

Specification of John Harwood : apparatus for giving expansion to the chest.

Contributors

Harwood, John.

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A.D. 1841 N^o 9117.

S P E C I F I C A T I O N

OF

JOHN HARWOOD.

APPARATUS FOR GIVING EXPANSION TO
THE CHEST.

L O N D O N :

PRINTED BY GEORGE E. EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,

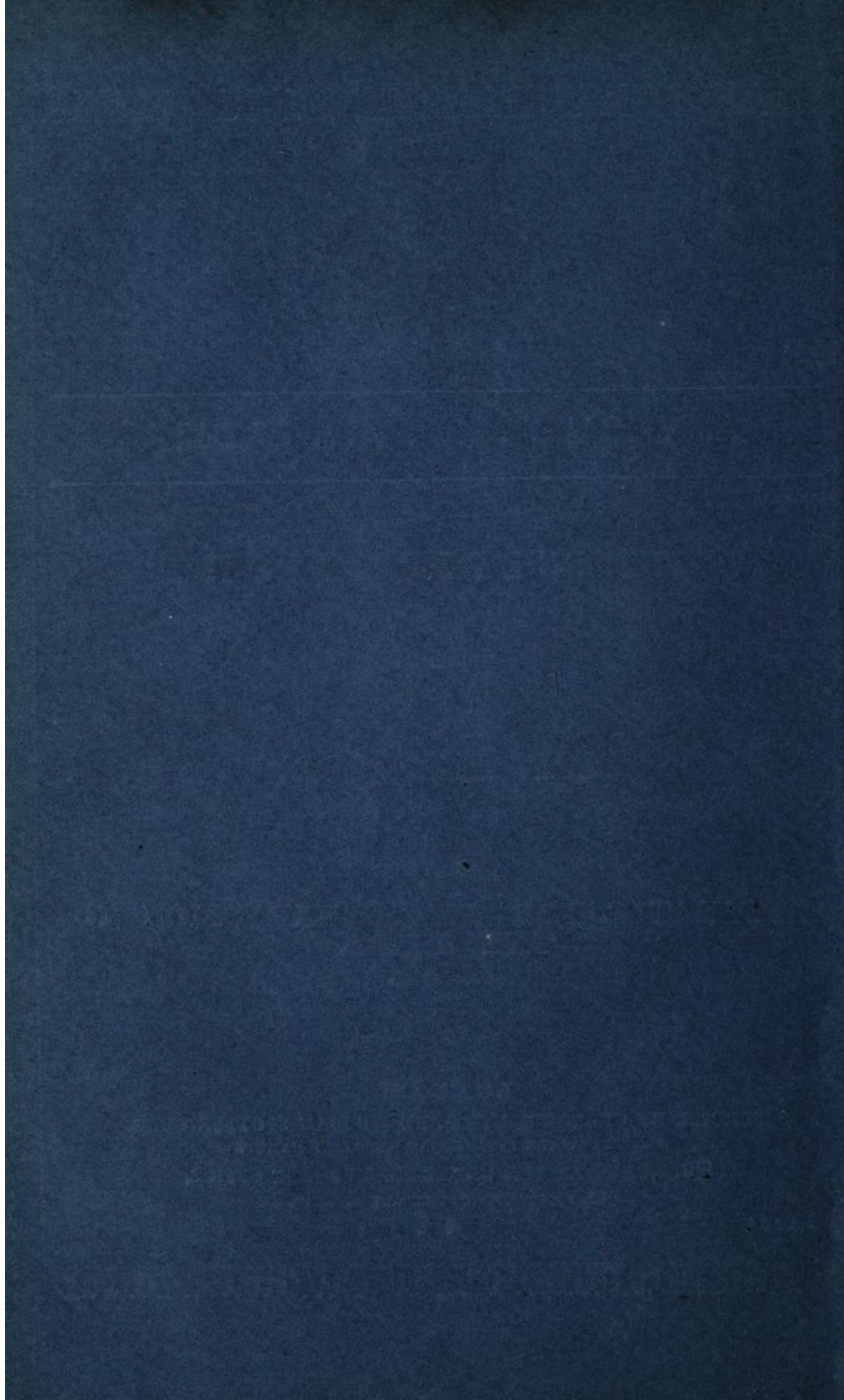
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A.D. 1841 N° 9117.

Apparatus for Giving Expansion to the Chest.

HARWOOD'S SPECIFICATION.

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, I, JOHN HARWOOD, of Great Portland Street, in the County of Middlesex, Gentleman, send greeting.

