No. 648,858. Patented May 1, 1900.

C. B. DOLGE.

EMBALMING NEEDLE.

(Application filed Mar. 14, 1900.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1

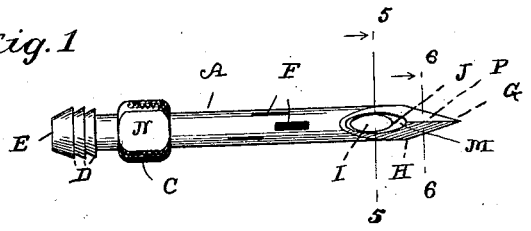


Fig. 2.

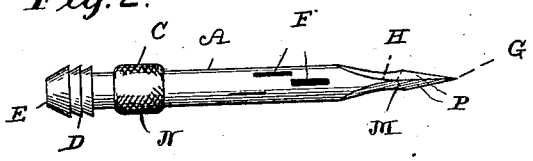


Fig. 3.

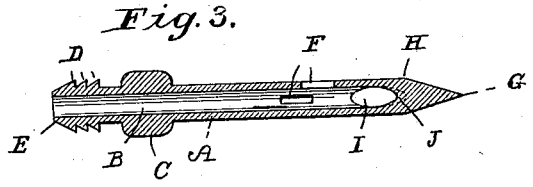


Fig. 4.

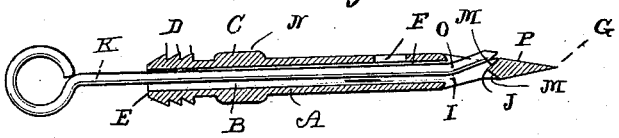
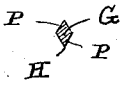


Fig. 5.

Fig. 6.



Witnesses
R. H. Newman
Edward K. Nicholson

Inventor
Charles B. Dolge
By Chamberlain & Newman
Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES B. DOLGE, OF WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT.

EMBALMING-NEEDLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 648,858, dated May 1, 1900.

Application filed March 14, 1900. Serial No. 8,618. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES B. DOLGE, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Westport, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Embalming-Needles, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to new and useful improvements in embalming-needles or trocars, such as are used for embalming bodies preparatory to burial.

It is the object of my invention to improve upon devices of the above class by so constructing them as to get improved results by their use; also, to provide a construction which can be more readily and thoroughly cleaned after being used; further, to provide an instrument which can readily be sharpened with ordinary tools by inexperienced persons, and, finally, to provide a specially-shaped rod whereby said needle can be cleaned.

Upon the accompanying sheet of drawings, forming a part of this specification, similar characters of reference denote like or corresponding parts throughout the several figures, and of which—

Figure 1 shows a side elevation of an embalming-needle embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is an edge view of the construction shown in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a central vertical horizontal section of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a similar horizontal section of Fig. 1. Figs. 5 and 6 show detail cross-sectional views on lines 5 5 and 6 6 of Fig. 1.

The needle illustrated in the drawings is a short size; but it will of course be obvious that the length of the instrument is not material and that my improvement is equally applicable to any of the lengths employed, which in practice range from six to fifteen inches. My invention may also be made partly or wholly of rubber or other suitable material.

Needles of this class after being used are necessarily thoroughly cleaned, and for this purpose a wire cleaning-rod is usually employed. In practice this rod is inserted into the barrel of the instrument and operated to and fro while said needle is submerged, which operation removes all and any clogs of flesh or blood which may be present.

Referring to the characters of reference marked upon the drawings, A indicates the barrel of the needle, which, as will be seen, contains a uniform longitudinal bore B therein.

C indicates a hub, by means of which the instrument is preferably manipulated, and this hub, as shown, may be partially or entirely knurled, if desired, to facilitate handling. Said hub is provided with two flat sides to prevent the instrument from rolling when laid on an inclined plane. The butt-end of the needle is further provided with a series of annular inclined ribs or threads D and is finished with a reduced extremity E, said construction being devised for the purpose of providing a secure attachment for the flexible pipe connection from the pump or injector. (Not shown.) The forward end of the needle contains a series of elongated orifices F, irregularly arranged and through which the gases from the body are removed and also through which the embalming fluid is afterward injected. By the irregular arrangement and elongated shape of these openings it will readily be understood that the above operations can be more thoroughly and quickly performed than could be done were they arranged regularly and of a round shape.

The forward end of the instrument is sharpened, having four beveled flat surfaces P tapered to a tip G, the whole producing a spear-shaped point, as shown. The top and bottom cutting edges of my instrument, which are formed by the outer intersection of the beveled sides, are finished off even with the surface of the barrel at H. A point of this character comprising flat surfaces can be more readily and accurately inserted than an instrument whose point consists of a single bevel extending from side to side or one having what may be termed an "arrow-point." The removal of a large or wide-pointed needle is likewise more difficult, and it is also true that a needle having concaved sides has necessarily got to be sharpened by a special convex tool, while my instrument may be sharpened with an ordinary file or oil-stone.

The eye I is a special feature of my invention. (See Figs. 1 and 4.) As will be seen, it is of an oval contour and intersects with the barrel of the instrument. The forward

end or wall of this eye contains a specially-constructed web or rib J, which extends diametrically across the axial line of the cylindrical body. The advantage of this construction is several fold. First, as stated with regard to the finish of the exterior of the point, it permits of more readily withdrawing the instrument from a body, and, in the second place, it prevents the lodging within the eye of objectionable matter, which would necessarily be present were the inner wall of the forward end of the eye flat, concave, or any other shape. It also provides for more readily cleaning the needle, since a wire rod K, such as I have shown in Fig. 4, with a bend O near its point, can be inserted in a manner to nicely scrape off the diverging side walls M of the eye, as will be apparent from the illustration, whereas if the eye were of the old shape a straight rod could not be made to give the same results.

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

1. An embalming-needle of the class described, the same comprising a cylindrical body having a suitable point, an eye through said point intersecting the bore of said barrel, a rib extending diametrically across the axial line of said body, and beveled off to finish with the surface of said eye and point.

2. An embalming-needle of the class described, the same comprising a cylindrical body having a suitable point, an eye through said point intersecting the bore of said barrel, a rib extending diametrically across the axial line of said body and beveled off to finish with the surface of said eye and point, a rod having a bent point within said barrel for cleaning the eye, substantially as shown.

3. In an embalming-needle of the class described, the combination with a cylindrical barrel having a central bore therein, of a spear-shaped point with flat beveled sides and a cutting edge which does not project beyond the periphery of the barrel, an eye through said point having a central rib diametrically across its forward wall, the sides of said rib being beveled off to finish with said eye and point.

4. In an embalming-needle of the class described, the combination with a cylindrical barrel having a central bore therein and a flat-sided hub, of a spear-shaped point with flat beveled sides and a cutting edge which does not project beyond the periphery of the barrel, an eye through said point having a central rib diametrically across its forward end, the sides of said rib being beveled off to finish with said eye and point, substantially as shown.

5. In an embalming-needle of the class described, the combination with a barrel having a bore therethrough, a series of annular threads around its butt-end, a series of elongated orifices arranged irregularly in said barrel, a diamond-shaped point the sides of which are flat and finished off even with the surface of the barrel, an eye in said needle provided with a concave rib extending diametrically across its forward end, a bent rod to engage the side walls of said rib, substantially as shown and described.

Signed at Westport, Fairfield county, Connecticut, this 10th day of March, 1900.

CHARLES B. DOLGE.

Witnesses:
C. M. NEWMAN,
EDWARD K. NICHOLSON.