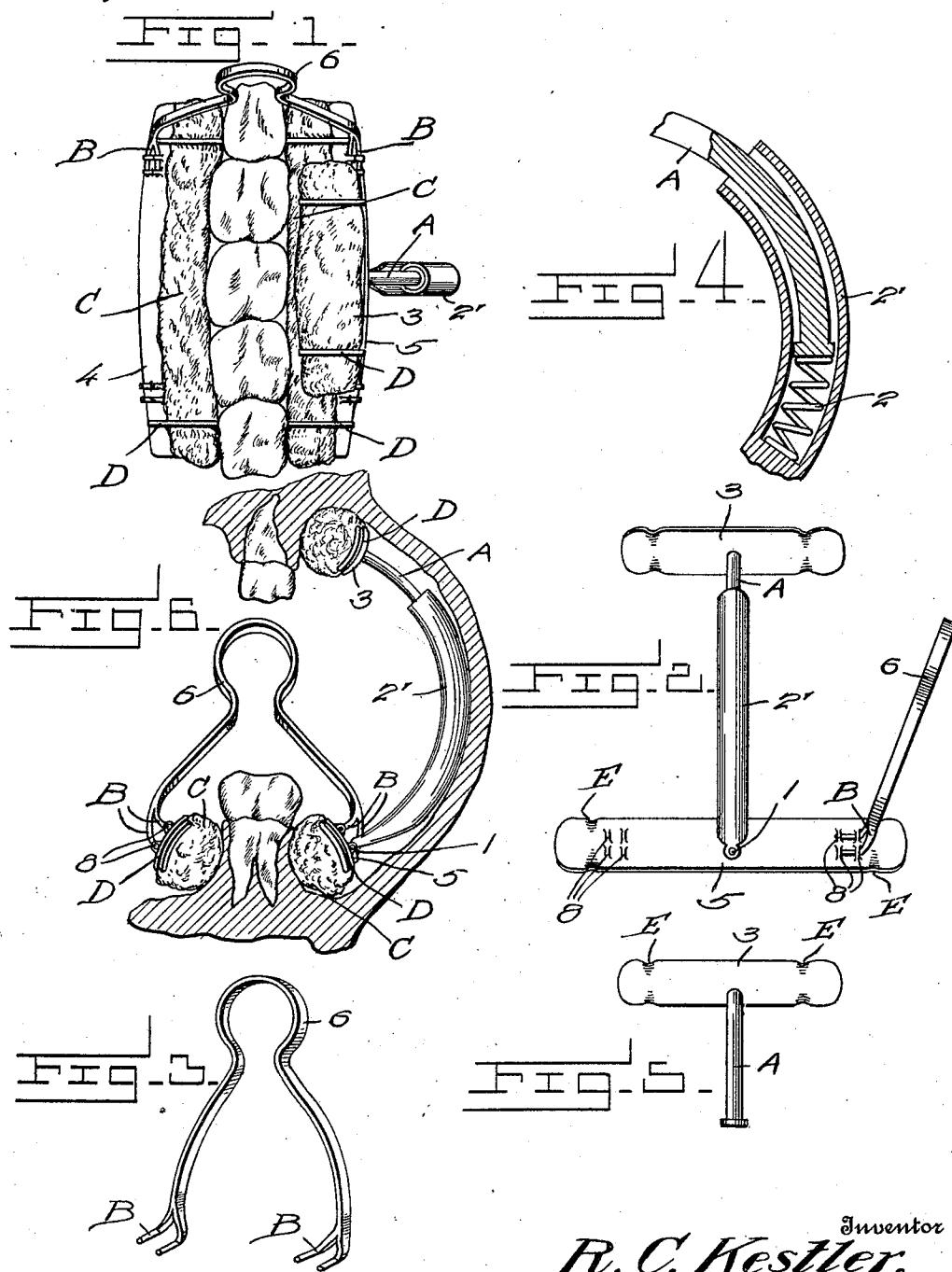


R. C. KESTLER.
DENTAL APPLIANCE.
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999,373.

Patented Aug. 1, 1911.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROY C. KESTLER, OF ORLEANS, NEBRASKA.

DENTAL APPLIANCE.

999,373.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 1, 1911.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROY C. KESTLER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Orleans, in the county of Harlan and State 5 of Nebraska, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Dental Appliances, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to dental apparatus and has for its object to provide a device 10 which may be used as both a mouth prop and cotton roll holder, and which, furthermore, may be so adjusted as to be used at either side of the mouth.

