

No. 684,200.

Patented Oct. 8, 1901.

W. B. DEWEES.  
ABDOMINAL SUPPORTER.

(Application filed July 17, 1901.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

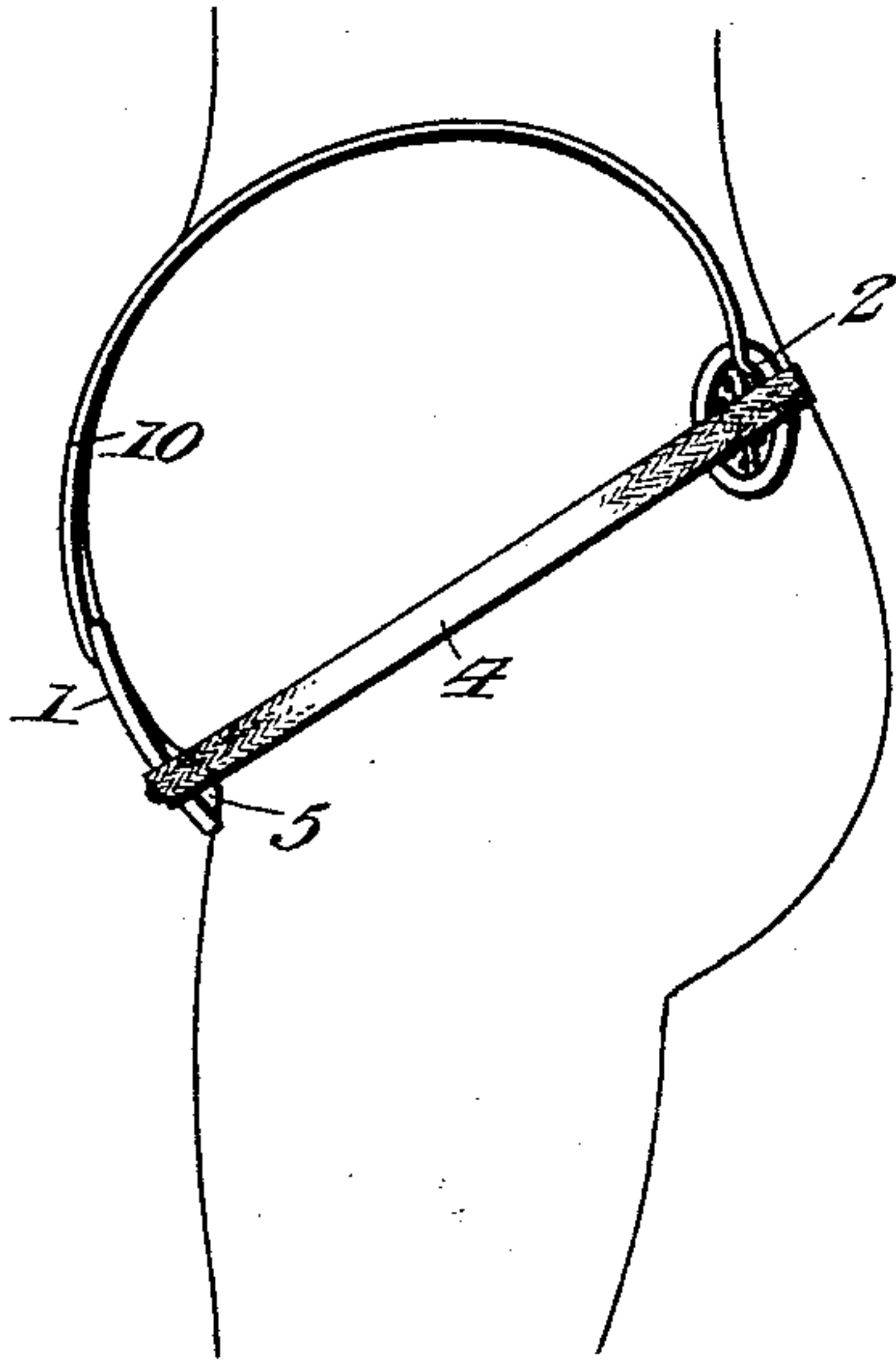


Fig. 2.

