No. 895,472. PATENTED AUG. 11, 1908.

B. D. KNICKERBOCKER.

FOUNTAIN BATH SPONGE.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 21, 1903.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

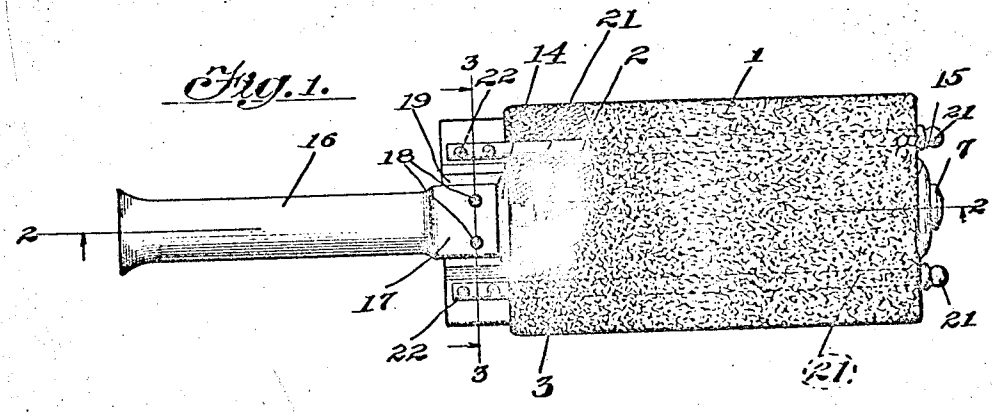


Fig. 2.

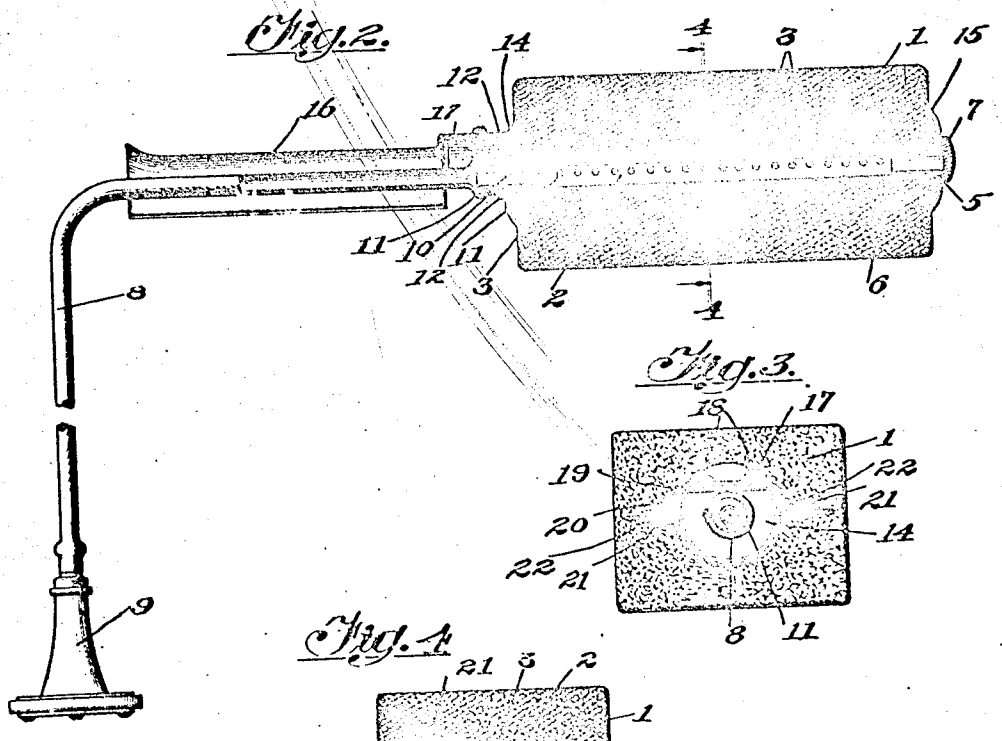
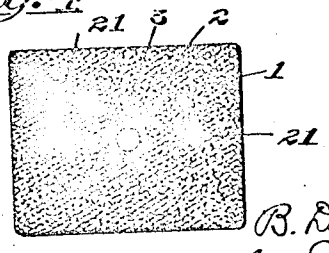


