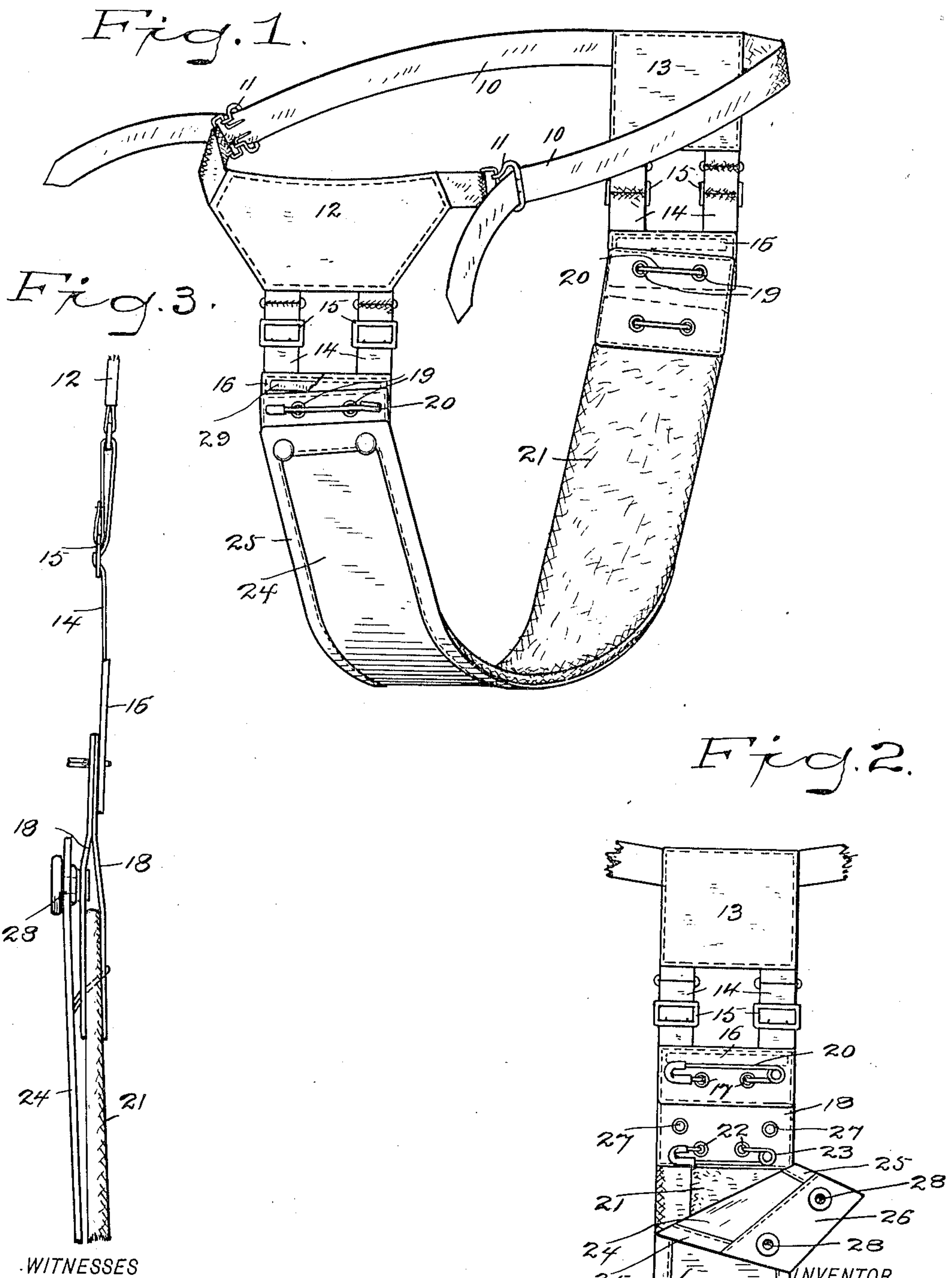


No. 849,725.

