

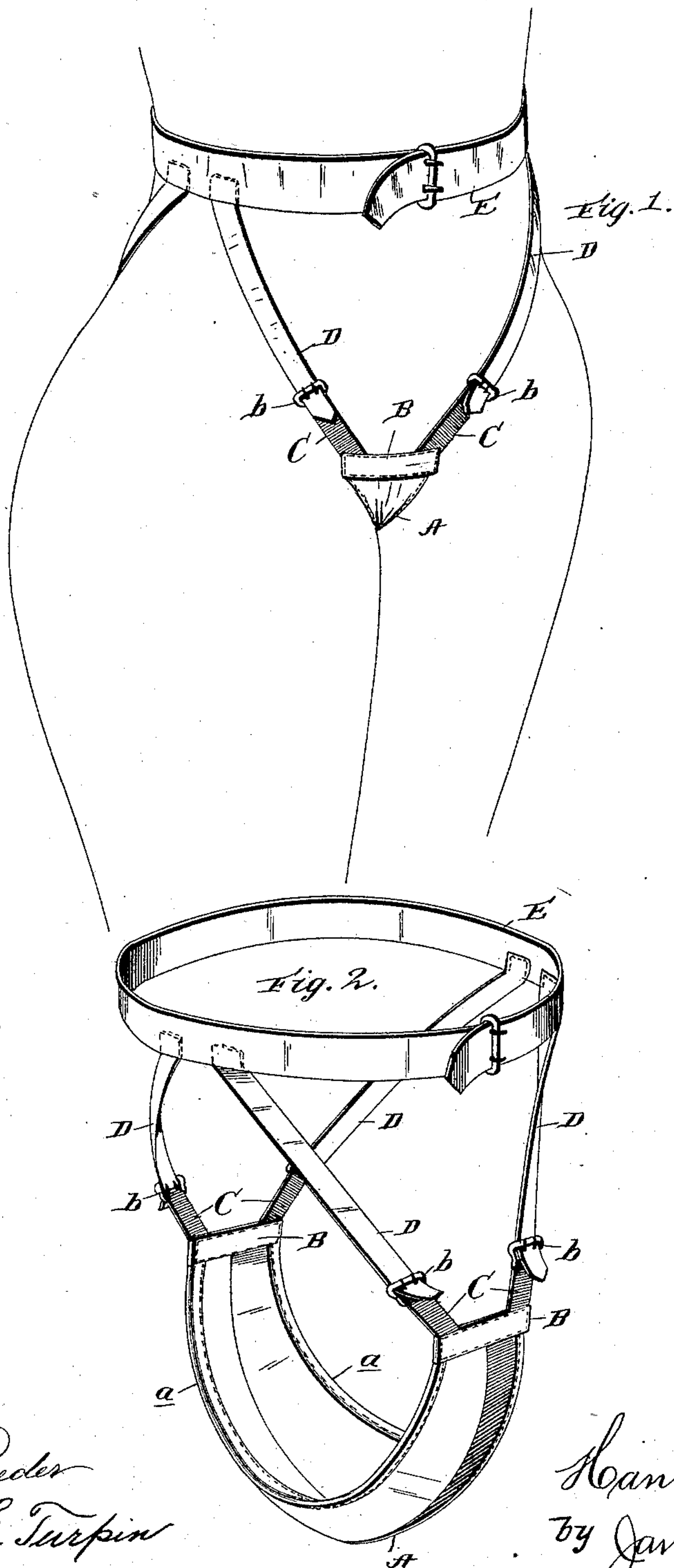
(Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

H. F. FERGUSON.  
CATAMENIAL SACK.

No. 474,378.

Patented May 10, 1892.



