

## **Specification of Edwin Thomas Truman : artificial teeth.**

### **Contributors**

Truman, Edwin Thomas.

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Wellcome Collection  
183 Euston Road  
London NW1 2BE UK  
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722  
E [library@wellcomecollection.org](mailto:library@wellcomecollection.org)  
<https://wellcomecollection.org>



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A.D. 1855 . . . . . N° 2446.

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

OF

EDWIN THOMAS TRUMAN.

—  
ARTIFICIAL TEETH.  
—

LONDON:

PRINTED BY GEORGE E. EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,

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1856.





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A.D. 1855 . . . . . N° 2446.

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**Artificial Teeth.**

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**LETTERS PATENT** to Edwin Thomas Truman, of Old Burlington Street, in the County of Middlesex, Dentist in Ordinary to Her Majesty's Household, for the Invention of "**IMPROVEMENTS IN PALATES OR HOLDERS FOR ARTIFICIAL TEETH.**"

Sealed the 25th March 1856, and dated the 1st November 1855.

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**PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION** left by the said Edwin Thomas Truman at the Office of the Commissioners of Patents, with his Petition, on the 1st November 1855.

I, EDWIN THOMAS TRUMAN, of Old Burlington Street, in the County of Middlesex, Dentist, do hereby declare the nature of the said Invention for "**IMPROVEMENTS IN PALATES OR HOLDERS FOR ARTIFICIAL TEETH**" to be as follows:—

My Invention consists in the employment of aluminum, either alone or combined with gutta percha, or with another metal, or with both gutta percha and another metal, for artificial palates for holding artificial teeth.

The specific gravity of aluminum, as compared with that of gold usually employed for artificial palates, is so low that it renders it peculiarly suited for the use to which I now adapt it. In my final Specification I propose to shew the precise manner in which I work this metal to fit it for the purpose I now describe, as well as the manner in which I connect the teeth to it.

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*Truman's Improvements in Palates or Holders for Artificial Teeth.*

**SPECIFICATION** in pursuance of the conditions of the Letters Patent, filed by the said Edwin Thomas Truman in the Great Seal Patent Office on the 1st May 1856.

**TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME**, I, EDWIN THOMAS TRUMAN, of Old Burlington Street, in the County of Middlesex, 5 Dentist in Ordinary to Her Majesty's Household, send greeting.

**WHEREAS** Her most Excellent Majesty Queen Victoria, by Her Letters Patent, bearing date the First day of November, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and fifty-five, in the nineteenth year of Her reign, did, for Herself, Her heirs and successors, give and grant unto me, 10 the said Edwin Thomas Truman, Her special licence that I, the said Edwin Thomas Truman, my executors, administrators, and assigns, or such others as I, the said Edwin Thomas Truman, my executors, administrators, and assigns, should at any time agree with, and no others, from time to time and at all times thereafter during the term therein expressed, should and 15 lawfully might make, use, exercise, and vend, within the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Channels Islands, and Isle of Man, an Invention for "**IMPROVEMENTS IN PALATES OR HOLDERS FOR ARTIFICIAL TEETH,**" upon the condition (amongst others) that I, the said Edwin Thomas Truman, my executors or administrators, by an instrument in writing under my, or 20 their, or one of their hands and seals, should particularly describe and ascertain the nature of the said Invention, and in what manner the same was to be performed, and cause the same to be filed in the Great Seal Patent Office within six calendar months next and immediately after the date of the said Letters Patent. 25

**NOW KNOW YE**, that I, the said Edwin Thomas Truman, do hereby declare the nature of my said Invention, and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement thereof, that is to say:—

My Invention consists in the employment of aluminum, or, as it is sometimes 30 called, aluminium, either alone or combined with gutta percha, or with another metal, or with both gutta percha and another metal, for artificial palates or holders for holding artificial teeth.

By the employment of aluminum combined with gutta percha for the palates or holders of artificial teeth, I secure with great lightness (aluminum being 35 about one-tenth of the weight of gold) sufficient rigidity in the body of the palate or holder to prevent it getting out of shape while the gutta percha surrounding it and coming in immediate contact with the gums, and extending

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*Truman's Improvements in Palates or Holders for Artificial Teeth.*

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over the base of the teeth, is sufficiently yielding to afford every comfort to the wearer.

The manner in which I carry my Invention into effect is as follows:—I take a stout wire, or a rod, or a bar of aluminum, either round, square, or of  
5 any other desired form, and bend it to the shape required in such a manner that the teeth when placed upon the bar and embedded in the gutta percha, shall occupy those places in the jaw intended to be filled by artificial teeth.

I prepare artificial teeth for securing to the aluminum holder, by fixing in the back of each artificial tooth a loop or eye, in such manner that the loop shall  
10 be in the same parallel line with the length of the tooth; or I fix the loop or eye at the base of the tooth, a method I follow particularly for back teeth. I form the loop of platinum wire, and cause it to adhere by inserting the ends thereof in the case of mineral teeth into the mineral while in a soft state, and then  
15 bake them in a furnace; or any other suitable metal may be used for the loop, and may be connected to the tooth by other means. The loop is formed to correspond to the shape of the aluminum holder.

Now, in order to finish the palates or holders and fix the teeth thereon, I thread on to the aluminum holder as many artificial teeth (prepared with loops as aforesaid) as are necessary, cover the bases of the teeth, and surround  
20 the holder with suitably prepared gutta percha applied in a heated, soft, and plastic state, in order to cause it to fill up the spaces, and assume the form desired. I finish the whole by shaping the gutta percha over a cast of the gums, for which the artificial teeth are required, and allow the gutta percha to cool, when the holder and teeth are ready to be fitted in the mouth; or, having  
25 selected the teeth necessary to fill the spaces with the loops in the most convenient position, I fasten them on a plaster model in their proper form with wax or other suitable material, and then by means of a metal cast taken from the plaster model so prepared, I form a plate of aluminum, which I cause to pass over the back of the teeth in such manner as to enable me, by means of  
30 the loop or loops on the teeth and corresponding loop or loop holes in the plate, to pin, bolt, or tie the teeth to it in their proper position, and I then make good all the hollows and interstices necessary with gutta percha, the whole combined having the requisite shape and size for use.

I am aware that mineral teeth have been prepared with loops, fixed in a  
35 direction across them for the purpose of being affixed by means of a pin or metal back to a gold or silver plate, and therefore I lay no claim to forming teeth with such transverse loops; but I claim,—

First, the making of the palate plates or holders for artificial teeth of aluminum, as herein-before described, the fitting of artificial teeth with loops

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*Truman's Improvements in Palates or Holders for Artificial Teeth.*

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or eyes in the particular manner herein-before described, and the fixing of the whole together by gutta percha alone, or by pins or wires and gutta percha, as also herein-before described.

And, second, I claim the combined employment in the manufacture of palates or holders for artificial teeth of aluminum and gutta percha, together 5 with platinum or other suitable metal loops, eyes, or wires.

In witness whereof, I, the said Edwin Thomas Truman, have hereunto set my hand and seal, this First day of May, One thousand eight hundred and fifty-six.

EDWIN THO<sup>s</sup> TRUMAN. (L.S.) 10

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LONDON :

Printed by GEORGE EDWARD EYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,  
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty. 1856.