

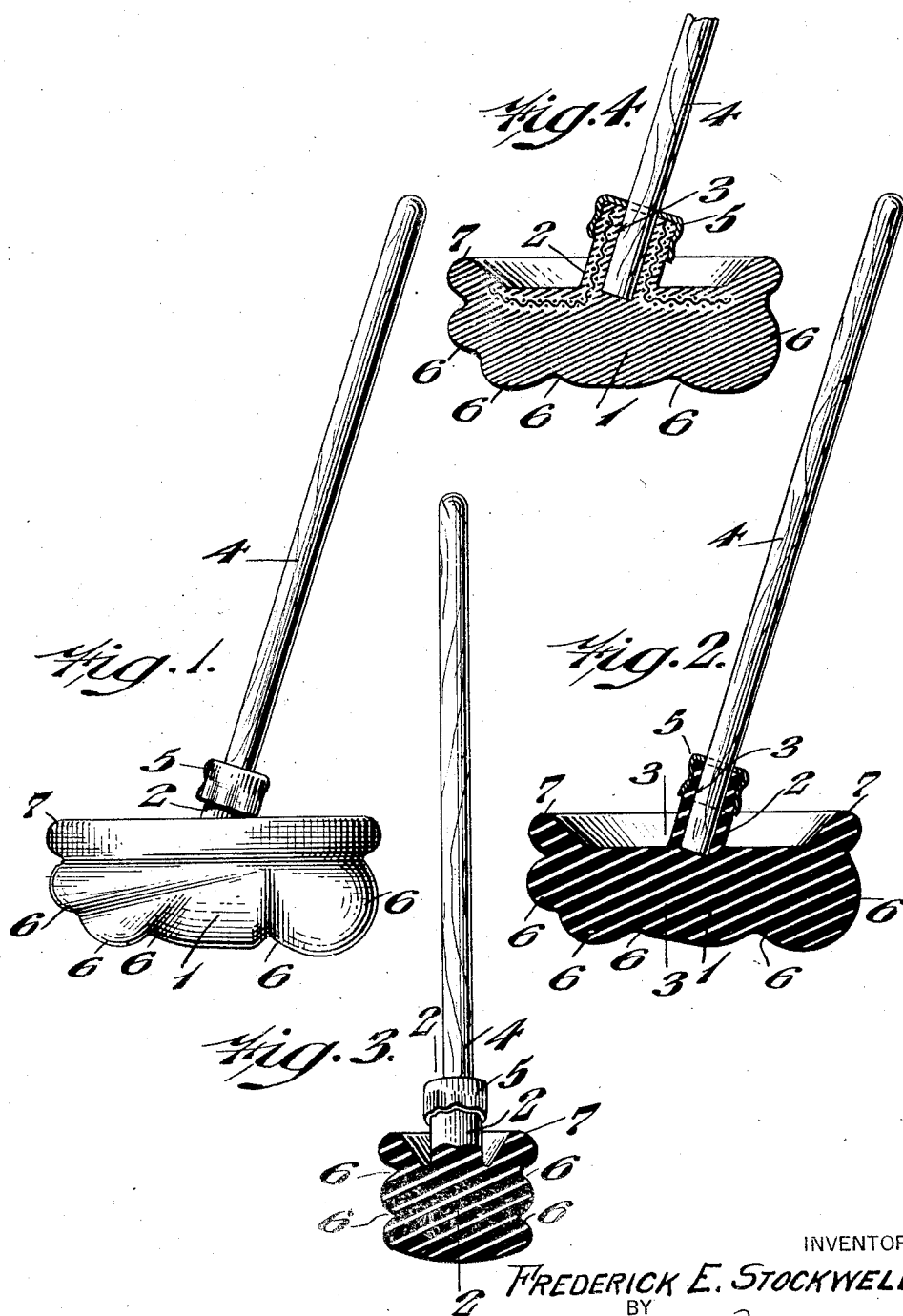
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CLEANING DEVICE

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## CLEANING DEVICE.

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My invention relates to a new and useful cleaning device particularly adapted for cleaning the interior of water closet bowls, and it relates more particularly to a novel cleaning device of the character stated, composed of a body of a resilient material such as rubber, gum or the like, of a suitable shape so as to conform to the general contour of such bowls.

My invention further relates to a novel cleaning device of the character stated, wherein the cleansing action is obtained by the close contact between the smooth inner surface of the bowl and the various portions of said resilient body, producing what is known as a squeegee effect.

With the above ends in view, my invention consists of a cleaning device of the character stated, having a body of a resilient material and an upper rounded flange surrounding the upper portion of said body, also formed of said resilient material adapted to extend underneath the overhanging upper edge or rim of water closet bowls, thereby to enable a thorough cleansing of the underside of said overhanging rim of said bowl.

