June 21, 1932. R. E. WELSH 1,863,778

BATHING IMPLEMENT

Filed April 24, 1930

Fig. 1. Fig. 2. Fig. 3. Fig. 4.

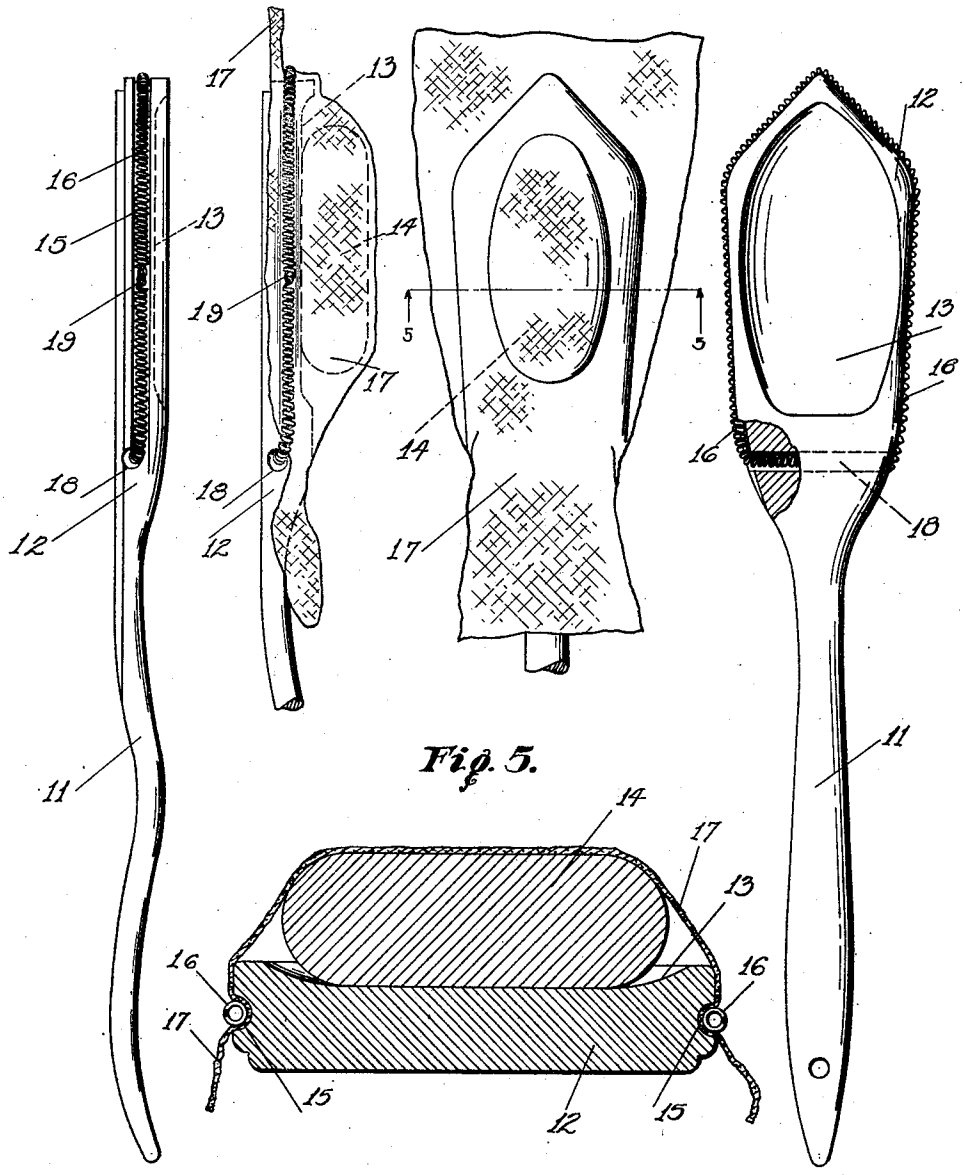


Fig. 5.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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BATHING IMPLEMENT

Application filed April 24, 1930. Serial No. 446,994.

This invention relates to a toilet appliance and more particularly bath implements comprising a holder or a handle for use in holding and manipulating a cleansing agent and a cloth or fabric for convenient application to all parts of the body.

