W. MEREDITH.

THUMB REST.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 25, 1917.

1,269,106. Patented June 11, 1918.

Fig. 1.

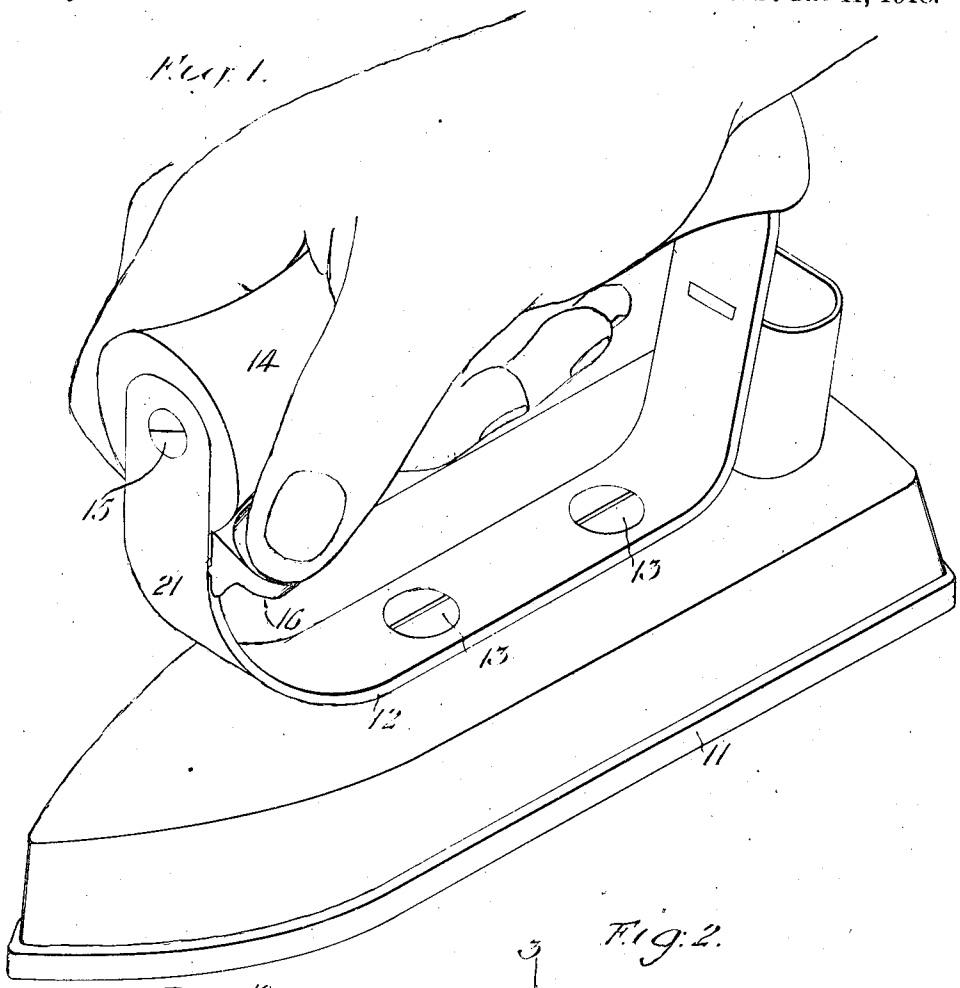


Fig. 2.

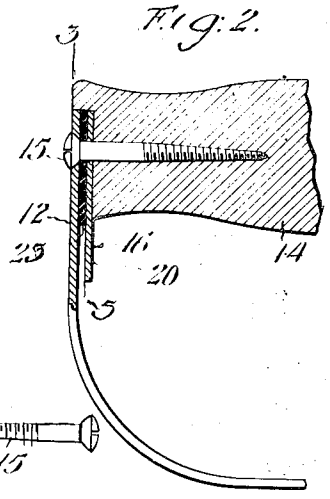


Fig. 3

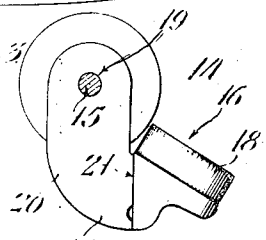
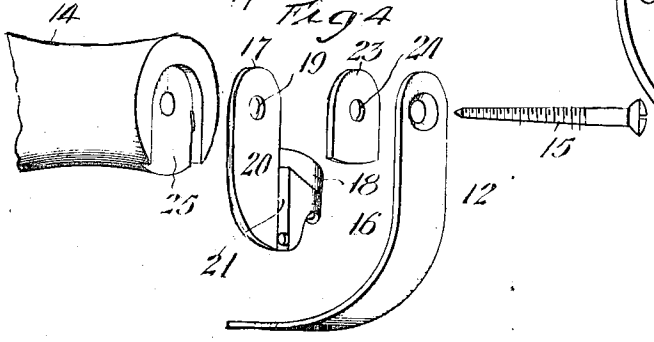


Fig. 4



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THUMB-REST.

