2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

M. CHURCH.

Combined Bidet and Foot Bath.

No. 222,868. Patented Dec. 23, 1879.

Fig. 1

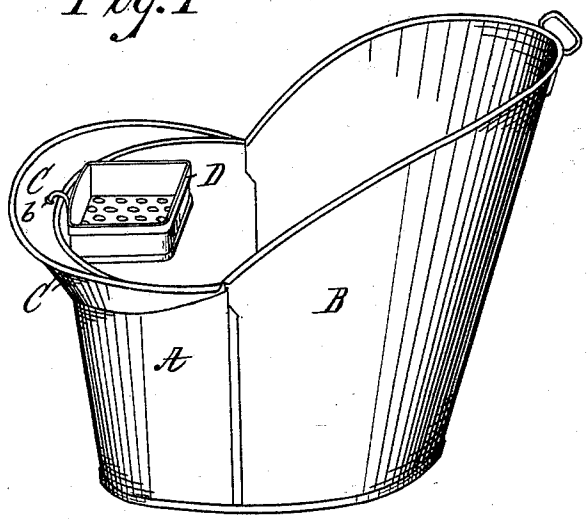
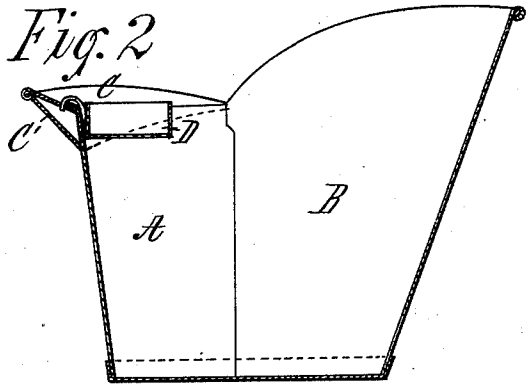


Fig. 2



Witnesses
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Inventor
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2 Sheets—Sheet 2

M. CHURCH.

Combined Bidet and Foot Bath.

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Fig. 3

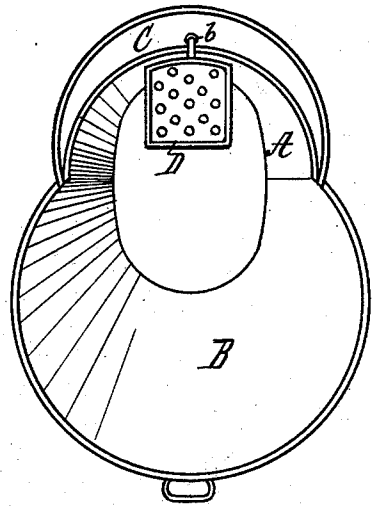
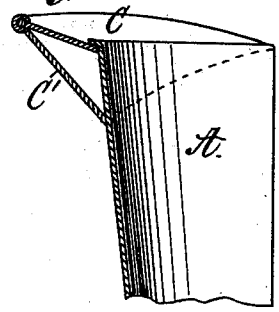


Fig. 4



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MERWIN CHURCH, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN COMBINED BIDET AND FOOT-BATH.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **222,868**, dated December 23, 1879; application filed April 3, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MERWIN CHURCH, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a Combined Bidet and Foot-Bath, or Child's Bath, or Sitz-Bath, of which the following specification is a full and clear description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective, showing the form of the combined article containing the invention. Fig. 2 is a central section of same. Fig. 3, Sheet 2, is a top view; Fig. 4, Sheet 2, a section, showing a part of one side and part of the seat attached thereto.

Like letters of reference indicate like parts.

The invention has relation to bathing vessels or tubs; and it consists in the form of construction, shape, and arrangement of the article and its parts, whereby it is adapted to the various uses for which it is intended—namely, as a bidet or article of furniture used in bathing the private parts, as a foot-bath, or child's bath, or sitz-bath, the former being the principal one had in view, the others being incidental thereto.

Heretofore the bidet has been made of very awkward shape, and was very clumsy and inconvenient to handle, use, or store, being large and high, and set upon legs, so that the user must stand astride of it, and was not adapted to any other use, and, owing to its shape, size, and construction, has been a comparatively expensive article of furniture.

My invention consists, principally, in the form and adaptation of parts shown, which render the bidet a convenient and handy article as such, and also adapts the same article to the other uses which I have above mentioned, and renders the article cheaply and easily made.

The invention consists of a reservoir of the form shown, made of sheet metal, with a flat bottom, oval in shape, and secured to the lower edge of the side pieces, so that a person may stand with his whole weight in the vessel, the bottom resting on the floor.

The body is made in two sections, one section, A, forming one half the body, being secured to the bottom, so as to stand quite perpendicular when the bottom is in a horizontal plane. This section is made about twelve inches high, (more or less,) and is provided with the crescent-shaped flange C, attached firmly to the top thereof, and projecting on the outside of the vessel for a seat. The other section, B, forming the other half of the body, is secured to the bottom at an obtuse angle thereto, is made about eighteen inches in height at its center, and has the corners rounded off at the top, so that the edges joined to A shall correspond thereto in height. The sections A B are joined together in any of the usual methods of joining pieces of sheet metal, and the bottom is secured in like manner. The seat-flange C is also secured to the top of section A by solder or any of the known ways, and is provided with the brace C′, secured to its outer edge and down on the side of section A to give said seat-flange greater strength. The said seat-flange is provided with a hole or holes, *b*, to admit the hook or hooks of a soap-dish, D, when using the bidet as a foot or leg bath; otherwise—that is, when the user sits upon the seat C—the soap-dish should be removed from the hole *b* and hooked over the rim on the opposite side.

The vessel thus formed is of an oval or oblong shape, and flaring from the bottom to the top on all its sides except the one having the flange-seat C attached, which should be quite perpendicular, in order to bear the weight of a person sitting on the seat C without tipping over the bidet.

In using the bidet as such, the user should, after removing the soap-dish, sit down upon the flanged seat C with the face toward the opposite flaring side, B, with one foot on each side of the bidet. This puts the user in a convenient and easy posture to bathe and supports him comfortably in such posture during the bathing. In using the same as a foot or leg bath, the higher side should be turned toward the user, so as to prevent the water, when washing the legs, from falling outside upon the floor.

It will readily be seen from the oblong shape of the bidet and its length, which is from eighteen to twenty-four inches, that it is well adapted to be used for a child's bath.

I am aware of the Patent of the United

States No. 205,490, granted to E. Knessner and F. Avril, July 2, 1878, and the form of bathing tub or vessel therein shown, and I make no claim to such form of tub, or any of the devices shown in said patent; but,

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

As an improvement in bidet and foot-bath, the vessel constructed with a flat, oval bottom, secured to the sides at the extreme lower edge, said sides being composed of the sections A and B, section A standing quite perpendicular, and having a flange-seat, C, projecting on the outside of the vessel, permanently secured to the top of said section A, and section B being flaring, substantially as set forth.

MERWIN CHURCH.

Witnesses:
FREDERICK C. GOODWIN,
HENRY S. TOWLE.