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EX

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669,219

No. 669,219. Patented Mar. 5, 1901.

C. B. HOLMAN.

SPOON.

(Application filed Nov. 2, 1900.)

(No Model.)

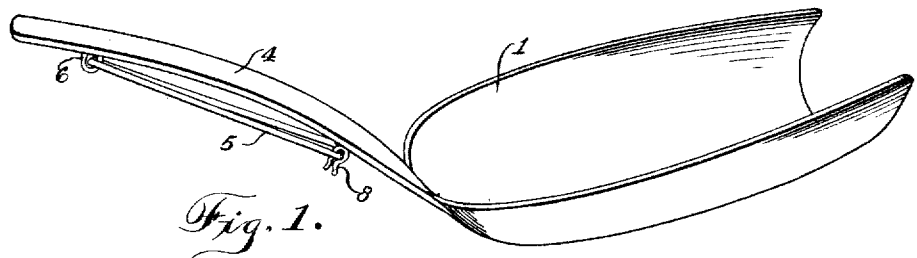


Fig. 1.

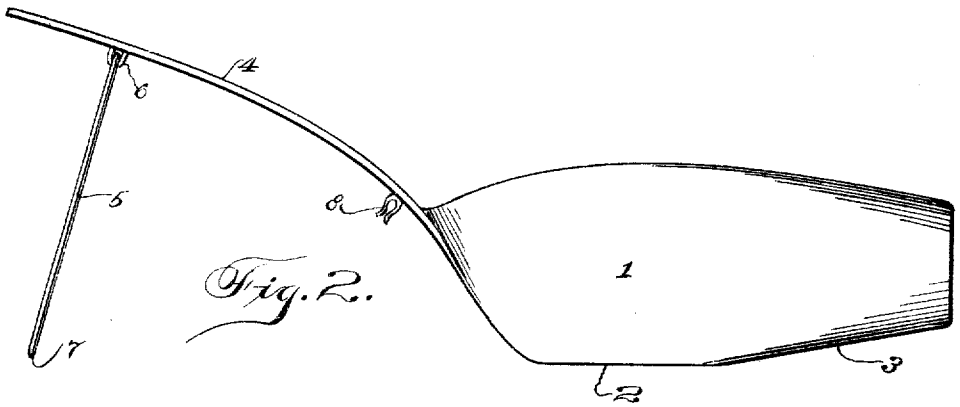


Fig. 2.

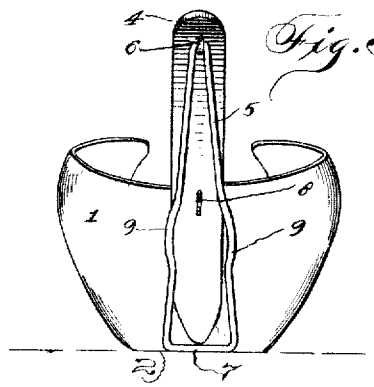


Fig. 3.

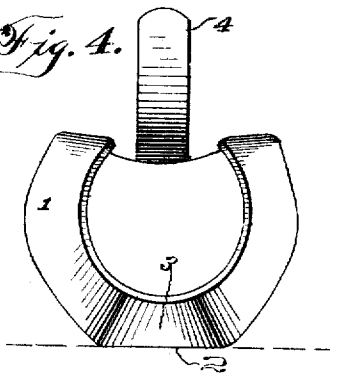


Fig. 4.

Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CLARA BELLE HOLMAN, OF GAINESVILLE, TEXAS.

SPOON.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 669,219, dated March 5, 1901.

Application filed November 2, 1900. Serial No. 35,261. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CLARA BELLE HOLMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Gainesville, in the county of Cooke and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Spoons, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to spoons, and has for its object to provide an improved form of spoon for administering liquid medicine and food to sick persons and invalids when they are lying upon their backs.

In administering a liquid with an ordinary spoon it frequently happens that a considerable portion thereof is spilled upon the face and clothing of the patient owing to the shallowness of the spoon, and in view of this disadvantage the present invention has for one of its objects to provide means for conveniently and effectively administering a liquid without spilling any portion thereof. It is furthermore designed to arrange the spoon so that it may be held in a substantially level position when placed upon a table or the like in order that the liquid may not run out of the spoon.

