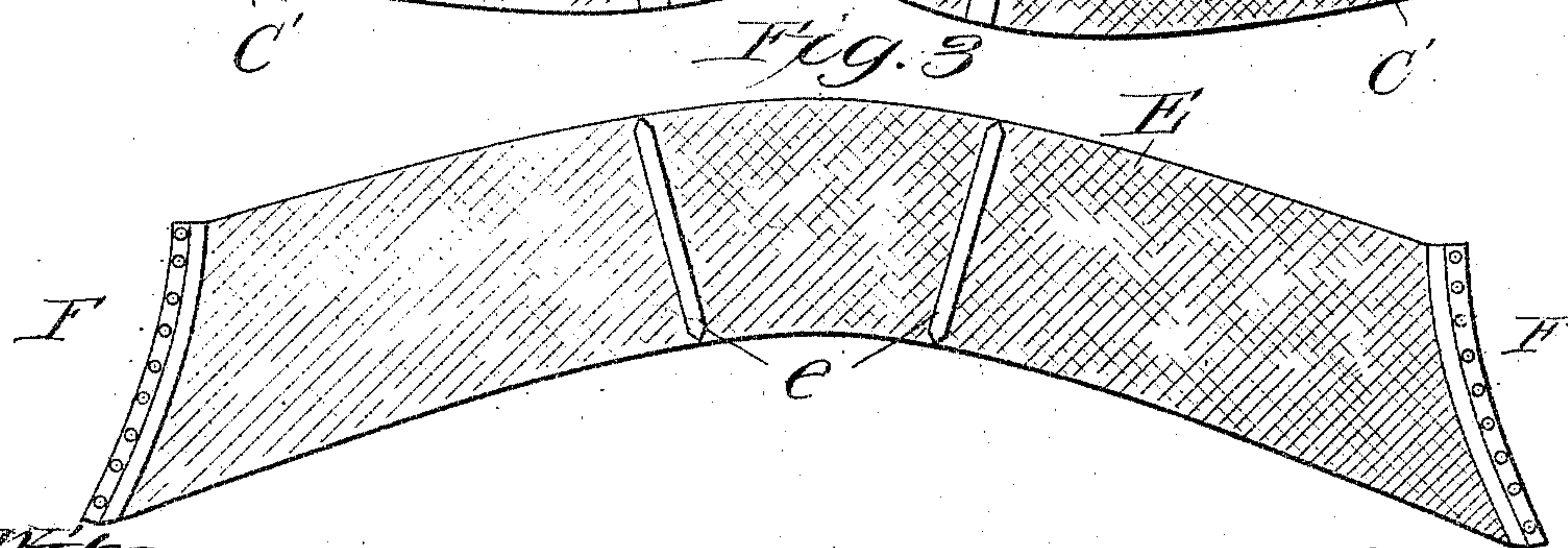
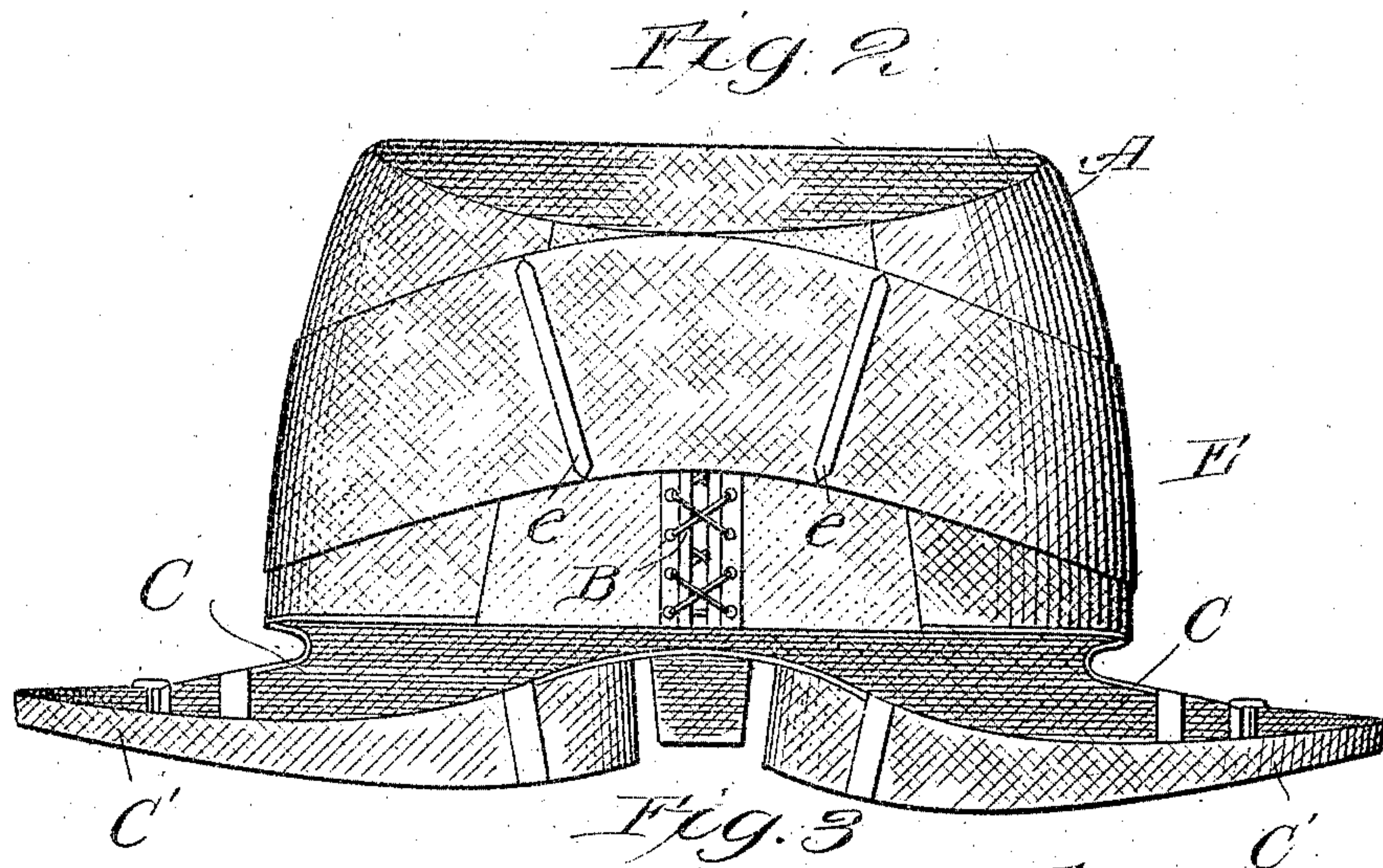
