

## **Specification of Alphonsus William Webster : apparatus to assist the organ of hearing.**

### **Contributors**

Webster, Alphonsus William.

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A.D. 1836 . . . . . N° 7033.

SPECIFICATION

OF

ALPHONSUS WILLIAM WEBSTER.

APPARATUS TO ASSIST THE ORGAN OF HEARING.

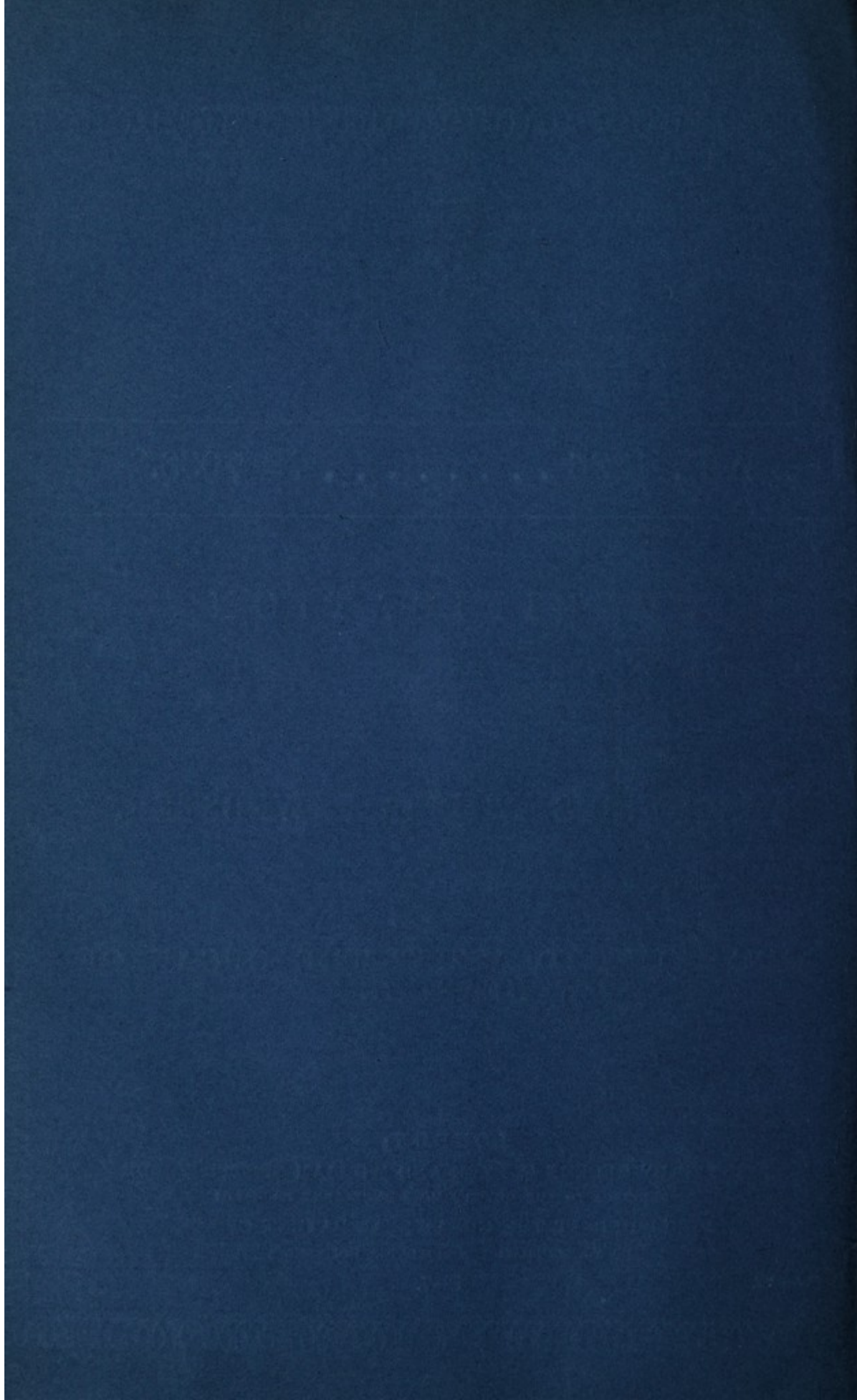
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1857.





A.D. 1836 . . . . . N° 7033.

**Apparatus to assist the Organ of Hearing.**

**WEBSTER'S SPECIFICATION.**

**TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, I, ALPHONSUS WILLIAM WEBSTER, late of Regent Street, but now of New Bond Street, in the County of Middlesex, Aurist, send greeting.**

**WHEREAS** His present most Excellent Majesty King William the Fourth, 5 by His Letters Patent, under the Great Seal of Great Britain, bearing date at Westminster, the Seventeenth day of March, in the sixth year of His reign, did, for Himself, His heirs and successors, give and grant unto me, the said Alphonsus William Webster, His especial licence, full power, sole privilege and authority that I, the said Alphonsus William Webster, my eñors, adñors, 10 and assigns, or such others as I, the said Alphonsus William Webster, my eñors, adñors, or assigns, should at any time agree with, and no others, from time to time and at all times during the term of years therein expressed, should and lawfully might make, use, exercise, and vend, within England, Wales, and the Town of Berwick-upon-Tweed, my Invention of "**AN INSTRUMENT OR APPARATUS** 15 **TO BE APPLIED TO THE EAR TO ASSIST IN HEARING;**" in which said Letters Patent is contained a proviso, that I, the said Alphonsus William Webster, shall cause a particular description of the nature of my said Invention, and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be inrolled in His said Majesty's High Court of Chancery within six calendar months next and immediately 20 after the date of the said in part recited Letters Patent, as in and by the same, reference being thereunto had, will more fully and at large appear.

