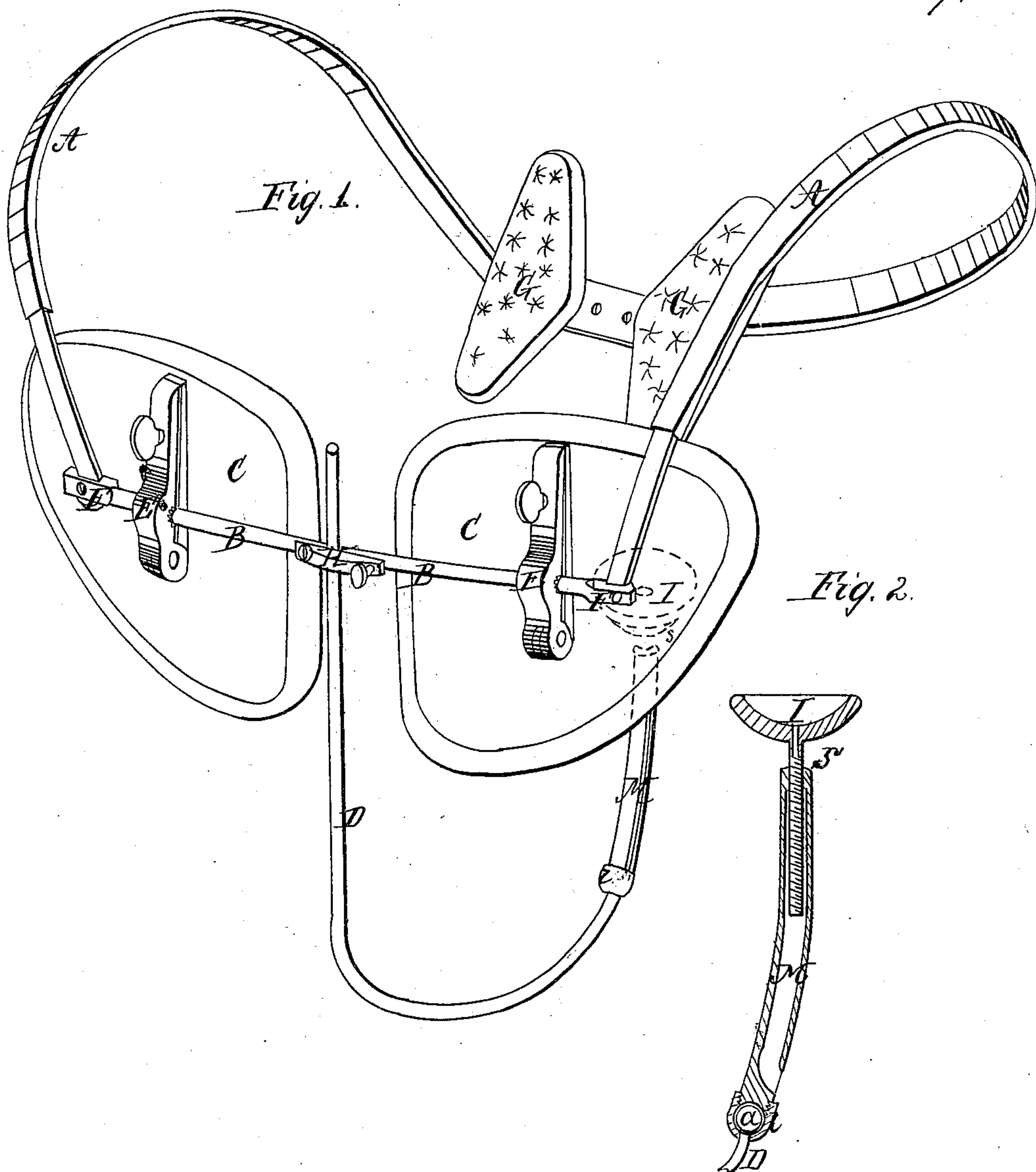


E. Waters.
Truss.

Nº 93,144.

Patented Jul. 27, 1869.



Witnesses;
Leopold Buch
J. H. Featman

Inventor,
Era Waters
per Samuel Mason
Att.

United States Patent Office.

