

J. J. LOONEY.
Voltaic-Pessary.

No. 216,281.

Patented June 10, 1879.

Fig 1.

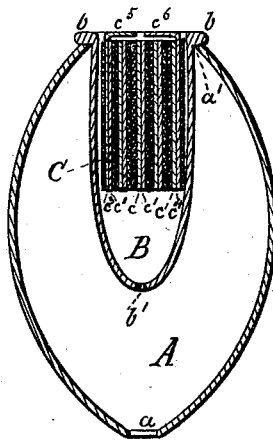


Fig 2.

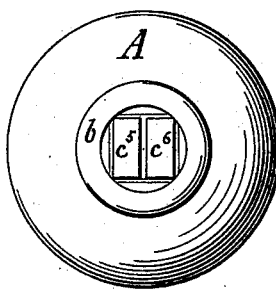
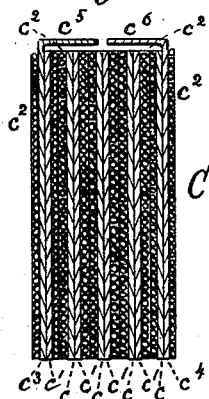


Fig 3.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN JAY LOONEY, OF UTICA, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN VOLTAIC PESSARIES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **216,281**, dated June 10, 1879; application filed August 9, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN JAY LOONEY, of Utica, in the county of Venango and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Pessaries, which improvement is fully described in the following specification and drawings, in which latter—

Figure 1 is a vertical central section of one of my improved pessaries. Fig. 2 is a top view of the same. Fig. 3 is an enlarged sectional view of a voltaic battery with which the said pessary is provided.

The object of my invention is to support and invigorate the uterus of the female human body, so as to cause it to resume its natural position when, by reason of disease, it has a tendency to protrude into the vagina.

The nature of my invention consists of a vessel of suitable construction and material, which contains a voltaic or plate battery with flat horizontal poles, the former serving to support the battery in the vagina, and the latter, by being in direct contact with the uterus, serving to strengthen the suffering parts by a galvanic current.

In the accompanying drawings, A represents a hollow spheroid of india-rubber and of suitable size. It has a small opening, *a*, at its lower end, and a larger one, *a'*, at the top. Into the opening *a'* a vessel, B, of suitable shape is inserted. An outer rim or flange, *b*, around the open top of the vessel B serves, by resting upon the upper edge of the vessel A, to prevent the vessel B from slipping into the vessel A. The vessel B has a small bottom opening, *b'*, for the purpose of drawing off any moisture in the vessel during the operation of the pessary.

A galvanic battery, C, is inserted into the vessel B. It consists of a number of upright plates, *c c'*, arranged in pairs of one positive plate, *c*, and one negative plate, *c'*, which pairs of plates are covered with yarn or other suitable material, *c²*, for the purpose of isolation. The two extreme plates of the battery, *c³ c⁴*, of opposite galvanic properties, are extended above the upper surface of the battery, as plainly seen in Fig. 3, and bent over horizontally, so as to terminate at a short distance from each other. These horizontal portions *c⁵*

c⁶ of the pole-plates *c³ c⁴* are on a level with the rim *b*, or slightly above it, and serve as the support of the uterus during the operation of my device.

Operation: The vessel A is provided in the manner described with the parts B C, and inserted into the upper part of the vagina, where it remains suspended by propping itself against the walls of the vagina. The uterus is thus supported upon the poles *c⁵ c⁶* of the battery C, which becomes active as soon as the coverings *c²* are saturated with the natural secretions of the uterus. A galvanic current is now created, which circulates through the uterus, and thus gradually strengthens the same and restores it to its normal condition. The secretions of the uterus, which pass over the battery after its saturation, find their way out through the openings *b' a* of the apparatus.

My improved battery may be inserted into pessaries of any construction different from that described, and such pessaries may be made of any suitable material which does not interfere with the operation of the battery.

I am aware that portable batteries are applied to the human body for hygienic purposes; but they are worn around the body, generally at the waist, and special conductors are used to connect the battery with the suffering parts. These batteries are an inconvenience to the wearer, liable to derangement, and have to be frequently artificially moistened when the perspiration of the body is not sufficient to keep them in operation.

By applying the poles of my improved battery directly to the suffering parts I avoid the use of intermediate conductors, and I am enabled to use a smaller battery than otherwise.

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

The combination of a galvanic battery having pole-extensions *c⁵ c⁶* and a pessary inclosing and supporting the same, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

JOHN JAY LOONEY.

Witnesses:

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