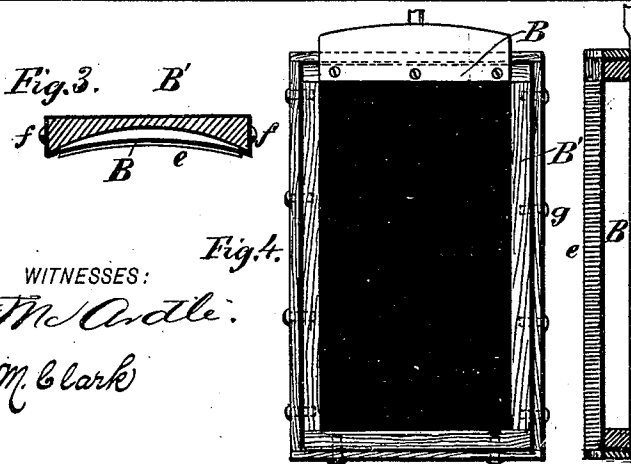
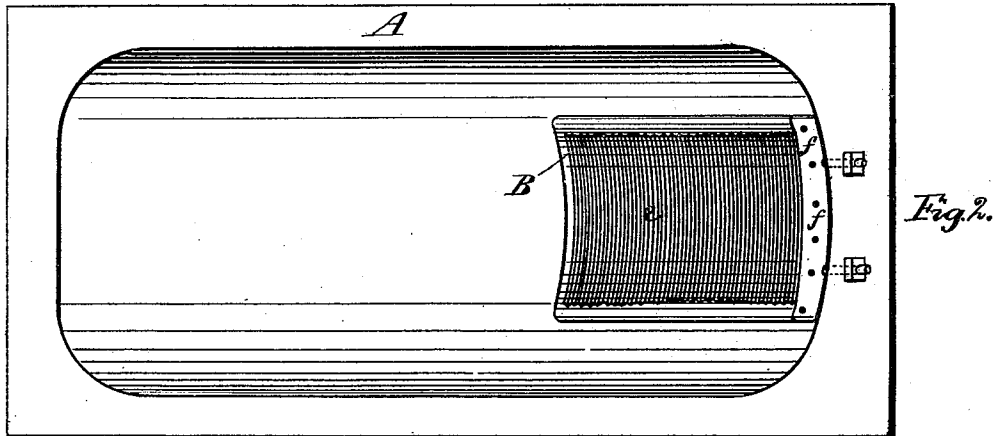
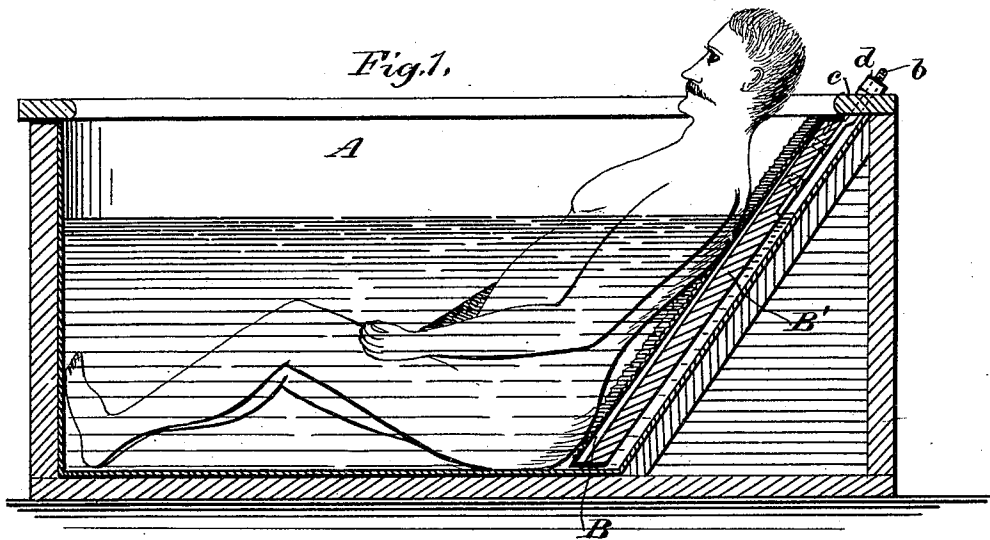


(No Model.)

M. H. WELLES.
BATH TUB ATTACHMENT.

No. 466,206.

Patented Dec. 29, 1891.



WITNESSES:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MATTHIAS H. WELLES, OF ELMIRA, NEW YORK.

