

(No Model.)

J. J. PFISTER.
ATHLETE'S SUPPORTER.

No. 452,529.

Patented May 19, 1891.

FIG. 1--

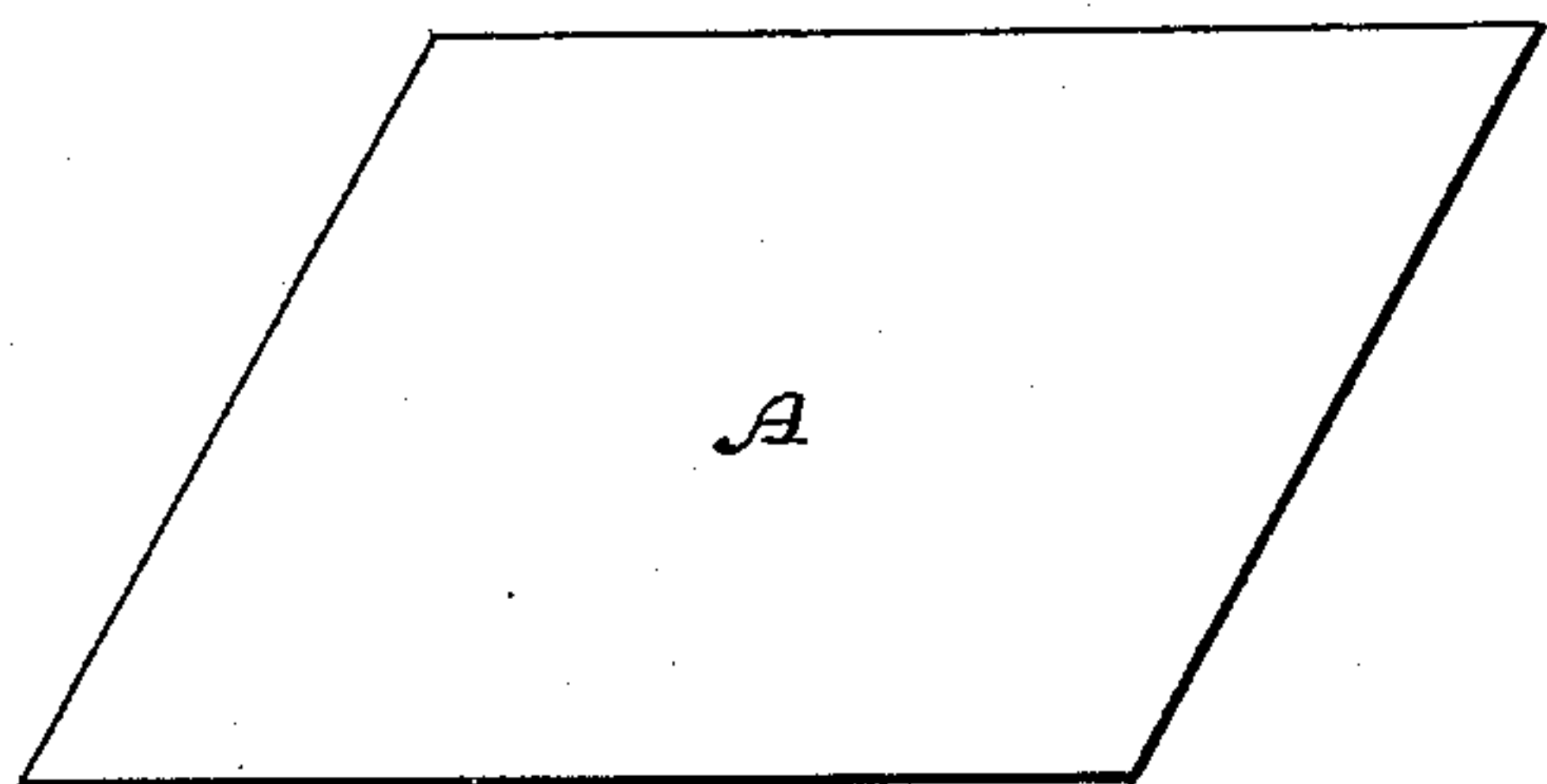


FIG. 2--

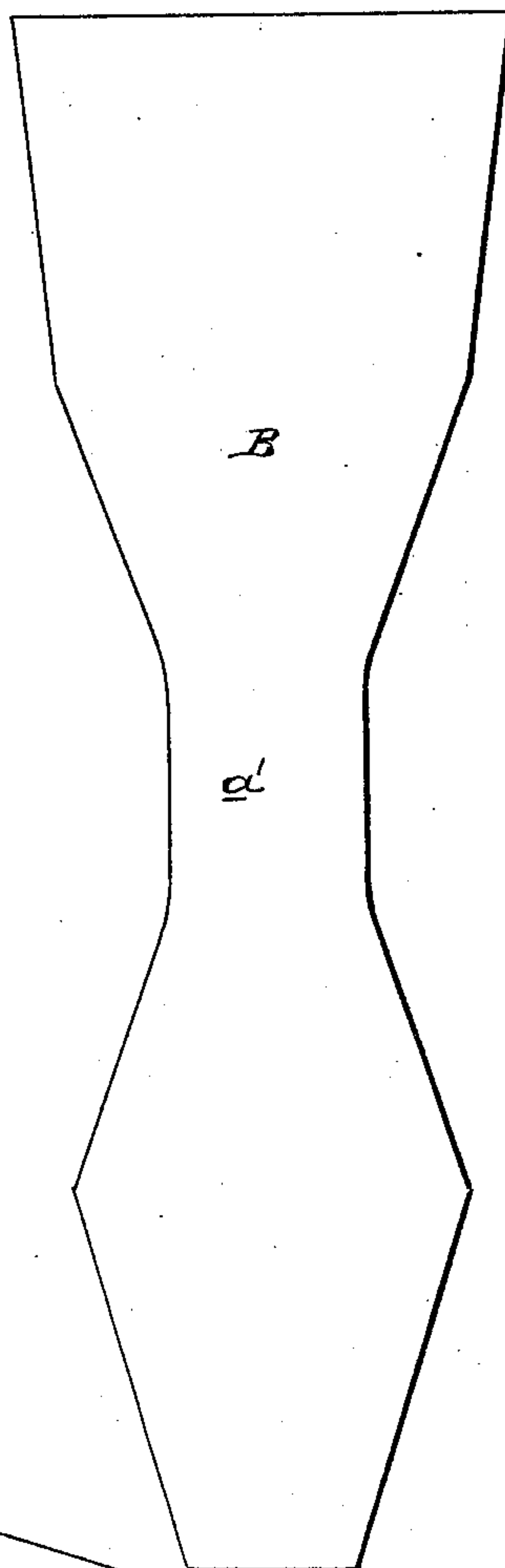


FIG. 3--

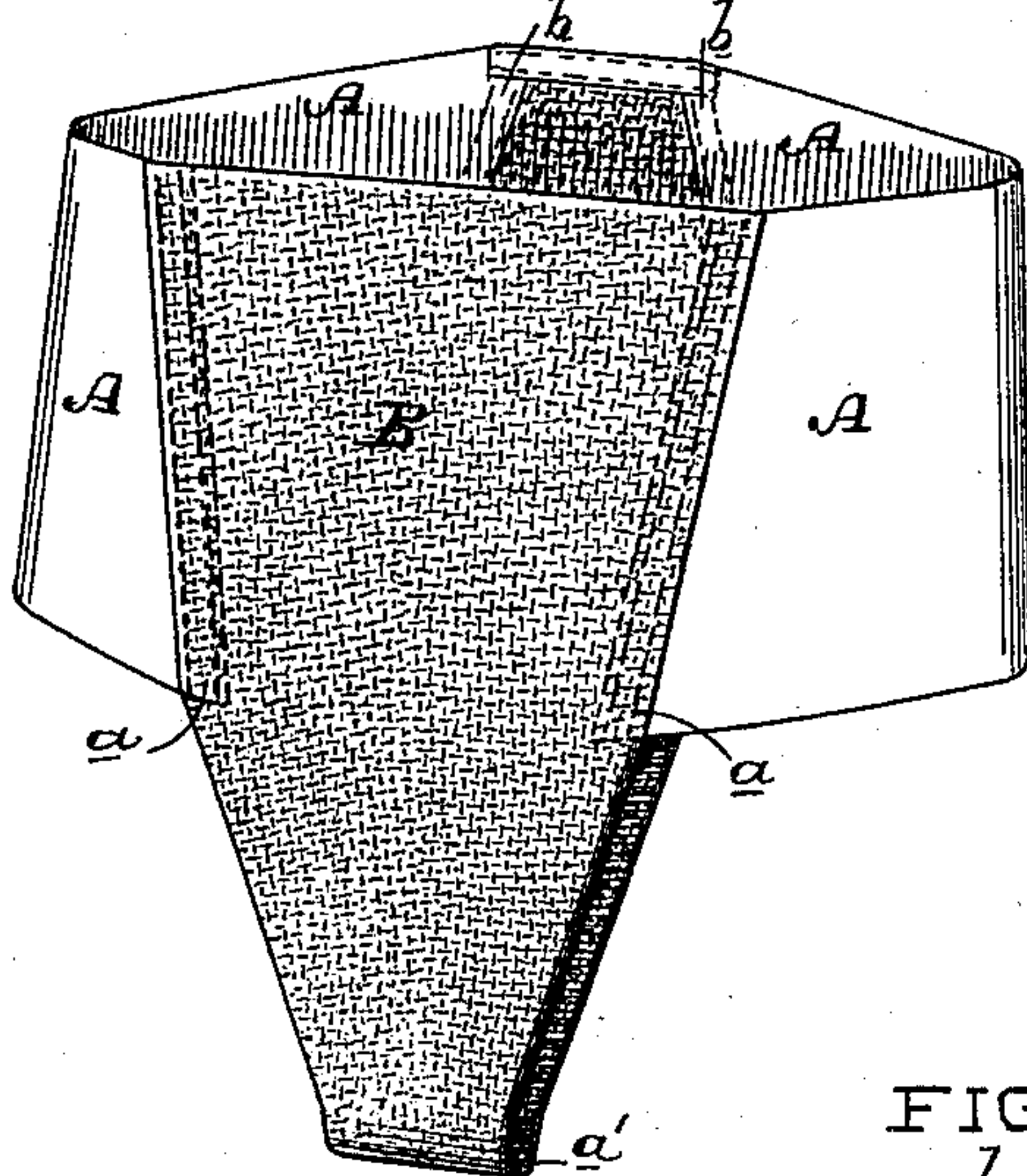


