(No Model.)

T. M. UNDERWOOD.

SHEARS.

No. 482,857. Patented Sept. 20, 1892.

Fig. 1.

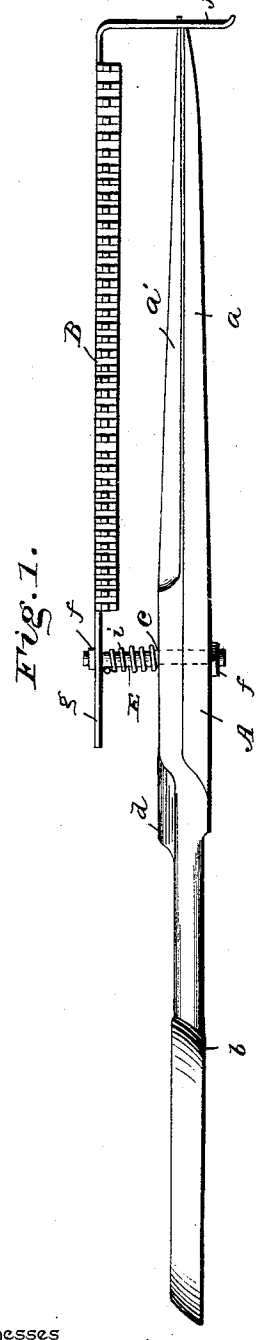


Fig. 2.

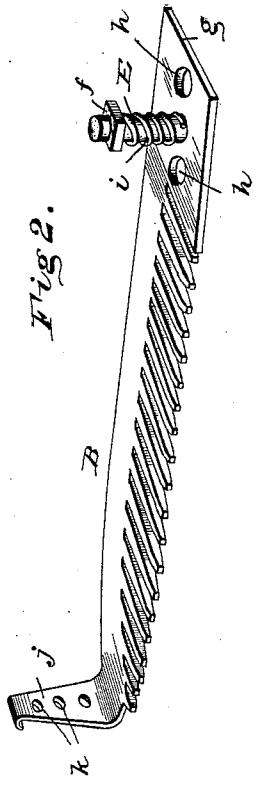
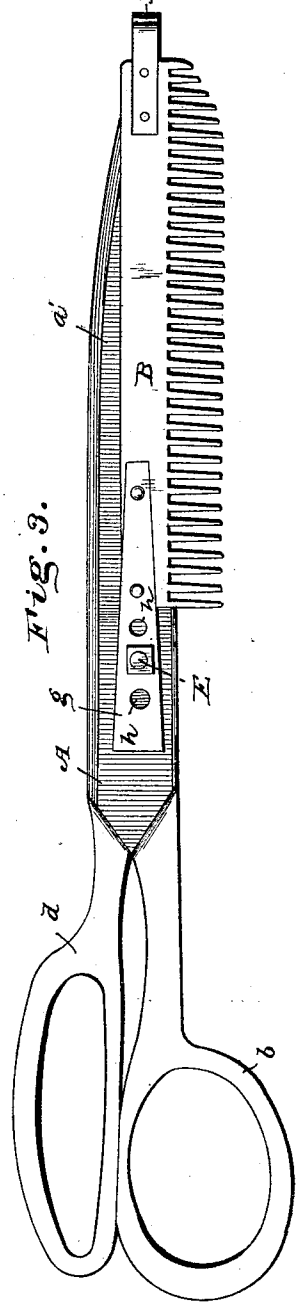


Fig. 3.



Witnesses
J. Ulke, Jr.
F. R. Harding

Inventor
Thomas M. Underwood.

By his Attorneys,
C. A. Snow & Co.

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS M. UNDERWOOD, OF BALDWYN, MISSISSIPPI, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO JOHN ROWAN, OF SAME PLACE.

SHEARS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 482,857, dated September 20, 1892.

Application filed June 29, 1892. Serial No. 438,438. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS M. UNDERWOOD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Baldwyn, in the county of Lee and State of Mississippi, have invented a new and useful Barber's Tool, of which the following is a specification.

My invention has relation to that class known as barbers' appliances, and more particularly relates to a new and improved tool consisting of a combined and relative arrangement of shears and comb, whereby the operator can simultaneously gage the length of and cut the hair in one single operation.

Heretofore it has been the usual method in hair-cutting establishments to use the comb and shears independently—that is to say, the comb has been manipulated in one hand to erect and present in proper position the hair to be cut, while the operator uses the shears in the other hand for clipping the same.

It is the object of my improvement to overcome the necessity of the independent use of the comb and shears and to so adjust and combine the same together that the operations of gaging the length and clipping the hair may be accomplished with a single tool and by a single movement.

My invention has for its further object to provide a means for adjustably and removably attaching the comb to the shears in such manner that the same can be relatively adjusted to cut the hair at varying lengths and can be attached to different lengths of shears as occasion may demand.

My improvement comprises a comb attachment for a cutting-jaw of a pair of shears, said attachment being longitudinally and vertically adjustable, and, furthermore, being secured to the pivotal connection of the shear members in such manner as to control the action of the cutting-jaws.

