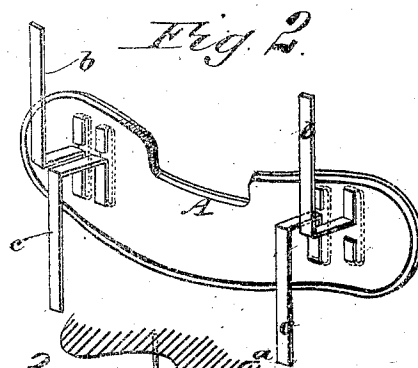


(No Model.)

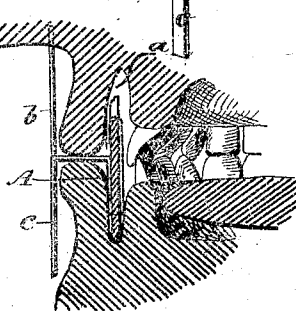
J. A. PEROU.  
INHALER AND RESPIRATOR.

No. 469,594.

Patented Feb. 23, 1892.



*Fig. 3.*



WITNESSES:  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN A. PEROU, OF PERRIS, CALIFORNIA.

## INHALER AND RESPIRATOR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 469,594, dated February 23, 1892.

Application filed May 26, 1891. Serial No. 394,117. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN A. PEROU, of Perris, in the county of San Diego and State of California, have invented a new and useful Breath-Controller, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to an improvement in devices which are worn to prevent direct breathing through the mouth, and has for its object to provide such an appliance with exterior guards that will prevent the device from entering the mouth or throat of the wearer accidentally.

To this end my invention consists in the peculiar construction of the device hereinafter described and claimed.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a view of the device in position within the mouth of a person, its outlines being indicated by a dotted line and the guards therefor in full lines exterior of the mouth. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the appliance removed from the mouth; and Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view of the device in position within the closed mouth of a subject, also shown in section.

The principal portion A of the appliance consists of a plate made of a suitable material and a length proportioned to the capacity of the mouth and size of the lips of the wearer, it being contemplated to provide a gradation of sizes to suit such variations of dimensions in mouths of patients as may be found necessary.

As indicated in Fig. 2, the plate A is rounded on its ends and undulated on the upper edge, longitudinally considered, to adapt it to fit within the space that intervenes between the lips and exterior surface of the gums and teeth, so that the plate may be readily introduced and rest without discomfort in the channel mentioned, and represented at *a* in Fig. 3.

In order to retain the device from displacement and prevent the entrance of the plate A within the mouth or throat of the wearer

when asleep, there are guard-limbs *b c* projected outwardly from the exterior surface of said plate a sufficient distance to pass between the lips of the patient and then bent in pairs oppositely, so that the limbs will rest near to the upper and lower lips when the device is in place, the length of these external limb portions being sufficient to adapt them to serve as a guard to prevent the involuntary recepti of the plate and limbs within the mouth during the hours of sleep.

The introduction of the plate A in the manner stated forms a barrier to the free inhalation of air between the parted lips, and in consequence the act of breathing is performed through the nostrils, as nature intended, thus obviating the injurious effect of a direct introduction of cold air into the throat, bronchial tubes, and the lungs, as well as the prevention of the habit of snoring.

After the wearer has become habituated by the use of the appliance to retain the mouth closed and breathe through the nasal passages the wearing of the controller may be discontinued and may not be again required.

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

1. A breath-controller consisting of an elongated plate made to fit in the space between the lips and teeth or gums of a person and provided with oppositely-projecting guard-limbs that may engage the lips exteriorly, substantially as described.

2. A breath-controller to prevent the direct inhalation of air through the mouth to the lungs, consisting of an elongated thin plate having its edges shaped to conform with the channel between the lips and gums and teeth of the wearer and provided with two pairs of guard-limbs that project outwardly and are then bent oppositely in pairs to lie upon the exterior of the lips when in service, substantially as described.

JOHN A. PEROU.

Witnesses:

LUKE A. SMITH,  
J. H. BANKS.