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 5

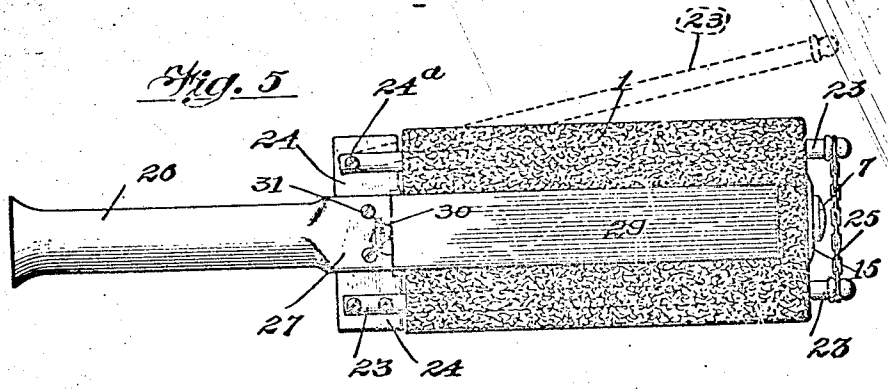


Fig. 6.

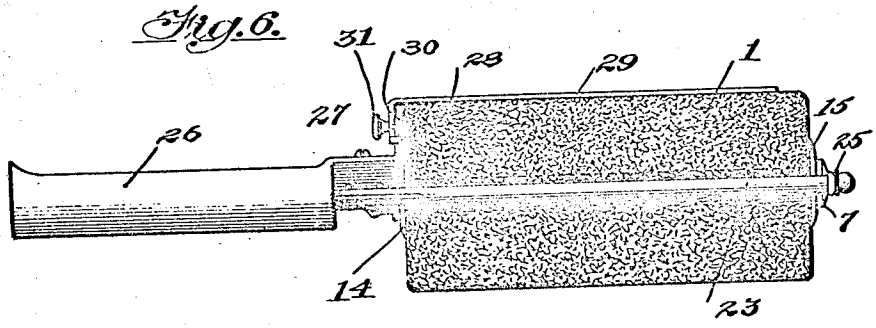


Fig. 8

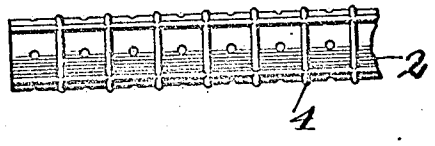


Fig. 7

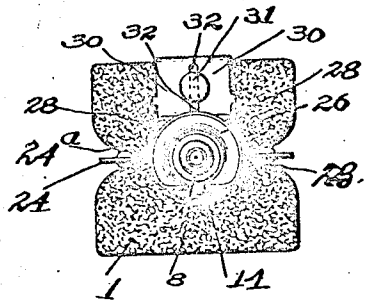
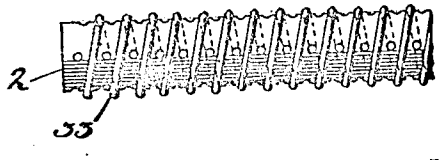


Fig. 9



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BURTON D. KNICKERBOCKER, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

FOUNTAIN BATH-SPONGE.

No. 895,472. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 11, 1908.

Application filed October 21, 1903. Serial No. 177,344.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BURTON D. KNICKERBOCKER, citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Fountain Bath-Sponges, of which the following is a full, clear, concise, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming a part of this specification.

