

R. H. HUDDLESTON.
SUPPORTER AND PROTECTOR.
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903,472.

Patented Nov. 10, 1908.

Fig. 1.

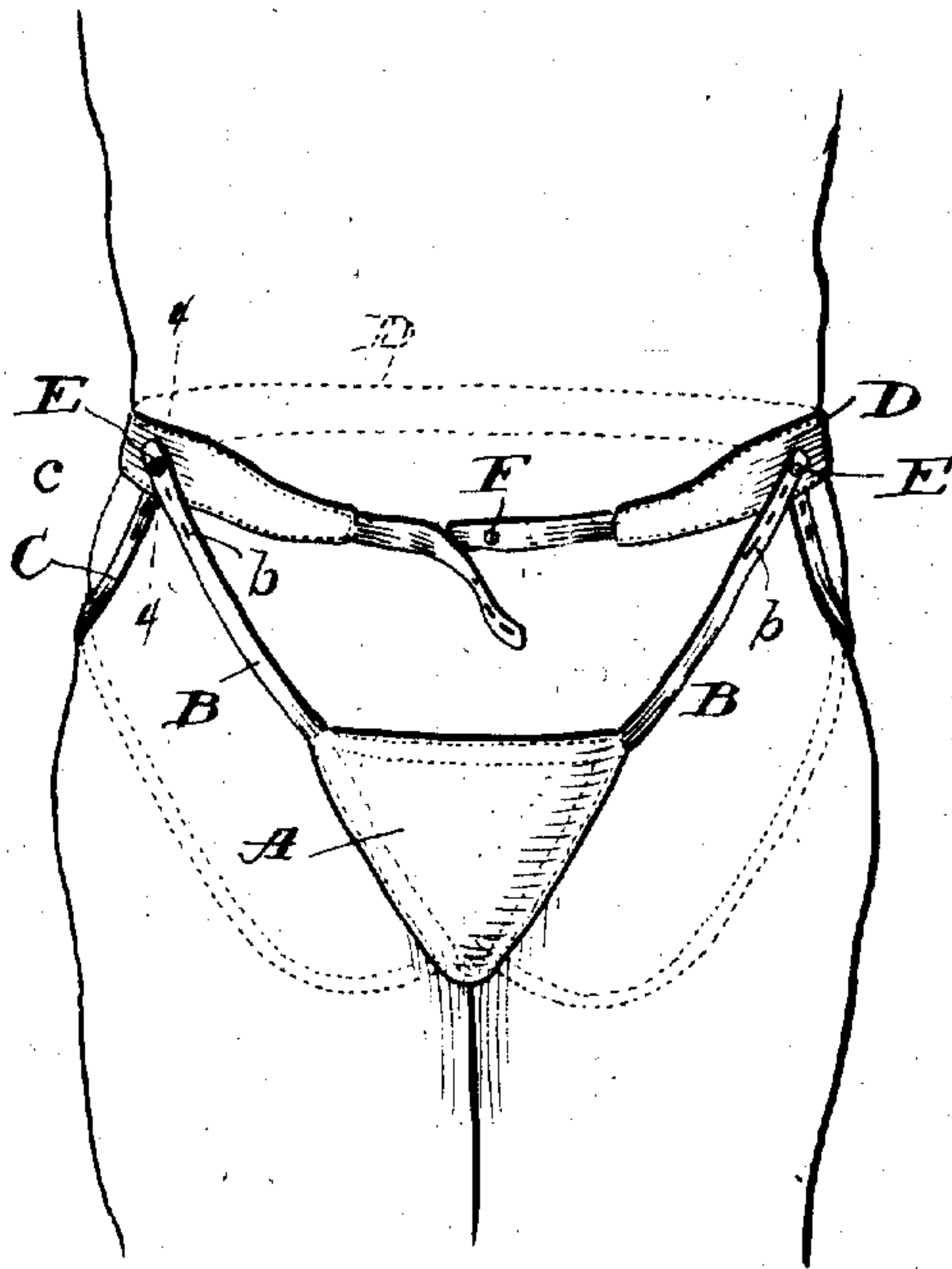


Fig. 2.

