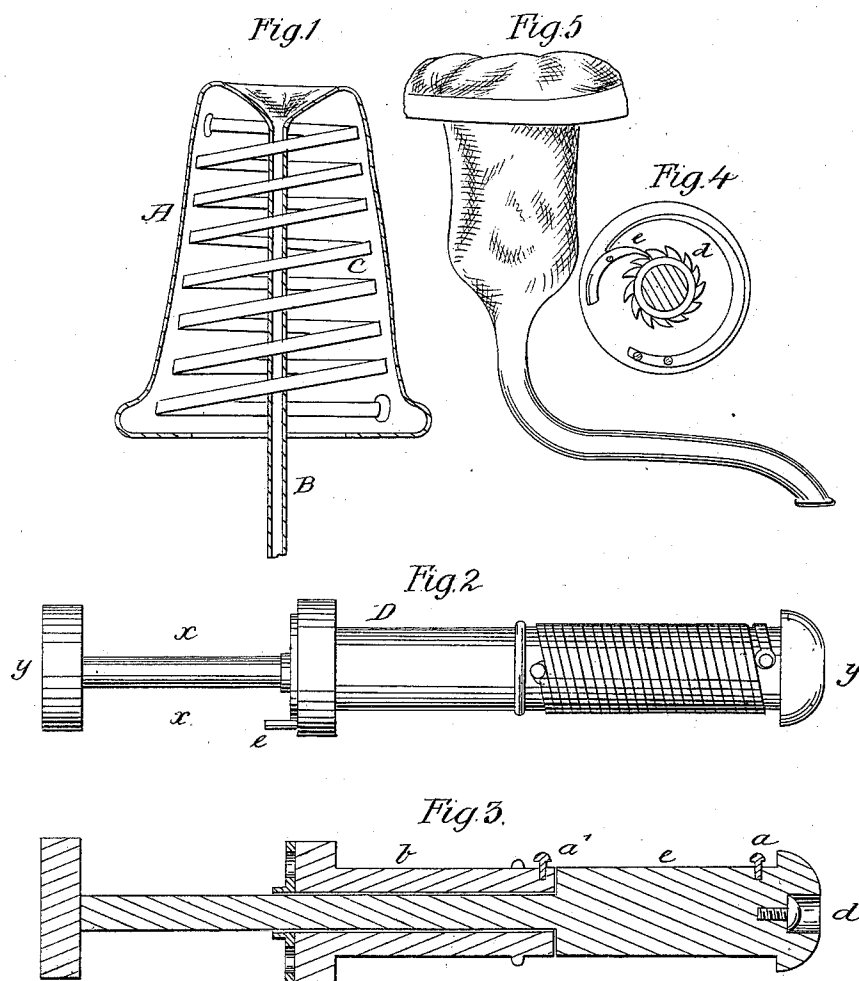


C. R. Gorgas,
Pessary,
N^o 80,163, *Patented July 21, 1868.*



Witnesses

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C. R. GORGAS, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

Letters Patent No. 80,163, dated July 21, 1868.

IMPROVED PESSARY.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, C. R. GORGAS, of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings, and State of New York, have invented a new and improved Pessary; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

The nature of my invention relates to improvements in apparatus for the cure of "*prolapsus uteri*," whereby it is designed to provide an improved pessary which shall be more effectual in its operation, and which may be worn without annoyance to the patient, and it consists of an India-rubber bag or cap, provided with a rubber tube, which is to be distended by a flat spiral spring, and inserted into the vagina, and also in an implement for inserting the spring within the India-rubber cap, as will be more fully described on reference to the accompanying drawings, wherein is shown in—

Figure 1 a vertical sectional elevation of the rubber cap and tube, distended by the spring.

Figure 2 represents a side view of the implement for inserting the spring, and for inserting the pessary into the vagina.

Figure 3 represents a central longitudinal section of the same.

Figure 4 represents a cross-section of the same, and

Figure 5 represents a view of the pessary in the position to be inserted in the vagina.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A represents an India-rubber cap, made of a thin and delicate quality, and provided with the central pendent tube B, of the form shown in the drawings. The said cap is designed to be distended by a delicate flat spiral spring, *c*, when placed in the vagina of the patient, which spring is inserted by means of the implement D, as will be presently described, and which will press the said cap in all its parts, or nearly so, against the sides of the vagina, so as to hold it therein and sustain the downward pressure of the womb upon the top of it, and by the constant tendency of the spring also in an upward direction, it is designed to greatly assist the efforts of nature to restore the womb to its natural position. The strength of the spring may be graduated in degree to the condition of the disease, being stronger or lighter, as required.

In fig. 5, I have shown the position of my improved pessary when it is to be inserted, with the upper portion doubled down through the centre of the bottom portion. While in this shape, the base is inserted by the hand into the mouth of the vagina as far as may be desired, and it assumes therein the position shown in fig. 1, or if the womb be so low down as not to admit the pessary to be fully straightened up, the top portion will be pressed up until it bears against the womb, and the tendency of the spring will be to gradually straighten the wrapper or cap up to its full height as the womb recedes. The office of the tube B is to allow the secretions of the womb to pass away.

The spring is inserted into the wrapper in the following manner: One end is connected to the pin *a* of the part *c* of the inserting-instrument, and the other end to the pin *a'*, of the part *b* of the said instrument. The part *b* is held in one hand, and the part *c* turned by the other hand until the spring is wound upon it, as shown in fig. 2, when it is held by the spring-pawl and ratchet *d*. The end of the instrument is then inserted within the wrapper, and the spring-pawl raised out of contact with the ratchet, and the spring unwound from the instrument, when it expands within the cap, as shown in fig. 1, when, by pulling the top portion through the centre downward by the tube B, it is ready for application to the patient.

I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The herein-described improved pessary, consisting of the wrapper A, provided with the tubular portion B and the spring C, substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. The improved inserting-instrument, consisting of the parts *b* and *c* provided with the pins *a* and *a'*, ratchet *d*, spring-pawl *e*, and recess *d*, and otherwise arranged substantially as and for the purpose described.

3. The combination of the spring C with the inserting-instrument D, substantially as described for the purpose specified.

4. The method herein described of inserting the spring C within the pessary, substantially as described for the purpose specified.

C. R. GORGAS.

Witnesses:

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