Witnesses:

*C. H. Paeder*  
*Thomas E. Turpin*

Inventor

*Hannah Ferguson*  
by *James Sheehy*

Attorney

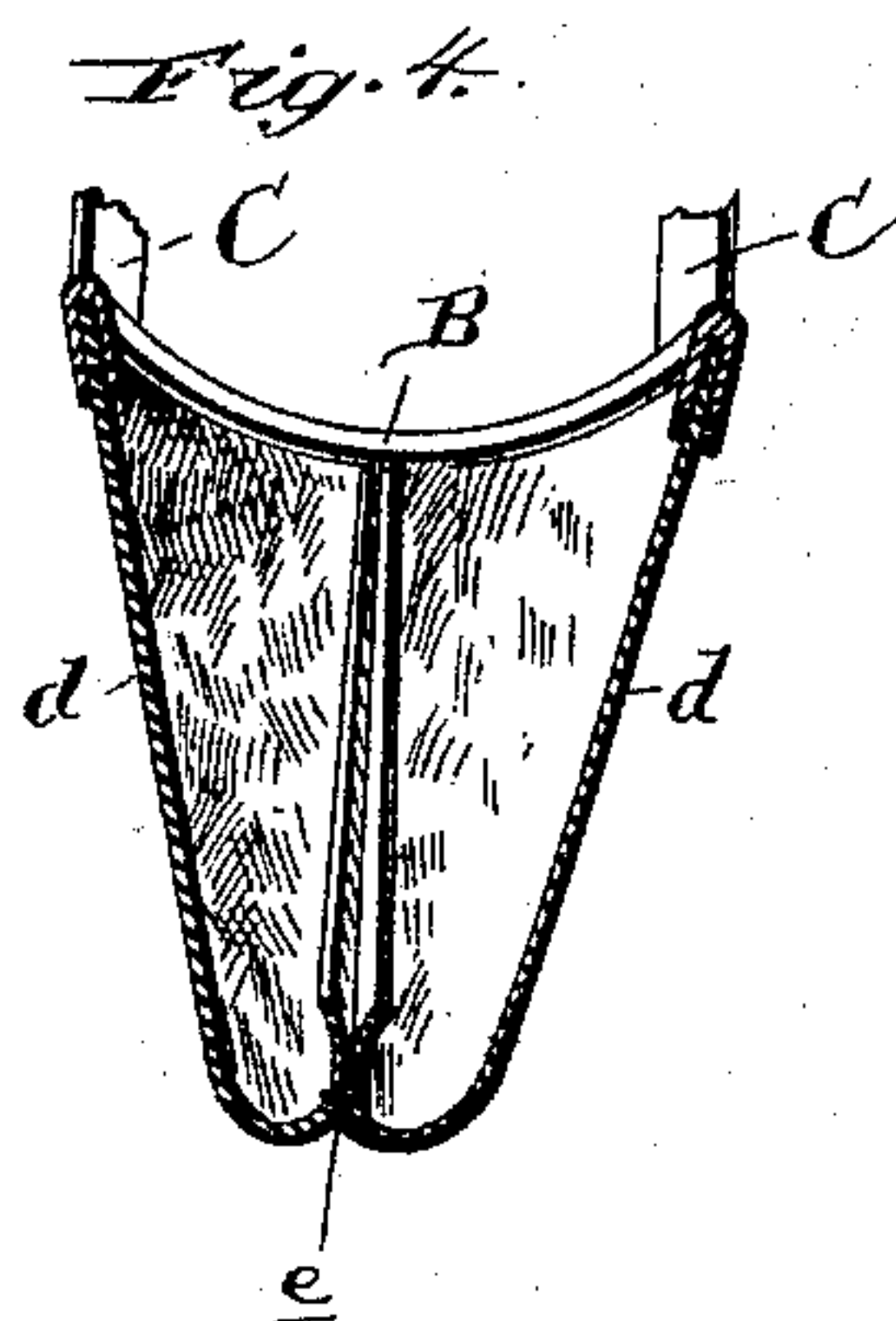
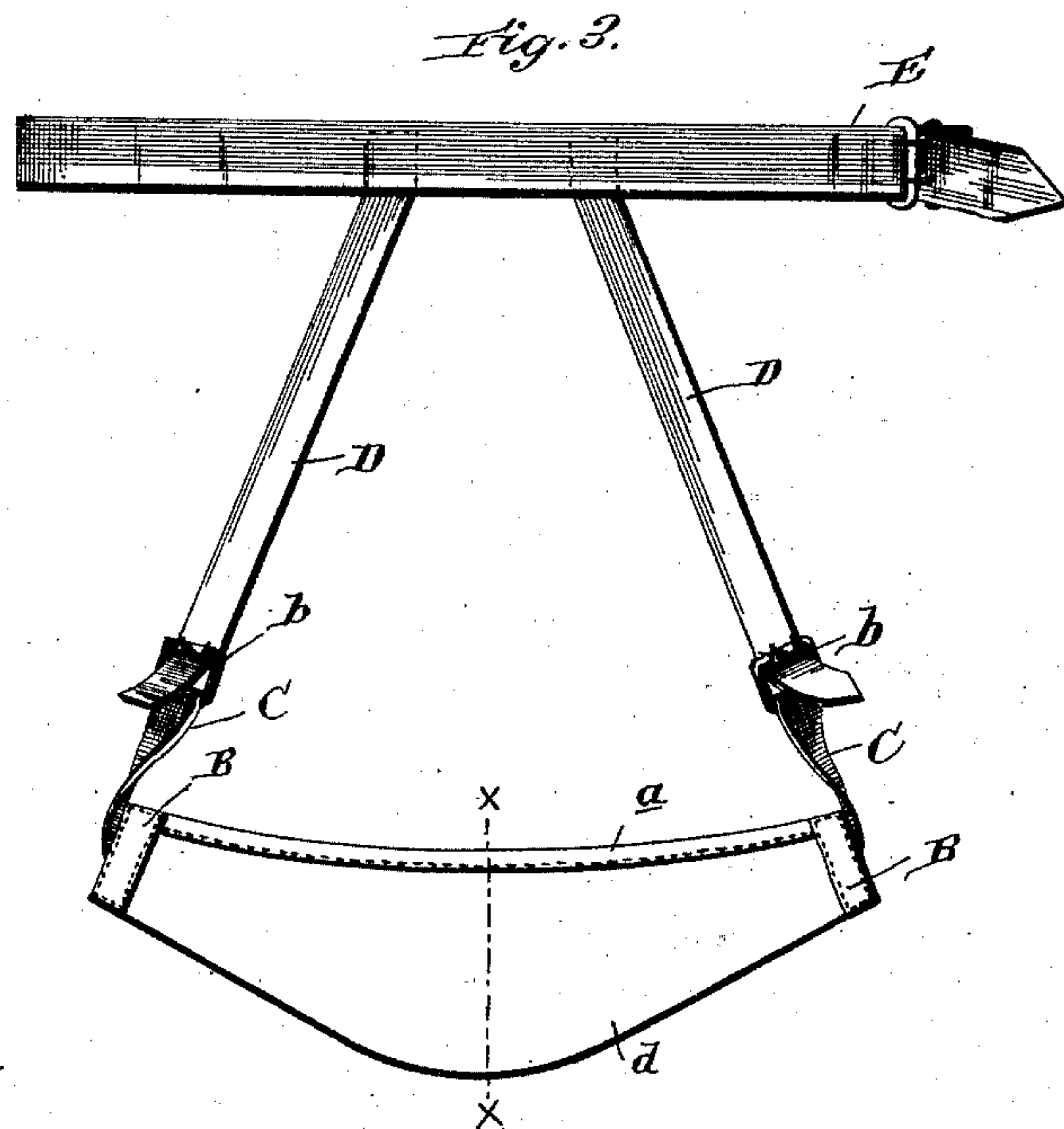
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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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CATAMENIAL SACK.

