

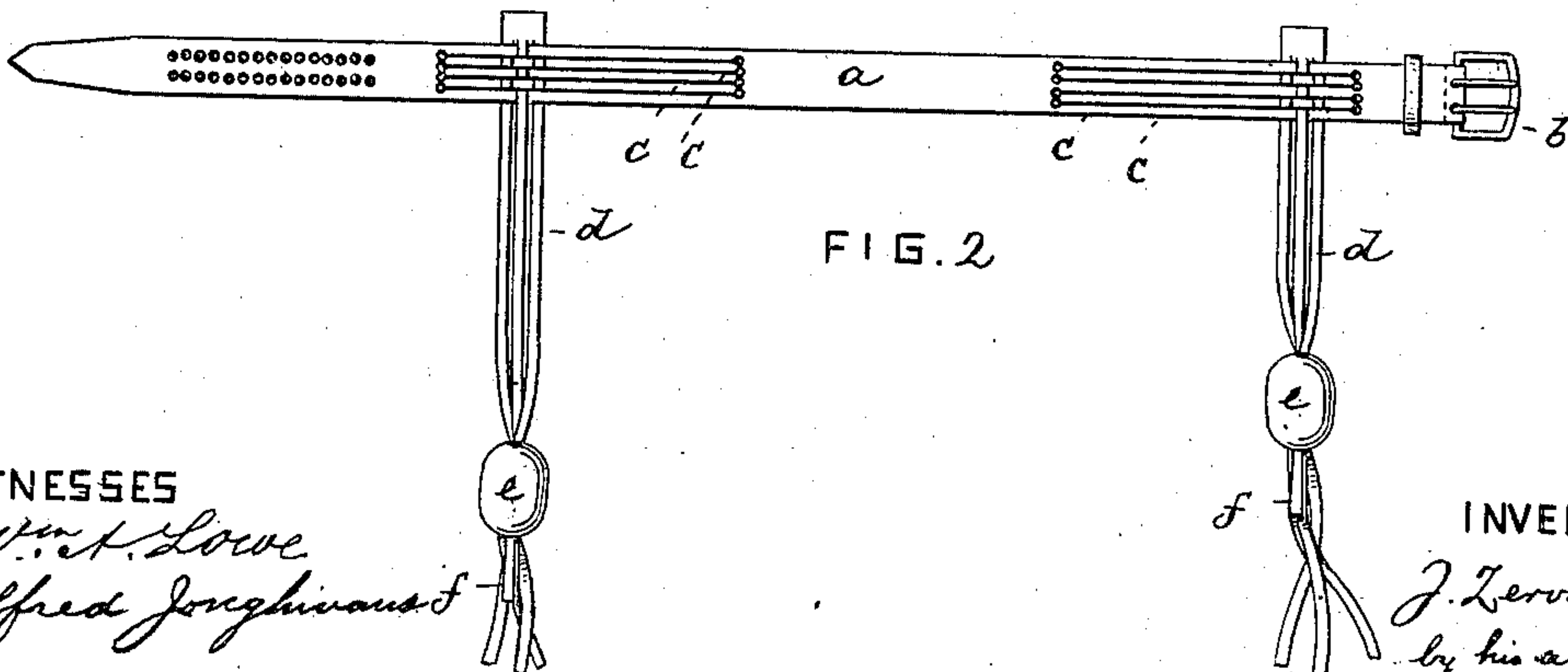
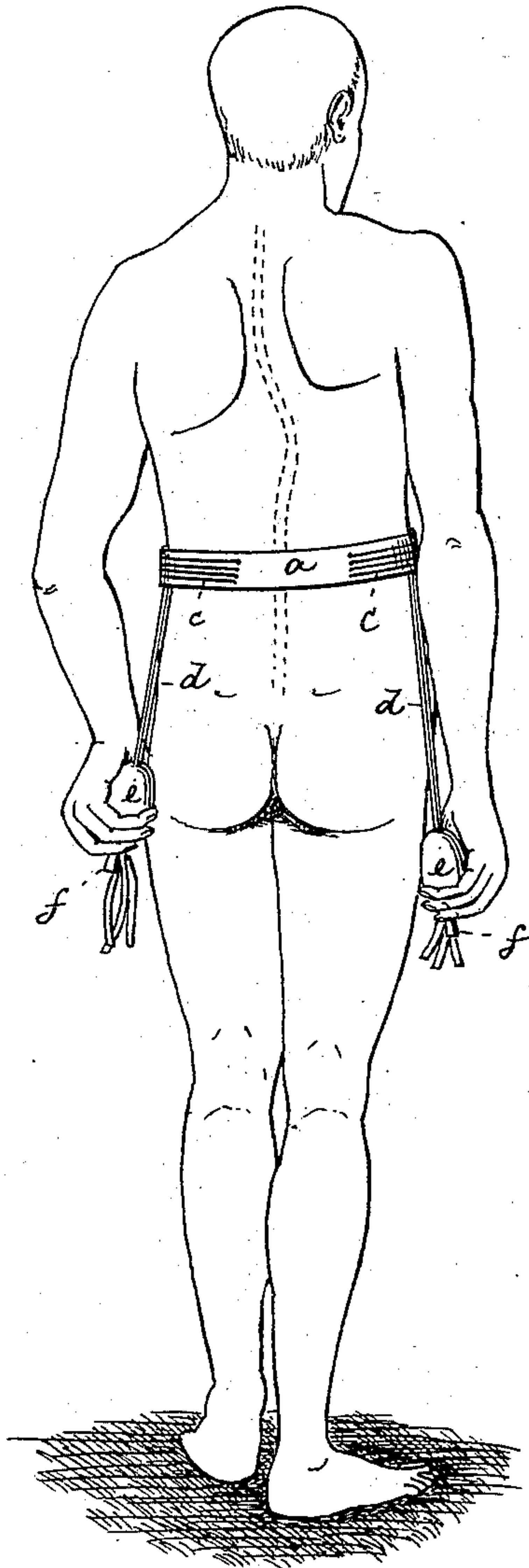
(No Model.)

