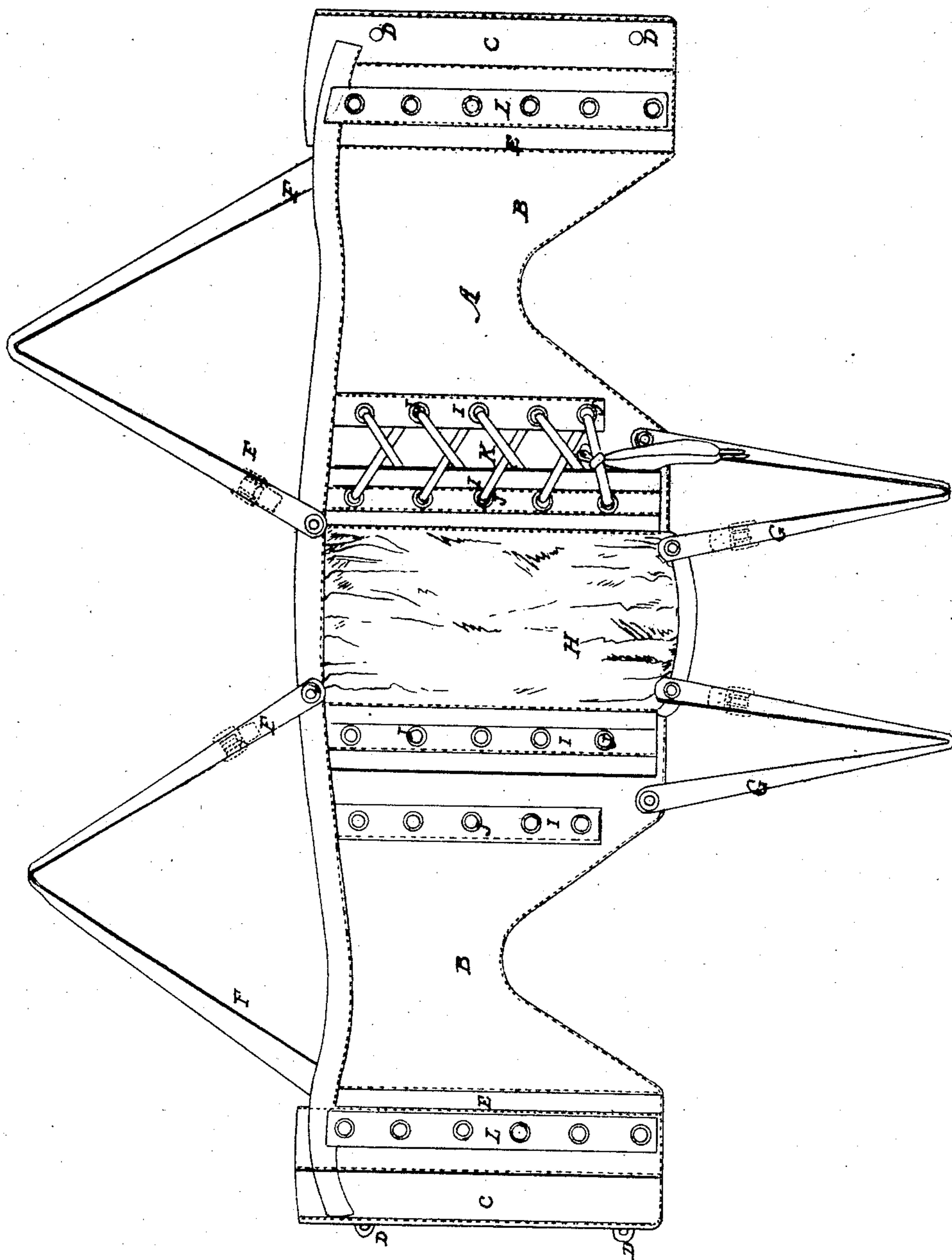


J. Ford.

*Back & Abdominal Supporter.*

N<sup>o</sup> 76070 Patented Mar. 31, 1868.



Witnesses  
*Theo Inseke*  
*W. T. Quinn*

Inventor.  
*Mrs John Ford*  
*Per Munn & Co*  
*Attorneys*

# United States Patent Office.

MRS. JOHN FORD, OF SALEM, OREGON.

*Letters Patent No. 76,070, dated March 31, 1868.*

## IMPROVEMENT IN BACK AND ABDOMINAL SUPPORTERS.

*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, Mrs. JOHN FORD, of Salem, in the county of Marion, and State of Oregon, have invented a new and improved Back and Abdominal Supporter; and that the following description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, hereinafter referred to, forms a full and exact specification of the same, wherein I have set forth the nature and principles of my said improvements, by which my invention may be distinguished from all others of a similar class, together with such parts as I claim and desire to have secured to me by Letters Patent.

The present invention relates to a supporter for the back and abdomen, and is more especially intended for use by women, both before and after confinement, as well also as a means of relief and cure for the falling of the womb, and other similar diseases with women.

In the accompanying plate of drawings, my improved back and abdominal supporter is illustrated, the figure being a view of the outside of the supporter, showing it laid or spread out.

A, in the drawings, represents a supporter, made according to the present invention. This supporter consists of a band, B, made of cloth or other suitable material, and of a proper length to encircle, or nearly so, the body of the person on whom it is to be worn. In each end of the band B, a spring, C, is secured, which springs are similar to the ordinary springs in corsets, and, when the supporter is worn, come against and serve as a support, in connection with the stays E, to the centre of the back, where the two ends of the band B are joined together by clasps D, similar to corset-clasps. F, straps on upper edge of band B, which, when the band is worn, pass up over the shoulders, bringing the whole weight of the supporter upon the shoulders. G G, straps secured to lower edge of band B, at suitable points, to pass around about the thighs, and thus serve to retain the band in its position.

The centre portion, H, of the band B is made with a fullness, by gathering its upper and lower edges, as shown in the drawings, the band, by its fullness, H, fitting over and about the abdomen. Upon each side of the full and centre portion, H, of the band B are two plaits, I, provided with eyelets J and lacing-cords K, by means of which the band, at its centre portion, can be the more perfectly adjusted in position upon the abdomen of the person.

To convert the supporter into a complete bandage, after confinement, draw out the stays in the back portion of the band B, and lace by means of the plaits I, at each end of the band, lacing also across the abdomen, and from one to the other of the inner of the two plaits I, upon the sides of the centre portion, H, to the supporter.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The abdominal supporter, constructed as described, consisting of the band B, provided with the shoulder-straps F and thigh-straps G, and having a gathered centre, H, upon each side of which the eyeleted strips I J are secured, the ends of said band provided with the eyeleted strips L and clasps C D, all arranged as described, whereby the supporter can be converted into a band, to be used after confinement, as herein set forth.

MRS. JOHN FORD.

Witnesses:

HAYDEN CORNELL,  
E. J. CORNELL.