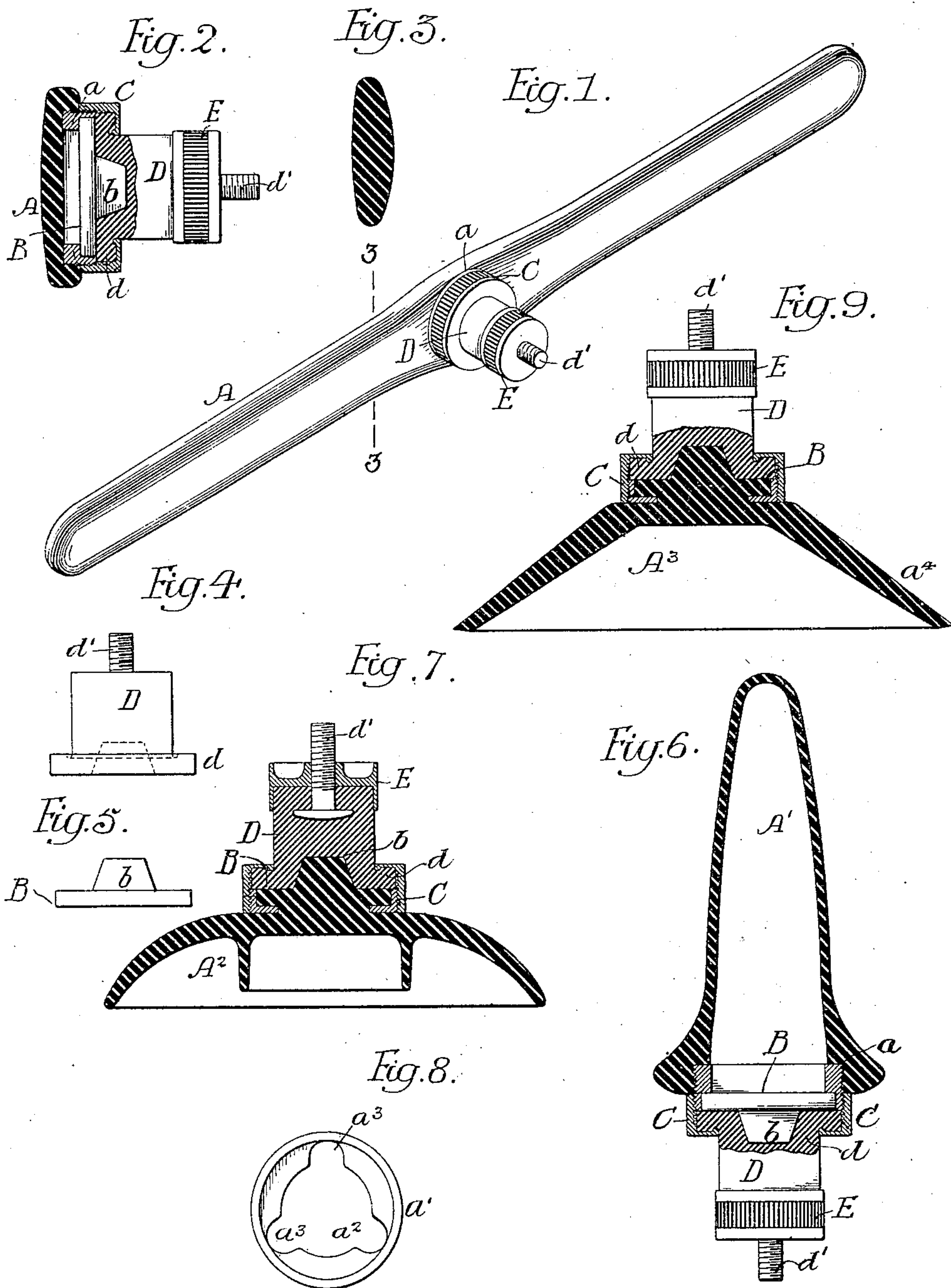


No. 868,522.

PATENTED OCT. 15, 1907.

A. BARKER.
 MESSAGE IMPLEMENT.
 APPLICATION FILED MAY 12, 1906.



Witnesses:-
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALFRED BARKER, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

MESSAGE IMPLEMENT.

No. 868,522.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 15, 1907.

Application filed May 12, 1906. Serial No. 316,526.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALFRED BARKER, a citizen of the United States, residing in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, have invented certain Improvements in Massage Im-

plements, of which the following is a specification. My invention relates to that class of massage imple-
ments in which the rubbing member or applicator
which comes in contact with the person is made of hard
rubber, wood, or other material which is of a relatively
rigid and inelastic character, the object of my inven-
tion being to modify the action of the applicator by
imparting to it a certain degree of elasticity.