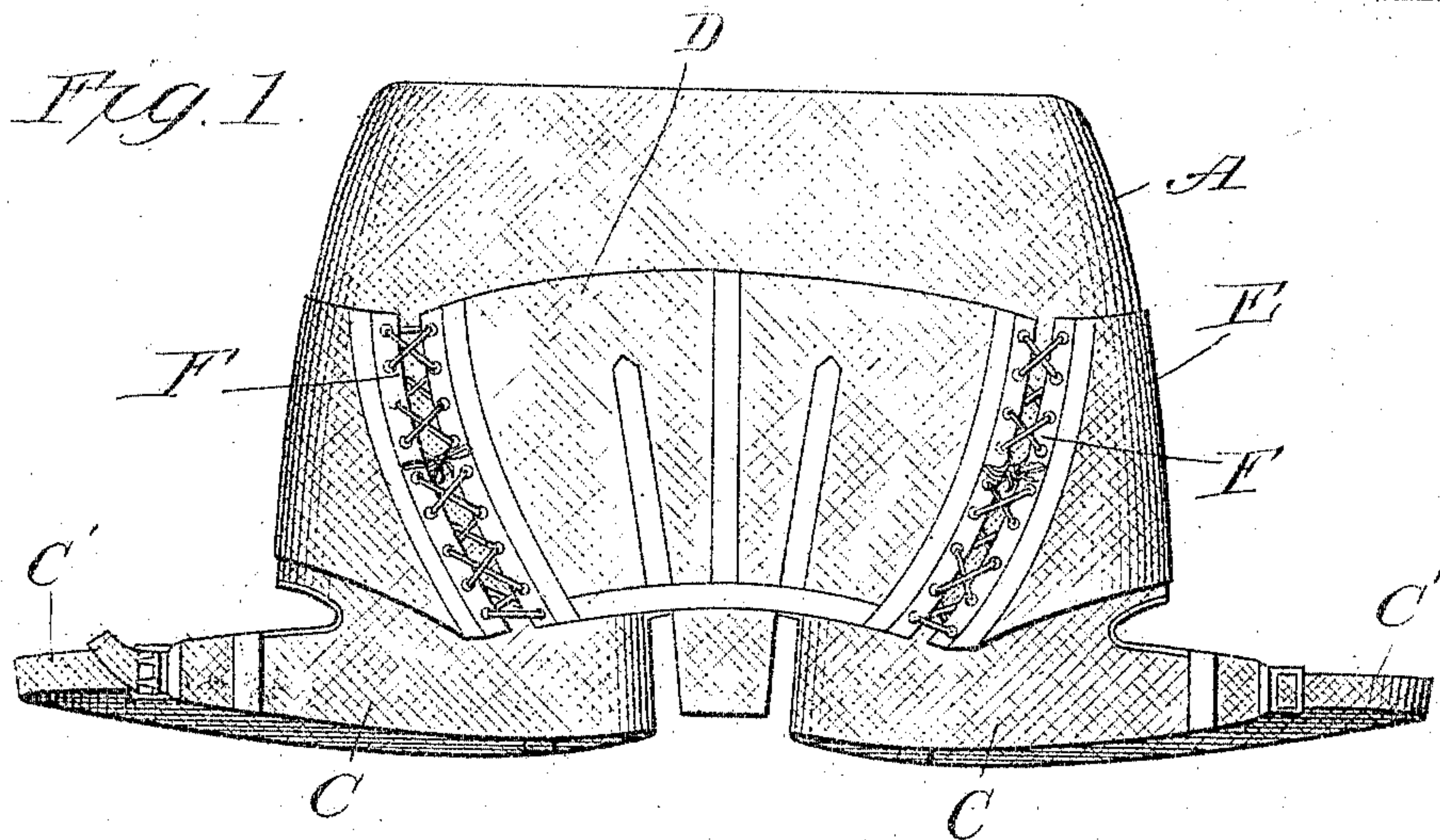


