

(No Model.)

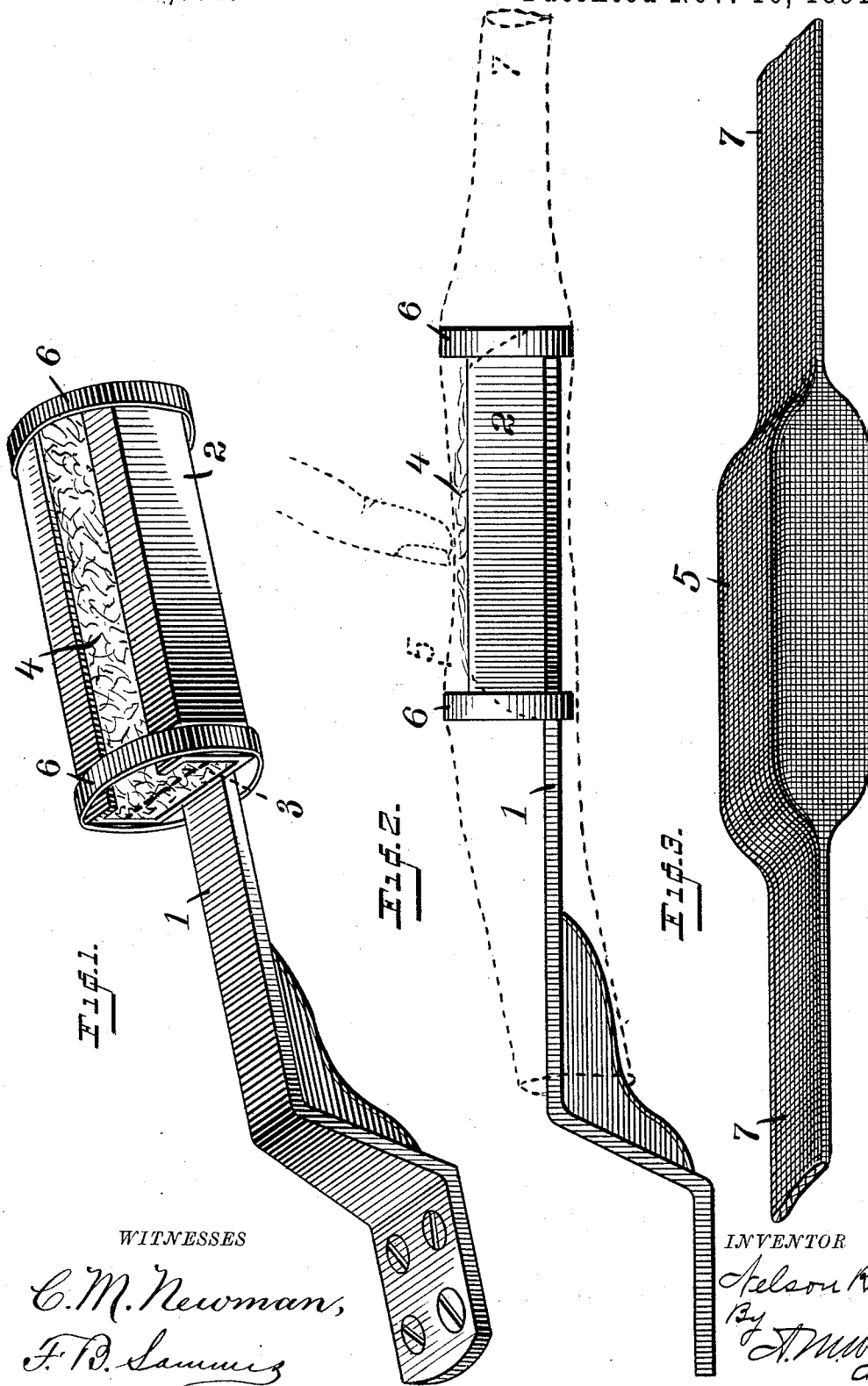
2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

N. R. ALLEN.

DEVICE FOR FILLING SURGICAL BANDAGES, &c.

