

No. 651,395.

Patented June 12, 1900.

M. R. STAPP.  
CURETTE.

(Application filed Sept. 26, 1899.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1

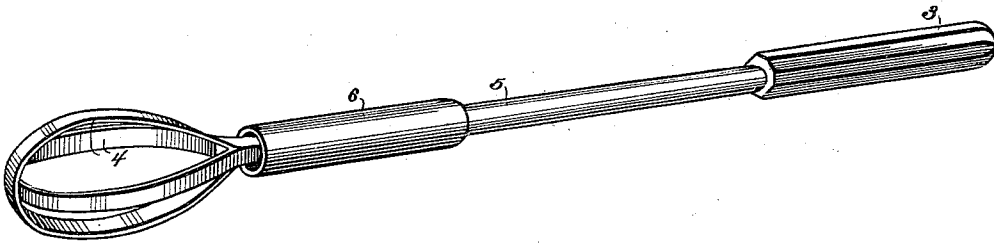
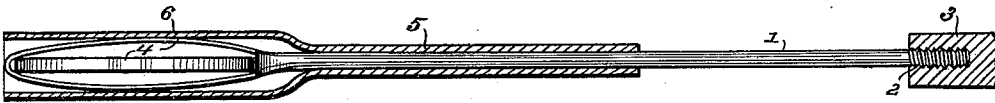


Fig. 2.



Witnesses

*F. G. Campbell*

*Chas. S. Hoyer*

*M. Rob. Stapp* Inventor

By his Attorneys,

*C. A. Snow & Co.*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MILO ROB STAPP, OF ABERDEEN, WASHINGTON.

## CURETTE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 651,395, dated June 12, 1900.

Application filed September 26, 1899. Serial No. 731,761. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MILO ROB STAPP, a citizen of the United States, residing at Aberdeen, in the county of Chehalis and State of Washington, have invented a new and useful Surgical Instrument, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to surgical instruments, and particularly to that class known as "curettes;" and the primary object in view is to provide a simple and effective device of this character that is easily insertible and withdrawable in and from the vagina and uterus without injury or excoriation and adapted for use in removing diseased tissues or "remnants" subsequent to abortion or miscarriage or any inflamed condition the uterine lining is prone to take on and become involved in and also capable of reduction in size to accommodate variations in the natural proportions of different organs and changes in dimension due to diseased conditions and sympathetic responses of parts adjacent the main affected organ.

The secondary object is to have the improved device so arranged that it may be readily separated into distinct parts for cleansing and also to form it of such material as to permit thorough sterilization to avoid poisonous transmissions.

The invention consists in the construction and arrangement of parts hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved device arranged for use. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal vertical section of the improved device arranged for withdrawal.

Similar numerals of reference are employed to indicate corresponding parts in both views.

The numeral 1 designates a stem preferably formed in rod shape of proper diameter and length and having the rear terminal screw-threaded, as at 2, to removably receive a handle 3 of polygonal form for convenience in grasping and operating the instrument as an entirety. On the front end of the said stem intersecting scraping-loops 4 are fixed in a suitable manner and one made smaller than the other and closely fitting therein. It is obvious that the number of these loops may be varied, and to render them effective they are constructed of thin high-grade steel,

preferably of that character known as "watch-spring" steel. Therefore it will be understood that these loops have a sensitive inherent resiliency and adapted to bear against the uterine lining with a yielding pressure and without undue painful inconvenience to the patient. These loops are approximately pear-shaped and have their greatest lateral projection or rotundity at their outer extremities to conform to the dimension of a uterus in normal condition. The opposite edges of the loops provide means for loosening and cleaning the uterine lining, and the position of the said loops afford means for withdrawing the loose matter from the uterus and out through the vaginal canal.

The stem 1 is slidingly mounted in an elongated sleeve 5, having a sheath 6 on its outer end to partially or wholly receive the loops 4 for the purpose of adjustment or inclosure of the latter. The sheath is moved over the loops to contract them and regulate their lateral projection to accommodate variations in the size of different uteri under inflamed or swollen conditions and to position the said loops with ease in operative relation to a sensitive uterine lining. At times the loops may be entirely inclosed in the sheath during insertion and withdrawal. When the loops have been properly positioned in the uterus, they are caused to effectually perform their desired function by rotating them by means of the handle 3, located exteriorly; all the parts being proportioned in such manner as to locate the said handle far enough outward for convenient manipulation.

In cleaning or sterilizing the instrument the handle 3 is disconnected from the stem 1 and the sleeve 5, with its sheath, is slipped off the screw-threaded terminal 2. It will be observed that all parts will then be completely exposed and the cleansing operation readily carried on.

The material of which the stem-handle, sleeve, and sheath is composed may be that best adapted for the purpose, and changes in the form, proportions, and minor details of construction can be resorted to without in the least departing from the nature or spirit of the invention.

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

A curette consisting of a stem having spring-loops rigidly fixed on the outer extremity thereof and formed of flat spring metal to present opposite scraping edges, the loops being  
5 continuous and the one extending through the other in a plane at a right angle to the same, a handle removably attached to the opposite extremity of the stem, and a sleeve slidingly mounted on the stem and having a

sheath continuous therewith for movement to over the loops to cover the latter.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

MILO ROB STAPP.

Witnesses:

W. Y. PATTERSON,  
JAS. H. FULLER.