

(No Model.)

A. P. DAVIS.

TRUSS.

No. 372,014.

Patented Oct. 25, 1887.

FIG. 1.

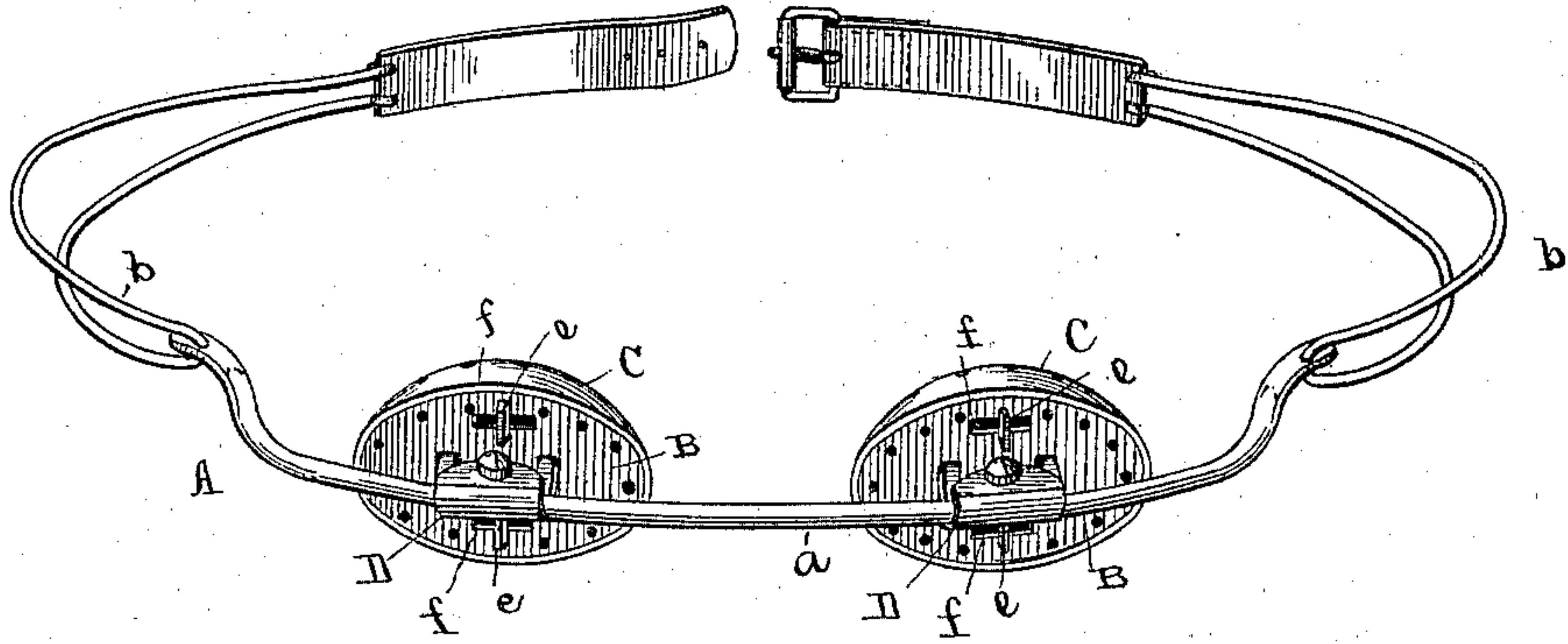


FIG. 2.

