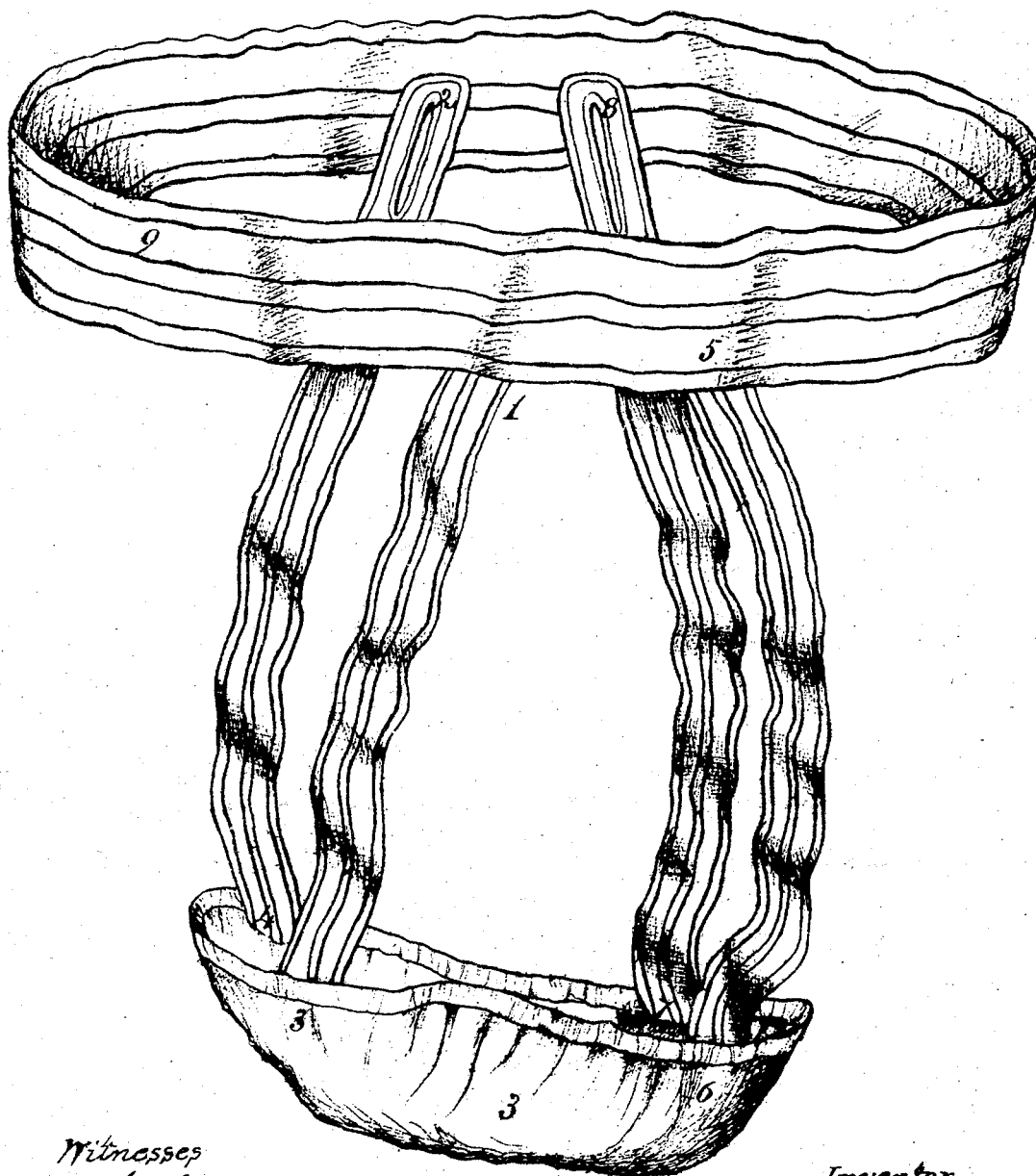


D. F. Robertson,
Catamenial Bandage,
No 45,523, Patented Dec. 20, 1864.



Witnesses
W. B. Stanford
A. B. Leung

Inventor
David F. Robertson.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID F. ROBERTSON, OF MIDDLETOWN, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN CATAMENIAL BANDAGES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 45,523, dated December 20, 1864.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID F. ROBERTSON, of Middletown, in the county of Orange, in the State of New York, have invented a catamenial or periodical bandage for ladies, by which their menstrual discharge is absorbed and retained, and their persons, clothing, and bedding preserved unsoiled thereby; and I do declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the figures of reference marked thereon.

The nature of my invention consists of an elastic belt, 9, to span the body above the pelvis, an impervious sack, 3, to contain a sponge or an absorbent of any kind, said sack having an elastic tape hemmed in its free border, and four elastic stays connecting the belt and sack. These several parts constituting the bandage will be so readily and unmistakably noted by the eye as not to need to be designated individually till I come to speak of their use and *modus operandi*, which I now proceed to do.

The bandage goes on over the feet. The hands take the belt opposite the center of the sack, the two short stays 13 and 42 indicating the front part of the bandage. The feet successively are to be introduced behind these short stays and between the side of the sack and belt. The belt is then drawn up until it encircles the body above the pelvis, and the sack made to occupy the space between the legs. The short stays will then cover either groin, and the long or back stays will pass from the belt behind the hip joint to take the rear of the sack. These stays are marked 56 and 78 on the drawings.

Of the uses of the elastic belt I need only say that it is convenient, self-adjusting, without buckles or buttons, imparting rather a pleasant and bracing sensation to the wearer,

and furnishes a stable support for the stays leading to the sack or connecting it with the sack. These stays are four in number, and their elasticity supplants the necessity of buckles and buttons. They serve another very important purpose, for it is by these that the sack is made self-adjusting.

It will be observed, when the bandage is in place on the body, that the tension of the two short stays 13 and 42 causes the front part of the sack from 3 to 4 to widen, and so of the rear stays, 78 and 56, for the draw of all four of the stays is lateral on the front and rear of the sack. This arrangement will never fail to keep the sides of the sack in contact with the inside of the legs, whether the legs are near together or wide apart, or whether the space between them be one, two, or three inches. The elastic tape in the border of the sack permits this widening of the front and rear of the sack by the lateral pulling of the stays, while the draw of the stays upward keeps every part of the sack snugly to the body.

The sack itself is simply impervious, and admits of cleansing without injury when soiled. Thus we have a perfect self-adjusting periodical bandage without a buckle or button, and one that cannot be displaced by any position the wearer can assume. It may be worn with pleasure, and does its work at all times and under all circumstances perfectly.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The elastic tape around the border of the sack for controlling the adaptation and fit of the sack, as herein set forth.

DAVID F. ROBERTSON.

Witnesses:

REEVES WOOD,
WM. MOORE.