

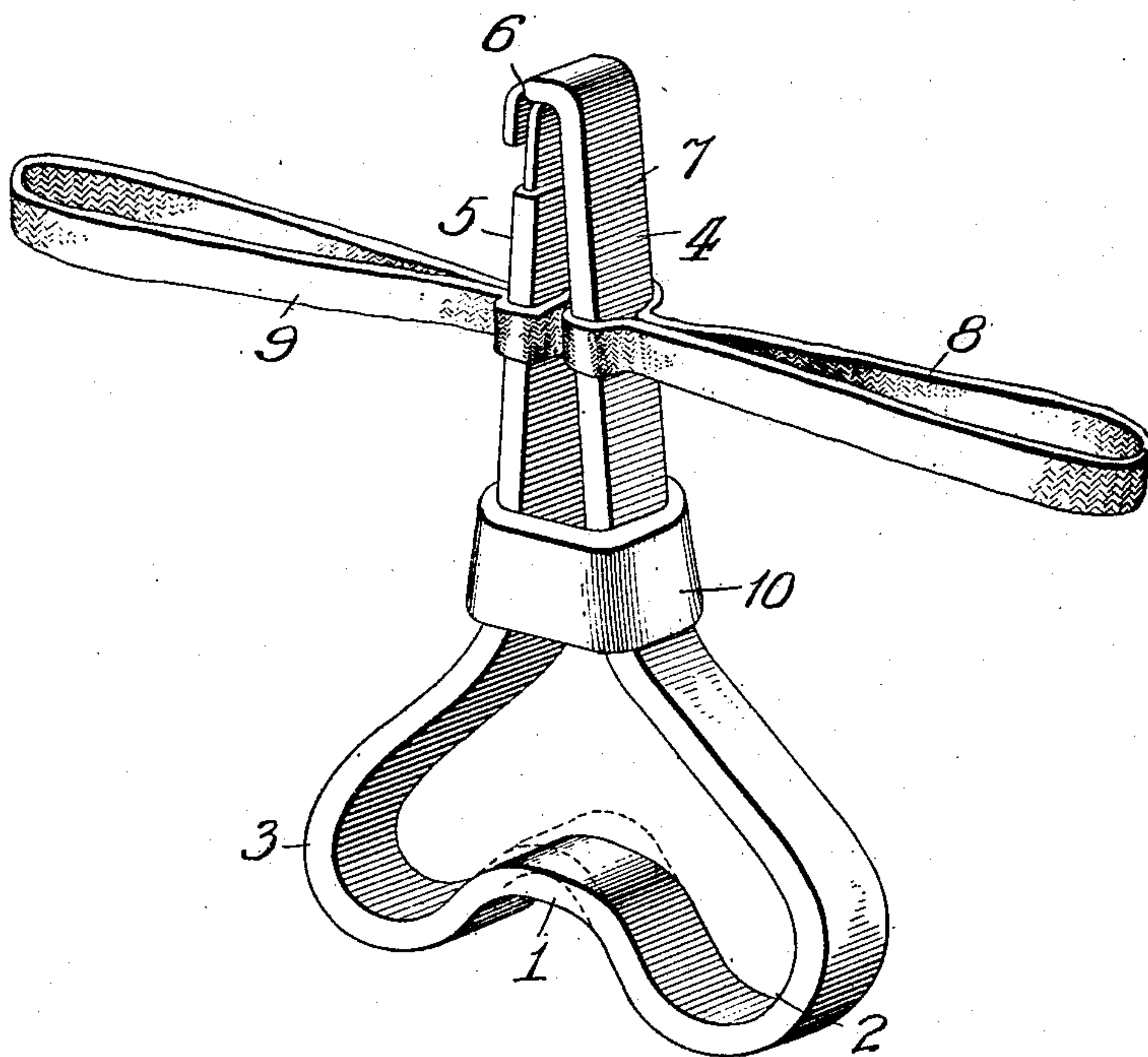
S. T. YOUNT.

THERAPEUTIC DEVICE.

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938,808.

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Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SILAS T. YOUNT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Therapeutic Devices, of which the following is a specification.

The primary object of my invention is to provide, as a therapeutic device, a clamp which shall be adapted to be readily applied to the male organ of generation for producing in a scientific and physiological manner the erection of that organ and eventually, by repeated use of the device, restore the organ to the normal condition, wherein it will perform its erectile function naturally.

