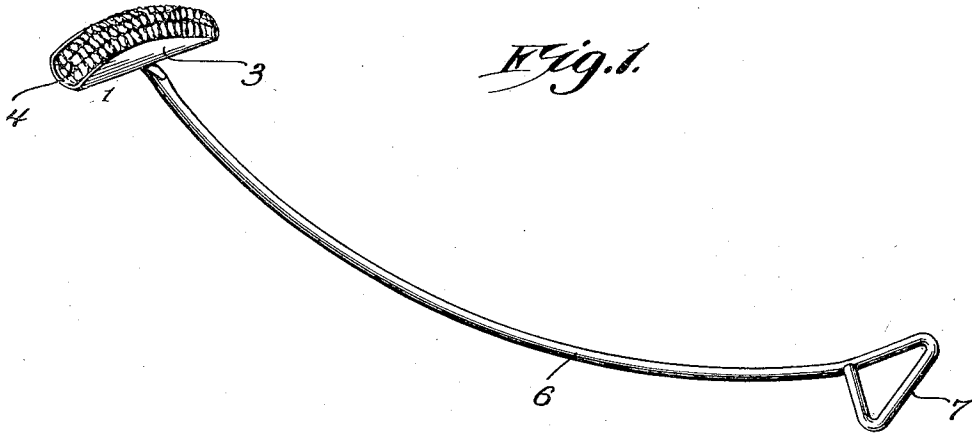


No. 869,250.

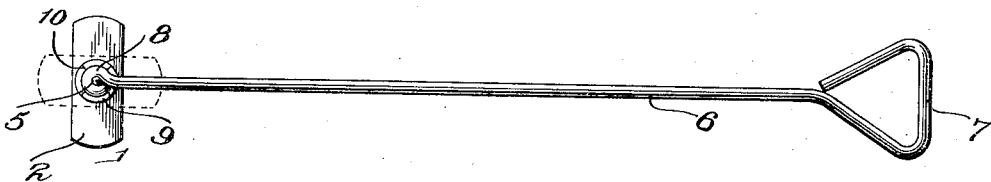
PATENTED OCT. 29, 1907.

F. J. MARTIN.  
BACK SCRATCHER.  
APPLICATION FILED JULY 6, 1906.



*Fig. 1.*

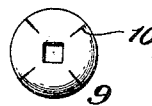
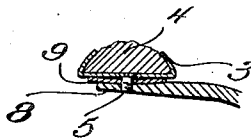
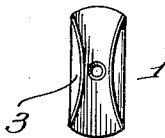
*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 4.*

*Fig. 3.*

*Fig. 5.*



Witnesses  
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By *E. J. Singer*  
Attorney

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FLORIAN J. MARTIN, OF MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN.

## BACK-SCRATCHER.

No. 869,250.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 29, 1907.

Application filed July 6, 1906. Serial No. 324,976.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FLORIAN J. MARTIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Milwaukee, in the county of Milwaukee and State of Wisconsin, have invented a new and useful Back-Scratcher, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to a back scratcher.

The object of the present invention is to provide a simple, inexpensive and efficient device, designed for scratching the back, and adapted to readily find its way down the spine of a person without difficulty, even when the clothing and collar are comparatively tight, and capable of enabling the back to be thoroughly scratched in a cleanly and healthful manner.

A further object of the invention is to provide a back scratcher of this character, adapted to permit the flesh engaging means to be readily changed, when desired, to render the device perfectly sanitary, and capable also of enabling the said flesh engaging means to be arranged to render the device more effective.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in the construction and novel combination of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawing, and pointed out in the claims hereto appended; it being understood that various changes in the form, proportion, size and minor details of construction, within the scope of the claims, may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the drawing:—Figure 1 is a perspective view of a back scratcher, constructed in accordance with this invention. Fig. 2 is a rear elevation of the same. Fig. 3 is an enlarged sectional view, illustrating the manner of pivotally mounting the holder. Fig. 4 is a detail view of the holder. Fig. 5 is a detail perspective view of the friction disk.

Like numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawing.

1 designates a pivoted holder of substantially oblong shape, constructed of spring sheet metal, or other suitable material, and consisting of a back 2 and converging substantially segmental sides 3, which are adapted to clamp the flesh-engaging material 4, whereby the latter is securely held in the holder. The end edges of the back of the holder are convexly curved, as shown, to prevent the holder from accidentally injuring the back.

The flesh-engaging material preferably consists of a slice or slab of corn cob, which will be found most ef-

fective as a back scratcher, and which is cheap and easily obtained, so that the material, after use, may be renewed at a small cost. The corn cob slab or slice is especially advantageous as it presents a rounded outer face for engaging the flesh and has a flat inner side or face to fit the back of the holder. The rounded outer face of the corn cob slab or slice projects beyond the segmental sides, which are partially embedded in the corn cob, so that the edges of the sides do not come in contact with the flesh, when the device is in use. Any other suitable material, however, may be substituted for the corn cob slab or piece 4.

The holder is secured by a pivot 5 to a resilient handle 6, which is bowed longitudinally, and which is provided with an end loop or grip 7. The handle, which is flexible, may be constructed of spring wire, or any other suitable material, and the end 8, which is connected to the holder, is enlarged by coiling or bending the material on itself to form an eye for the reception of the pivot 5. The enlarged end 8 of the handle is preferably flattened, and a friction disk 9 is interposed between the holder and the handle for frictionally engaging the parts to prevent the holder from accidentally rotating on the pivot, when the device is in use. The friction disk, which is concavo-convex before the parts are assembled, is radially split or cut at 10, as clearly shown.

The pivot, which is in the form of a screw, has its head countersunk in the back piece of the holder, and it is adapted to be tightened to flatten the friction disk to increase the friction, and thereby tighten the pivoted holder.

The pivoted holder is adapted to be arranged either longitudinally or transversely of the handle, or any other position, and when arranged longitudinally of the handle, as illustrated in dotted lines in Fig. 2 of the drawing, it may be easily introduced under the collar, or other tight clothing.

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

1. A back scratcher comprising a handle, a holder connected to the handle and consisting of a flat back and converging sides, and a slice or slab of corn cob detachably fitted in the holder and presenting a rounded engaging face, which projects beyond the sides.

2. A back scratcher comprising a handle, and a holder mounted on the handle and constructed of resilient sheet metal and consisting of a back and converging sides, and

a detachable flesh-engaging piece clamped in the holder by the sides thereof.

3. A back scratcher comprising a handle, a flesh-engaging device pivotally mounted on the handle and capable of rotary adjustment, and yieldable means interposed between the flesh-engaging device and the handle and frictionally engaging the former for securing the same in its adjustment.

4. A back scratcher comprising a handle, a holder having a flesh-engaging device, a screw pivoting the holder to

the handle, and a resilient compressible friction disk interposed between the holder and the handle and adapted to be adjusted by the screw.

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

FLORIAN J. MARTIN.

Witnesses:

CHAS. SCHERER,  
THOS. V. DALLY.