

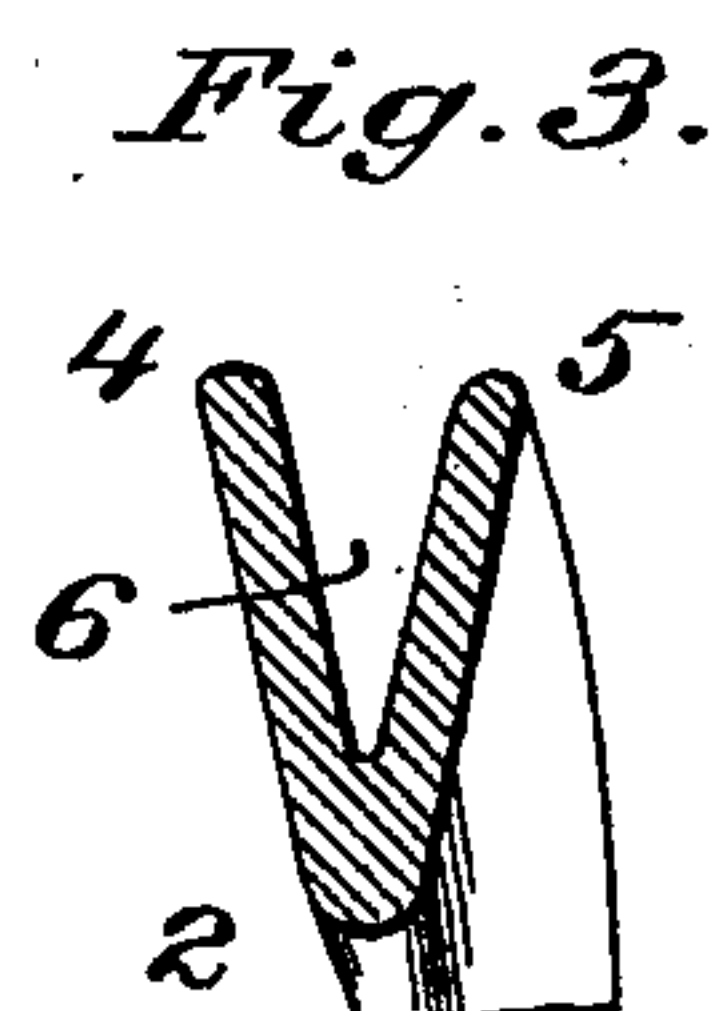
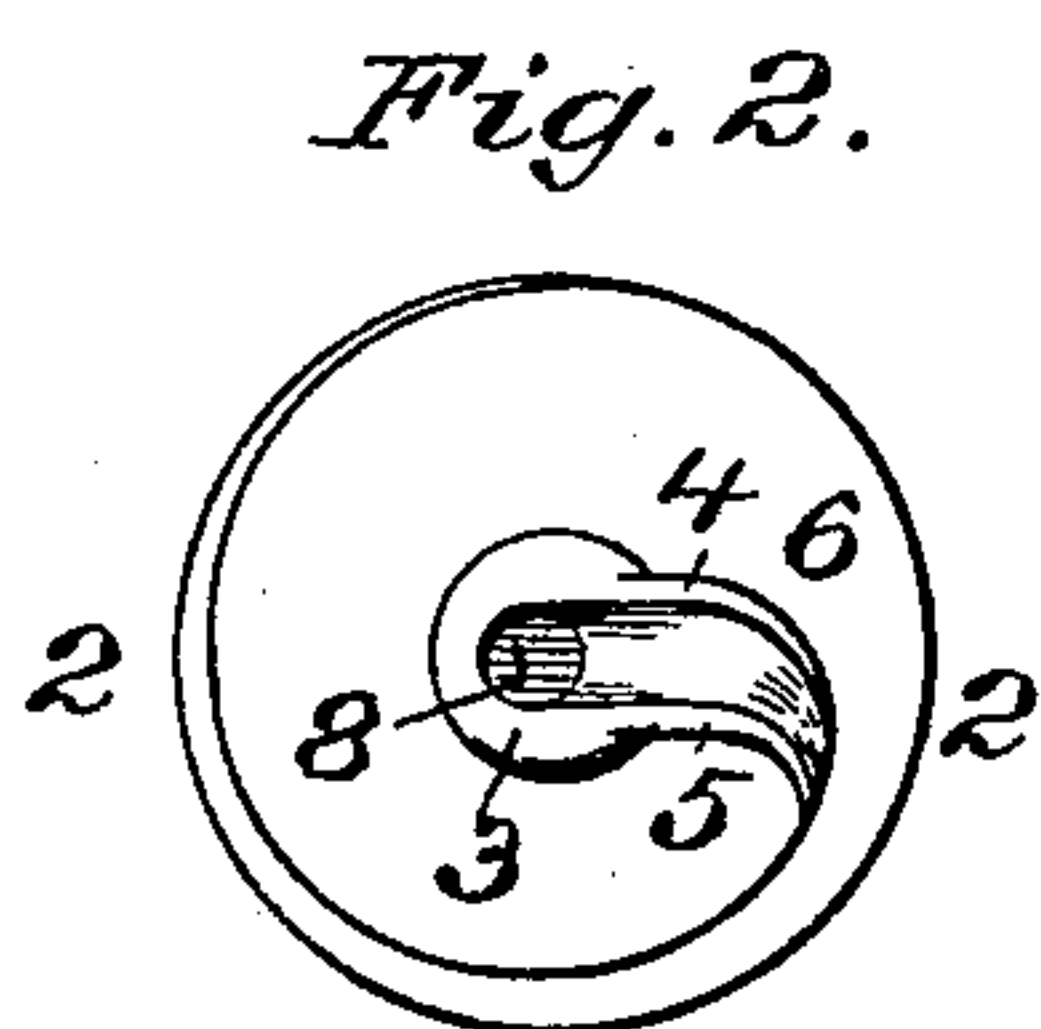