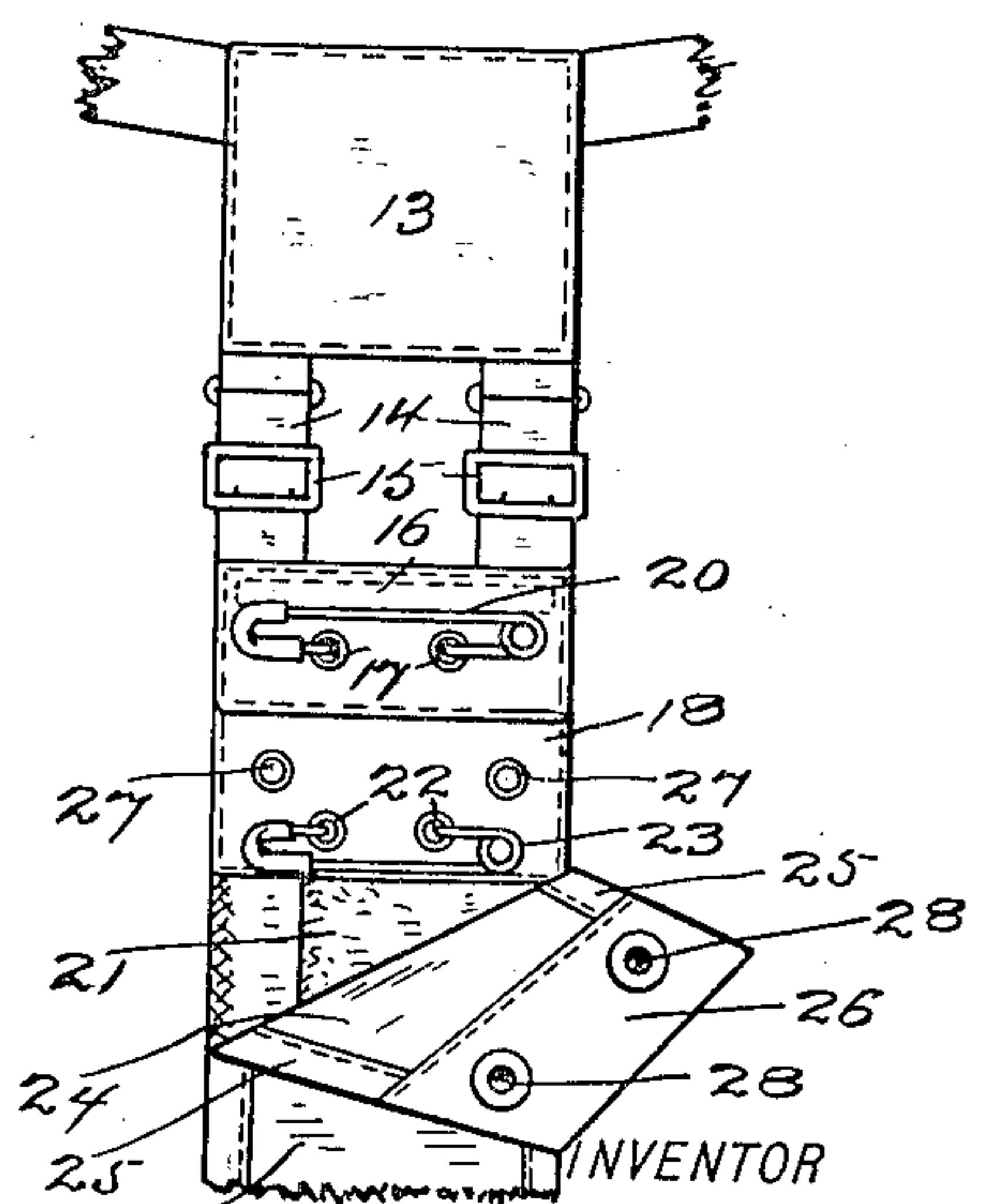
PATENTED APR. 9, 1907.

M. A. COOK.
CATAMENIAL BANDAGE.
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 23, 1906.



WITNESSES

H. A. Lamb.
S. W. Atherton.



BY

A. M. Wooster
ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARY A. COOK, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT.

CATAMENIAL BANDAGE.

No. 849,725.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented April 9, 1907.

Application filed June 23, 1906. Serial No. 323,055.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARY A. COOK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bridgeport, county of Fairfield, State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Catamenial Bandage, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to bandages of the type used by women at certain periods, and has for its object the provision of improved means which will render changes in the diaper to be easily and quickly made, all of which will be set forth more clearly hereinafter.

