their breasts and a more comfortable and graceful support to the skirts of their dress than heretofore.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

The shields A, for protecting the arm-pits of the dress from perspiration, are made of thin and extremely flexible india rubber cloth or other soft and yielding cloth impervious to moisture, and are of a shape to correspond with the arm-pits and to freely conform with the movements of the arms, each of said shields having two semi-elliptical flaps, between which the arm-pits of the dress or frock fit. They are provided with elastic shoulder braces B, for supporting them to the shoulders of the wearer and an elastic back and shoulder brace C, for connecting them together at their upper rear parts. They are also connected at their upper front parts, by cords and eyelets or other suitable means, to the upper parts of the side edges of pads D, whose opposite curved edges are attached together by a single elastic band E, which is hooked or otherwise fastened to each. These pads D, are made of india rubber cloth, and hollow, so as to be capable of being inflated with air,

with which they can be supplied from the mouth of a person through small tubes F, similar to those employed for inflating air cushions, and are made tapering downward, with their tops rounding or curving toward each other to the point where they are connected, in such a manner as to exactly imitate, when applied to the person, a lady's breasts.

The shields A, and pads D, thus connected and combined, are attached to a waist band or belt G, by elastic bands H, two on each of the pads and shields, which bands H, extend down the side and front part of the person to the waist, and serve the double purpose of assisting in properly holding the pads D, and shields in their places, and of sustaining the waist band G, to which the skirts are buttoned or otherwise attached, directly below the points where the elastic bands H, of the shields are affixed to the said waist band.

Apart from the advantages derived from the pads D, in giving symmetry and beauty to the person, and the office they perform in assisting to hold the arm pit shields A, in their places, they will be found useful (from their soft and elastic nature and the slight tendency they have to press upward) in giving support to the breasts, no matter what may be their state of development.

In the event of one side of the breast being less developed than the other, as is frequently the case, it is only necessary to inflate the pad on the deficient side more than the other to hide this defect from view. This article may be either applied to a fully or deficiently developed person, as in the former case the pads will not contain any air, and will not, therefore, enlarge the bust so much as to make such enlargement ob-servable.

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

The combination of the arm pit shields or protectors A, and breast pads D, substantially as described, so as to produce a new article of female apparel of the character set forth.

H. S. LESHER.

Witnesses:

DAVID STRAUS, Jr.,
L. PITTKIN.