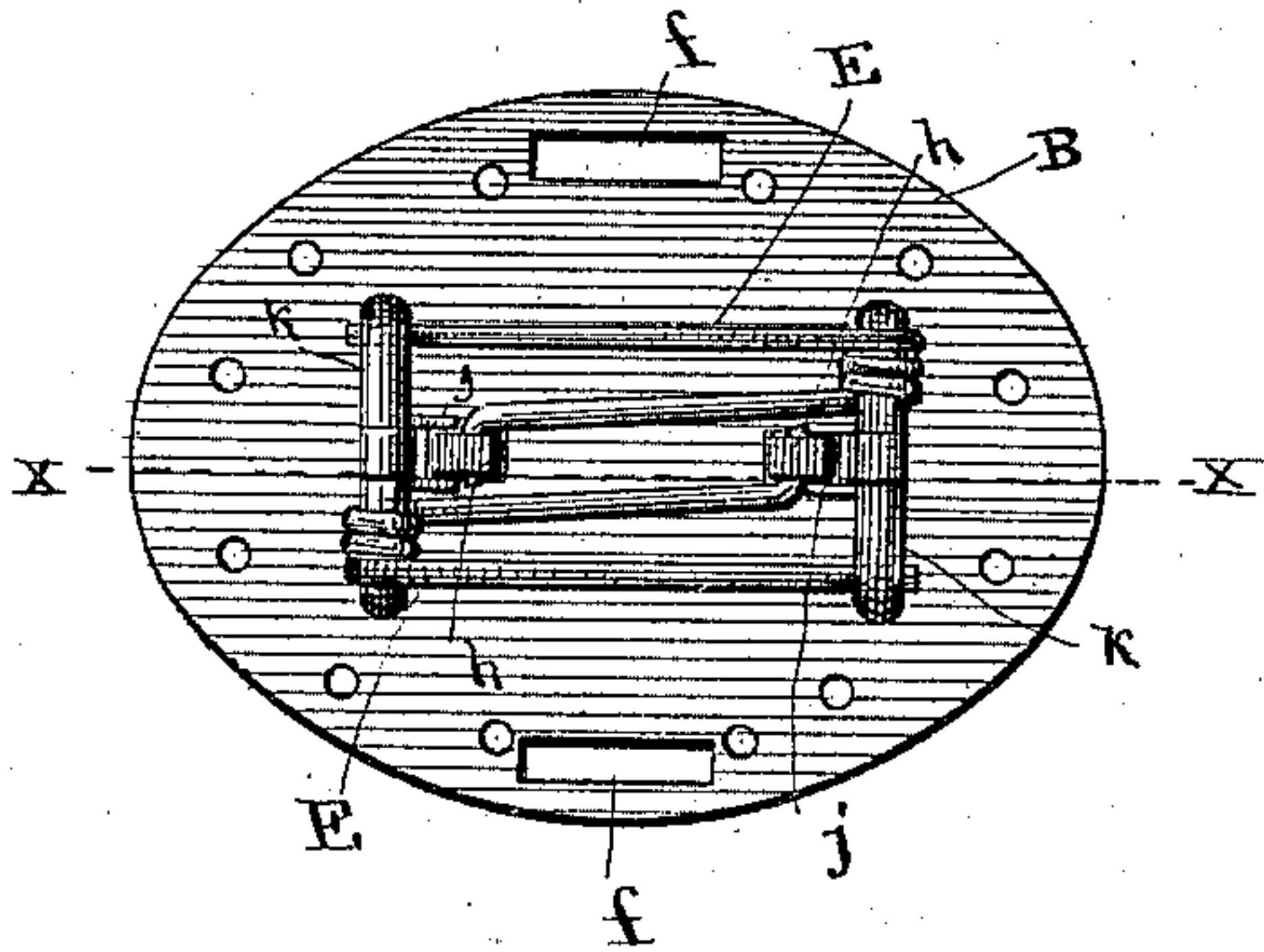


FIG. 3.

