No. 647,665. Patented Apr. 17, 1900.

C. LUSH.

ABDOMINAL BANDAGE.

(Application filed Nov. 6, 1899.)

(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

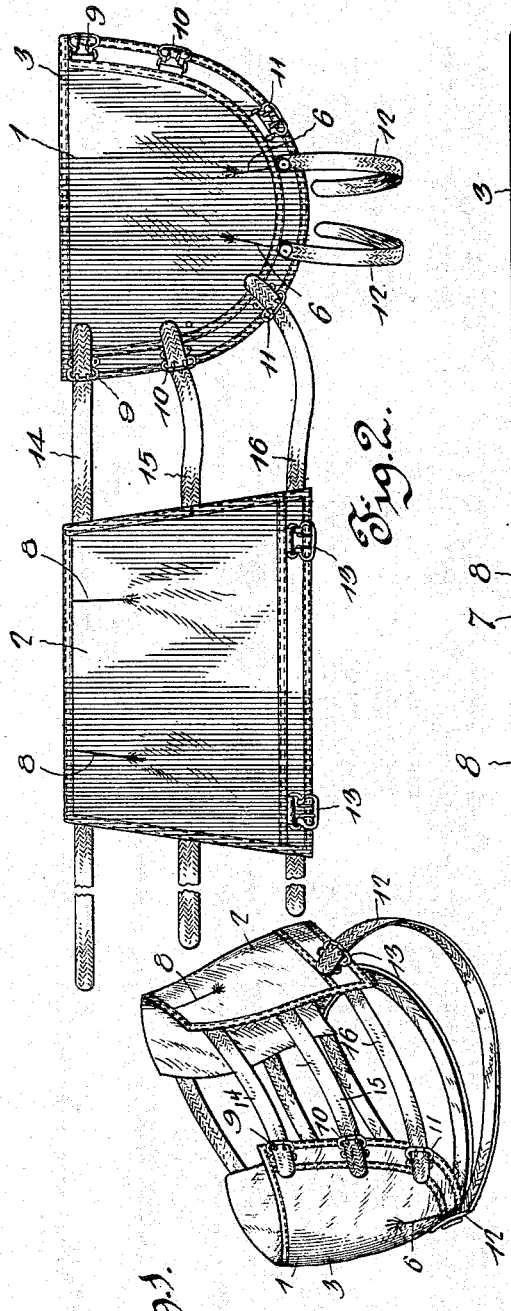

Fig. 1.

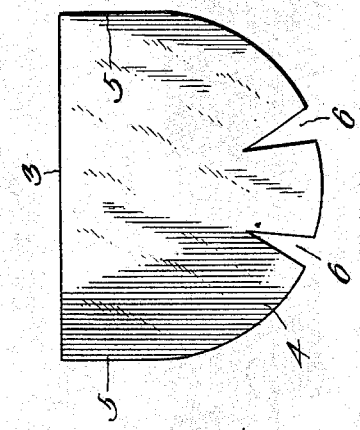

Fig. 4.

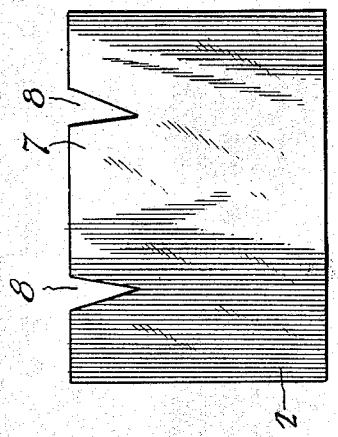

Fig. 3.

