March 15, 1927. 1,621,212

M. C. MYERS

SURGICAL INSTRUMENT

Filed Dec. 26, 1922

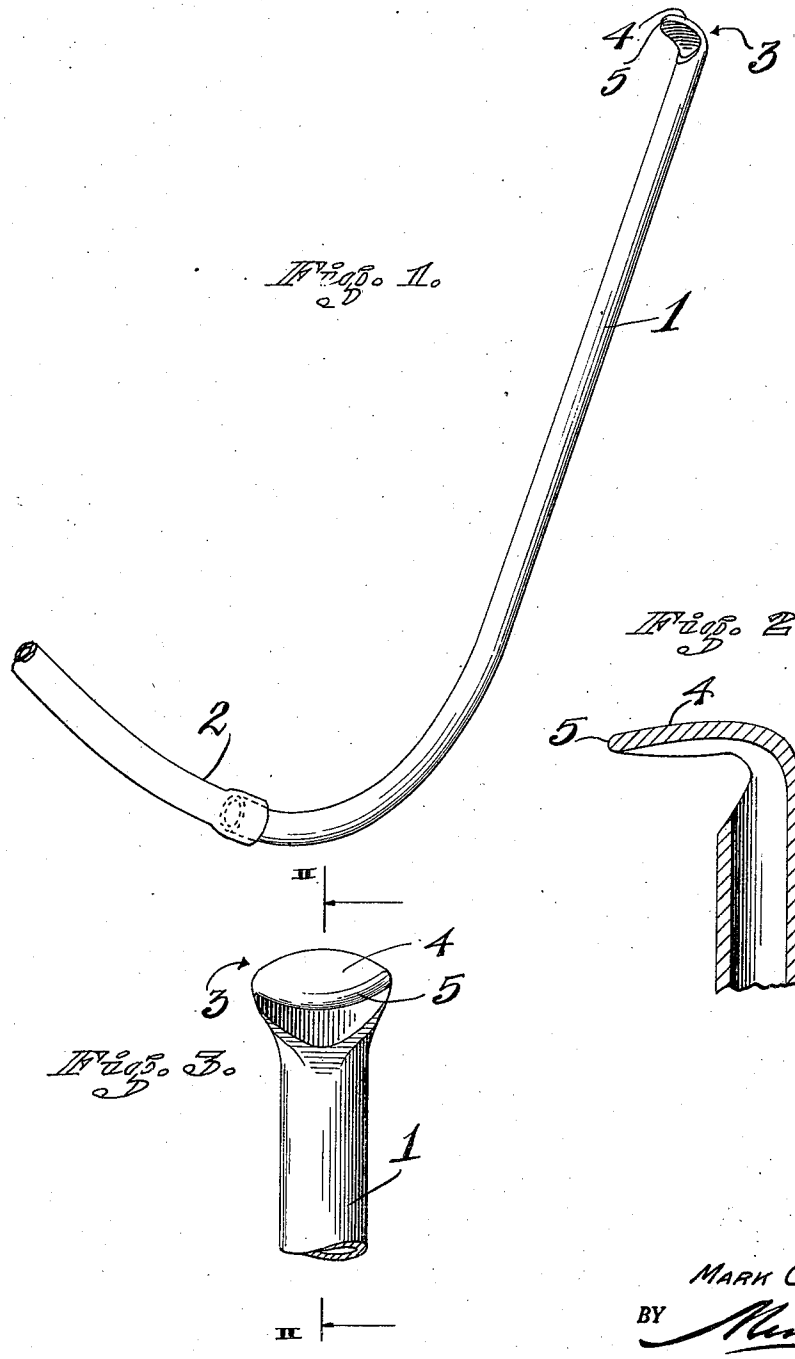


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

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SURGICAL INSTRUMENT.

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My invention relates in general to the art of surgery and has reference more particularly to an instrument for curetting, scraping and otherwise treating internal and external cavities and organs.

As heretofore practiced, some forms of curetting devices have usually been adapted for use in connection with a so-called irrigating or flushing method requiring a more or less constant supply of water or other liquid usually discharged adjacent the end of the device to wash away scraped or otherwise removed dead tissue from the cavity, or other parts treated. In using my device I am able to do away with this flushing or irrigating method and employ a so-called suction method for removing the dead tissue. The device which I contemplate acts in a dual capacity so to speak, in that it provides a medium for directing the suction where needed and also meets all the requirements of an instrument for practicing this kind of surgery.

For the purpose of illustrating the salient features of my invention reference will now be made to the device shown in the accompanying drawing, and in which Figure 1 is a view in perspective of one form of the device, Figure 2 is a longitudinal section on the line II—II of Figure 3, and Figure 3 is a detail view in front elevation of the head of the device.

Referring now to the drawing in detail I propose to use a suction tube (1) which may be made of glass, metal, or any other suitable material, and of different sizes and designs to meet requirements, the same formed at one end to receive a flexible hose or the like (2) with the opposite end terminating in a head (3). In constructing the head (3) I suggest cutting away one side of the tube adjacent the end thereof and bending over the remaining side to leave a hood or lip (4) which overhangs the intake opening in the tube. Furthermore, in constructing the head I desire to make the intake opening provided as above mentioned cup-shaped and flared so as to present a relatively large intake in order to cover as wide an area as possible. The overhanging lip or hood forms two functions, first, since it extends beyond the side of the tube the edge (5) thereof may be used as a scraper, and while the same does not need to be sharp or pointed, it may be so made to meet requirements as needed. The function of the hood or lip meets the requirements of a protector, so to speak, in that it guards the walls of the cavity being treated so that there is no danger of the same being sucked into the intake opening when the device is used for removing pus from cavities. When the device is used for scraping purposes the dead tissue, as it is removed by the edge of the lip, will be directed into the intake opening where it will be carried through the tube by the suction thereof.

I claim:

A curette having a tubular shank adapted to be connected to the suction tube of a manually operable suction bulb at one end, the opposite end portion of said shank being flared and one side of the flared portion cut away on a diagonal line with the remaining side bent transversely and at right angles to the axis of the shank at a point substantially midway between the outer and inner ends of the sloped edge, whereby a flared intake opening is provided into the tubular shank together with a concavo-convex lip having a rounded side disposed in overhanging relation to the intake opening.

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