To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, CHRISTIAN WILLIAM MEINECKE, residing at Jersey City, and DANIEL HOGAN, residing at Hoboken, in the county of Hudson and State of New Jersey, citizens of the United States, have invented and useful Improvements in Operating Pads or Recepiacles, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to certain features of construction set forth in the following specification and claim, and illustrated in the annexed drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of a pad embodying this invention. Fig. 2 is a plan view of a modification. Fig. 3 is a section along x x, Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a section along y y, Fig. 1. Fig. 5 is a section along z z, Fig. 2. Fig. 6 shows the cushion of Fig. 5 when deflated. Fig. 7 shows a modified form of pad in use. Fig. 8 shows a section of the pad of Fig. 7. Fig. 9 shows a sectional view of a further modification.

In the drawings is shown a pad comprising a bottom a, with a cushion b. One wall of the cushion has a hinge or fold b at the part where it joins the bottom and which gives a fullness b and allows the wall along a hinge or fold line b to fold outwardly or away from the bottom through its entire extent, as best shown in Fig. 4 of the drawings. This hinge or fold line b may be formed in any suitable way—as, for instance, by so vulcanizing or plaiting or creasing the cushion along said line as to cause it to fold when deflated in such manner that the cushion will fold outwardly or away from the bottom of the pad. When deflated, as seen in Fig. 4, the inner wall of the cushion falls outwardly or tends to come into the plane of the bottom. To clean the cushion, it is then only necessary to brush or scrub from the central or inner portion of the bottom outward toward and over the cushion-wall which has fallen into the plane of the bottom, when thorough cleaning will be effected. When inflated, the inner wall of the cushion will rise from the bottom or stand in such position that the entire bottom remains visible and that no reëntring angle exists in which foreign or foul matter can lodge. The bottom can be extended to form an apron or outlet part. This apron can be gutter shape or with raised edges to prevent lateral escape of matter. The bottom is shown extending to or forming part of the cushion or one wall of the cushion; but of course modifications can be made and the cushion can consist of a greater or less number of sections or pieces without departing from the invention.

In the drawings is shown a pad with a cushion extending about three of its sides; but the invention is applicable also to a pad with a cushion at only two of its sides or at only one side or at all four sides.

In Fig. 7 is shown a pad with a cushion b at only one side or edge. This pad being tied or secured in the bed, as seen in Fig. 7, the cushion can ease or lie under the back of the patient. In cases of incontinence a patient lying on such a pad is prevented from soiling the bed. The patient's bedclothes could be tucked out of the way and an overlay-sheet put on the pad, which sheet can be removed from time to time.

The pad shown at Fig. 8, with cushions b at two edges, can also serve as a bed-protector and for other purposes.

What we claim as our invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

An operating-pad comprising a bottom and an inflatable cushion, said cushion consisting of a continuous wall having the inner portion thereof hinged to the said bottom and its outer portion provided with means to form an inwardly-extending fold when the cushion is deflated, thereby providing an outwardly-extending flap to facilitate the cleaning of the pad when the cushion is deflated.

In testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CHRISTIAN WILLIAM MEINECKE,
DANIEL HOGAN.

Witnesses:
GEORGE HULSBERG,
EDWARD WIESNER.