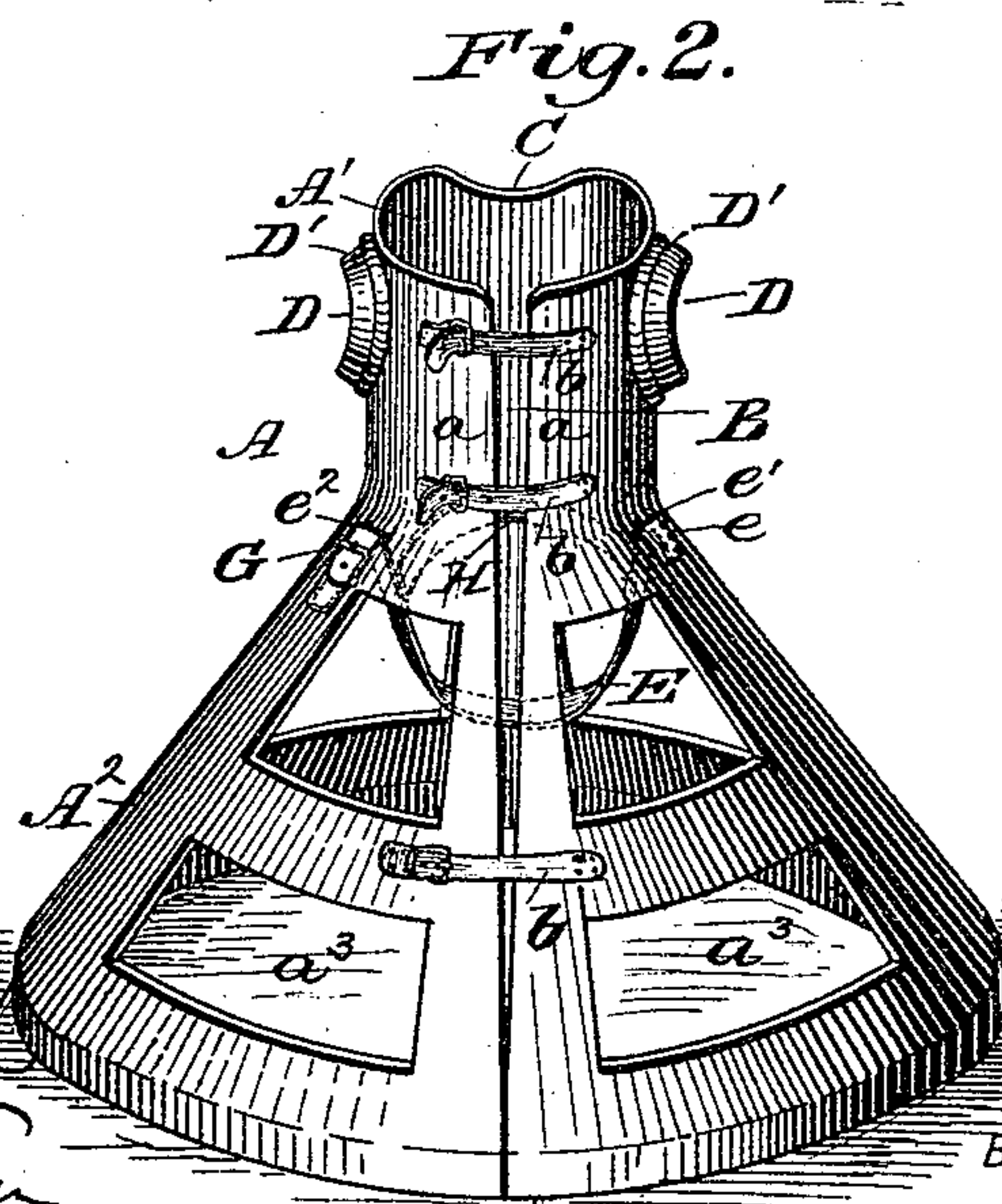