My invention embraces, further, certain other auxiliary details of construction, as will be more fully described hereinafter and specifically designated in the appended claims.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of my invention complete. Fig. 2 is a detail perspective of the comb attachment, and Fig. 3 is a top plan view.

Like letters of reference mark similar or corresponding parts in the several figures of the drawings.

A indicates an ordinary pair of barber-shears of any usual or approved construction and comprising the cutting members or jaws *a a'*, the latter being more pointed and slightly longer than its co-operating member *a*, and both being provided with suitable handles *b d* and pivoted together at *c* by the transverse screw-threaded pivot-rod E, having the correspondingly-screw-threaded adjusting-nuts *f f*, respectively, at each end thereof and bearing severally on the exterior sides of the member *a* and the parallel comb B.

B designates an ordinary comb, in length approximately equal to that of the member *a'*, to which it is attached, and provided at its rear extremity with the rearwardly-projecting plate *g*, provided with the perforations *h h*, designed to slip over and embrace the pivot-rod E, and being held thereon by the adjusting-nut before mentioned. By means of the series of perforations *h* the comb may be adjusted to scissors of various lengths. This plate is secured at its inner extremity to the solid or marginal portion of the comb by rivets or in any other suitable manner, as shown, or in the case of a metal comb the comb-frame may be extended rearwardly and integrally to constitute the attaching-plate. (See Fig. 2.)

Interposed between the plate *g* and the member *a'* is a helically-wound expansion-spring *i*, loosely embracing the pivot-rod and serving normally to keep the comb away from the member *a'* and the plate *g* against the adjusting-nut. Thus it will be seen that by means of the adjusting-nut and the tension of the spring *i* the comb can be adjusted with relation to the shear member *a'* at varying distances apart from the same, whereby different lengths of the hair operated upon can be gaged with relation to the cutting-shears arranged in operative relation with the comb.

Referring to Fig. 2 it will be seen that the forward extremity of the comb is provided with a vertically-extending spring finger or clip *j*, having a number of small orifices or perforations *k k*, vertically arranged and located a prescribed distance apart, in order to

receive and hold in different set positions the pointed end of the cutting member a', which, as is usually the case, is slightly longer than its corresponding member a. So it will be understood that, as the other end of the comb is placed at different positions to or from the jaw of the shears, likewise the end of the jaw a' can be set in a corresponding position in a perforation in the spring finger or clip j, whereby the comb can be retained at both ends in the same horizontal plane, and thus preserved in parallelism with the shears. However, the clip j could be dispensed with if the other extremity of the comb were rigidly clamped in alignment with the shears, it being understood that the said clip is provided for the purpose of preventing the depression of the extreme end when the comb comes in contact with the head.

It will be obvious that, as before stated, in the case of a comb made entirely from spring metal the clip j and the plate g could both be formed integral with the comb-frame, thereby simplifying and cheapening the construction. This is shown in Fig. 2.

By an inspection of Fig. 3 it will be observed that the perforations in the plate g are provided for the purpose of adjusting the comb linearly to the length of the cutting-blades of the shears—that is to say, by inserting the pivot-rod through the last perforation the comb will be extended farther toward the point of the shears, and vice versa, when placed in the innermost perforation.

One feature of my construction upon which I desire to lay especial stress and emphasis is the dual function of the pivot-rod, its adjusting-nuts, and interposed spring. By such arrangement the adjustment of the nut will not only compress the spring, but will also clamp the cutting-blades of the shears closer together, preserving their perfect alignment and co-operation, so that it will be manfest that by adjusting the nut as before stated both the comb is set with relation to the shears and the shear-blades are clamped closer together.

My improvement can, by its simplicity of construction and removability of parts, be attached to any ordinary cutting-shears and can be accommodated to the length thereof.

Having described the invention, what I claim is—

1. In a barber's appliance, the combination, with the pivoted members of a pair of shears, of a screw-threaded pivot-rod therefor, adjusting-nuts for said pivot-rod, an expansion-spring interposed between one of said members and an adjusting-nut, and a comb having one extremity held on the pivot-rod between the spring and adjusting-nut, substantially as specified.

2. In a barber's appliance, the combination, with the pivoted members of a pair of shears, of a screw-threaded pivot-rod therefor, adjusting-nuts for said pivot-rod on both sides of the shears, an expansion-spring interposed between one of said members and the adjacent nut, a comb having its rear extremity held on the pivot-rod between the said spring and nut, and a spring-clip provided with spaced vertical perforations on the forward extremity of the comb, substantially as specified.

3. In a barber's appliance, the combination, with the shears and its pivot-rod, of a comb having a plate provided with a plurality of perforations secured to its rear extremity, a spring between the shears and the said plate, and an adjusting-nut controlling the tension of said spring, substantially as specified.

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

THOMAS M. UNDERWOOD.

Witnesses:

T. B. STUBBS,

G. H. SLOAN.