WHEREAS Her present most Excellent Majesty Queen Victoria, by Her
5 Letters Patent under the Great Seal of Great Britain, bearing date at Westminster, the Seventh day of October, in the fifth year of Her reign, did, for Herself, Her heirs and successors, give and grant unto me, the said John Harwood, my exors, admors, and assigns, Her especial licence, full power, sole privilege and authority, that I, the said John Harwood, my exors,
10 admors, and assigns, and such others as I, the said John Harwood, my exors, admors, or assigns, should at any time agree with, and no others, from time to time and at all times thereafter during the term of years therein expressed, should and lawfully might make, use, exercise, and vend, within that part of Her Majesty's United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland
15 called England, Her Dominion of Wales, and the Town of Berwick-upon-Tweed, my Invention of "AN IMPROVED MEANS OF GIVING EXPANSION TO THE
20 CHEST;" in which said Letters Patent is contained a proviso that I, the said John Harwood, shall cause a particular description of the nature of my said Invention, and the manner in which the same is to be performed, to be inrolled in Her Majesty's High Court of Chancery within six calendar months next and immediately after the date of the said in part recited Letters Patent, as in

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and by the same, reference being thereunto had, will more fully and at large appear.

NOW KNOW YE, that in pursuance of the said proviso, I, the said John Harwood, do hereby declare that the nature of my said Invention, and the manner in which the same is to be performed, are fully set forth and 5 described in the following Specification thereof, reference being had to the Drawing hereunto annexed, that is to say :—

Whereas it is necessary to the due expansion of the chest (on which the healthful action of the entire body depends) that the shoulders should habitually have a backward and downward position or inclination, and such 10 position or inclination of the shoulders contributes essentially to the perfection of the shape and figure of the body, and to an erect and graceful carriage. Now the nature of my said means of giving expansion to the chest consists in providing the shoulders with certain artificial aids or supports, calculated not only to induce them to assume the proper retracted and depressed position or 15 inclination, but to sustain them in that position or inclination without painful or inconvenient pressure or impeding the free action of the muscles of the arms, shoulders, and back, and the Drawing hereunto annexed represents a set of the said artificial aids or supports when connected together by suitable bands and belts as applied to the body. A, A, are two shoulder pieces com- 20 posed of thin plates of metal, wood, horn, whalebone, or other solid and suitable material, curved so as to fit easily and without inconvenient pressure upon the shoulders, the anterior portions *a, a*, placed in front, arching from the back over the shoulders or upper part of the arms, and the posterior *b, b*, being widened in order to prevent a broad surface of support for the shoulder blades 25 over and upon which they are placed, the whole being covered with leather or other soft material or materials. Or instead of the shoulder pieces being made entirely of one continuous surface of metal or other solid material, with a covering as aforesaid, they may consist of a framework only of metal or other solid material, and be filled in with suitable soft materials. The metal or 30 other solid material used in forming the shoulder pieces may be of one breadth and thickness throughout, or of varying breadths and thicknesses, and when the framework is of metal or other solid material, it may be of any convenient form, as round, flattened, oval, &c. And instead of such framework being filled in wholly with soft materials, it may be partly filled in with plates of 35 metal or other solid substance, secured in any suitable way to the framework; the shoulder pieces may also be wholly or chiefly composed of strong leather, or any other like strong substance. The portions of the shoulder pieces *a, a*, and *b, b*, may be also varied in size and form, or modified in make so as to

