

Specification of Edwin Thomas Truman : constructing and fixing artificial teeth and gums, &c.;

Contributors

Truman, Edwin Thomas.

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A.D. 1848 N° 12,241.

S P E C I F I C A T I O N

OF

EDWIN THOMAS TRUMAN.

CONSTRUCTING AND FIXING ARTIFICIAL
TEETH AND GUMS, &c.

LONDON

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A.D. 1848 N° 12,241.

**Constructing and Fixing Artificial Teeth and
Gums, &c.**

TRUMAN'S SPECIFICATION.

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, I,
EDWIN THOMAS TRUMAN, of 40, Haymarket, in the County of Middlesex, Dentist, send greeting.

WHEREAS Her present most Excellent Majesty Queen Victoria,
5 by Her Royal Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, bearing date at Westminster, the Fifteenth day of August, One thousand eight hundred and forty-eight, in the twelfth year of Her reign, did, for Herself, Her heirs and successors, give and grant unto me, the said Edwin Thomas
10 Truman, my exors, admors, and assigns, Her especial licence, full power, sole privilege and authority, that I, the said Edwin Thomas Truman, my exors, admors, and assigns, or such others as I, the said Edwin Thomas Truman, my exors, admors, or assigns, should at any time agree with, and no others, from time to time and at
15 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 IMPROVED METHOD OR METHODS OF CONSTRUCTING AND FIXING ARTIFICIAL TEETH AND GUMS, AND OF SUPPLYING DEFICIENCIES IN THE MOUTH;**" in which

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said Letters Patent is contained a proviso, that I, the said Edwin Thomas Truman, should cause a particular description of the nature of my said Invention, and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be enrolled in Her said Majesty's High Court of Chancery within six calendar months next and immediately after the date of the said in 5 part recited Letters Patent, as in and by the same, reference being thereunto had, will more fully and at large appear.

NOW KNOW YE, that in compliance with the said proviso, I, the said Edwin Thomas Truman, do hereby declare that the nature of my said Invention, and the manner in which the same is to be performed, 10 are fully described and ascertained in and by the following statement thereof, that is to say:—

My Invention consists, first, of employing gutta percha in the manufacture of artificial teeth and gums, and in making good other defects in the mouth in connection therewith. 15

And, secondly, my Invention consists of improvements in the manufacture of artificial teeth and gums by employing the process of electrotype in coating soft substances.

And in order that my Invention may be most fully understood and readily carried into effect, I will proceed to explain the means pursued 20 by me.

It is usual in making artificial teeth to obtain a cast, by means of wax, of the mouth, in its imperfect state, shewing the parts to be made up by artificial teeth and gums, and from such cast a plaster model is obtained, and if there be any defect in the mouth, near the gums, then 25 such model represents such defects, as well as the loss of teeth. The means of obtaining such plaster model being well understood, it will not be necessary for me to enter into a description thereof.

Having got a model of the mouth in plaster, hardened in the usual manner with resin, &c., I proceed to construct a metal frame, by pre- 30 ference of gold, either of wire or otherwise, the purport of which is to give support to the pins for the artificial teeth, and to strengthen the piece where it would otherwise be weak, if it be a case that requires such strengthening, as in lower jaw cases, where the plate or bar has hitherto passed behind the remaining teeth; and as this frame is not in 35

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the finished case, either to touch the gum or remaining teeth, but to be enclosed in the gutta percha, it is not necessary that it should fit the model, but merely that it should be constructed to effect the purposes above named. The teeth being prepared of the proper length and
 5 colour, I solder pins to receive them in the above-mentioned frame in their proper places, in the same manner I should if placing them on a gold plate of the usual make; but it is not necessary to fit them to the frame, as the gutta percha forms sockets around and under them, which receive them in like manner as teeth are naturally articulated in the
 10 jaw.