*Webster's Apparatus to assist the Organ of Hearing.*

NOW KNOW YE, that in compliance with the said proviso, I, the said Alphonus William Webster, do hereby declare the nature of my said Invention, and the manner in which the same is to be performed, are fully described and ascertained in and by the following statement, reference being had to the Drawing in the margin, that is to say:—

My Invention or apparatus consists in the application of a support to the back of the ear in order to cause it to stand off from the head, and in the application of a flexible india-rubber or other tube to be inserted into the auditory passage of the ear. These two parts of the apparatus may be used separately or together. In order to construct that part of my apparatus which is to support the ear, and cause it to project forward to intercept as much of the vibration of the air as possible, it is desirable to have the support formed as nearly as can be to the contour of the back of the ear, and in order to accomplish this object, I take a cast of plaster of Paris, or other material, and bend or curve a thin plate of silver or other suitable material to the same figure, one to each ear, forming the upper part of such support into a bend or hook, as shewn at *a*, Figure 1, which, resting on the upper part of the ear, retains the support in its proper position; and it will be evident by curving the part of the apparatus more or less which is supported by the hook, the ear may be caused to stand off from the head to any degree required. I would remark, that although I prefer that the support at the back of the ear should be as nearly as possible of the same figure as the back of the ear itself, when the depressed parts are made to stand out, I would wish it to be understood that I do not confine myself to the support being so formed, provided the same is capable of causing the ear to stand more off from the head than it does naturally, in order to the same intercepting more of the sound than when nearer to the head.

In using this part of the apparatus, the part *a* is placed on the upper part of the ear and suspended therefrom; the other part is pressed behind the ear, which will cause the outer circumference of the ear to be forced outwards, and thus intercept more of the vibration.

The second part of the apparatus, which may be used conjoined with the support to the back of the ear, or separately, consists in the application of a flexible tube in the place of a metal or other rigid tube, such as have heretofore been employed, for insertion into the auditory passage, thereby causing the vibration to pass with more force to the membrane of the tympanum.

Figure 2 shows one of those tubes, *c* being a short tube of india-rubber, which I consider the best material for the purpose; but I do not confine myself thereto provided the tube is flexible. *d* is a bell-mouthed cap or end of

*Webster's Apparatus to assist the Organ of Hearing.*

ivory or other material, to which the tube *c* is affixed by cement or otherwise. The object of using flexible material for the tube *c* is that it may readily accommodate itself to the passage of the ear, and will be found more useful than those heretofore employed.

5 Having thus described my Invention, I would have it understood that what I claim as my Invention, and the apparatus secured by the present Letters Patent, consists of an external support to the back of the ear, in order to cause it to project from the head, and thus be suitable for intercepting more of the vibration; and also the application of a flexible tube into the auditory passage  
10 of the ear, as above described.

In witness whereof, I, the said Alphonsus William Webster, have hereunto set my hand and seal, this Fifteenth day of September, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and thirty-six.

A. W. WEBSTER. (L.S.)

15 **AND BE IT REMEMBERED**, that on the Fifteenth day of September, in the year of our Lord 1836, the aforesaid Alphonsus William Webster came before our said Lord the King in His Chancery, and acknowledged the Specification aforesaid, and all and every thing therein contained and specified, in form above written. And also the Specification aforesaid was stamped  
20 according to the tenor of the Statute made for that purpose.

PROUGHAM.

Inrolled the Seventeenth day of September, in the year of Our Lord One thousand eight hundred and thirty-six.

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Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty. 1857.

Witnessed by me the Clerk of the Court

every or other material, to which the tube is affixed, cement or otherwise. The object of being so affixed is that it may readily accommodate itself to the passage of the ear and will be found more useful than those heretofore employed.

Having thus described my invention, I would have it understood that what I claim as my invention, and the apparatus secured by the present Letters Patent, consists of an external support to the back of the ear, in order to cause it to project from the head, and thus be suitable for intercepting noise of the vibrations, and also the application of a flexible tube into the auditory passage of the ear, as above described.

In witness whereof, I the said Alphonse William Webster, have hereunto set my hand and seal, this 17th day of September, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and thirty-six.

A. W. WEBSTER - (as)

AND HE IT REMEMBERED that on the 17th day of September, in the year of our Lord 1836, the said Alphonse William Webster came before me and laid the King in His Majesty, and acknowledged the Specification aforesaid, and all and every thing therein contained and specified in full as above written. And also the Specification aforesaid was stamped according to the tenor of the Statute made for that purpose.

In the 17th day of September, in the year of Our Lord One thousand eight hundred and thirty-six.

LONDON:

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PROBATION

A. D. 1836. MARCH 17. N<sup>o</sup> 7033.  
WEBSTER'S SPECIFICATION.

(1 SHEET.)

FIG. 1.



FIG. 2.



*The enrolled drawing is colored.*

Drawn on Stone by Malby & Sons.

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