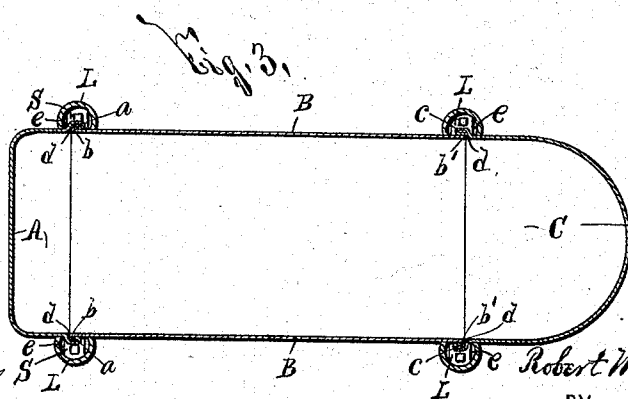
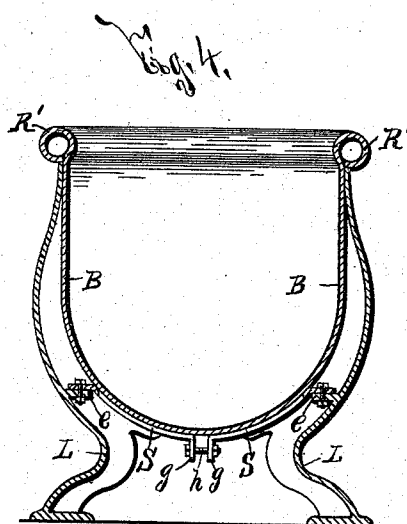
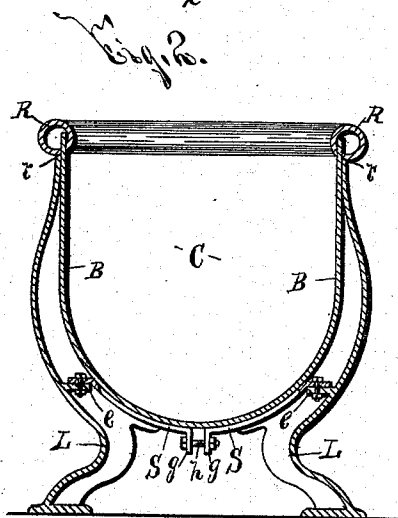
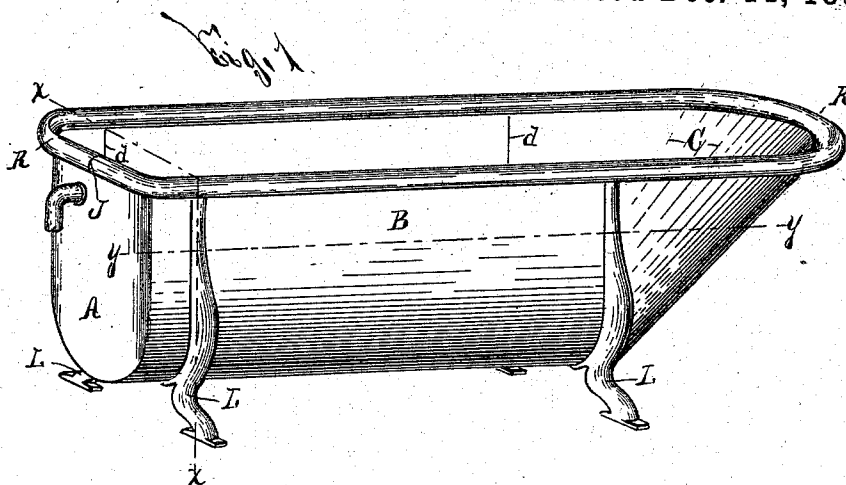


(No Model.)

R. M. WILSON.
BATH TUB.

No. 530,568.

Patented Dec. 11, 1894.



WITNESSES:

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INVENTOR

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT M. WILSON, OF ROME, NEW YORK.

