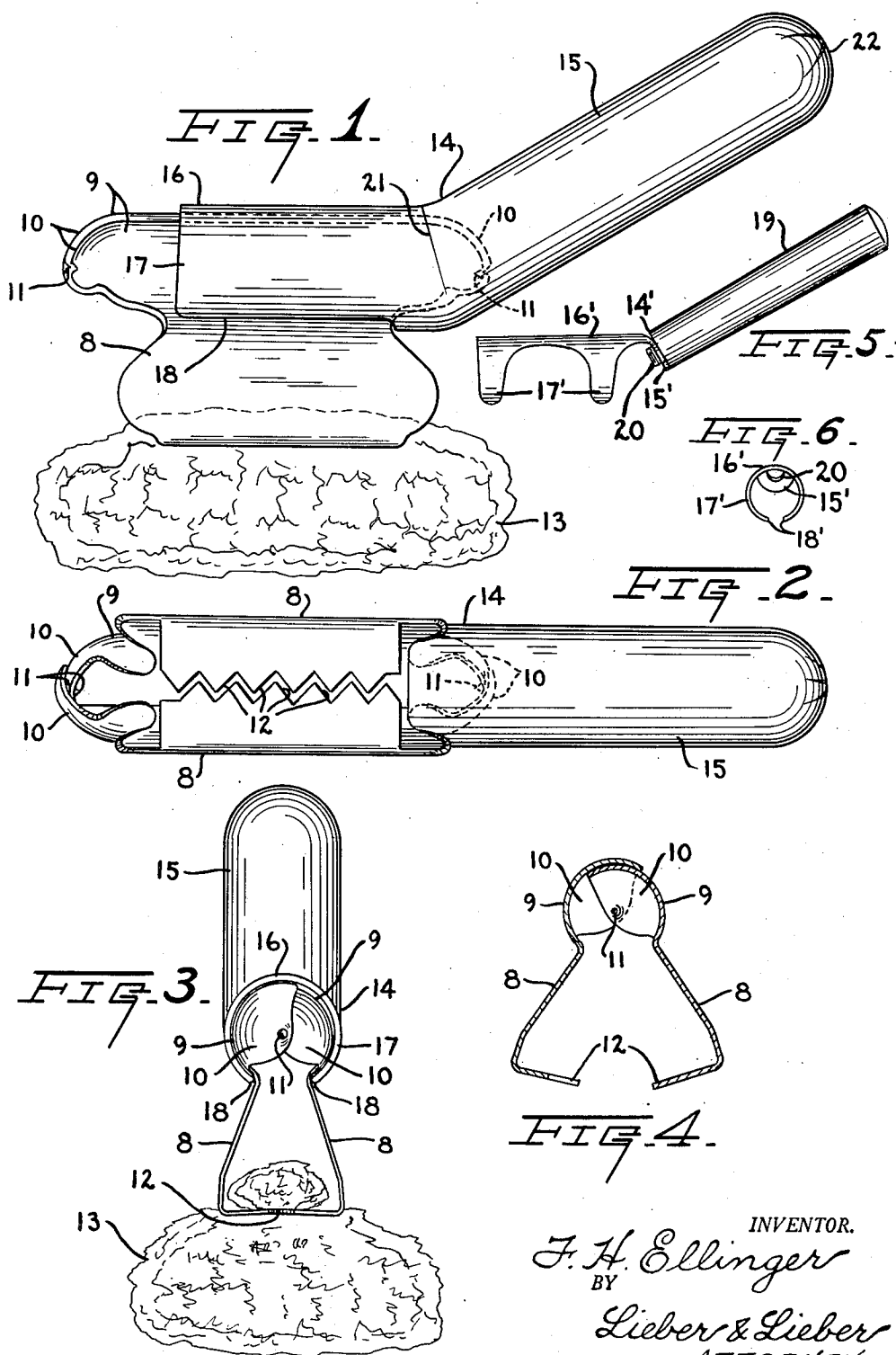


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SCOURING PAD GRIPPER AND LOCKING AND
MANIPULATING DEVICE THEREFOR
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SCOURING PAD GRIPPER AND LOCKING
AND MANIPULATING DEVICE THEREFOR

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3 Claims. (Cl. 15—209)

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The present invention relates generally to improvements in the art of cleaning or scouring, and relates more particularly to improvements in the construction and operation of scouring pad gripping devices of the type disclosed generally in my co-pending application Serial No. 716,280, filed December 14, 1946, which has matured into Patent No. 2,484,986, granted Oct. 18, 1949, and to improved mechanisms for locking such devices in clamping position and for manipulating the same.

A primary object of the present invention is to provide an improved scouring pad gripper and locking and manipulating device therefor which is extremely simple, durable, and compact in construction, and which is moreover highly efficient in use and flexible in its adaptations.

