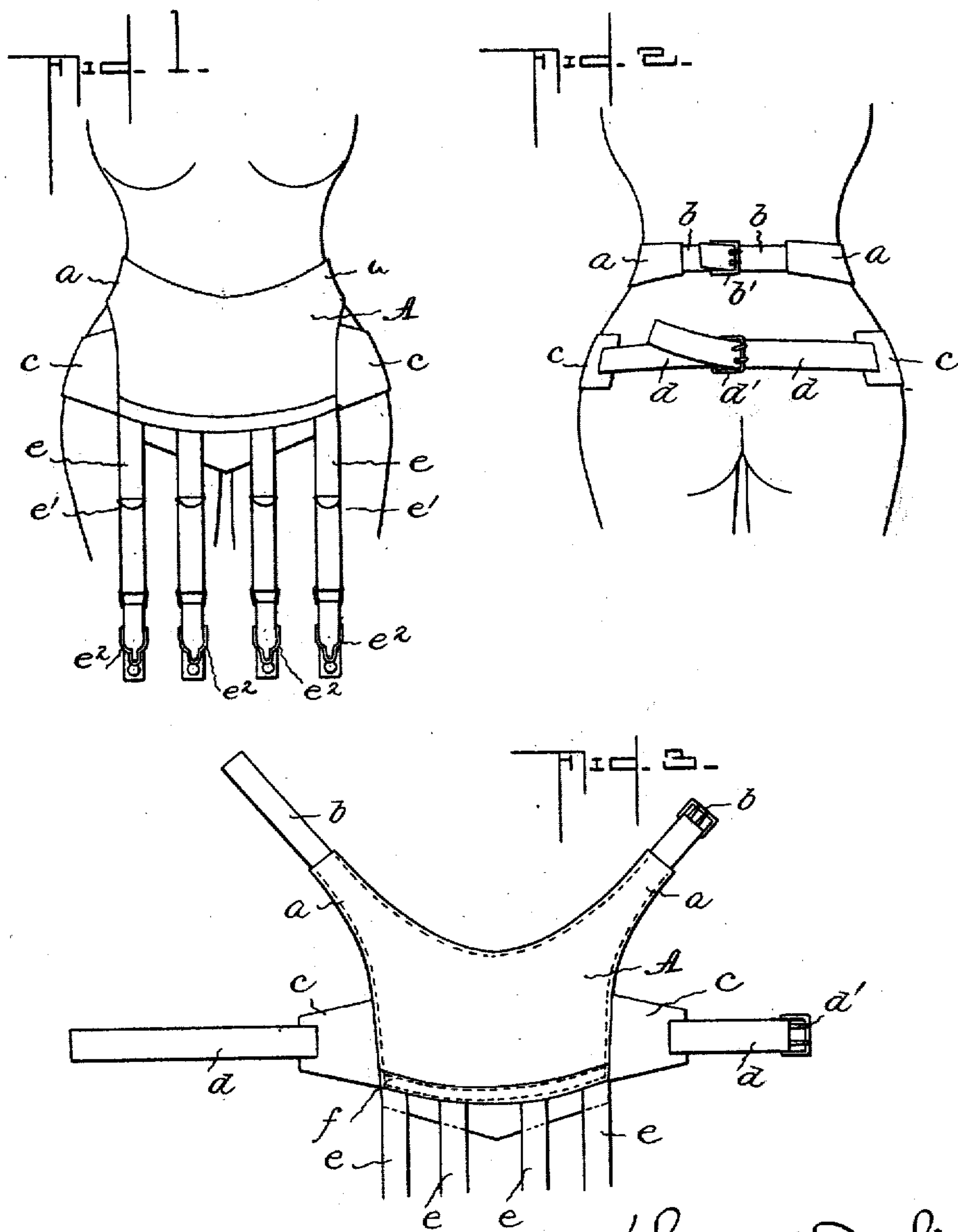


No. 814,363.

PATENTED MAR. 6, 1906.

K. M. DOWLING.
HOSE SUPPORTER.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 12, 1905.



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Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

KATHERINE M. DOWLING, OF LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS.

