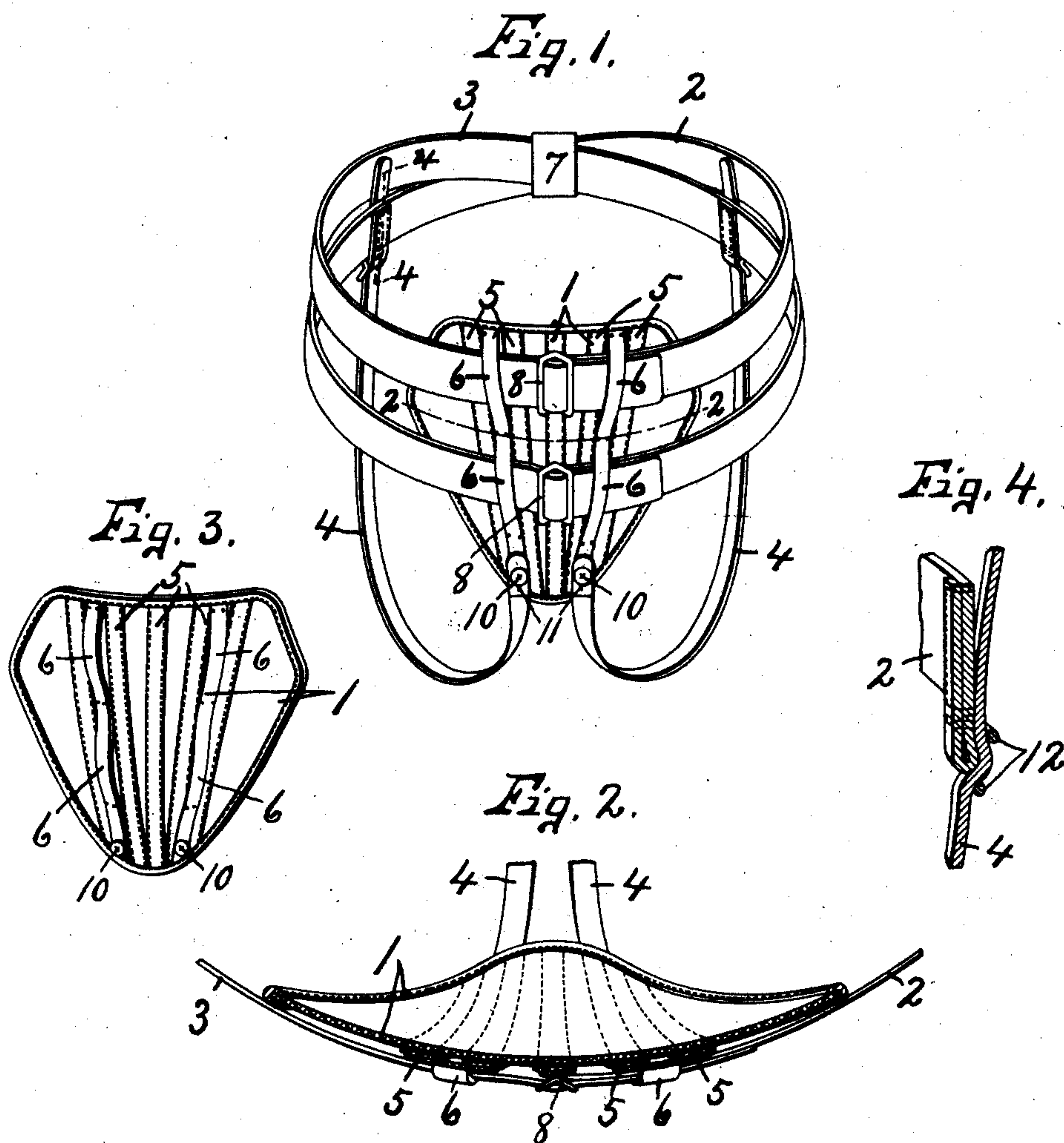


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M. A. & C. A. SNELL.
COMBINED ABDOMINAL AND HERNIA PAD.
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WITNESSES:

B. E. Robinson.

R. M. Wheeler

INVENTORS
Myrtle A. Snell and
Charles A. Snell

BY:

Howard P. Driscoll
ATTORNEY:

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MYRTLE A. SNELL AND CHARLES A. SNELL, OF SYRACUSE, NEW YORK.

COMBINED ABDOMINAL AND HERNIA PAD.

No. 883,357.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 31, 1908.

Application filed December 28, 1904. Serial No. 238,620.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, MYRTLE A. SNELL and CHARLES A. SNELL, both of Syracuse, in the county of Onondaga, in the State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in a Combined Abdominal and Hernia Pad, of which the following, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a full, clear, and exact description.

10 This invention relates to a combined abdominal and hernia pad which is particularly adapted for the retention of pelvic viscera in place when the supporting tissues have been ruptured or otherwise weakened.

15 Upon examination of the outlines of the pelvic basin it will be observed that the sides of the front lower line or rim which is technically known as the "Iliopectineal line" are quite oblique, that is, they incline later-
20 ally and upwardly from the center or pubis, and we have found that in most cases of abdominal hernia the abdominal viscera is concentrated toward the low center or apex of this line, and therefore recedes from the
25 tissues at the sides of the basin.

