

(No Model.)

W. J. HOUSTON.

SOAP TABLET.

No. 261,156.

Patented July 18, 1882.

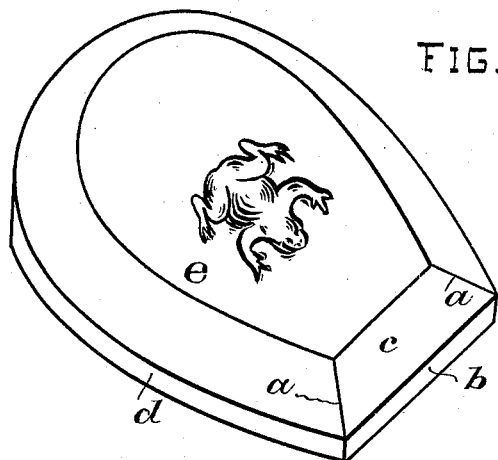


FIG. 1.

FIG. 3.

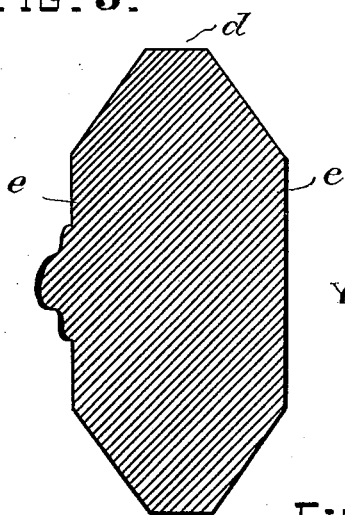


FIG. 2.

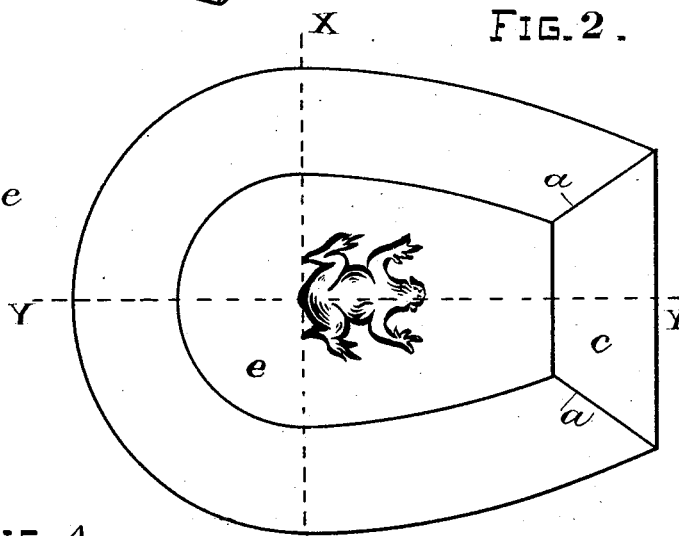
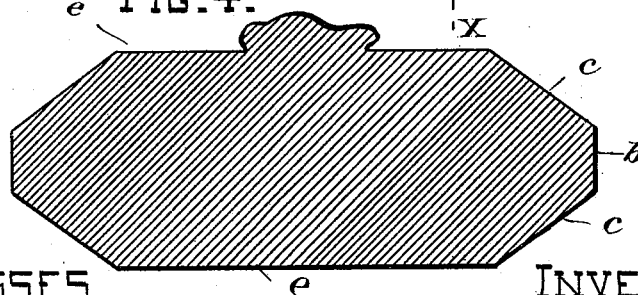


FIG. 4.



WITNESSES.

William Bradford
George Derby

INVENTOR.

Wm J. Houston
Rayburn Smith
attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM J. HOUSTON, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

SOAP TABLET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 261,156, dated July 18, 1882.

Application filed May 8, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM J. HOUSTON, a citizen of the United States, and residing at San Francisco, in the county of San Francisco and State of California, have invented a new and useful Soap Tablet, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a soap tablet or slab which can be readily grasped and easily and securely retained by the hand of the person using the tablet. I accomplish this object by the means illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my soap-tablet. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same. Fig. 3 is a cross-section taken on the line X X of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a longitudinal section taken on the line Y Y of Fig. 2.

Similar letters of reference refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

It will be seen by reference to the accompanying drawings that my soap tablet is made shoe shape, or in the form of a horseshoe, and that the edges are chamfered or beveled upon both sides from the points represented by the diagonal lines *a a* at the heel of the tablet. The heel *b* of the tablet is made square by a transverse vertical cut, and upon both sides of the heel a flat shear or beveled cut, *c*, is made, by which means and the beveled edges around the oval part of the tablet a horizontal band, *d*, is formed around the entire edge, leaving a flat half-oval surface, *e*. Upon both sides of the cake, from the upper ends of said fields, extend the flat shear cuts or scarfs. The toe of the tablet may also be cut slightly square; but I do not deem this essential.

By this construction the hand of the user is made to readily grasp the tablet, the flat oval plane resting in the palm of the hand, while the two middle fingers of the hand are laid over the chamfered end *b*, with the little finger and index finger at each side resting against the flat vertical band *c*, in which position the opposite or rounded end is pressed against the ball of the thumb in the palm of the hand, leaving the lower field or oval free to be applied to the article or surface to be soaped.

Not alone by this construction is a ready means obtained for grasping and holding the tablet without slipping, but I have found by actual experiment and comparison that tablets or slabs formed in this way will last much longer than those made in other molds, and, besides, the tablets can be dried or desiccated in one-half of the time required to dry or desiccate soap made in other molds.

The plain or flat surface may be ornamented in high or low relief to suit the fancy, or lettered with the name of the maker.

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

A semi-oval soap tablet beveled and scarfed substantially in the manner as herein set forth and specified, for the purpose described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 27th day of April, 1882.

W. J. HOUSTON. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

WILMER BRADFORD,
CHAS. E. KELLY.