No. 474,378.

Patented May 10, 1892.



Witnesses:  
*C. A. Paeder*  
*M. F. Matthews.*

Inventor  
*Hannah F. Ferguson*  
by *James J. Sheehy*  
Attorney



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HANNAH F. FERGUSON, OF FORT ERIE, CANADA.

## CATAMENIAL SACK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 474,378, dated May 10, 1892.

Application filed August 3, 1891. Serial No. 401,569. (Model.) Patented in Canada March 20, 1890, No. 33,968.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HANNAH F. FERGUSON, a citizen of Canada, residing at Fort Erie, in the county of Welland and Province of Ontario, Canada, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Catamenial Sacks, (for which I have obtained Letters Patent in Canada, dated March 20, 1890, No. 33,968;) and I do 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 has relation to improvements in catamenial sacks, designed more especially to be worn by women during the period of menstruation; and the novelty will be fully understood from the following description and claims when taken in connection with the annexed drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a view of a portion of a woman's body, showing the application thereto of my improved device. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the sack removed from the body, showing the relative positions which the parts assume when applied. Fig. 3 is a side elevation, which is given to represent the shape of the sack and the manner and arrangement of the supporting-straps; and Fig. 4 is a cross-sectional view of the sack, taken in the plane indicated by the dotted line *xx* on Fig. 3.

