

H. B. CUNNINGHAM.
NURSING ATTACHMENT.
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949,414.

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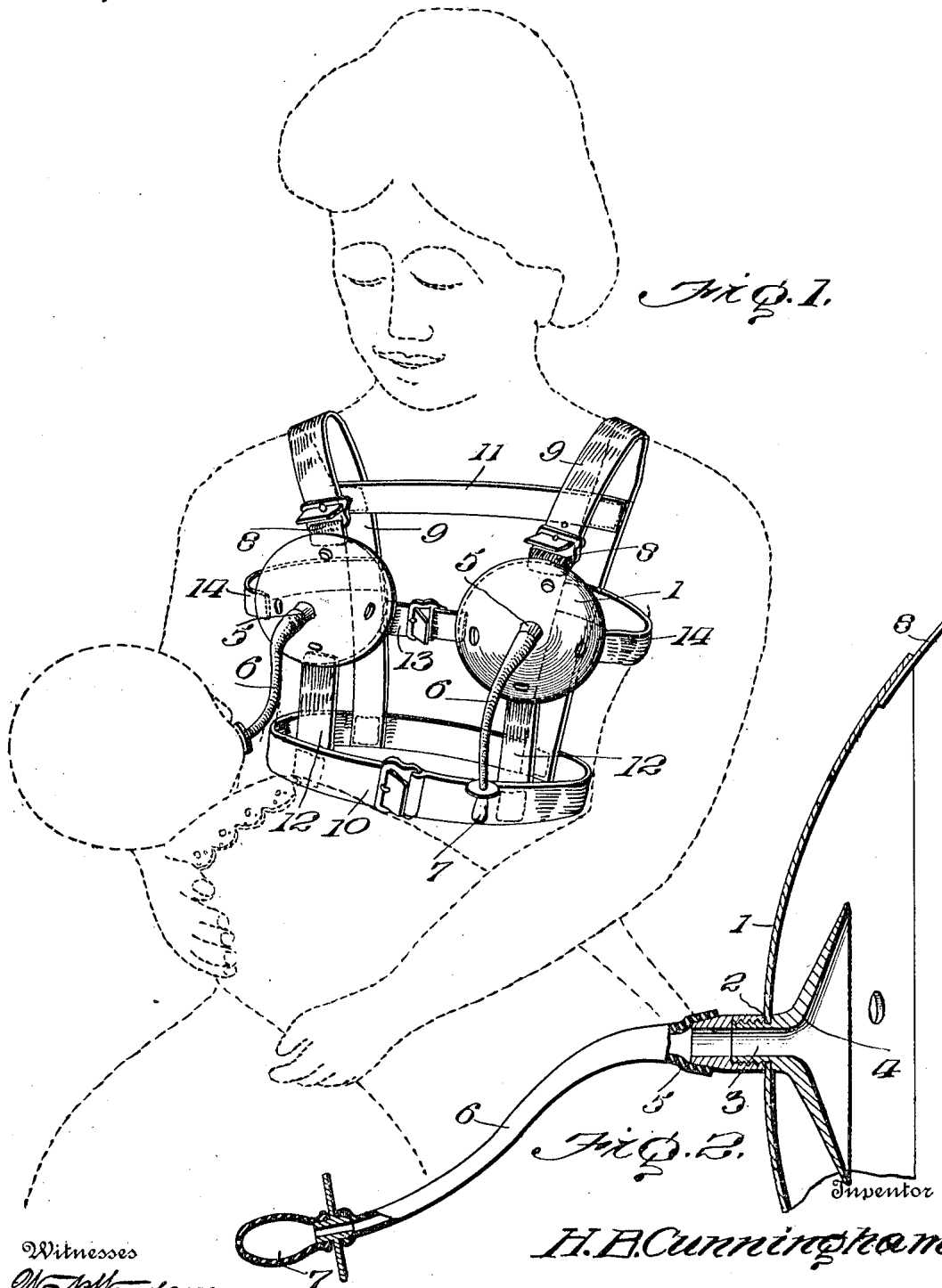


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HUGH B. CUNNINGHAM, citizen of the United States, residing at Arnot, in the county of Tioga and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Nursing Attachments, of which the following is a specification.

