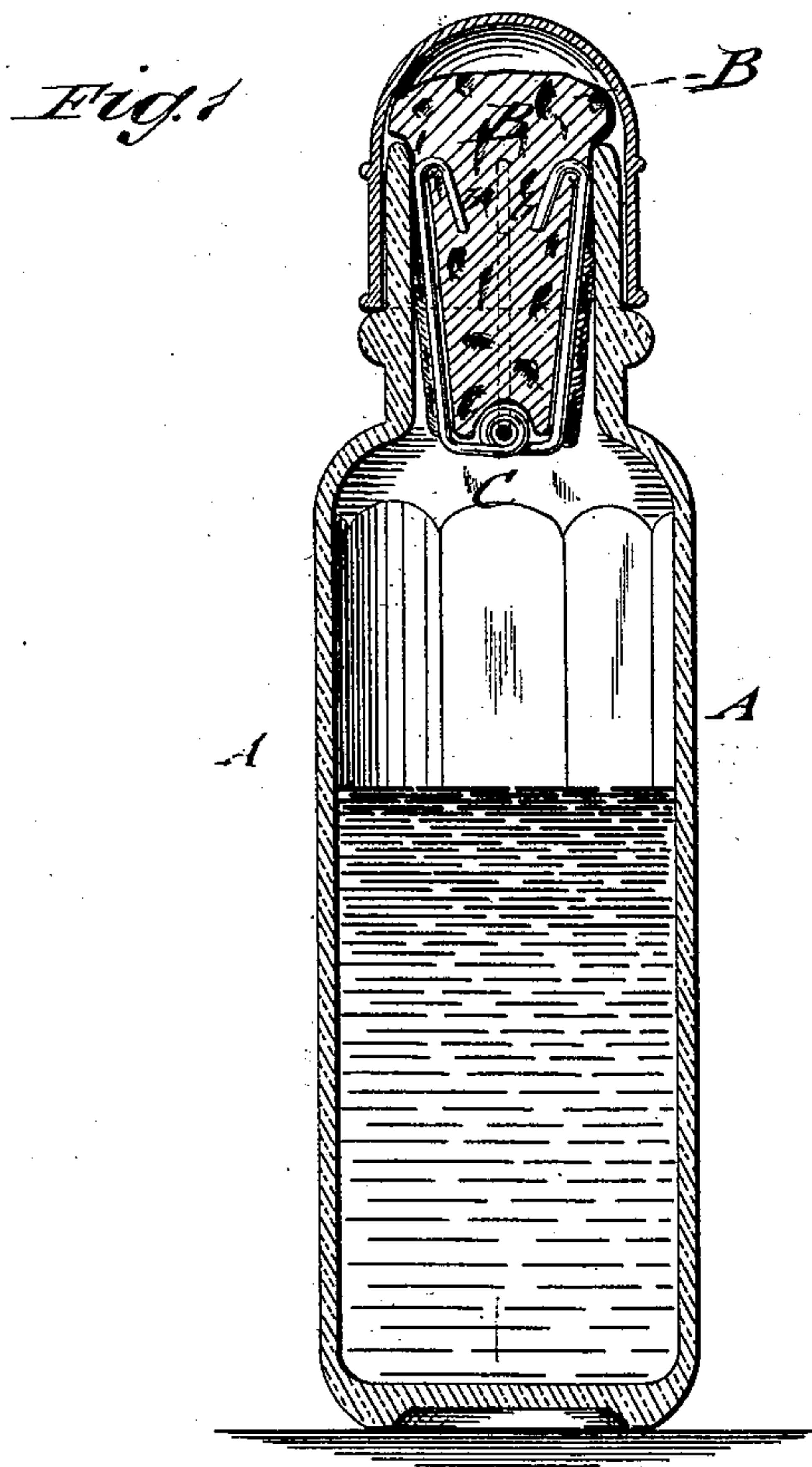
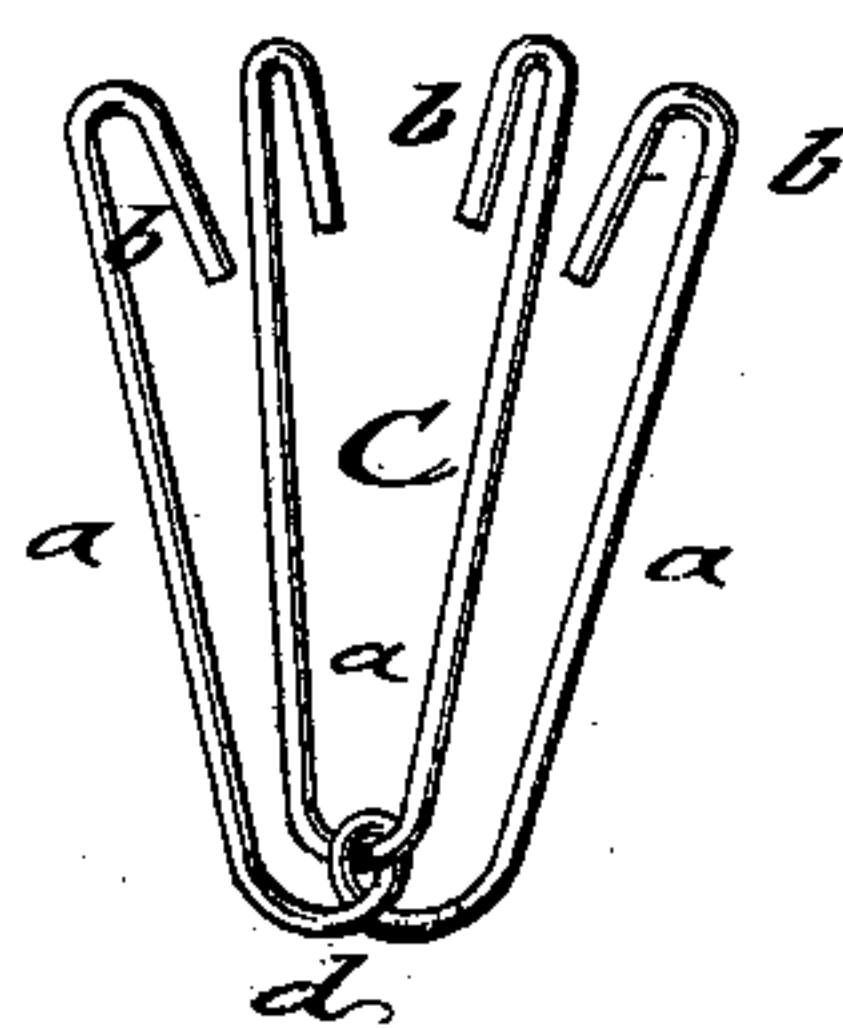