Of the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a completed bandage embodying my improvements; Fig. 2, a detail elevation of the rear portion of the device with one end of the shield turned out; and Fig. 3 is a detail edge view, on a larger scale than Fig. 1, of an end portion of the bandage, showing its connection to the supporting parts.

Similar reference characters indicate the same or similar parts in all the views.

The waistband 10 is shown as provided with two buckles 11 for convenience in properly adjusting it to the size desired and with a front tab 12 and a rear tab 13. As there is a buckle at each side, adjustments may be made in the size of the waistband and still have the tabs properly spaced to permit of their being worn exactly at the front and rear.

From the lower edge of each tab depend two straps 14, preferably elastic and with slides or buckles 15 to adjust their length. The lower ends of each pair of straps 14 are sewed to a double strip of suitable strong fabric 16, having eyelets 17 and stiffened by a cross-stay 29. The portions of the device so far described may be worn without adjustment or removal for such length of time as desired. The bandage proper, however, requires frequent changing, and my improvements are designed mainly to facilitate the proper connection of the bandage in exactly the correct manner for comfort and utility. In many devices of this character heretofore produced provision has not been made for insuring just the correct application of the bandage easily and quickly. To attain these objects, I provide a holder for each end of the bandage, the two holders to be removed with the bandage and to have a fresh bandage connected with them while re-

moved from the person, after which the holders and the bandage carried thereby may be quickly and properly connected to the strips 16.

Each holder comprises two tabs 18, of suitably strong fabric, united at their upper portions and provided with eyelets 19, adapted to register with the eyelets 17, so that a safety-pin 20 can be employed to fasten each holder in place, the eyelets serving to guide the point of the pin and insure correct relative positions of the parts when connected. Moreover, said eyelets increase the durability of the device, for, as well known, frequent driving of a pin through fabric tends to weaken it; also, the eyelets strengthen the connection, for there is no possibility of the fabric pulling away from the pin, so as to permit the bandage to drop at either end.

The bandage 21 may be of folded cloth, absorbent cotton, paper, or any material suitable for the purpose. Each end is inserted between the two tabs of a holder, the said tabs being preferably formed with eyelets 22 for the safety-pin 23, which secures the bandage between said tabs. The eyelets 22 serve the same purposes as above described in connection with the eyelets 17 and 19. It will now be understood that the bandage can be removed without touching it, for only the upper ends of the two holders and the safety-pins 20 need be handled. The removal of the holders from the used bandage can then be neatly accomplished and a fresh one substituted for it and the holders reattached to the strips 16.

A shield or protecting-strip is preferably employed for the bandage, said shield comprising a strip 24 of pure rubber having its edges made relatively inelastic in any suitable manner, as at 25, and its ends reinforced by waterproof facings, as 26. As convenient means for connecting the shield in place I employ studs 27, projecting from the outer tab 18 of each holder, and cooperating socket members 28, attached to the reinforcing-strip 26 at each end of the shield. The shield not only acts as a protecting-strip, but also as a pocket, which aids in keeping the bandage in its proper position. This is because the relatively inelastic bindings 25 prevent the shield from stretching as a whole, while the body 24, being of rubber, will yield, so as to provide a hammock-shaped pocket that will keep the bandage from slipping laterally relatively to the shield. The said shield can be quickly disconnected from the

holders when it is desired to clean it and then replaced by means of the stud-and-socket fasteners described.

Having now described my invention, I
5 claim—

10 A catamenial appliance comprising a waistband, two holders removably connected therewith, each holder having two tabs, means for removably connecting a bandage to the holders with its ends clamped between the tabs thereof, and a shield having its ends
removably connected to the outer tabs of the holders, the construction stated enabling the

holders, bandage, and shield to be removed from the waistband as a whole and then dis- 15 connected, said shield comprising a strip of rubber having its edges rendered relatively inelastic whereby its central portion may yield to form a pocket to receive and retain the main portion of the bandage. 20

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

MARY A. COOK.

Witnesses:

A. M. WOOSTER,
S. W. ATHERTON.