No. 462,974.

Patented Nov. 10, 1891.



WITNESSES

C. M. Newman,  
F. B. Sammis

INVENTOR

Nelson R. Allen  
By J. M. Wood  
att.

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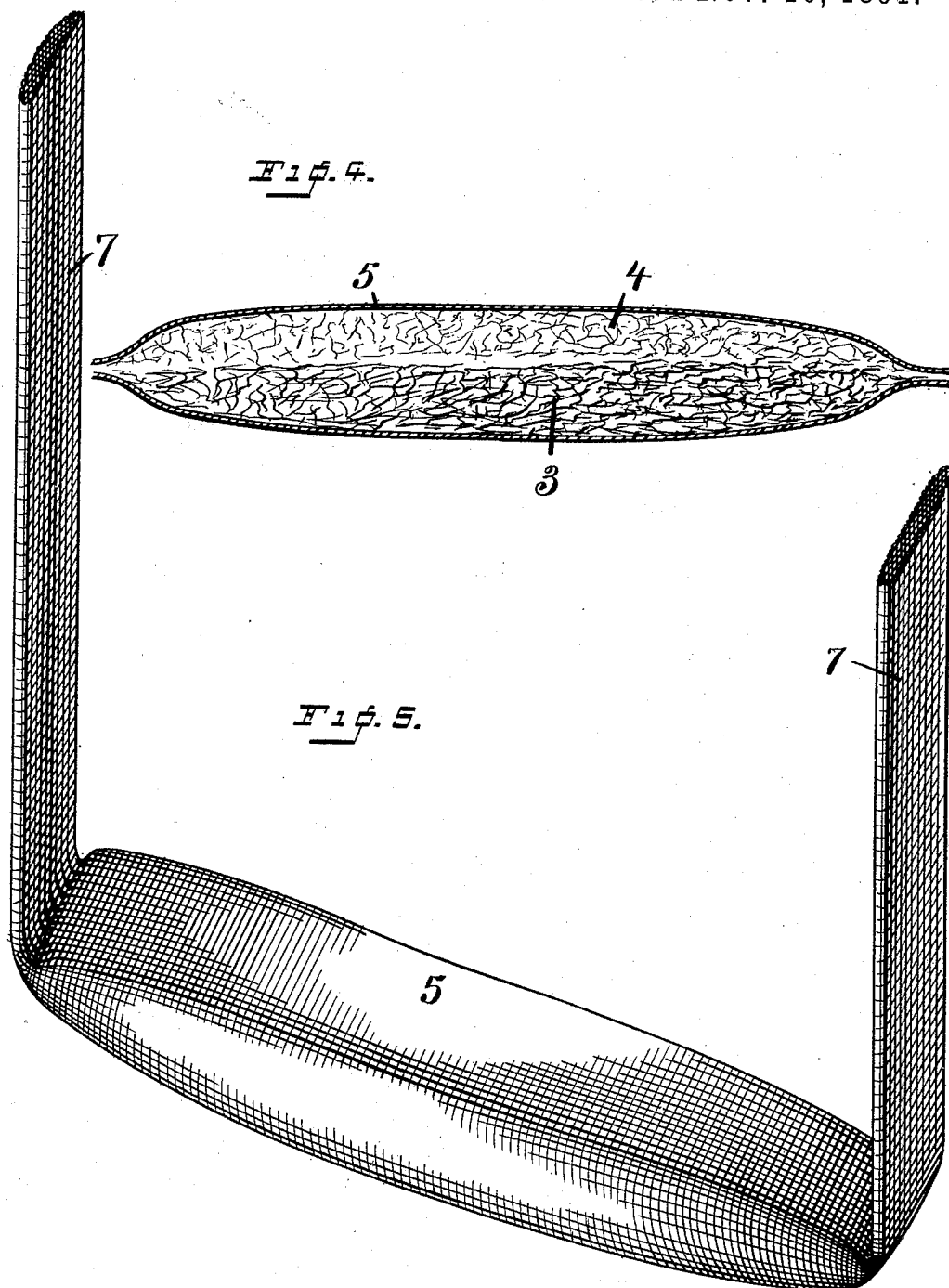
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By J. M. Wooster atty.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

NELSON R. ALLEN, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO DE WITT  
C. HALL, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## DEVICE FOR FILLING SURGICAL BANDAGES, &c.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 462,974, dated November 10, 1891.

