

(No Model.)

J. W. GIBBS.

ELECTRIC ROLLER FOR THERAPEUTICAL AND MASSAGE PURPOSES.

No. 572,341.

Patented Dec. 1, 1896.

Fig. 1.

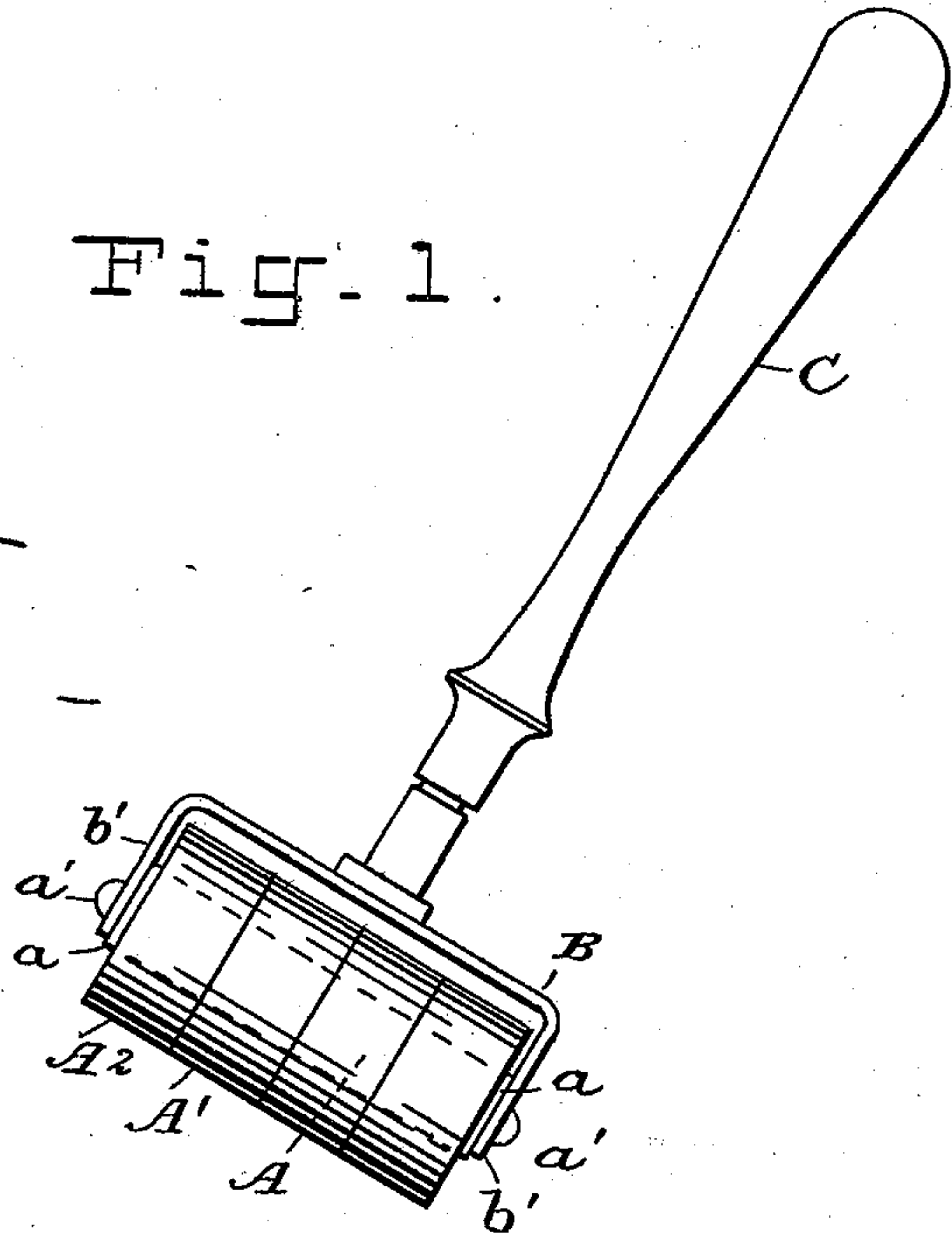


Fig. 3.

