

J. G. HIGGINS.

COMB.

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999,997.

Patented Aug. 8, 1911.

2 SHEETS-SHEET 1.

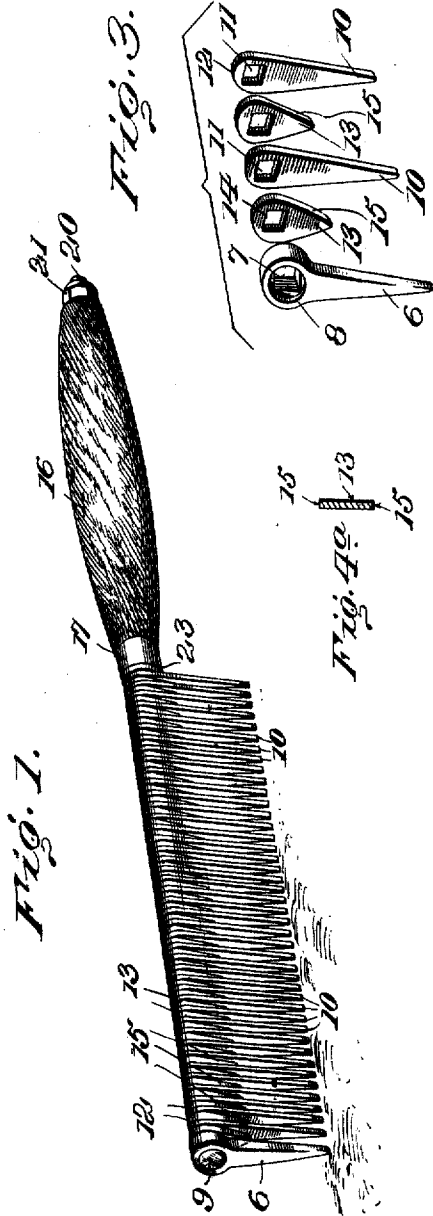


Fig. 1.

Fig. 3.

Fig. 2.

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 4.

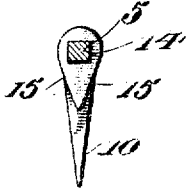


Fig. 5.

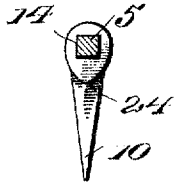


Fig. 6.

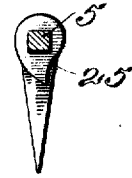


Fig. 7.

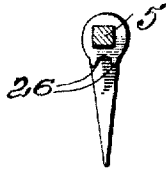


Fig. 8.

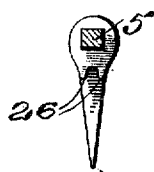


Fig. 9.

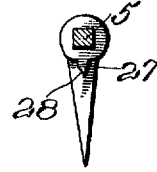


Fig. 10.

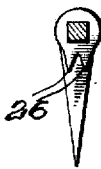


Fig. 11.



Fig. 12.



Fig. 13.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN G. HIGGINS, OF CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE.

COMB.

999,997.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 8, 1911.

Application filed June 28, 1910. Serial No. 569,389.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN G. HIGGINS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chattanooga, in the county of Hamilton and State of Tennessee, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Combs, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to combs and has for its object the provision of a comparatively simple and thoroughly efficient device of this character, especially designed for use by professional hair dressers and other persons for combing or otherwise treating the hair.

A further object of the invention is to provide a comb having spacing members interposed between the teeth thereof and each provided with a hair drawing edge, whereby the comb may be used either for curling or straightening the hair.

Further objects and advantages will appear in the following description, it being understood that various changes in form, proportions and minor details of construction may be resorted to within the scope of the appended claim.

For a full understanding of the invention and the merits thereof, reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a comb constructed in accordance with my invention; Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view of the same; Fig. 3 is a perspective view of some of the teeth and spacing members detached; Fig. 4 is a vertical sectional view taken on the line 4-4 of Fig. 2; Fig. 4<sup>a</sup> is a horizontal sectional view of one of the spacing members taken on a line below the rod receiving opening. Figs. 5 to 13 inclusive are vertical sectional views illustrating different forms of spacing members adapted to be positioned on the rod of the comb shown in Fig. 1.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the drawings by the same reference characters.

The improved comb forming the subject matter of the present invention comprises a longitudinally disposed supporting member or rod 5, preferably rectangular in cross section, as shown, although the rod may be of any other angular cross sectional formation, if desired.