This invention relates to bath brushes and its object is to provide a fountain bath brush having a sponge surface.

A further object is to provide such a brush with a handle whereby the brush may be conveniently used and all parts of the body reached.

The preferred embodiment of my invention is shown in the accompanying drawings forming a part of the specification, and in which

Figure 1 is a plan view, part of the brush being broken away to show the interior tube; Fig. 2 is a sectional view taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is a sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1; Fig. 4 is a sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 2; Fig. 5 is a plan view of a modification; Fig. 6 is a side elevation of the same; Fig. 7 is an end view thereof; and, Figs. 8 and 9 are views of the interior tube for the brush.

The body 1 of the brush is formed of a sponge-like material made preferably of rubber, and has passing through the center thereof a preferably flexible tube 2 provided with perforations 3, and having external ribs 4, thus forming a sort of chamber within the exterior of the porous body. In the front end of the tube 2 is placed a plug 5, having at its inner end a shoulder 6 to engage the sides of the tube and prevent the plug from being forced out by the pressure of the water. The outer end of the plug 5 is formed into a head 7. The rear end of the tube 2 may be joined with a hose 8 having at its opposite end a faucet connection 9. I preferably join the tube 3 with the hose 8 by means of a connector 10, provided with a bore for the passage of the water and upon its periphery near the ends with shoulders 11 to prevent the tubes from withdrawing from the connector due to the force of the water. A third shoulder 12 is formed at an intermediate point upon the periphery of the connector and mounted upon the connector and bearing against said shoulder is a preferably concave washer 14, which in connection with a similar washer 15, mounted upon the plug 5 and held in position by the head 7, prevents the tube 3 from being withdrawn from the sponge.

The handle 16 is tubular in form to allow the hose 8 to pass therethrough and has at its forward end a flattened extension 17 which is secured by means of screws 18 to the cross-piece 19. This construction leaves an open space at the fore part of the handle and permits attachment of the hose 8 to the connector 10 without detaching the handle. The cross-piece 19 at its point of connection with the handle is arched as at 20, so that it will readily clear the connection between the hose 8 and the tube 2, and also form a protection for the same. Two rods 21 which extend longitudinally through the sponge 1 on either side of the tube 2 are fastened at their rear ends to the cross-piece 19 by means of screws 22. These rods form a connecting means between the sponge and the handle and rigidly hold the sponge so that it may be used as a brush.

In Figs. 5, 6 and 7 is shown a modification of the manner of fastening the sponge upon the handle. In this form, rods 23 clamp the sponge between them instead of passing through the sponge. The rods 23 are secured to a cross-piece 24, of the same construction as the cross-piece 19 shown in Fig. 3. One of said rods, however, is pivoted as at 24^a, to allow it to swing outwardly to the position shown in dotted lines in order that the sponge may be readily placed in position. A chain 25 is connected to the ends of the rods to hold the pivoted rod in place when the sponge is clamped in position.

The handle 26 has a flattened portion 27 to which is secured the cross-piece 24. A portion of the flattened portion 27 is turned up as at 28 and to this upturned portion is secured the downwardly extending portion 30 of the guard 29. This guard consists preferably of a flattened piece of metal which extends nearly the length of the sponge on its upper side to prevent the same from being forced out from between the rods 23, when the brush is in use. Any means may be provided for fastening the part 30 of the guard to the upturned portion 28 of the handle, but I

prefer to use a thumb screw 31 which passes through a central slot 32 in the part 30 and is screwed into the upturned portion 28. Inturned lugs are formed upon the lower end of the part 30, which engage the sides of the portion 28 and also aid in securing the guard in position. By the use of the thumb screw 31, and the slot 32, I am enabled to adjust the guard vertically to accommodate the different sized sponges which may be used.

