No. 670,394. Patented Mar. 19, 1901.

E. C. ASHMEAD.

VAGINAL SYRINGE.

(Application filed Oct. 2, 1900.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

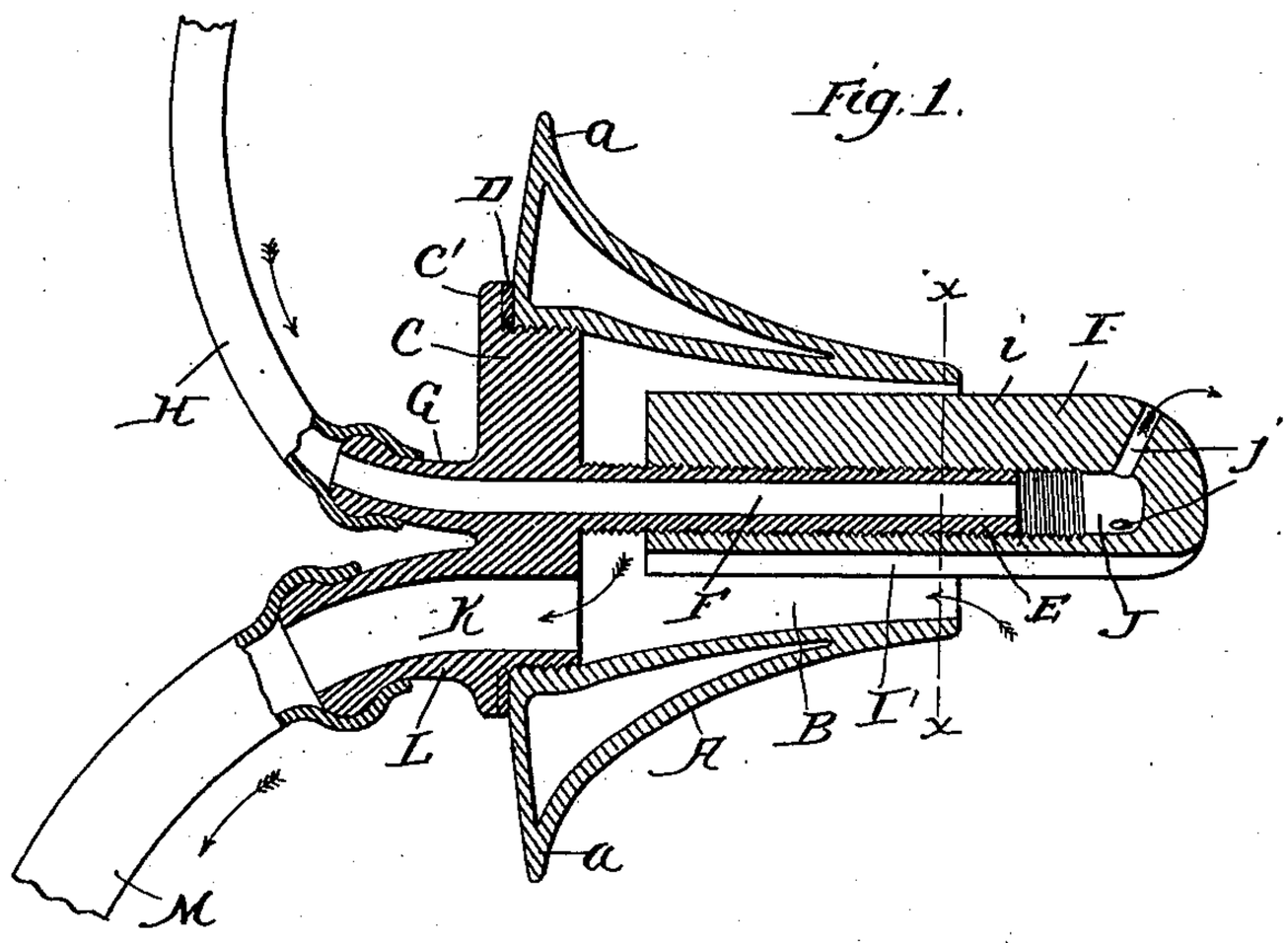


Fig. 2.

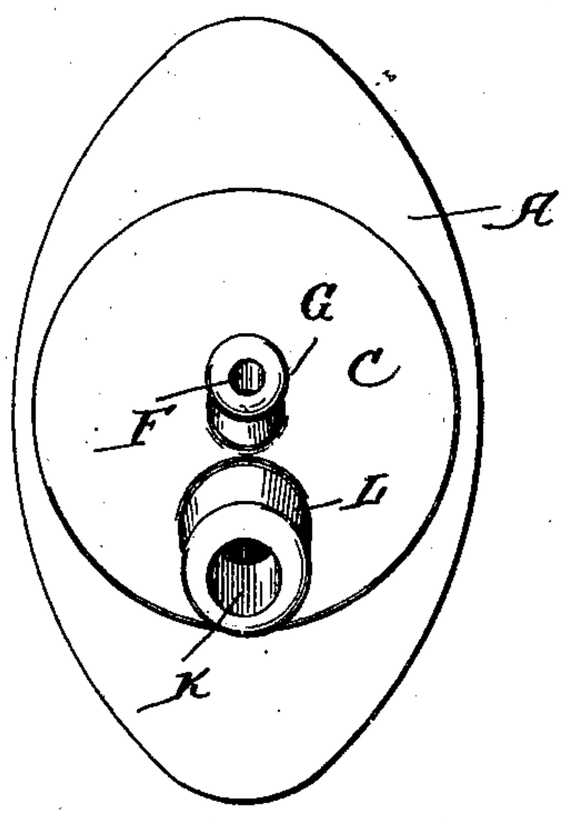
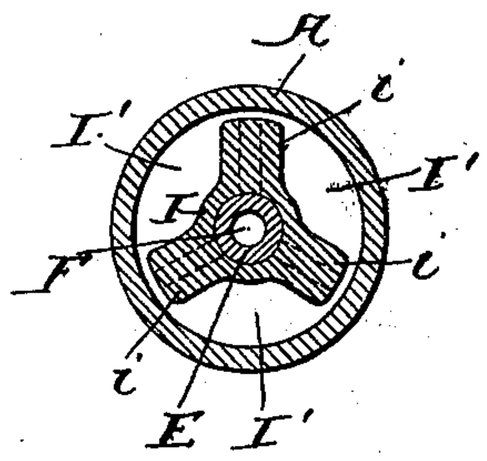