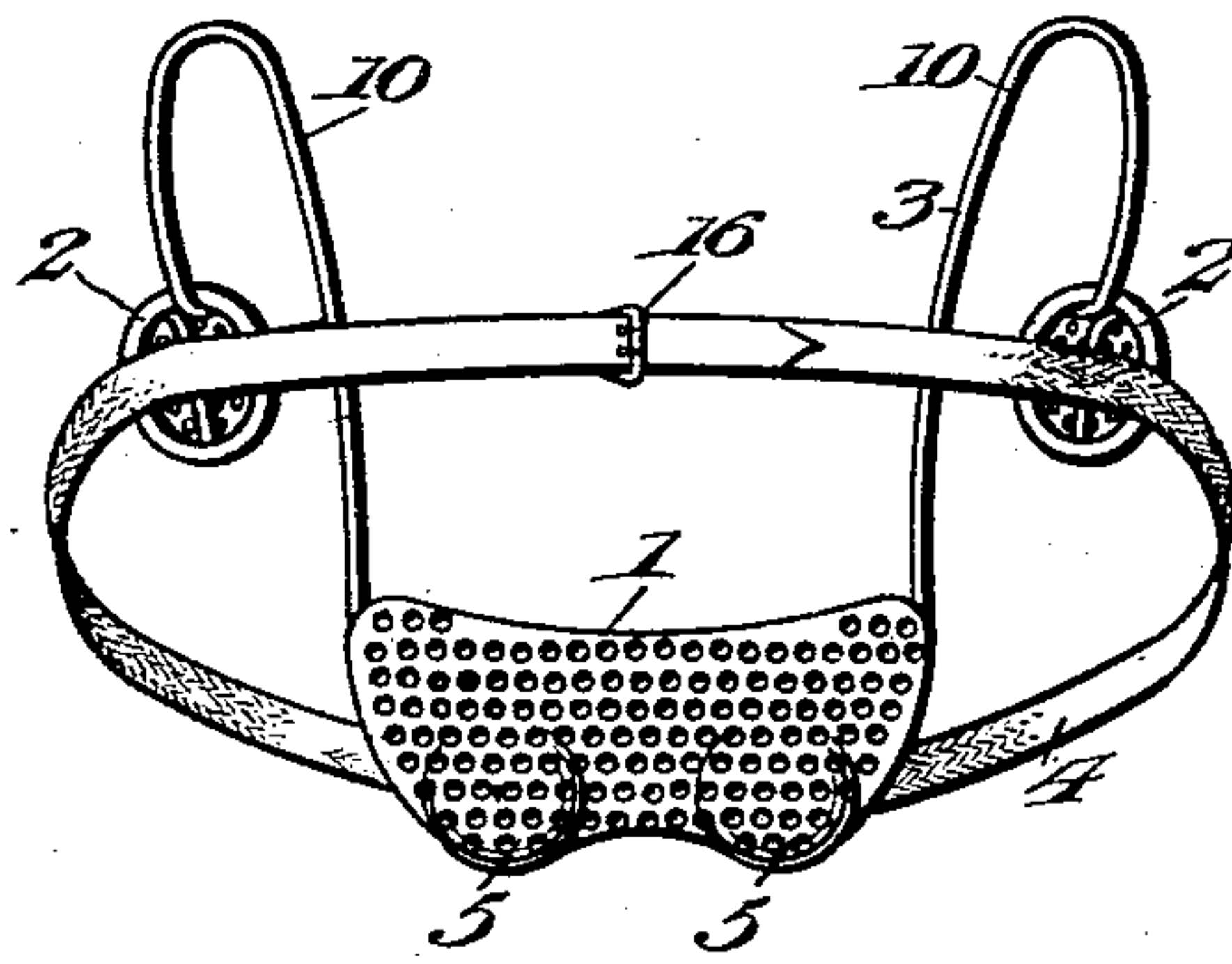


Fig. 3.

