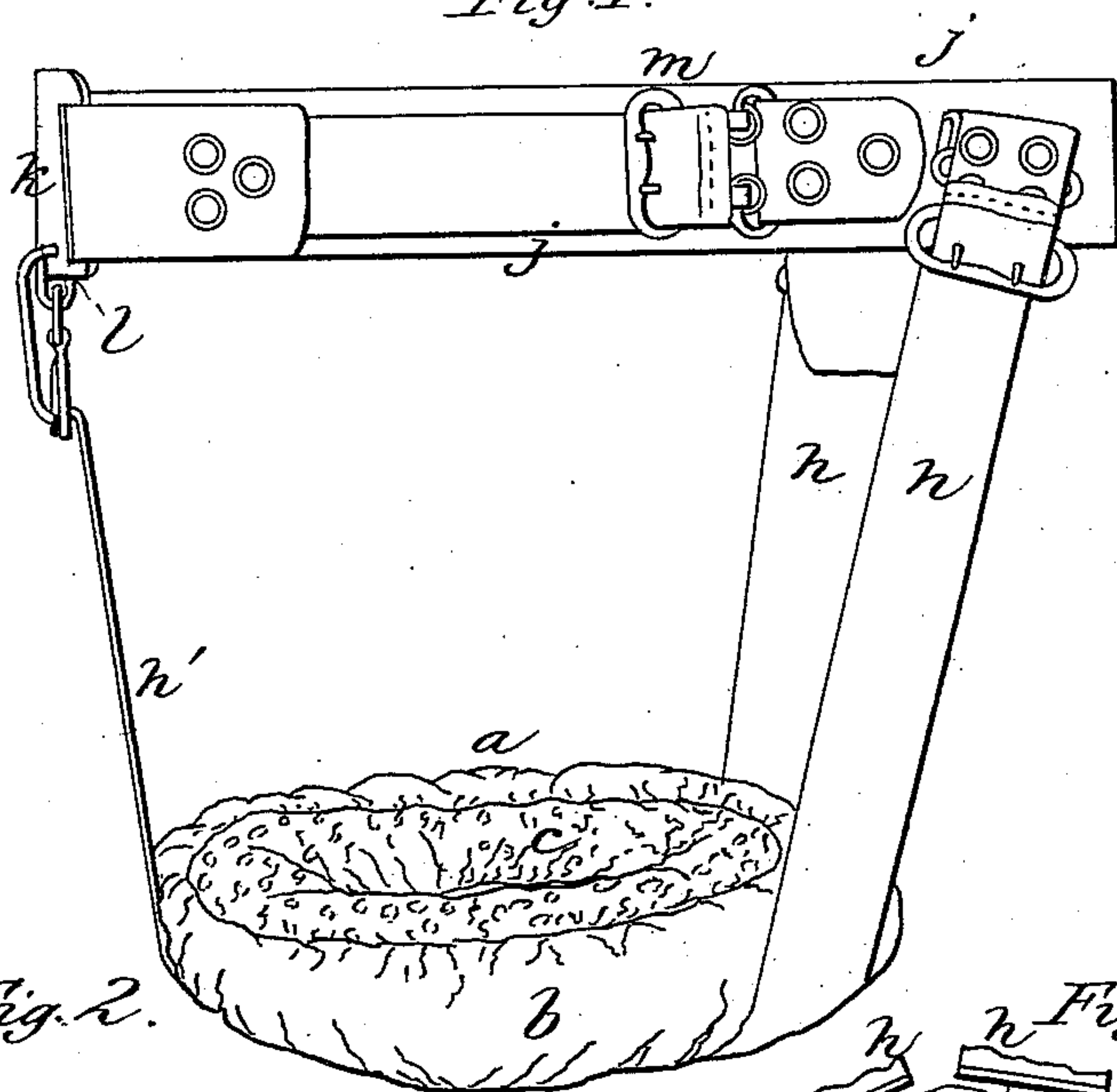


*T. A. Gammage,  
Catamenial Sack,*

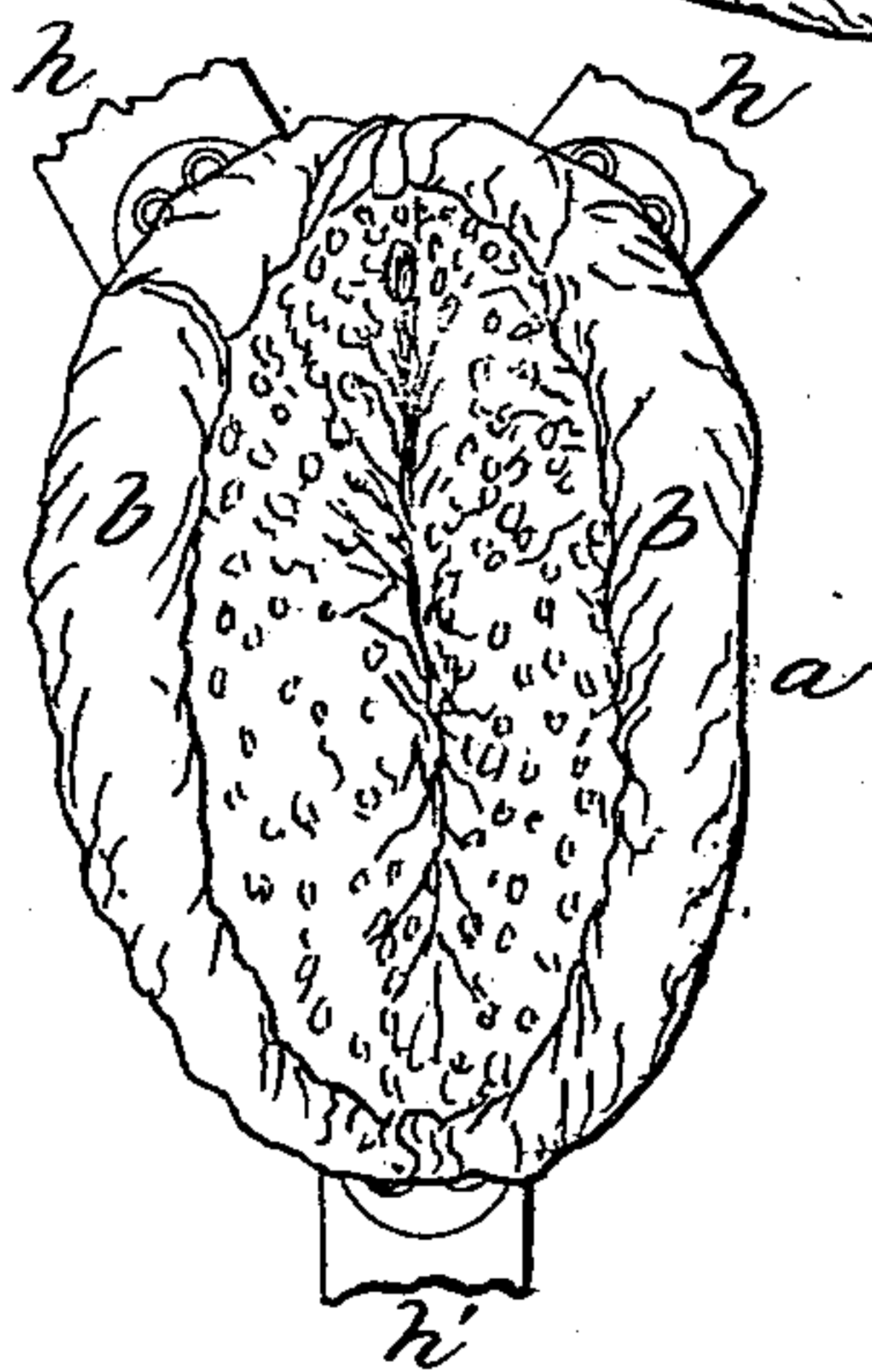
*No 84,874,*

*Patented Dec. 15, 1868.*

