

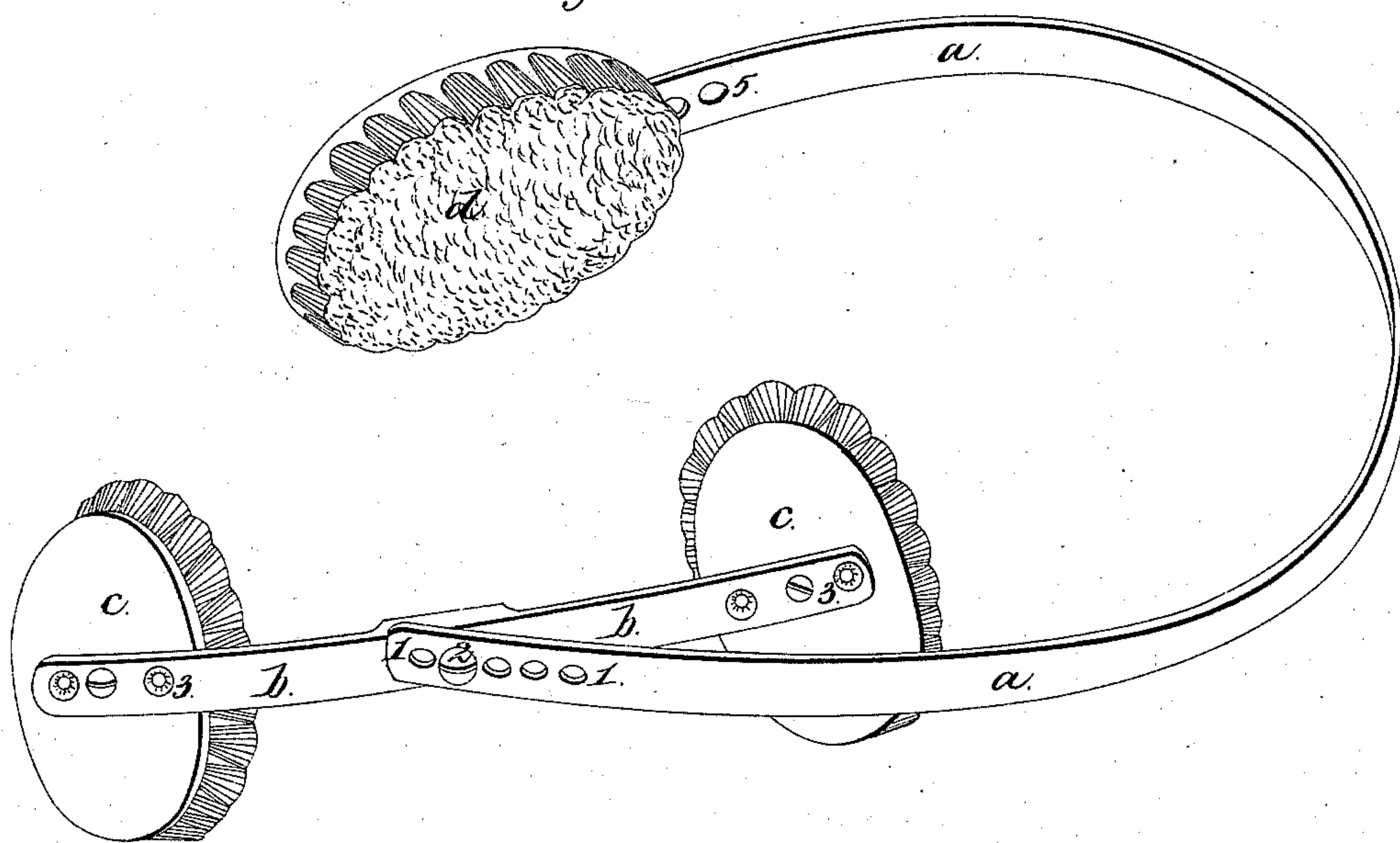
*H. J. Childs,*

*Truss.*

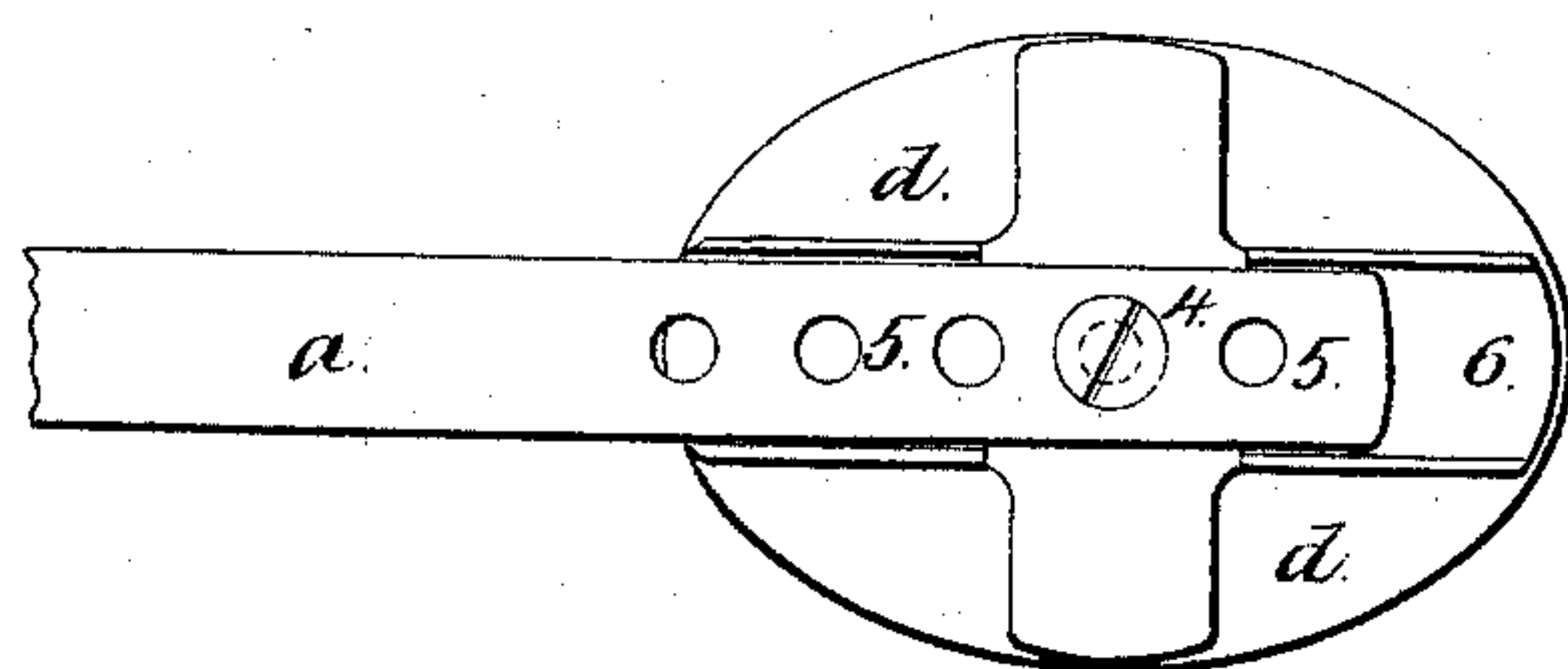
*No 39,631.*

