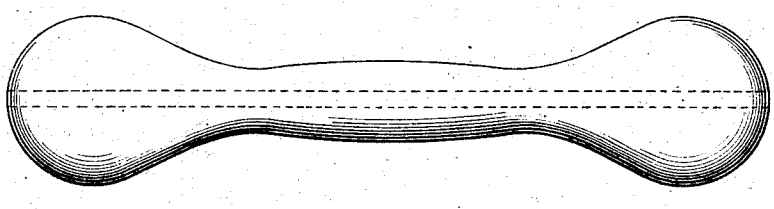
W. T. McGINNIS.

DUMB BELL.

No. 272,144. Patented Feb. 13, 1883.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM T. McGINNIS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

DUMB-BELL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 272,144, dated February 13, 1883.

Application filed January 2, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM T. McGINNIS, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Dumb-Bells; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, making a part of this specification.

My invention relates to dumb-bells for calisthenic purposes.

It has for its object the production of an exercising-weight which shall be not only neat and attractive, but by reason of its peculiar characteristics will gently stimulate the nervous tissues and serve to induce a use of the device for hygienic purposes.

It consists of a steel bar enlarged at its ends in the form of a dumb-bell, and magnetized to saturation, so as to be, in fact, a powerful permanent magnet, and which may be combined with a longitudinal core of brass or copper.

My improved dumb-bell is produced from a metallic bar, preferably of hardened steel, which is forged in the shape illustrated in the accompanying drawing, and thereby adapted to be most easily grasped in the hand, and is made of a size which shall embody a comparatively light weight.

The dumb-bell, of steel or iron, is converted into a magnet by submitting it to the action of the current of a dynamo-machine, or by other of the well-known processes for the magnetization of iron. Being thus magnetized, it will, when grasped in the hand, act in the usual manner to stimulate the nerves and fibrous tissues of the hand and arm, the magnetic action being increased by reason of the form of the device, which permits a contact of the thumb on one side and the little finger on the other with the enlarged ends at the opposite poles of the magnet.

I contemplate as a modification of my invention the insertion longitudinally within the magnetic dumb-bell of a central core of brass or copper, (see dotted lines in the drawing,) or of strips of copper or zinc, to increase the magnetic action of the device.

I claim as my invention—

As a new article of manufacture, a magnetic dumb-bell, substantially as herein described.

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

WILLIAM T. McGINNIS.

Witnesses:

DAVID A. BURR,

JOHN A. ELLIS.