

No. 746,869.

PATENTED DEC. 15, 1903.

S. A. MOULTON.
DEVICE FOR PREVENTING SNORING.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 5, 1903.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

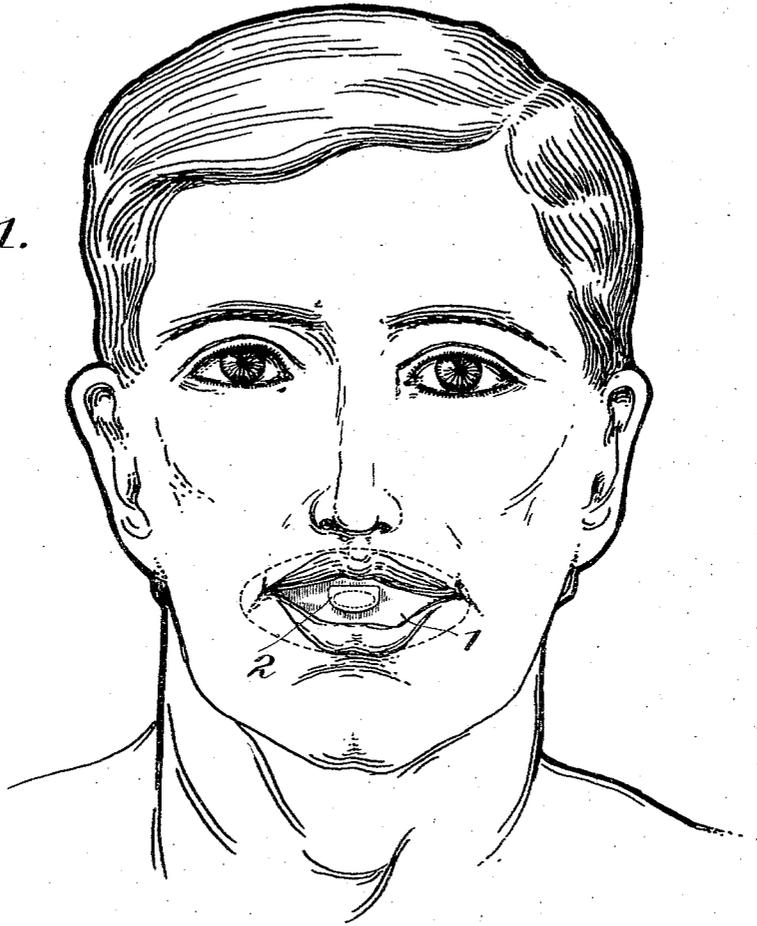


Fig. 2.

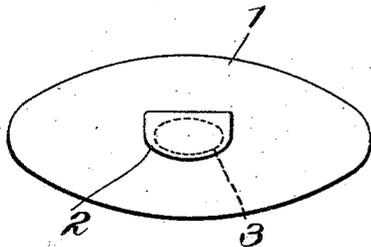
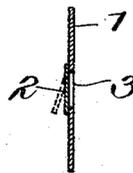


Fig. 3.



Witnesses
C. Stewart
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

STILLMAN AUGUSTUS MOULTON, OF CAMPBELL, CALIFORNIA.

DEVICE FOR PREVENTING SNORING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 746,869, dated December 15, 1903.

Application filed August 5, 1903. Serial No. 168,372. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, STILLMAN AUGUSTUS MOULTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Campbell, in the county of Santa Clara and State of California, have invented a new and useful Device for Preventing Loud Snoring, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an antisnoring device, and has for its object to provide a simple, inexpensive, and efficient device of this character by means of which harsh nasal sounds, commonly called "snoring" and due to the passage of air through the mouth when breathing, is effectively prevented.

It is a well-known fact that the habit of breathing through the mouth, particularly when sleeping, is more or less injurious from a hygienic standpoint, inasmuch as it causes the membrane of the mouth to become dry and parched and prevents the proper purification of the air and cleansing of the nasal passages, as is the case when the air is admitted in the natural way through the passages of the nose, and, moreover, the incoming current of air causes a vibration of the uvula and soft palate, giving rise to a sound more or less harsh, causing considerable annoyance to persons within hearing distance.

One of the principal objects of the invention is to overcome these objections and to provide means for preventing the ingress of air through the mouth when breathing and to regulate its egress, so as to cause the air to be admitted to the lungs and expelled therefrom in the natural manner through nasal passages.

The invention consists in a flexible plate or mouthpiece adapted to be held between the lips and in contact with the teeth and gums when sleeping; said plate being provided with a check-valve adapted to regulate the amount of air admitted to or expelled from the lungs through the mouth.

The invention further consists in the construction and novel combination of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and pointed out in the claims hereto appended; it being understood that various changes in form, proportion, and minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the

spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of an antisnoring device constructed in accordance with my invention, showing the manner in which the device is applied. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same removed. Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view of Fig. 2.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the forms of drawings.

1 designates a plate or mouthpiece formed of rubber, canvas, cloth, or other flexible and preferably impervious material, being preferably elliptical in shape, as shown, to conform to the shape of the mouth and adapted to be placed between the lips and held in contact with the teeth, as clearly shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings. The plate is provided with a centrally-disposed flap-valve 2, which normally closes an opening 3 formed therein, said valve being adapted to prevent the ingress of air to the lungs through the mouth when inhaling and to permit a relatively small quantity thereof to be expelled through the opening 3 in the act of exhaling. The plate being elliptical in shape and formed of flexible material will readily conform to the shape of the mouth, as before stated, while by having the valve open outwardly the air will be prevented from entering the mouth through the orifice 3, being compelled to enter the lungs through the passages of the nose in the natural manner, thereby preventing vibration of the uvula and the consequent harsh rasping sound called "snoring." When the nasal passages are partly obstructed from various causes—such as catarrh, inflammation, and the like—rendering it difficult to admit air through the nose, the plate may be reversed and placed in the mouth with the valve opening inwardly, thereby admitting a sufficient quantity of air to supply the lungs, but in volume insufficient to cause the necessary vibration incident to snoring, the air being forcibly expelled through the nose at each expiration.

From the foregoing description it will be seen that I have provided an exceedingly simple and inexpensive device which may be readily placed in the mouth upon retiring for the night and which will effectively prevent

snoring and at the same time permit the respiratory organs to perform their functions in a natural manner.

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

1. An antismoring device comprising a reversible mouthpiece having a valved opening.
2. An antismoring device comprising a flexible mouthpiece having a valved opening.
3. An antismoring device comprising a flexible mouthpiece formed of imperforate material having a valved opening.
4. An antismoring device comprising a flexi-

ble mouthpiece formed of imperforate material and provided with a central opening, and a flap-valve adapted to close said opening.

5. An antismoring device comprising a reversible mouthpiece formed of rubber and provided with a centrally-disposed valved opening.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

STILLMAN AUGUSTUS MOULTON.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM A. BOWEN,
S. G. BENSON.