

(No Model.)

T. J. LITTLE.
COMBINED SHIRT AND SUPPORTER.

No. 436,607.

Patented Sept. 16, 1890.

FIG. 1.

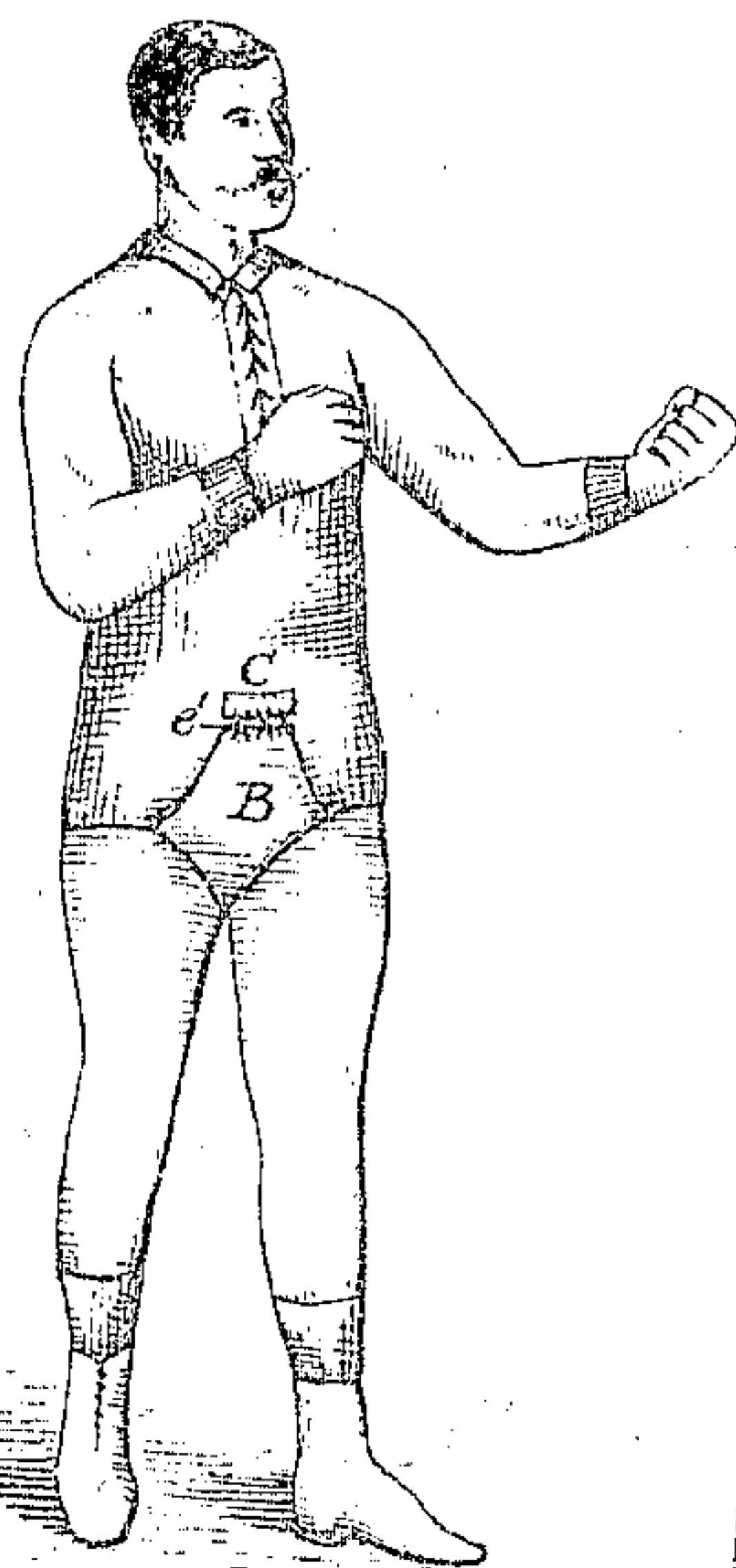


FIG. 2.