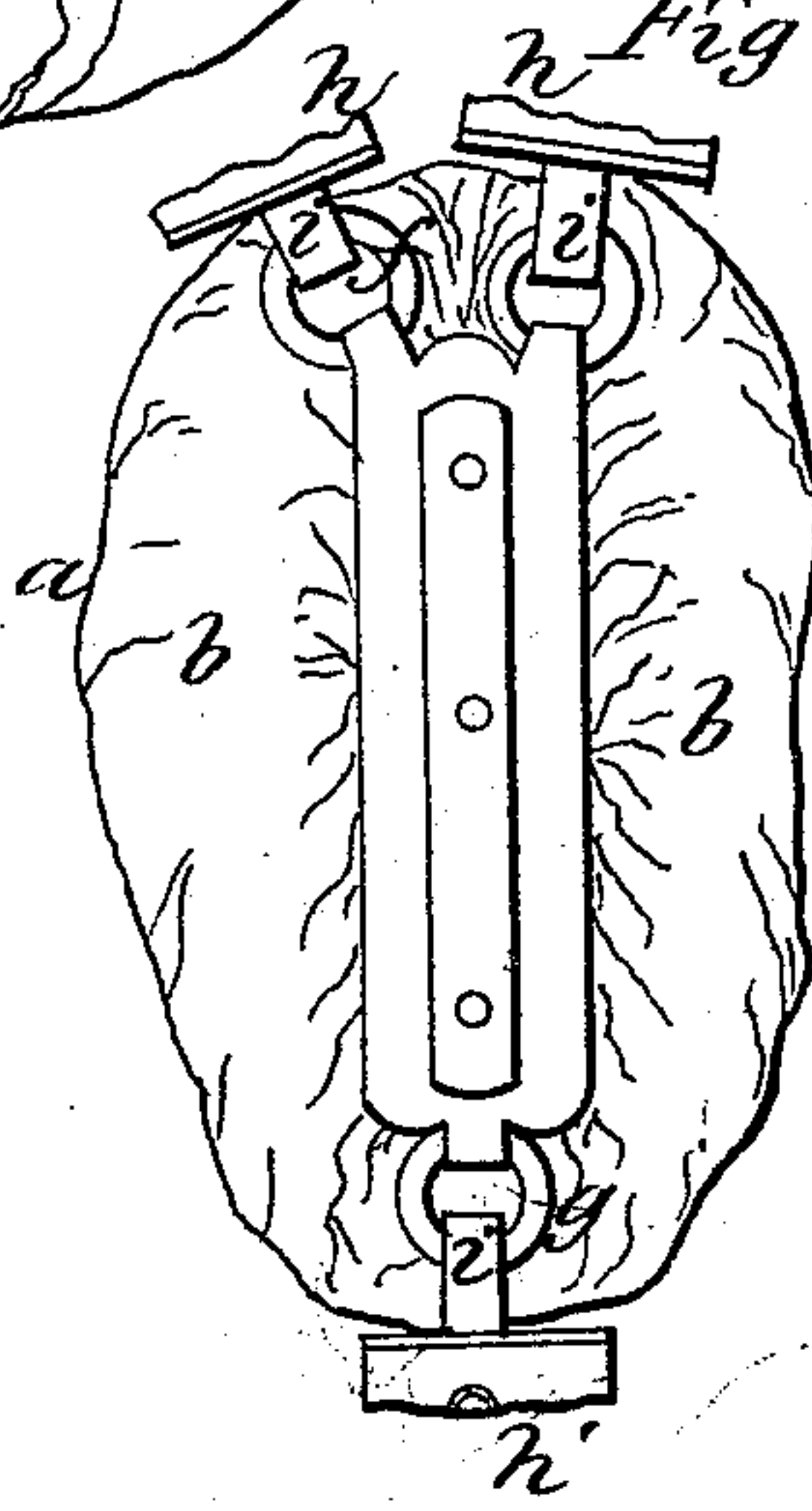
*Fig. 1.*



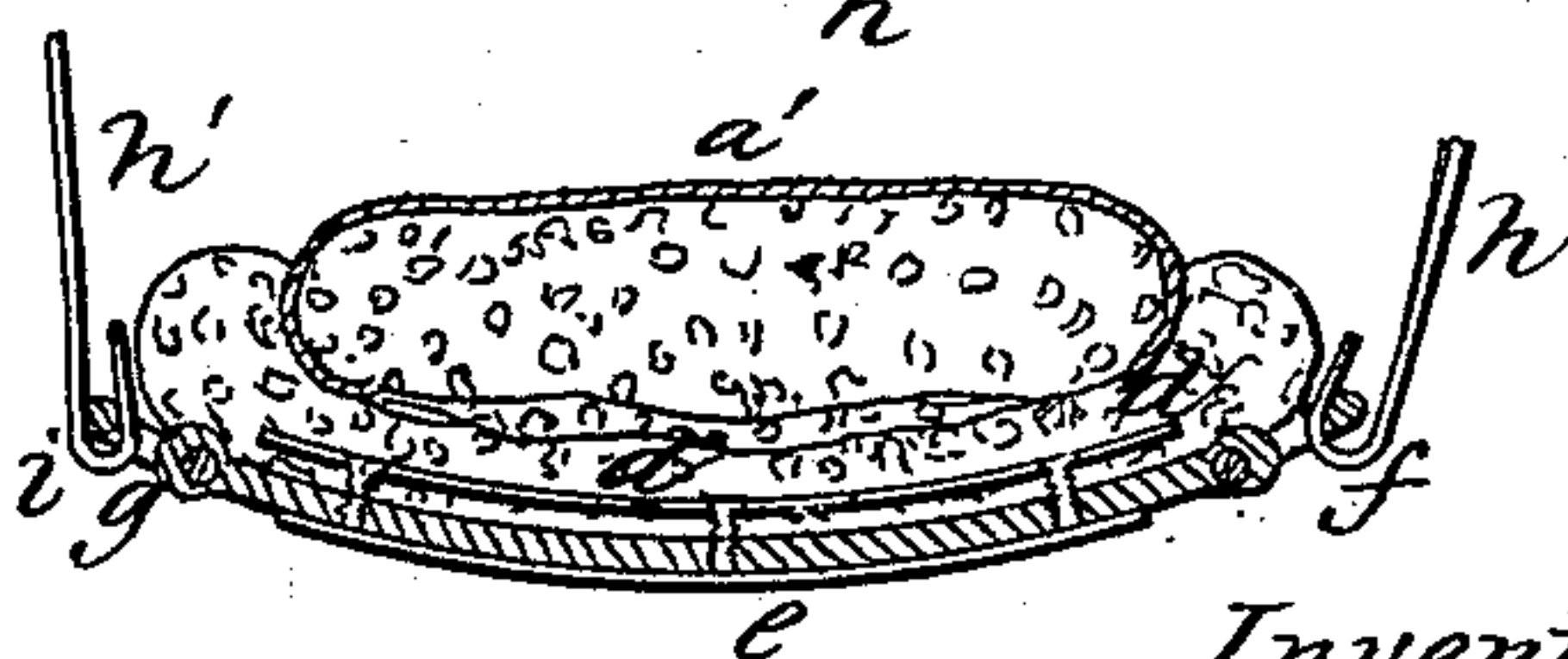
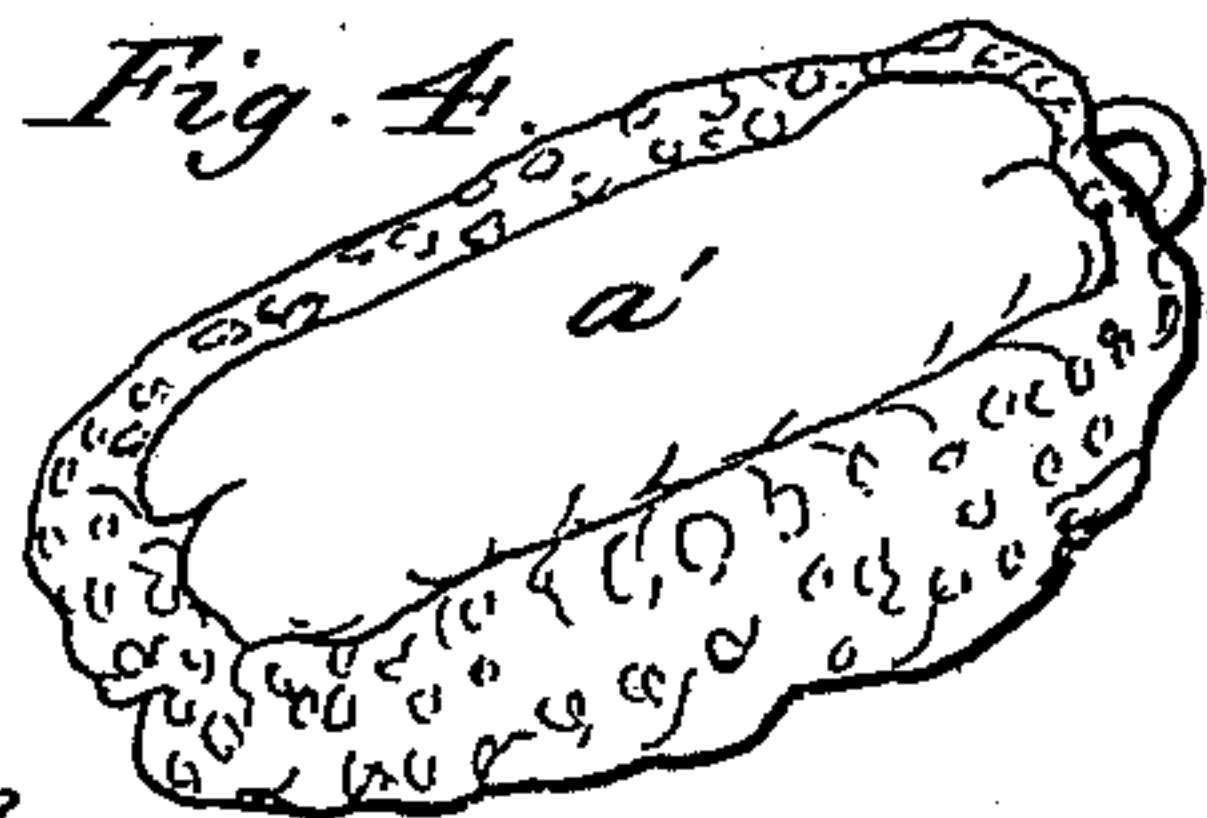
*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



*Fig. 4.*



*Witnesses:*

*Geo. A. Loring  
m Bailey*

*Inventor:*

*Fig. 5. T. A. Gammage.*

*by his Attorney  
Frederick Curtis.*



# United States Patent Office.

THEODORE A. GAMAGE, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 84,874, dated December 15, 1868.