In Figs. 8 and 9 are shown two forms of tubes which may be used inside the sponge, one in which the ribs 4 are arranged to encircle the tube, and also arranged longitudinally of the same as shown in Fig. 8 or as shown in Fig. 9, a wire 33 may be coiled around the tube which will prevent the same from being compressed and also prevent the sponge from coming into close contact with the tube and close the perforations.

It will be seen that, after the connection has been made with the faucet, and the water turned on, the water will pass through the hose and into the perforated tube 2 and from thence will work out through the perforations and the pores of the sponge to the surface. By passing the tube 8 through the hollow handle it will not inconvenience the person using the sponge and by the arrangement shown in Figs. 5, 6 and 7, if desired, the handle may be detached and the sponge used alone.

While I have shown and described preferred embodiments of my invention, I do not wish to limit myself to the forms shown, as there are numerous forms in which the invention may be embodied; the several modifications of the invention illustrated and described serve to show the essential features of my invention and that the same may be embodied in a number of different mechanical arrangements without departing from the spirit of the invention.

Having described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. In a fountain bath sponge, the combination with a body of porous material, having an interior chamber, of a hollow handle for said body, a water supply hose independent of said handle and passing therethrough, and means for connecting the hose directly to said chamber without detaching said handle.

2. In a fountain bath sponge, the combination with a body of porous material, having a flexible perforated tube passing therethrough, of a handle for said body, a water supply hose passing through and independent of said handle, and means for connecting said hose to said tube without detaching said handle.

3. In a fountain bath sponge, the combination with a body of porous material having a perforated tube passing therethrough, of means for holding said tube in position, a hollow handle for said body, a water supply hose passing through said handle, and means for directly connecting said hose with said tube without detaching said handle.

4. In a fountain bath sponge, the combination with a body of porous material having a perforated tube passing therethrough, of an arched cross-piece, a tubular handle attached to said cross-piece, means connecting said porous body to said cross-piece, a water supply hose passing through said handle, and means for connecting said hose to said tube.

5. In a fountain bath sponge, the combination with a body of porous material having a perforated interior chamber, of an arched cross-piece, a tubular handle attached to said cross-piece, means connecting said porous body to said cross-piece, and means for connecting said tube with the water supply.

6. In a fountain bath sponge, the combination with a body of porous material of a flexible perforated tube in the interior of said body, means for securing said tube in place, a cross-piece, a tubular handle secured to said cross-piece, supporting arms for said porous body secured to said cross-piece, a water supply hose passing through said handle and means for connecting said hose to the perforated tube.

7. In a fountain bath sponge, the combination with a body of porous material, of a flexible perforated tube in its interior, retaining means for said tube, a tubular handle having a water supply hose passing therethrough, clamping means for said porous material connected with said handle, and means for connecting the perforated tube to the water supply hose.

8. In a fountain bath sponge, the combination with a body of porous material having a perforated tube passing therethrough, of a handle, parallel rods secured to said handle to which said body is secured, and means for connecting said tube with the water supply.

9. In a fountain bath sponge, the combination with a body of porous material, of a perforated tube extending through said body, and means for preventing the perforations from being closed by said body.

10. In a fountain bath sponge, the combination with a body of porous material, of a perforated tube extending therethrough having ribs thereon which prevent the body from closing the perforations in the tube.

11. In a fountain bath sponge, the combination with a body of porous material, of a flexible perforated tube passing therethrough, a hollow handle for said body, means for securing said handle to said body, a water supply hose passing through and independent of said handle, and means for directly connect-

ing said hose to said tube without detaching the handle.

12. In a fountain bath sponge, the combination with a body of porous material, of a flexible perforated tube passing therethrough, means for preventing the perforations in the tube from being closed by the body of porous material, a handle for said body, means for securing said handle to the body, a water supply hose passing through said handle, and means for connecting the said hose to said tube without detaching the handle.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

BURTON D. KNICKERBOCKER.

Witnesses:
W. CLYDE JONES,
M. R. ROCHFORD.