With these and other objects in view the present invention consists in the combination and arrangement of parts, as will be hereinafter more fully described, shown in the accompanying drawings, and particularly pointed out in the appended claims, it being understood that changes in the form, proportion, size, and minor details may be made within the scope of the claims without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved spoon. Fig. 2 is a side elevation thereof, showing the spoon supported in a substantially level position upon a table or the like. Fig. 3 is a rear elevation thereof. Fig. 4 is a front elevation of the spoon.

Like characters of reference designate corresponding parts in all of the figures of the drawings.

Referring to the drawings, 1 designates the bowl of the spoon, which is considerably larger than an ordinary table-spoon and designed to contain at least two table-spoonfuls of liquid when placed upon a table or other support. The rear portion of the bottom of the bowl is flat, as indicated at 2, from which it inclines slightly upward to the point or forward end of the bowl, as indicated at 3. The opposite side walls of the bowl rise to a considerable extent above those of an ordinary spoon and converge toward the point of the bowl, where they also bow inwardly, as best indicated in Fig. 4 of the drawings, so as to form a substantially funnel-shaped or tubular mouthpiece designed to be slightly inserted between the lips of a patient, whereby the liquid cannot escape at the sides of the bowl on account of the height of the side walls of the bowl which enter the patient's mouth. At the rear end of the bowl there is provided the usual handle 4, whereby the spoon may be manipulated in the usual manner.

In order that the spoon may be supported in a substantially level position, so as to prevent spilling of the liquid or to permit of a liquid being conveniently poured into the bowl, there is provided a handle-support 5 in the form of a substantially triangular link, the apex of which is hingedly connected to the back or under side of the handle by means of a loop or eye 6, carried by the handle and adjacent to the outer end thereof. The opposite broad end or base of the triangular link forms a supporting-foot 7 for the hinged leg and is designed to rest upon the table or other surface, as indicated in Figs. 2 and 3 of the drawings, whereby the handle is held in an elevated position and the bowl is maintained substantially level, and in view of the depressed intermediate portion of the bowl or the upward inclination of the bottom thereof a quantity of liquid may be contained within the bowl without danger of escaping therefrom.

When the hinged leg or handle-support is not in use, it is swung upwardly against the back or under side of the handle, with its free end extended toward the bowl and engaged with a spring clip or catch 8, carried by the back of the handle and adjacent to the bowl. This spring-clip is substantially U-shaped and is disposed in the same longitudinal plane with the handle, so that the intermediate portion of the foot of the handle-support may automatically snap into the spring-catch, as indicated in Fig. 1.

The hinged leg or support may be conveniently thrown upwardly into its inoperative position by one of the fingers of the hand which grasps the handle and likewise may be returned to its operative position without removing the hand from the handle, so as to facilitate the placing of the spoon upon a table while containing a liquid and also the taking up of the spoon from the table. In view of the divergence of the sides of the leg they are conveniently accessible at opposite edges of the handle adjacent to the spring-catch. Moreover, the intermediate portions of the opposite sides of the wire supporting-leg are provided with corresponding outwardly-bowed portions 9, which project at opposite edges of the handle, so as to provide finger-pieces for conveniently dropping the leg into position for use by sliding the fingers along the opposite edges of the handle until they strike the opposite bowed finger-pieces, whereby the leg will be disconnected from the spring-catch, and thus dropped into position.

What is claimed is—

1. A spoon, comprising a bowl, a handle, a bail-shaped handle-support hinged to the back of the handle, the transverse free end of the support forming a foot disposed transversely of the spoon, and a spring-clip carried by the back of the handle adjacent to the bowl, and arranged in the path of the swing of the foot of the support.

2. A spoon, comprising a bowl, a handle, a substantially triangular-shaped handle-supporting link, having its apex hingedly connected to the back of the handle, and its base forming a foot disposed transversely of the spoon, and a substantially U-shaped spring clip or catch carried adjacent to the bowl and upon the back of the handle, and also arranged in the path of the swing of the foot of the support, to hold the latter in its inoperative position.

3. A spoon comprising a bowl, a handle, a loop-shaped supporting-leg hinged to the handle, and having its opposite sides provided with outwardly-bowed portions forming finger-pieces, and a spring-catch carried by the handle and arranged in the path of the swing of the free end of the leg.

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

CLARA BELLE HOLMAN.

Witnesses:
A. J. THOMPSON,
A. O. THOMPSON.