## IMPROVED MENSTRUAL RECEIVER.

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

To all to whom these presents shall come:

Be it known that I, THEODORE A. GAMAGE, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk, and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Menstrual Receivers; and do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, due reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my invention.

Figure 2, a top view, and

Figure 3 a bottom, of its fluid-absorbing pad.

Figure 4, a perspective view, and

Figure 5, a section of a modification of my invention.

This invention consists in the employment of a pad of sponge, partially encased in a water-proof or impervious cup, and supported upon a person's body by a peculiar arrangement of a belt and suspension-straps, in manner as hereinafter explained.

In the drawings above mentioned as illustrating my invention, the fluid-absorbing-pad of the device is shown at *a*, it being composed of sponge or other absorbent material, compressed into an elliptical form, and so as to create in its centre a depression, in order not to bear too closely upon certain parts of the person.

This pad is partially encased, or rests within a bag or cup, *b*, of light, flexible, impervious material, preferably of oiled silk, and secured therein, and so as to leave its upper surface free to absorb whatever fluid it may come in contact with.

The depression or enclosure formed within the body of the pad *a* is shown at *c*, and at the bottom of this enclosure, and resting upon the sponge, is a metallic plate, *d*, while upon the lower and outer surface of the sponge is a similar plate, *e*, the two plates being securely riveted together, as shown in the drawings.

The lower plate, *e*, is provided, at its rear end, with two rings or eyes, *f f*, while its front end is provided with one eye, *g*.

To each of these eyes the lower ends of three elastic straps, *h h h'*, are hooked, as shown at *i*, &c., the upper ends of the straps *h h* being buckled to the rear part of a belt or girdle, *j*, which encircles the waist of the wearer, while the upper end of the forward strap, *h'*, is buckled to a slide or plate, *k*, which, when the device is in use, is situated in the front of the body of the wearer.

This plate, as shown in the drawings, is formed with a slot, *l l*, at each end, the extremities of the belt *j*, before mentioned, being run through these slots, and lapped upon its main portion, and connected thereto by buckles *m m*.

The object of employing this plate, and combining it with the belt, as represented, is to allow of the shortening or taking in of such belt, without forcing the apparatus to one side of the centre of a person's body, which would be the case were the ends of the belt simply confined by a buckle.

The mode of application of the above-described device will readily manifest itself to females who may have need of it.

Its advantages are—

First, that its absorbing-pad cannot be displaced, no matter what position the wearer may assume, whether walking, standing, bending in any direction, or lying down.

Second, the sponge or pad is so protected by the cup, made from a material impervious to moisture, that in compressing it, by sitting or otherwise, the fluid is caught by the cup, and, upon distension of the sponge, the fluid is absorbed by it; therefore a leakage from it, to stain the person or clothing, is impossible.

Third, the pad may be easily removed by means of the hooks attached to the straps *h h h'*, and a clean and dry one substituted, without disrobing, or inconvenience in removing any article of wearing-apparel.

The nature of the oiled silk renders the pad soft, flexible, and agreeable to the touch, and the perfect neatness and cleanliness of the whole device will thoroughly recommend itself to every one.

To wash the pad, it is to be merely immersed in water, and the sponge compressed and distended several times.

For the purpose of relief in case of falling of the womb, I construct the pad as shown in figs. 4 and 5 of the drawings; that is, I apply to the centre of the sponge of the pad a stuffed raised cushion, *a'*, which, by bearing against and supporting the proper parts, becomes a very valuable and agreeable acquisition.

I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, as a new article of manufacture—

The improved menstrual receiver or guard, before described, consisting of the impervious bag or cup *b*, to contain sponge or other absorbent material, and connected to the belt *j* by pendent straps *h h h'*, in manner and for the purpose as before described.

Also, the combination and arrangement of the front strap *h'*, the belt *j*, the slotted plate *k*, and buckles *m m*, as and for the purposes herein specified.

THEODORE A. GAMAGE.

Witnesses:

FRED. CURTIS,

GEO. A. LORING.