The principle upon which my invention performs its restoring function will be readily understood from the description thereof hereinafter contained, by those familiar with the anatomy of the organ, as explained in the standard work on anatomy by D. J. Cunningham, F. R. S., Ed. 1906, to which reference may be had. For the purpose of the present explanation it is only necessary to refer to that anatomy in a general way:

The organ is composed chiefly of erectile tissue and contains the dorsal vein extending lengthwise along the upper side, which returns about two-thirds to three-fourths of the blood to the circulation, so that while it keeps the tissues of the *corpora cavernosa* distended with blood, normal erection ensues as the effect of such distention. The fibrous tissue inclosing the *corpora cavernosa* forms between them a species of septum containing near the end of the organ a number of parallel slit-like openings through which the erectile tissue is continuous, the tissue being of fine sponge-like framework whose interspaces communicate freely with one another and are filled with blood, the blood-spaces leading directly into veins. The organ receives its arterial supply from the branches of the internal pudic artery, the erectile tissue being supplied chiefly by the deep arteries, while the *corpus spongiosum* receives its blood-supply from the artery of the bulb. The veins with which the cavernous spaces communicate carry blood for the most part either directly into the prostatic plexus or into the dorsal vein and thence to the prostatic plexus, at least two-thirds of the blood being returned to the circulation through the dorsal vein from the *corpora cavernosa*. On each side of the dorsal vein lies the dorsal

artery, and still farther from the middle-line is the dorsal nerve.

From the foregoing description of the anatomy it will be apparent that by virtue of the erectile tissue in the *corpora cavernosa*, the rigidity of the erection ensues from increase in the blood-supply producing active dilation of the arteries and a relaxation of the non-striated muscular fibers of the *corpora cavernosa*; and it will further be apparent that this condition is furthered and maintained by a partial or complete compression of the dorsal vein by the fibrous surrounding capsule of the structure, because of the damming, resulting from the compression, of the flow of blood in the dorsal vein, which causes the little reservoirs in the *corpora cavernosa* to fill the same out and distend them to produce the erection. This is, thus, entirely due to the mechanical action of the damming referred to, since it prevents the return of the blood through the dorsal vein to the circulation. This damming back of the blood fills the sponge-like framework, and by continuing the damming action the entire space of the erectile tissue becomes filled and distended.

My invention consists in the construction of a device adapting it to exert the damming action referred to, and it is illustrated in its preferred form in the accompanying drawing by a perspective view.

The device comprises a spring-clamp, which I form of a strip of the finest tempered steel of from 19 to 25 gage and of about one-eighth to one inch in width, the length and width varying in individual cases. This strip is bent to form a frame having similar laterally-extending recesses and 3 with an interposed medial compression-ridge 1, which may be flat on its upper side, as represented by the full lines, or rounded, as indicated by the dotted representation; and the frame has arms, 4 and 5, one arm being bent to form a hook 6 on its extremity for engagement with the extremity of the companion-arm to releasably lock the arms together. The steel frame is provided with a covering 7 of rubber tubing or any other suitable material, such as linen, silk or leather. Attached to the arms are shown tapes 8 and 9 for convenience in spreading them apart. A stop 10 is provided at the base of the arms, the best form for which is that shown of an endless band of flexible material surrounding and tightly

fitting about the arms at their bases, and which is preferably made of soft rubber.

To use the device, on removing the band 10 the arms are unhooked and separated, 5 when the frame is caused to surround the organ at a point about a quarter or a half inch from the abdomen; then the arms are released to come together by their spring-action, in which condition they are hooked 10 to fasten them, and the band 10 is slipped over the arms to encircle them at their diverging ends and bridge the space between them. The upward pressure of the ridge causes the organ under confinement in the 15 frame to conform to its shape, the lobes at the opposite sides of the ridge being squeezed by it into the recesses 2 and 3. The device being applied where the *corpora cavernosa* 20 branch outwardly and backwardly and laterally of the longitudinal center of the organ, the ridge presses the urethra upwardly against the dorsal vein, thereby compressing the latter against the stop 10 and constricting the vein to obstruct the flow of blood 25 therein and, as the result of the obstruction, fill the little reservoirs in the *corpora cavernosa* with blood, whereby the latter become distended and erection ensues. It is desirable that the patient periodically during the 30 time (from fifteen minutes to half an hour, or thereabout) in which the device is applied, wedge it backward, to the extent of about one-half an inch, or less, thereby to enhance the damming effect. By this damming of the blood in the shrunken or partially atrophied parts, an increase of the 35 blood-supply is produced in them with the result, primarily, of producing a mechanical erection, which is temporary, lasting only

while the device is in position; but by repeated use of the device the increased blood-supply eventually revivifies the parts, restoring them to a healthy condition and enabling them to perform their functions naturally. 40

The clamp may be readily removed, on removing the band 10, by unhooking the arms and drawing on the tapes 8 and 9 to spread the arms assunder, when the device may be taken off. 45

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is— 50

1. A therapeutic device for the purpose set forth, comprising a spring frame of approximately triangular form and provided 55 at its base with an inwardly indented portion constituting a ridge, recesses formed by and flanking said ridge portion, and stop forming means at the apex of the frame.

2. A therapeutic device for the purpose set forth, comprising a frame formed with 60 lateral recesses, and a ridge on its under side between said recesses and terminating in handle-forming arms provided with means for releasably fastening them together, and 65 a stop on the frame at the base of said arms.

3. A therapeutic device for the purpose set forth, comprising a spring-frame formed with lateral recesses and a ridge on its under 70 side between said recesses and arms, one of said arms terminating in a hook adapted to releasably engage with the adjacent end of the companion-arm, and a rubber band surrounding said arms at their base-portion.

SILAS T. YOUNT.

In presence of—

J. H. LANDES,
W. T. JONES.