My invention further consists of a cleaning device of the character stated, having an elongated resilient body, an upper tubular projection adapted to receive the lower end of a suitable rigid handle member, whereby said cleaning device may be manipulated so as to reach all parts of the inner surface of the bowls to be cleansed and, particularly, to enable the thorough cleaning of the lower outlet or drain exit of such bowls, the nose piece of said elongated body portion being particularly adapted for that purpose.

For the purpose of illustrating my invention, I have shown in the accompanying drawings forms thereof which are at present preferred by me since they will give in practice, satisfactory and reliable results although it is to be understood that the various instrumentalities of which my invention consists can be variously arranged and organized and that my invention is not limited to the precise arrangement and organization of these instrumentalities as herein shown and described.

Referring to the drawings:—

Figure 1 represents a side elevation of a novel cleaning device embodying my invention.

Figure 2 represents a vertical section on line 2—2 of Figure 3.

Figure 3 represents a vertical section on line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Figure 4 represents a vertical section similar to that shown in Figure 2, showing a modified construction embodying my invention.

Referring to the drawings, in which like reference characters indicate like parts, 1 designates the body portion of my novel cleaning device, generally of an elongated shape, having the upper projection 2 preferably formed integral therewith and preferably inclined slightly as shown in Figures 1 and 2; said projection 2 having an axial opening 3 which is adapted to receive the rigid handle member 4. The rigid handle 4 may then be permanently secured in said lower projection 2 by means of a suitable metallic ferrule or band 5, which may be forced upon the end of the upper projection 2 or may be crimped in position, thereby to clamp said hollow projection about the end of the rigid handle 4. The body portion 1 may be provided with a series of undulations 6, as shown in the figures extending longitudinally as well as transversely thereof, in such a manner as to produce a series of successive contacting surfaces, each yieldable and capable of conforming to the general contour of the inner smooth surface of the bowl.

While in the drawings I have shown only one particular shape of body, the specific shape thereof may be varied to the extent that the ridges may be placed closer or slight protuberances may be provided on the surface of such body portion.

In order to permit the cleaning of the bowl beneath the overhanging upper peripheral flange thereof, I provide a rounded peripheral bead 7 surrounding the upper edge of the body 1, also preferably formed integral with the body portion. By means of this peripheral bead portion, it is possible to get underneath the peripheral flanges of the bowl, thus effecting a thorough cleaning of bowl.

While in the figures I have shown a cleansing device of the character stated, the body portion of which is made of a soft or resilient solid rubber, it is within the scope of my invention to produce the same of sponge rubber as well. Similarly, while the upper hollow projection also may be formed of pure rubber and integral with the body portion 1, it may be preferable to provide a

hollow projection 2 of rubberized fabric or fabric inlaid with rubber, thereby to increase the rigidity of said hollow projection and thus to increase the rigidity of the support of the handle 4, as shown particularly in Figure 4.

It will now be apparent that I have devised a novel and useful construction of a cleaning device which embodies the features of advantage enumerated as desirable in the statement of the invention and the above description, and while I have, in the present instance, shown and described a preferred embodiment thereof which will give in practice satisfactory and reliable results, it is to be understood that such embodiment is susceptible of modification in various particulars without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention or sacrificing any of its advantages.

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

1. A cleansing device of the character stated, for the interior of bowls and the like, comprising an elongated resilient body portion having a suitable variformed surface to conform to the inner surface of a bowl, an upper hollow projection, a rigid handle member secured to said projection and a peripheral bead surrounding said body and extending upwardly therefrom.

2. A cleansing device of the character stated, for the interior of bowls and the like, comprising an elongated sponge rubber portion having a suitable variformed surface to conform to the inner surface of a bowl, an upper hollow projection, a rigid handle member secured to said projection and a peripheral bead surrounding said body and extending upwardly therefrom.

3. A cleansing device of the character stated, for the interior of bowls and the like, comprising an elongated resilient body portion having a suitable variformed surface to conform to the inner surface of a bowl, a hollow projection having a fabric core, a rigid handle member secured to said projection and an upper peripheral bead surrounding said body and extending upwardly therefrom, and a metallic ferrule clamped about said hollow projection, permanently securing said handle member therein.

4. A cleansing device of the character stated, for the interior of bowls and the like, comprising an elongated resilient body portion having a suitable variformed surface to conform to the inner surface of a bowl, a hollow projection having a fabric core and an upper peripheral bead surrounding said body and extending upwardly therefrom.

FREDERICK E. STOCKWELL.