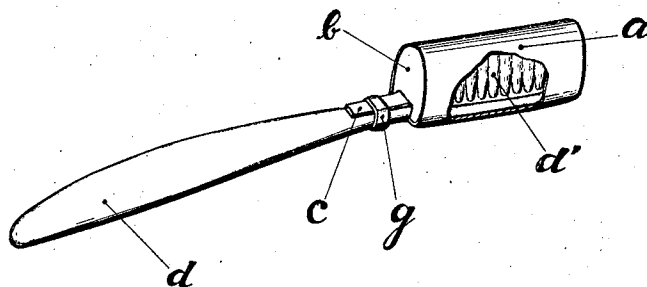


1,342,521.

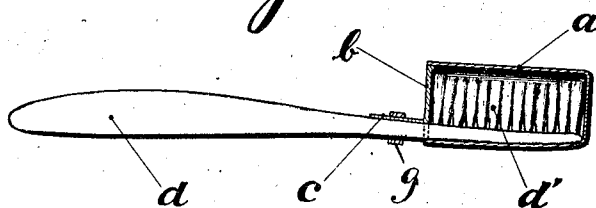
K. YANAGIHARA.  
PROTECTED TOOTHBRUSH.  
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 17, 1918.

Patented June 8, 1920.

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



Inventor

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*his Attorney*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## PROTECTED TOOTHBRUSH.

1,342,521.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 8, 1920.

Application filed June 17, 1918. Serial No. 240,470.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, KICHIBEI YANAGIHARA, citizen of Japan, residing at No. 53, Higashi-itchome, Kita-hatago-cho, Sakai, Osaka-Fu, Japan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Protected Toothbrushes; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to brushes such as tooth brushes, and particularly to means for protecting the bristles thereof before the brush is actually used and also after the brush has been put in use.

The principal object of the invention is to provide a means that will protect the bristles from being damaged and soiled while the brush is in transit, as for example, when it is exported to various countries and climates. Another object of the invention is to provide a means for protecting the bristles of the brush while the brush is in transit and before it is actually used that can be utilized thereafter as a dust guard to protect the bristles while the brush is not in use.

In carrying out my invention, I provide a sheath or guard of celluloid or similar material for inclosing the bristles, one end of the sheath being closed by a detachable piece of celluloid or similar material which may be torn off or otherwise removed when the brush is to be used. Thereafter the remaining part of the sheath may be utilized as a dust guard to inclose the bristles while the brush is not in use.

The objects and novel features of my invention will be apparent from the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings which show a tooth brush embodying my invention, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the brush with the sheath attached thereto, a part of the sheath being broken out, and

Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the brush, showing the sheath applied thereto and in section.

In the drawing, *d* designates the handle of the tooth brush, carrying the bristles *d'*. *a* is the body of the sheath and consists of a

hollow body of celluloid, paper or like material, adapted to completely inclose the end of the handle and the bristles *d'* thereon.

The end piece *b*, of the same material as the sheath *a*, is attached to the latter as by welding it in place in the open end of the body *a* after the body *a* has been placed over the end of the brush so as to inclose the bristles. With the end piece *b* welded in place, the bristles are completely inclosed for shipment and are prevented from being soiled or damaged. The end piece *b* is provided with a tongue *c* that projects outwardly along the handle of the brush and is fastened to the handle by a band *g*. The end piece *b* serves a temporary purpose only and is readily detachable from the body of the sheath by pulling the tongue *c*, which latter may be readily detached by breaking or otherwise unfastening the band *g*. The welded seam between the end piece *b* and the body *a* of the sheath serves as a weakened tearing or rupturing line for detaching the end piece *b*. When the end piece *b* has been removed, the sheath or the part thereof may be utilized as a dust guard to keep the brush sanitary during the time when it is not in use.

What I claim is:

1. The combination with a brush comprising a handle carrying bristles or the like, of a sheath or guard inclosing said bristles and having an end piece secured thereto and to the brush handle to hold the sheath in place while the brush is in transit and before it is used, said end piece being detachable when the brush is to be used, and said sheath being thereafter adapted to be used as a dust guard for the brush.

2. The combination with a tooth brush comprising a handle carrying bristles, of a sheath made of celluloid, paper or the like, protecting said bristles, said sheath having a detachable end piece closing one end thereof, said end piece comprising a tongue, and means whereby said tongue is secured to said handle.

3. A sheath or guard for tooth brushes and the like, comprising a hollow receptacle adapted to receive and completely inclose the brushing means or bristles of the brush, said receptacle having an end wall that is constructed and arranged to be detached

from the body of the receptacle, such receptacle after having its end wall detached being usable as a dust guard for the brush.

4. A sheath or guard for tooth brushes  
5 and the like, comprising a hollow receptacle adapted to receive and completely inclose the brushing means or bristles of the brush, said receptacle having a detachable end wall provided with a tongue adapted and arranged to be secured to the handle of the

brush, such receptacle being usable as a guard for the brush after having its end wall and tongue detached.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses. 15

KICHIBEI YANAGIHARA.

Witnesses:

S. MAKUDA,  
K. TOMITA.