Witnesses
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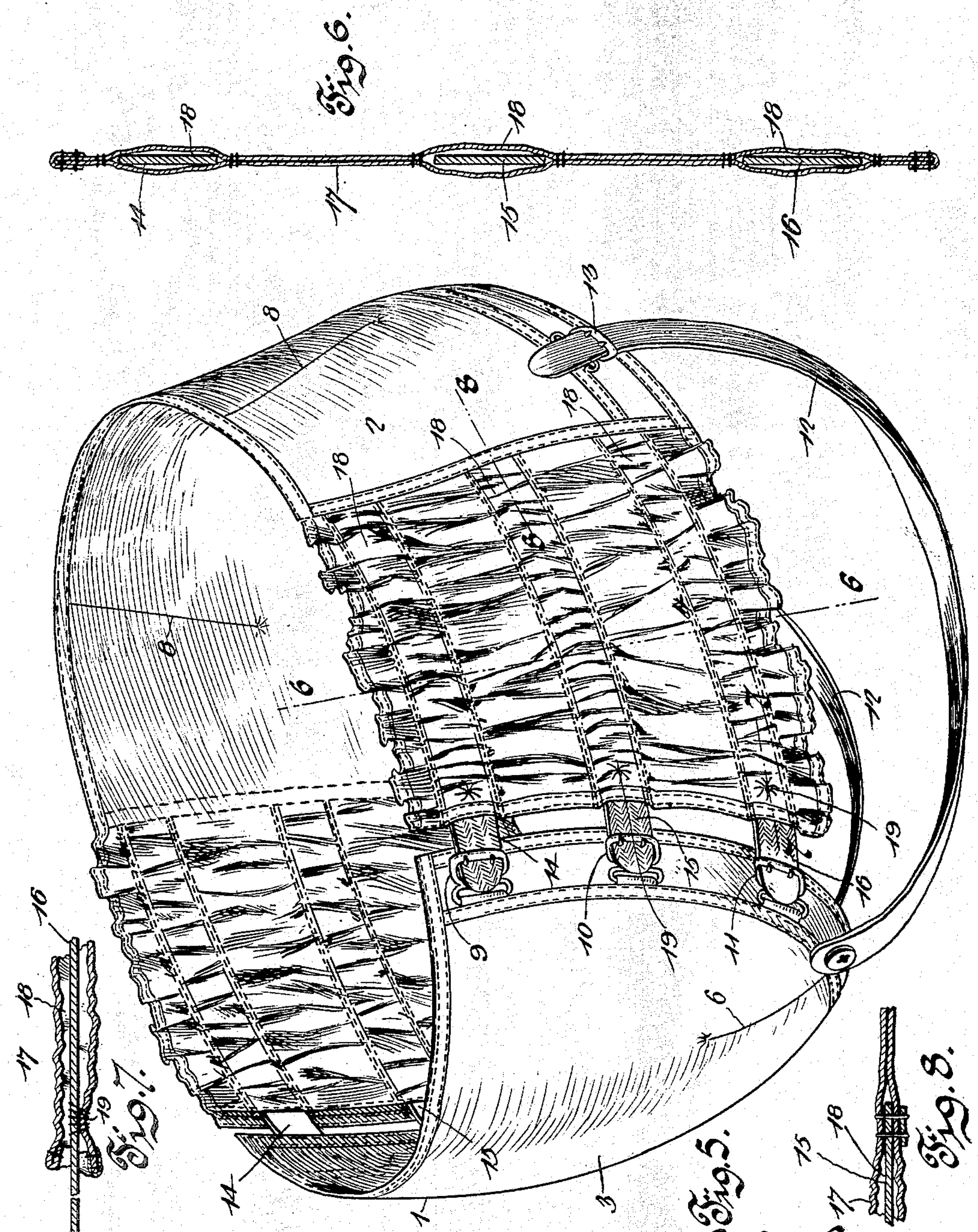

Witnesses
J. Frank Culverwell.
Chas. S. Hoyer.

C. Lush, Inventor.
By her Attorneys,
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CORNELIA LUSH, OF JACKSON, MINNESOTA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO D. P. MAITLAND, OF SAME PLACE.

ABDOMINAL BANDAGE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 647,665, dated April 17, 1900.

