

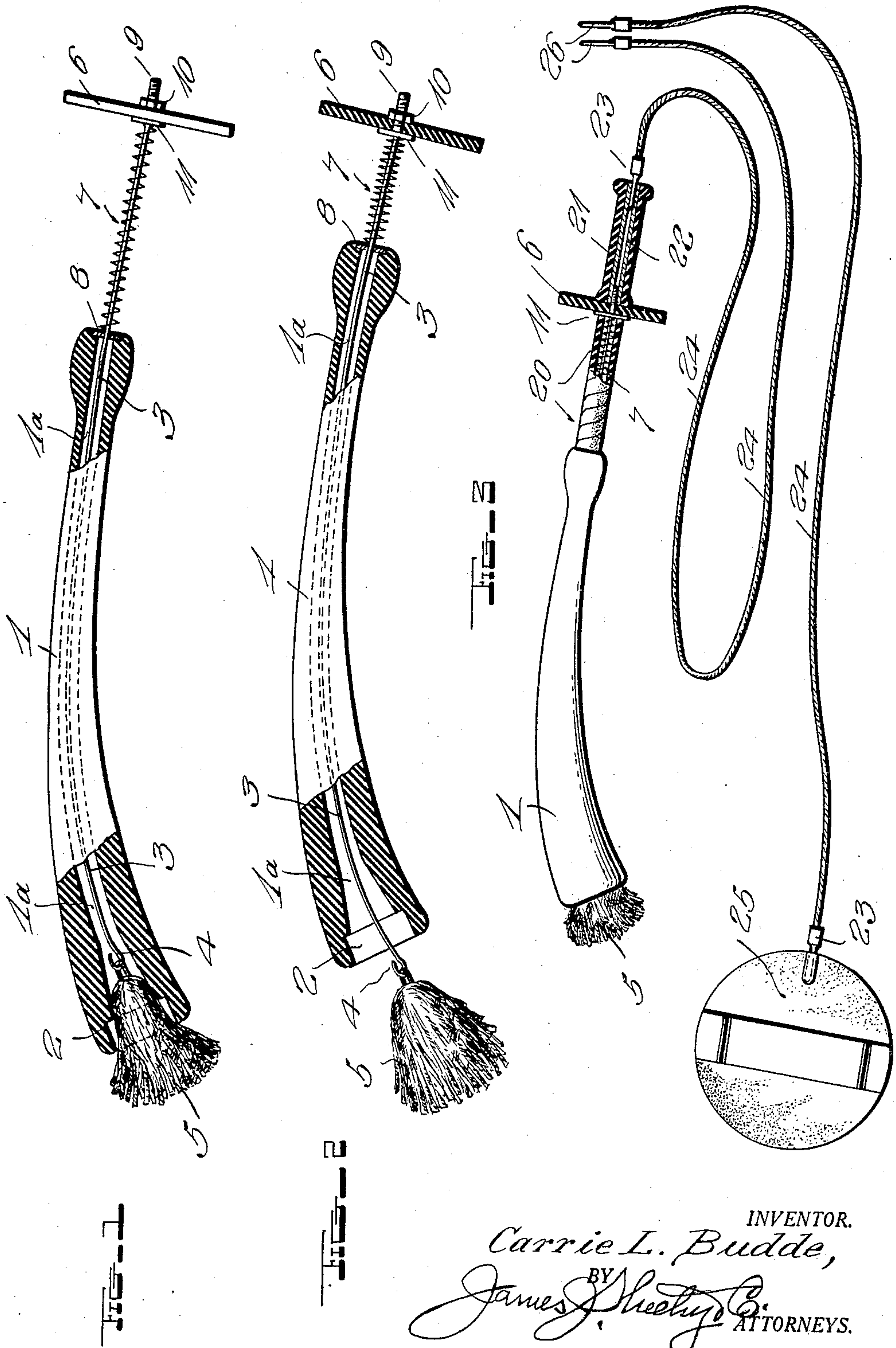
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SURGICAL INSTRUMENT

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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## SURGICAL INSTRUMENT

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My present invention pertains to surgical instruments and more particularly to the type used in treating diseases of the throat and other parts of the human body not easy of access.

An object of the invention is that it enables the treatment of parts not easily accessible by medication of various kinds, together with a massage of such parts and under circumstances where pressure is necessary.

