

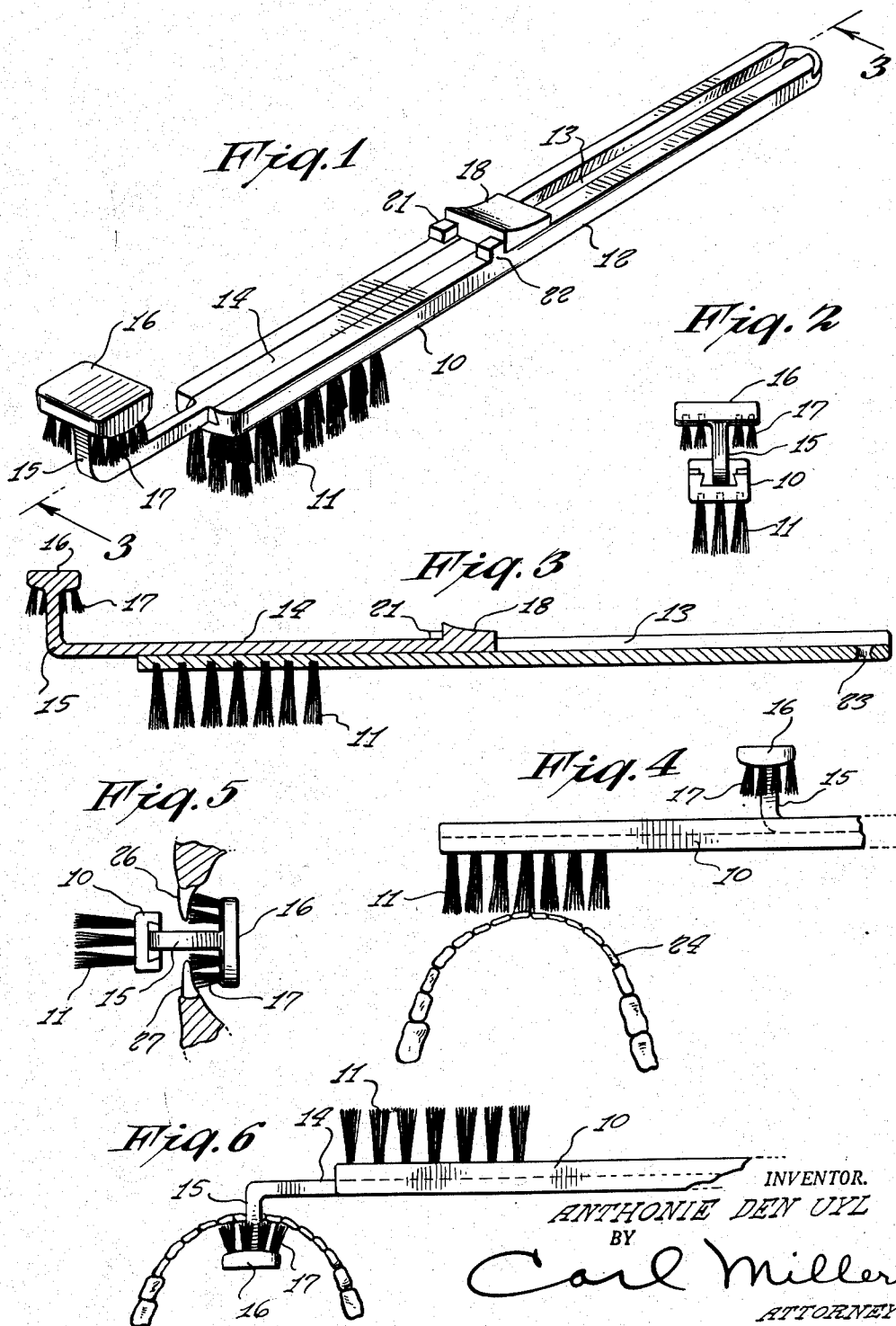
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2,629,122

COMBINED TOOTHBRUSH CONSTRUCTION

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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,629,122

## COMBINED TOOTHBRUSH CONSTRUCTION

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1 Claim. (Cl. 15—106)

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This invention relates to toothbrushes.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a toothbrush with an extendable small brush which is adapted to operate upon the rear faces of the teeth and upon both the upper and lower teeth simultaneously, and wherein this small brush can be easily retracted by the operation of the thumb upon the toothbrush handle when it is desired to use the regular and larger brush.

Other objects of the present invention are to provide a toothbrush construction having an adjustable small brush which is simple, inexpensive to manufacture, easy to operate, compact, consumes no more space than an ordinary toothbrush, and efficient in operation.

For other objects and for a better understanding of the invention, reference may be had to the following detailed description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, in which

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the toothbrush embodying the features of the present invention.

Fig. 2 is an end elevational view of the brush.

Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary side elevational view of the brush with the small brush retracted.

Fig. 5 is an end elevational view illustrating the manner in which the smaller brush is engaged with the back faces of both the upper and lower teeth.

Fig. 6 is a side elevational view of the toothbrush when in the position shown in Fig. 5.

Referring now to the figures, 10 represents the main body of the toothbrush having the regular bristles 11 with which the forward faces of the teeth are cleaned. This main body is integral with a handle portion 12. A dovetail groove extends throughout the length of the main body and the handle portion as indicated at 13. Slidable in this groove is an operating member 14 having an upwardly bent end portion 15 with a transverse portion 16 thereon having depending bristles 17 lying at the opposite sides of the bent up portion 15. The operating member 14 has a thumb engaging portion or button 18 whereby the user of the brush, with his hand upon the handle, can cause the longitudinal adjustment of the operating member and the small brush into and out of the body 10. On the body 10 are stop portions 21 and 22 which stop the brush when extended outwardly from the body 10, the thumb portion 18 engaging with the stops 21 and 22. A hole 23 is provided in the end of the handle by which the toothbrush can be suspended from a hook.

With the small brush 17 retracted, the brush bristles 11 can be used in the ordinary way upon the teeth, as shown in Fig. 4. The teeth are illustrated at 24.

With the small brush 17 extended outwardly, the bent portion 15 can be extended between up-

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per and lower teeth 26 and 27 and by working the brush around on the inner faces of the teeth, they will be cleaned. The bent up portion 15 is sufficiently narrow so that the teeth can be brought sufficiently close together to have the action of the brush bristles 17 on both the upper and lower teeth.

It will be apparent that there has been provided a brush having an adjustable smaller brush adapted for use on the rear faces of the teeth wherein this smaller brush can be projected or retracted as desired by the user of the brush with the hand holding the brush and by a mere depressing of the thumb upon the thumb portion to either extend or withdraw the small brush.

While various changes may be made in the detail construction, it shall be understood that such changes shall be within the spirit and scope of the present invention as defined by the appended claim.

Having thus set forth and disclosed the nature of my invention, what is claimed is:

A toothbrush construction comprising a body and a handle, said body and handle having a groove extending longitudinally throughout the combined length, said body being adapted to carry downwardly extending bristles, an operating member slidable in the groove, a small toothbrush located upon the operating member, a thumb engaging portion on the operating member engageable by the thumb of the hand retaining the handle of the brush whereby said small brush can be extended outwardly of the body or retracted to an out-of-way position, said operating member having an upwardly bent portion and a transverse portion extending across the upwardly bent portion, the small brush having its bristles extending from the transverse portion and at the opposite sides of the upwardly bent portion of the operating member, said small brush bristles being adapted to engage simultaneously with the rear faces of upper and lower teeth as the bent portion is extended between the teeth.

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