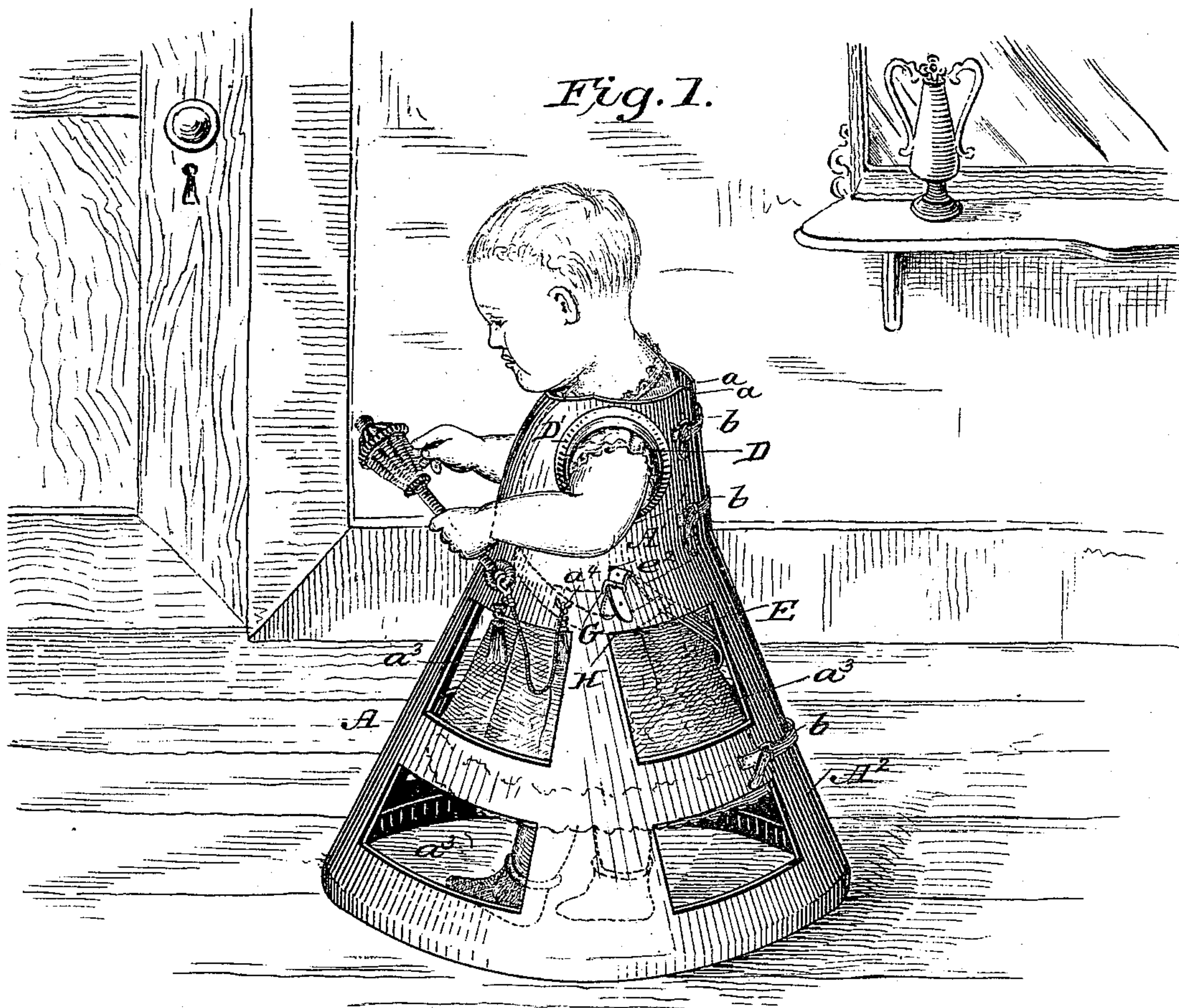