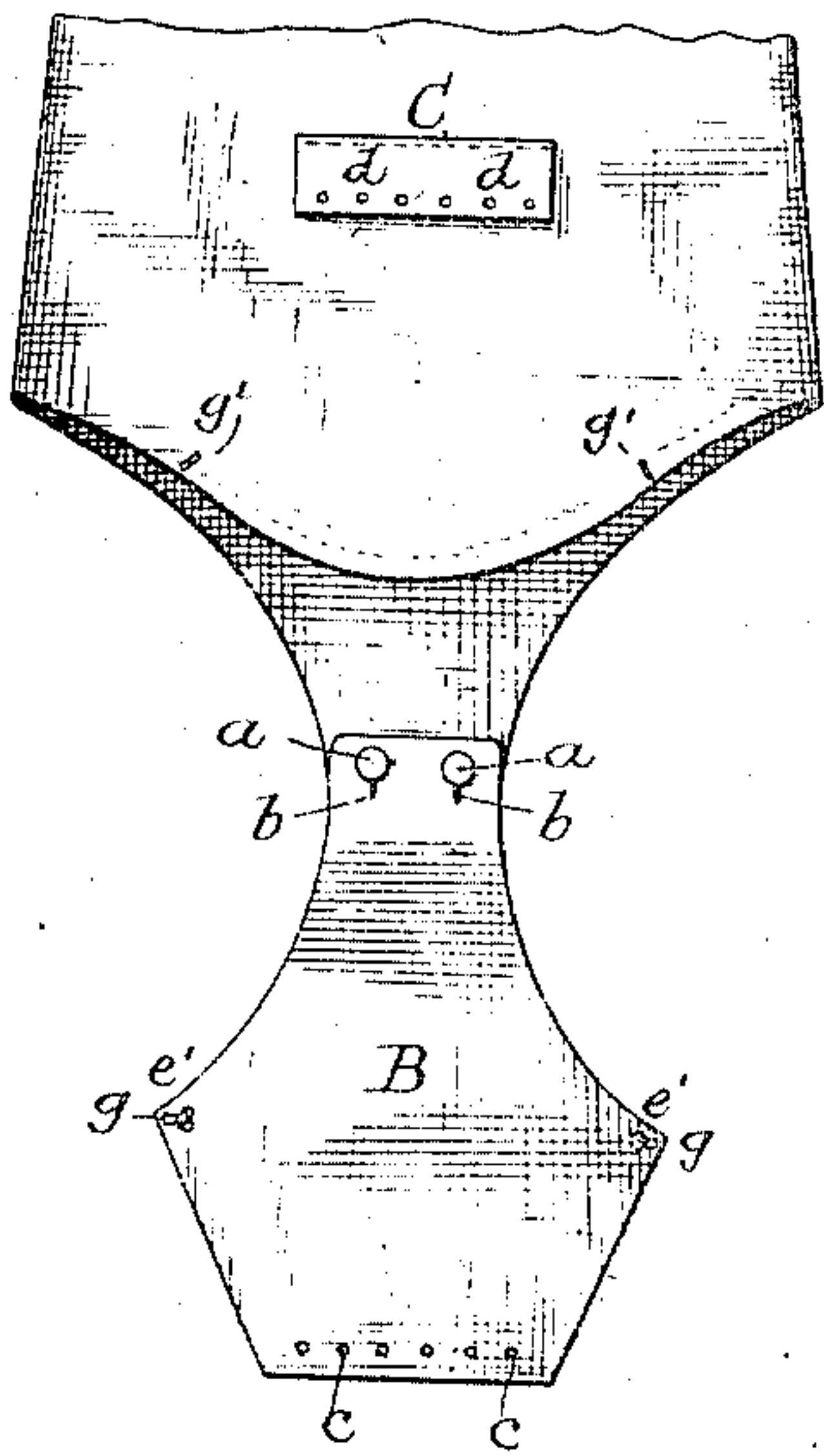


FIG. 4.

