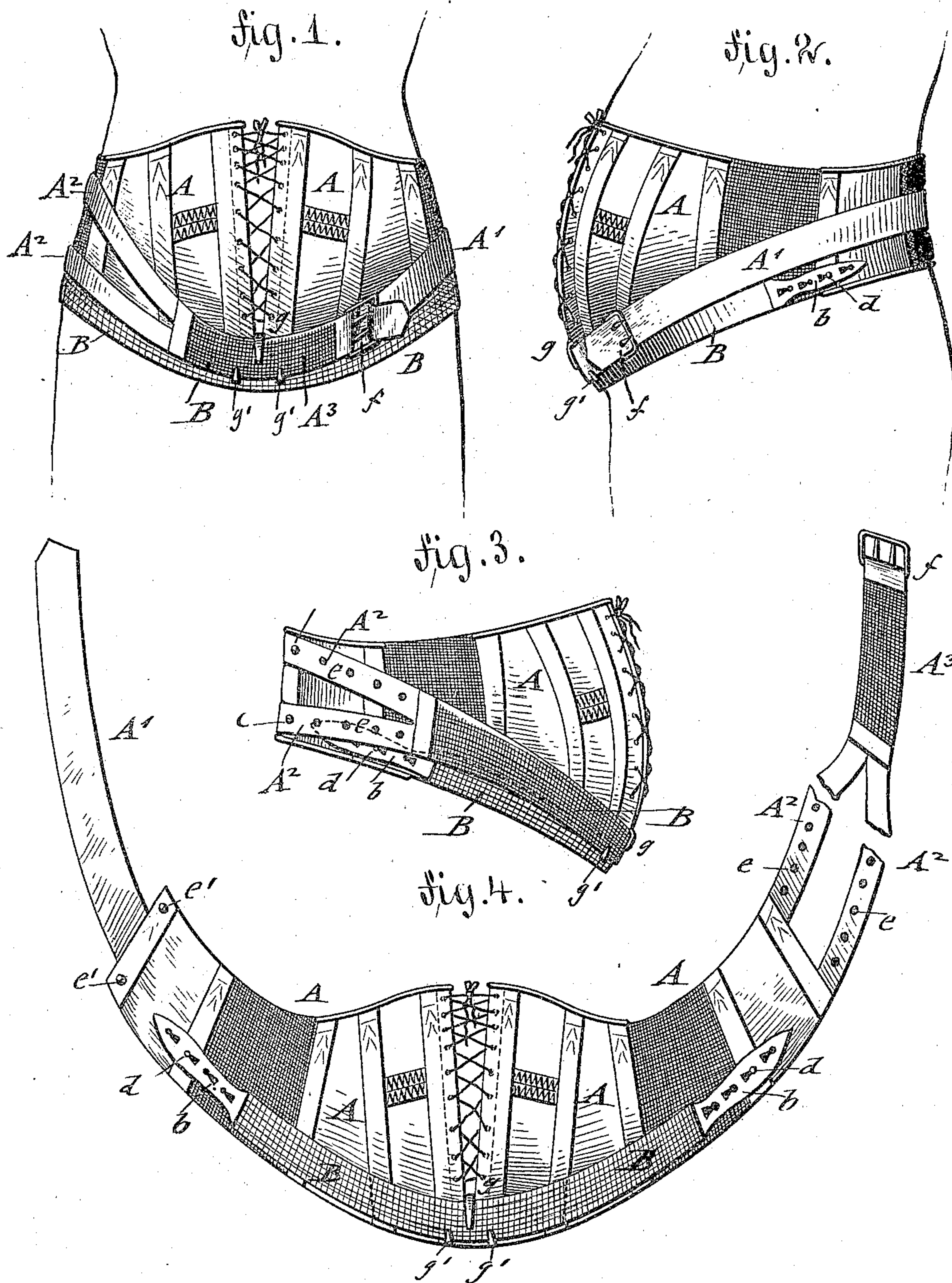


(No Model.)

W. TEUFEL.  
ABDOMINAL SUPPORT.

No. 344,065.