L. N. SAEMANN.
ABDOMINAL SUPPORTER.
APPLICATION FILED JAN. 17, 1910.

966,863.

Patented Aug. 9, 1910.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses:

Harry S. Gailher
Ruby V. Brydges.

Inventor:

Laura N. Saemann
by Chamberlain & Freudenreich

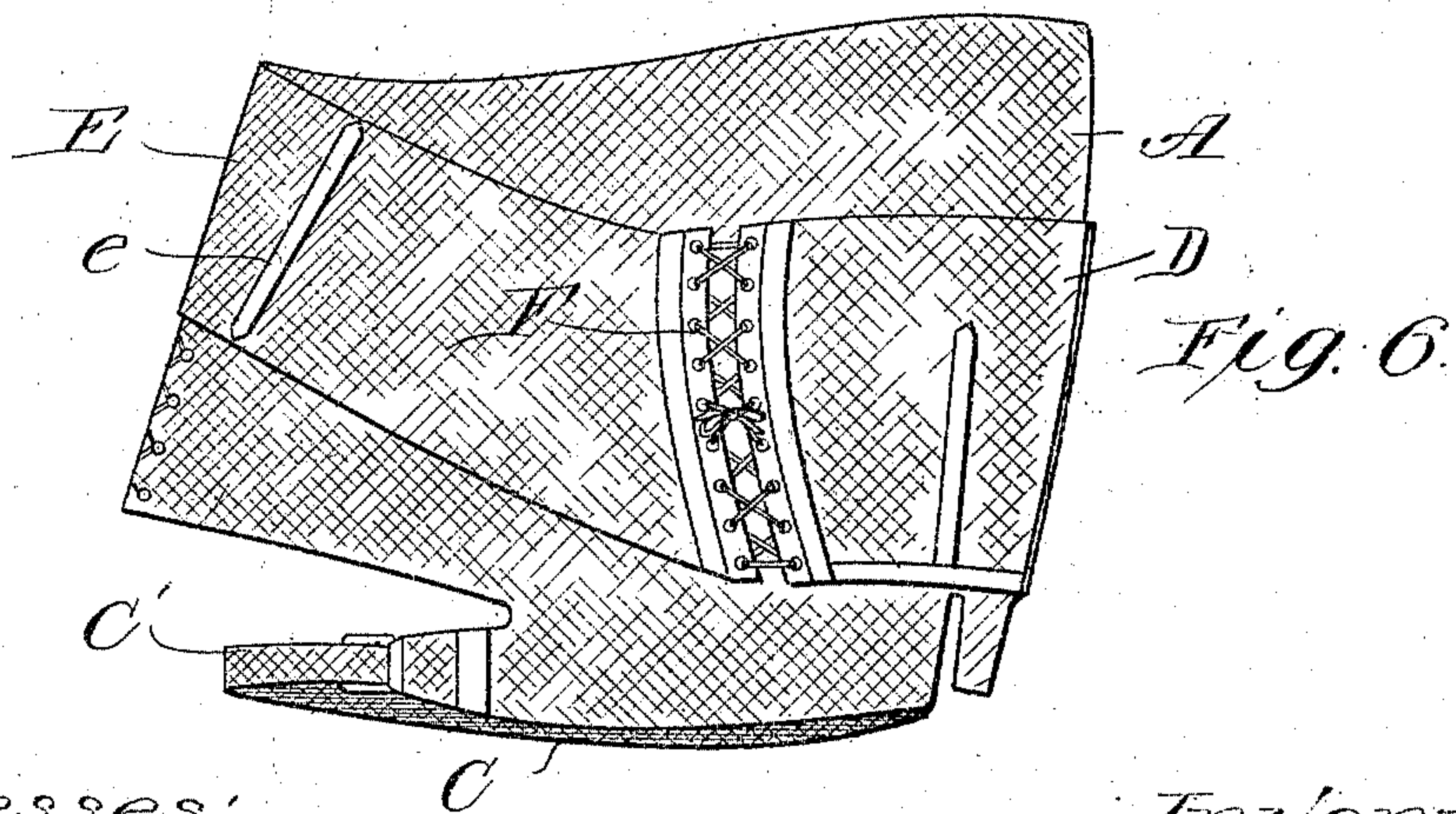
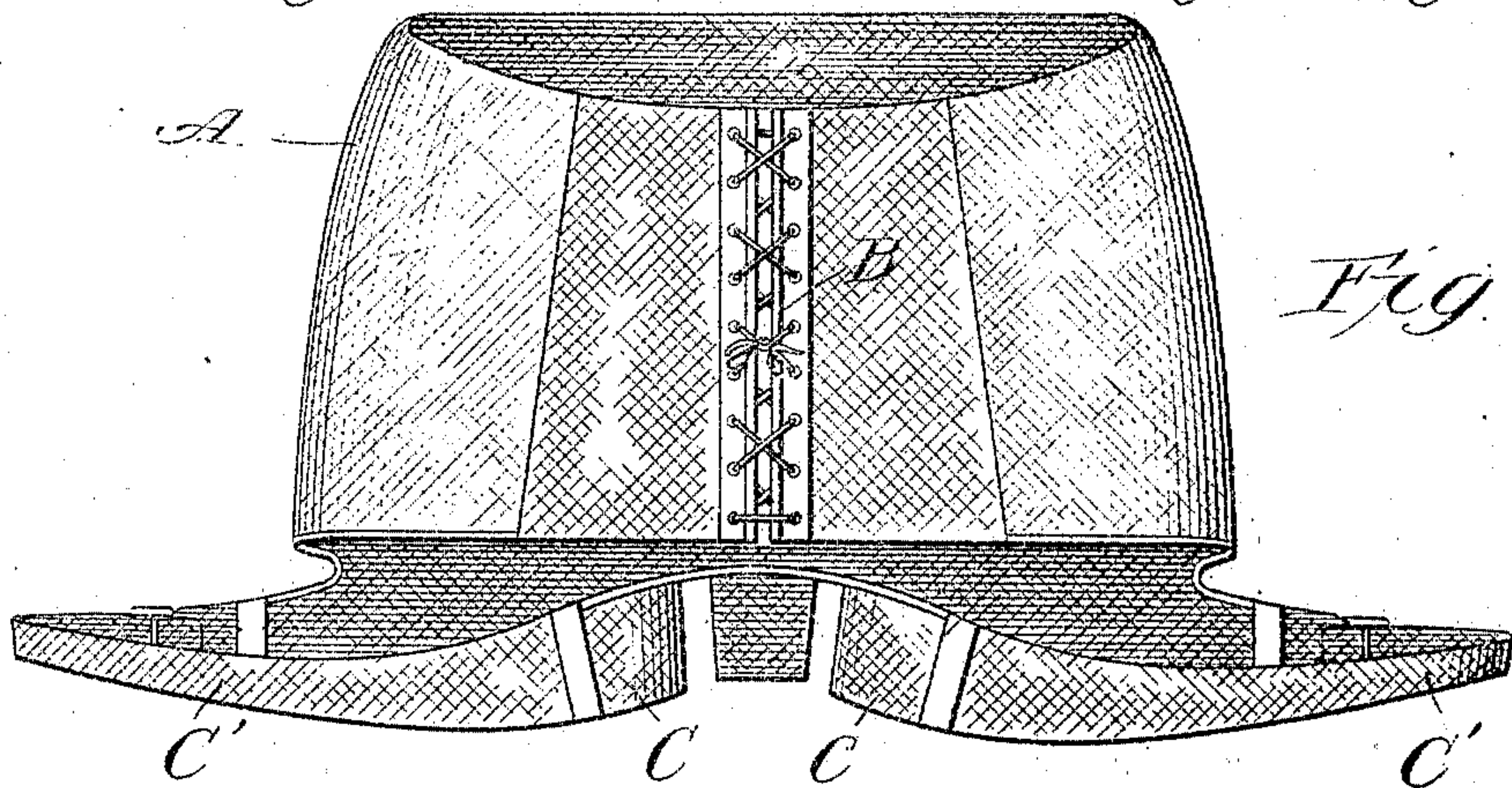
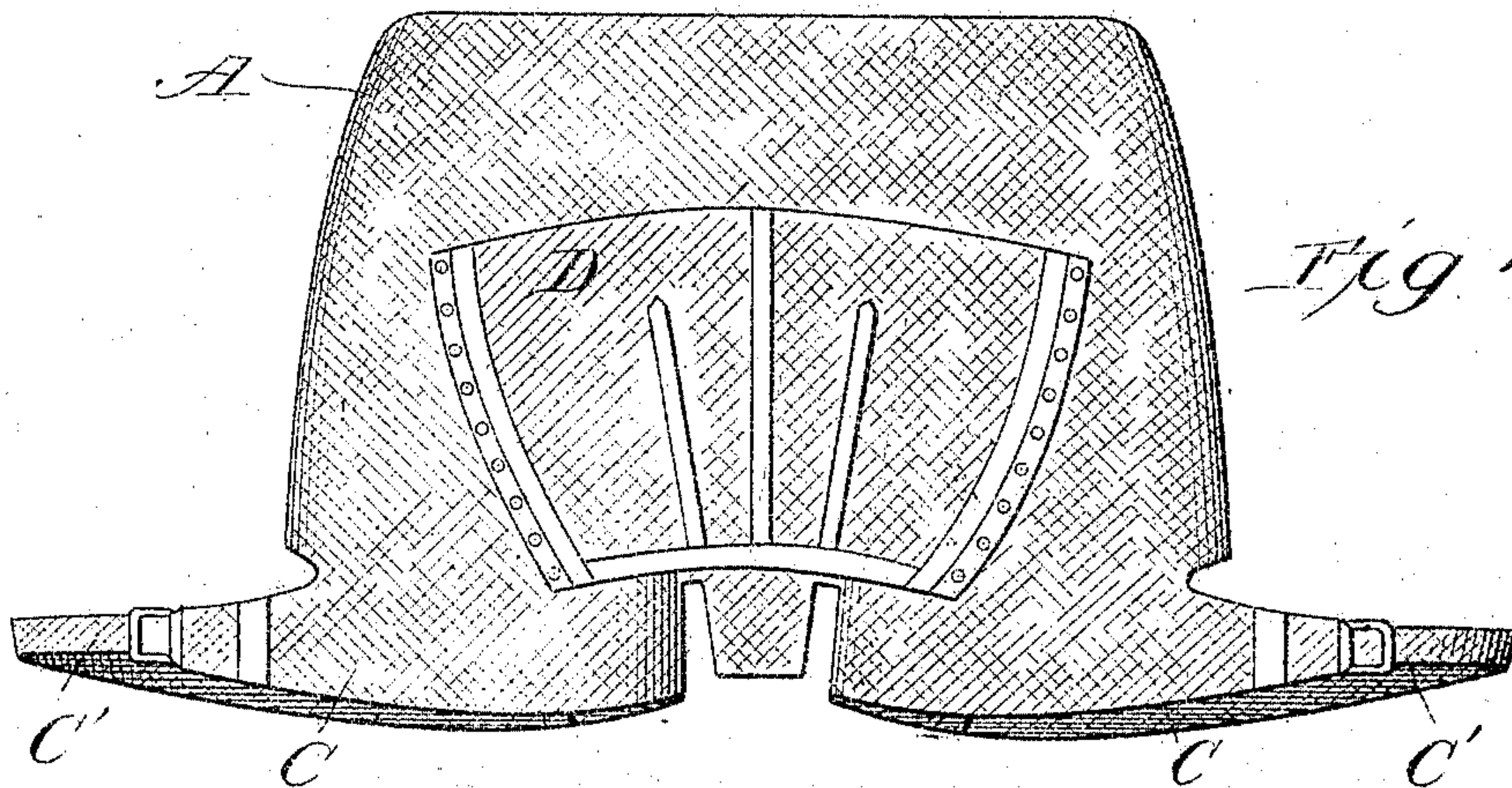
attys