BATH-TUB.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 530,568, dated December 11, 1894.

Application filed April 10, 1894. Serial No. 507,040. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT M. WILSON, of Rome, in the county of Oneida, in the State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Bath-Tubs, of which the following, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to an improved bath tub of ordinary shape, which is a new article of manufacture, made of three pieces or sections of thin sheet metal locked and soldered together without rivets, and to the method of manufacturing the same.

All prior practical tubs of the ordinary shape either "French" or "Roman" and large enough to receive an adult, have heretofore been made in one of the following forms—either of thin sheet metal set into a wooden supporting box, which is the cheapest form now on the market, or of cast metal, of marble, of porcelain, of fiber, or of two or more thicknesses of sheet metal.

My improved tub is constructed of one thickness of sheet metal and in three sections as aforesaid,—the head, the center, and the foot sections, each of which sections is first shaped over a form, and has a lip turned on the edge corresponding to the next section, so that when the three sections are assembled these lips engage, and the three are locked together into the integral body of the tub, as seen in the drawings.

My invention consists not only in the production of a new tub as a whole, but in the detail construction and arrangement of its parts. Its novelty and superiority lie in its combining strength and stiffness with lightness and cheapness in production. Furthermore, it is neat and pleasing in appearance, and adapted to be used in cheaper houses or in the most expensive. The prior tubs to which I have referred made of cast metal, marble, or of thin sheet metal set in a wooden box are heavy and bulky. The prior tubs made of fiber or other organic substance are bulky, clumsy, and not very durable; while the other prior tubs constructed of two thicknesses of sheet metal are not only much more expen-

sive to construct than mine, but are liable to sweat and rust in the space between the two thicknesses of metal.

In describing this invention, reference is had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which the same letters indicate the same parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is an isometric view of my improved tub, set up ready for use. Fig. 2 is a cross sectional view, taken on line $x-x$ through one of the pairs of legs. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section, taken on the line $y-y$ and shows the mode in which the three sections of the tub are locked together. Fig. 4 is a cross section similar to Fig. 2, showing variations in the finishing and stiffening rim at the upper edge.

The body of my tub consists of the three sections, each a single piece of sheet metal, A B C, each of which sections is provided on one edge with a turned back lip to engage with the other section or sections. The three sections with their lips interlocking are shown in section in Fig. 3. The foot section A has its forward edge turned back and inwardly forming the lip $a a$. The head section C has its rearward edge turned back and inward forming the lip $c c$. The center section B has both its forward and rearward edges turned outwardly forming the lip $b b$ to engage with $a a$, and the lip $b' b'$ to engage with the lip $c c$. These three sections so formed, are assembled and locked together, and the lips or seams are hammered tight without the necessity of any rivets. These joints are practically water tight without the necessity of soldering, but it is safer to solder the joints at $d d d$. The body of the tub so constructed, is very strong and stiff, but is made more so by the mode in which it is supported. This support consists of four legs set together in pairs, one pair sustaining the tub near the head, the other near the foot. These four legs are preferably made of cast metal, each leg cast separately, it being, of course, easier to cast four single pieces than to cast them in two pairs. Furthermore, made in this way they are stronger and afford the tub a more efficient support, as will be seen by reference to Fig. 2.

In Fig. 2 L L are the two rearward legs seen in vertical section. In Fig. 3, the four legs are seen in cross section. These legs are hollow and convex in form, with the tub resting on their inner open sides, and, being constructed, in this way combine lightness, strength, and ornamental appearance. On the interior or concave side of each leg, at the point shown in Fig. 2, is cast integrally a lug or ear *ee*, to which are bolted the connecting straps S S, which are curved pieces or straps of iron of suitable size. These straps rest in the hollow of the legs, are adjusted and formed to lie snugly against the body of the tub and furnish a simple means for adjusting to a slight extent the distance between the legs after the body of the tub has been set in place on them. It will be seen that these straps are provided at their lower ends with downturned lugs or ears *g g* and are of such a length that when the tub body and legs are assembled these ears are slightly separated. The ears *g g* are then connected by an adjuster or bolt *h*, and by tightening the nut thereon the legs are drawn slightly toward each other, the body of the tub and the legs are bound together, and the whole tub made particularly firm and rigid.