Patented June 22, 1886.



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILHELM TEUFEL, OF STUTTGART, WÜRTENBERG, GERMANY.

## ABDOMINAL SUPPORT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 344,065, dated June 22, 1886.

Application filed February 27, 1886. Serial No. 193,440. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILHELM TEUFEL, of Stuttgart, in the Empire of Germany, and a subject of the King of Württemberg, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Abdominal Bandages, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in bandages of that class which are used by ladies for supporting the abdomen, said bandages having the advantage of being conveniently applied and adjusted to the different conditions of the wearer.

The invention consists of a belt that is laced at the front and provided with an elastic lock-girth attached to the lower end, the perforated ends of said girth being connected to studs at the sides of the belt. The belt is provided at the ends with intercrossing straps, which are connected by a buckling device at the ends of said straps, and retained at the lower front part of the belt by a retaining device for securing the buckled straps in position over the lock-girth.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a front elevation of my improved abdominal bandage, shown as applied to the body. Figs. 2 and 3 are side elevations taken from opposite sides. Fig. 4 is a front view of the abdominal bandage, shown in detached and open state.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

Referring to the drawings, A represents a belt or bandage for the abdomen, which is laced at the front part and provided with the customary stays and elastics.

The belt A is provided at its lower front part with an elastic lock-girth, B, which is permanently secured to the lower front part of the belt A, and provided with perforated ends *b*, that are locked to studs *d* at the sides of the belt A. By the lock-girth B the pressure of the bandage on the abdomen may be regulated to some extent. The final regulation, however, is given by the end straps, A' A<sup>2</sup>, of the belt A, of which the strap A<sup>2</sup> is branched out into two separate straps, which leave an opening through which the opposite non-elastic strap, A', can be passed when applying the bandage to the body. The branched

straps A<sup>2</sup> are provided with eyelets *e e*, and with an elastic end portion, A<sup>3</sup>, which is buckled or otherwise connected to the strap A'. The straps A<sup>2</sup> are attached by their eyelets *e e* to studs *e' e'* of a stay located at that end of the belt A to which the strap A' is attached, as shown in Figs. 2 and 4.

For applying the bandage it is first placed around the abdomen, then the strap A' passed at the back of the body, through between the straps A<sup>2</sup>, the length of the lock-girth B next regulated and the ends of the same attached to the studs *d d*, and, finally, the straps A' A<sup>3</sup> connected by the buckling device *f* at the front part of the belt A and retained in position over the girth B by retaining-hooks *g g'*, as shown in Figs. 1 and 4, which retaining-hooks are permanently attached to the front part of the belt A and girth B. Before the straps A' A<sup>3</sup> are buckled together the perforated straps A<sup>2</sup> are attached to the studs *e e'*, the final fit being given to the belt A by the adjustment of the elastic strap A<sup>3</sup> and buckle *f*. The abdomen is thereby held in a comfortable and easy manner, the pressure being adjusted to the varying conditions of the same, according as the bandage is worn in the varying stages of pregnancy, or in all cases in which, for some reason or other, the abdomen is required to be supported, so as to give better shape and comfort to the body.

I do not claim in this application any features which are shown and described in my patent of July 18, 1882, No. 261,494, which shows a locking girth that is connected to the front part of the belt and attached to studs at the sides of the same. The fastening-straps are attached in that patent to studs at the ends of a bow-spring, whereby a yielding connection between the straps and the belt is obtained at the front part of the latter. In my present application a rigid retaining device for the fastening-straps is used, by which the straps are held firmly in position on the abdomen, so as to give a firm support to the same.

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

The combination of a belt, an elastic lock-girth attached permanently to the front part of the belt, means for attaching the ends of the lock girth to the sides of the belt, inter-

crossing straps attached to the ends of the belt, a buckling device for connecting the ends of said straps at the front part of the belt, and a retaining device at the lower front part of the belt for securing said buckled straps in position over the lock-girth, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILHELM TEUFEL.

Witnesses:

JULIUS TEUFEL,  
TH. ABENHEIM.