J. S. MERCER.  
Sponge-Holder for Mucilage Bottles.  
No. 206,469. Patented July 30, 1878.



*Fig. 2*



WITNESSES:

*Francis M. Alden*  
*C. Sedgwick*

INVENTOR:

*J. S. Mercer*  
BY *Muntz*

ATTORNEYS.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

JAMES S. MERCER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## IMPROVEMENT IN SPONGE-HOLDERS FOR MUCILAGE-BOTTLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **206,469**, dated July 30, 1878; application filed June 21, 1878.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES S. MERCER, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Sponge-Holder for Mucilage and other Bottles, of which the following is a specification:

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a vertical central section of a mucilage or other bottle with my improved sponge-holder, and Fig. 2 is a detail perspective view of the sponge-holding device.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

This invention has reference to an improved sponge-holder for mucilage, French-dressing, and other bottles, by which the sponge or other porous material is held in superior manner in the neck of the bottle, but which may also be readily removed therefrom, if desired, either for refilling the bottle or replacing the sponge.

The invention consists of a sponge-holder made of two or more wire sections, with hook-shaped ends, that are attached to the sponge. One of the wire sections is passed, at the lower bent portion, through an eye of the other wire section, and the sponge finally inserted, with the holder, into the neck of the bottle.

Referring to the drawings, A represents a mucilage or other bottle, and B a sponge or other porous substance, that is placed into the neck of the bottle for transferring the contents from the interior of the bottle to the object to be treated therewith.

The sponge is secured into the neck of the bottle by a sponge-holder, C, that is formed of two or more sections or arms, *a*, with hook-shaped upper ends *b*. One of the wire sections

is bent at its lower part to form an eye, *d*, through which the other sections or arms are passed and retained thereon. The hook ends of the wire-holder are applied to the sponge, which has been shaped so as to fit into the neck of the bottle. The sponge and holder are then inserted into the neck of the bottle, the hook ends holding the sponge like a claw, and being prevented from releasing the sponge by the pressure of the compressed sponge on the arms of the holder and on the neck of the bottle. The sponge is thus firmly retained in the neck without the least danger of getting detached therefrom during use.

For refilling the bottle, the sponge may be removed by compressing the outer larger end and withdrawing the sponge and holder.

The wire holder forms a cheap and simple yet very reliable device for holding the sponge in position, which is specially adapted for French dressing, liquid blacking, mucilage, and similar articles, the sponge being, after use, covered by the usual metallic cap.

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

A sponge-holder for mucilage-bottles consisting of a bent wire section having an eye at the lower part and hook ends at the upper part, and of one or more wire arms with hook ends hung to the eye of the first section, substantially as set forth.

JAMES S. MERCER.

Witnesses:

PAUL GOEPEL,  
C. SEDGWICK.