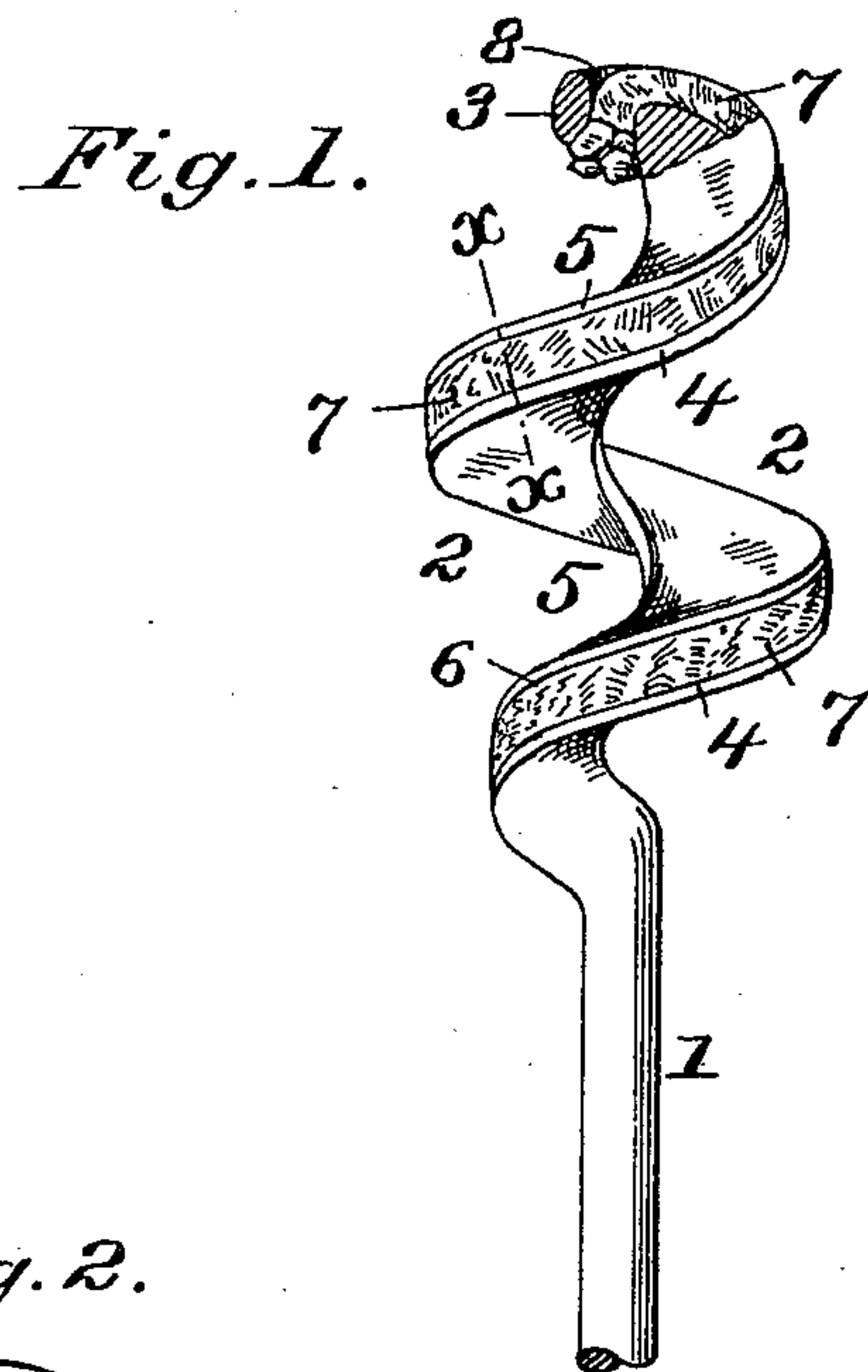
No. 626,625.

