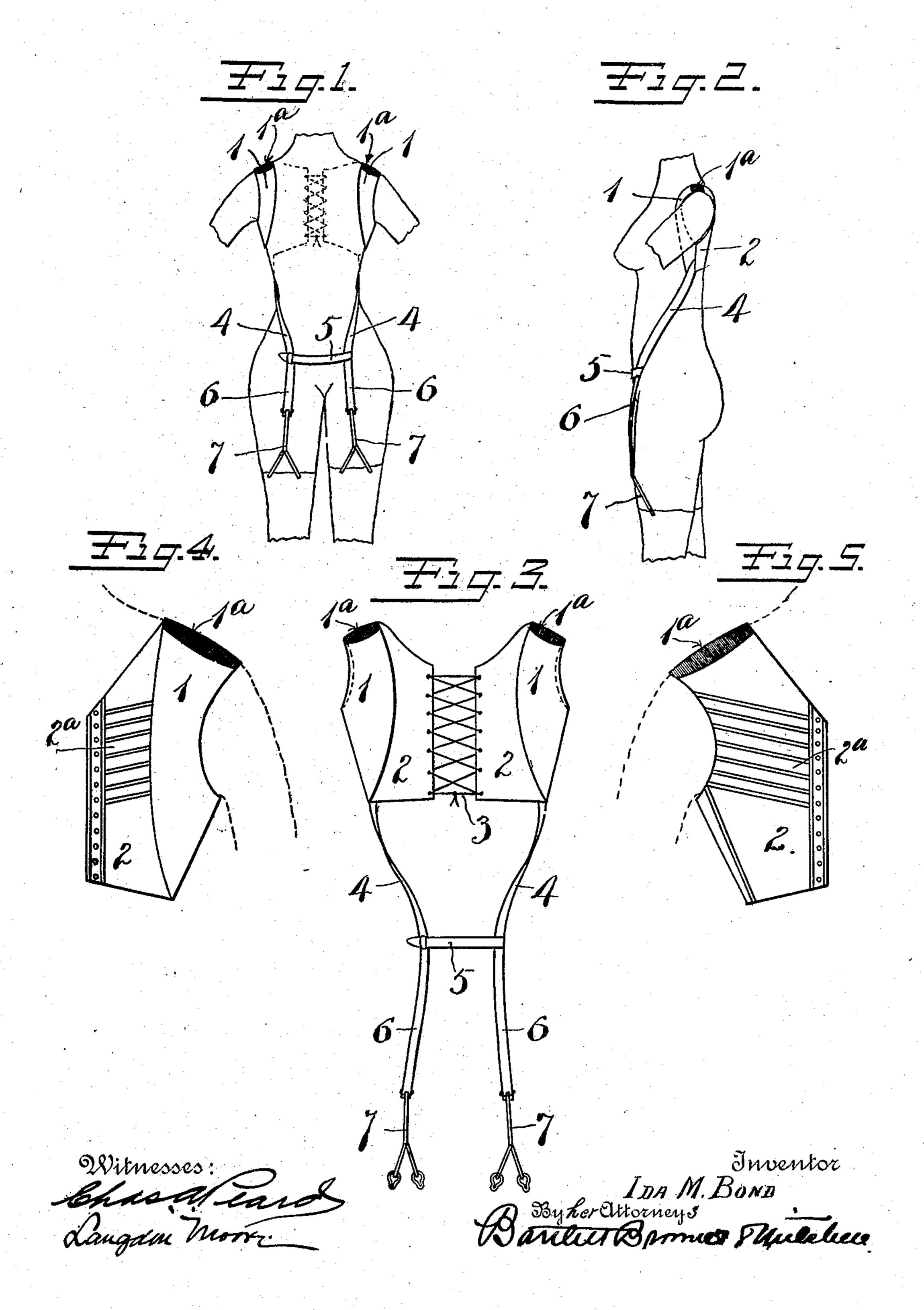
## I. M. BOND.

## COMBINED SHOULDER BRACE AND GARMENT SUPPORTER. APPLICATION FILED OCT. 17, 1908.

924,034.

Patented June 8, 1909.



## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## COMBINED SHOULDER-BRACE AND GARMENT-SUPPORTER.

No. 924,034.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 8, 1909.