FIG. 4--

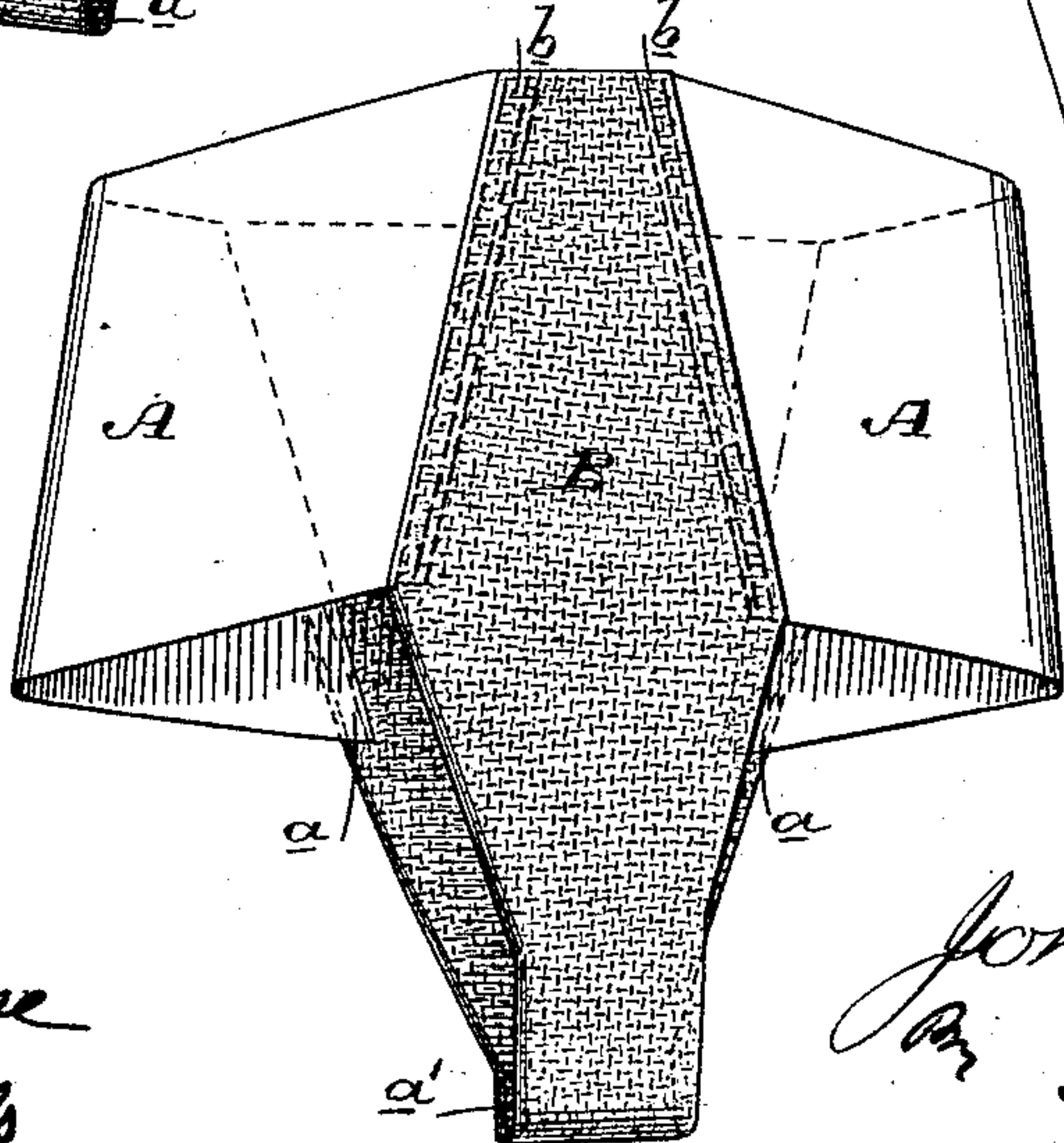
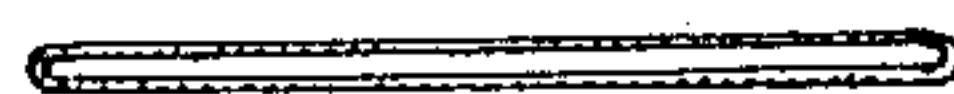