The primary object of this invention is an improved construction of device for use by mothers with nursing infants, and designed particularly to avoid unpleasant and embarrassing situations in which mothers are sometimes placed in public places by the necessary exposure of the breast in suckling the child.

With this and other objects in view, as will more fully appear as the description proceeds, the invention consists essentially in a nursing attachment designed to be worn over the breasts and arranged for the detachable connection thereto of the nipple on a tube of any desired length, the nipple or nipples, according to whether there be one or two employed, being worn inside of the shirtwaist or other outer garment and it being only necessary when the child is to be nursed, to slip the nipple out of the waist, thereby avoiding the necessity of exposing the person. And the invention also consists in certain constructions and arrangements of the parts that I shall hereinafter fully describe and claim.

For a full understanding of the invention and the merits thereof and also to acquire a knowledge of the details of construction and the means for effecting the result, reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view illustrating the application of the device. Fig. 2 is a detail sectional view.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the drawings by the same reference characters.

My improved nursing attachment embodies a pair of breast shields 1, of some flexible absorbent material which will take up perspiration, the same being preferably perforated, and each of these shields 1 is formed with a preferably centrally located opening 2, through which the threaded stem 3 of a cup 4 extends, said cup being designed, in the use of the device, to be placed over the nipple of the woman's breast.

5 designates an interiorly threaded cap which is designed to screw on to the stem 3 of the cup 4, said cap being preferably angular, longitudinally considered, so that it will not unnecessarily bulge out the waist of the wearer. A tube 6 of rubber or the like, of any desired length, is connected at one end to the cap 5 and is connected at its other end to a nursing nipple 7.

It is to be understood that there may be two of the caps 5 and their concomitant parts employed, although the detachable connection between the cap and the stem 3 will, of course, readily permit one of these caps with its tube and nipple to be used for both breasts.

In order to hold the nursing device in position I have devised a support therefor. Said support comprises tabs 8 which extend upwardly from and which are secured in any desired way to the respective shields 1, the upper end of said tabs being detachably connected by buckles, as shown, to the front ends of shoulder straps 9. The rear ends of these shoulder straps are connected to a belt 10 which is designed to encircle the wearer's waist just below the breasts and preferably at a point where the device may be adjusted without removing the corsets. Preferably, the shoulder straps are connected together by a cross brace 11. The front ends of the belt 10 may be connected together by a buckle, as shown, and each of its ends is connected to a shield 1 by means of a tab 12. The shields are directly connected together by means of relatively short tabs 13 connected by a buckle, as shown, and the shields are also preferably connected to the shoulder straps near the rear lower ends thereof by means of other tabs 14.

From the foregoing description in connection with the accompanying drawings, the operation of my improved nursing attachment will be apparent.

In the practical use of the device, the shields 1 are adjusted over the breasts with the cups 4 directly over the nipples and the cap or caps 5 are then attached, the nursing nipples 7 and all other parts being hidden beneath the wearer's waist. Whenever the child requires nursing it is only necessary to slide one of the nursing nipples 7 out from the waist and the child can obtain its proper nourishment without the exposure of the mother's person and the consequent embarrassment which is thus often occasioned.

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

- 5 1. A nursing attachment embodying a pair of flexible shields adapted to be placed over a woman's breasts, said shields being respectively formed with center openings, cups adapted to be held over the nipples of the breasts and formed with threaded stems protruding forwardly through said openings,
10 an interiorly threaded cap adapted to screw on either of said stems, a nursing nipple, and a tubular flexible connection between said nipple and cap.
- 15 2. A nursing attachment comprising a pair of shields, shoulder straps connected to said

shields, a bust belt connected to said shoulder straps and shields, an adjustable connection between said shields, cups provided with stems extending forwardly through said shields, a cap adapted for detachable connection with either stem, a nursing nipple, and a tubular flexible connection between said nipple and cap.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

HUGH B. CUNNINGHAM. [I. S.]

Witnesses:

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