C. E. POLLARD.

OSTEOPATHIC INSTRUMENT.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 12, 1920.

1,398,150. Patented Nov. 22, 1921.

Fig. 1.

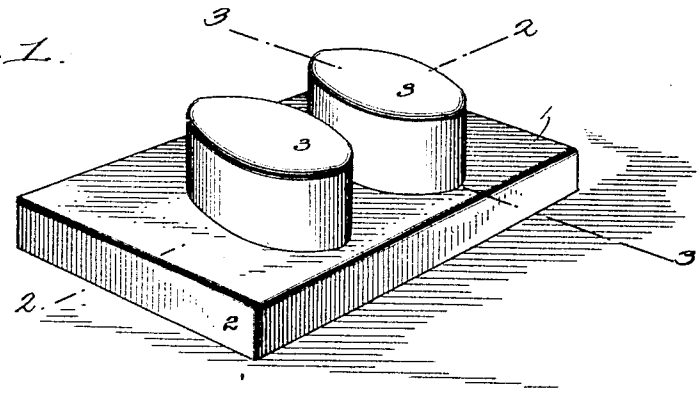


Fig. 2.

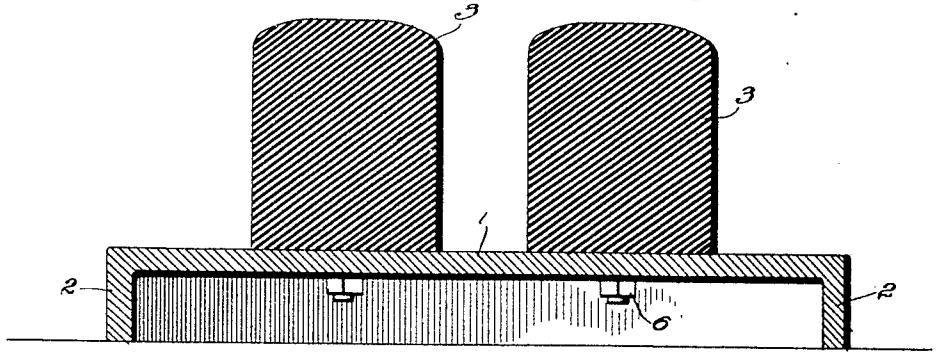
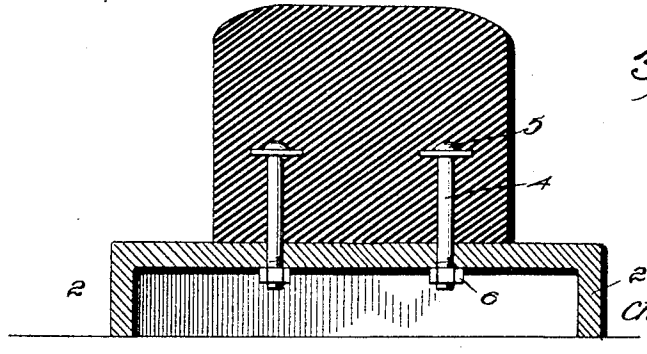


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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OSTEOPATHIC INSTRUMENT.

1,398,150. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Nov. 22, 1921.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES E. POLLARD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Champaign, in the county of Champaign and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Osteopathic Instruments, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to osteopathic instruments, and it comprises a base, a pair of cushion blocks mounted on the base and projecting upwardly therefrom, and means for securing the blocks to the base.

The present invention relates to a device for use in spinal work. An object of the invention is to produce an instrument which may be employed for blocking of the nerve forces so as to decrease the nerve force, relax the spinal tissues in the region affected, and alter the blood current as a result of the change in nerve and tissue conditions. In use, the appliance is placed on a table and the patient lies on his back with the device under him and applied to certain areas of the spine, the point of application to be determined by charts and descriptive matter. Suitable charts will be used to show how and when to apply the device to a nerve center indicated as the nerve center to be treated by the pressure exerted by the application of the instrument. The instrument is to be used in place of the fingers of the osteopath to apply continued pressure to certain points of the body.

I am aware that certain prior patents have been granted on osteopathic instruments wherein projecting ribs or ledges are mounted on a base and adapted to exert pressure on the back of a patient to be treated, the patient lying with his back on the instrument, but in such prior apparatus, the projecting rib or ledge is extended for a considerable distance and in use it is impossible to restrict the point of application of the pressure. In osteopathic work, it is frequently desirable and necessary to apply pressure at one given spot, and no other, to obtain the desired results, and the present invention is particularly useful in work of this character.

In the accompanying drawings, I have shown one embodiment of the invention. Referring to the drawings,

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the instrument.

Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal sectional view on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1, and

Fig. 3 is a transverse vertical sectional view on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

In the drawings, the reference numeral 1 generally designates the base of the instrument. As shown, the base is made of metal and is provided with depending flanges 2 on all four sides, whereby the body portion is suitably spaced from the table or support. A pair of cushion blocks 3, made of rubber or other suitable material, is arranged on the base and projects upwardly therefrom. As shown, the blocks are substantially elliptical in horizontal cross section and are of a size whereby pressure may be applied to a single nerve center or to a single vertebra in the spine of the patient. The blocks may be secured to the base in any suitable manner. As shown, bolts 4 are employed, these bolts being embedded in the body portion of the blocks and provided with heads 5 to prevent displacement. The ends of the bolts project a suitable distance from the bottom of the blocks to permit them to pass through openings in the base. These ends are provided with screw threads and are adapted to receive fastening nuts 6.

In use, the device is placed on a table and the patient lies on his back with the rubber pads in engagement with the body at the points where pressure is to be applied. The instrument is useful in the treatment of all diseases that may be influenced by manipulation and treatment of the spinal column and the nerves and muscles along the same. By the use of this device, pressure may be exerted at any desired point along the spinal column, whereby ribs and vertebræ may be adjusted and nerves and nerve centers along the spinal column may be either stimulated or inhibited. The device eliminates the necessity of application of pressure by the hands of the operator which is very tiring to the osteopath.

It is to be understood that, while I have described the preferred embodiment of my invention, various changes in the shape, size, and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the subjoined claims.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

1. An osteopathic instrument comprising a base, and a pair of spaced relatively short cushion blocks secured to the upper face thereof, the upper edges of the blocks which are adjacent each other and adapted to engage the patient's body at each side of the spine being elliptical in form and the long axes of the upper surfaces arranged transversely of the base, whereby the blocks are closer together intermediate their ends than at their ends.

2. An osteopathic instrument comprising a base, and a pair of relatively short spaced stationary cushion blocks secured to the upper face thereof, the upper edges of said blocks being rounded, the upper edges of the blocks which are adjacent each other and adapted to engage the patient's body at each side of the spine being elliptical in form and the long axes of the upper surfaces arranged transversely of the base, whereby the blocks are closer intermediate their ends than at their ends.

3. An osteopathic instrument comprising a base, downwardly projecting flanges formed on the sides and ends thereof, a pair of substantially elliptical cushion blocks arranged on the upper surface of the base, bolts embedded in said blocks and having their lower ends projecting downwardly below the bottom of said blocks, the upper surface of said base being provided with openings for the reception of the lower ends of the bolts, and nuts arranged upon the ends of the bolts to secure the blocks to the base.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

CHARLES EMERSON POLLARD.

Witnesses:

LUCILE BIGELOW POLLARD,

GEO. M. GLASSCO.