(No Model.)

J. S. IRVINE.
BABY WALKER AND PROTECTOR.

No. 438,478.

Patented Oct. 14, 1890.



WITNESSES:
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JOHN S. IRVINE, OF CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA.

BABY WALKER AND PROTECTOR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 438,478, dated October 14, 1890.

Application filed February 10, 1890. Serial No. 339,897. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN S. IRVINE, residing at Charlotte, in the county of Mecklenburg and State of North Carolina, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Baby Walkers and Protectors, of which the following is a specification.

My invention has for its object to provide a simple, cheap, light, and durable combined baby walker and protector which will serve as an effectual means for assisting the infant in learning to walk and at the same time protect it from such injuries as are incident during the infant walking period.

To this end my invention consists in the peculiar arrangement and combination of parts of such protector and support, as will hereinafter be fully described in the annexed specification, and particularly pointed out in the claims, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a view of my improved walker and protector as in use. Fig. 2 is a perspective rear view of the same.

In the practical construction of my invention I provide a shield or jacket formed of papier-maché, poplar-wood pulp, or other desired material, the upper portion of which is of a shape to snugly fit the body of the child, while the lower portion thereof is flared or formed into cone shape, so as to extend outwardly from the feet of the child and form a solid support.

In the accompanying drawings, the shield A is formed, preferably, of a single piece, the ends *a a* bent around and adjustably held together by means of the straps *b b b*, such ends being cut at an angle so as to leave a V-shaped opening B at the rear, so that the shield can be readily adjusted to any size desired. The front wall of the body portion A' of the shield A is preferably formed to conform to a child's body, such portion being cut away at C to permit of free play of the head and neck of the child.

The sides of the upper end of the body portion are formed with the bell-shaped openings D D, through which the arms of the wearer are passed, when adjusted on the infant such openings being formed with projecting sleeves D' D', which serve to provide increased bearing-surfaces for the arms, the

edges of such sleeves being rounded, so as to prevent injury thereto.

A supporting or seat strap E is provided, which is fastened at one end to the outside of the shield A, passed through the opening *e'*, formed into a loop, which is arranged to fit snugly in rear of the thighs of the child and serves to form a comfortable seat in case the child should stumble or its legs give way, the free end of such strap being passed through the opening *e''* and connected with the buckle G, fastened to the outer side of the shield, as shown. To always hold said strap in proper position to support the child, as described, I provide an additional strap H, which is secured at its ends to the strap E in such a manner as to form a loop which loosely fits over the abdomen of the child.

*a*³ denotes openings made in the base A² of the shield to lighten the same, and *a*⁴ denotes a hook secured to the shield, to which may be attached a rattle or any other suitable toy.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the drawings, the advantages of my improvement will readily appear. It will be seen that the same is exceedingly simple, and that it may be adjusted to different-sized infants. It forms a substantial support, and yet is of such lightness that no extra effort is necessary for the child to move it along as it endeavors to make the steps. When in use, it will be impossible for the child to fall against stoves, in fires, out of doors, or to injure itself in any other manner, the cone-shaped base A' serving as a solid support and to prevent sidewise motion of the child.

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

1. A combined baby walker and protector consisting of a shield A, formed with a body portion or jacket A', and a flaring or cone-shaped base A², said shield adapted to be adjusted to the body of the child and provided with arm-holes in its portion A', substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. A combined baby walker and protector consisting of a shield A, formed of a single piece of material, said shield having a body portion A', formed with the arm-holes D D, and a flaring or base portion A², the ends *a a*

of said shield cut at an angle to form a V-opening when said ends *a a* are brought together, and means for adjustably holding said edges together, substantially as specified.

5 3. The combination, with the shield A, provided with the oppositely-disposed openings *e' e²*, of the seat-strap E, one end passed through the opening *e'* and secured upon the outside of the shield, its opposite end passed
10 through the opposite opening *e²*, and the buckle G, secured upon the outside of the shield, adapted to secure the free end of said strap, substantially as and for the purpose described.

4. An improved baby walker and protector 5 consisting of the shield A, formed of a single piece of material having a vertical or body portion A', formed with arm-holes D D, having lateral extensions D' D', and a cut-away portion C, and a cone-shaped base portion A², 20 all arranged substantially as shown and described.

JOHN S. IRVINE.

Witnesses:

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