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H. H. HUTCHINGS

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COMB

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Fig. 1.

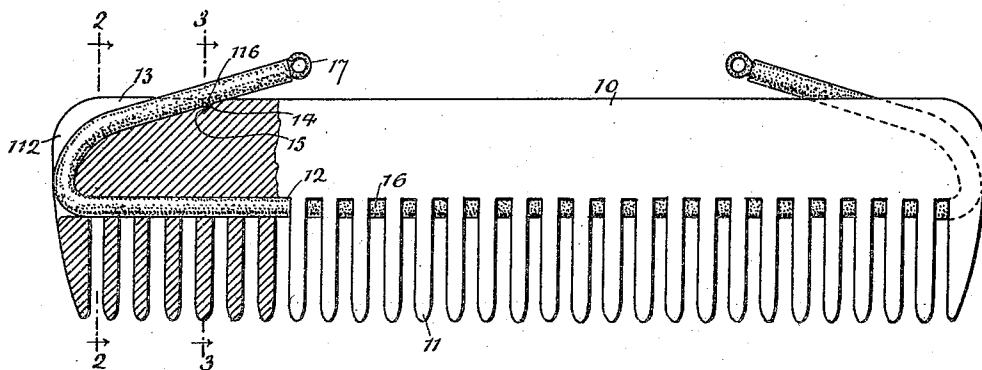


Fig. 2.

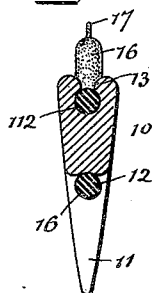


Fig. 3.

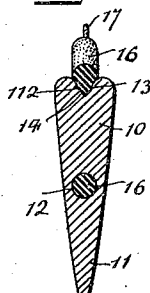
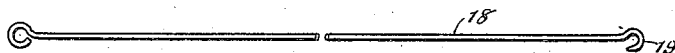


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES

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My invention relates to a hair comb and particularly a comb having an absorbent element for applying a medicament or tonic to the hair or scalp.

5 The general object of my invention is to provide a comb having means whereby the ends of the absorbent element will be accommodated in the comb without projecting beyond the ends thereof, and which will be held tightly to the comb when functioning.

10 A more specific object of my invention is to provide for the cleaning of the comb in an efficient manner.

15 The nature of my invention and the distinguishing features in which the invention resides, as well as their advantages, will clearly appear as the description proceeds.

20 Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings forming part of this specification, it being understood that the drawings are merely illustrative of one example of the invention.

25 Figure 1 is a view partly in longitudinal section and partly in side elevation of a comb embodying my present invention;

Figures 2 and 3 are cross sections respectively on the lines 2—2 and 3—3 of Figure 1;

30 Figure 4 is a plan view part being broken away showing a device for use in cleaning the comb.

35 In the illustrated example of my invention a comb is provided having a back 10 and teeth 11. Longitudinally of the comb at the base of the teeth is a groove 12 complementary to which are return grooves 112 so that the said return grooves at the opposite ends of the comb extend toward each other, that is, toward the transverse medial line of the comb. Toward the inner ends of the longitudinal portions 112 of the grooves 12 said return portions of the grooves are formed so that the comb at these points presents an undercut formation, as shown clearly in Figure 2.

40 A longitudinal length of cord 16 of absorbent material is employed and extends longitudinally through the length of the grooves 12, the ends of the cord being returned inwardly, as shown clearly in Figure 1, so that the cord lies in the returned portions 112 of the grooves 12 and may be forced into the

undercut formation at 13 whereby to hold the cord against movement or displacement.

In the back of the comb adjacent the end of the undercut portions 13 notches 15 are formed in the comb into which the under side of the cord 16 enters or is crowded, as at 116; when the returned ends of the cord are pressed into place at the undercut formations 13, the purpose being to hold the cord against displacement after being bent. On the ends of the cord are eyes 17 or equivalent formations.

45 In order to clean the comb an elongated rod 18 may be employed having a hook 19 at one end. The comb may be cleaned by engaging the hook 19 alternatively in the eyes 17 whereby to pull the cord longitudinally to displace any matter collected at the base of the comb, or, if desired, the hook 19 may be moved forward and back in the groove 12 to displace any collected dirt.

50 It will be clear from the foregoing that the comb may readily be maintained in a sanitary condition. It will also be obvious that the absorbent cord may be employed to apply hair dressings, tonics, dyes, etc., to the hair or scalp in exactly the right amounts when the said cord is saturated with the liquid to be applied to the head. When the cord is inserted in a dry condition it will also tend to collect dirt or dandruff from the hair and scalp as well as any oils or dust which may have accumulated on the hair, and when thus used the comb will tend to keep the hair soft and will remove excess moisture therefrom.

55 The comb may be made of any desired material and with any desired length of teeth, and I will state further than when the cord is removed entirely the comb may be used in the regular manner of the usual comb whereby it may be made to do a double duty.

60 I would state furthermore that while the illustrated example constitutes a practical embodiment of my invention, I do not limit myself strictly to the exact details herein illustrated, since, manifestly, the same can be considerably varied without departure from the spirit of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A comb having a longitudinal groove wholly within the teeth through which a cleaning implement may be passed, said groove being adjacent the back of the comb, said back being recessed to co-operate with said groove in said teeth for retaining said cleaning implement.

2. As a new article of manufacture, a comb including a longitudinal cord-receiving groove and angularly-disposed cooperating grooves adapted to receive and secure the extremities of a cord.

3. As a new article of manufacture, a comb including a longitudinal cord-receiving groove and a pair of complementary, co-operating grooves adapted to receive and secure the extremities of a cord.

4. As a new article of manufacture, a comb including a longitudinal cord-receiving groove and a pair of cooperating angularly-disposed return grooves in the back of said comb, adapted to receive and secure the extremities of a cord.

5. As a new article of manufacture, a comb including a longitudinal cord-receiving groove and a pair of angularly and oppositely disposed cooperating grooves in the back of said comb, said latter grooves being open on one side, said opening being restricted, and adapted to receive and secure the extremities of a cord.

6. As a new article of manufacture, a comb including a longitudinal cord-receiving groove and a pair of complementary, co-operating grooves in the back of said comb, said latter grooves being open on one side, said opening being restricted, and each of said complementary, cooperating grooves having notches at their respective terminal ends adapted to receive and cooperate with said complementary grooves to secure the extremities of a cord.

7. In combination with a comb having a longitudinal cord-receiving groove and complementary return grooves, an absorbent cord retained by said complementary return grooves for cleaning and applying a medicament to the hair.

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