Application filed November 6, 1899. Serial No. 735,993. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CORNELIA LUSH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Jackson, in the county of Jackson and State of Minnesota, have invented a new and useful Abdominal Supporter, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to abdominal supporters; and the object of the same is to provide a light, strong, and durable device of this character which has a front section adapted to fit the curvature of the abdomen and be held down along the line of Poupart's ligaments and furnish a lift from below and to which is connected a back section of sufficient depth to bring it into apposition with the curves of the lumbar regions by upwardly-slanted adjustable elastic straps or bands for location over the hips to hold the figure in position and allow the body at this point free expansion to compensate for bloating and provides perfect adjustment to the wearer, with coolness and equalization of draft, said sections being also connected by perineum-straps which pass between the limbs, whereby a valuable aid in the treatment of hernia and prolapsus uteri is afforded by lifting the most pendent portion of the abdomen and the abdominal viscera from the pelvic organs and allowing the latter to regain their normal position.

The invention consists in the construction and arrangement of parts, which will be hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved supporter. Fig. 2 is an elevation of the improved supporter. Fig. 3 represents a plan view of the blank for the back section. Fig. 4 is a plan view of the blank for the front section. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the supporter, showing additional features. Fig. 6 is an enlarged transverse vertical section on the line 6 6 of Fig. 5. Fig. 7 is a section on the line 7 7 of Fig. 5. Fig. 8 is a section on the line 8 8 of Fig. 5.

Similar numerals of reference are employed to indicate corresponding parts in the several views.

The numerals 1 and 2 designate front and back sections, which are made up of any suitable light material, both sections adjacent their edges, and particularly at points where the fastening devices are to be applied, being reinforced by bindings or suitable strips to prevent tearing by the strain that may be brought to bear thereon and also prevent fraying of the said edges. The said sections are also intended to be made up in such manner as to produce a pleasing appearance and to embody features of lightness without detracting from either strength or durability. The nature of the material is not essential, and the section 1 has a top straight edge 3, primarily cut, as shown in Fig. 4, at the opposite side, prefererably in the arc of a circle, as at 4, the opposite terminals of the curve merging into straight end edge portions 5. Gores 6 are cut into the section 1 from the curved edge 4 at points about equally distant from the median line on opposite sides of the latter. The section 2 is primarily of rectangular shape, and through the side edge 7 thereof, which will become the top edge, and on opposite sides of the median line, gores 8 are cut. When the gores 6 are closed, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, and the opposite marginal edges securely fastened, the section 1 is thereby given a convexity which is greater at its lower portion or adjacent the said gores to make the said section conform to the contour of the abdomen, and particularly to the most pendent portion of the latter, adjacent the pelvis. When the gores 8 are closed, as shown also by Figs. 1 and 2, they reduce the longitudinal extent of the section 2 at its upper portion to give it a curvature of proper contour to fit the back adjacent the lumbar regions.

Secured to the opposite end edges 5 and the curved edge 4 of the section 1 are buckles or other similar devices 9, 10, and 11, arranged in series of three on each side of the center, the buckles 11 being adjacent the gores 6, and fastened to the lower portion of the said section 1 in line with the gores 6 are the front ends of perineum-straps 12, which may be of any suitable length and adapted to be adjustably connected to buckles 13 on the lower portion of the back section 2, adjacent the opposite ends of the latter. The series of three straps 14, 15, and 16 are also secured to each

end edge of the back section 2 and are adapted to be adjustably attached to the buckles 9, 10, and 11 on opposite portions of the section 1. These straps are all elastic, and therefore automatically adjustable, so as to permit the wearer of the supporter to have ease and comfort when the supporter is on the body by reason of the self-adjustment of the said straps to conform to the various positions of the body.

The supporter shown by Figs. 5, 6, 7, and 8 is identical in structure to that heretofore described, with the addition of shields 17 over the straps 14, 15, and 16 and located between the rear and front terminals of the sections 1 and 2 and particularly adapting the improved supporter for use by fleshy people and overcoming any inconvenience arising from the pressure or binding of said straps on the fatty tissues over the hips. Each shield comprises a double thickness of gathered material of a suitable nature, preferably continuous with the back section 2, and having pockets 18 therein to receive the straps 14, 15, and 16. The latter are fastened to the back section 2, as in the previously-described construction and clearly shown by Fig. 8, and the front extremity of the shield is fastened to the straps 14, 15, and 16 by stitches 19, as more fully shown by Fig. 7, so that the shields will regularly follow or be drawn with the said straps when the latter are adjusted. Except at the fastening-points just mentioned the straps 14, 15, and 16 are free for elastic adjustment their entire length and move easily in the pockets 18. The shields do not in the least detract from the supporting effectiveness of the improved device, and the gathered construction permits the shields to be automatically adjusted with the said straps 14, 15, and 16 and give a soft effect on the flesh above the hips and a greater bearing for assisting in maintaining the position of the section 2.