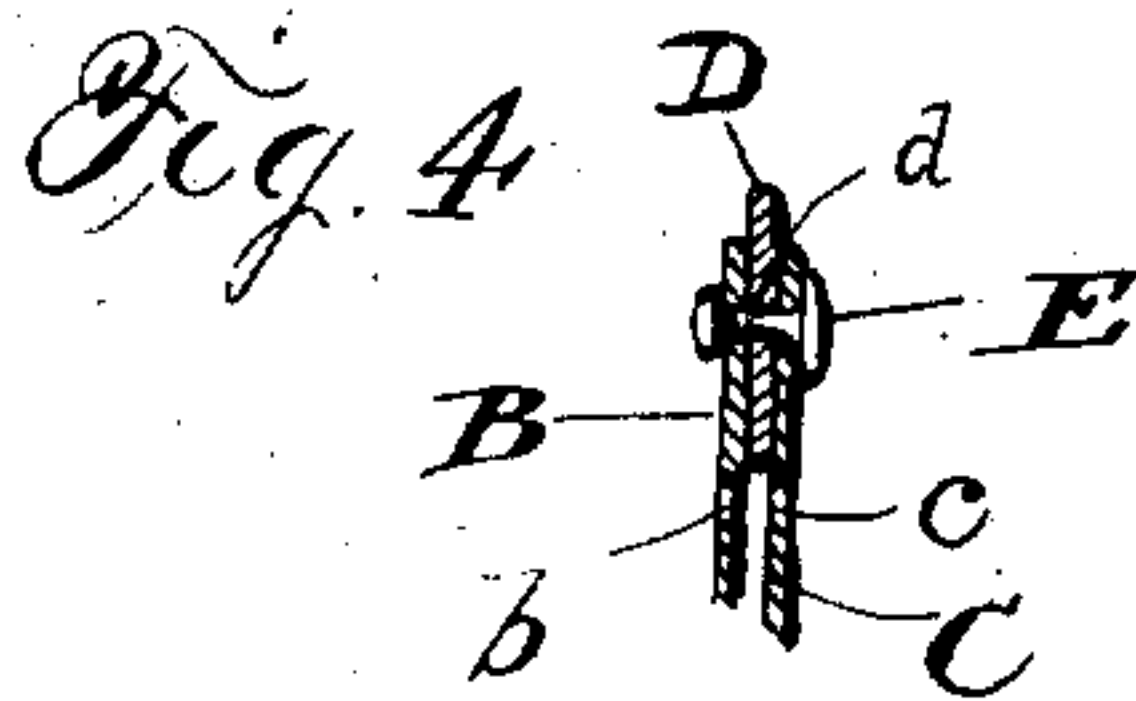
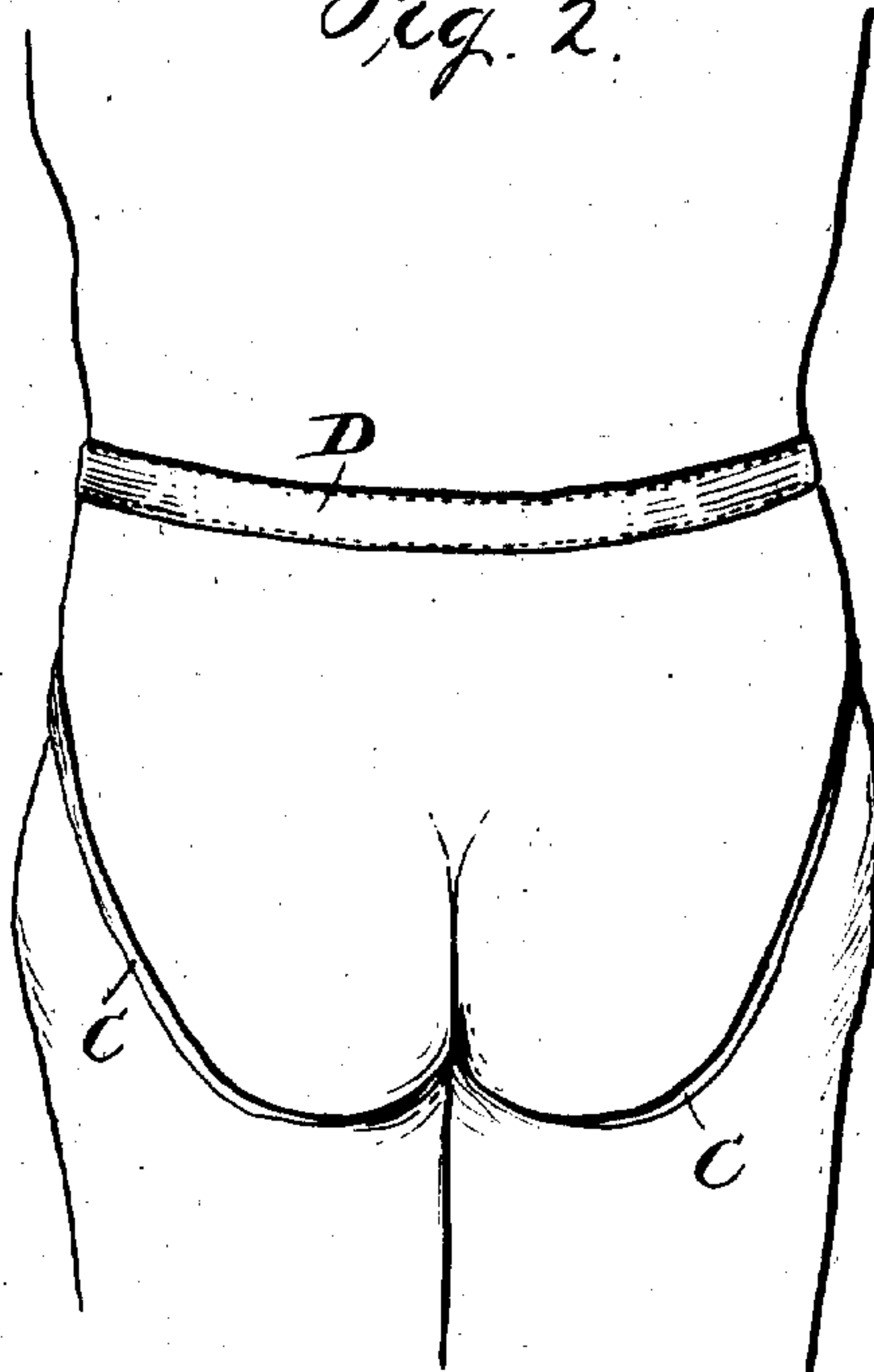