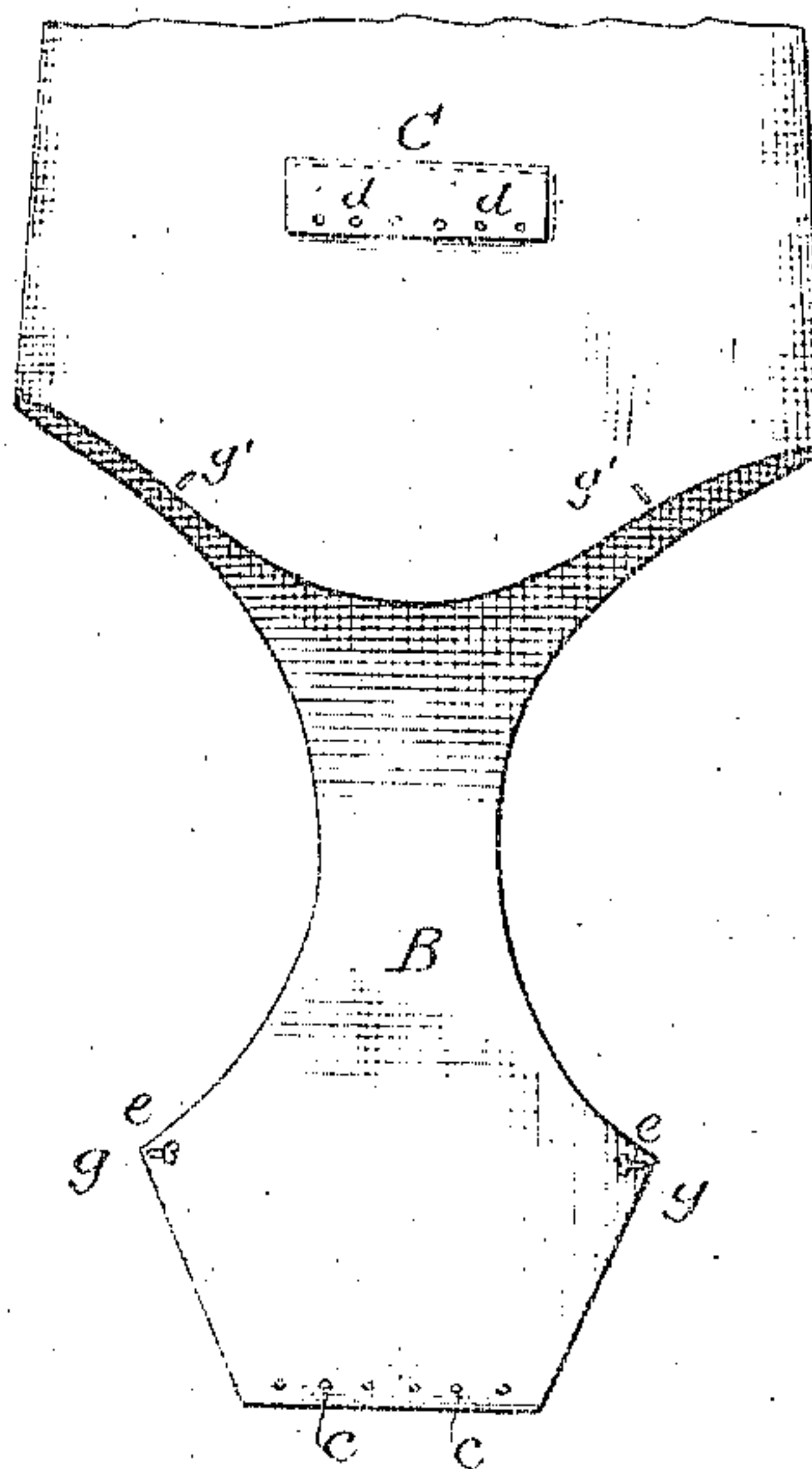
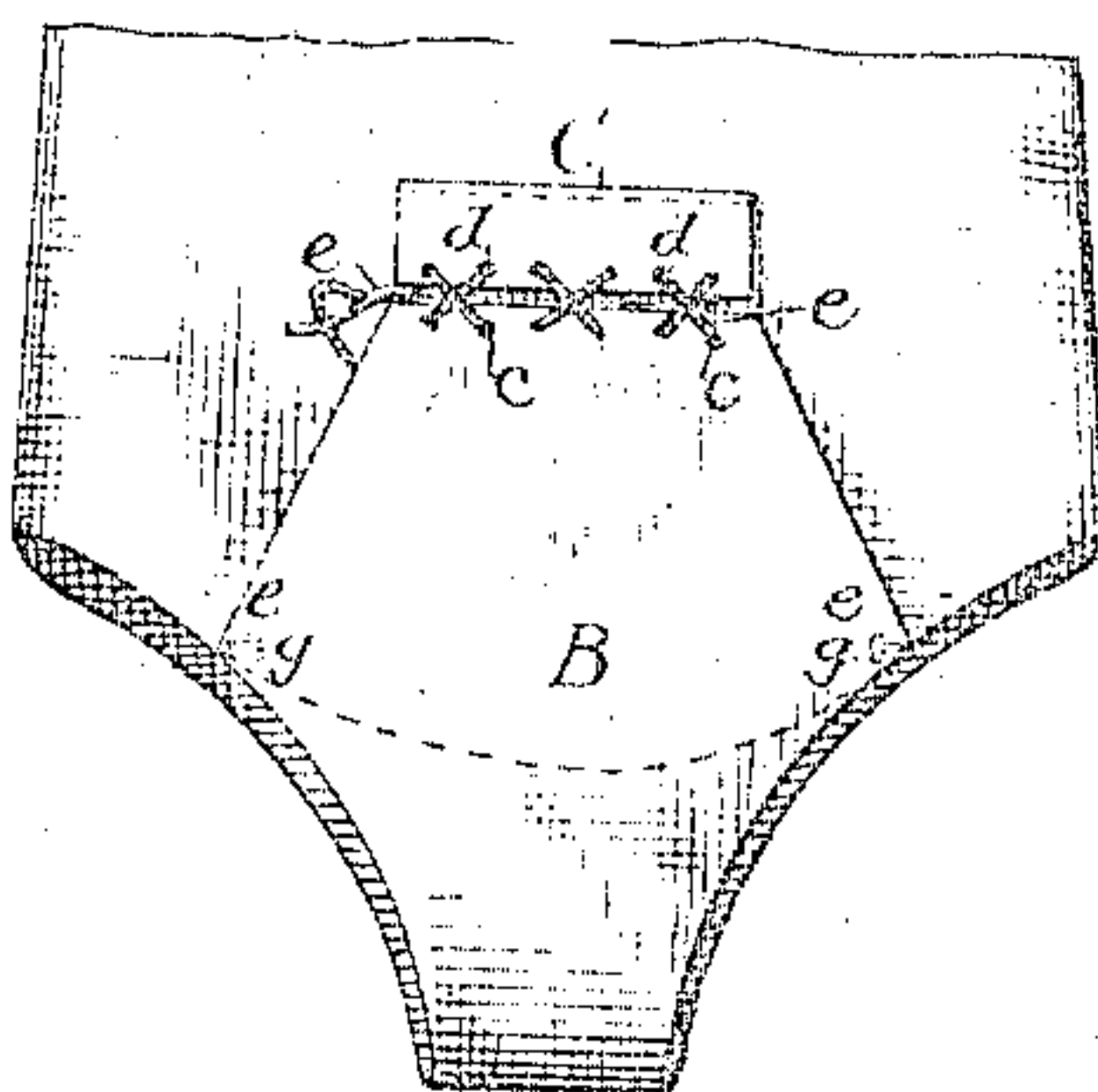