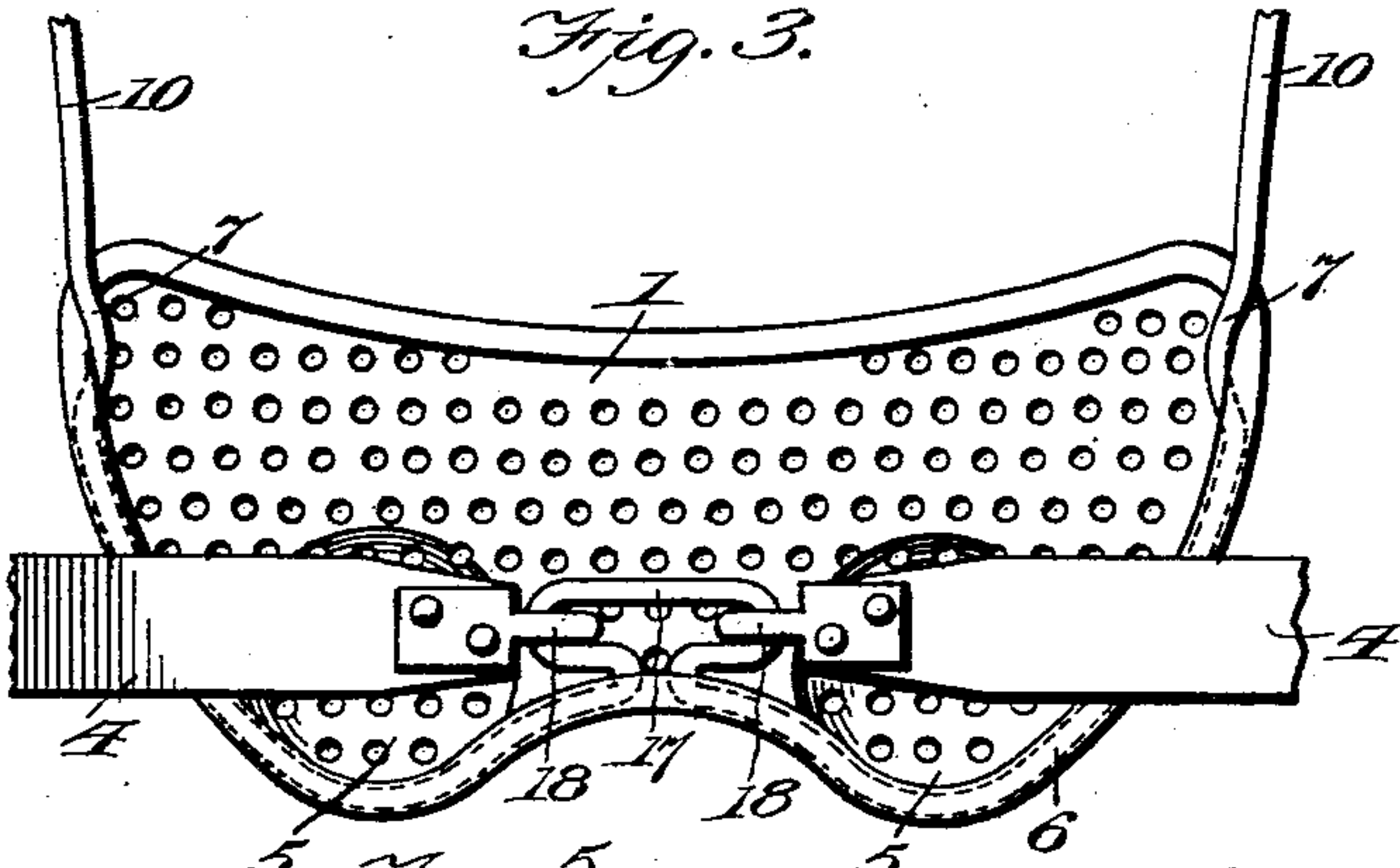


Fig. 4.