I then proceed to mould or form the gutta percha, which I prefer to have as pure as I can purchase it; gutta percha, when heated, being, as is well known, very plastic, and readily pressed into any form. First, I entirely enclose the metal frame, as above described, in gutta percha,
 15 except the pins; this is readily done with the fingers. Then I place it on the plaster model, previously wet with cold water, in such a manner as to bring the teeth, when placed on their respective pins, into their proper place, to supply the deficiency. I then proceed to mould the gutta percha into the proper form, to replace all the lost structures,
 20 without altering the surface that touches the model; this I effect either by again making it hot in water, or by the aid of heated instruments, or by both, as the case may require, but for this part of my Invention I can give no precise rule, as it must depend on the case; and the gutta percha must, at the same time, if necessary, be carried
 25 over other parts of the mouth not hitherto deficient, as has been the custom with gold plate on other substances, either to equalise pressure or gain support.

By this means the gutta percha will, with the new teeth, fit those parts of the mouth where wanting; and in order to make up for any
 30 imperfections in the plaster model, I warm the gutta percha of the artificial teeth constructed as above explained, and place the same into the mouth and press it into position, by which it will become perfectly adapted to the mouth. I then remove the same from the mouth, and take the teeth off the pins, by which the sockets in the gutta percha
 35 will be left empty. I then coat over the pins with wax or other

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matter, which will prevent deposit of gold in the process of electro-gilding, which I now cause to be performed within the sockets, also on outer and inner surfaces of the gutta percha, leaving the surface thereof which comes next the gums so that a surface of gutta percha will come next the gums. And such is the peculiar property 5 of this matter, that it may be made most accurately to fit the gums, cavities, and imperfections of the mouth near the gums; and artificial teeth thus made will not require any other mode of fixing when in the mouth than what results from a good fit. I do not, however, say that in no case other fastenings may not be required, but in all cases which 10 have come before me I have not found other fastenings necessary. The electro-gilding will line the sockets for the teeth, and also the external surfaces, such electro-gilding being performed, as is well understood, by preparing the surfaces to be gilt in the ordinary manner. The teeth are then to be fixed on to the pins and into the 15 sockets by cement, as heretofore when using gold plates; and any of the various descriptions of teeth may be employed, to which, separately, I make no claim. It is not essential to making artificial teeth and gums, according to my Invention, that the gutta percha used should be coated with gold. And I would state that, although I prefer to employ 20 gutta percha alone, I do not confine myself thereto, as coloring or other matter may be used therewith.

In carrying out the second part of my Invention, in place of using gutta percha and electro-gilding as above explained, I employ hard wax or other matter which may be readily moulded or shaped in the 25 forms described in respect to gutta percha, and then by electro-gilding the same all over I can obtain artificial teeth fitting with great accuracy; and according to this plan the moulded or shaped matter may be such as would be unsuited to be worn in the mouth if it were not for the coating with gold, which will not only give strength, but also prevent 30 any moisture getting to the interior matter which constitutes the setting of the teeth.

Having thus described the nature of my Invention, and the manner in which the same is to be performed, I would state in respect to the first part of my Invention, that I am aware that gutta percha has been 35

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before employed for temporarily filling up a space in the mouth caused by removing a tooth or teeth, and the same has been allowed to remain till artificial teeth for fitting such spaces have been prepared ; and further, I have been informed that gutta percha has been used for making
 5 good some defects in the mouth, but not in connection with artificial teeth and gums, and I mention these particulars in order to state that I make no claim to such use of gutta percha. But what I claim is,—

First, the manufacturing of artificial teeth and gums, and making good other deficiencies of the mouth in connection therewith by employing gutta percha ; and I also claim the coating the surfaces thereof
 10 with metal.

And, secondly, I claim the application of electro-gilding in the manufacture of artificial teeth and gums as a coating to soft materials, as herein explained.

15 In witness whereof, I, the said Edwin Thomas Truman, have hereunto set my hand and seal, this Fifteenth day of February One thousand eight hundred and forty-nine.

EDWIN THO^s TRUMAN. (L.S.)

AND BE IT REMEMBERED, that on the Fifteenth day of February,
 20 in the year of our Lord 1849, the aforesaid Edwin Thomas Truman came before our said Lady the Queen, in Her 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 according to the tenor of the Statute made
 25 for that purpose.

ANDERSON.

Enrolled the Fifteenth day of February, in the year of our Lord
 One thousand eight hundred and forty-nine.

LONDON :

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