In the accompanying drawing: Figure 1, is a per-
spective view of one form of massage device construct-
ed in accordance with my invention; Fig. 2, is a trans-
verse sectional view of the same taken through the cen-
tral portion of the device; Fig. 3, is a transverse sec-
tional view on the line 3—3, Fig. 1; Fig. 4, is a detached
view of the elastic block; Fig. 5, is a detached view of
the disk; Fig. 6, is a sectional view illustrating the ap-
plication of my invention to another form of massage
device; Fig. 7, is a sectional view showing still another
embodiment of my invention, Fig. 8, is a plan view of
one of the elements of the device shown in Fig. 7; and
Fig. 9, is a view of my improvement applied to a cupped
applicator.

The applicator shown in Fig. 1, consists of a bar A of
wood, hard rubber, or other equivalent material, with
central hub *a*, preferably of metal exteriorly threaded.
Although the projecting arms of such a bar may pos-
sess a certain amount of resiliency the same is not suf-
ficient to permit of the use of the bar without pain or
discomfort to the patient if the bar is rigidly mounted
upon the shaft of the vibrator, hence I provide a yield-
ing or elastic connection for the bar, which is prefer-
ably constructed as follows:

Seated in a recess in the hub *a* is a disk B, with cen-
tral projecting boss *b* and this disk is seated against the
face of the enlarged head *d* of a cylindrical block D of
rubber or other available elastic material, said en-
larged head of the block having a central recess for the
reception of the boss *b* of the disk. The enlarged head
of the rubber block D is engaged by a flanged cap C
internally threaded for application to the externally
threaded hub *a*, as shown in Fig. 2, so that when said
cap is screwed tight the bar A will be firmly confined
to the rubber block and the latter will permit of the
yielding of any part of the bar upon which pressure is
exerted. The use of the disk B with its projecting
boss *b* provides for an extended bearing area upon the
rubber block and permits the elastic cushioning effect
of the latter to be exerted to the best advantage.

Within the rubber block D is embedded the head of
a screw stem *d'* intended for application to the shaft of

the vibrator, this screw stem also receiving a flanged
nut E, which receives, confines, and protects the outer
portion of the rubber block, as shown in Fig. 2.

In Fig. 6, I have illustrated the application of my
invention to a massage device in the form of a hollow
finger A', the construction being otherwise the same as
in Fig. 2.

The disk B and its boss *b* may, in some cases, be in-
tegral with the applicator instead of being separated
therefrom, and in Figs. 7 and 8, I have illustrated such
a construction, said disk being in this case formed in-
tegral with a cup-shaped applicator A² of hard rubber
or other material capable of being cast or molded, said
material being cast around an internally projecting
flange *a*², on the externally threaded hub *a'*, which
flange has a series of notches *a*³, as shown in Fig. 8, so
as to prevent rotation of the same independently of the
device to which it is applied.

In Fig. 9, I have shown a modification of the appli-
cator to which my invention can be applied. The ap-
plicator A³ has an extended flange *a*⁴ forming a cup,
but it will be understood that any form of applicator
can be used in connection with my invention, the es-
sential feature of which is the elastic medium between
the vibrator and the applicator, and this elastic me-
dium is preferably made of solid rubber.

I claim:—

1. The combination of an applicator, and a block of
rubber secured thereto and to be attached to a vibrator so
that the motion of the vibrator will be imparted to the
applicator through the rubber block, substantially as
specified.

2. The combination of a massage implement having a
threaded hub, with an elastic block having an enlarged
head and a flanged cap whereby said block is secured to
the hub, substantially as specified.

3. The combination of a massage implement having a
threaded hub, an elastic block having an enlarged head,
a flanged cap whereby said hub is secured to the massage
implement, and an inelastic washer interposed between said
block and a seat in the hub, substantially as specified.

4. The combination of a massage implement having a
threaded hub, an elastic block having an enlarged head, a
flanged cap whereby said hub is secured to the massage
implement, and an inelastic washer interposed between
said block and a seat in the hub, said washer having a
projecting boss seated in a recess in the elastic block, sub-
stantially as specified.

5. A massage implement having an elastic block consti-
tuting a support therefor, a threaded hub and cap whereby
said block is secured to the implement, said hub being
locked against rotation independently of said implement,
substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this
specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ALFRED BARKER.

Witnesses:

WILL. A. BARR,
JOS. H. KLEIN.