

No. 622,701.

Patented Apr. 11, 1899.

G. M. MERRITT.
INHALER.

(Application filed Mar. 9, 1898.)

(No Model.)

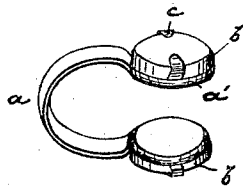


Fig. 1.

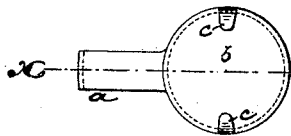


Fig. 2.

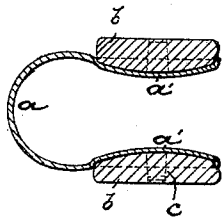


Fig. 3.

WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE M. MERRITT, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF
TO WILLIAM A. CLARK, OF SAME PLACE.

INHALER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 622,701, dated April 11, 1899.

Application filed March 9, 1898. Serial No. 673,164. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE M. MERRITT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Newark, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Inhalers; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The object of this invention is to secure a more continuous application of medicinal or curative matter to the nasal organs and air-passages of the throat and lungs or such organs as are commonly affected by catarrhal diseases, to do so without interference with or inconvenience to the operation of respiration, to enable the medicinal compounds to be inserted in the nose with convenience and without disfiguring the face, to provide a device of cheaper construction, and to secure other advantages and results, some of which may be referred to hereinafter in connection with the description of the working parts.

The invention consists in the improved inhaler and in the arrangements and combinations of parts of the same, all substantially as will be hereinafter set forth and finally embraced in the clauses of the claim.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, in which like letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in each of the several views, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved device. Fig. 2 is a side view of the same; and Fig. 3 is a sectional view taken at line *z*, Fig. 2.

In carrying out the invention I form or bend a light metallic spring *a* into the U shape shown in Figs. 1 and 3, the said spring before bending being preferably a thin and flat piece, the opposite ends of which are made broad and concavo-convex or dish-shaped. Intermediate of the broadened dish-shaped parts the narrow connecting metal is bent into a U shape, before referred to, the convex sides or backs of the enlargements *a' a'* lying toward one another, so as to engage the septum of the nose, with the dish-like cavities facing oppositely away from said septum in each nostril.

The said dish-like enlargements are in one integral piece with the connection and are of a size permitting them to easily and comfortably enter and lie in the nostrils without inconvenience. Said dish-like enlargements lie in parallel planes, as indicated in Fig. 3, and lie apart, normally, a distance somewhat less than the thickness of the septum, so that the latter will be clamped when the device is thrust into place.

Upon the concave outer sides of the broadened extremities are absorbent pads *b b*, of felt or other material, adapted to receive curative compounds or medicinal substances, such as give off by evaporation or otherwise a curative effluvium or emanation, which latter is breathed into the lungs and the air-passages. The said pads *b* are of greater breadth than thickness and lie flatwise against the septal cartilage, forming open air-passages at their broader sides, which permit a free flow of air into the nostrils, which air as it passes over the pads takes up a certain amount of the curative compound. The medicated air is thus drawn into the air-passages and lungs to produce the desired curative effects, and the curative action is constant while the device, properly furnished with medicine, is arranged in place in the nose.

The enlarged dish-shaped parts of the resilient piece *a* are at their edges provided with lips *c c*, which are bent over the pads to hold them securely in place. The rims formed around the edges of the enlargements protect the flesh of the septum from direct contact with the medicated pads, and said pads are held back from engagement with the skin opposite the septum, so as to allow a free flow of air between and prevent contact of medicine.

To apply the device to the nose, it is only necessary to slip the broadened extremities into the nostrils, when the device will be held in place by spring-power, the curved portion of the device bridging the septal cartilage and lying close thereto, so as not to be seen or to disfigure the appearance of the face. The medicines employed may be those common in use in connection with nasal or throat and lung diseases, such as beechwood creosote, oil of eucalyptus, and menthol.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim as new is—

1. The improved nasal inhaler, comprising a spring bent into U shape and having enlarged ends lying in parallel planes to lie flatwise against the opposite sides of the septum, the said enlarged ends being made dish-shaped the convex sides lying against the septum and the concave sides opening oppositely and porous pads for medicaments, lying flat within the concavities and held in place by the projecting edges of the enlargements and presenting a broad surface to the air passing into the nostrils, substantially as set forth.

2. The improved nasal inhaler, comprising a bowed spring having its opposite ends enlarged, the enlargements being dish-shaped, the concavities of one dish-shaped part facing in a direction away one from the concavity of the other dish-shaped part and the convexities of the dish-shaped parts facing

one another, so as to lie flatwise against the septum of the nose, and pads of absorbent material fastened in said concavities, the broad outer sides of which are exposed to the air passing through the nostrils, substantially as set forth.

3. The improved nasal inhaler, comprising a spring bent into a U shape and having enlarged ends lying in parallel planes to lie flatwise against the opposite sides of the septum, the edges having rims extending therearound with lips *c, c*, bent inward, and absorbent pads arranged within said rims and held by said lips, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 8th day of February, 1898.

GEORGE M. MERRITT.

Witnesses:

CHARLES H. PELL,
C. B. PITNEY.