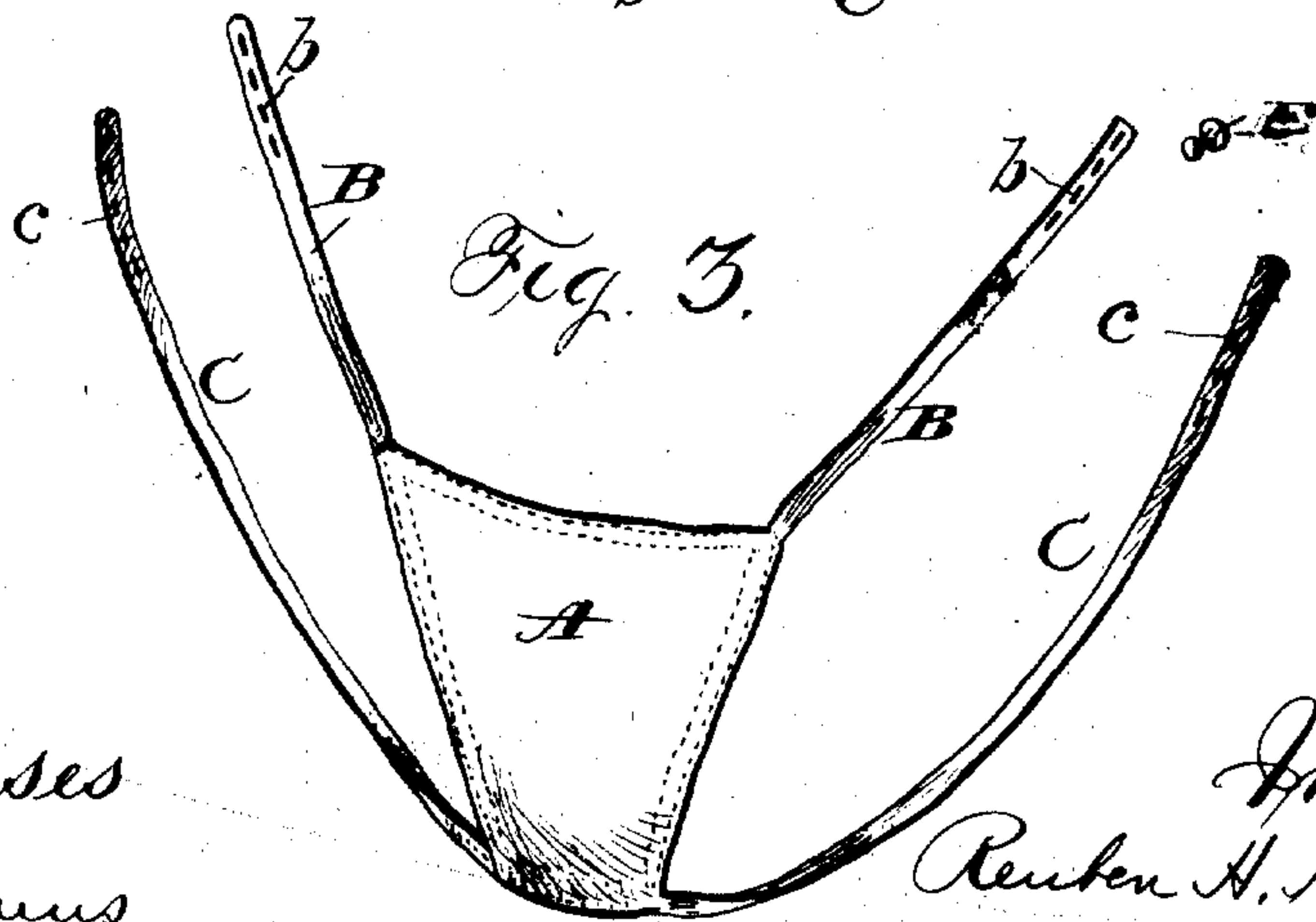


