M. M. KERR.

IMPRESSION TRAY FOR DENTISTRY.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 22, 1910.

957,563.

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Fig. 1.

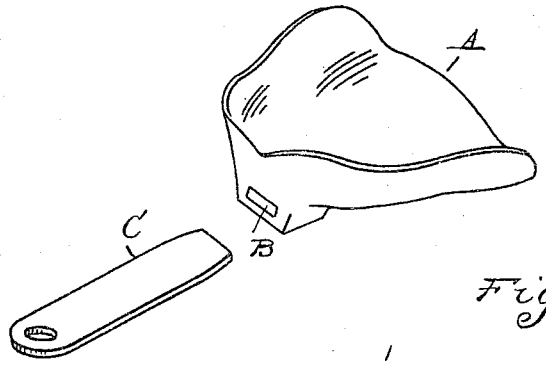


Fig. 2.

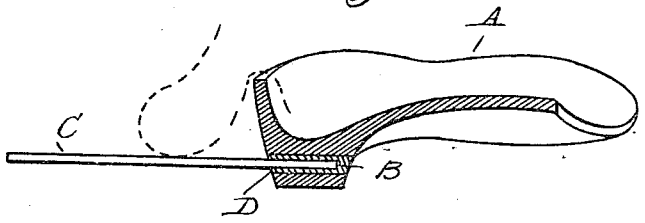
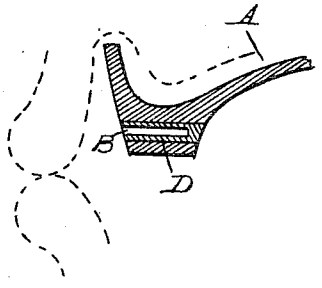


Fig. 3.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MATHEW M. KERR, OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN, ASSIGNOR TO DETROIT DENTAL MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN, A CORPORATION OF MICHIGAN.

IMPRESSION-TRAY FOR DENTISTRY.

957,563. Specification of Letters Patent. **Patented May 10, 1910.**

Application filed January 22, 1910. Serial No. 539,537.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MATHEW M. KERR, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Detroit, in the county of Wayne and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Impression-Trays for Dentistry, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

The invention relates to impression trays for dentistry, and consists in the construction as hereinafter set forth.

In the drawings—Figure 1 is a perspective view of the tray, with the handle detached; Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section through the tray, with the handle in engagement therewith; and Fig. 3 is a similar view showing the tray in the mouth of the patient, with the handle detached.

In the present state of the art, impression trays are usually provided with a handle, which greatly facilitates the operation of placing and positioning the tray in the mouth of the patient, and also in withdrawing the tray after the impression is taken. There is, however, an objection to the handle in that it prevents the patient from closing the lips, and causes more or less distortion of the muscles of the mouth. On the other hand, if the impression is taken in a tray without a handle, the placing and withdrawal is more difficult. With the present invention I have overcome these difficulties by constructing a tray provided with a detachable handle. The construction is such that the tray is firmly supported by the handle, while it is inserted in the mouth and during the withdrawal of the impression, but while the impression is being formed the handle may be detached, permitting the patient to close the lips.

In the specific construction illustrated, A is a tray of any suitable construction, except as hereinafter set forth.

B is a socket formed in the tray in the lower front portion thereof, and adapted to receive the end of a handle C. Where the tray is formed of soft material, the socket may if desired be provided with a lining D of harder metal, which will lessen wear and prevent the loosening of the handle.

With the construction described in use, the handle is first inserted in the socket, and the tray with the impression material thereon is placed in the mouth of the patient, and is pressed upward to take the impression of the roof of the mouth. The handle is then withdrawn to permit of closing the lips, and the impression is then completed. Finally, the handle is reinserted and the tray removed. The detachment of the handle also facilitates the "taking the bite" or the taking of the impression, which determines the length of the teeth. This may be done by placing the impression material on the bottom of the tray and then permitting the patient to bite thereon with the lips closed. If the handle was permanent, such an impression could not be correctly taken.

What I claim as my invention is:

1. An impression tray for dentistry having a detachable handle, for the purpose described.

2. An impression tray for dentistry provided with a socket and a handle detachably engaging said socket.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

MATHEW M. KERR.

Witnesses:

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