R. GRIFFITH.

NIPPLE.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 24, 1916.

1,183,728. Patented May 16, 1916.

Fig. 1.

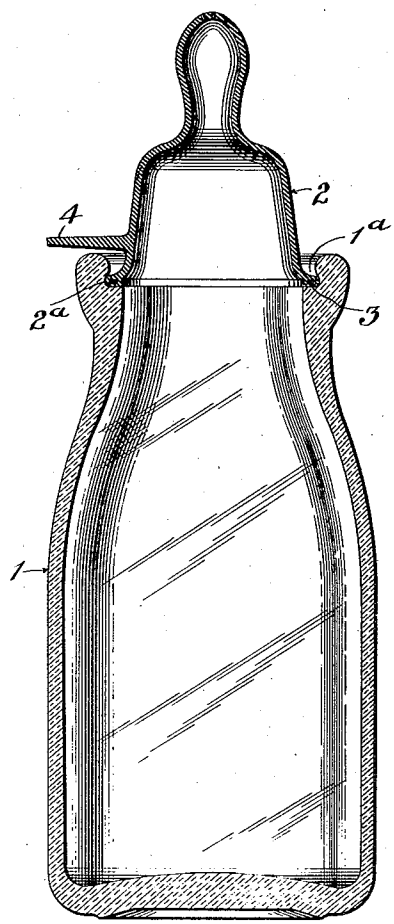


Fig. 2.

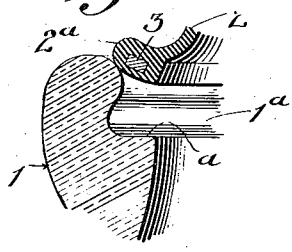


Fig. 3.

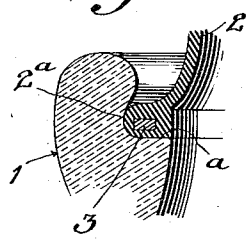
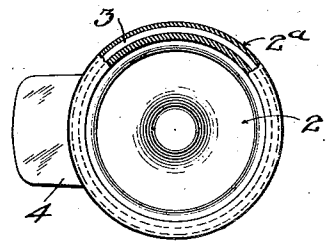


Fig. 4.



Inventor:
Richard Griffith
By Thos. Middleton Donaldson & Shaw
Attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RICHARD GRIFFITH, OF AKRON, OHIO, ASSIGNOR TO THE MILLER RUBBER COMPANY, OF AKRON, OHIO, A CORPORATION OF OHIO.

NIPPLE.

1,183,728. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented May 16, 1916.

Application filed February 24, 1916. Serial No. 80,269.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RICHARD GRIFFITH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Akron, Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Nipples, of which the following is a specification.

My present invention relates to improvements in rubber nipples designed for feeding nursing babies and aims to provide a nipple which may be applied to the ordinary milk bottle in which milk is customarily delivered by the dealer. By the use of such a bottle the milk may be given to the infant without removal from the bottle in which it is delivered to the customer and transferred to another receptacle, as is the usual method, thereby saving trouble and avoiding exposure to the atmosphere.

The invention includes the novel construction defined by the appended claims, an embodiment of my said invention being hereinafter described and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which,

Figure 1 is a side elevation of an ordinary milk bottle with my improved nipple applied thereto. Figs. 2 and 3 are sectional views of the nipple, and, Fig. 4 is a plan view thereof partly in section.

Referring by reference characters to this drawing the numeral 1 designates the bottle which is shown as that customarily used by milk dealers. Such bottles are provided at their mouths with an internal groove or annular channel 1^a, the lower wall of which is extended inwardly as at a to form a ledge or seat against which the ordinary disk stopper of paper or like material rests when its edge has been sprung into the annular groove or channel.

My improved nipple is indicated at 2 and so far as its upper or nipple portion proper is concerned, may be of the ordinary or any desired construction, and of the ordinary vulcanized rubber compound. Its lower edge is projected laterally to form an annular flange 2^a, designed to coöperate with the annular channel 1^a and shoulder a of the bottle whereby, after the disk stopper has been removed, the nipple may be substituted therefor.

In order to cause the nipple to engage the bottle with sufficient firmness to prevent its being accidentally pulled off by the infant, I stiffen or reinforce the annular or flanged portion 2^a, and this may be conveniently accomplished by embedding in the rubber thereof a metal ring 3. This is preferably in the form of a closed ring with sufficient rubber covering the same to enable it to compress to a degree necessary to enable the flange to be sprung past or inserted within the mouth of the bottle, said rubber covering of the ring expanding into the annular groove 1^a of the bottle and lying pressed against the base flange a, and not only effecting a liquid proof joint, but being retained therein so securely as to prevent its being accidentally pulled out.

To enable the nipple to be removed I preferably form integral with the nipple and a slight distance above said base flange a laterally projecting lip or tongue 4, which may be grasped and pulled upwardly by the operator. This not only serves to pull upwardly on the annular retaining flange at one side, but by its elastic pull tends to reduce the thickness of the rubber lying between the ring and overlying shoulder of the bottle groove, enabling the nipple to be removed without handling the portion which touches the infant's mouth, and without danger of injuring the nipple.

Having thus described my invention what I claim is:

1. A rubber nursing nipple having an annular outwardly projecting base flange adapted to fit within the mouth of the ordinary milk bottle, and a stiffening ring of inelastic material embedded in said flange, said flange having sufficient rubber outside the ring to permit the base flange to be sprung into the groove in the mouth of the bottle.

2. A rubber nursing nipple having an annular laterally projecting base flange and a closed metallic ring embedded in said base flange, said base flange having a substantially flat lower face to rest upon the horizontal shoulder formed at the mouth of the ordinary milk bottle and having sufficient rubber outside of the ring to allow the rubber to compress sufficiently around said ring to permit the base flange to be sprung into the groove in the mouth of the bottle.

3. A rubber nursing nipple having an annular base flange, an inelastic stiffening ring embedded in said base flange with sufficient rubber overlying said ring to allow the same to be sprung into the groove in the mouth of a milk bottle, and an integral tab projecting laterally from the body of the nipple sufficiently above said base flange to clear the upper edge of the bottle mouth, when the nipple is in place therein.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

RICHARD GRIFFITH.

Witnesses:
C. A. WOLF,
M. D. MASKREY.