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



Witnesses:

Harry S. Gaither
 Ruby V. Brydges

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LAURA N. SAEMANN, OF OAK PARK, ILLINOIS.

ABDOMINAL SUPPORTER.

966,863.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 9, 1910.

Application filed January 17, 1910. Serial No. 538,342.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LAURA N. SAEMANN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Oak Park, county of Cook, State of Illinois, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Abdominal Supporters, and declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification.

My invention has for its object to provide a simple and comfortable device for effectually supporting the abdomen or for producing pressure over any desired area on the abdomen.

A further object of my invention is to produce a device of the character above specified wherein the adjustment to secure the desired compression may be made from the front thereby making it convenient for the wearer to obtain the desired compression and, in the case of a patient who is in bed the adjustment may be made while the patient is lying on his back so that the various organs are in the most desirable position.

The various features of novelty whereby my invention is characterized will hereinafter be pointed out with particularity in the claim; but for a full understanding of my invention and of its various objects, including those enumerated and others, and advantages, reference may be had to the following detailed description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a front view of a supporter embodying my invention showing it in the position which it takes upon the body of the wearer; Fig. 2 is a rear view of the complete supporter shown in Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is a view of the belt or binder flattened out; Figs. 4 and 5 are views corresponding to Figs. 1 and 2 showing the body member of the supporter before the detachable binder or belt is applied; and Fig. 6 is a side view showing the complete supporter in the position which it assumes on the body of a wearer.

Referring to the drawings, A represents the body member of the supporter which is preferably made of some soft flexible material and is shaped so as to fit snugly about the body of a wearer. The adjustment of the body member may be effected in any

suitable way as, for example, by means of a lacing B connecting the free ends of the body members together at the back. The body member is cut with integral extensions C at the lower end thereof which, together with strap member C', form leg straps adapted to pass around the thighs of the wearer and aid in holding the body member properly located upon the person of the wearer. It will be seen that by making parts of the leg straps integral continuations of the body member disagreeable joints or seams are avoided and there is no discomfort to the patient due to cutting at the points where the leg straps join the body member. Furthermore, the arrangement causes the thigh straps to lie smooth.

