

No. 659,685.

Patented Oct. 16, 1900.

W. S. MILLER.

TRUSS.

(Application filed June 11, 1900.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1



Fig. 2.

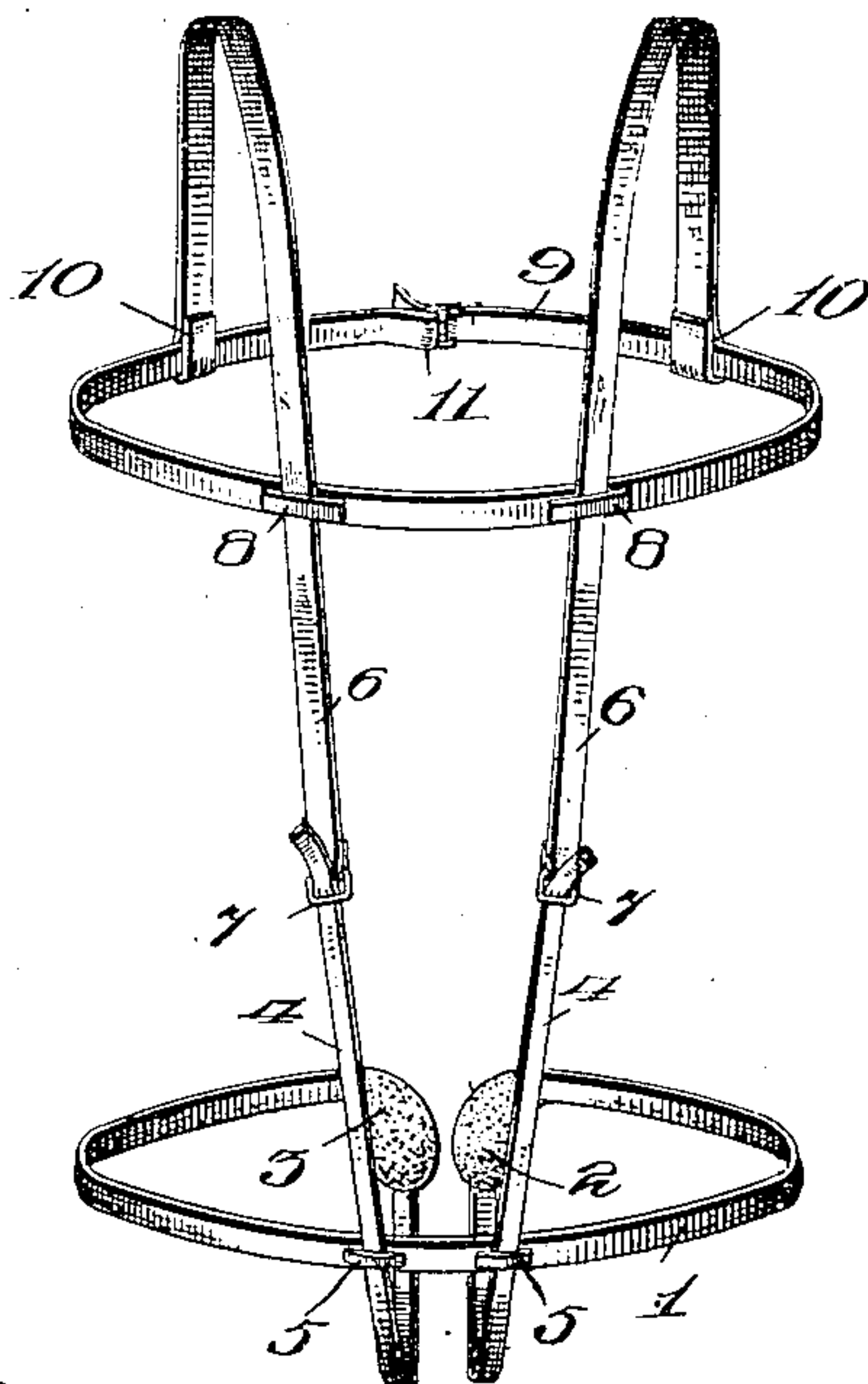
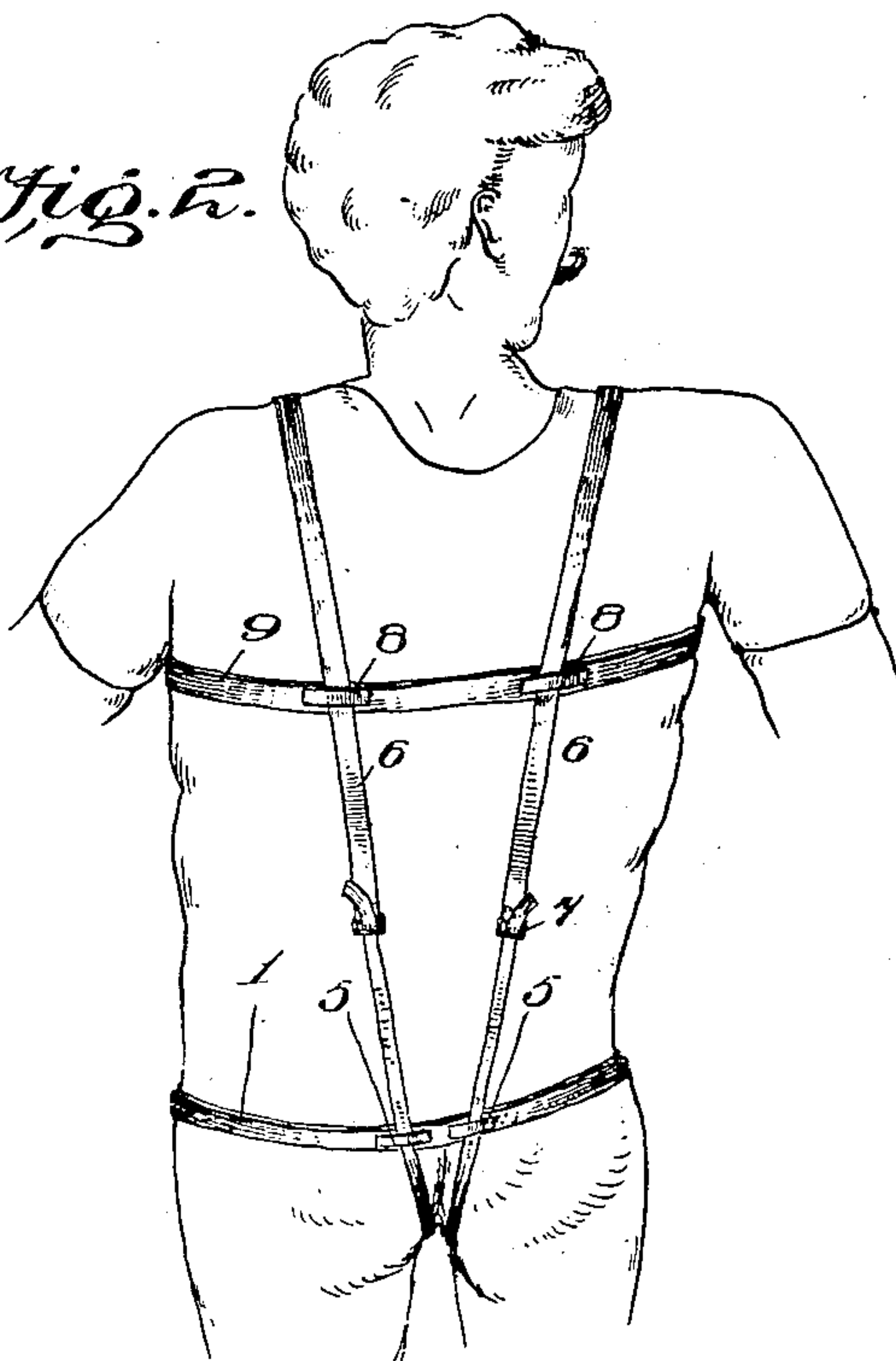