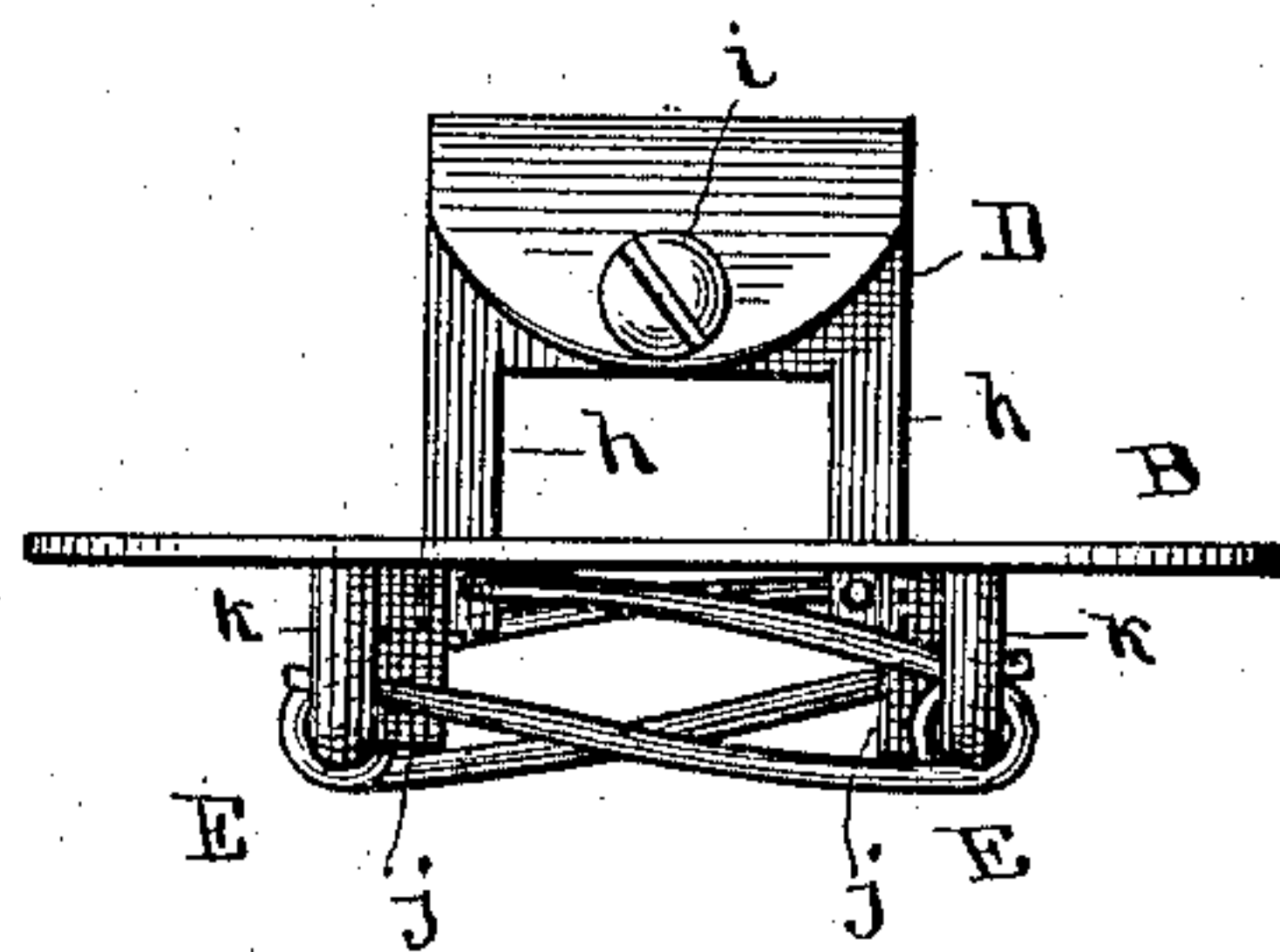