The average housewife often experiences considerable difficulty in manipulating wire mesh or cloth scouring pads, sponges, and the like during scrubbing or cleansing operations; and this is especially true when it is necessary to tightly grip the pad or sponge and to apply considerable pressure in order to remove any foreign matter and thoroughly cleanse diverse articles such as pots and pans. Furthermore, when wire mesh or steel wool pads are used in the customary manner for effecting removal of hardened or tacky substances from the surfaces of diverse objects, sharp wire ends protruding from the pad make it difficult and unpleasant for the housewife to effectively grip the scouring pad with her usually sensitive and delicate hands; and quite frequently these sharp protruding wire ends cause painful and infectious scratches or skin punctures.

Numerous instrumentalities for gripping these scouring pads for aiding in the manipulation thereof have heretofore been proposed, the majority of such prior devices being objectionable because of undue bulkiness, lack of simplicity, costliness and the like; and in my co-pending application hereinabove identified, I have disclosed a scouring pad gripping implement which obviates the disadvantages of the prior devices and which is simple, compact and durable in construction, inexpensive to manufacture, sanitary and efficient in use, and which may be readily and easily manipulated by a novice with safety and without the necessity of handling the scouring pad or scrubbing member.

It is, however, a more specific object of my present invention to provide an improved device which is readily applicable in a simple manner to scouring pad grippers of the type disclosed generally in my above-identified co-pending applica-

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tion to positively lock the clamping jaws thereof in operative position and to provide a convenient gripping handle for the manipulation thereof.

Another specific object of the present invention is to provide an improved scouring pad gripper and locking and manipulating device therefor which is exceedingly simple and compact in construction and which may be readily produced in large quantities at low cost.

Still another specific object of my present invention is to provide an improved unitary device which may be easily applied by a novice to effectively lock the clamping jaws of a scouring pad gripper and which serves also as a manipulating handle for the assemblage.

These and other specific objects and advantages of the present invention will be apparent from the following detailed description.

A clear conception of the features constituting my present improvement and of the mode of constructing and of utilizing scouring pad grippers provided with my improved locking and manipulating device may be had by referring to the drawing accompanying and forming a part of this specification wherein like reference characters designate the same or similar parts in the several views.

Fig. 1 is a side view of a typical improved scouring pad gripping implement showing a scouring pad clamped in place between the jaws thereof and with one of my improved locking and manipulating devices applied thereto;

Fig. 2 is a bottom view of the assemblage with the scouring pad removed from the jaws thereof;

Fig. 3 is an end view of the assemblage, showing a scouring pad clamped in place between the jaws as in Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a transverse vertical section through the scouring pad gripping implement with the locking and manipulating accessory and the pad removed therefrom and with the jaws in open position;

Fig. 5 is a somewhat reduced side view of a modified form of locking and manipulating device for scouring pad grippers of the type shown in Figs. 1 to 4; and

Fig. 6 is similarly reduced end view of the device shown in Fig. 5.

While the invention has been shown and described herein as being specifically applied to, and adapted for use with, a scouring pad and gripping implement therefor of particular types, it is not my desire or intention to thereby unnecessarily restrict the scope or utility of the improvement.

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Referring to the drawing, the typical improved scouring pad gripping implement with which my improved locking and manipulating device is intended to be used, comprises in general, a pair of clamping members or jaws 8 formed of sheet metal or the like and having arcuate flanges 9 at one end thereof, the arcuate flanges being provided with opposite integral end flaps 10 formed with cooperating pivot points or notches 11 coaxial with the arcuate flanges 9 thereby forming an elongated dome-shaped portion, the clamping or jaw members 8 being also formed with cooperable inwardly directed gripping teeth 12 along the free or swinging end thereof.

In use without the aid of the locking and manipulating member to be hereinafter described, the clamping members or jaws 8 of the gripping implement may be readily swung apart about the pivot formed by the cooperating notches 11, as shown in Fig. 4, until the teeth 12 are spread a sufficient distance apart to effect a firm bite in the scouring pad 13 or the like. The open jaws 8 are then placed in contact with the pad 13, and the jaws may thereafter be swung about the pivots 11 toward closed position by application of pressure to the arcuate flanges 9, the teeth or serrations 12 biting into the pad 13 as shown in Figs. 1 and 3. As long as pressure is applied in an obvious manner to the arcuate portions 9, the pad 13 will be firmly clamped by the jaws 8, and the device may be manipulated so as to rub and cleanse the desired surfaces with the pad; and when it is desired to remove the pad 13 from between the jaws 8, it is only necessary to release the pressure on the cooperating arcuate portions 9 and spread the jaws 8 apart in an obvious manner.

My present invention further contemplates provision of an accessory for scouring pad gripping implements of the general type hereinabove described and comprises, in general, an elongated member designated generally by the numeral 14 bent or otherwise formed intermediate its ends to provide a gripping and manipulating portion 15 and a locking portion 16 disposed at an angle to the gripping portion, the locking portion 16 being provided with, or shaped in the form of, a depending tube or ring 17 split longitudinally along its lower face to form a groove or slot, as at 18, to permit snug longitudinal reception of the dome or arcuate portions 9 of the pad gripping implement when the jaws 8 thereof are in substantially closed gripping position.