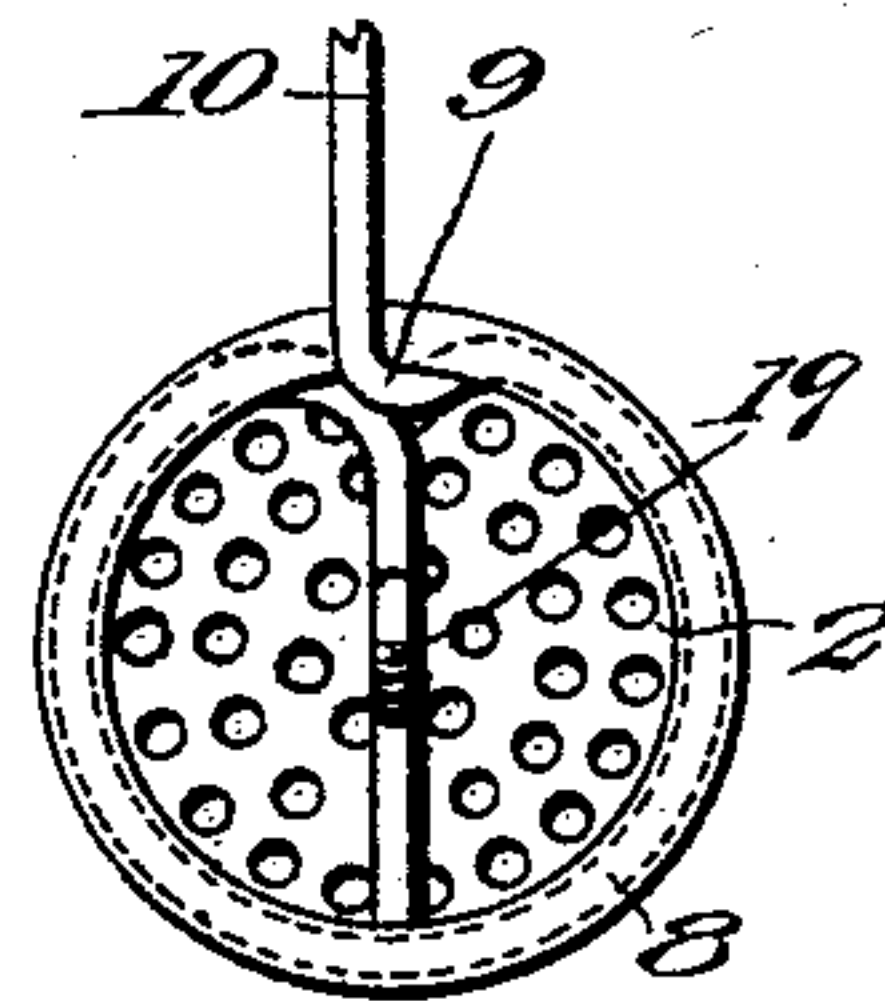


Fig. 5.

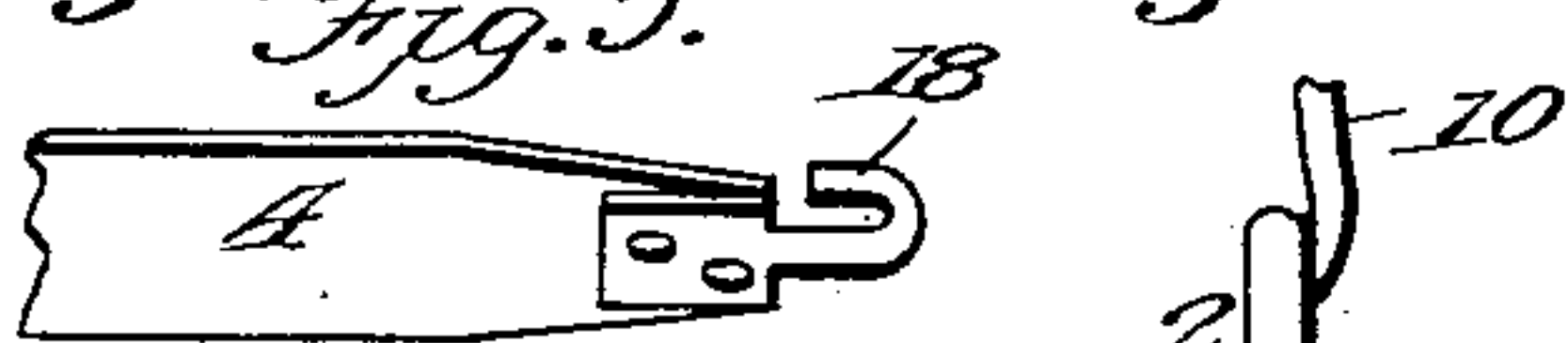


Fig. 6.

