(No Model.)

L. D. SHEPARD.

DENTAL DISK HOLDER.

No. 282,384. Patented July 31, 1883.

Fig. 1.

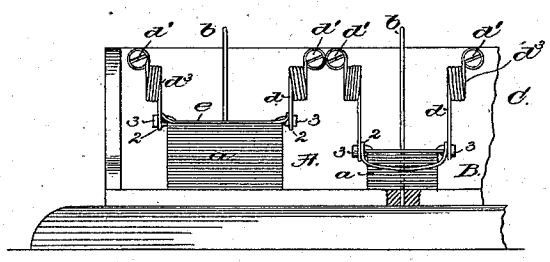


Fig. 2.

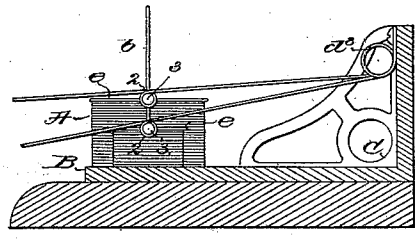


Fig. 3.

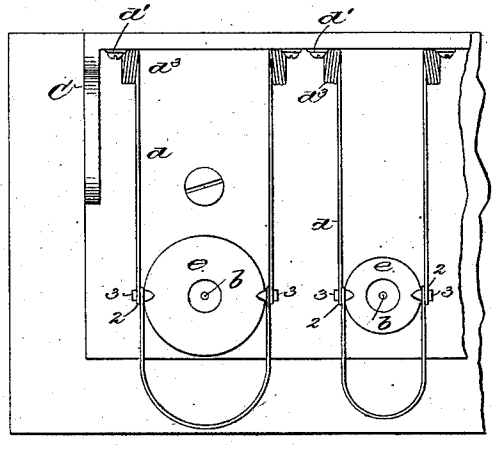
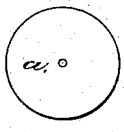


Fig. 4.



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LUTHER D. SHEPARD, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

DENTAL-DISK HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 282,384, dated July 31, 1883.

Application filed May 10, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LUTHER D. SHEPARD, of Boston, county of Suffolk, State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Apparatus for Holding Abrasive Disks for Dentists, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like letters on the drawings representing like parts.

In the practice of dentistry small thin disks of paper covered with glass, emery, or equivalent cutting material are employed to enter the space between adjacent teeth and polish or abrade the same, to remove more or less of the substance of the teeth, as may be desired, the said wheels, when in use, being connected at their open centers with the mandrel of a dental drill. These abrasive disks are of various sizes, thickness, and fineness, and it frequently happens that a dentist wants instantly to use a disk of a certain number, and to enable the disks to be held in piles assorted according to number or size, and to be quickly taken from their piles, I have devised a holder containing an upright guide to receive and direct the disks; and to keep the disks down on the guides and the disks of each pile closely together I have provided a spring-operated presser, so held as to readily rock or tip to make the presser self-adapting or conformable to the face of the uppermost disk of the pile of disks, so that the disks are subjected to equal pressure, one against the other, at all points, whereby it is impossible for the disks to warp or get out of true.

My invention consists, essentially, of a disk-holder containing a guide for the disks and a self-conforming spring-held presser adapted to bear upon the upper disk of the pile, and to be lifted therefrom, substantially as will be described.

Figure 1 in front view represents a disk-holder embodying my invention, it however showing but two piles of disks, whereas in practice the holder will contain from twelve to twenty-four piles arranged in two or more banks. Fig. 2 is a sectional elevation of Fig. 1; Fig. 3, a plan view of Fig. 1, and Fig. 4 one of the disks.

The disks *a*, one of which is shown separately in Fig. 4, and of usual material and construction, are provided with central holes, and, as herein shown, these disks, each size by itself, are placed on the guides *b b*, forming piles, A B, of disks arranged side by side.

Upon a suitable part of the frame-work C, I place a series of springs or presser-carriers, *d*, herein shown as composed of wire, and attach the same, preferably, by screws *d'*. These springs, which serve as carriers for the presser, are extended beyond the guides and piles of disks, so that their free ends may be readily engaged by the forefinger and lifted while the other fingers turn back under the spring to pick up a disk.

The springs or carriers have eyes or bearing portions 2, to receive lugs or journals 3 of the pressers *e*. These pressers *e* are made as metal disks, having central holes to fit over the guides, the said pressers being thus held so that they are free to turn in the bearings 2, to enable the pressers to conform to and closely press against the topmost disk, no matter what is the height of the pile of disks. The coil d^3 in the wire serves to exert the pressure required.

With a holder such as shown a disk of any desired size may be readily and quickly taken from its pile, and each disk, the pressure on the sides of the same being at all times uniform as it rests on the pile, will be found straight and true.

I do not desire to limit my invention to the exact construction of the spring or presser carrier shown, as I may use any other known equivalent therefor—as, for instance, an arm hinged at one end and provided with a spring to press it down toward the pile of disks under it, the said arm having suitable bearings to hold loosely the self-conforming pressers; also, I desire it to be understood that the wire spring might be bent to form lugs to receive about them ears forming parts of the pressers; and so also, instead of attaching the wire springs to the frame by screws, rods or dowels held by the frame may be extended through the coiled parts d^3 of the springs.

I claim—

In a holder for abrasive disks, a guide for the disks, and a presser, *e*, combined with a spring-carrier, in which said presser is journaled so as to turn loosely therein and become self-conforming to the top of the pile of disks, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

LUTHER D. SHEPARD.

Witnesses:

G. W. GREGORY,

BERNICE J. NOYES.