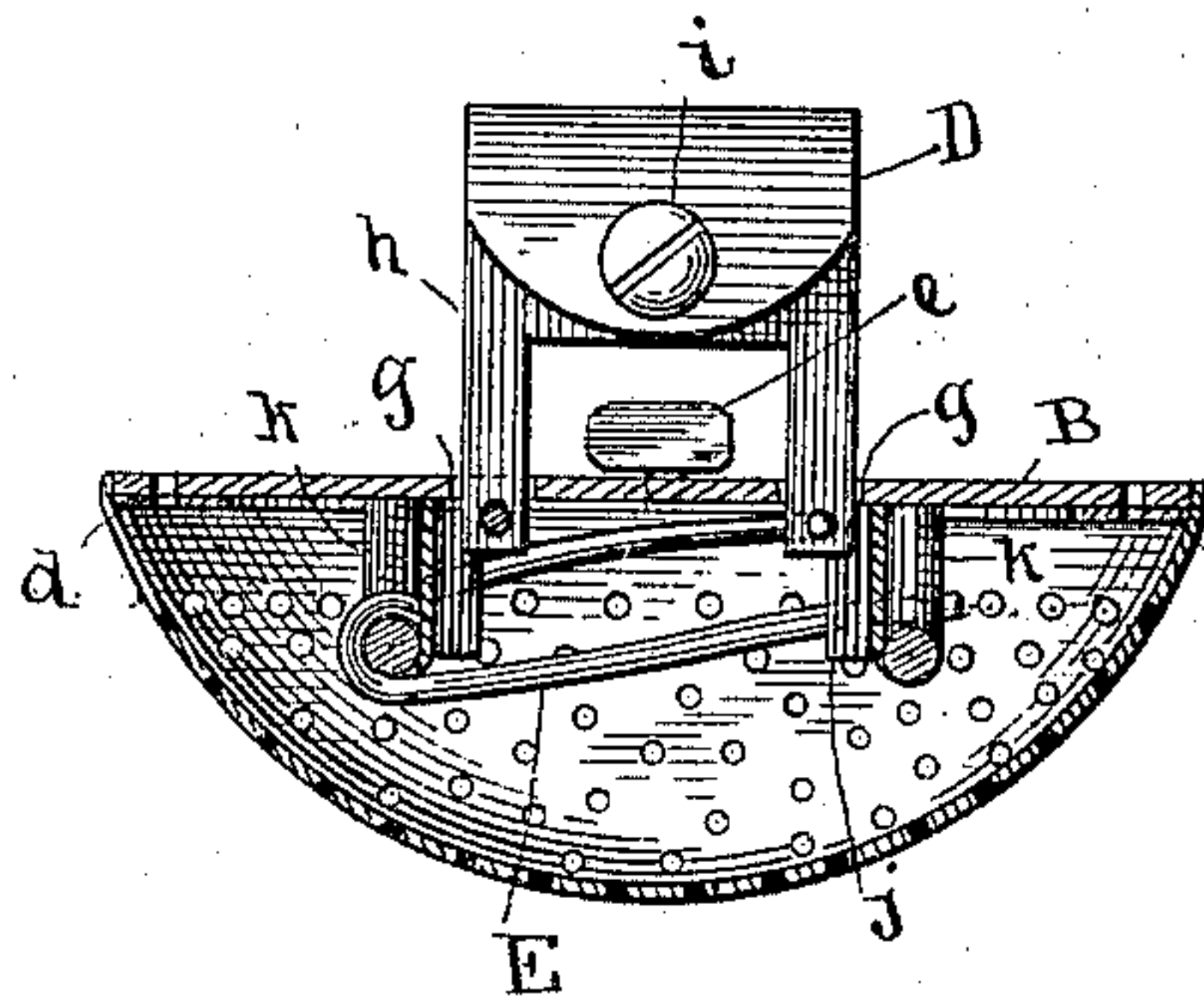


