

H W Libbey

Bosom Pad

No. 75030

Patented March 3 1868

Fig. 1.

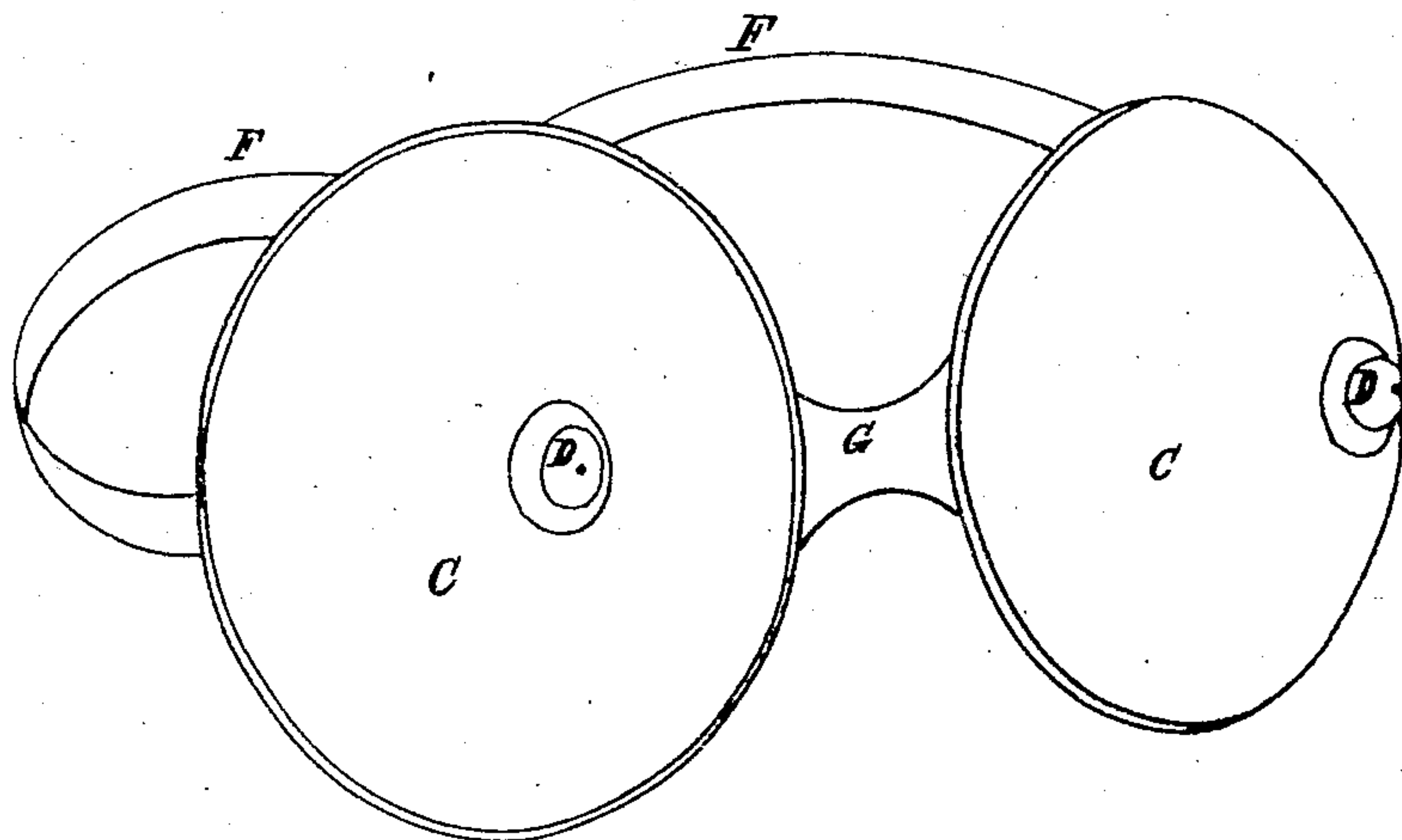


Fig. 2

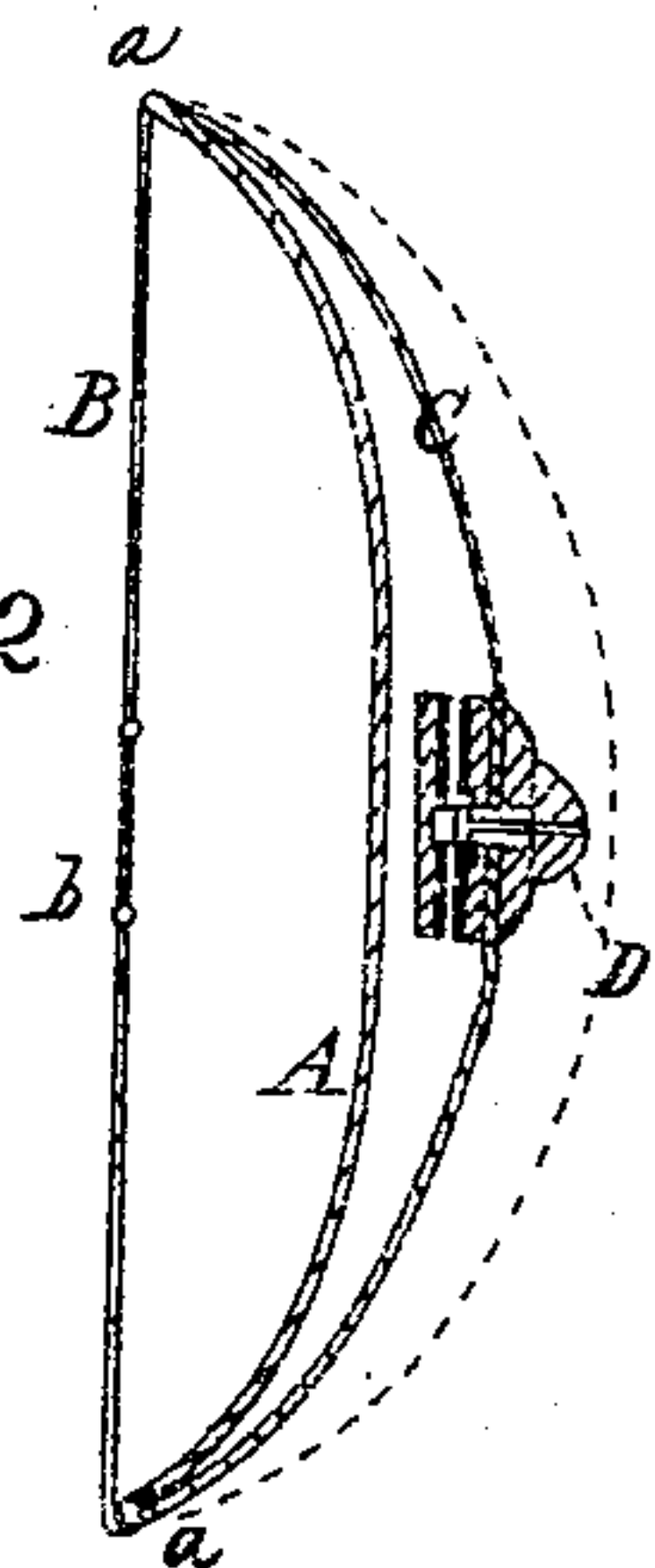


Fig. 3.

