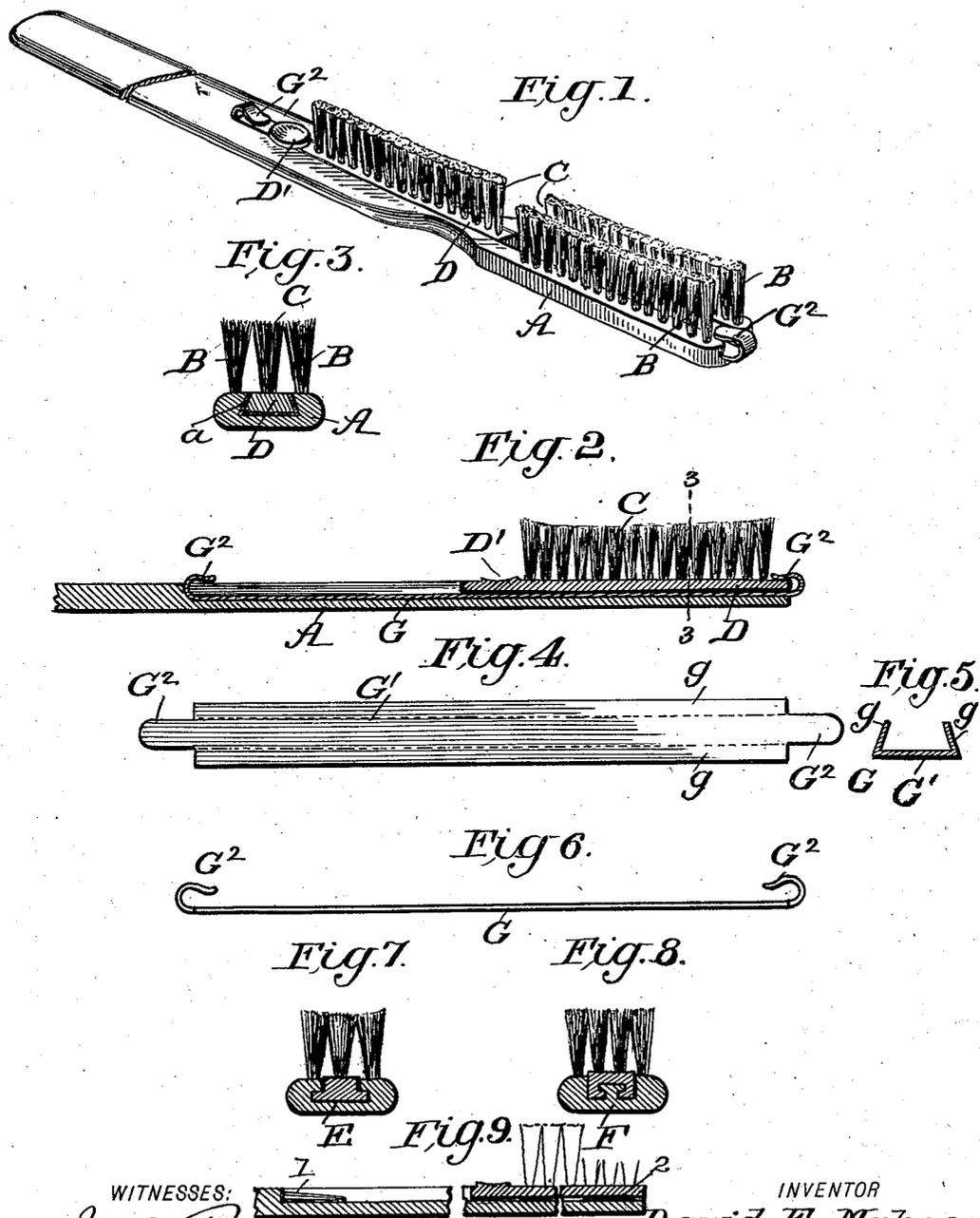


D. F. MAHER.
BRUSH.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 22, 1903.

NO MODEL.



WITNESSES:
Jos. A. Ryan
Perin B. Durpin.

INVENTOR
David F. Maher.
 BY *Mum & Co.*

ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID F. MAHER, OF WATSONVILLE, CALIFORNIA.

BRUSH.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 726,716, dated April 28, 1903.

