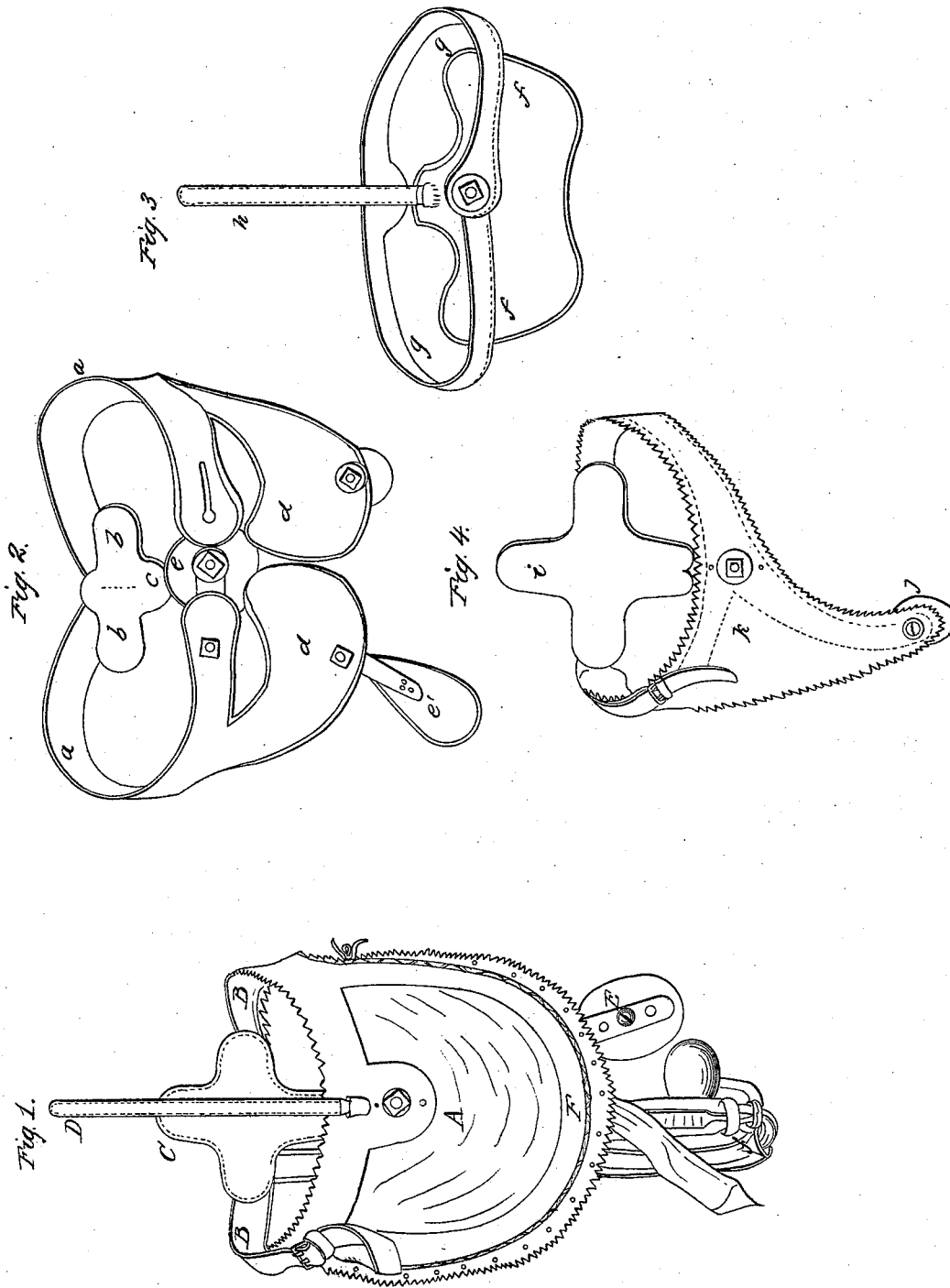


J. Oberhauser,

Truss.

No 581.

Patented Jan. 20, 1838.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

J. OBERHAUSSER, OF CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA.

CORSET-TRUSS FOR RUPTURES.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 581, dated January 20, 1838.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHANNES OBERHAUSSER, doctor of medicine, of the city of Charleston, in the State of South Carolina, have invented certain improvements in trusses or apparatus for the relief or cure of rupture or hernia in its various forms and also of prolapsus uteri or the descent of the womb; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof.