*Patented Aug. 25, 1863.*

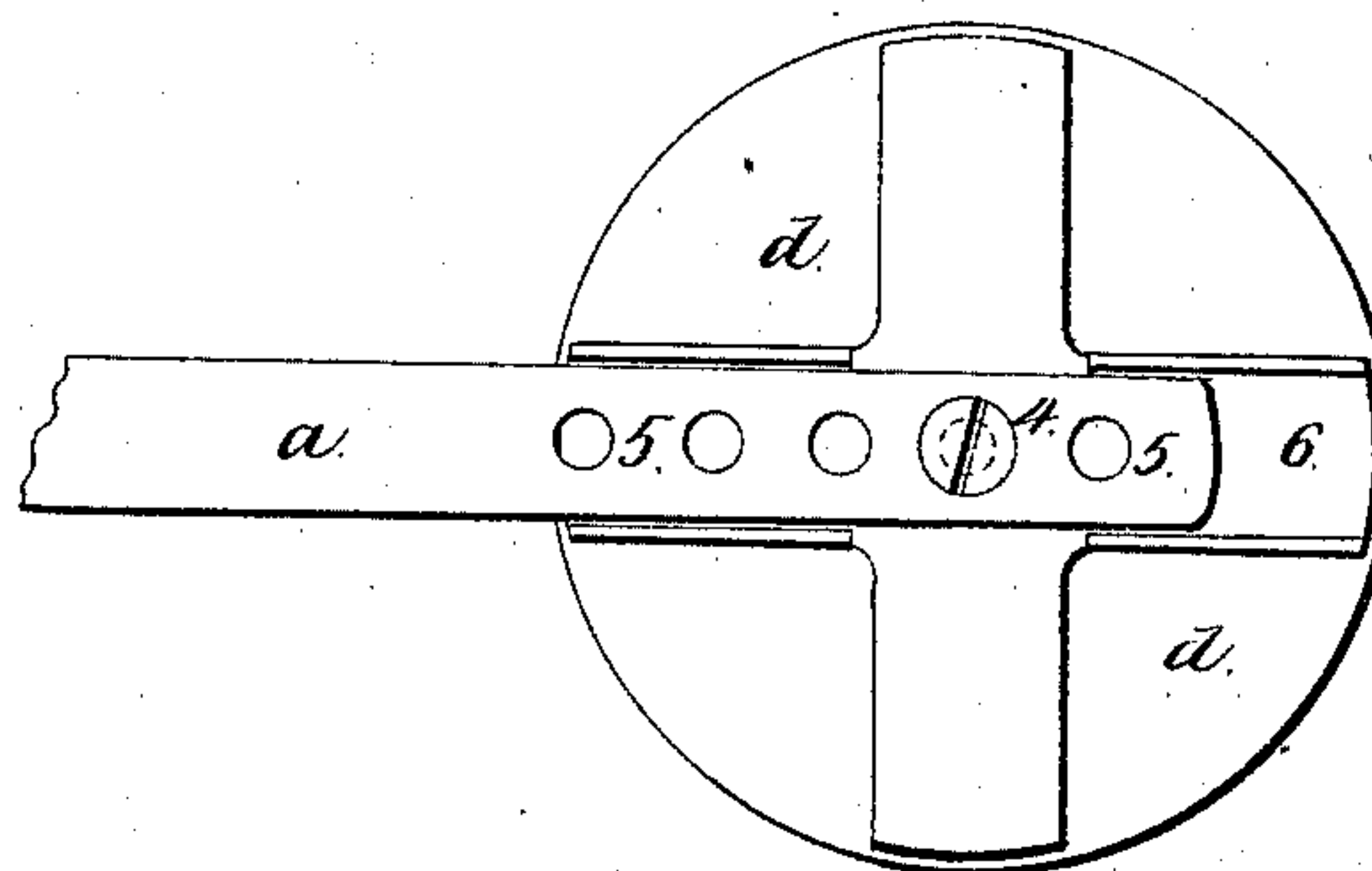
*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