Application filed October 17, 1908. Serial No. 458,197.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, IDA M. BOND, a citizen of the United States, residing at Forest Hill, county of Essex, State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Combined Shoulder - Braces and Garment-Supporters, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to an improvement in body braces and supporters, the object of the invention being to provide a device which is at once a shoulder support and a garment support, the effectiveness of the former being materially enhanced by its union with the garment supporter, since the pull of the latter is in a direction to cause the shoulder brace to lie in a position and to operate in a manner wherein the best results will be obtained.

The invention is useful as a body support for both sexes, and any convenient garment may be supported.

In the drawings I have shown the suppor-

ter connected to the stockings.

Figure 1 is a front elevation; Fig. 2 is a side view; Fig. 3 is a relatively enlarged view of the article detached from the figure. Figs. 4 and 5 are relatively enlarged front and rear views.

1—1 represent the shoulder straps of the brace, the same being arranged to pass over the shoulder and under the arms and lead rearwardly to pads 2-2, or the like, which latter rest upon the shoulder blades. These 35 pads are preferably connected by means of a lacing 3, for the sake of adjustment. Depending from the parts 2—2 and preferably connected at a point under the arms, and in such a manner as to exert a pull in a direc-40 tion to straighten up the shoulders, are straps 4—4. These in turn are preferably connected by a cross strap 5, which may be made detachable with either of the straps 4-4, or may be permanently sewed or other-45 wise fastened thereto.

6—6 are depending straps from the members 4—4, the straps 6—6 carrying at their

lower ends hose supporters 7—7.

The position of the article as worn, in order to get the desired results, is indicated in Figs. 1 and 2, in which it will be seen that the side members 4—4 lead diagonally forwardly. The straps 4—4 are held in this position by means of the cross strap 5, which rests against the front of the body, preferably over the abdominal region.

By referring to Fig. 2, it will be seen that the downward strain of the garment or garments is in a direction to gently repress the abdomen, and at the same time pull down on 60 the brace so as to draw the shoulders back by pressing in slightly upon the body between the shoulders. The lower edges of the pads 2—2 extend downwardly below a horizontal line intersecting the shoulder points. 65 By this arrangement I find that poise is given to the body without any sense of discomfort and without any injury to the wearer. In case the article is to be used as a supporter for trousers, the straps 6-6 70 would be used to make the connection with the buttons at the front of the trousers, and, if desired, additional straps for the buttons at the rear of the trousers might be provided at the lower edge of the pads 2-2, closely 75 adjacent to the lacing 3. Such a mere addition would be so obvious as to require no illustration and the strain of such additional rear straps would be in a direction to supplement the action of the straps 4—4, with- 80 out in any way negativing the effect thereof.

In the preferred form of my invention the upper part of the shoulder strap 1, where it passes over the shoulder, is cupped at 1<sup>a</sup> so as to embrace the upper end of the upper 85 arm at the joint, in such a manner as to draw it back into the proper position. This cupped portion 1<sup>a</sup> is preferably formed of an elastic material, in one or more pieces, although in all forms of this invention this is 90 not essential. Each pad portion 2—2 is preferably provided with cross-stays or stiffeners 2<sup>a</sup> at about the position where the

pad bears upon the scapula.

What I claim is: 1. In a device of the character described, a pair of shoulder pieces adapted to the shoulders and separated along a vertical line midway of the back, a lacing for adjustably connecting said shoulder pieces along said 100 line of separation, a pendent garment supporter strap connected to and leading directly down from the lower edge of each shoulder piece and from a point below the armpit, said pendent straps extending for- 105 wardly along the opposite sides of the body to a point in front of the body of the wearer, and a front connecting member for connecting both of said straps at a point over the abdomen.

2. In a device of the character described, a pair of shoulder pieces adapted to the

shoulders and separated along a vertical line midway of the back, a lacing for adjustably connecting said shoulder pieces along said line of separation, a pendent garment supporter strap connected to and leading directly down from the lower edge of each shoulder piece and from a point below the armpit, said pendent straps extending forwardly along the opposite sides of the body to a point in front of the body of the wearer,

and a front connecting member for connecting both of said straps at a point over the abdomen, each of said shoulder pieces having an elastic cupped portion arranged to fit over the top of the shoulders.

IDA M. BOND.

Witnesses:

R. C. MITCHELL, CHAS. A. PEARD.