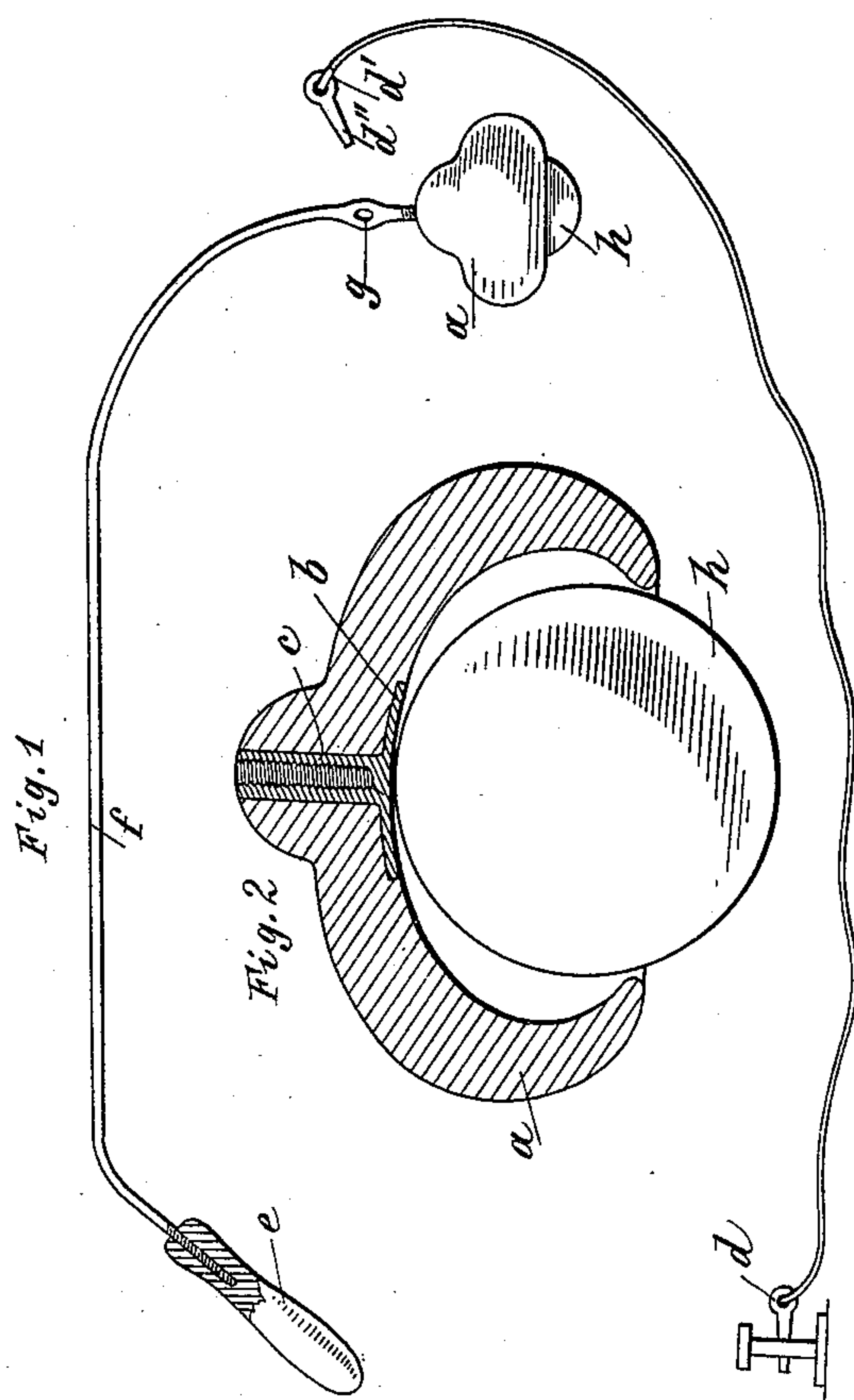


(No Model.)

G. ROSSBACH.  
ELECTRIC MASSAGE APPARATUS.

No. 564,258.

Patented July 21, 1896.



Witnesses:  
J. E. Hutchinson Jr.  
J. S. Barker

Inventor  
Gustav Rossbach  
by H. N. Low  
attorney

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GUSTAV ROSSBACH, OF LICHTENFELS, GERMANY.

## ELECTRIC MASSAGE APPARATUS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 564,258, dated July 21, 1896.

Application filed January 14, 1896. Serial No. 575,532. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GUSTAV ROSSBACH, a subject of the King of Bavaria, residing at Lichtenfels, in the Kingdom of Bavaria and German Empire, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Ball-Shaped Appliances for Self-Massage and Electrical Massage, fully set forth in the following description and represented in the accompanying drawings.

The object of the present invention is a massaging device, which can be operated with or without electrodes, and which acts in both cases automatically, as hereinafter described.

The object of the invention is shown in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is an elevation of the massaging device provided with the electrodes and with a guide-rod. Fig. 2 shows the device partly in cross-section.

The massaging device consists substantially in a casing *a*, made of polished wood, eventually coated with a thin metal lining on the edge. In the casing *a* is a sleeve *c*, which is screw-threaded and has at one end inside of the casing a plate *b*, said sleeve serving to receive an electrode *d*, either directly or through the medium of a guide-rod *f*, which is provided with a handle *e*. To this end the rod *f* is perforated at *g* above the casing, the hole *g* being provided for the reception of the electrode or a part *d'*, connected therewith. In the casing *a*, which is hollowed out, is a metal ball *h*, or a ball made of wood, having its surface coated with graphite or with copper. The shape of the casing *a* is such that the ball *h* projects almost one-half its body from out of the opening of the casing, but cannot fall out.

The massage-ball *h* serves as well for a self-massage as in combination with a device for an electric massage. It is grasped in the first case with the hand fully surrounding the casing *a*, and is then moved to and fro and

in circular directions over the part of the body to be massaged, under any desirable pressure, so that the ball *h* rolls upon such places and produces quite an agreeable pressure upon the part of the body under treatment. For the massage of the back the guide-rod *f* is used, which can be stiff or flexible and which is screwed into the sleeve *c*.

In electric massaging the patient takes the electrode *d* of the inducting apparatus in one hand and the casing *a*, which is connected with the electrode *d'* through the pin *d''*, into the other hand, massaging in circular motions any part of the body.

For the electric massage of back and loins the rod with the electrode in it is secured in the casing in such a manner that the pin *d''* is in the hole *g* of the rod *f*, and the massaging is executed as above described. By this means the patient is enabled to effect a massage either by pressure alone or with electric induction.

What is claimed is—

1. A massaging device for self-massage and electric massage composed of the casing *a*, lined with metal and inclosing loosely a ball coated with a metal or other conducting substance.

2. A massaging device composed of a casing having on the back, a screw-threaded sleeve *c*, adapted to receive a rod *f*, for massaging the back of the human body, and containing a ball.

3. A massaging apparatus having a rod *f*, for the back provided with a hole *g*, for the reception of a pin *d''* of the electrode *d'*, combined with a loose ball in said apparatus, substantially as set forth.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two witnesses.

GUST. ROSSBACH.

Witnesses:

FRANZ SCHMAUSS,  
NEUMAN FRANK.