HOSE-SUPPORTER.

No. 814,363.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 6, 1906.

Application filed June 12, 1905. Serial No. 264,840.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, KATHERINE M. DOWLING, a citizen of the United States, residing at Little Rock, in the county of Pulaski and State of Arkansas, have invented a Hose-Supporter, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact specification.

This invention is an improvement in hose-supporters, and relates more especially to that class of such devices which are employed for the purpose of supporting ladies' hose or stockings, especially stout ladies.

The primary objects of the invention are to provide a supporting means of this character that shall be effective in use and comfortable to the wearer, will properly apply and distribute the supporting-strain, and will be readily adjustable for all purposes.

With these principal objects in view the invention consists of a device adapted to be fastened around the waist and hips of the user, the same comprising a broad pad firmly and securely supported over the abdomen and from which pad the hose or stockings are supported by the usual elastics and clasps, all as hereinafter particularly described, and more specifically set forth in the appended claim.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation showing the application of my invention. Fig. 2 is a rear view. Fig. 3 is a detail view of the device.

Like letters of reference indicate like parts in all the figures of the drawings.

In carrying out my invention I employ in the first instance a broad pad A, of suitable fabric, which pad is shaped as herein shown—that is to say, substantially rectangular with extensions *a a*, continuing from the upper corners thereof and adapted to extend around the waist when the device is applied, said extensions having straps *b b* attached at the ends thereof and adapted to be fastened at the back of the wearer, for which purpose one of the straps is provided with a buckle, as *b'*.

At the opposite side edges of the broad pad or main part A of the device are attached fabric pieces *c c*, to the outer ends of which are attached straps *d d*, which latter are adapted to fasten over the buttocks, one of said straps being provided with the usual buckle, as *d'*, through which the other strap passes and is adjusted. The fabric side pieces *c c* may be formed as a part of the broad pad A of the device, but are preferably attached or sewed thereto.

As heretofore stated, the parts A, *a a*, and *c c* are formed of fabric, and in such instance where a light material, as silk, is used a suitable lining or backing of heavier material is applied to reinforce the same and the two connected together by stitching around the edges, as indicated in Fig. 3 of the drawings.

The elastic straps *e*, which are connected directly to the hose or stockings, as shown in Fig. 1, are attached to the pad or main part A of the device a short distance above the lower edge thereof, such attachment being preferably by means of a strip of fabric or tape, as *f*, which is placed over the ends thereof and together with said ends sewed directly to the pad. There are four of these elastic straps, and each is provided with the usual slide *e'* for adjusting the same and also with a clasp, as *e''*, at its lower end, which clasp is of any of the styles ordinarily employed, preferably that shown.

In using the device the same is applied by adjusting the broad pad A over the abdomen through the intervention of the waist-straps *b b* and hip-straps *d d*, the latter being fastened over the buttocks, after which the elastic straps *e* are attached by their clasps to the hose or stockings, being suitably adjusted to provide the required tension. When applied and properly adjusted, the stockings will be supported from the hips and waist and the abdomen will be yieldingly compressed and supported, thereby distributing the supporting strain and in such manner as to be comfortable to the wearer and give to the figure a less paunchy appearance.

It will be apparent from the foregoing description of the construction and application of my improved hose-supporter that the same can be manufactured and sold at reasonable cost, can be adjusted to the body, and will support the hose in a more satisfactory manner than by the customary manner of supporting the hose from the corsets, it being intended that my improved device be applied over the corsets.

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

A hose-supporter of the character described, comprising the broad pad A having the extensions *a* at the upper corners thereof and adapted to extend partly around the waist, straps attached to the ends of the extensions, side pieces *c c* attached to the side edges of the pad to extend over the hips, and

straps *d d* attached to the side pieces and fastened over the buttocks; together with the elastic straps *e* having adjusting means and clasps, and a strip of fabric or tape *f* sewed
5 over the ends of the elastic straps to secure them to the pad above the lower edge of the latter, as herein shown and described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

KATHERINE M. DOWLING.

Witnesses:

H. D. PARKER,

F. C. ROSENBERGER.