

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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BATH ACCESSORY.

1,063,794.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK HESS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Kalispell, in the county of Flathead and State of Montana, have invented a new and Improved Bath Accessory, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

Among the principal objects which the present invention has in view are: to provide a frame for holding a wash cloth or similar device wherein the cloth or device is quickly and readily adjusted to the frame; to provide means for mounting said frame in service position upon a bath tub; and to provide a frame of the character mentioned having a convex surface.

One embodiment of the present invention is disclosed in the structure illustrated in the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, in which like characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views, and in which—

Figure 1 is a view of the back of a frame constructed and arranged in accordance with the present invention, showing in conjunction therewith a wash cloth as partially secured in service position; Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1; and Fig. 3 is a vertical section of a fragment of the bath tub, showing in conjunction therewith an accessory constructed and arranged in accordance with the present invention.

As seen in the accompanying drawings, a rigid frame 8 is connected by a cover 9. The cover 9 is partially oval or convex, as best seen in Fig. 2 of the drawings. When the towel 10 is disposed on the cover 9 the shape of the cover aids in inserting the towel in the hollows of the back of the person using the accessory. Further, the convex formation of the cover 9 renders the structure more rigid and able to resist the pressure applied on the surface thereof. The frame 8 and cover 9, therefore, may be constructed from material which is lighter than would otherwise be permitted.

To hold the cloth or towel 10 in position I provide loops, the side bars 11 of which are separated sufficiently to pass the cloth or towel therebetween, so that the cross bar 12 may rest upon the ends thereof to force the fabric within the grooves 13 which are formed in the ends of the frame 8, as seen best in Fig. 2 of the drawings.

The ends of the frame 8 are perforated to pass the side bars 11. The side bars are pivotally mounted in the crank sections 14 of the bail handles 15. The connection between the bars 11 and the crank sections 14 is made by the split heads 16, one of which is mounted on each end of the side bars 11. The open ends of the slots formed in the heads 16 permit the crank sections to pass within said slots to be therein held by the screws 17. The bail handles 15 are each provided with a roller grip 18 by which the bails and crank sections are manipulated.

With a structure such as described the operation of placing a towel or cloth in operative position is as follows: The bail handles 15 are both moved to a position toward the adjacent ends of the frame 8. The crank sections 14 are thereby rotated so that the heads 16, side bars 11 and cross bar 12 are moved lengthwise of the frame, the said cross bar being separated from the ends of the frame to leave a space therebetween. One end of the towel 10 is now inserted within the loop formed by the side bars 11 and the cross bar 12, when the bail handle at that end of the frame is moved toward the center of the frame, the crank sections 14 therewith connected pulling upon the heads 16, the side bars 11 and the cross bar 12 to close the latter upon the interposed cloth and force the same within the groove 13. In this position the cloth is drawn as tightly as deemed necessary upon the cover 9, and the remaining free end of the cloth is then inserted between the opposite end of the frame 8 and the corresponding cross bar 12. The operator then grasping the grip 18 turns the bail handle 15 and parts connected therewith to close the cross bar 12 tightly upon the interposed cloth, forcing the same into the groove 13 at the corresponding end of the frame.

The crank sections 14 and bail handles 15 connected therewith are so disposed that the crank sections pass the dead center of their movement relative to the side bars 11; or in other words, the centers of the side bars 11 are between a line drawn through the axis of the crank section and the cover 9. In this manner the bail handle is held rigidly in position, the pull of the cloth upon the side bars 11 operating to hold the grips 18 of the bail handles 15 more firmly against the cover 9.

The device is intended for adjustment upon a bath tub, and preferably upon the inclined end thereof. For this purpose the brackets 19 are provided. The brackets 19
5 are hook-shaped, as seen best in Fig. 3 of the drawings. Each bracket is secured to the cover 9 by means of a rivet 20. (See Fig. 1 of the drawings.)

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

1. A bath accessory comprising a frame; a plurality of U-shaped loop members slidably mounted in said frame; a plurality of
15 crank sections pivotally connected with said loop members to draw the loops toward said frame; and means for rotating said sections, said means being disposed within the plane of said frame when in service
20 position.

2. A bath accessory comprising a frame; a plurality of U-shaped loop members slidably mounted in said frame; a plurality of
25 crank sections pivotally connected with said loop members to draw the loops toward said frame; and a bail handle operatively connecting said crank sections to operate the same, said bail handle being disposed above the lower edge of said frame when in service
30 position.

3. A bath accessory comprising a hollow frame; a fixed cover therefor, a plurality of U-shaped loops slidably mounted in said
35 frame; a plurality of bail handles pivotally mounted in said frame and provided with relatively short crank sections; and means

for uniting the ends of said loops and said crank sections.

4. A bath accessory comprising a hollow metal frame, the ends whereof are externally
40 grooved; a plurality of bail handles pivotally mounted in the sides of said frame and having relatively short crank sections; a plurality of bent wire loops slidably mounted in said frame to form a gripping section
45 with the outer surface of the ends thereof, said loops coinciding with the grooves in said ends; and means for connecting the ends of said loops and said crank sections.

5. A bath accessory, comprising a hollow
50 metal frame, the ends whereof are externally grooved; a plurality of bail handles pivotally mounted in the sides of said frame and having relatively short crank sections; a
55 plurality of bent wire loops slidably mounted in said frame to form a gripping section with the outer surface of the ends thereof, said loops coinciding with the grooves in said ends; means for connecting the ends
60 of said loops and said crank sections; and a mounting for said bail handles in the sides of said frame to permit the juncture of said loops and crank sections to pass within the pivotal axis of said bail handles.

In testimony whereof I have signed my
35 name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

FRANK HESS.

Witnesses:

T. A. THOMPSON,
GRACE E. TAYLOR.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents,
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