S. L. GREENBERG.

ARTIFICIAL TOOTH.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 14, 1921.

1,417,376. Patented May 23, 1922.

Fig. 1.

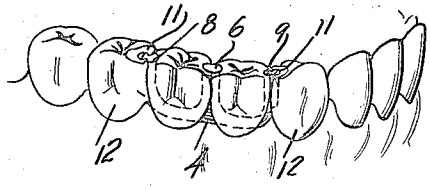


Fig. 2.

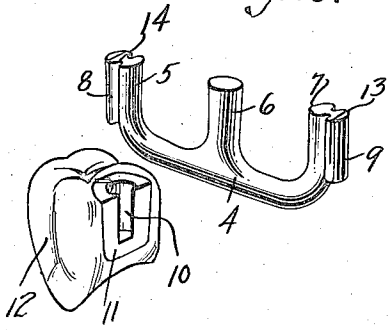


Fig. 3.

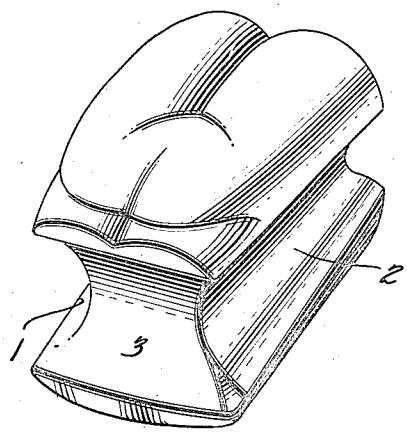
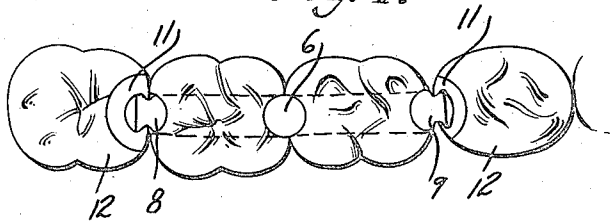


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES

Thomas A. Reichert

Robert F. Hulsizer

INVENTOR

Samuel L. Greenberg

BY Munn & Co.

ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL L. GREENBERG, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

ARTIFICIAL TOOTH.

1,417,376. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented May 23, 1922.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL L. GREENBERG, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of New York, borough of Manhattan, in the county and State of New York, have invented new and Improved Artificial Teeth, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to artificial teeth, and has particular reference to a simple and efficient means whereby the insertion in and the removal of teeth from the jaw is very readily achieved.

Another object resides in the provision of teeth so constructed that they readily cooperate with a mounting as to the ease with which they are placed thereon and removed therefrom.

A further object resides in the particular construction and arrangement of parts which are hereinafter described and claimed and shown in the accompanying drawings.

The invention is illustrated in the drawings, of which—

Figure 1 is a view of a portion of a set of teeth showing two artificial teeth mounted between two natural teeth in a manner according to the invention.

Figure 2 is a perspective view of a tooth and a mounting or bridging element to be associated therewith.

Figure 3 is an enlarged perspective view of one of the teeth.

Figure 4 is a plan view of two natural teeth between which a pair of artificial teeth are shown mounted in accordance with the invention.

The particular application of the inventive idea is shown in the drawings but other and modified forms of this simple idea may be adopted and still be within the scope of the invention.

As shown in the drawings, I have provided an artificial tooth having slots or grooves such as 1 and 2 extending vertically along opposite sides thereof and with a curved recess or slot 3 in its bottom face. These teeth may be made of porcelain or any other suitable material, and the slots above mentioned are provided for the ready engagement of the tooth with the mounting which is adapted to support the tooth in position on the jaw. This mounting is shown in Fig. 2 and may be made of any suitable material, such as gold, silver, or platinum-irridium. The particular form of mounting shown in Fig. 2 comprises a substantially horizontally extending body portion 4 from which arrive vertical posts 5, 6 and 7. These posts are curved to conform to the curvature of the slots 1 and 2 in the teeth, and the upper faces, at least, of the body portion 4 are curved to conform to the slot or recess 3 in the bottom of each tooth. It is, therefore, a simple matter to slide a tooth into position between adjacent posts; the engagement between the posts and the corresponding lateral slots will fasten the teeth firmly on the mounting, and the curvature of the bottom slot will firmly seat the teeth on the mounting.

This mounting 4 is adapted to be disposed, preferably on the jaw between a pair of natural teeth. For this purpose, the outer faces of the end posts of the mounting are provided with tongues, such as 8 or 9, of any suitable formation which are adapted to engage in a similarly shaped groove such as 10 (see Fig. 2) formed in a plate or casting 11 which, by any suitable dental operation, is firmly fastened or embedded in a recess in the natural tooth such as 12. Preferably, the upper portion of each of these tongues 8 and 9 are split vertically, as represented by the numerals 13 and 14, to permit a certain resiliency in the tongues whereby they may be spread and firmly engage themselves in the groove 10.

After the mounting has been disposed, as shown in Fig. 1, between two natural teeth, the artificial porcelain teeth can be readily slipped into place, or they may be applied to the mounting before the mounting is put in position between the natural teeth. The number of artificial teeth accommodated on the mounting is, of course, determined by the number of teeth required and is not a departure from the invention as shown. The mounting may be of any size or shape and can be, of course, conformed to the curvature of the jaw at will. After the mounting and the teeth are in place they may be covered by any material or any filling to present a smooth, even outer surface which not only simulates a natural tooth construction but will effectively hide the mounting if it should otherwise be apparent. If anything should happen to an artificial tooth, it can, by reason of the above-described construction and arrangement, be readily removed and a new one substituted.

It is, therefore, to be seen that I have

provided a simply constructed artificial tooth, preferably of porcelain, which can be very easily applied to and removed from a mounting or bridging element. In this way the operation of forming and applying artificial teeth is very considerably simplified, with a consequent reduction in the time and labor and expense involved hitherto in such operations.

What I claim is:

1. The combination of a support for artificial teeth having curved walls acting as tongues to engage the teeth, of a tooth having grooves in its faces to engage with said tongues.

2. In combination, a mounting for teeth, comprising a body portion to be disposed along the face of a jaw, vertically disposed posts extending from said body portion, the surfaces of said posts curved to form tongues, and an artificial tooth having lateral recesses therein to engage the curved faces of adjacent posts and thereby to be supported therebetween.

3. An artificial tooth of porcelain or similar material having slots disposed oppositely in its lateral sides, and a slot disposed in its bottom face and extending entirely thereacross, the slot in the bottom face being disposed in substantially the same plane as the lateral slot.

SAMUEL L. GREENBERG.