Another object is to provide a device of 15 this sort which will be simple and which may be produced at a low figure.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent from the following description, and it will be understood that changes in the 20 specific structure shown and described may be made within the scope of the claims without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In the drawings: Figure 1 is a sectional 25 view showing the device in use. Fig. 2 is an elevation of the device removed. Fig. 3 is a detail of the spring member. Fig. 4 is a section through the bow member. Fig. 5 is a detail of the T-bar. Fig. 6 is a rear 30 view of the complete device.

Referring now to the drawings, the present invention comprises two similar plates 4 and 5, which are transversely curved, as shown. The plate 5 has connected thereto 35 by means of a hinge 1, a curved tube 2', which may be swung upon the hinge longitudinally of the plate, in either direction. This tube is open at its upper end, and receives the shank A of a T-bar 3, this shank, 40 of course conforming to the curvature of the tube, and being received against the upper end of a helical spring 2 within the tube, which thus holds the shank yieldable against 45 downward movement. The shank A and tube 2' form a yieldably compressible support for the head of the T-bar.

In each end of each of the plates 4 and 5, there are a pair of parallel slots 8, arranged 50 to receive fingers B carried by the ends of a spring yoke 6, and in this way the plates are connected and are held yieldably against separation. The fingers B enter the slots 8 from the outer faces of the plates, and against the inner faces thereof, there are attached cotton rolls C, by means of rubber

bands D, which are engaged in notches E at the sides of the plates.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the plates with their attached rolls of cotton may be placed one at each side of the lower jaw teeth to be operated upon, with the plate 5 at the side adjacent to the cheek, when the tube 2' and shank A will rest against the cheek, and by reason of their curvature, hold the latter away from the teeth. The yoke 6 lies rearwardly of the teeth, as shown, and the T-bar also receives a cotton roll engaging between the upper gum and the cheek, thus acting as a jaw prop and holding the cheek away from the teeth while compensating for any movement of the upper jaw, as will be understood, by reason of the spring action. The upper roll lies in position to close and stop the flow of saliva from Stenson's duct, and in this way does away with the necessity for a rubber dam. It is well known that rubber dams cannot be used for some patients who have difficulty in breathing through the nose so that the present invention is especially adapted for such cases. When working on the upper jaw, the detachable plate and yoke 6 are removed. When it is desired to use the device at the opposite side of the mouth, the yoke 6 is engaged with the other ends of the plates 4 and 5, and the tube 2 is swung upon its hinge to the proper position.

What is claimed is:

1. A device of the class described comprising spaced plates, a yieldably compressible support hinged to one of the plates, a member carried by the support, and connections between the plates, said connections being shiftable from end to end of the plates.

2. A device of the class described comprising a pair of plates adapted for engagement at opposite sides of the teeth of one jaw, a support hinged to one of the plates for movement longitudinally thereof, said support being arranged to engage the other jaw, and a spring member detachably connected with the plates at one end and arranged for engagement with the other ends of the plates.

3. A device of the class described comprising roll-carrying members, a curved member adjustably connected with one of the roll-carrying members, a member carried by the outer end of the curved member, and a spring member arranged for engage-

ment with the opposite ends of the roll-carrying members interchangeably.

4. In a dental roll holder, the combination with a pair of spaced plates adapted for the attachment of absorbent rolls thereto, of yieldable connections between the plates, said connections being shiftable from end to end of the plates interchangeably.

5. In a dental roll holder, the combination with members adapted for the attachment of absorbent rolls thereto, of a spring yoke, and means for engaging the spring yoke with the members at either end of the members interchangably, the spring yoke being arranged to hold the members yieldably against separation.

6. A dental appliance comprising a member adapted for the attachment of an absorbent roll, an upwardly extending yield-

ably compressible support adjustably connected with the said members, and a second member carried by the upper end of the adjustable support, and adapted for the attachment of an absorbent roll thereto.

7. A dental appliance comprising a member, a tube adjustably connected with the member, a spring located within the tube, a shank slidably engaged within the tube, and resting upon the spring, and a member carried by the outer end of the shank, said members being adapted for engagement with the upper and lower jaw.

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

ROY C. KESTLER.

Witnesses:

A. J. GARDNER,
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Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents.
Washington, D. C."