When the supporter is applied, the section 1 is adjusted over the abdomen as far down as possible over the most pendent portion thereof and along the line of the Poupart's ligaments. The back section 2 is at a higher elevation than the front section 1 and is disposed over the lumbar regions, and when the straps 14, 15, and 16 are connected to the buckles 9, 10, and 11 and the straps 12 to the buckles 13 the said sections will be prevented from having an outward movement or becoming displaced, and the straps 14, 15, and 16 will have an upward slant or pull on the section 1, thereby drawing the latter equally at both sides and causing a firm but comfortable pressure or support on the abdomen. This is particularly true of the lower straps 16, and the lift on the front section 1 is instituted with beneficial results, and the depression or weight of the abdominal viscera is held up off the pelvic organs. Furthermore, the perineum-straps are held separate and prevented from producing an unpleasant sensation and at the same time by their pressure will force displaced pelvic organs back into their proper position. The supporter can be easily applied to or withdrawn from the body, and it will be found exceptionally effective in the treatment of hernia in its various forms and also of prolapsus uteri.

The improved device is susceptible of a wide range of modification as long as the essential principle of lifting continuously the front section by the upwardly-slanted side straps of the back is preserved.

It is obvious that changes in the proportion, size, and minor details of construction may be resorted to without in the least departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is—

1. In a supporter, the combination of a front section having a lower rounded edge with gores formed therein at points about equally distant from the central vertical line of the section and on opposite sides of said line, to thereby give the sections a normal concavo-convex contour, and a lower reduction of width, a back section of primarily-rectangular form, having an upper reduced portion produced by gores located equally on opposite sides of the central vertical line thereof to cause the said back section to conform in shape to the lumbar region, the back section being elevated above the plane of the front section when applied, upper, lower and intermediate yielding straps extending downwardly from the opposite side edges of the back section and adjustably connected to similar portions of the front section, the attachment of the lower straps to the front section being well down on the lower curved edge of the front section near the gores of the latter, to produce a steady upward pull, and perineum-straps attached to the lower reduced portion of the front section adjacent the center and adjustably connected to the lower portion of the back section adjacent the ends of the latter, the devices for adjustably connecting the upper, lower and intermediate side straps of the two sections and located on the front section, regularly following the curvature of the said front section, and the lower straps longer than those above.

2. In a supporter, the combination of a front section having a lower rounded edge with gores formed therein at points about equally distant from the central vertical line of the section and on opposite sides of said line, to thereby give the sections a normal concavo-convex contour, and a lower reduction of width, a back section of primarily-rectangular form, having an upper reduced portion produced by gores located equally on opposite sides of the central vertical line thereof to cause the said back section to conform in shape to the lumbar region, the back section being elevated above the plane of the front section when applied, gathered shields attached to the opposite ends of the back sec-

tion and extending almost completely to the opposite ends of the front section, the said shields being provided with pockets therethrough, upper, lower and intermediate elastic straps secured to the opposite ends of the back section and extending through the pockets in the shields for adjustable connection to the opposite extremities of the front section, the said straps being attached to the shields adjacent the front ends of the latter, the attachment of the lower straps to the front section being well down on the lower curved edge of the front section near the gores of the latter, to produce a steady upward pull, and perineum-straps attached to the lower reduced portion of the front section adjacent the center and adjustably connected to the lower portion of the back section adjacent the ends of the latter, the devices for adjustably connecting the upper, lower and intermediate side straps of the two sections and located on the front section, regularly following the curvature of the said front section, and the lower straps longer than those above.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

CORNELIA LUSH.

Witnesses:
F. B. FABER,
JOSEPH G. MYKEL.