*Witnesses.*

*Lemuel W. Terrell*

*Chas. H. Smith*

*Inventor.*

*Henry J. Childs*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY J. CHILDS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## IMPROVEMENT IN TRUSS-PADS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **39,631**, dated August 25, 1863; antedated June 4, 1863.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HENRY J. CHILDS, of the city and State of New York, have invented, made, and applied to use a certain new and useful Improvement in Trusses; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making part of this specification, wherein—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of said truss. Fig. 2 is an elevation of the front pad, and Fig. 3 is an elevation of a different-shaped front pad.

Similar marks of reference denote the same parts.

The nature of my invention consists in making the truss-pads as brushes, whereby ventilation is insured, and the parts do not become affected by confined perspiration, and the brush setting against the parts of the body prevents the pads moving and the truss becoming disarranged. Hence in my truss no straps are required to fasten it in place, and the body is as free to move as if without a truss, and at the same time the rupture is properly supported, and thorough ventilation insured through the pads.

In the drawings, *a* is the elliptical truss-spring, at one end of which holes 1 1 are provided, through one of which a screw, 2, passes to attach the back beam, *b*. *c c* are pads screwed on near the ends of this beam *b*, holes being provided for that purpose, as at 3 3. *d* is the front pad, which may be either round, as in Fig. 3, or elliptical, as in Figs. 1 and 2, and the conjugate axis of said ellipsis may be at right angles to or coincide with the spring *a*, according to the nature of the rupture to be supported. The pads *c c* and *d* are to be formed, as brushes, of hairs or bristles of greater or less stiffness, according to the age or convenience of the party wearing the same; and I prefer that a small piece of lint be laid upon the body beneath the brush as tending

to preserve the brush in a cleaner condition. When desired, or when the brush becomes pressed down or matted together, it may be washed or combed out to straighten the hairs. Pads made in this manner allow perspiration to escape freely, and at the same time they retain their position, and are not liable to slip or become displaced. The pad *d* is attached by a screw, 4, through one of the holes 5, and a metal trough or bearing-plate, 6, may be provided to receive the spring *a*.

To apply this truss, the screw 2 is to be passed through one of the holes 1 1, so that the center of the beam *b* will come over the base of the spine, and the pads *c c* are to be attached at such distance apart at the holes 3 3 that said pads will take a bearing against the back on each side of the muscles adjoining the spine, and the front pad, *d*, is attached at the proper hole, 5, so as to cover the rupture. It will be seen that the body is free to assume any desired position in walking, running, sitting, or lying, as the spring *a* yields to any increase or decrease of distance between the pads *c c* and *d*, and said spring *a* turns on the screw 2 without moving the beam *b* or pads *c c*. The piece of lint between the pad and the skin also tends to make the truss more comfortable to the wearer and prevent any irritation.

This truss can be worn on either side of the body without changing the shape of any of the parts.

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

Forming the truss pad or pads of brushes for the purposes and as set forth.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my signature this 21st day of August, 1862.

HENRY J. CHILDS.

Witnesses:

LEMUEL W. SERRELL,  
CHAS. H. SMITH.