Application filed April 9, 1891. Serial No. 388,233. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, NELSON R. ALLEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bridgeport, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Devices for Filling Catamenial Sacks and other Articles; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to filling devices for that class of articles ordinarily known as "sanitary towels"—that is, articles adapted for general surgical and therapeutic uses—but more especially for use by ladies as protectors for under-clothing, bed-clothing, &c., the object being to produce an inexpensive means for readily introducing the filling into such articles, so that the latter will be smooth and even and may be worn without the slightest inconvenience.

With these ends in view my invention consists in the novel device for filling an absorptive pad or sanitary towel, which I will now describe.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective of the arm and holder in which the material to form the pad is laid, the material from which the pad is formed being in place ready for the drawing on of the knitted case; Fig. 2, a side elevation, showing in dotted lines the knitted case drawn over the holder and arm and the manner in which the completed pad is removed therefrom; Fig. 3, a perspective of the pad as removed from the arm and holder; Fig. 4, a longitudinal section showing the two layers of absorbent and non-absorbent material of which the pad is composed; and Fig. 5 is a perspective, on an enlarged scale, of the completed pad with the connections for attachment to a belt.

I am aware that wipers have been made consisting of waste, rags, &c., and also that sanitary towels have been made consisting of a sliver of absorbent cotton inclosed within a braided seamless fabric. It is found in use, however, that a braided fabric is much less

comfortable to wear than a soft knitted fabric, and also that pads composed of absorbent material are more expensive and very much less desirable than pads composed of an inner layer of absorbent material and an outer layer of non-absorbent material. Such a filling is, however, difficult to introduce smoothly into a narrow elastic tube.

My present invention enables me to produce a pad in which the cost of production both in material and labor is reduced to the minimum and the objectionable features of other articles of this class are wholly done away with.

1 denotes an arm adapted for attachment to a bench or in any convenient position for use. Upon the outer end of this arm is placed a holder 2, ordinarily made of sheet metal, said holder being open at the ends and closed at the bottom and sides, and partially closed at the top, leaving, however, sufficient space at the top for convenient insertion of the material of which the pad is composed. The pad consists of a bottom layer 3 of a non-absorbent material, preferably in practice ordinary cotton-batting, which in use becomes the outer layer of the pad, and an upper layer 4 consisting of absorbent material, ordinarily common absorbent cotton, which in practice becomes the inner layer—i. e., the portion of the pad placed in contact with the person.

5 denotes a knitted tubular casing, which is made in long lengths, and in use is preferably unwound from a roll, although the manner in which the casing is furnished to the holder forms no portion of my present invention. The bottom and upper layers are placed in position in the holder and then the casing is drawn on over the holder and the arm. The casing in practice is very elastic, being knitted loosely from soft fine yarn, so that it will stretch on over the holder readily. At both ends of the holder are preferably placed rings 6, over which the casing is drawn and which prevent it from catching the material in the holder and drawing it forward. Having drawn the casing over the holder and arm as far as may be required to form a suitable attaching-strip 7 at one end of the pad, the casing is severed on the other side at suitable dis-

tance from the holder to give sufficient length to the other attaching-strip. The operator then presses down the top of the casing upon the material within the holder and slides the casing off from the holder, moving the pad with it in the manner indicated in Figs. 2 and 3.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

The herein-described holder for filling sanitary bandages, consisting of a suitable support or arm and a hollow holder 2, open at the end and having a longitudinal lateral

opening through which the holder may be filled with material in layers and through which said material may be engaged to cause its withdrawal, together with the inclosing tubular fabric, substantially as set forth.

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

NELSON R. ALLEN.

Witnesses:

A. M. WOOSTER,  
INA M. NICKERSON.