G. E. JOHNSTON.

CATAMENIAL SACKS.

No. 182,024. Patented Sept. 12, 1876.

Fig. 1

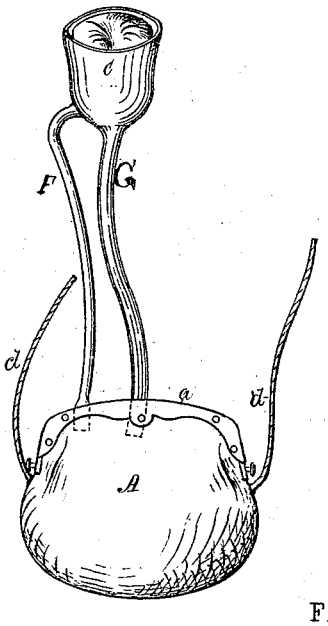


Fig. 2

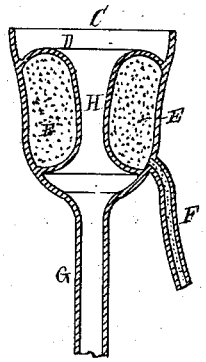
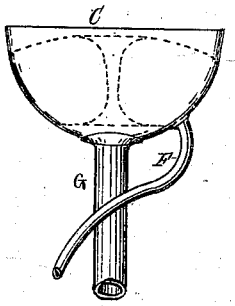


Fig. 3



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE E. JOHNSTON, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN CATAMENIAL SACKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **182,024**, dated September 12, 1876; application filed February 15, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE E. JOHNSTON, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Catamenial Sacks; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming a part hereof, in which—

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a catamenial sack embodying my invention, showing its form and relative position of one part with another when adjusted for use. Fig. 2 represents a central sectional elevation of a portion of the same; and Fig. 3 represents a side view of the same when folded.

Like letters of reference indicate like parts.

The object of my invention is to improve the catamenial sacks in ordinary use, so as to render them more complete and effective for the purpose designed, more perfectly and easily adjusted, and so as to be used with ease and comfort to the patient.

To that end my invention consists in the arrangement of the several parts whereby the objects aforesaid are attained, as will be more fully understood from the following description.

In the drawing, A represents the sack proper, formed of any suitable material impervious to water, and of the proper size, having reference to the comfort and convenience of the patient. The sack A is provided at its upper end or mouth with a metal clasp, *a*, adapted to admit of being opened or closed at will, and upon its sides with flexible straps *d d*, arranged to pass around the body or one of the limbs of the patient, and so as to secure the sack in proper position. C is the receiving-cup, made, preferably, of india-rubber, but may be made of any suitable elastic material which is impervious to water, and is provided with an inner lining, D, permanently attached at its upper and lower edge to the wall of the cup, forming an annular air-chamber, E, as shown in Fig. 2. F is an elastic tube, attached to the wall of the cup, and communicating with chamber E. G is a like elastic tube attached to the base of the cup, or made as a part of the same, and extending downward to and between the clasps *a* of the sack. The arrangement of the lining in the cup is such that when expanded by the pressure of air introduced into the chamber, the walls of the cup assume an annular form, as shown in Fig. 1, and at the same time leaving an unobstructed passage, H, between the faces of the lining, which communicates with the interior of the sack through tube G.

The application and operation of my said improved catamenial sack is as follows: The sack A is secured to the body or one of the limbs of the patient, and at such point or place as shall be most comfortable and convenient, by means of the straps *d d*, having reference to the length of the tubes F and G attached to the cup C. The cup C is then folded in a suitable manner to admit of its being inserted into the vagina of the patient, and, preferably, until it comes in contact with the neck of the womb, when air is forced into the chamber E by any suitable means through tube F, thereby expanding the cup against the walls of the vagina, and holding the cup within the vagina in a fixed position, and so as to receive the menstrual discharge therein; the end of the tube F being closed to prevent escape of the air from the chamber E by any suitable means, preferably, by inserting the end of the tube between the clasp *a* of the sack A. The end of the tube G is then arranged to enter and communicate with sack A, the clasp *a* being cut away at one point, so as to admit of a free introduction of the end of the tube G through the same, and into the sack A.

The menstrual discharge passes from the cup through the passage H and tube G into the sack A.

Whenever desired the cup can be removed from the vagina by removing the end of the tube F from between the clasp, and allowing the air to escape from the chamber E.

I do not claim, broadly, a receiving-cup adapted to be inserted within the vagina, as

I am aware that a receiving-cup has been heretofore made and used for that purpose; but—

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

The combination, with the sack A, and tubes F and G, of the receiving-cup C, provided with the lining D, forming the air-chamber E, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

GEORGE E. JOHNSTON.

Witnesses:
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