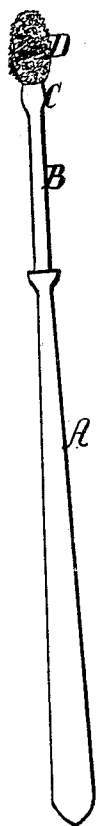


G. S. & M. F. Lovell.

Probang.

Nº 92,980.

Patented Jul. 27, 1869.



Witnesses;

Phibe I Lovell

Lida E Lovell

Inventors;

George S. Lovell

Mary H. Lovell

United States Patent Office.

GEORGE S. LOVELL AND MARY F. LOVELL, OF PHILADELPHIA,
PENNSYLVANIA.

Letters Patent No. 92,980, dated July 27, 1889.

IMPROVEMENT IN PROBANGS, OR INSTRUMENTS FOR TREATING DISEASED ORIFICES.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern :

Be it known that we, GEORGE S. LOVELL and MARY F. LOVELL, of the city and county of Philadelphia, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Probang, or Instrument for Laving, Purging, and Medically Treating the Ear, Throat, Nostrils, and other organs and orifices of the human system; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawing, making part of this specification.

A represents the handle,
B, the stem, and
C, an elastic chamber or receptacle; and
D represents an elastic or flexible bulb of any suitable material.

From the handle A, which may be made of ivory, bone, gutta-percha, wood, or other suitable material, rigid enough to sustain the parts, projects the stem B, surmounted by the bulb D, which may be made of sponge, camel's hair, bristles, silk, or other material sufficiently soft and flexible for the purposes required, it being inserted in the flexible chamber or receptacle C, and retained, as will be hereafter more fully explained.

Whenever it may be requisite or desirable for the treatment of irregular or other organs, the stem may be made of flexible material, capable of conforming thereto, or may be shaped to suit the passage.

The bulb is secured in place by means of an elastic chamber at the end of the stem, which receives and retains it by means of its contracted mouth.

This receptacle may be made of greater thickness and less diameter than the lower part or supporting-sleeve or collar, so as to contract upon the bulb with great tension, when it is therein inserted, and retain it in its position, without the aid of other means, though, if necessary, the upper part of the handle may be punctured, for the insertion of fastening-threads, to hold the bulb more firmly, or the bulb may be bound on the end of the handle, by means of a thread wound around the outside, and then covered by the receptacle.

By such arrangement, the person using the instru-

ment can easily detach the old bulb, and replace it with a new one, when required.

This mode of securely fastening the bulb to the extreme end of the handle in such way that it cannot be detached, leaves the bulb free to move in all directions, and makes it free from the rigid end of the supporting-handle, which so often injures tender parts, by being forced or rubbed against them.

This instrument is designed for laving and cleansing the ear, throat, nostrils, and other organs and orifices of the human system, and for removing therefrom extraneous matter, and in medical or surgical practice it may be employed with good results, like the ordinary probang.

In using the instrument, the bulb, which is moistened or saturated with water or other fluid, conforms itself to the inner surface of the organ to which it is applied, penetrates the interstices, purges the pores, membranes, and other parts of foreign substances, and by reason of its flexibility and elasticity, the instrument yields to the pressure of the hand, and neither injures nor irritates the tympanum, membranes, nor other organism, unlike tweezers, and other metallic or rigid instruments, which are commonly employed for such purposes.

By its operation, the internal surface of the organ is thoroughly laved and purged, without harm or risk of injury, and through its agency medicated applications may be readily and efficiently made to a diseased or afflicted part of the internal structure of the organ.

What we claim as our invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination, with the handle A, of the elastic supporting and retaining-cap C, retained thereon by means of the stem B, substantially in the manner and for the purposes set forth.

GEORGE S. LOVELL.
MARY F. LOVELL.

Witnesses :

F. E. FELTON,
JOHN TITUS.