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELIZABETH C. ASHMEAD, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

VAGINAL SYRINGE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 670,394, dated March 19, 1901.

Application filed October 2, 1900. Serial No. 31,751. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELIZABETH C. ASHMEAD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Philadelphia, county of Philadelphia, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Vaginal Syringes, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a new and useful improvement in vaginal syringes, and has for its object to provide a syringe of this character wherein the water used in syringing is conveyed from an elevated reservoir, such as the usual rubber bag, to the parts to be cleansed, and this water, with any secretions which it carries with it, is returned through another passage to a second reservoir and so prevents the clothing or bedding from becoming soiled.

With these ends in view this invention consists in the details of construction and combination of elements hereinafter set forth and then specifically designated by the claim.

In order that those skilled in the art to which this invention appertains may understand how to make and use the same, the construction and operation will now be described in detail, referring to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a sectional view showing the tubes leading to the different reservoirs in elevation; Fig. 2, a front view with the tubes removed, and Fig. 3 a section on the line *x x* of Fig. 1.

In carrying out my invention as here embodied, A is a hollow plug which has the circular opening B therethrough. The front of this plug A is oval in shape, and the rear tapers down to very nearly the size of the circular opening B. The portion C is screw-threaded and is screwed within the circular opening B, which is correspondingly screw-threaded to receive the same. This screw-threaded plug C has a flange C′ thereon, and between this flange and the front face of the plug A is inserted packing D to prevent the leakage of any liquid therearound. Extending rearward from this screw-threaded plug C, and preferably forming a part thereof, is a screw-threaded extension E. This extension E extends outward a slight distance beyond the rear of the plug A. An opening F extends through this extension E and also through the screw-threaded plug C and through the tip G, formed on the face of the plug C. A rubber tube H is adapted to be secured upon the tip G, and this rubber tube leads upward to a reservoir. (Not here shown.)

I is the nozzle, which has the opening J therein. This opening extends to a point near the rear end of the nozzle and is screw-threaded, so as to receive the correspondingly-screw-threaded extension E. In cross-section this nozzle is triangular or is composed of the three wings *i*, which will leave the openings I′ in between. While I have described this nozzle as being triangular in cross-section or composed of three wings, it is obvious that it may be made in any other shape, so long as suitable openings are left between the nozzle and rim of the plug I for the passage of the return water and any secretions which it may carry.

Small openings *j* extend from the opening J in the nozzle I to the exterior of said nozzle. These openings are for the purpose of allowing the water, which passes from a suitable reservoir through the tube H and passage F, to come in contact with the parts to be cleansed. The water after cleansing the parts will pass into the circular opening B by means of the openings I′, and then the water will pass through a passage K, which is formed through the screw-threaded plug C and tip L, which is formed on the screw-threaded plug C. A rubber tube M is adapted to be secured on this tip L and pass downward to a suitable reservoir for receiving the waste water.

The operation of my device is as follows: The plug A is inserted in the vagina, and the flange *a* will securely close the vulva, so as to seal it against the leakage of any water therearound, so that water or other liquid passing through the passage F and out through the opening *j* will after coming in contact with the parts have to return through the circular opening B in the plug A and from there through the passage K and the rubber tube M to the reservoir.

The purpose of screw-threading the nozzle I upon the extension E furnishes the means

for adjusting the nozzle I, so as to have the end of the nozzle come as close to or as far from the uterus as desired.

The advantages of my syringe are that it can be used at any time or place without soiling the clothing or the bedding and is especially useful during confinement or in other cases where the patient has to be syringed while lying in bed, as thus it will make it unnecessary to use a rubber sheet or any other means for preventing the bedding from becoming soiled.

Of course I do not wish to be limited to the exact construction here shown, as slight modifications could be made without departing from the spirit of my invention.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new and useful is—

In a syringe of the character described, a conically-formed plug or body A having an opening formed longitudinally therethrough, the rear end of said opening being interiorly threaded, a cap C adapted to be threaded in the rear end of said opening and seal the same, an exteriorly-screw-threaded projection E formed with or secured to said cap and extending forwardly therefrom through the opening in the body, an opening formed through said projection and cap and being connected at its rear end with a supply, an opening formed through the cap communicating with the opening in the body and being connected at the rear of the cap with suitable waste connection, an interiorly-screw-threaded nozzle I adapted to be threaded upon the projection E and be adjustable thereupon, openings formed in the forward end of said nozzle extending from the exterior and communicating with the opening formed through the projection E, longitudinal grooves formed upon the exterior surface of said nozzle, substantially as described and for the purpose specified.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto affixed my signature in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ELIZABETH C. ASHMEAD.

Witnesses:

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