FIG. 5--



Witnesses,
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN J. PFISTER, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

ATHLETE'S SUPPORTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 452,529, dated May 19, 1891.

Application filed December 26, 1890. Serial No. 375,878. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN J. PFISTER, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city and county of San Francisco, State of California, have invented an Improvement in Athletes' Supporters; and I hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

My invention relates to the class of supporters used by athletes, and which consist of a waistband and a cross-band passing between the legs of the wearer and connected in front and back to the waistband.

My invention consists in the novel construction and fashioning of the waistband, the novel construction of the cross-band, and the connection between the two bands, all of which will hereinafter be fully explained, and specifically pointed out in the claim.

The object of my invention is to provide a supporter of this class which shall so fit the wearer as to insure its perfect adjustment and permanency in place under all circumstances, and which shall also be of such character and materials as to secure perfect freedom and comfort.

Referring to the accompanying drawings for a more complete explanation of my invention, Figure 1 is a pattern of one of the two pieces which form the waistband. Fig. 2 is a pattern of the cross-band. Fig. 3 is a front view of the completed supporter. Fig. 4 is a back view of the same. Fig. 5 is a section of the cross-band B.

From suitable material, usually elastic material, I first cut out two pieces of the pattern shown in Fig. 1, and these form in the completed article the waistband A. The cross-band B is made of knit goods, after the pattern of Fig. 2, and is a seamless tubular, fashioned piece. In the front the ends of the band A and the edges of the band B are sewed together on the lines *a*, and in the back they are sewed on the lines *b*.

It will be noticed that the parts are fashioned—that is to say, they are shaped to fit wearer. The pieces forming the waistband A are so made that they are higher in the back than in the front, which is the proper shape for a belt, as it fits the form and has no tendency to slip down. If they were made straight, the waistband would, on account of the shape

of the lower portion of the trunk or body of the wearer, naturally slip down in front and rise in the back; but this movement would throw it out of fit, as it would not be fashioned to such a position; but in my band this position is the normal one, so that it will stay there.

The edges of the waistband-pieces, back and front, are inclined to fit the shape of the wearer. In the front they converge downwardly, following the contour or lines of the abdomen and groins, and in the back they converge upwardly, thus fitting closely over the upper portion of the buttocks and leading into the lower end of the spine. Being of elastic material, the band fits closely to the person and has no tendency to displacement under any conditions. The cross-band B, it will be seen, is also fashioned to a fit. Its front end is widened to the top and presents edges corresponding to and adapted to be secured to the edges of the waistband-pieces. This widened and tapering front end and the front of the pieces A conform to the downwardly-converging curvatures of abdomen and accurately fit the person. Thence the cross-band continues to taper until it is narrowed to a central strip at *a'*, which is of a size adapted to pass between the legs without inconvenience. Thence it widens again until where it meets the waistband-pieces in the back, and from there up it tapers upwardly to conform to the edges of the waistband-pieces, to which it is secured by its own edges.

I have found that knit goods are the best for the cross-band, both because of their character and because I am enabled to form the whole band of a single seamless tubular piece made and fashioned on the machine. Knit goods are soft and yielding, yet possessing body enough to retain their general shape, not being liable to be compressed or drawn into a stringy shape, as would, for example, a piece of muslin used for this purpose. My cross-band is therefore best when formed from knit goods, and it is light, shapely, not heating, is absorbent and durable, and more comfortable than simple cloth; nor does it bind or chafe, as rubber or elastic cloth would, and it is much cleaner. By knitting it purposely for this use the cross-band can be made of a single tubular seamless piece and fashioned properly.

Having thus described my invention, what I

claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

An athlete's supporter consisting of a waist-band formed of the two separated pieces of
5 elastic material, the front edges of which converge downwardly and their back edges converge upwardly, and the cross-band of knit goods having the side edges of its ends correspondingly inclined and lying between the
10 separated ends of the waistband-pieces and

secured thereto, said cross-band having a narrowed central strip which forms a depending portion, substantially as herein described.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

JOHN J. PFISTER.

Witnesses:

S. H. NOURSE,
WM. F. BOOTH.