ZERA WATERS, OF BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS.

Letters Patent No. 93,144, dated July 27, 1869.

IMPROVEMENT IN COMBINED ABDOMINAL AND UTERINE SUPPORTER.

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

To whom it may concern :

Be it known that I, ZERA WATERS, of Bloomington, in the county of McLean, and in the State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Combined Abdomen and Uterine Supporters; and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, making a part of this specification.

The object of my invention is to furnish an abdominal and uterine supporter, which can be adjusted to any form of person, and will hold up or support both abdomen and uterus, in case of *prolapsus uteri*, at the same time.

Figure 1 is a perspective of my supporter.

Figure 2 is a section view of the cup and tube.

Letter A represents the springs, by means of which the pads are held against the body, and which may be made of steel, rubber, or any other suitable material.

The two front ends of these springs are pivoted to the ends of the metal rod B, in such a manner as to allow them to swing freely around.

To this rod B there are attached the two front pads, C, and the long curved arm or rod D, by means of suitable clasps or thumb-screws, and has a slot cut in each end, so as to receive the ends of the springs.

To each one of the pads C there is attached a small clamp, E, by means of which they are fastened to the rod B. By loosening the thumb-screws in these clamps, the pads can be placed at any desirable point, and then secured there, and as they can be turned to any angle, they can be made to suit the shape of any abdomen.

As the springs A have been made adjustable, by means of the joints at F, these pads, in case of great corpulence, can be moved down, so as to rest just upon the groin.

Upon the opposite ends of the springs from the rod B, there are placed two more pads, smaller than the front ones, which serve as a support for the back, and as a rest for the ends of the springs.

Fastened to the rod B, by means of the clamp H, is the long curved arm D, which extends downward, and is then curved back toward the wearer.

By means of the clamp, the arm can be lowered or raised, as may be desired, in order to elevate or depress the cup I.

The lower end of this arm has a small ball cast upon it, which fits in the small cup *l*, screwed upon the end of the tube M. This cup has a hole in its bottom, so as to allow the ball *a* to be placed within it, and can either be screwed up tight against the end of the tube, or can be left loose enough to form an universal joint, so that the cup I can accommodate itself to the uterus in any position.

Secured to the rod or arm D, by the universal joint, at the point *l*, is a hollow tube, M, upon which the cup I rests, and which has a screw-thread cut upon its interior at the top, and has an opening at the bottom of its hollow, so as to allow the secretions from the uterus to flow out.

Screwed into this tube is the cup I, which has a hollow screw-rod extending downward, which is to be screwed into the tube, as seen in fig. 2, so that the cup can be lowered or raised, as may be desired. The uterus rests in this cup, which has an opening in its bottom, so that the secretions can pass down into the tube beneath, thus saving the vagina from the excoriating effects so often produced by acrid discharges.

The object in having a double tube at the point *s* is to provide a means by which the distance between the cup and the joint may be lengthened or shortened, without obstructing the channel through which the secretions flow. This channel may be varied by using different kinds of screws, but I do not desire to restrict myself to any particular kind.

When it is not necessary to use the cup or the arm D, the supporter can be used alone, to support the abdomen or uterus, by pressure, which is necessary in some cases of pregnancy. It is especially designed for the use of all females who are suffering from *prolapsus uteri*, and who need an abdominal or uterine-supporter.

By taking the cup in the left hand and the pads C in the right, by holding the left one still, it will be readily seen that the right can be moved freely in any direction, thus showing how perfectly the cup remains in its place, supporting the uterus perfectly still, while the body may be turned in any direction.

Having thus described my invention,

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

1. The hinged clamp E, controlled by a set-screw, whereby the pads C C are adjusted laterally, and at different angles of inclination, in fixed positions upon the longitudinal bar B, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

2. The combination of the cup I with a dependent hollow screw, within the tube M, cap *l*, arm D, and ball *a*, substantially in the manner set forth.

3. The springs A A, pads G G, pivots F F, hinged clamps E E, bars B B, and pads C C, all arranged substantially in the manner set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing, I have hereunto set my hand, this 9th day of April, 1869.

ZERA WATERS.

Witnesses:

R. L. DAVIS,

A. C. SWEETSER.