In accordance with my invention I provide the body member with a stiff inelastic portion D in the front thereof, this portion being shaped to suit the conditions of the particular case under treatment. Where the purpose of the supporter is to give support to the entire abdomen, this portion will be made comparatively large, as shown, so as practically to cover the abdomen. Where support for or compression upon some particular organ is desired, the portion D need not be made as large as illustrated, it being in this case sufficient to shape it so that it will cover the desired organ or part of the abdomen to be controlled. In other words, the stiff portion is shaped and located to meet the requirements of the particular case under treatment and it is made a permanent part of the body member so that the act of placing the body member upon the wearer locates the stiffened portion properly with respect to the organs which it is to cover and when the lacing at the back of the body member is tightened and the straps are applied to the thighs, there is no danger that the stiffened portion will be accidentally displaced.

The body member is preferably made of soft elastic material which will permit this member to be form-fitting and comfortable. In order to get a considerable pressure over the area covered by the stiffened portion of the body member it is therefore necessary to provide some additional pressure-producing device; and to this end I make use of a simple, detachable belt or binder E which may also be made of elastic material. The member E is so shaped that it will partially encircle the body of the wearer with its ends

lying in proximity to the side edges of the stiffened portion D. The ends of the belt or binder are detachably secured to the stiffened portion and some means is provided
 5 for tightening the belt or binder so as to produce any desired pull upon the stiffened portion. The adjustable connection and the tightening means for the belt may, of course, take any usual or preferred form; there
 10 being in the arrangement shown a lacing F between each end of the belt or binder and one edge of the stiffened portion, showing that the same means serves both as a detachable fastening and as a belt tightener.
 15 It will, of course, be understood, however, that any other desired arrangement for attaching the belt or binder and for tightening it may be employed.

The parts are so arranged that when the
 20 body member and the belt or binder are placed upon the person of a wearer, the belt or binder rises gradually from the front toward the rear so as to produce at once a compression and a lifting action over the
 25 area covered by the stiffened portion; the belt or binder lying perfectly smooth and flat over the back and hips. By this arrangement the supporter serves not only to give compression but acts as a sling in which
 30 the abdomen or a portion thereof is suspended. The detachable member E may be provided with one or more ribs extending transversely thereof so as to hold it flat and prevent it from wrinkling when placed in
 35 position.

It will now be seen that I have provided a simple, efficient and comfortable supporter which may be applied quickly and effectively. It will furthermore be seen that my
 40 improved supporter may be adjusted in place upon a reclining patient without making it necessary to move the patient in order to get the proper adjustment or tightness; this being for the reason that after the body
 45 member is placed in position it is only neces-

sary to slip the belt or binder under the patient and then connect its ends with the sides of the stiffened portion, the tightening of the belt or binder being effected from the front and permitting the patient to lie
 50 quietly upon his back while it is being done. It will also be seen that the supporter may readily be washed since the body member and the detachable belt or binder may be handled separately. 55

While I have described in detail only a single preferred form of my invention I do not desire to be limited to the structural details illustrated and described, but intend covering all forms and arrangements which
 60 fall within the terms employed in the definitions of my invention constituting the appended claim.

What I claim is:

In an abdominal support, an elastic form
 65 fitting member cut from a single piece of elastic material and having parts adapted to fit and surround the body of a wearer and leg portions adapted to lie upon the inner side and partially surround the thighs,
 70 there being a stiff non-elastic portion permanently secured in the front of said member in position to overlie a portion of the abdomen, straps connected to the thigh engaging parts and cooperating therewith to
 75 encircle the thighs and hold said member properly positioned upon the person of the wearer, a detachable belt adapted to extend around the back of the wearer and having its ends lying adjacent to said non-elastic portion,
 80 and means for adjustably connecting the ends of said belt to said non-elastic portion.

In testimony whereof, I sign this specification in the presence of two witnesses.

LAURA N. SAEMANN.

Witnesses:

WM. F. FREUDENREICH,
 RUBY BRYDGES.