Patented June 6, 1899.

V. MAY.  
CURETTE.

(Application filed Apr. 9, 1898.)

(No Model.)



*Attest:*

*James Cavallini*

*W. H. Holmes.*

*Inventor:*

*Victor May,*

*by Robert Burns Atty.*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

VICTOR MAY, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO AUGUST F. BAUER, OF  
SAME PLACE.

## CURETTE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 626,625, dated June 6, 1899.

Application filed April 9, 1898. Serial No. 677,087. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, VICTOR MAY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have  
5 invented certain new and useful Improvements in Curettes; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part  
10 of this specification.

The present invention relates to that class of gynecological instruments for the treatment of the uterus known as "curettes," and more especially to that type of the same in  
15 which the body or scraper portion has a spiral formation.

The objects of the present improvements are as follows: first, to provide such spirally-formed curettes with a novel and effective  
20 form of the spiral or body portion that affords a very efficient support to the inner walls of the uterus and prevents in a very perfect manner a twisting of the same during the use of the instrument that is very  
25 liable to occur with the ordinary spirally-formed curette due to the muscular contractibility of the uterus tending to draw the inner walls of the same into the wide spaces between the spiral blades and present great  
30 resistance to an independent rotation of the curette, and, second, to afford means in connection with such type of curette, means for carrying a strip or roll of lint at the exterior surface or perimeter of the spirally-formed head  
35 or scraper of the curette for the purpose of final cleaning, applying antiseptic dressings, and the like, as will hereinafter more fully appear. I attain such objects by the construction and arrangement of parts illustrated in  
40 the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is an elevation, partly in section, of a curette formed in accordance with the present invention; Fig. 2, an end view of the same; Fig. 3, an enlarged detail section at  
45 line *xx*, Fig. 1.

Similar numerals of reference indicate like parts in the different views.

As represented in the drawings, the present improved curette will have the usual handled stem 1, the spirally-formed body portion 2, and the button or headed formation

3 at the extreme outer end and that is in axial line with the stem 1, as shown.

In the present invention the spirally-formed portion 2 consists of two or more spirals 4 and 55 5, having a parallel relation and united together at a point below their outer perimeter, so as to leave a sunken groove 6 between them that extends around the perimeter of the spirally-formed portion 2 from the axial  
60 button at front to or nearly adjacent to the point of connection with the handled stem 1. In my preferred construction this groove 6 will be of a V shape substantially, the straight walls of which incline toward  
65 each other and are united together, as shown, the outer edges thereof constituting the spiral cleaning and supporting surfaces 4 and 5 of the curette, as heretofore described. With  
70 such construction the forward spiral 4 will constitute a forward cleaning edge or margin that acts as a scraper to clean the interior wall of the uterus in the manner usual to the  
75 present type of instruments, while the rearward spiral 5 will constitute a rearward supporting edge or margin, located a distance back from the forward cleaning edge or margin and adapted to give intermediate support  
80 to the wall of the uterus against the muscular contraction of the same, and thus prevent in a great measure the sinking of the uterus-wall into the space between the spiral convolutions to bind upon the cleaning edge or margin and  
85 render it difficult to rotate the curette without twisting the uterus out of place.

In the present invention the sunken peripheral groove 6 is utilized in the performance of an additional and very useful function of the curette—to wit, the subsequent cleaning or wiping out the interior of the uterus, the  
90 application, as antiseptic or other medicines thereto, as well as obtaining an indication of the condition of such interior wall of the uterus. To this end the said sunken groove 6 will be filled with a strip or roll of lint 7, 95 that is substantially attached at one end by being passed through an orifice 8 in the head or button 3 and knotted, so as to prevent detachment, as indicated in Fig. 1. With such arrangement the lint 7 is adapted by contact  
100 with the inner walls of the uterus to bring away an indication of the condition thereof,



such as bleeding thereof, the presence of mucus, &c., as well as to carry an antiseptic or other medicinal composition for application to such walls, as above mentioned.

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

1. In a curette substantially as herein described, the spiral body portion formed with  
10 a forward cleaning edge or margin, and a rearward supporting edge or margin located a distance back of the cleaning edge or margin, and adapted to serve as an intermediate support  
15 portion, against muscular contraction of the uterus, the said spiral body portion being formed with a groove between the forward and rearward edge, substantially as set forth.

2. In a curette substantially as herein de-  
20 scribed, the spirally-formed body portion pro-

vided with a groove in its outer periphery, a filling of lint arranged in said groove, and means for attaching the lint in place, substantially as set forth.

3. In a curette substantially as herein de- 25 scribed, the spirally-formed body portion provided with a groove in its outer periphery, a filling of lint arranged in said groove, and means for attaching the lint in place, the same comprising an orifice formed in the end 30 button of the curette and adapted to receive a knotted end of the strip or roll of lint, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof witness my hand this 6th day of April, 1898.

VICTOR MAY.

In presence of—

ROBERT BURNS,  
JAMES LAVALLIN.