FIG. 4.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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TRUSS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 372,014, dated October 25, 1887.

Application filed August 11, 1887. Serial No. 246,667. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANDREW P. DAVIS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Dallas, in the county of Dallas and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Trusses; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in trusses; and it consists, substantially, in such features of construction, arrangement, and combinations of parts as will hereinafter be more particularly described, and pointed out in the claims.

The object of the invention is to provide a body-band of a truss of a much simplified nature as compared with many former inventions of a like character, and also of a construction to fit upon the hip-bones of the wearer, whereby accidental slipping thereof is obviated or prevented.

Further, the invention has for its object to simplify the construction and arrangement of the parts constituting the pads of the truss, and at the same time render them of a character by which the part or parts of the contents of the abdominal cavity tending to protrusion will be more effectually retained in their proper position than is accomplished with many pads of prior use or knowledge.

Finally, the invention has such other objects in view as will more fully hereinafter appear, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a truss embodying my invention; and Fig. 2 indicates a bottom or plan view of the top of the pad, showing the construction thereof, together with the arrangement of the springs. Fig. 3 is a side view of the pad with its cup removed, by which the arrangement of the springs is more clearly shown. Fig. 4 represents a longitudinal sectional view on the line *xx* of Fig. 2.

Before proceeding with a more full description of my invention, I desire to state that I am aware of the existence of inventions of this character wherein the pads of the truss are held against the rupture by the action of

springs contained within them; but the great difficulty heretofore has been that the pads yield too easily at the sides from movements of the body of the wearer, and consequently allow the rupture to slip out of its cavity. It is well known that the more movable the viscus the more tendency there is to protrusion; hence I have concluded that to keep the same in place the yielding of the pad between the body and its position on the band should be in as nearly a straight or direct line as is possible to be had, yet at the same time to allow of such pad yielding a sufficient extent laterally to accommodate itself to extreme bending of the body, so as not to aggravate the rupture. The construction and arrangement of the parts of the pads resorted to by me are such as to effectually accomplish the result desired, and, so far as I am aware, substantially differ from anything heretofore devised for the purpose.

Reference being had to the several parts by the letters marked thereon, A represents the band, so shaped as to conform as nearly as possible with the shape of the body of the wearer, and preferably I construct this band of a piece of metal, *a*, rounded as shown, and designed to fit around the abdomen, the said piece *a* being slightly flattened at its ends and having passed therethrough pieces of wire, *b*, that are bent about centrally and have attached to their ends the straps by which the band is secured in place around the body. The wires *b* are slightly spread apart, so that when the band is in place they act to receive and rest upon the upper portion of the hip-bone, and in this way little, if any, inconvenience is experienced in wearing the truss.

I may resort to other methods of fastening the wires to the ends of the front piece, *a*; but I have found everything to answer fully the purpose by having them united as I have herein shown.

The pads are constructed of an upper part, B, and a lower hollow or cup-shaped part, C, each of the said parts being numerously perforated, as shown, by which a thorough ventilation is had and the creation of unpleasant odors from perspiration and other causes is prevented. Surrounding the inner edge of the part C of the pad is a flange, *d*, on which the part B rests when in place, and through which

are fitted the movable keys *ee* at opposite sides. These keys pass through corresponding slots, *ff*, in the part B, and they are adapted to be turned so as to retain said part in its seat. The part or top B of the pad is also formed with openings *gg*, through which pass the two ends *hh* of a slide, D, that is adjustable on the piece *a* of the band and held in place thereon at any desired point by means of screw *i*. Beneath the plate B, alongside the openings *gg*, are guides *jj*, in which the legs of the slide are received and worked. These guides also unite with transverse loops *kk*, arranged or secured on the under side of the plate.

E E each represents a spring having their coils surrounding the loops at opposite sides, with one of their ends entering the legs of the slide and the other extending over and beneath the loops oppositely in like manner. From this it will be seen that the springs tend to the exertion of an equal pressure, yet at the same time any violent or extreme movement of the body of the wearer will be met with an ample degree of yield.

It will further be seen that by virtue of the guides for the legs of the slide D the movement of the pads between the body of the wearer and its position on the band will be even and direct, thereby overcoming any liability of the same becoming displaced, and consequently retaining the rupture nicely in place.

From the foregoing description it is thought my invention will be thoroughly understood; and it is evident that material departures could be made from the construction and arrangement of parts herein shown without departing from the spirit thereof.

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

1. In a truss, the body-band A, consisting of a front piece adapted to fit around the abdomen, and a wire attached to each end of said front piece, shaped to conform to the body and spread apart to receive and rest upon the hip-bone, and straps secured to the opposite ends of said wires for fastening the band in place, substantially as described.

2. In a truss, the combination, with a body-band, of the pad constructed of the part B, having openings *ff* and *gg*, and the part C, having an inner flange and provided with movable keys for entering the openings *ff*, the slide D, adjustable on the band, having legs passing through the openings *gg*, and the springs contained within the pad, substantially as shown and described.

3. In a truss, the combination, with the part B of the pad, having openings *gg* and formed or provided on its under side with the guides and loops, of the slide working in said openings and guides, and springs coiled around the loops, having one of their ends entering the slides and the other passing beneath the loops in opposite directions, the said part B having the cup secured thereto by means of the movable keys, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ANDREW P. DAVIS.

Witnesses:

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CURTIS LAMMOND.