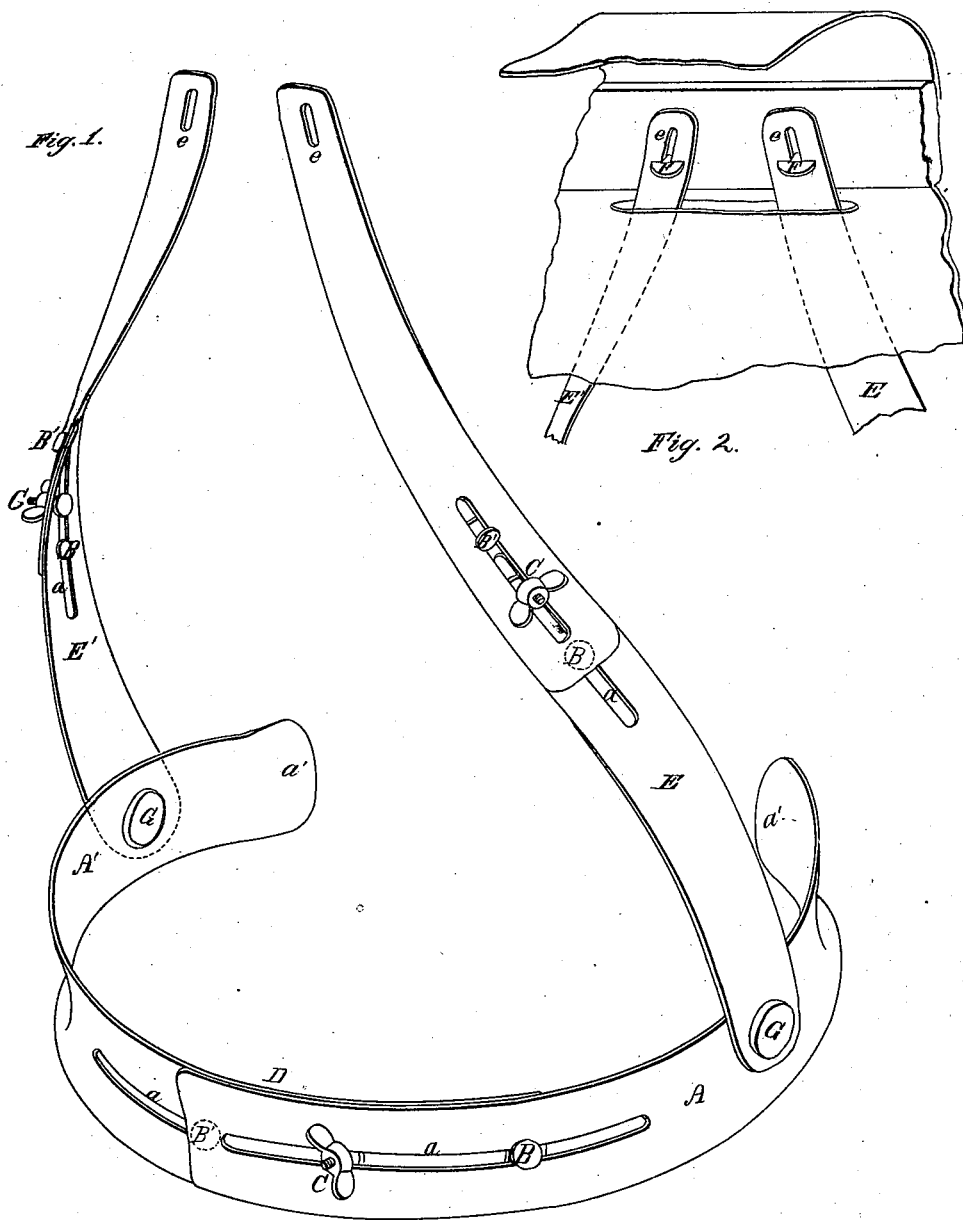


A. Dickey,
Accounterments,

No. 46,886,

Patented Mar. 21, 1865.



Witnesses.

James H. Gayman
W. H. Mackay

Inventor:

A. Dickey
By Knight Bros
Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ADAM DICKEY, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO.

KNAPSACK-SUPPORTER.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 46,886, dated March 21, 1865.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ADAM DICKEY, of Cincinnati, Hamilton county, Ohio, have invented a new and useful article of manufacture which I call a "Knapsack-Supporter;" and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification.

The object of my invention is to relieve the soldier of the backward pulling stress upon the shoulders caused by the knapsack, as now carried, and which is well-known to necessitate a stooping and contracted posture that operates to cramp the viscera and to greatly aggravate the fatigue of marching and to entail diseases of various kinds on the wearer.

By my present invention I propose to relieve the wearer's shoulders of the major portion and, if necessary, of the entire weight of the knapsack and contents, and to enable the soldier to stand perfectly erect by transferring the weight from the shoulders to the hips.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my supporter viewed from the rear. Fig. 2 shows a part of a knapsack exhibiting the place and manner of attachment.

A A' show two similar curved bands or plates of steel slotted at *a* to receive two guide-pins, B B', and a tightening-screw, C, which devices, while holding the two members snugly together, enable their mutual adjustment so as to elongate or shorten the entire piece and to enable its adaptation to men of different sizes. Each band terminates in front in a recurved lip, *a'*, carefully shaped to firmly grasp the hip bone without interfering with the viscera at that part. These lips may, if desired, be padded.

The two bands, A A', with their above-described accessories, I call the "saddle" D.

Firmly pivoted, G, to the bands A and A', immediately over the hips, are two other bands, which may be also flat plates of steel, E E'. The bands E E' are curved so as to pass snugly around without touching the back of

the wearer. These bands, which I call the "standards," each consist of two pieces or members capable of being slid out or in upon each other, and of being fixed to any given adjustment by precisely similar means to those described for the saddle, and which are therefore correspondingly lettered in the illustration. Both standards are slotted, *e*, near their upper ends to receive turn-buckles F F', or other projections, which are to be provided upon the back upper part of the knapsack.

It is intended that the saddle D, after once being set to the proper dimension for the wearer, shall require no further adjustment, its elasticity enabling the lips *a'* to be easily slipped around the person's waist.

It is also intended that the length of the slots *e* and the elasticity of the standards E E' shall be such as, in conjunction with the hinged connections G, to permit perfectly unrestrained motion of the body in every direction.

When employed for large numbers of men, the above-described accouterment may be materially simplified and at the same time reduced in weight by wholly or partially omitting the feature of adjustability, a sufficient diversity of sizes being provided to fit every person.

This accouterment is intended to be used with the customary "regulation" knapsack, which may have its usual complement of straps, which straps will act in co-operation with my supporter in holding the sack snugly to the body, although relieved of their duty of sustaining the weight of the sack.

I claim herein as new and of my invention—

The knapsack-supporter composed of the parts D E E', and their described or equivalent accessories, substantially as set forth.

In testimony of which invention I hereunto set my hand.

ADAM DICKEY.

Witnesses:

GEO. H. KNIGHT,
JAMES H. LAYMAN.