Other objects and advantageous characteristics of the invention will be fully understood from the following description and claim when the same are read in connection with the drawing accompanying and forming part of this specification, in which

Figure 1 is a side elevation partially in central, vertical, longitudinal section showing the tampon seated within the instrument

Figure 2 is a similar view as Figure 1 showing the actuating spring compresses and the tampon hooked into the forward end of the receiving wire.

Figure 3 is a side elevation partly in section showing my improved device used in connection with a galvanic current carrying pad.

Similar numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in all the views of the drawing.

In my novel surgical device, the curvilinear tubular body portion is designated by 1. This body portion 1 is provided with a flared, enlarged mouth 2 and for the purpose of seating a tampon 3 (to be described later) 3 denotes a wire disposed within the hollow core 1a of the body portion 1. This wire is provided with a hook 4 for attaching a suitable, preferably medicated tampon or tassel 5. At the rear end of the instrument is a handle 6 while at the rear end of the actuating wire is disposed a coil spring 7, and an appropriate washer located at the rear of the reduced portion 1 is denoted by 8. At 9 I have shown an enlarged threaded rear end of the wire 3 and the handle 6 is locked by means of a nut 10 and a collar 11. Thus it will be readily seen that when compressing the coil spring the actuating wire 3 will be moved forward and its hooked portion ex-

posed, thus allowing the operator to readily change the tampon or suitable gauze, tassel or sponge as the exigencies of the case require.

In the preferred form, the tampon is preferably medicated, i. e. the tampon is incorporated with a water-soluble gum held into the fiber by a binder of a few drops of glycerine and packed dry ready for use. When needed, the gummed tampon is moistened and becomes mucilaginous and is ready for use, thereby avoiding the inconvenience and danger of bottled fluids and assuring the user of freshly made preparations. As will be seen the tip of the instrument is preceded by a soft lubricated demulcent pad and the tip never comes in contact with delicate or inflamed tissues.

After an operation, such as hemorrhages, following tonsilectomy where both pressure and styptics are used, my therapeutic device supplies both at the same time by pressing the cushioned pad or gauze against the bleeding area and from within.

In the practical use of my device, with one hand holding the tube, a gentle pull on the carrier away from the parts being treated, squeezes the demulcent mucilaginous mass from the tampon, and as it passes through a small aperture it deposits the mass where desired or massages the part with the cushion pad into the tissues being treated.

If it is desired to use the apparatus in connection with the galvanic pad it is necessary only to electrically insulate the operating spring. This expedient I achieve by wrapping the spring with a current insulating medium as shown at 20, 21 is a handle preferably made of insulating material, such as hard rubber, 22 denotes a metallic sleeve disposed within the interior of the handle 21; 23 denotes the pins on the end of the flexible cables 24 which carries the galvanic current. At 25 I have shown a galvanic pad working in connection with the electrified tampon and at 26 is shown a pair of pins connecting the apparatus with a suitable source of electrical energy.

It will be seen from the foregoing that my improved surgical instrument is simple in construction, and inexpensive to manufac-



ture and has no delicate parts liable to become inoperative.

I would distinctly have it understood that in lieu of the handle construction illustrated, I may, in the future practice of the invention employ a handle forming an integral part of the wire 3.

The construction illustrated is merely for that purpose, and consequently any manner of attaching the wire coil spring and handle on the device, may be employed as likely to fall within the scope employed. Thus the spring may be attached directly to the handle thereby insuring said spring being at the position required at all times.

In lieu of the tampon, a piece of gauze may be employed as a dry applicator or pressure pad; pressure being a point of value especially in the treatment of hemorrhages where a continual steady pressure is desired.

My novel device primarily comprises three salient elements to wit: the carrier wire including the spring and handle, the member 1 and the tampon or tassel, with the member and a tampon normally resting in the flared end of the tubular member and adapted to be ejected from the tubular member by downward movement of the wire.

The copper wire on the tassel materially adds to the value of the device when hooking up the galvanic current and this electric connection is manifestly more efficient with the copper wire bound around it than if the charged hook alone was attached to the cotton tassel without this binding.

This construction is preferable over the electrified tampon as in the latter form the demulcent gum adds to the electrical value in carrying the current. This construction is desirable but not essential.

What I claim is:—

An applicator comprising an elongated body member having a bore extending throughout the length thereof, said bore having a conical surface at one end of the body, and a cylindrical mouth, a wire slidable in the bore and an absorbent tassel attached to the end of the wire and adapted to enter the conical surface of the bore when the wire is pulled, whereby liquid carried by the tassel is expressed therefrom and enters the mouth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

CARRIE L. BUDDE.