

A novel combined electrical vapour bath / [Muriel Maitland].

Contributors

Maitland, Muriel.
Stevenson, James

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Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

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PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION.

A Novel Combined Electrical Vapour Bath.

I, MURIEL MAITLAND of No. 6, Grosvenor Street, London, W. Gentlewoman, do hereby declare the nature of this invention to be as follows:—

My Invention which relates to the application of electricity to medicated vapour baths, has for its object the alleviation of the distressing feelings of weakness or
5 exhaustion usually experienced by a patient after having had a vapour bath.

It is generally admitted that medicated vapour baths have most beneficial effects in cases of incipient, as well as chronic rheumatism, gouty enlargement of the joints, obesity and other ailments under the ordinary treatment, but, with the attendant disadvantage of extreme lassitude and weakness, to overcome which symptoms, I find
10 in practice that by applying a stream of electricity through the tissues of the human frame, during the time the patient is in the bath, the distressing symptoms above referred to, are obviated, and renewed strength is imparted to the whole frame; the patient experiencing renewed strength & vigor.

In carrying out my Invention, I adapt by means of wires and suitable connections,
15 an ordinary induction coil and constant battery to the vapor bath, one wire from the secondary coil of said induction coil, being attached to one or both of the metal bearings fixed on the interior sides of the bath, the other wire being attached by means of a screw connection to a metallic foot pan in the interior of the bath. The metal bearings above referred to, are devised for the purpose of holding a metal rod
20 or bar in such a position, and at such a height in the interior of the bath, as shall be conducive to the comfort of the patient under treatment, or said bearing may be formed with a graduated incline to suit patients of different statures.

The induction coil (or if it is preferred to employ a constant battery alone,) is provided with a graduated switch, by means of which the amount of current to be
25 used, is proportioned to the requirements of the special ailment to be treated, and according to the physical strength of the patient under treatment.

Dated this 21st day of July 1887.

JAMES STEVENSON,
Gray's Inn Chambers,
20, High Holborn, London, W.C.,
Agent for Applicant.

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

A Novel Combined Electrical Vapor Bath.

I, MURIEL MAITLAND of No. 6 Grosvenor Street London, W. Gentlewoman, do hereby declare the nature of this invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—

My invention relates to the application of electricity to hot air or vapor baths, and 5 has for its object the alleviation of the distressing symptoms of weakness and exhaustion usually experienced by a patient after partaking of a vapor bath.

In order that my Invention may be the better understood I have appended the accompanying sheet of drawings in which Figure 1 is a front elevational view of the vapor bath arranged according to my invention with the doors open, and Figure 2 is 10 a longitudinal sectional elevation of the same. Figure 3 shows the inductorium and Figure 4 illustrates a hair or flesh brush used in conjunction with the vapor bath aforesaid.

In carrying out my Invention I employ a vapor bath A of the ordinary shape and construction provided with a seat *a* at the back thereof, beneath which is or are 15 arranged one or more gas jets *b* Figure 2. Surrounding these gas jets I place a screen B of wire net work, in order to prevent the too close approach of any combustible material to the lighted burners, in addition to which I arrange a wire guard C beneath, and in front of the seat, which serves to prevent the bath towel (usually laid upon the seat and hangs in front thereof) from being kicked or moved 20 too close to the gas burners *b*.

Upon the base of the bath at D is permanently fixed a metal plate to serve as one of the electrodes, upon which rests a foot bath E, formed either of metal or of earthenware or any other suitable material, into the bottom of which latter is inserted a metal plate for conveying the electric current to the water and thence to the body of 25 the patient. On each side of the wooden bath is fixed diagonally a rack F Figure 2, upon which rests a metal rod *f*. Figure 1, which serves as another electrode, and upon which under some circumstances the hands of the patients would rest. For the treatment of nervous disorders when it is desirable that the current of electricity should be directed through the spinal column, and which is also applicable to the 30 treatment of muscular rheumatism, to sciatica and like ailments, I insert in a recess G Figure 1, formed in the back of the bath, or between the skins *g* Figure 2 of which the back may be formed, a vertical rod *c* carrying a jointed arm *d*, at the extremity of which is secured a pad *e* of any suitable material, preferably interwoven with fine platinum wire, so that said pad may be employed with advantage either in a moist or 35 dry condition. Pads or equivalents of varying sizes, shapes and material may be employed to suit varying circumstances. The jointed arm *d* is provided with a regulating screw, by means of which the pad *e* or other appliance may be conveniently directed to any part of the back or arms.

Maitland's Novel Combined Electrical Vapor Bath.

At Figure 4 is illustrated a flexible metallic hair or flesh brush H, the back and handle of which are made of any suitable material, and hinged at various points *h*, to allow of its assuming various forms and of covering a larger surface of the skin when applied thereto, than is possible with brushes as hitherto usually made and used.

- 5 In combination with the device above described, I employ an inductorium J, and battery K of any suitable type for transmitting a vibratory current of electricity to the patient, from either the primary or secondary circuit thereof, or, under some circumstances I may administer a constant current of electricity, obtained direct from any suitable type of constant battery; said currents being varied in their strength
10 by the employment of a suitable switch, a separate switch being interposed in the electrical circuit to allow of the direction of the current being varied according to requirements.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said Invention, and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I
15 claim is:—

First:—The combined electrical hot air or vapor bath substantially as herein described and shown.

- Second:—In the combined electrical hot air or vapor bath referred to in the preceding claim, the adaptation thereto of an inductorium in conjunction with a
20 battery, or of a battery alone for administering a current of electricity to a patient partaking of a hot air or vapor bath substantially as herein set forth.

Third:—The adaptation to an electrical hot air or vapor bath such as herein described of an adjustable metallic hand rail, and the insertion of a metal plate in the bottom of the bath substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

- 25 Fourth:—In the combined electrical hot air or vapor bath referred to in my first claim the adaptation thereto of a jointed arm *d* carrying at its extremity a pad *e* and moving upon a vertical rod sunk or recessed in the back of the bath substantially as and for the purposes herein described and set forth.

- Fifth:—In the improved electrical hot air or vapor bath referred to in my first
30 claim the combination therewith of a pad of any suitable material with which is interwoven fine metal wire preferably platinum substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

- Sixth:—In the improved combined electrical hot air or vapor bath referred to in my first claim the adaptation thereto and employment therewith of a flexible hair or
35 flesh brush substantially as herein set forth.

Seventh:—In the improved combined electrical hot air and vapour bath referred to in the first claim the mode of and means employed for varying the direction of the electrical current substantially as herein set forth.

- 40 Eighth:—In an electrical hot air or vapor bath the employment of wire guards or screens B, C, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth and shown.

Dated this 22nd day of March 1888.

JAMES STEVENSON,
Gray's Inn Chambers,
20, High Holborn, London, W.C.,
Agent for Applicant.

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[This Drawing is a reproduction of the Original on a reduced scale.]