FIG. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS J. LITTLE, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

COMBINED SHIRT AND SUPPORTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 436,607, dated September 16, 1890.

Application filed July 5, 1890. Serial No. 357,888. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS J. LITTLE, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, have invented an Improved Combination Garment and Supporter, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to construct a garment especially adapted for the use of gymnasts or athletes, its principal object being to combine with a shirt or "sweater" a supporter for the privates, such as found convenient in gymnasiums; or the garment may be used in bathing or other costumes, it being so constructed that it will perfectly fit the person and prevent any separation from the rest of the suit.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a view showing my improved garment in position on the person; Fig. 2, a view showing the supporter unlaced and detached from the person; Fig. 3, a view with the garment laced in the same position as in Fig. 1 on an enlarged scale; and Fig. 4 is a view of a modification.

The main body of the garment is similar in construction to the ordinary form of shirt or sweater in common use, except that it may be somewhat shorter than usual, as it is not necessary that any of the lower portion of the shirt be placed inside other garments to hold the shirt in position. The rear portion of the shirt is continued down for some distance, so as to form the rear portion of the supporter, and is provided at its lower end with buttons or catches *a*, adapted to button-holes *b* in the lower edge of the supporter proper B; or the buttons and button-holes may be dispensed with and the supporter be made in one piece with the main body of the garment, as shown in Fig. 4. The upper edge of the supporter B is provided with a series of lacing-holes *c*, corresponding with a series of lacing-holes *d* in a tab C, secured to the front part of the shirt, the supporter being adjustably secured to the tab by the laces *e*.

The supporter proper is made in the peculiar form shown, and at its opposite corners *e' e'* is provided with hooks *g*, adapted to eyes *g'* in the body of the shirt. Any form of fastening—such as buttons or laces—may be substituted for the hooks and eyes, if desired. The

upper edge of the supporter may be adjusted to any desired distance from the tabs C by the laces, and the supporter may be made to comfortably fit the wearer, dispensing with the necessity of manufacturing many different sizes of garments and supporters to fit different persons.

The garment or supporter being made in two parts and secured together by buttons, the lacing may be adjusted the first time the garment is used and remain undisturbed, the garment being removed when desired by detaching the lower end of the supporter from the rear portion of the garment. In the cheaper form shown in Fig. 4 it is necessary to unlace and adjust the supporter each time the garment is used; but in this construction the buttons *a* are dispensed with, and the garment is thus made more comfortable.

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

1. The combination, with a garment in the nature of a shirt, of an extension forming a supporter, laces for adjustably securing the loose end of the supporter to the garment, and devices for detachably securing the opposite sides of the front portion of the supporter to the garment, substantially as specified.

2. The combination of a garment in the nature of a shirt, an extension on the rear portion of said garment, with the separate supporter, devices for attaching the lower end of the supporter to the said extension, and laces for adjustably securing the upper end of the supporter to the front portion of said garment, substantially as specified.

3. The combination of a garment in the nature of a shirt, having an extension on its rear portion, a separate supporter B, having its lower edge attached to said extension, laces for adjustably securing the upper portion of the supporter to the front of said garment; and devices for securing the opposite edges of the supporter to said garment, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

THOMAS J. LITTLE.

Witnesses:

JNO. E. PARKER,
H. F. REARDON.