

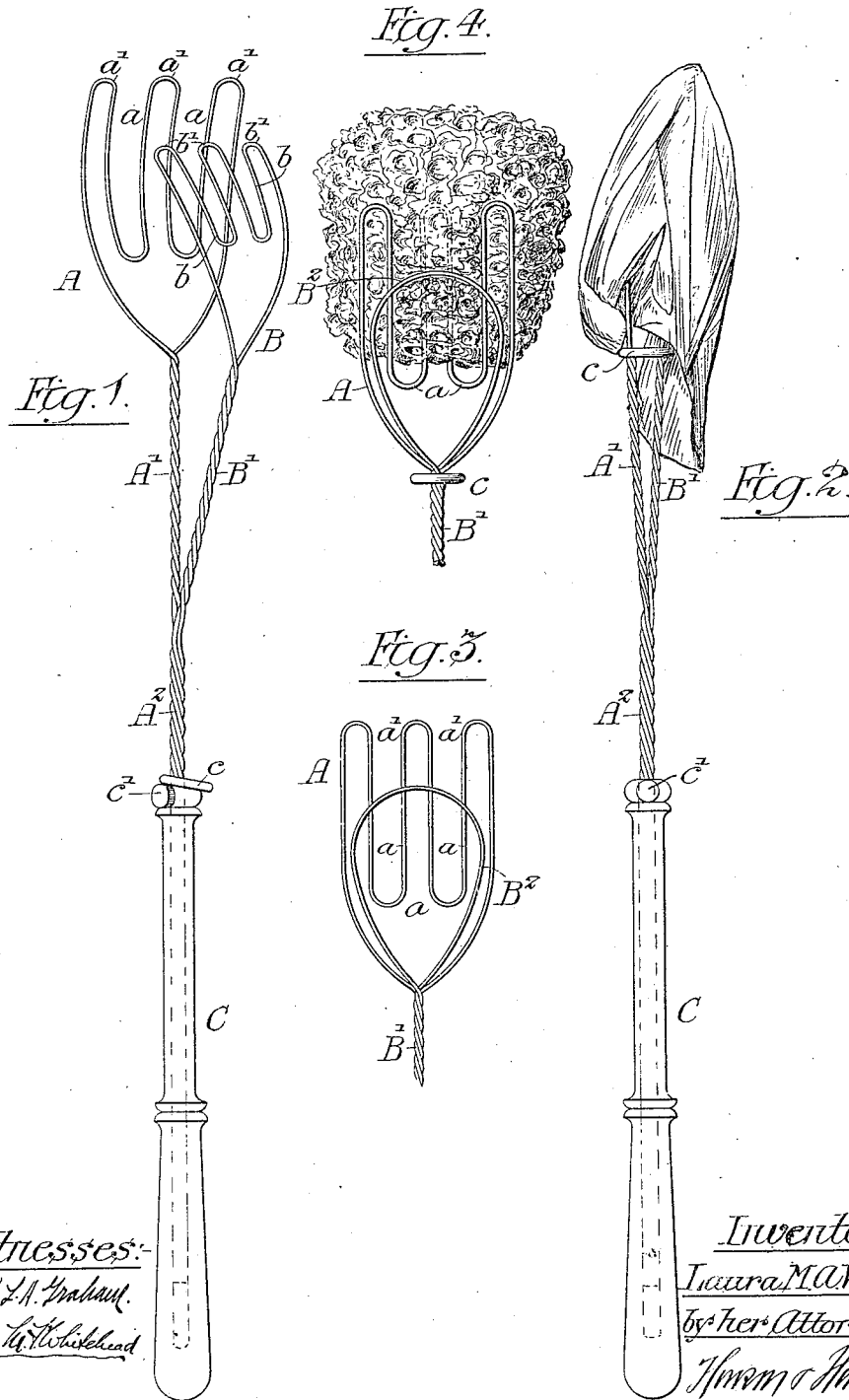
No. 648,824.

Patented May 1, 1900.

L. M. A. WOLFE.
SPONGE HOLDER.

(Application filed Sept. 20, 1899.)

(No Model.)



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LAURA M. A. WOLFE, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

SPONGE-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 648,824, dated May 1, 1900.