Fig. 3.



Witnesses
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att'y.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

REUBEN HARRISON HUDDLESTON, OF MIAMI, FLORIDA.

SUPPORTER AND PROTECTOR.

No. 903,472.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 10, 1908.

Application filed March 24, 1908. Serial No. 422,885.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, REUBEN HARRISON HUDDLESTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Miami, in the county of Dade and State of Florida, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Supporters and Protectors, and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Referring to the drawings—Figure 1 is a front view showing my supporter applied; Fig. 2 is a rear view of the same. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the apron and its straps; Fig. 4 is a section on line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

The object of my invention is to provide a protector or supporter having characteristics of construction rendering it applicable for use by both sexes, and which will possess the important qualities of being entirely comfortable to the wearer; involve no real inconvenience in application, removal, and such adjustment as may be necessary while being worn; freedom from metal parts that are apt to corrode and are otherwise objectionable; and, above all, exceedingly simple and inexpensive, and to these ends, my invention consists in the supporter or protector constructed substantially as hereinafter specified and claimed.

Referring to the drawings, A designates a supporting sack or apron, which has a truncated V-shape, and from the respective corners of the larger end, two elastic straps B extend in diverging lines, so that when applied to the body, they will extend diagonally over the abdomen to the sides, and at its upper end each strap has a series of button holes or perforations *b*. Said straps are comparatively short, for they support the front end of the sack or apron at the pubic region. From the smaller and rear end of the sack or apron, two straps C, also of elastic material and fastened at the corners of the sack or apron, extend in diverging lines, so that when the device is applied, each will pass from a point well forward of the anus, rearward and upward across the upper part of the thigh, under the gluteal muscle, and each of said straps C has at its upper end a series of button holes or perforations *c*. All the straps are attached to a belt D, which at the point at the side reached by the pair

of straps on the same side, has a button hole *d* for an ordinary detachable button E to which both straps of a pair B and C are secured by appropriate button holes. The buttons E are non-metallic, or of some material not affected by moisture or body secretions. The ends of the belt, which are preferably elastic, are joined by a similar button, F.

The supporting straps being elastic, the sack or protector is always held in proper position, unaffected by movements of the body; the front straps yield efficiently to permit such displacement of the sack or protector as may be necessary for urinating, and the elasticity of the straps is of especial value in connection with the employment of buttons and button holes, because were the straps inelastic, the button holes being fixed distances apart, the adjustment of the appliance would be more or less unsatisfactory, as likely to be either too tight or too loose. The elastic nature of the straps obviates any trouble from this last-named source, and this renders the use of buttons entirely practical, and the use of buttons is important because of the advantages over buckles they afford due to their non-corrodibility, their greater ease and convenience in manipulation, and their cheapness. Buckles, moreover, are objectionable because of liability to cut or scratch the flesh in applying and removing the device.

As the rear straps do not join the sack or apron at the same point, but are separated at the truncated rear end of the latter by from one to two inches, there is no portion of the appliance immediately at or adjacent to the anus, and as the rear straps relax when the body is in a bent position required for defecation, there is absolutely no inconvenience in this regard, and no danger of soiling the sack or apron and straps, for the latter can be very easily moved out of the way, if necessary. Moreover, the truncated form of the apron or sack, and the connection of the rear straps at separated points, avoids the passage between the legs of any portion of the sack or apron, or any substantial portion of the appliance.

For male use the apron or sack is made large enough to inclose all the organs and for female use it is provided with a rubber lining and some absorbent material and made of some more closely woven fabric.

My apron A, being of a size and form to

comfortably support all the male organs, is made without any hole or opening, for the use of a hole or opening is injurious, even in a state of health.

5 What I claim as my invention is—

The combination of a sack or apron, two elastic rear straps attached thereto, two elastic laterally inclined front straps attached thereto, a belt, a connection between the inner side of the belt and the rear straps, and
10 a connection between the front straps and the outer side of the belt, said connections

consisting of a button having heads on both sides of the belt, said connection between a front strap and the front side of the belt being one permitting ready detaching of the strap and belt independently of the other straps.

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

REUBEN HARRISON HUDDLESTON.

Witnesses:

RAY A. McLEOD,
C. L. HUDDLESTON.