The locking and manipulating device may be readily formed of tubular sheet metal stock, as disclosed in Figs. 1 to 3, with a wedge-shaped section removed, as at 21, from its medial portion and with the opposite ends 15, 16 bent back at an angle to each other, the end of the tubular gripping portion 15 being closed, as at 22, in an obvious manner. The lower groove 18 in the ring or tube section 17 should be of sufficient width to snugly coact with the narrowed portion of the jaws 8 immediately adjacent the arcuate flanges 9 of the clamping implement when the jaws are substantially closed, and this ring or tube section 17 is formed of spring steel or the like so that locking pressure is constantly exerted upon the clamping jaws 8 when the locking and manipulating device 14 is applied.

Referring particularly to the modified form of locking and manipulating device 14' shown in Figs. 5 and 6, this device comprises, in general, an elongated tubular locking portion 16' having arcuate side sections removed therefrom to

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provide spaced depending ring portions 17' split at the lower faces thereof, as indicated by the numeral 18', to permit snug longitudinal reception of the dome 9 of the pad gripping implement, one end of the portion 16' being bent as at 15' to provide a flange for receiving a gripping handle 19, the handle 19 being detachably secured to the flange 15' in any suitable manner as by means of a threaded end shank 20 cooperable with a receiving socket in the flange 15'.

The improved device may be readily applied, manipulated, and removed in an obvious manner, and is extremely simple in construction and efficient in use. After the jaws 8 of the gripping implement are swung toward closed position with the teeth 12 thereof in biting engagement with the pad 13, it is only necessary to slide the split tube or rings 17 or 17' longitudinally over the dome formed by the arcuate flanges 9 of the gripping implement, and the jaws 8 will be maintained or locked in clamping or biting engagement with the pad 13 in an obvious manner. The user may then manipulate the scouring pad 13 by gripping the handle portion 15 or 19; and when it is desired to remove the scouring pad 13 from the jaws 8, it is merely necessary to slide the tube or rings 17 or 17' longitudinally from the dome formed by the flanges 9 and thereafter spread the jaws 8 in an obvious manner.

From the foregoing detailed description, it is apparent that my present invention contemplates provision of an improved scouring pad gripping implement and a locking and manipulating device therefor which are extremely simple in construction, efficient in use, and economical to manufacture. Both the scouring pad gripper and the locking and manipulating accessory may be readily formed in an obvious manner of sheet metal or the like, and the device may be manipulated without danger of injury. Devices manufactured in accordance with the invention may be produced at low cost to the user, and they are simple, compact, durable and sanitary. While the improved devices have been shown and described herein as particularly useful with a specific type of scouring pad, and a specific type of improved gripping implement has been shown and described in detail, they may obviously be utilized to good advantage with pads of cloth or rubber or the like and the gripping element and locking accessory could of course be modified without departing from the spirit of the invention.

It should therefore be understood that it is not desired or intended to limit this invention to the exact details of construction or to the precise mode of use herein shown and described, for various modifications within the scope of the claims may occur to persons skilled in the art to which the invention pertains.

I claim:

1. A scouring pad gripping implement comprising, a pair of elongated jaw members having inwardly directed cooperable teeth formed along one side thereof and adapted to grip a scouring pad therebetween, said jaw members each having a longitudinal arcuate upwardly projecting flange remote from said teeth and extending longitudinally beyond the opposite ends thereof and being pivotally united to each other at their extreme extended end portions to form a manipulating dome and to permit swinging movement of said jaw members relative to each other.

2. A scouring pad gripping implement comprising, a pair of elongated jaw members having

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inwardly directed cooperable teeth formed along one side thereof and adapted to grip a scouring pad therebetween, said jaw members each having a longitudinal arcuate upwardly projecting flange remote from said teeth and extending longitudinally beyond the opposite ends thereof and being pivotally united to each other at their extreme extended end portions to form a manipulating dome and to permit swinging movement of said jaw members relative to each other, and a locking and manipulating element for said jaw members having a tubular portion longitudinally applicable to said dome and provided with a handle extending longitudinally away from one end of said tubular portion and providing a stop for said dome.

3. A scouring pad gripping implement comprising, a pair of elongated jaw members having inwardly directed cooperable teeth formed along one side thereof and adapted to grip a scouring pad therebetween, said jaw members each having a longitudinal arcuate upwardly projecting flange remote from said teeth and extending longitudinally beyond the opposite ends thereof and being pivotally united to each other at their extreme extended end portions to form a manipulating dome and to permit swinging movement of said jaw members relative to each other, and a locking and manipulating element for said jaw members having a tubular portion longitudinally applicable to said dome and provided with a handle extending longitudinally away from one end of said tubular portion and providing a stop for said dome.

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treme extended end portions to form a manipulating dome and to permit swinging movement of said jaw members relative to each other, and a locking and manipulating element for said jaw members having a tubular portion longitudinally applicable to said dome and provided with a handle inclined upwardly and extending longitudinally away from one end of said tubular portion and providing a stop for said dome.

FLORA H. ELLINGER.

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