In order to finish the upper edge of the tub and to make it more sightly and not likely to injure the person, this upper edge may be bent out at right angles, and a smooth wooden rail, round on its upper side, attached by screws to this out-turned flange. I have, however, devised for the same purpose, a means of finishing the upper edge and stiffening the tub which I prefer. This consists of a single length of tubing slightly longer than the upper periphery of the tub and provided with a continuous slot, so that it may be pressed down over the vertical edge of the tub. The slot is a little smaller than the thickness of the sheet metal, so that when the tube is pressed down into place it grips the metal of the tub body, and is held firmly in place. It will be seen that this tube or rim R R is set eccentrically in place, so that it projects outwardly much farther than it projects inwardly, by which it gives a neat appearance to the upper edge of the tub body, but does not extend inwardly enough to interfere with the use of the tub. If we solder this tube to the tub near its outward edge *rr*, it is made perfectly integral with the tub body, and increases its strength. This tube is made slightly longer than the upper perimeter of the tub and when set thereon, one end is slipped into the other, so that the joint at J is scarcely noticeable. It is evident that this finishing and stiffening rim, where desired, may be made of two or more lengths of tubing joined together with slip joints as described. Instead of this slotted tube, the upper edge of the tub body may be finished by bending over the metal sheets forming the

tub body in imitation of a tube R' R', as shown in Fig. 4.

It will be noted that my improved tub is simple and economical in construction, is practical, strong and durable, and, as I before said, is well adapted for use in cheaper bath rooms, while, if desired, it may be decorated appropriately for the most expensive. It may be plated within and without with nickel, or even with silver, and, when this is done, the joints on the interior, the exterior, and of the rim can scarcely be seen. It will be noticed that the tub is usually and preferably set up so that the exterior joints are concealed by the supporting legs.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a bath-tub, the combination of the body of the tub, and a rim for the body consisting of a tube of greater length than the upper edge of the body of the tub having its adjacent ends lapped and provided with a lengthwise slot for receiving the upper edge of the body of the tub, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

2. In a bath-tub, the combination of a body consisting of head, foot, and intermediate sections formed of substantially rigid sheet metal and having their adjacent edges secured together, and a rim for the body consisting of a tube provided with a lengthwise slot for receiving the upper edge of the body of the tub, substantially as and for the purpose described.

3. In a bath-tub, the combination of the body of the tub, opposite legs for supporting said body, a connection between said legs having its upper face engaged with the adjacent portion of the body and consisting of separate sections having their opposite ends secured to the legs, and an adjuster for engaging the adjacent ends of the sections of said connection, substantially as set forth.

4. In a bath-tub, the combination of the body of the tub, opposite legs for supporting said body, a connection between said legs having its upper face engaged with the adjacent portion of the body and consisting of separate sections having their opposite ends elevated above their adjacent ends and removably secured to said legs and having their adjacent ends provided with ears, and an adjuster engaged with said ears, substantially as and for the purpose described.

5. In a bath tub, the combination of the body of the tub, opposite legs shaped to conform to the outline of said body for supporting said body but disconnected therefrom, and an adjustable connection between the opposite legs for drawing them against the sides of said body, substantially as described and shown.

6. In a bath tub, the combination of the body of the tub formed of head, foot, and

intermediate sections of sheet metal in one thickness, an ornamental stiffening rim attached to the upper edge of said body, and four legs shaped to conform to the outline of the tub body set in pairs and adjustably connected to support the same, substantially as described and shown.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto

signed my name, in the presence of two attesting witnesses, at the city of Rome, in the county of Oneida, in the State of New York, this 30th day of March, 1894.

ROBERT M. WILSON.

Witnesses:

ARTHUR L. DALE,
E. J. TYLER.