The main object of our present invention, therefore, is to construct a flexible pad with a low depending center and oblique side edges so as to conform as nearly as practi-
30 cable with the iliopectineal line of the pelvis and to apply this pad in such manner that the lower center or apex of the pad is drawn rearwardly and upwardly close to the pubis whereby the viscera is at once pressed up-
35 wardly and laterally to its normal position. This is effectually accomplished by mounting the pad loosely on a suitable elastic waist-band and then attaching elastic straps to the lower apex of the pad and passing such
40 straps downwardly and rearwardly under and between the thighs and adjustably securing their rear ends to the waist-band.

Other more specific objects and uses will be brought out in the following description.

45 In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of our improved hernia pad and the means for supporting it in proper position upon the wearer. Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional view taken on line 2—2, Fig. 1. Fig.
50 3 is a perspective view of the detached pad, Fig. 4 is a sectional view taken on line 4—4, Fig. 1.

The invention comprises essentially a tri-
angular pad —1—, waist-bands —2— and
55 —3— and thigh straps —4—, the pad —1— being made substantially in the form of an

isosceles triangle with rounding angles or corners and is disposed with one apex at the bottom and central so that the upper edge of the pad is normally horizontal while its sides
60 diverge upwardly from the lower central apex.

The main body of the pad —1— is made of comparatively light flexible material, such as moleskin, cloth, or other suitable
65 material which is non-irritating and capable of retaining its form, and is usually provided with light vertical stays —5— extending from top to bottom of the pad to prevent vertical folding or wrinkling, and at the same
70 time to afford ample flexibility transversely, the stays being also flexible with just enough stiffness to keep the pad in proper form. These stays are stitched to the front face of the central body of the pad, some distance
75 from the opposite sides so that the upper corners are free and flexible to conform to the shape of the waist.

The waist straps or bands —2— and —3— are elastic and are passed loosely through
80 loops —6— which are stitched in a vertical position to the front face of the pad —1— and serve to hold the bands —2— and —3—, one above the other to prevent the vertical displacement of such bands. These
85 bands preferably intersect each other at the rear within a loop —7— which may be stitched to one of the bands and permits the bands to slide one upon the other at the inter-
90 section, said bands having their ends meeting in front of the pad where they may be suitably adjusted and held in their ad-
justed positions by suitable buckles —8—. The thigh straps —4— are also elastic and
95 have their front ends removably attached to the lower point of apex of the pad, which is provided with suitable buttons or clasps
—10— while the front ends of the straps —4— are formed with button holes —11—
100 which receive the buttons —10— and enable the wearer to readily attach the straps to, or detach them from the lower apex of the pad. These straps are passed downwardly and rearwardly between and under the thighs and
105 are then passed upwardly and adjustably secured to opposite sides of the bands 2— and —3— respectively by suitable buckles —12—. It will be observed that these
110 straps —4— do not intersect each other, but rather diverge from front to rear and are located wholly at opposite sides of a center line drawn from front to rear of the device,

whereby an open space is left both at the front and at the rear between the straps for purposes well known.

In operation, the bands —2— and —3— are buckled reasonably tight around the waist of the body with their ends inserted through the loops —6—, thereby pressing the pad firmly against the abdomen after which the lower ends of the straps —4— are brought forward between the thighs and attached to the buttons —10—, said straps being suitably adjusted at the buckles —12— to draw downwardly and rearwardly on the lower apex of the pad which operates to press the abdominal organs and viscera upward and laterally until properly seated in the walls of the pelvis. It is thus seen that the main pressure is applied very close to the pubis and also the oblique sides of the "iliopectineal line", and therefore, nearly in line with the thigh joints of the legs, thereby permitting an easy action of the legs without irritation, and also sustaining the pelvic organs of their natural position under a uniform flexible pressure along the front brim of the pelvic basin.

The essential feature, therefore, of our invention is the low down apex of a substantially triangular pad having oblique side edges following as nearly as practicable the front oblique sides of the pelvic basin.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

1. A device of the class described comprising a pad body, having downwardly converging sides and with upwardly diverging stays arranged in the intermediate portion of the pad, strap receiving loops near the upper

and lower ends of said pad, two body straps passing through said loops and crossed rearwardly of the pad, and a keeper engaging said straps at their crossing point.

2. A device of the class described comprising a pad body having spaced vertical stays, upper and lower strap receiving loops spaced apart near the ends of said pad; a body strap passing at one end through one of said upper loops and at the other end through one of said lower loops, a body strap passing at one end through the other of said upper loops and at the other end through the other of said lower loops, said straps crossing each other rearwardly of the pad, and a keeper device engaging said straps at their crossing point.

3. A device of the class described comprising a pad body having spaced vertical stays, upper and lower strap receiving loops spaced apart near the ends of said body, a body strap passing at one end through one of said upper loops and at the other end through one of said lower loops, a body strap passing at one end through the other of said upper loops and at the other end through the other of said lower loops, said straps crossing each other rearwardly of the pad, a keeper device engaging said straps at their crossing point, and thigh straps connected at one end to said pad and at their other ends respectively to said body straps.

In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands this 16 day of December 1904.

MYRTLE A. SNELL.
CHARLES A. SNELL.

Witnesses:

H. E. CHASE,
MILDRED M. NOTT.