BATH-TUB ATTACHMENT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 466,206, dated December 29, 1891.

Application filed April 16, 1891. Serial No. 389,512. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MATTHIAS H. WELLES, of Elmira, in the county of Chemung and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Bath-Tub Attachment, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention is an improvement in body-rubbing attachments for bath-tubs. The construction of the device is hereinafter described.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 represents a longitudinal sectional elevation of a bath-tub with my invention in one of its forms applied and showing the figure of a person as if in the act of using the attachment. Fig. 2 is a plan of the tub with its friction or rubbing attachment; Fig. 3, a transverse section of said attachment. Fig. 4 is a back view of the rubbing attachment under a modified form of construction; Fig. 5, a vertical section of the same, and Fig. 6 a transverse section thereof.

A indicates a bath-tub, preferably a short one, or what is known as a "French" tub, which, while it has a sloping back, compels the bather, if an adult, to occupy a reclining sitting position, with his feet pressed against the front or lower end of the tub to constitute a foot-rest. I prefer this style of tub, inasmuch as it dispenses with a special foot-rest, and enables the bather to use his feet and legs or limbs to advantage in cleansing the more inaccessible portions of his body, as hereinbefore referred to, by my special friction or rubbing attachment, instead of as in an ordinary long bath-tub, which would take in the full length of the person in a recumbent position, depending upon his arms and hands alone to get the necessary purchase or pressure and requisite motions of the body to effect the cleaning of special parts of the body by the rubbing attachment.

B B' indicate the friction or rubbing attachment, which, while it is made removable, should be held at a suitable angle to the horizon within the back end of the tub, and should be provided with suitable means for securing it in such position, as, for instance,

with attached inclined screw-bolts *b* at its upper end, formed with a shoulder to rest under the usual back end flange *c* of the tub, where the tub is provided with such, and secured by nuts *d* on top; but other means for securing it and providing for its detachment may be used, if desired. Said attachment B B' reaches to or nearly to the bottom of the tub and is of any desired width. It consists, essentially, of two leading parts—that is to say, in the first place, of a facing-piece or covering B, of plain perforated or corrugated rubber or other soft and flexible or fibrous material, that will present a good friction or rubbing surface, and, in the second place, of a back-support B' to said covering that will admit of the covering being readily taken off and of both its front and back sides being cleaned. The covering or facing-piece B is stretched across and suitably secured to the marginal portions of the support B', and so that when the back of the bather rests against it it will yield more or less and form a slightly-concave seat or support to his back. Thus in Figs. 1, 2, and 3 of the drawings the support B' is made of a board of transversely concave form on its face, which might be made either smooth or roughened, or the rubber covering B have corrugations *e* in its face to give a more effective friction or rubbing surface. When the back of the bather rests against this friction or rubbing covering, the latter conforms to the concavity in the board. The covering B may be secured to the board over the edges of the same by tacks *f*, which will admit of its ready removal when required to clean its back; or, instead of the concave board, an open frame, made of either wood or metal, may be used to form the support B' to the covering, as shown in Figs. 4, 5, and 6, and the covering B be hitched onto or over the sides of said frame by pins *g*. This construction exposes the back of the covering to be cleaned without detaching it from its support and forms a hollow rest for the back of the bather.

By means of this bath-tub attachment the bather is enabled to apply friction to those portions of his person which are ordinarily inaccessible, the feet and limbs, by their pressure against the lower end of the tub, causing the trunk or body to be shoved up

and down, he rolling on his sides alternately to apply friction to the backs of the arms, shoulder, and hips or other parts of his person by contact with the covering of the friction or rubbing attachment.

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

1. As an article of manufacture, the body-rubbing attachment for bath-tubs, which is constructed of a rectangular frame and a flexible covering B, applied to its face and detachably secured to its sides, as shown and described.

2. As an article of manufacture, the body-rubbing attachment for bath-tubs, constructed of a rectangular frame having screw-bolts attached to one end, and a flexible covering B, secured detachably to the sides of said frame, as shown and described.

3. The body-rubbing attachment for bath-tubs, composed of the rectangular open frame, having pins *g* projecting inward from the inner sides of the side bars, and the flexible detachable covering B, which is drawn around the side bars and hitched on said pins, as shown and described.

4. The combination, with a bath-tub, of the removable body-rubbing attachment, consisting of the frame A, and a flexible face-covering B detachably secured to it, and screw-bolts and nuts applied to the upper end of said frame for securing it rigidly to the tub, yet permitting its convenient detachment, as shown and described.

MATTHIAS H. WELLES.

Witnesses:

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