J. ZERVAS.
SURGICAL BELT.

No. 368,699.

Patented Aug. 23, 1887.

FIG. 1



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEF ZERVAS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

SURGICAL BELT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 368,699, dated August 23, 1887.

Application filed May 13, 1887. Serial No. 238,038. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEF ZERVAS, of the city of New York, county and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Surgical Belt, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a surgical belt designed to be applied to patients suffering from lateral curvatures of the spine and diseases resulting therefrom. Heretofore curvatures of the spine were generally attempted to be cured by stretching devices, which, however, did not permit the patient to regulate and control the amount of strain. By my invention the patient may readily regulate and adjust the strain, and thus an overstraining of the parts will be prevented.

The invention consists in the various features of improvement more fully pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a back view of the belt, showing it applied around the waist and in proper adjustment for use. Fig. 2 shows a detail view of the belt distended.

The letter *a* represents a belt made of leather or other material and adapted to be joined at the ends by means of a buckle, *b*, or otherwise. The belt is slitted at each side to produce a number of parallel straps, *c*. These straps *c* are interwoven with slitted straps *d*, which hang downward from belt *a*. By means of this construction the straps *d* may be shifted backward or forward to a greater or less degree, so as to be brought properly under the arms when the belt is applied. This mode of

causing an adjustment of the straps *d*, I deem preferable, because the straps *d* are never permanently disconnected from belt *a*, and because the joint is made without undue projections that might hurt the patient; but other modes of connecting the parts *a* *d* will readily suggest themselves. Each strap *d* is passed at its lower end through a perforated ball, *e*, constituting a handle. The balls may be slipped up or down along the straps *d*, and may be locked at any desired elevation by means of conical plugs *f* entering the lower mouths or openings in the balls.

The operation of the device is follows: The belt is buckled around the waist and the straps *d* are brought under the arms. The balls *e* are now adjusted so as to bring that ball which is at the side of the spine curvature higher than the other ball, as shown in Fig. 1. The patient now presses upon the balls, so as to cause a gradual straightening of the back, at the same time respiring slowly and regularly. The operation should be continued two, three, or four times a day, and should last from fifteen to thirty minutes.

What I claim is—

1. The combination of belt *a* with the laterally-adjustable straps *d*, having vertically-adjustable handles *e*, substantially as specified.

2. The combination of belt *a*, slitted to form straps *c*, with the slitted interwoven straps *d*, having handles *e*, substantially as specified.

JOSEF ZERVAS.

Witnesses:

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