The invention aims to provide convenient, easily detachable means associated with the handle to stretch and clamp the cloth or fabric over the soap or other cleansing material and hold it in place. A further aim is to make the handle and clamp of materials that can readily be cleaned and sterilized to provide a sanitary appliance for use with individual soap and wash cloth.

The invention comprises an adjustable coiled spring, encircling the head portion of the holder in a shallow groove, and holding the cloth or fabric over the soap or cleansing agent and in engagement therewith and with the shallow groove for removably retaining the cleansing materials in place.

The invention aims to provide a device of the above character which is simple and durable in its construction, highly efficient and serviceable in practical use, and capable of manufacture at relatively small cost.

With the above and other objects in view, my invention consists in the novel features of construction, combination and arrangements of parts to be hereafter more fully described, claimed and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which—

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of the holder itself;

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary side elevation of the holder with the cloth and soap clamped in position for use;

Fig. 3 is a front elevation of the same;

Fig. 4 is a front elevation of the holder alone; and

Fig. 5 is a sectional view taken on the line 5—5 of Fig. 3, showing the cloth and the soap clamped to the head of the holder.

Referring to the drawing:

The holder 11, which can be made of wood or any other suitable light material, comprises a head 12, one face of which has a depression 13, which is formed to receive the soap or cleansing agent 14.

Surrounding the head is a groove 15, which is formed to receive a flexible member 16 for holding the cloth 17 of a heavy, coarse, water absorbing and retaining texture, and the soap 14, conveniently to the head 12 of the handle. In the form illustrated, the flexible member is an endless spring 16. Formed in the base of the head 12 is an aperture 18, through which the coiled spring 16 is inserted. The coiled spring is detachable, having a joint as shown at 19.

In the use of the device, the soap 14 is placed in the depression 13, and the fabric or wash cloth 17 is suitably folded and disposed over the soap and brought down over the edges of the head 12. While thus firmly held the coiled spring 16 is placed over the cloth or wash rag 17 and then forced over the edges of the holder 12 until it fits into the groove 15 and holds the cloth or wash rag 17 firmly clamped in the groove 15. The cloth or wash rag 17 can be easily loosened and the soap removed for rinsing off the body by simply pulling the free end of the cloth up to release the soap, or the cloth may be detached for refilling with soap, by slipping the coiled spring 16 out of the groove 15 and over the edges of the holder. The coiled spring 16 can be removed from the holder if need be by unfastening the simple catch or hook 19.

By substituting suitable special fabrics for operating upon the skin it may be massaged either dry or with the application of cold cream or any of the well known skin lotions, alcohol, face powder, or other medicated or unguent substance.

The holder may, of course, be made in various sizes and shapes, as well as in the form shown in the drawing. The form, construction and relative arrangement of the several parts of the clamping device for the soap or cleansing agent and the wash cloth may also be considerably modified and it will, therefore, be understood that while I have herein shown and described the preferred construction and arrangement of the several parts, the same are susceptible of many minor changes.

I claim:

A bathing implement, comprising a head

and handle portion, said head having an aperture therethrough near the juncture of the head and handle, and being provided with a central depression for holding a cake of soap and further provided with a peripheral groove on the sides and end thereof, a soap retainer of a heavy coarse water absorbing and retaining texture adapted to cover a cake of soap and having its marginal edges adapted to extend down beyond the sides of said head, and a resilient clamping member comprising an endless coil spring extending through said aperture in said head and adapted to stretch over said head, and normally seated in said groove to hold said holder, soap cake and retainer in assembled relation.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification.

RICHARD E. WELSH.

CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION.

June 21, 1932.

Patent No. 1,863,778.

RICHARD E. WELSH.

It is hereby certified that error appears in the printed specification of the above numbered patent requiring correction as follows: Page 2, line 16, in the claim, for "holder" read head; and that the said Letters Patent should be read with this correction therein that the same may conform to the record of the case in the Patent Office.

Signed and sealed this 11th day of October, A. D. 1932.

M. J. Moore,
Acting Commissioner of Patents.

(Seal)