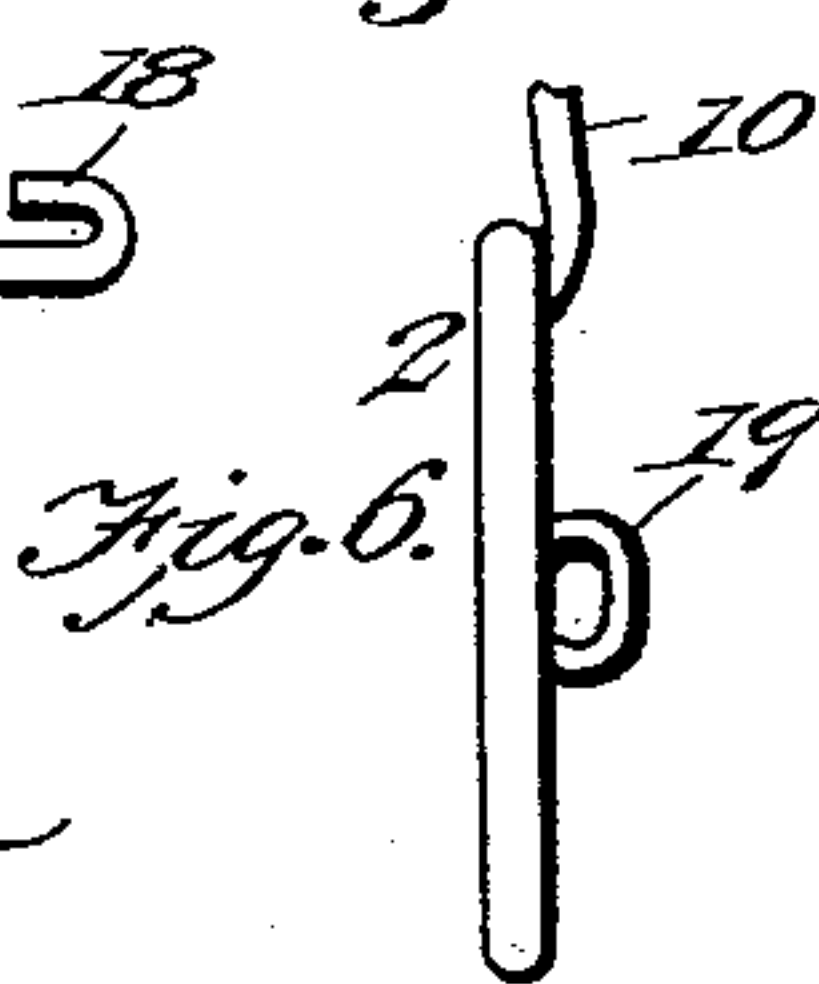
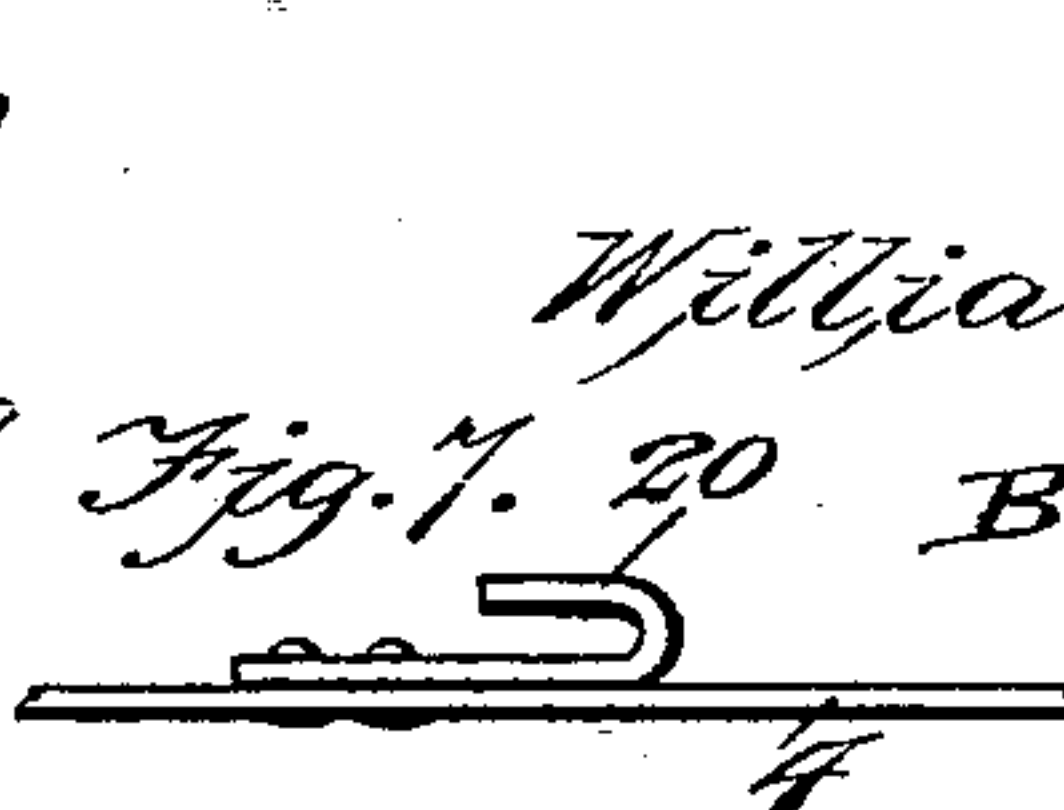