Fig. 3.

Witnesses

Geo. C. Dyne  
Louis E. Jubin

William S. Miller.

Bv

Inventor

C. G. Siggers.

Attorney

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM S. MILLER, OF MARYVILLE, MISSOURI.

## TRUSS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 659,685, dated October 16, 1900.

Application filed June 11, 1900. Serial No. 19,922. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM S. MILLER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Maryville, in the county of Nodaway and State of Missouri, have invented a new and useful Truss-Supporter, of which the following is a specification.

My present invention relates to a novel truss-supporter designed with special reference to maintaining the proper position of the truss, truss-pads, or balls while permitting free movement of the body of the wearer.

With those forms of trusses with which I am familiar it is exceedingly difficult and, in fact, practically impossible to move the body freely, particularly in assuming a stooping posture, without causing the truss to be drawn away from the region of the injury, and thereby destroying the efficiency of the device.

The object of the invention, considered somewhat specifically, is to provide a body belt or band at a point above the truss, preferably across the chest, and the establishment of a connection between the body-belt and the truss which will cause the truss and its surgical appliance to be drawn down and retained in continued contact with the rupture when the body is moved—as, for instance, in the act of stooping or bending forward as well as during the assumption of various other postures.

To this end the invention consists in positioning the truss around the hips as desired and the body-band upon the body of the wearer under the arms and in connecting the truss-pads or truss with the lower ends of a pair of straps which pass between the legs and are brought up behind the back and over the shoulders to have their ends connected with the body-band. The straps are made elastic through a portion of their extent and have loose running connections with the truss and body-band at the back, so that they will slide freely upon the truss and band when the body is moved and will cause the truss and its surgical appliances to be drawn down and retained in contact with the injury when the upper portion of the body or shoulders of the wearer are bent in a forward direction, thereby producing a pull upon the upper end of the straps, which in an obvious manner will ex-

ert a downward pull upon the truss to retain the truss pads or balls in effective contact with the patient.

The invention further consists in the details of construction and arrangement hereinafter described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and succinctly defined in the appended claims.

In said drawings, Figures 1 and 2 are front and rear views of a person and illustrating the application of my truss-support, and Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the complete device.

Referring to the numerals of reference employed to designate corresponding parts in the several views, 1 indicates a truss, which may be of any design or pattern selected and worn by the patient, secured around the hips, so that the surgical appliances thereof are properly positioned to the injury in the manner and for the purpose well understood in the art. To the lower ends or edge of the truss pads or balls or to the truss are connected a pair of narrow inelastic truss-retaining straps 4 of some soft non-abrasive material, which straps are passed under the body between the legs, as illustrated in Fig. 1 of the drawings, and are carried up behind the back and passed through loops 5 at the back of the truss to have running engagement with the latter. The upper ends of the straps 4, above the truss 1, are buckled or otherwise adjustably attached to shoulder-straps 6, as by buckles 7. The shoulder-straps 6 are preferably of some slightly-elastic material—as, for instance, rubber fabric—and are passed loosely through loops 8, secured at the back of a body band or belt 9, and are then passed over the shoulders and provided with terminal loops 10, through which the body-band 9 extends at the front—as, for instance, upon the chest of the wearer. The body-band 9 is preferably of some soft inelastic material—as, for instance, chamois-skin or fabric—and is intended to be adjustably fitted upon the body by the connection between the buckle 11 and the usual apertures opposite end of the band.

It will now be seen that the body may be moved in any direction without disturbing the effective position of the truss, inasmuch as the supporting-straps 4 and 6 are connected at the opposite ends to the truss and body-



band at the front, but have running connection with the truss and the body-band behind. Obviously any forward stooping movement which tends to collapse the stomach, and thereby cause the truss or truss-pads to be dislocated under ordinary circumstances, will, when my device is used, cause the upper end of the shoulder-straps to be drawn down, which will exert a downward pull upon the truss to prevent the latter from riding up. I desire it to be understood, however, that various forms of trusses, body-bands, or straps may be employed or various modes of attachment of the device may be adopted without departing from the spirit of my invention, which in its broadest aspect comprehends a truss and a body-band in combination with straps connected at their opposite ends to the truss and band and passed around the back of the wearer to have running engagement with retaining devices which serve to guide the straps in their movements. I therefore reserve the right to effect such changes, modifications, and variations in the construction and arrangement of my device as may fall properly within the scope of the protection prayed.

What I claim is—

1. The combination with a truss, of a pair of truss-retaining straps connected to the truss and designed to be passed under the body of the wearer, said straps having running engagement with the truss at its back, a body-band designed to encircle the body of the wearer above the truss, and a pair of shoulder-straps connected at one end to the truss-retaining straps at a point above the truss, having running engagement with the back of the body-band and having their opposite ends engaged by the body-band at the front to cause a downward pull to be exerted upon the truss when the upper ends of the shoulder-straps are drawn downwardly by the forward bending of the body of the wearer.

2. The combination with a truss, of a pair of truss-retaining straps connected to the truss and designed to be passed under the body of the wearer, loops upon the truss at the back thereof for the reception of the truss-retaining straps, a body-band designed to encircle the body of the wearer above the truss and provided with loops at the back, and a pair of shoulder-straps connected at one end of the truss-retaining straps at a point above the truss, passed loosely through the loops at the back of the body-band and terminally engaged by said body-band at the front to cause a downward pull to be exerted upon the truss when the upper ends of the shoulder-straps are drawn downwardly by the forward bending of the body of the wearer.

3. The combination with a truss, of a pair of comparatively-narrow inelastic truss-retaining straps connected to the truss and designed to be passed under the body of the wearer, loops upon the truss at the back thereof, said truss-retaining straps being passed loosely through the loops of the truss, a body-band designed to encircle the body of the wearer above the truss and provided with loops at the back, and a pair of elastic shoulder-straps connected at one end to the truss-retaining straps at a point above the truss, passed loosely through the loops at the back of the body-band and provided with terminal loops engaged by said body-band at the front to cause a downward pull to be exerted upon the truss when the upper ends of the shoulder-straps are drawn downwardly by the forward bending of the body of the wearer.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM S. MILLER.

Witnesses:

IRA K. ALDERMAN,  
CHARLES P. DENNY.