March 25, 1924. 1,488,332

A. FOERG

BATH SPONGE

Filed Feb. 5, 1923

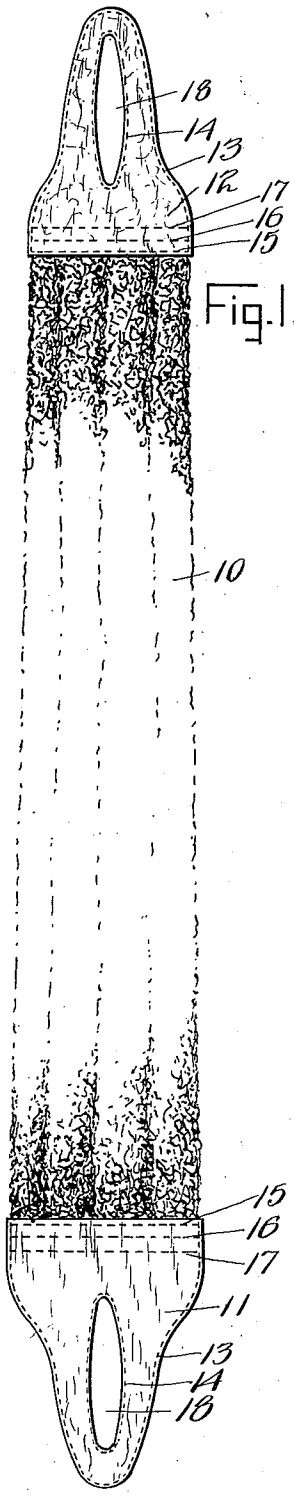
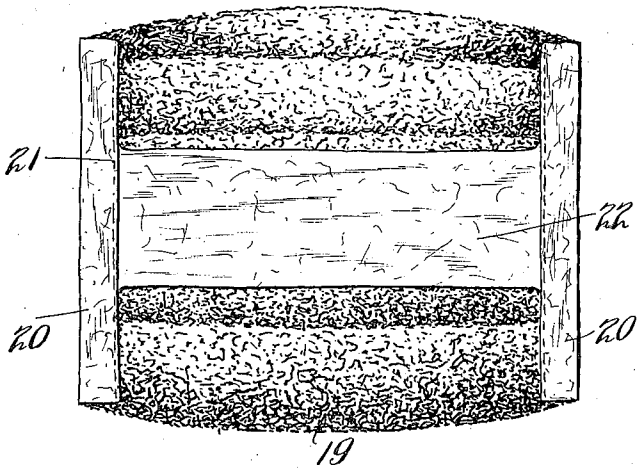


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.



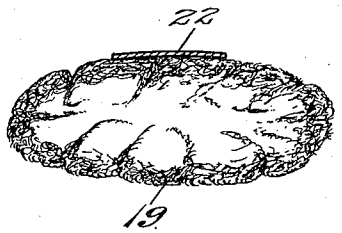


Fig. 3.

Inventor

Annie Foerg

By E. E. Bradford

Attorney

Patented Mar. 25, 1924. 1,488,332

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANNIE FOERG, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

BATH SPONGE.

Application filed February 5, 1923. Serial No. 617,150.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANNIE FOERG, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bath Sponges, of which the following is a specification.

My said invention relates to an improvement in bath sponges and it is an object of the same to provide a sponge of the type known as "luffa", which consists of the inner fibrous content of a variety of gourd, with means for manipulating it which shall be convenient, inexpensive and permanent.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, which are made a part hereof and on which similar reference characters indicate similar parts,

Figure 1 is a plan view of one form of my invention, and

Figure 2 is a similar view of a modified form.

Figure 3 is a cross section of the device shown in Figure 1.

In the drawings reference character 10 indicates the body of the sponge which consists of the whole or a part of the fibrous mass in the interior of a "luffa" gourd, the seeds being removed therefrom. This fibrous body is hollow and open at both ends. According to my invention I have provided handles 11 and 12 at the opposite ends of the body, these handles each consisting of a pair of strips or pieces of material preferably water-proof, here shown as sewed along the lines 13 and 14. When thus sewed together the handle has an open end adapted to surround the end of the fibrous body and after the fibrous body is introduced into the handle the parts are connected by lines of stitches 15, 16, 17 which may pass directly through the fibrous body and through both the side members of the handle. By another method the strips may be sewed to opposite sides of the body before being sewed together by seams 13 and 14. The handles may of course be made in various ways by molding each of them out of rubber in a single piece or they may be made of strips of rubber or leather sewed together as above indicated and in various other ways. In any case this structure prevents any foreign matter from gaining access to the interior of the body where it might find lodgment and decay or otherwise become objectionable.

In the use of the device shown in Figure 1 the thumbs or forefingers may be hooked in the openings 18 for convenience in washing the back, the proportions of the parts being so arranged as to make it of convenient length. It is a part of my purpose to grade the sponges for sale according to size into lengths suitable for example for men, women and children.

In Figure 2 I have shown a modified form adapted to be placed on one hand of the user. In this case the fibrous body is cut into short lengths and one such length 19 is provided at each end with a strip of material 20 folded so as to close the opening into the hollow body and extend over both sides of the same, after which the parts may be secured together by a row of stitches as indicated at 21, such stitches extending through the body and through the opposite edges of the strip 20. A handle 22 underneath which the fingers may be inserted is secured to each of the strips 20 and may if desired be inserted beneath the adjacent edges of the two opposed strips so as to be secured to the device by two seams 21 or if desired it may be separately sewed to the body or to the strips 20 or to both.

It will be understood that while this device is primarily intended for use as a bath sponge it may have other uses and that the specific structure may be varied without departing from the spirit of the invention, the true scope of which is indicated in the appended claims.

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

1. A cleaning device comprising open-ended tubular body of the fibrous interior of the luffa gourd, and a closure secured to each end of said body comprising a flexible fabric member having portions overlying opposite sides of said body and closing the ends, substantially as set forth.

2. A cleaning device comprising a hollow section of the fibrous interior of the luffa gourd, and handles attached to each end of the same said handles each enclosing an end of said section, substantially as set forth.

3. A bath sponge comprising a tubular

body formed of the fibrous interior of the luffa gourd, a handle surrounding and connected to each end thereof, said handles each comprising a pair of strips of material having registering slots, a seam surrounding the slots and connecting said strips, and a seam connecting the free margins of said strips, substantially as set forth.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal at New York, New York this 29th day of January, A. D. nineteen hundred and twenty-three.

ANNIE FOERG. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

CHARLES W. HYER.

JULIA C. HYER.