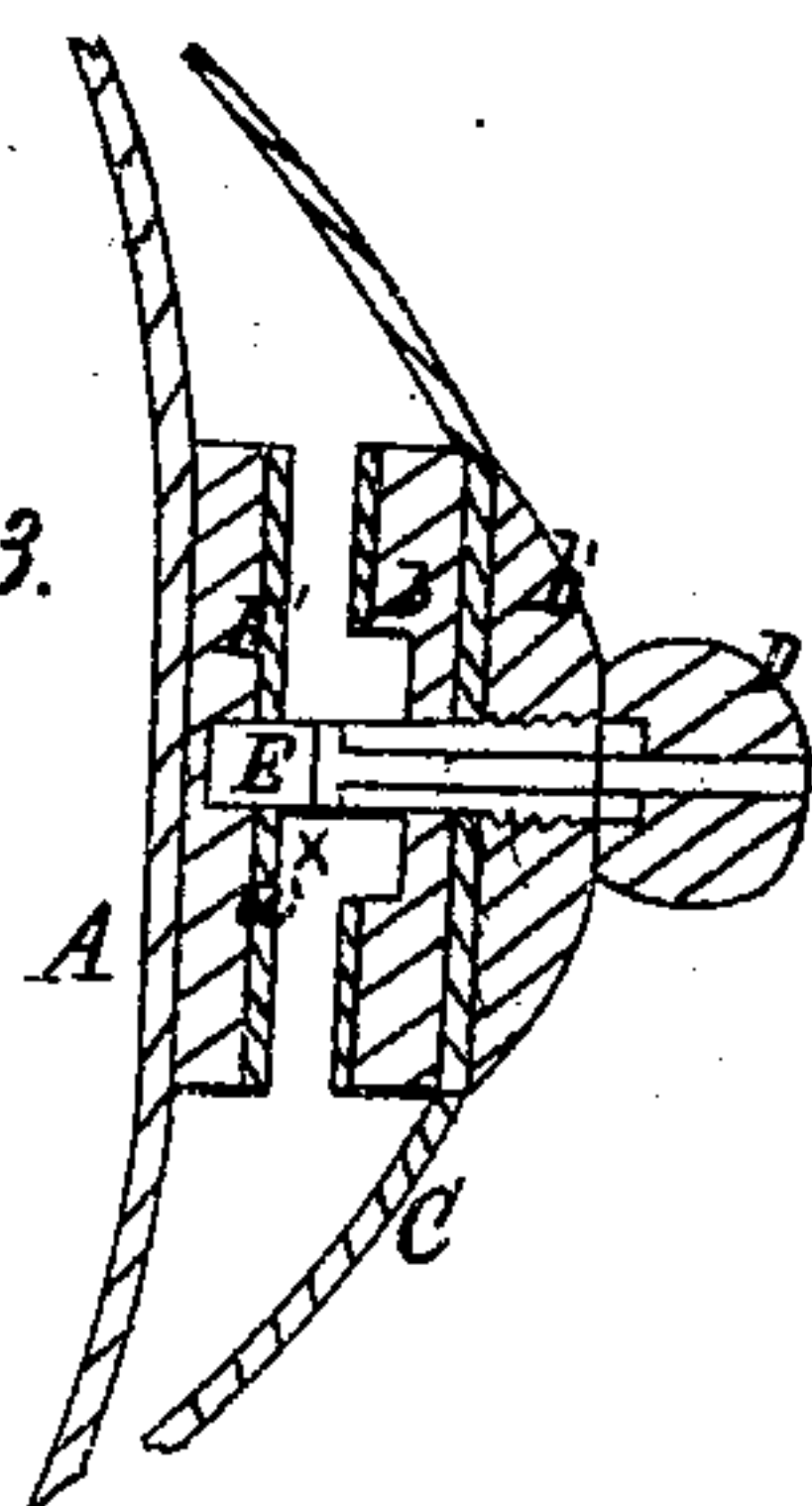
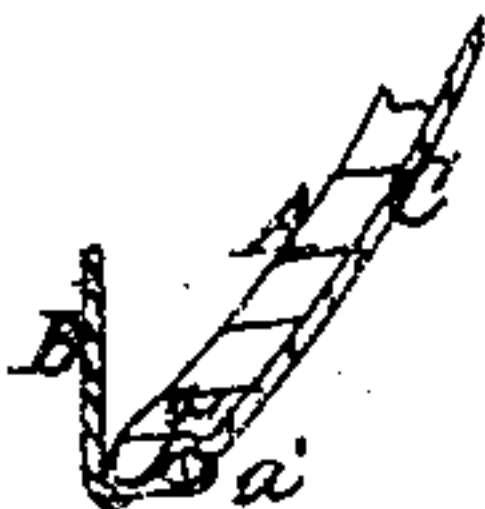


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES

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H. W. LIBBEY, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO.