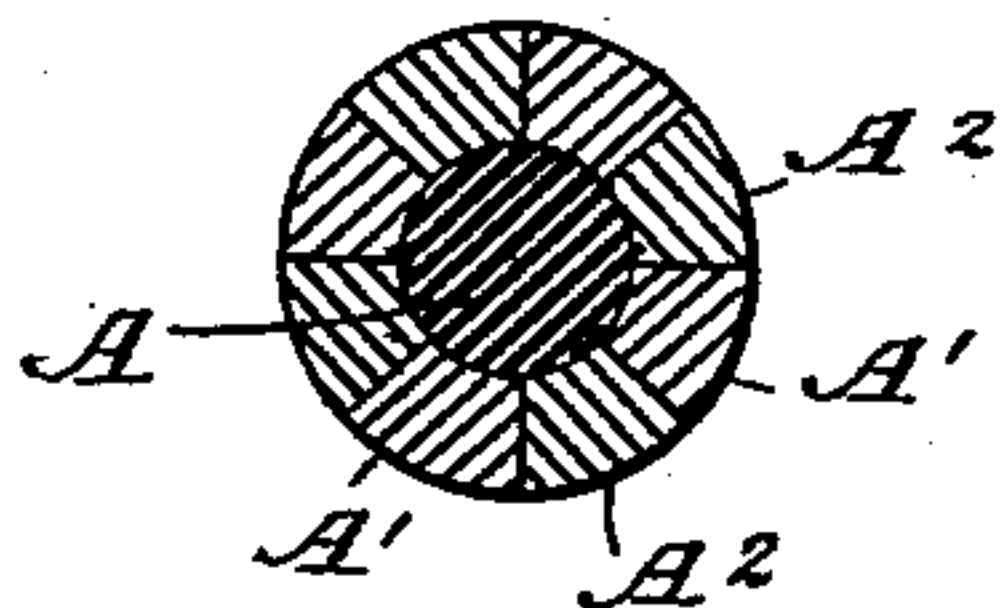
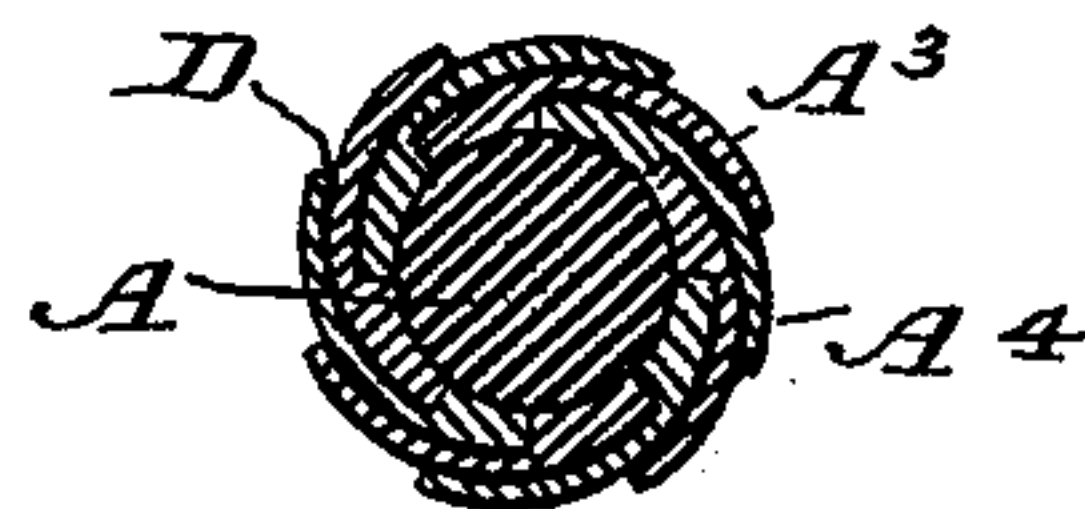


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

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By

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN WILSON GIBBS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

ELECTRIC ROLLER FOR THERAPEUTICAL AND MASSAGE PURPOSES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 572,341, dated December 1, 1896.

Application filed September 22, 1896. Serial No. 606,677. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN WILSON GIBBS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of New York, in the county and State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Electric Roller, of which the following is a specification.

The leading feature of my appliance consists in a cylindrical body ordinarily provided at its sides with circular lateral flanges, the same being sustained within a bifurcated holder in most instances, which holder is usually provided with an ornamental handle.

In the drawings which accompany and form part of this specification, Figure 1 represents a plan view of an appliance constructed according to my invention, and Figs. 2 and 3 are transverse sections of electric rollers made in accordance with this my invention.

Like letters of reference indicate like parts in all the views.

Referring particularly to the drawings, A denotes my electric roller, which is preferably cylindrical in form and provided at its sides with circular lateral flanges *a*.

B is a horizontal bifurcated holder, the ends *b'* of which are ordinarily secured to the roller-flanges *a* by screws or rivets *a'*.

The handle C for the holder B is circular in cross-section and may be made neat and ornamental.

It is manifest that various forms of electricity-generating rollers may be used. For example, the face of my roller may consist of alternate plates of suitable metals, as copper A¹ and zinc A², the moisture of the body of the person to whom my device is applied serving to complete the circuit; or sheets of copper A³ or zinc A⁴ may be wrapped around the bar A⁵, the ends of the same being exposed and having intermediate moisture-absorbent medium, as cloth or other fabric D.

It is manifest that various omissions of some particulars could be made without materially affecting the essential features of my invention or the operation of the remaining parts, and I do not therefore wish to be limited to the specific structural details of the organization herein set forth. Obviously the elements of the structure described may be located at an angle to the plane in which they are shown, or they may be inverted, if de-

sired. I accordingly use the words "horizontal," "lateral," and the like in a relative sense. It is believed that electricity thus applied is not only a cure for various ailments, but that the use of a slight current regularly taken will increase the flesh and improve the complexion. The modification of the muscular tissue produced by this means is primarily the result of the influence of the current upon the nerves, the muscles being controlled by the nerves, both in their movement and in their nourishment, the healthfulness of the skin following an improved condition of the blood and the increased flow of the latter involving augmented nourishment and capacity to eliminate deleterious matter.

It is obvious that other anodes and cathodes may be substituted for the copper and zinc plates described.

As it is evident that many changes in the construction and relative arrangement of parts might be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention, I would have it understood that I do not restrict myself to the particular construction and arrangement of parts shown and described, but that I reserve the right to make such changes, and that

What I claim as my invention is—

1. An electric roller consisting of a central body and superimposed generating-plates as copper and zinc.

2. An electric roller consisting of a body provided with axial bearings, and with a smooth cylindrical face, the said face formed by, and consisting of a series of contiguous generating face-plates, as copper and zinc, supported thereby, and of a bifurcated holder to engage the said axial bearings, whereby an even pressure may at all times be exerted upon the person to which the said roller is applied, and a circuit may become established upon application of the roller to the said person.

In testimony of the foregoing specification I do hereby sign the same, in the city of New York, in the county and State of New York, this 16th day of July, A. D. 1896.

JOHN WILSON GIBBS.

Witnesses:

J. ODELL FOWLER, Jr.,
C. H. GARDNER.