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suit any peculiarities of structure in individuals. As, for example, they may be made longer or shorter, or made perfectly flat, or have any degree of convexity given to them. They may also, in addition to the coverings recommended, be padded throughout with leather or other soft material, or at any particular
5 part or parts where desirable. B, B, are elastic bands which are attached to the posterior ends of the shoulder pieces A, A, and these bands crossing each other at D, are secured to a waistband or belt E, of any suitable width, each being so secured at the side of the body opposite to that of the shoulder pieces to which it is attached. The waistband E may be fastened in front or at the
10 back with hooks, clasps, or by any other suitable means, and may be further secured by loops, supplementary bands, buttons, hooks, or other convenient means, to the trowsers, drawers, or other lower garments, or to the stays. F, F, are elastic bands which are attached to the parts *a, a*, of the shoulder pieces, and passing downwards are secured to the belt E, or lower garments or stays.
15 The bands B, B, and F, F, may be adjusted to any length to suit the wearer, and the waistband E is made also adjustable to any girth by sewing, hooking, or any other suitable means. G, G, are small extra bands which hang loose from the outer margin of the shoulder pieces, in order to enable the wearer to readjust the latter easily should they happen to be displaced by any unusual
20 movement of the arms. The effect of these various arrangements is to impart at once great support to the trunk and a right bearing and action to all the bones and muscles of and connected with the upper extremities, and so to prevent, diminish, or remove without inconvenience that stooping and protrusion of the shoulders of which weakness in these muscles or distortion of the body is
25 the usual cause. Again, the pieces A, A, being entirely separate or disunited, or only slightly connected together by the back bands at the point (D) where they cross each other, each shoulder piece admits of the natural play of the shoulder which it sustains independently of the other, while at the same time the oblique direction given to the back bands from the right shoulder to the
30 left side of the body, and from the left shoulder to the right side of the body, opposes sufficient resistance to any shifting of the points of support, and affords adequate support to each shoulder for the purposes aforesaid. Farther, there are no straps or bands of any kind passed under the arms to the detriment of these parts, all pressure on which is injurious, and thereby a great defect
35 common to most other contrivances for the retraction of the shoulders is wholly avoided.

And having now described the nature of my said Invention, and the manner in which the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim as new is the means of giving expansion to the chest by artificial aids or supports of the

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construction represented in the Drawing hereunto annexed and herein-before described, of whatever suitable materials such aids or supports may be made, and however the forms and details thereof may be modified or varied.

And such my said Invention being, to the best of my knowledge and belief, entirely new, and never before used within that part of Her Majesty's United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland called England, Her Dominion of Wales, or the Town of Berwick-upon-Tweed, I do hereby declare this to be my Specification of the same, and that I do verily believe this my said Specification doth comply in all respects, fully and without reserve or disguise, with the proviso in the said herein-before in part recited Letters Patent contained. Wherefore I hereby claim to maintain exclusive right and privilege to my said Invention.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal, this Seventh day of April, One thousand eight hundred and forty-two.

JOHN (L.S.) HARWOOD. 15

SENIOR.

AND BE IT REMEMBERED, that on the Seventh day of April, in the year of our Lord 1842, the aforesaid John Harwood came before our said Lady the Queen in Her Chancery, and acknowledged the Specification aforesaid, and all and every thing therein contained and specified, in form above written. And also the Specification aforesaid was stamped according to the tenor of the Statute made for that purpose.

Inrolled the Seventh day of April, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and forty-two.

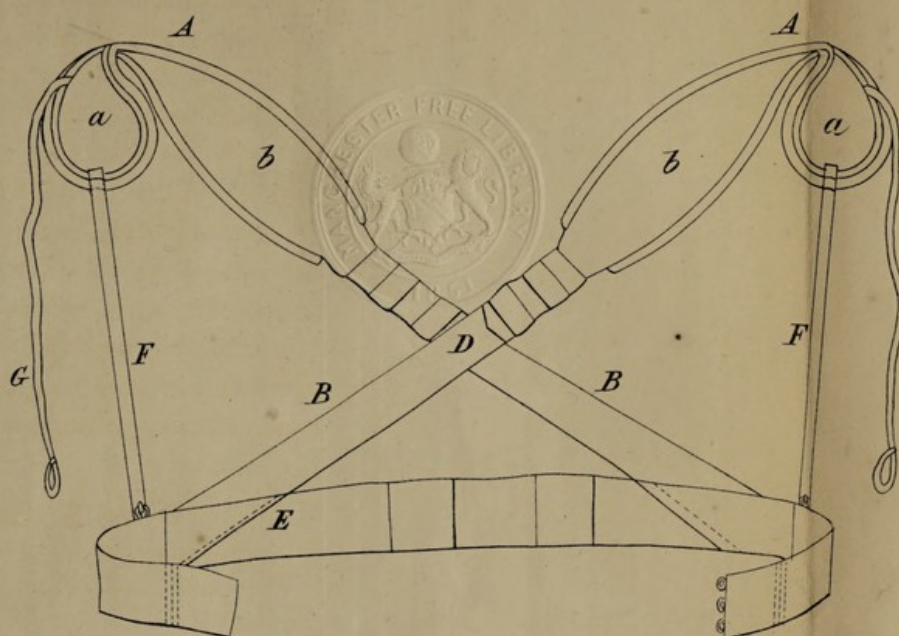
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HARWOOD'S SPECIFICATION.

(1 SHEET)



The enrolled drawing is colored.

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