Application filed January 22, 1903. Serial No. 140,091. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID F. MAHER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Watsonville, in the county of Santa Cruz and State of California, have made certain new and useful Improvements in Brushes, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is an improvement in brushes, and while it is shown in the accompanying drawings as applied to a tooth-brush it should be understood that it may be embodied in other brushes, as desired, the object of the invention being to provide a brush which can be readily and thoroughly cleansed by forming one of the sections movable relative to the other sections, so it can be slipped out of immediate relation with the fixed sections to facilitate the thorough cleansing of the brush; and the invention consists in certain novel constructions and combinations of parts, as will be hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a brush embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section thereof. Fig. 3 is a cross-section on about line 3 3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a detail plan view of the guide-blank. Fig. 5 is a cross-sectional view of the guide-blank with the side wings or flanges bent upward and inward to form the dovetail guide. Fig. 6 is a side view of the guide-blank, and Figs. 7 and 8 show somewhat different constructions within the broad principles of my invention, and Fig. 9 shows a somewhat different form of spring-clasp from that shown in Fig. 2.

The brush-block A is provided with rows of bristles B on opposite sides of the intermediate space C, within which space is movable the supplemental brush-slide D, which can be moved to the position shown in Fig. 2, in which it coincides with and coöperates with the bristles B, or can be moved back to the position shown in Fig. 1, clear of the brush-sections B, so the latter can be thoroughly and readily and easily cleansed. The brush-slide may be guided by undercut guides, as shown at E in Fig. 7, or by the different guide, (shown at F in Fig. 8,) or the said slide may be dovetail in cross-section, as shown in Fig. 3, and slide in the dovetail seat in the block A, as will be understood from

the said figure. By preference the dovetail groove and the block A are lined by the guide G (shown in Fig. 5) and produced by bending upwardly and inwardly the side wings *g* of the blank G' and suitably securing the said guide in the groove *a* of the block A. It will be noticed the block A has its groove *a* made of a length approximately double the length of the row of bristles or brushing-surfaces of the said block, so the brush-slide can be adjusted into coincidence with the fixed brushing-surfaces or entirely out of such coincidence, as will be understood from Figs. 1 and 2. I prefer to provide the slide D at one end with a depression or seat at D' to receive the finger, so the slide can be readily moved from one position to the other. The strip G' is preferably of spring material and has at its ends tongues or extensions G², which are bent upwardly and returned, as best shown in Figs. 2 and 6, to form clasps for engagement with the ends of the brush A in one position or the other of said part and hold it from accidental displacement. As will be seen, the slide can be forced readily into and out of engagement with the spring-tongues and yet will be held by said tongues when desired.

The slide-brush may have a single row of bristles, as shown in Figs. 1 and 7, or a plurality of rows, as shown in Fig. 8.

The form of the returned ends of the spring H may be varied, and it may be desirable in some instances to employ the spring-clasps shown in Fig. 9, wherein the clasp 1 is a spring-plate bent upon itself at its middle and the clasp or spring 2 is a curved or arched plate. Manifestly either spring 1 or 2 may operate to hold the slide-brush when adjusted as described.

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

1. The improvement in brushes herein described, comprising the brush-block having the opposite rows of bristles and the intermediate space between the same and having in line with said space the longitudinal dovetail groove extending between and beyond the rows of fixed bristles, the guide-strip secured in said groove and having side wings turned upwardly and inwardly to form the dovetail

guide for the brush-slide and having at its ends the returned tongues forming spring-clasps for engagement with the ends of said slide-brush, and the slide-brush operating in the guide-groove and arranged at its ends for engagement by the spring-tongues of the guide-strip whereby it may be retained in its different positions, substantially as set forth.

2. A brush having a block provided with a longitudinal groove and with fixed brush-surfaces on opposite sides of said groove for a portion of its length, and a slide-brush operating in said groove and movable into and out of position between the fixed brush-surfaces, substantially as set forth.

3. The combination of the brush-block, having the fixed brush-surfaces and between the same a guide for the slide-brush, the slide-brush movable in said guide, and means for securing the said block in its different adjustments, substantially as set forth.

4. The combination with the brush-block, having the fixed brush-surfaces, the slide-brush movable into and out of position between said brush-surfaces, and a spring clasp

or clasps for holding the slide-brush when adjusted, substantially as set forth.

5. A brush comprising a block having fixed brushing-surfaces and an intermediate space and a slide-brush movable into and out of position between the said brush-surfaces, substantially as set forth.

6. A brush consisting of the brush-block, having the opposite rows of bristles, and a space between the same, and a brush having a row of bristles and adjustable to a position between the rows of the brush-block, substantially as set forth.

7. The combination with the brush-block, having the fixed bristles, and a longitudinal groove, of a lining-strip for said groove having at its ends returned tongues forming spring-clasps, and the slide-brush operating in the groove of the brush-block and arranged at its ends to be held by the clasps of the guide-strip, substantially as set forth.

DAVID F. MAHER.

Witnesses:

A. T. DRESSER,
IOWA H. TUTTLE.