

C. H. NOYES.
COMB.

No. 174,084.

Patented Feb. 29, 1876.

Fig. 1.

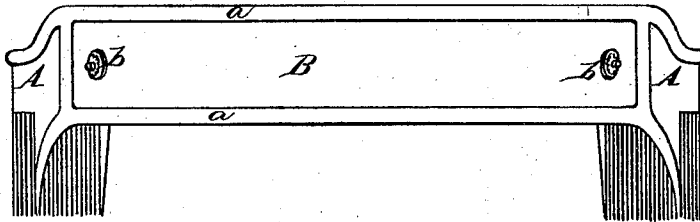


Fig. 2.

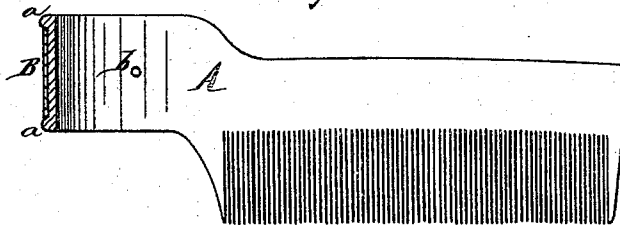
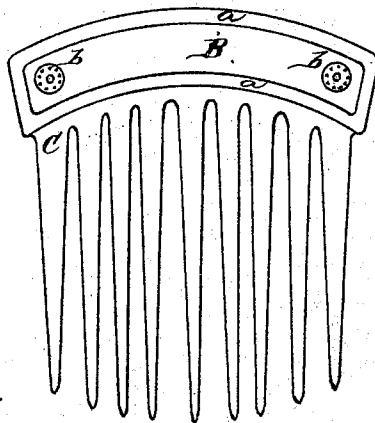


Fig. 3.



Witnesses

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CHARLES H. NOYES, OF MONT CLAIR, NEW JERSEY.

IMPROVEMENT IN COMBS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **174,084**, dated February 29, 1876; application filed January 20, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES H. NOYES, of Mont Clair, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain Improvements in Combs, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to that class of combs adapted to ladies' and children's wear, and is designed to give the rich appearance of an ivory comb to a comb made of other materials.

The leading feature of this invention consists in the combination of an ivory facing with the rim or band of a hair-comb made of other material, as hereinafter more fully set forth.

Another part of the said invention consists in the combination, with the rim or band of a hair-comb, of a facing of what is known as scroll-ivory, with the length of said facing running in the direction of the circumference of the tusk, as hereinafter more fully set forth.

Figure 1 is a front view of a double side comb with the middle portion of the rim or band faced with ivory, according to my invention. Fig. 2 shows a vertical section of the same, through the middle, on a plane transverse to the plane of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a back-side or face view of a ladies' back comb, embodying the same invention, the back side of this kind of comb being really the face of the comb.

A is a double side comb, having the band or rim of the comb extended across to connect the two combs or parts of the double side comb, as shown in the drawings. In some styles of combs, of this general nature, the series of teeth may extend the entire length of the band, but the style here represented is generally preferred. This comb A is made with a rounded molding, *a*, at its edges and ends, and across the band at the end of the ivory portion about to be described, which molding adds strength, finish, and beauty to the comb, while, on the other hand, it adds somewhat to the cost, and for that reason may be omitted from the cheaper grades of combs.

B is a thin facing or strip of ivory attached to the band of the comb, as shown. I usually prefer to attach this strip of ivory to the band of the comb by means of small ornamental

rivets *b*, as shown in all the figures. This facing B is represented in the drawings as being fitted to the inside of the molding *a*, which, by projecting over it, as shown, protects it from injury, the molding at the same time forming an ornamental finish, and a contrast of appearance with the ivory facing B. In combs from which the molding *a* is omitted, the ivory facing B may be made to come nearly or quite up to the edge of the band, so as to nearly or quite cover it from view, or a margin of the band may be left exposed to view, as the public taste may require. Similar facings may be attached to the end portions of the band of the comb, if desired, and secured in the way already described, or the portions of molding shown at the ends of the ivory facing may be omitted, and the facing extended to the ends of the bands and secured by the necessary additional rivets; but generally such additional length of the facing will not be required. The band of the back comb C, shown in Fig. 3, also has an ivory facing, B, similar in all respects to that shown in Figs. 1 and 2, except the modification of outline necessary to adapt it to the form of the band of the comb, and combined with the band in the same way. In this case the ivory facing extends the entire length of the band, with the exception of the breadth of the molding *a* at each end.

A molding, *a*, similar in character to that shown in Figs. 1 and 2, is also shown in Fig. 3; but may be omitted, as already stated, in regard to the form of comb shown in the first two figures, and with the same conditions.

In all the figures the ivory facing is represented as being secured by ornamental rivets, which I consider the best mode of construction, though any other mode of securing the facing that is suitable for the purpose, may be adopted if preferred.

In the particulars not herein described, the combs may be made in the ordinary manner. I prefer to make the body of the comb of hard rubber, on account of its not having that liability to expansion and contraction in the direction of the length of the band which attaches to the other materials usually employed in such manufacture.

It is an ascertained fact that the expansion

and contraction of ivory is chiefly in the direction of the length of the tusk, and for this reason, among others, I make the facings B of what is known as scroll-ivory, (which is simply a very thin sheet cut circumferentially from a portion of the tusk,) making the length of the facing circumferential of the tusk instead of lengthwise of it, by which I avoid the difficulty of the expansion and contraction (chiefly contraction) which would take place if the length of the facing ran in the direction of the length of the tusk; in which case the contraction would be likely to be so great as to break the facing at or between the rivets, unless compensated for by an elongated hole for the rivet, which latter would be apt to allow the curl of the ivory to spring the middle of the facing away from the comb. The curve of the ivory in this direction can also be much more readily adapted to the curve of the band of the comb, and, in fact, already has, in the scroll, more than sufficient curl to fit the curve of the band, while, if made with its length in the direction of the length of the tooth, and then bent into a curve, having its arc in the same direction, it would be very likely to crack, and thus be rendered worthless. For these reasons the combination, with the band of the comb, of an ivory facing with its length and curve running in the direction of the circumference of the tusk, as contradistinguished from lengthwise of the tusk is highly important, and forms a valuable feature and part of my invention. Before being attached to the band of the comb these ivory facings should be thoroughly bleached, to give them the greatest possible whiteness of appearance, and to prevent their becoming soiled by use.

Ivory combs are regarded as the richest and most desirable of any; but the great expense of the material, and the waste necessarily involved in making it into combs adapted to be worn upon the head, precludes their manufacture and use to any very great extent, notwithstanding their superior excellence of appearance. This invention, however, furnishes an ivory surface upon the part chiefly exposed to view, at a trifling cost, and gives a comb which has substantially the rich and desirable appearance of an ivory comb, at a fraction of the cost, as the ivory facing can be made very thin and cut from portions of the tusk which would not work well for most other uses.

When the ivory facing is arranged upon the comb, as described, with the concave side placed against the concave side of the band, and corresponding with it in direction of curvature, the ivory has a tendency to preserve the curvature of the comb or of the band, instead of flattening its curve, as it would tend to do if the facing were otherwise arranged upon the band.

I claim as my invention—

1. As a new article of manufacture, a hair-comb having an ivory facing upon the rim or band thereof, substantially as hereinbefore set forth.

2. The combination, with the rim or band of a hair-comb, of a facing of scroll-ivory, substantially as hereinbefore set forth.

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Witnesses:

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