Letters Patent No. 75,030, dated March 3, 1868.

IMPROVEMENT IN BOSOM-PADS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, H. W. LIBBEY, of Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga, and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Breast-Forms for ladies; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and complete description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the form.

Figure 2 is a transverse section.

Figures 3 and 4 are detached sections.

Like letters of reference refer to like parts in the views.

In fig. 1, A is a disk or diaphragm, constructed of vulcanized rubber, wood, papier mache, or of any other material suitable for the purpose. Around the margin of this disk is cut a groove, B, fig. 4, the purpose of which will hereafter be shown. C, fig. 1, is an elastic air-tight covering or membrane, placed upon and secured to the convex side of the disk A, as follows, viz: The groove referred to is luted with some elastic varnish, or other tenacious material, on which is laid the membrane, the edge of which is again luted, and on this is stretched a piece of tape, D, so that one edge of the said top will project beyond the edge of the disk. A cord is then wound tightly around, thereby pressing the membrane and tape or fillet down into the groove. The whole, by this means, is made permanently secure and air-tight, as shown in fig. 4. E is a lining, made of silk or other soft material, and is attached to the form by being sewn on to the projecting edge of the tape or fillet, as shown in fig. 2. This lining, when the form is worn, is in contact with the tegument of the breast, a circular opening being made in the centre of the same for the admission of the nipple. F, fig. 3, is a mouth-piece, for the purpose of inflating the form, and is made by gathering together the loose teguments of the elastic covering, and tying them by a small cord around a tube, *a*. This tube is connected to a button, *a'*, which forms the top of a small circular chamber, G, opening into the space between the disk A and elastic covering. In the tube referred to is a stem, *b*, to the lower end of which is attached a valve, *c*, the face of which is kept close pressed against the inner face of the button, which forms the valve seat, by the spring H. In the space between the disk or diaphragm, is placed a certain quantity of sponge, or other suitable material, J, fig. 2, or the said space may be filled with small inflated sacks or capsules. A' is an elastic ligament connecting the two forms together, passing from one to the other in front of the sternum, and B' are straps, by which they are secured to the person.

The manner of inflating the forms is as follows: The mouth is applied to the nipple, when, on blowing into the tube therein, the valve is forced back from its seat, and the air passes into the chamber, thence into the form, inflating the sponge, and expanding the covering, which, on being done, the pressure of the air from within closes the valve, and thereby prevents its escape from the form.

The inflated sponge gives strength to the expanded covering, and consistency to the form, so that it will readily yield to the pressure of the clothing, and still retain its fullness of figure and resiliency, and being constructed of light material it can be worn without discomfort to the person.

The advantages of this breast-form over those in ordinary use, are as follows: Women in whom the mammary is not fully developed, and who are desirous of showing such development, use for this purpose pads, made of various material, which by their weight press heavily upon the breast, and by their close contact induce an increase of heat, which often results in irreparable injury to the gland, by causing a retraction of the nipple and giving rise to tumors.

By the use of my breast-forms these evils are avoided, as there is no compression of the nipple. It therefore suffers no contraction, and the free, natural growth of the breast is in no way retarded.

The concave depression shown at the point X, fig. 2, is for the purpose of receiving the chamber when the elastic covering is first laid on the diaphragm, so that the covering may be flatter upon the disk before being expanded by inflation, and thereby produce greater tension in the covering.

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

1. A breast-form or pad, having a rigid base, A, and a flexible rubber front, provided with a valve at the nipple, and padded or stuffed, substantially as herein described.
2. The valve *c*, as arranged, in combination with the elastic covering C and nipple F, for the purpose and in the manner substantially as set forth.

Witnesses:

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