Fig. 7.



Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM B. DEWEES, OF SALINA, KANSAS, ASSIGNOR TO IDA V. DEWEES,  
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## ABDOMINAL SUPPORTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 684,200, dated October 8, 1901.

Application filed July 17, 1901. Serial No. 68,608. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM B. DEWEES, a citizen of the United States, residing at the corner of Santa Fe and Prescott avenues, Salina, in the county of Saline and State of Kansas, have invented new and useful Improvements in Abdominal Supporters, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to abdominal supporters, the object in view being to provide a simple, economic, efficient, and comfortable supporter for the purpose specified which is readily applicable to different persons and which may be adjusted to bear the proper relation to the body for supporting the abdomen.

With the above general object in view the invention consists in the novel construction, combination, and arrangement hereinafter fully described, illustrated, and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of the supporter, showing its relation to the body, the latter being indicated in outline. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the supporter looking from the rear. Fig. 3 is a front view of the front pad of the supporter, showing the relation of the yoke and supporting-arms thereto and the connection of the adjusting and supporting strap. Fig. 4 is a detail elevation of one of the back pads looking from the rear. Fig. 5 is a detail perspective view showing one of the ends of the securing-strap. Fig. 6 is an edge view of one of the back pads, showing the eye for receiving one of the hooks on the securing-band. Fig. 7 is a fragmentary edge view of the securing-band, showing one of the hooks for engaging a back pad.

Similar numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures.

The abdominal supporter contemplated in this invention comprises, essentially, a front pad 1, a pair of back pads 2, a supporting-yoke 3, and a combined adjusting and supporting strap or band 4, the said parts being combined and arranged substantially as illustrated in the detached perspective view, Fig. 2. Both front and back pads are formed of perforated or perforated sheet metal, meshed wire fabric, or the like, and the front pad at its upper edge is given a crescent shape, while at its lower and side edges it is heart-shaped, the lobes of the heart being swaged to form