1,269,106. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 11, 1918.

Application filed April 25, 1917. Serial No. 164,548.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WYNN MEREDITH, a citizen of the United States, residing at the city and county of San Francisco and State of California, have invented a new and useful Thumb-Rest, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to flat irons, and while primarily designed for use on electrically heated irons, it is nevertheless applicable to gas heated flat irons, or indeed to irons which include no heating element.

The principal object of the invention is to provide an improved grip or handle for such an iron. This I accomplish by providing a thumb rest so placed that the thumb of the operator rests naturally thereon when the handle is gripped. This allows the operator to use the thumb to help propel the iron, thereby greatly reducing the fatigue of using the iron. It also gives the operator much better control of the iron, especially when the iron is tilted to allow the point or edge alone to be used.

In addition to making the iron easier to operate and control, the embodiment of my invention illustrated herein has the advantage, in a great measure, of preventing the hand of the operator from coming into contact with the steel handle bow. This advantage is partly due to the greater ease with which the iron is operated and to the fact that the thumb rest fixes the position of the hand and prevents it from sliding forward. and partly to the specific construction shown which acts as a guard, as will hereinafter be explained.

Further objects and advantages will be made evident hereinafter.

Referring to the drawings, which are for illustrative purposes only:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a flat iron equipped with my invention.

Fig. 2 is a cross section through the center of the handle, showing the method of supporting same.

Fig. 3 is a section on a plane represented by the line 3—3 Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a disassembled view of the various parts comprising the invention.

In the drawing, an iron 11 has a handle bow 12 secured to the top thereof by means of screws 13. The iron 11 may be of the self-heating type utilizing gas or electricity as a heating agent, or it may be any ordinary type of flat iron which is heated by external means.

Secured in the bow 12 is a handle 14 which is formed of some insulating material, preferably wood. This handle is secured in place by means of screws 15 which pass through suitable holes in the bow 12 at either end thereof. A thumb rest 16 is provided at the forward end of the handle 14, this thumb rest consisting of a metal member 17 to which an insulating thumb button 18 is secured by any suitable means. The metal member 17 is provided with a hole 19 and with a flat portion 20 which may be designated as the guard, this flat portion projecting down a considerable distance below the handle 14, as best shown in Fig. 2. A square shoulder 21 is provided, this shoulder contacting with the edge of the bow 12 and preventing the button from swinging around the screw 15 which passes through the hole 19. A fiber or other heat insulating washer 23, provided with a hole 24, is placed between the bow 12 and the thumb rest 18, as shown in Fig. 2, the parts being clamped together as shown. A recess 25 is preferably formed in the end of the wooden handle 14 in which the parts are seated when the screw 15 is forced into place. The location of the button 18 is such that the thumb of the operator naturally rests thereon when the handle 14 is gripped, this button serving to give a perfect control of the iron and make it much easier to propel. The guard 20 prevents the fingers from coming in contact with the handle bow 12, the washer 23 and the space between the bow 12 and the guard 20 serving to heat insulate the guard so that it is always cold.

I claim as my invention:—

1. In a flat iron; a body; a handle; a handle bow secured to said body and supporting one end of said handle; a thumb rest secured to said handle and forming a guard extending across the under side of the handle to prevent the hand of the operator from coming in contact with said bow.

2. In a flat iron; a metal bow; a handle having a recess in one end thereof; a screw passing through said bow into said handle; a metal member having a hole through which said screw passes, said metal member fitting into said recess; and a thumb button forming a portion of said unitary member.

3. In a flat iron; a metal bow; a handle having a recess in one end thereof; a screw passing through said bow into said handle; a metal member having a hole through which said screw passes, said metal member fitting into said recess and projecting sufficiently below said handle to form a guard therefor; and a thumb button forming a portion of said unitary member.

4. In a flat iron, a metal bow; a handle supported in said bow; and a thumb button located to one side and below the horizontal plane of the handle and so placed that the ball of the thumb of a hand which grips the handle rests naturally thereon in such a position as to assist in propelling the iron forward.

5. A combination as in claim 4 in which the thumb button is formed independently of the handle and rigidly secured thereto.

6. A combination as in claim 5 in which the thumb button is secured to the handle by means of a metal member which extends under the handle and forms a guard to protect the hand from the heated metal bow.

7. A combination as in claim 5 in which the surface of the thumb button is approximately in a plane passing through the axis of the handle.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand at Tulsa, Oklahoma, this 16 day of April, 1917.

WYNN MEREDITH.