Depending from one end of the rod 5, is

a rigid tooth 6 having a square opening 7 adapted to receive the adjacent end of the rod 5, the walls of the opening 7 being countersunk at 8 and the metal forming the rod being upset and seated in the countersunk portion at 9 so as to form a rigid connection between the tooth 6 and supporting rod, and at the same time present a smooth, unobstructed surface at the outer face of the tooth.

Mounted on the supporting rod 5 are a plurality of drop teeth 10 having square openings 11 formed therein to accommodate the rod 5, said teeth being loosely mounted on the rod so as to permit the same to be readily detached, when desired. The upper portion of each tooth is preferably curved or rounded at 12, while the side walls thereof converge on straight lines from the curved portion 12 to the point of the tooth.

Interposed between the drop teeth 10 are a plurality of spacing members 13 of the construction shown in Figs. 3 and 4 of the drawings. The spacing members 13 are provided with oppositely disposed flat faces pierced by rectangular openings 14 to permit the passage of the rod 5, said spacing members being provided with oppositely disposed downwardly inclined hair drawing edges 15 for curling or straightening the hair when the comb is passed therethrough.

The rod 5 is preferably extended longitudinally beyond the drop teeth to form a support for an operating handle 16, said handle being preferably formed of wood saturated with ebony or mahogany stain so as to give the handle a neat, attractive appearance, and also to prevent said handle from being affected by the heat when the comb is suspended within the chimney of a lamp or other heating device. The inner end of the handle 16 is provided with a ferrule 17, while the outer end thereof is provided with a recess 18 in which is seated a washer 19. The outer end of the rod 5 is extended beyond the seating recess 18 in the handle and provided with terminal threads 20 for engagement with a clamping nut 21 so that by rotating the nut 21 on the threaded portion of the rod 5, the handle will be moved longitudinally on the rod, thus to effectually clamp the teeth and spacing members in engagement with each other. The nut 21 may be formed with angular faces 22 to permit said nut to be readily grasped with a wrench or other tool.

when attaching the handle, or if desired, the nut may be round, square or of any other contour.

A washer 23 is preferably interposed between the ferrule 17 and the adjacent drop tooth in order to prevent undue friction on said tooth when the handle is actuated to clamp the several parts in assembled position.

10 The stationary or rigid tooth 6 is preferably thicker than the remaining teeth, while the upper portions of all of the teeth, as well as the spacing members 13, are curved or rounded so as to present a smooth surface at the top of the comb and thus prevent said comb from catching in the hair and pulling the roots thereof during the coming operation.

20 Thus it will be seen that by passing the comb through the hair and giving the comb a quick sharp turn, the hair between the several drop teeth will be drawn over the inclined edges 15 of the spacing members so as to curl the hair. In order to straighten the hair, the comb is given a slow turn or rotary movement which causes the edges 15 of the spacing members to draw out the hair and thus tend to straighten the same.

25 In Figs. 5 to 13 inclusive, there are illustrated a plurality of sets of spacing members adapted to be used on the supporting rod 5 shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings, said spacing members being interchangeable, a complete set of spacing members of the configuration shown in Fig. 5 being used in the formation of one type of comb, a complete set of spacing members of the character shown in Fig. 6 being used in the formation of a still further type of comb, and so on.

The spacing member shown in Fig. 5 is provided with a blunt terminal 24, while one drawing edge of the spacing member shown in Figs. 6 and 11 is concaved at 25. 45 The spacing members shown in Figs. 7, 8

and 10 are provided with vertical recesses defining oppositely disposed drawing edges 26, while the spacing member shown in Fig. 9 is reduced to form a depending tooth 27, the terminal of which is inclined in opposite directions, as indicated at 28.

In the form shown in Figs. 12 and 13, the lower end of the spacing member is provided with a flat substantially rectangular portion 29, the rectangular portion of the spacing member shown in Fig. 13 being shorter than that shown in Fig. 12.

By releasing the nut 21 and withdrawing the handle 16, the spacing members may be removed from the supporting rod and any of the spacing members shown in Figs. 5 to 13 used in connection with the drop teeth.

It will of course be understood that the combs may be made in different sizes and shapes, and the spacing members made in different lengths, without departing from the spirit of the invention.

While the comb is principally designed for professional hair dressers, it will be understood that the same may be used with equally good results for domestic purposes.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

A comb including a supporting bar, teeth mounted on the bar, and independent spacing members interposed between the teeth and having extensions depending below the bottom of the bar with their opposite longitudinal edges inclined downwardly and spaced inwardly from the longitudinal edges of the adjacent teeth to provide a surface to act on the hair to change its condition as the comb is drawn through the hair.

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

JOHN G. HIGGINS. [L. s.]

Witnesses.

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