These trusses must of necessity be variously modified according to the nature of the complaint, the size, sex, and occupation of the patient, and other circumstances.

Figure 1, in the accompanying drawing represents what I denominate a truss corset. This instrument is particularly adapted to ruptures of nearly every species, in subjects of both sexes, as it is made to cover and support the whole abdomen, and may have such pads, bandages, or other apparatus attached to it as the nature and situation of the complaint may require.

The part marked A, represents the front of the corset truss, which may be covered with leather, or any other suitable substance, and lined in like manner on the inside, toward the abdomen. The leather, or other material is stretched upon an elastic steel plate or rim, between the front covering, and the lining, in the situation represented by the dotted lines. This steel plate is continued around the back, as shown at B, B, and has straps by which it is buckled to the front part A. An extended piece C, which is adjustable upon the back spring, and which may be made of stiff leather, or steel, bears upon the back of the person using the instrument, when worn by females a corset bone D, may be attached to the front. In case of umbelical rupture, a pad adapted to it is to be fixed on the inside of the front portion. For inguinal hernia, or other varieties of this disease, a pad, as that seen at E, may be attached to a suitable part of the steel rim, on which it may be adjusted in any of the known ways, so as to press upon the part desired. In case of prolapsus uteri, when it is necessary to use a pessary, or some analogous contrivance, such an instrument, may be kept in place by attaching it to the lower part of the corset front, as shown at F the pessary, made of any proper material being fixed upon a covered curved support *f*, which is fastened to the corset by a flexible

strap, will be thereby kept in place, while free motion will be allowed to the body and limbs, where a pessary may be objectionable, and it is desired to make pressure on the part, a soft elastic, stuffed bandage, adapted to the purpose, may be carried around from front to back.

This corset truss is calculated to afford great support at all times, and more especially when the person is riding, or is engaged in any pursuit which renders considerable exertion necessary, while at the same time it furnishes a most convenient mode of attaching the various kinds of pad, as above described.

Fig. 2, shows another modification of my corset truss, which is like the former, applicable to ruptures of all kinds, in either sex. Instead of being a single spring passing around the body, and buckled at the side, like the former, there are two springs *a, a* which are connected together by a hinge joint at the middle of the back. Against this hinge there is a saddle piece *b, b*, connected by means of the joint pins of the hinge, so as to form a triple joint. This saddle piece constitutes what may be called the back pad, or bearing. The two springs meet in front at *c*, and have attached to them plates of metal, or other stiff substances *d, d*, which are properly lined and covered, and which sustain the abdomen, like the first described truss. *e e¹ e²* represents pads the upper of which may bear upon the umbilicus, and the lower on the scrotum, and it will be seen that to this apparatus pads may be adapted to bear upon any desired part, while that support will be afforded to the muscles of the abdomen which is so often desirable.

In Fig. 3, my corset truss is represented under another modification of the spring and its appendages. The front, or abdominal plate, *f f*, is in one piece, and the spring *g, g*, passes all around the body, in one continuous piece, one end of it being fastened to the middle of the abdominal plate, and the other resting upon it and capable of being attached by buttons, buckles, or otherwise, *h*, is a corset bone, which may be attached when requisite; and all the different kind of pads may be attached to this in a manner similar to the two former.

Fig. 4 shows another form of my corset truss, which like No. 1 may buckle at the side; *i* is the bearing plate at the back of the

spring, to rest on the spine; *j* is a scrotal pad, *k*, the abdominal plate, upon the inside of which, if required, there may be an umbilical pad.

5 What I claim as constituting my invention is—

The constructing a corset truss, under its various modifications, as herein described, which shall sustain the muscles of the abdomen by the action of the steel spring, or
10 springs, which surround the body, as con-

tradistinguished from the support by bandages, which has been frequently resorted to, which springs are widened out by stiff plates capable of receiving and applying two or
15 more pads to ruptured parts, in the manner herein set forth.

J. OBERHAUSSER.

Witnesses:

P. I. K. MORSELL,
LINTON THORN.