rounded projections or bulging portions, as indicated at 5, to bear with greater pressure than the remainder of the pad against certain portions of the body. The yoke 3 is composed of spring-wire, and the central portion of the section of wire from which the yoke is formed is bent to register with the lower and side edges of the front pad, as clearly illustrated in Fig. 3, and is connected with the pad by rolling the said edges of the material from which the pad is formed over the wire, as clearly indicated in Fig. 3, thus doing away with the necessity of using solder or mechanical fastening devices for securing the yoke and front pad together. Instead of incising the rolled edge 6 of the pad in order to allow the yoke to emerge therefrom the wire from which the yoke is formed is given a short or abrupt bend, as indicated at 7, allowing the wire to pass outward beneath the inward edge of the roll, in which the central portion of the yoke is confined. The entire edge, including the upper portion of the pad, is, however, rolled, so that there are no sharp projecting edges to create discomfort to the wearer. At the center of the front pad the wire which forms the yoke is bent to form a loop 17, which is disposed horizontally, with the end portions of the loop extending in opposite directions, adapting them to receive hooks 18, attached to the opposite ends of the securing-band 4. This construction does away with the necessity of employing projections or studs for attaching the securing-band to the pad. The back pads 2 have their edges rolled over the looped extremities of the yoke in the same manner, the extremities being bent into circular form, as shown at 8, and after forming the loop 8 the wire is given an abrupt bend, as shown at 9, whence it is extended to form one of the supporting-arms 10, which constitutes a part of the yoke. The terminals of the wire after forming the loops 8 are bent to extend diametrically across the back pads, and such diametrically-extending terminals are bent about centrally of the pad to form offstanding eyes 19, the same being designed to interlock with hooks 20, carried by the securing-band 4, for properly positioning the back pads 2.

The adjusting and supporting band or strap 4 is composed of webbing, either elastic or



inelastic, according to requirements, and its extremities are provided with hooks 18 to fit into the end portions of the loop 17 of the front pad, as hereinabove described, while  
 5 the other hooks 20 on the band or strap are adapted to fit into the eyes 19, projecting from the outer surfaces of the back pads 2. The band or strap may be further provided with an adjusting-buckle, as shown at 16, to  
 10 take up slack in the strap and adapt the same to be adjusted snugly to the body.

From the foregoing description it will be seen that the band or strap performs a two-fold function—first, it increases the sup-  
 15 porting or lifting power of the supporter, and, secondly, it assists in holding the pads of the supporter in place and adjusting the devices as a whole to the body.

The device is simple in construction and  
 20 economic in manufacture, comprising but four pieces—viz., a front pad, two back pads, and a yoke, either with or without the adjusting-strap. By reference to Fig. 1 it will be seen that the back pads are located in a  
 25 higher plane than the front pad, which gives the supporter the power to lift the abdomen, the ordinary supporters only serving to exert an inward pressure against the abdomen. It will also be seen that the back pads are placed  
 30 well out on the sides of the hips, where they rest on the thick muscles, thereby giving comfort to the wearer. The side arms of the yoke emerge from the side edges of the front pad near to, but slightly below, the top edge  
 35 or margin thereof, and by this means the lifting power is distributed along the lower and side edges of the pad, the pressure being thus applied as low as possible so as to produce the requisite lifting effect.

40 Having thus described the invention, what is claimed, and desired to be secured by Letters Patent, is—

1. A supporter for the purpose set forth comprising a perforated metal front pad, per-  
 45 forated metal back pads, and a yoke connect-

ing the pads and constituting the supporting-frames therefor, and formed with a loop at the lower middle portion of the front pad and eyes in the back pads, and a supporting-strap detachably connected to the ends of the loop  
 50 in the front pad and to the eyes in the back pads.

2. A supporter for the purpose specified, comprising a front pad, back pads, a spring-yoke comprising side arms connecting the  
 55 back pads with the front pad, and a combined supporting and adjusting strap having its extremities detachably connected with the front pad and other portions thereof detachably associated with the back pads. 60

3. A supporter for the purpose specified, comprising a front pad, back pads, a connecting-yoke comprising spring supporting-arms extending between the front and back pads, said yoke being bent to form a loop lying at  
 65 one side of the front pad, and eyes projecting outward from the back pads, and a securing band or strap having hooks to engage said loop and eyes.

4. A supporter for the purpose specified, 70 comprising a front pad, back pads, a spring-wire yoke comprising side arms connecting the back pads with the front pad, the spring-yoke being bent adjacent to the front pad to form a loop with oppositely-projecting end  
 75 portions, and the arms of the yoke being terminally bent in annular form to support the back pads and then extended diametrically across the back pads and offset centrally to form eyes, and a combined supporting and  
 80 adjusting strap provided with terminal hooks to engage the loop of the front pad and with intermediate hooks to engage the eyes of the back pads.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature 85 in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM B. DEWEES.

Witnesses:

J. W. NEPTUNE,  
 R. P. CRAVENS.