

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CURRY-COMB.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 476,189, dated May 31, 1892.

Application filed January 7, 1892. Serial No. 417,336. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALEXANDER C. DECKER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Keokuk, in the county of Lee and State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Curry-Combs, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to curry-combs, and has reference more particularly to that class in which the body or comb portion is adapted to be reversed relatively to the handle, although various features of the invention are applicable to combs having but one active or combing face.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is perspective view of my improved comb; Fig. 2, a longitudinal sectional view of a portion of the same on a larger scale, showing the handle in its different positions. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a portion of the frame and the handle with the parts separated; and Fig. 4, a transverse sectional view through the axis of the handle, spindle, or shank.

A indicates the frame of the comb, composed of a single piece of metal bent to proper form and arranged with its ends *aa* overlapping and securely riveted to each other, as shown in Fig. 1. The edges of this strip of metal, which constitutes the frame of the comb, may be toothed upon one edge to produce a single comb or may be toothed upon both edges, so as to form the frame of a double or reversible comb.

The body B comprises a single strip of metal, which is so bent as to form the transverse combing-bars *b*. The end bars *b* are each provided with an attaching-ear *c*, integral therewith, while the bars are connected one with the other by the short integral sections *d*, which serve to properly space them. These ears *c* and sections *d* bear squarely against the inner faces of the side bars of the frame A, to which they are secured by rivets *e*, as shown, and as the body B is composed of a single piece of metal bent to proper form it is found that a single rivet will serve to securely fasten each bar to the frame and overcome the tendency to turn over which is present with those combs in which the bars are made up of independent pieces and separately attached to the frame. These bars *b*, or, more properly speaking, the strip from which the

body B is formed, may be toothed or notched on one edge only or on both edges, as may be preferred. Inasmuch as the side bars of the frame A are not usually notched or toothed, the ears *c* and the connecting portions *d* will also be made plain; but this is merely a matter of preference. From this construction it will be seen that each bar serves in a measure to support the others, thereby giving greater strength and reducing the expense of manufacturing, besides making the comb neater and lighter. This construction is applicable to either single or double (reversible) combs.

Where the ends *aa* of the frame-piece overlap, they are provided with a hole or opening *f*, and one or more (preferably two) of the bars *b* are provided with a corresponding hole or perforation *g* in line with the hole *f* to receive the shank or spindle *h* of the handle C. This shank or spindle *h* comprises two parts *i* and *j*, the part *i* being made cylindrical to fit the holes or openings *f g*, while the part *j* extends off at an angle to the part *i* and forms a tang for the wooden handle C, to which it is secured.

The outer end of the spindle *i* projects through the second bar *b* and is prevented from being accidentally removed therefrom in any suitable manner, but preferably by means of a pin *k*, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. At its inner end, where the section *i* joins the section *j*, there are one or more studs, lugs, or projections *l*, which are designed to enter a slot or opening *m*, formed in frame A, and which will or will not, according to the formation of the lugs or projections *l*, communicate with a hole or opening *f*, also formed in the frame.

I prefer to employ two lugs *l* and to have the openings or holes *m*, which receive them or in which they are seated, form extensions of or communicate with the hole *f*, as shown in Fig. 3, as this is the most compact and serviceable construction.

The holes or openings *m* to receive the lugs *l* may project through both of the ends *aa* or only through the outside end piece, as may be preferred, it only being necessary that the engagement between the lugs and the frame be such as to prevent the accidental turning of the handle or comb relatively to each other.

A spring *n* is applied to the spindle *i* between the frame and the first bar *b*, and also preferably between the first and second bars *b*, so as to hold the lugs or projections *l* into the seats or openings *m*, made to receive them, and thereby prevent the handle from turning.

The employment of the second spring *n* between the first and second bars prevents the second bar from being permanently bent out of form by constant reversal of the handle, the spring tending to throw the bar back to its normal position.

When it is desired to reverse the comb, the handle is moved longitudinally with reference to the comb proper, as indicated by the dotted lines in Fig. 2, so as to withdraw the lugs or projections from the seats or openings *m* in the frame, and it is then given a half-revolution, as indicated by the dotted lines in Figs. 2 and 4, so as to again bring the lugs or projections *l* into line with their seats *m*, whereupon the spring or springs *n*, together with the inherent resiliency of the cross-bars, will draw the lugs into the seats and prevent further movement of the handle relatively to the comb proper.

The springs *n* could, if desired, be omitted and the resiliency or elasticity of the cross-bar itself alone be depended upon; but it will be found better in most cases to employ the exact construction shown.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. A curry-comb comprising the frame *A*, made of a single piece of metal bent to proper form, a body portion *B*, also made of a single piece of metal bent to proper form and secured within the frame, and a handle secured

to the frame, all substantially as shown and described.

2. A curry-comb comprising a frame, a handle, and a body portion *B*, made of a single piece of metal bent so as to form the bars *b*, ears *c*, and connecting portions *d* and united to the frame.

3. A curry-comb comprising a body portion and a frame to receive the body portion, composed of a single piece of metal bent to proper form, with its ends overlapping and united, and a handle journaled in the said overlapping ends.

4. In a curry-comb, the combination, with a frame having the openings *f m* and a perforated yielding bar *b*, of the handle *C*, provided with a stem *i*, entering the perforations and provided with lugs *l* and a retaining device or pin *k*.

5. In a curry-comb, the combination, with a frame having the openings *f m* and the perforated yielding bar *b*, of the handle *C*, provided with a stem *i*, having lugs *l* to fit the openings *m*, a retaining device *k* for the handle, and a spring between the bar and the frame.

6. In a curry-comb, the combination, with a frame having openings *f m* and the perforated bars *b b*, of the handle *C*, having a stem *i*, provided with lugs *l*, a retaining device for the handle, and springs *n n* between the bars and also between the bars and the frame.

In witness whereof I hereunto set my hand in the presence of two witnesses.

ALEXANDER C. DECKER.

Witnesses:

L. HAGERMAN,

C. J. ENGELHART.