J. C. Reed,

Comb.

No. 104,202. Patented June 14, 1870.

Fig. 1.

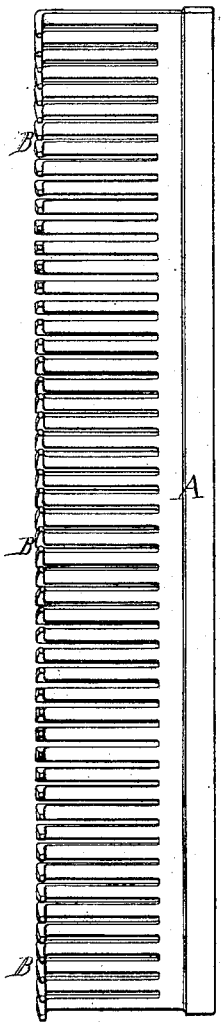


Fig. 2.

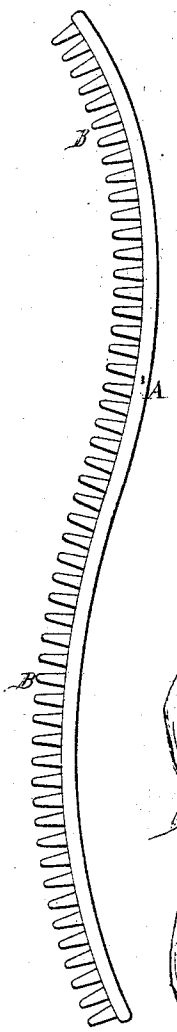


Fig. 3.

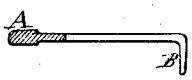


Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.

Fig. 6.

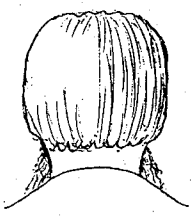


Fig. 7.

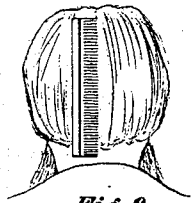


Fig. 8.

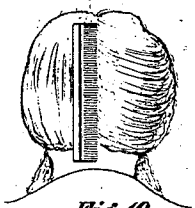


Fig. 9.

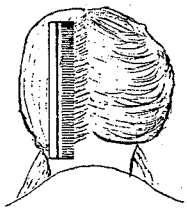
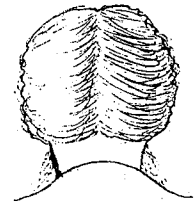


Fig. 10.



Witnesses.

W. C. Dey

C. L. Livings

Inventor.

James Clarence Reed

United States Patent Office.

JAMES CLARENCE REED, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

Letters Patent No. 104,202, *dated June* 14, 1870.

IMPROVEMENT IN COMBS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES C. REED, of the city and county of New York, in the State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful "Improvement in Combs;" and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof.

My invention is intended more particularly to serve in parting the hair, but it may also be used as a comb. It is used with a brush or analogous device, and covers one portion of the hair while another portion, quite up to the edge of the hair-parting device or comb, is being brushed. The brush is inoperative on the protected portion, but it acts close to the edge of my comb and deflects or brushes all the hair exposed; then, by moving my comb or parting-device in the opposite direction, all the hair thereby covered is combed in the direction opposite to the brush, leaving the hair cleanly parted along the line of the edge of the comb.

My comb is peculiarly made to adapt it to be thus used.

The teeth, near their points, stand nearly at right angles to the flat portion or main body of the comb. The length of the teeth may vary within wide limits; thus the teeth may be of ordinary length, say one inch, and may be bent near their point, or the teeth may be shortened, that is, the divisions between the teeth may extend less far into the body of the comb. This modification may be carried to such an extent that the device between the teeth may extend only one quarter of an inch, and the comb will serve its peculiar function in parting the hair equally as well as before and possibly a little better, but I prefer, in order to allow the same comb to also serve the general purposes of a comb in smoothing and disentangling the hair, that the teeth shall be of about the ordinary length. In all cases I have the bent portion, or the part which stands at right angles to the body, of small breadth. I should say the limits in practice would be between an eighth and three-eighths of an inch.

In order the better to adapt my comb to the hollow at the back of the head, as well as the generally rounded surface of other parts of the head, I curve the body in a form approximating slightly to the letter *s*.

I will proceed to describe what I consider the best means of carrying out my invention by the aid of the accompanying drawing.

Figure 1 is a side view;

Figure 2 is an edge view; and

Figures 3, 4, and 5, are cross sections of my device, about the size which I propose to make it for general sale and use.

Figure 6 shows the rear or back of a head with the hair combed directly down by the same or another instrument.

Figure 7 shows the hair-parting device, properly applied, preliminary to the brushing.

Figure 8 shows the hair after the brushing.

Figure 9 shows the hair-parting device after it has been moved a little to the left.

Figure 10 shows the final result.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

A is the body of the comb, and

B B is a portion bent or turned so as to form a flange along one edge. The teeth are formed on the edge of this flange. The spaces between the teeth may be cut, or otherwise produced, so as to extend a long distance into the body of the comb, as indicated in fig. 3, or they may extend a less distance, as indicated in fig. 4, or they may extend still less, as indicated in fig. 5.

My comb may be made of any ordinary materials. When made of iron, or any other metal or analagous material which allows of bending, the teeth may be formed first while the comb is in a flat condition, and the bending may be effected afterward by any suitable means; but I prefer making my comb of hard vulcanized rubber, moulding as nearly as possible in the shape and condition which it is to maintain after it is finished.

In using the comb, the hair is first combed and brushed in the direction of the division or part-line; then the comb is laid, as before described, with the points of the teeth resting on the scalp, and with the flat portion or main body of the comb covering the hair on one side of the parting and effectually protecting it from being effected by the brush. The brush is now applied, pressing it forcibly upon the comb, where it will be inoperative, and allowing its full effect to be exerted on the hair close to the line of the points of the teeth The brush brushes the free hair away from the comb. When all the hair exposed has been brushed away from the comb, the operation of brushing is stopped, and the comb is moved gradually (or rapidly, as may be prefered,) in the opposite direction, dragging the hair under it in that direction, by the operation upon it of the teeth B.

The hair thus deflected by the comb may be subsequently brushed, if desired, and, in such case, care will be taken not to brush so near the parting line as to disturb the hair on the other side.

I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The within described "improvement in combs," as a new article of manufacture, having the teeth B standing nearly at right angles with the body, and the whole adapted to serve in connection with a hair-brush, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my name in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JAMES CLARENCE REED.

Witnesses:

W. C. DEY,

C. C. LIVINGS.