E. T. STARR.

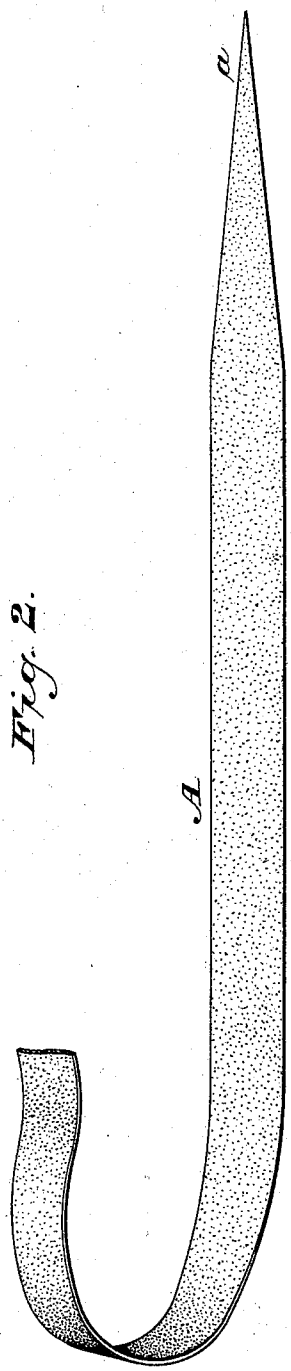
Dental Polishing and Cutting Tape.

No. 217,300. Patented July 8, 1879.

Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.



WITNESSES

Wm A. Skinkle.

Geo N. Breck.

INVENTOR

Eli T. Starr.

By his Attorneys

Baldwin, Hopkins & Peyton

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELI T. STARR, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR TO SAMUEL S. WHITE, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN DENTAL POLISHING AND CUTTING TAPES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **217,300**, dated July 8, 1879; application filed May 27, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELI T. STARR, of the city and county of Philadelphia, in the State of Pennsylvania, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Polishing and Cutting Tapes for Dentists' Use, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to the class of dental polishing, cutting, or abrading tools in which the working-surface consists of grit or crystals forced or pressed into a carrying body or material.

The object of my present invention is to provide a flexible cutting and polishing tape with a working-surface of the above-described character, and give it the capacity of being readily passed or inserted between adjacent teeth to separate them or polish fillings therein, the tape being thin, very flexible, durable, and cheap.

The subject-matter claimed will hereinafter specifically be designated.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a view of my improved tape as twisted, showing one of its sides as abrading and the other as non-abrading or smooth; and Fig. 2, a view thereof, one of the ends being curved or bent over to show both sides as provided with abrading material.

The tape is composed of a thin carrying body or strip, A, preferably of celluloid—a material well known in the arts—into one or both of the sides or surfaces of which the cutting, grinding, or abrading grit, crystals, or material is forced or pressed in well-known ways.

The tape is preferably constructed with one abrading side only, as shown in Fig. 1, so that the tape will have one "safe" side, somewhat like a "safe-sided" file.

The strip is preferably quite thin, four or more inches in length, and of the requisite width, and has one or both of its ends pointed or tapered, as at *a*, so as to give the tape the capacity of being readily and easily inserted or passed between the "necks" of adjacent teeth.

The celluloid strip possesses many advantages, the most important of which are set out in Letters Patent of the United States granted to me August 13, 1878, as No. 207,079, in which patent I have shown, described, and claimed a dental cutting and polishing disk or wheel formed of celluloid, with the grinding, cutting, or abrading material forced or rolled into its surface.

The manner in which my improved pointed polishing-tape is to be used and its advantages will be obvious to dentists and others familiar with dental tools, and therefore need not be elaborated.

I am aware that a dental cutting and polishing instrument consisting of a thin blunt-end metallic strip or ribbon having diamond grit or crystals rolled into its surface has heretofore been suggested; but that obviously differs from my improvement, and does not possess the advantages of my tape.

I am also aware that linen tapes with corundum secured thereto by glue and strips of sand-paper have heretofore been used; but in all these the abrading material is easily worn off and the glue is offensive when wet.

I claim as my invention—

1. The flexible cutting and polishing tape constructed as described, with the abrading material forced into its surface, and with the pointed or tapering end or ends.

2. As a new article of manufacture, the flexible polishing-tape consisting of a strip of celluloid having a pointed or tapering end with abrading material forced into its working-surface.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name.

ELI T. STARR.

Witnesses:

JOHN A. MARSHALL,

WM. METTENHEIMER.