Application filed September 20, 1899. Serial No. 731,107. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LAURA M. A. WOLFE, a citizen of the United States, residing in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, have invented certain improvements in Cloth or Sponge Holders, of which the following is a specification.

My invention consists of a holder for a cloth or sponge adapted more particularly to serve as a means for cleaning the outer surface of window-panes without the necessity of leaning out of the window, but which device may be used for cleaning or wiping generally in places where it is difficult or impossible to reach with the hand.

My invention also comprises adjusting means for the holder, so that the length of the same may be increased, if desired.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved cloth-holder. Fig. 2 is a side view of the same, showing a cloth carried thereby. Fig. 3 is a view of a modified form of the clamping portion of the holder; and Fig. 4 is a view of such modified form, showing a sponge embraced thereby.

It is always a difficult matter, attended with more or less danger, to clean the outside surface of window-panes, especially those of the upper stories of a house or windows of unusual height, such as those of the modern office-building. It is a common practice to sit on the window-ledge, with the upper part of the body outside the window-frame, and then cleanse the outer surface of the panes by reaching over the same with a cloth or sponge grasped in the hand. Such practice has been the cause of many fatal accidents.

My invention comprises a holder for a cloth or sponge of such size and arrangement that the outer surface of the window-panes may be washed from the inside of the room by simply extending the holder outside the window, the holder being also provided with means for increasing its length.

Referring to Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings, A and B represent the clamping members or jaws of my improved holder. Each of these members A and B is made up of a series of wires *a* and *b*, simulating fingers and consisting of parallel runs of the wire connected by

semicircular portions *a'* and *b'* of the same. The wire comprising the two members A and B is twisted together at *A'* and *B'*, respectively, and these twisted portions are again twisted together at *A²* and form a rod adapted to a hollow handle C. The wire of which my improved holder is composed is of a spring nature, so that said members are normally held apart when the holder is not in use. To close these members, so that a cloth or sponge may be secured by the same, I provide a ring *c*, which when not in use rests loosely on the rod *A²*, near the handle C. The rod *A²* extends almost the full length of the hollow handle C, and to secure said rod in the handle I provide the set-screw *c'*, by means of which the rod may be held out from the handle at any convenient length.

In Fig. 3 I have shown a modification of the clamping members of my holder in which a member *B²*, consisting simply of a semicircular curved loop of wire, is employed. Fig. 4 shows a view of this modified form of holder embracing a sponge.

The clamping-jaws or securing members of my improved holder are so constructed as to hold a cloth or sponge in such a way as to provide most efficient means for cleansing the corners of window-sashes with but little trouble. It will be observed that both clamping members are curved toward each other, and when a cloth is held by the same the ends *a'* of the fingers of the member A project beyond the fingers of the member B, and the fingers *a*, covered by the cloth, afford specially desirable means for cleaning all corners, angles, &c., of the window sashes or panes or other places to be cleaned. When a sponge is used with the holder, it is usually held in the position shown in Fig. 4, with a good portion of the sponge beyond the ends of the fingers *a*. When in use, the sponge folds over the ends of these fingers, which thus serve as support for the same.

In securing a cloth or sponge to my improved holder it is intertwined about the fingers, being passed behind certain fingers and in front of other fingers. In Fig. 4 this method as applied to a sponge is clearly shown. The clamping members or jaws of

the holder are then closed and held by the ring *c*, and the cloth or sponge is firmly retained therein.

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

1. The combination of the clamping members or jaws made of wire and having portions extending in parallel runs, the outer runs of said members being twisted together, the twisted portion of each member being further twisted to form a supporting-rod, and means for securing said members together so as to embrace a cloth or sponge.

2. The combination in a device for holding a cloth or sponge, of the clamping members or jaws having a series of fingers, whereby the cloth or sponge may be intertwined about said fingers, being passed behind certain fingers and in front of other fingers, and means for securing said members together so as to

embrace said cloth or sponge, the wires composing the outer fingers of each member being twisted together to form the supporting-rod for the same.

3. The combination of the clamping jaws or members curved toward each other, the wires composing said members being twisted together to form a rod, a hollow handle in which said rod is adapted to rest, and a set-screw adapted to said handle whereby the rod may be held in different positions of adjustment in respect to said handle.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

LAURA M. A. WOLFE.

Witnesses:

MURRAY C. BOYER,
JOS. H. KLEIN.