N. HELMER.

HAIR-DRESSING.

No. 192,508. Patented June 26, 1877.

Fig. 1.

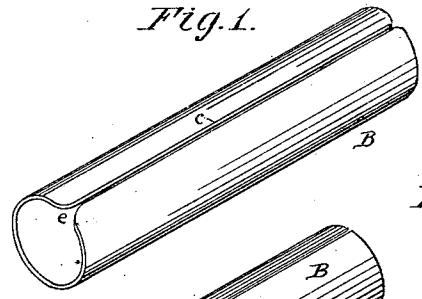


Fig. 9.

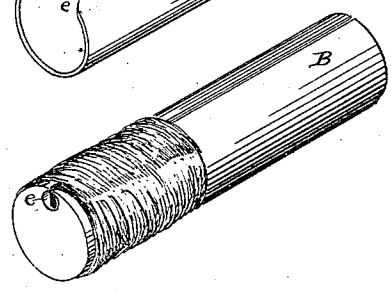


Fig. 2.

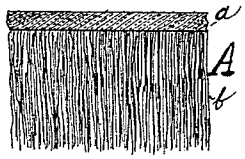


Fig. 3.

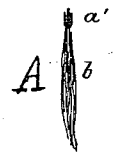


Fig. 4.

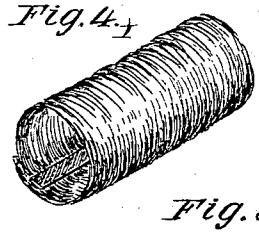


Fig. 5.



Fig. 7.



Fig. 6.



Fig. 8.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

NICHOLAS HELMER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN HAIR-DRESSING.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **192,508**, dated June 26, 1877; application filed May 5, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, NICHOLAS HELMER, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented an Improvement in Dressing Hair, of which the following is the specification:

My invention consists in an improvement in dressing hair, whereby coils or curls of hair may be formed and dressed as often as disarranged without the necessity of employing skilled manipulators, required by the modes heretofore employed.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a perspective view, illustrating the tool used. Fig. 2 is a side view, and Fig. 3 an edge view, of the weft of hair. Fig. 4 represents the coil; Figs. 5 to 8, views illustrating modes of dressing the hair; and Fig. 9, a modification.

The hair to be dressed, whether natural or artificial, is first formed into a weft, A, consisting of a braid, *a*, carrying a fringe of hairs, *b*, and, as such braid is not thick enough to serve the purposes of my invention, I combine several wefts, forming a heavy braid, *a'*, Fig. 3. In dressing the wefts, I employ a tool of the character shown in Fig. 1, which is a slightly-tapering cylinder, B, having a longitudinal slot, *c*, communicating with an enlarged opening, *e*, in the cylinder wide enough to receive the fringe of the wefts, but too narrow for the passage of the braid *a'*, Fig. 3. The edges of the slot *c* are curved at the end of the tool, as shown in Fig. 1, to facilitate the entrance of the fringe, which, when a coil is to be made, is passed into the slot *c*, the braid *a* entering the opening *e* and passing longitudinally with the fringe without being drawn through the slot. After the entire length of the weft has been passed into the slot in this manner, a brush is used to carry the fringe completely round the cylinder, across the slot, and over upon itself, as shown in Fig. 9, the hair being laid evenly and smoothly. The weft is then pressed toward the narrow end of the cylinder, which it leaves in the form of a hollow curl, I, Fig. 4, which is smooth, regular, and so compact that it will endure hard usage without losing its form. The curl is then doubled or combined with another curl, forming a twisted rope, I', Fig. 5, in which the weaker portions of one strand are strengthened by the stronger portions of the other, forming a coil of much greater strength than could otherwise be obtained. The coil I or I' may be readily folded, twisted, or laid to any suitable ornamental arrangement, as shown in Figs. 6 to 8.

I claim—

1. The within-described mode of forming coils of artificial or natural hair—that is, by first forming a weft, A, with braid *a* at one edge, inserting the weft in the longitudinal slot of a cylinder, B, brushing the fringe round the cylinder, and then removing the weft longitudinally in the form of a coil, as specified.

2. The within-described coil, consisting of the series of wefts, combined to form a heavy, straight braid, *a'*, and fringe *b*, as and for the purpose set forth.

3. A curling-tool consisting of a cylinder terminating in a square end, having a plain, unobstructed outer face, round which the hair may be wound, and from which it may be slipped longitudinally, and a longitudinal slot, *c*, extending to one end and communicating with an inner opening, *e*, adapted to receive the braid, all as set forth.

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

N. HELMER.

Witnesses:
CHARLES E. FOSTER,
HOWARD ZEVELY.