A desideratum in this class of devices has been to provide a sack which will have a tendency to remain in an open position while in use, as it is well known by those who use such devices that the limbs have a natural tendency to close the sack and consequently impair its usefulness in holding a pledget or absorbent in proper position with respect to the cavity or vagina and receive the menstrual fluid as discharged. Heretofore several attempts have been made to accomplish this object; but such devices as constructed have been rendered complicated by the employment of side loops to pass around the thighs or trunk, as well as clumsy harness for holding the sack suspended, and such devices are, furthermore, objectionable, inasmuch as the sack, in order to be frequently washed or cleansed, must be readily detachable from the supporting parts. By the construction which I have illustrated and which I shall presently describe in detail I have an article which

when in use will allow perfect freedom of the body without any discomfort or unpleasant feeling, such as experienced when limb-straps are employed. The sack, being of rubber or elastic material, will give to the movements of the limbs, and it is detachably connected to the supporting parts, so that it may be readily removed and after washing quickly attached to the supporting-straps.

In carrying out my invention I take two approximately gore-shaped pieces *d*, of soft thin rubber or other suitably-impervious material, and secure them together at their longitudinal curved edges by a row of stitches *e* or otherwise, so as to firmly unite the same. I then bind the longitudinal, straight, or upper edges with protecting-strips *a*, of similar material, although thin oil-cloth or other yielding and washable material might be used. I then bind the transverse edges of the sack with strips of chamois-skin *B*, after which I provide each corner or end of the strips *B* with short strips of webbing or elastic material *C*, carrying buckles *b* at their upper or outer ends. By this construction I have a sack which while in use will remain open at its central portion, and by being elastic will give an upward pressure to the parts, thereby affording a feeling of support and comfort.

*E* indicates the waistband, which is provided with the usual buckle, as shown.

*D* indicates the supporting-straps, there being four employed and connected, respectively, at their lower ends to the four short straps *C*, which latter are preferably elastic. These straps are secured to the waistband at a point to come just over the hips on opposite sides of the body, so as to form two front and two rear supporting-straps.

As better shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings, the front straps *D* pass down from a point above the hips in an oblique or diagonal manner across the abdomen, so as to keep the front strip *B* of the sack in a stretched or extended manner, and consequently the adjacent end of the sack as well open as the position of the limbs will allow. The rear straps, which are also secured to the waistband at a point above the hips, pass down in the rear of the body and, connecting with the strip *B*, hold the opposite end of the sack open as



much as the limbs will allow. I attach im-  
portance to this arrangement of the support-  
ing-straps and the fact that thigh or limb  
straps are dispensed with, as such straps have  
5 been found both uncomfortable and objec-  
tionable for many reasons.

In use the waistband is first buckled around  
the body, bringing the buckle directly in  
front. The sack should then be attached to  
10 either the front or back straps, and after plac-  
ing a sponge or other absorbent in the sack  
the remaining straps should be buckled so as  
to fit closely to the body.

When the sack has become soiled, it may  
15 be disconnected from the supporting-straps  
and washed the same as a piece of rubber or  
the like.

While I have described the sack as being  
composed of two gore-shaped pieces of rub-  
20 ber, yet I do not wish to confine myself to  
making it in this manner, as the sack may, if  
found desirable, be made from a single piece  
of material.

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

1. As an improved article of manufacture,  
a catamenial sack comprising a waistband,  
the sack or bag of rubber or yielding mate-  
rial, the non-elastic strips secured to the op- 30  
posite ends of the sack, the short straps se-  
cured to said strips and carrying buckles,  
and the supporting-straps secured at their up-  
per ends to the waistband at a point above  
the hips and their opposite ends secured to 35  
said buckle-straps, substantially as speci-  
fied.

2. The sack composed of two approximate-  
ly gore-shaped pieces, thin rubber united to-  
gether at their curved edges, the strips B, se-  
cured to the opposite transverse ends of the 40  
sack, and the binding *a* on the upper longi-  
tudinal edges, in combination with a waist-  
band and straps for adjustably connecting  
said sack to the band, substantially as speci-  
fied. 45

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

HANNAH F. FERGUSON.

Witnesses:

OTTELIA DOSSENBOCH,  
JOHN W. INGRAM.