

No. 720,890.

PATENTED FEB. 17, 1903.

J. R. & H. CAMPBELL.

SPONGE.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 27, 1902.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

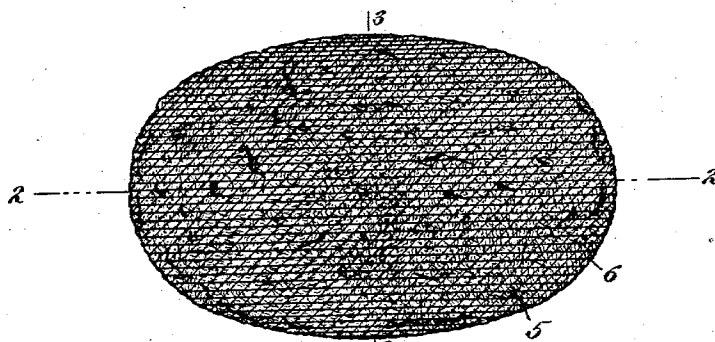


Fig. 2.

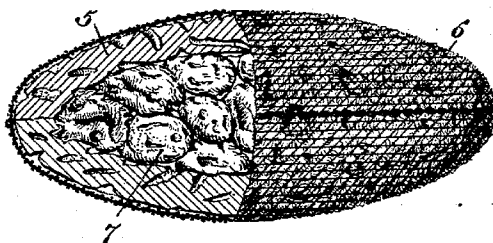


Fig. 3.

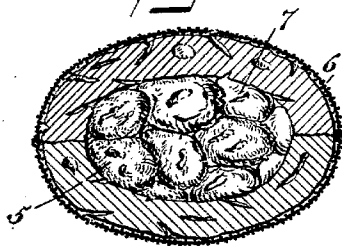


Fig. 4.



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SPONGE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 720,890, dated February 17, 1903.

Application filed June 27, 1902. Serial No. 113,429. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOHN R. CAMPBELL and HILDA CAMPBELL, citizens of the United States, and residents of New York, borough of Manhattan, county of New York, and State of New York, have made and invented certain new and useful Improvements in Sponges, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to an improvement in sponges adapted for use in the toilet and for other purposes, the object being to provide an article of this kind or character which while retaining all the advantages of the natural sponge will at the same time be far cheaper, more cleanly, and in many ways far more desirable. Further, it has been designed as an improvement upon the article for which we made application for Letters Patent on the 15th day of April, 1902, which application bears Serial No. 103,071. In that application is described a sponge comprising a body consisting of small pieces or sections of natural sponge inclosed within a sack consisting of netted fabric snugly fitting the same, the threads of the fabric being coated with a waterproofing compound to prevent the shrinkage thereof and the consequent rotting and breaking. While such an article possesses many advantages over the natural sponge—as, for instance, the readiness with which the small pieces may be cleansed of the dirt or other foreign substances accumulated during the natural and gradual growth of the sponge, the decreased cost of the same, the cleansing frictional surface imparted thereto by the netting, &c.—we have found from experience in the manufacture and sale thereof that by reason of the difference in shade or color of these small pieces or sections of sponge of which the body of the article is comprised, and which pieces or sections result from the trimming and clipping of the natural sponge, materially detracts from the appearance of the finished article and also the commercial value of the same. Further, from the continued use of an article so constructed the edges or corners of the small pieces work through the meshes of the netted fabric, lending to the article an unsightly appearance. To overcome these defects, we have devised a sponge consisting, preferably, of two sheets or sections of sponge, which when properly

associated and contained within the netted fabric form a receptacle which is subsequently filled with the small pieces or sections, the latter in the finished article being completely hidden from view by the larger sheets or sections, practically forming an envelop or cover for the same, the said sheets or sections of sponge being preferably cut or sliced from one large piece, and therefore corresponding in shade or color.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view of our improved sponge. Fig. 2 is an edge view thereof, partly in elevation and partly in section and taken on the line 2 2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a sectional view taken on the line 3 3 of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a view of one of the sections or sheets of sponge employed for covering or concealing the inner small pieces or sections.

Referring to the drawings, 5 5 represent sheets or sections of sponge, preferably cut or sliced from the same sponge in order that they may correspond in color, texture, &c., and of such size that when properly bent or curved they will be nicely contained within the sack 6, hereinafter referred to, the space between the sheets or sections 5 being filled with the small pieces or sections 7. By reason of the small cost thereof we prefer to use as a filling the clippings resulting from trimming and shaping the natural sponges, which clippings have heretofore to a great extent been discarded as a waste material or product, the difference in texture or color being of no consequence, as the same are completely hidden from view in the finished article by the surrounding or inclosing sheets or sections 5 5. The containing sack 6 is made of open net-work, as such allows of the contraction and expansion of the contained sponge and readily yields in all directions to preserve the shape or form of the finished article. As described in the application before referred to, it is preferably made in one piece, stitched at its edges, excepting where folded. In properly assembling the several parts of the article this sack is first stitched at one end and along one side opposite to the folded side, one end being left open. The two sliced sections 5 5 are then bent or curved into somewhat tubular form and inserted within the sack 6, or, being placed face to face, are in-

serted within the sack and then separated, forming a cavity or receptacle, into which the small pieces or sections 7 are stuffed. The separated portions of the edges of the sections 5 are then closed together and the open end of the sack stitched or sewed. In the finished article the outer or surrounding sheets or sections 5, presenting their broad surfaces to the netting, do not work through the meshes of the latter, and being cut or sliced from the same sponge present a uniform color throughout.

It will of course be understood without further illustration or description that instead of using two large sheets 5 5 one only may be used, or, if desired, three, although we have found in practice that it is much more desirable to use the two, as described.

Having fully described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The herein-described sponge, the same comprising a body consisting of outer sheets of natural sponge surrounding and inclosing smaller pieces or sections, the whole being contained within a sack of netted fabric snugly fitting the same.

Signed at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, this 25th day of June, A. D. 1902.

JOHN R. CAMPBELL.
HILDA CAMPBELL.

Witnesses:

GEORGE COOK,
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