Specification of William Fitkin : instruments for extracting teeth.

A.D. 1861, 20*th August*. N° 2065.

SPECIFICATION

OF

WILLIAM FITKIN.

INSTRUMENTS FOR EXTRACTING TEETH.

LONDON:
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A.D. 1861, 20th AUGUST. N° 2065.

Instruments for Extracting Teeth.

LETTERS PATENT to William Fitkin, of 88, Fleet Street, in the City of London, Dentist, for the Invention of "IMPROVEMENTS IN APPARATUS OR INSTRUMENTS FOR EXTRACTING TEETH."

Sealed the 4th February 1862, and dated the 20th August 1861.

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION left by the said William Fitkin at the Office of the Commissioners of Patents, with his Petition, on the 20th August 1861.

I, WILLIAM FITKIN, of 88, Fleet Street, in the City of London, Dentist, do hereby declare the nature of the said Invention for "IMPROVEMENTS IN APPARATUS OR INSTRUMENTS FOR EXTRACTING TEETH," to be as follows:—

My apparatus consists of two separate portions, instruments, or appliances, which when put to use are employed in conjunction or combination; each has a handle or end conveniently formed for holding and using it. One of these instruments or appliances is constructed with a part or surface which I call a "rest piece," intended to bear or rest against the gum or jaw or the patient, and also with a curved or a bent arm, or what I call a "bridge piece," so shaped that when the rest piece is applied against the gum, the bridge-piece passes in a direction across the jaw that is over the tooth, if in the lower, and under it if in the upper jaw, and affords a fulcrum or bearing point for the second appliance or instrument, that is to say, the latter is rested and works upon it (the bridge piece) on the opposite side of the jaw to that against which the rest piece is applied. The stem or body, the rest piece, and the bridge piece of the first appliance, are in one piece, or in rigid connection, or so contrived as to afford a firm bearing or rest for the second appliance. The second instrument or appliance is serrated or otherwise formed at one end for

acting directly upon the tooth, and is conveniently contrived for resting on the bridge piece, for which purpose I prefer to shape it with an orifice near the end, by which it is passed over the end of the bridge piece, and thereby connected therewith. The compound instrument is generally applied by so placing the first portion or instrument that the rest piece may bear, rest, or press against the gum on one side of the jaw, while at the opposite side thereof the second portion or instrument is rested on the bridge piece working thereon as a lever on its fulcrum, and so acting upon the tooth; in fact, both appliances or instruments may be worked as levers in some cases, the handles being moved in antagonistic or opposite directions. The first instrument may be said to be formed with two fulcra, namely, the rest piece and the place of contact with the second appliance.

Instead of the two instruments that constitute my apparatus being separate or detached, as above described, I sometimes modify the contrivance by jointing, connecting, or attaching them together, their arrangement being in other respects similar to what has been before stated.

SPECIFICATION in pursuance of the conditions of the Letters Patent, filed by the said William Fitkin in the Great Seal Patent Office on the 20th February 1862.

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, I, WILLIAM FITKIN, of 88, Fleet Street, in the City of London, Dentist, send greeting.

WHEREAS Her most Excellent Majesty Queen Victoria, by Her Letters Patent, bearing date the Twentieth day of August, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, in the twenty-fifth year of Her reign, did, for Herself, Her heirs and successors, give and grant unto me, the said William Fitkin, Her special licence that I, the said William Fitkin, my executors, administrators, and assigns, or such others as I, the said William Fitkin, 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 lawfully might make, use exercise, and vend, within the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Channel Islands, and Isle of Man, an Invention for "IMPROVEMENTS IN APPARATUS OR INSTRUMENTS FOR EXTRACTING TEETH," upon the condition (amongst others) that I, the said William Fitkin, my executors or administrators, by an instrument in writing under my, or 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.

NOW KNOW YE, that I, the said William Fitkin, do hereby declare the nature of the 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, reference being had to the accompanying Drawings, and to the letters and figures marked thereon, that is to say:—

My apparatus consists of two separate portions, instruments, or appliances, which, when put to use, are employed in conjunction or combination; each has a handle or end conveniently formed for holding and using it. One of these instruments or appliances, which I call the "fulcrum instrument," is constructed with a part or surface, herein-after called "rest piece" (intended to bear or rest against the gum or jaw of the patient), and also with a curved or bent arm, or what I call "bridge piece" or "arch," which is so shaped that when the rest piece is applied against the gum, this bridge piece or arch passes over the tooth, and affords a fulcrum or bearing point for the second instrument or elevator to rest and work upon at the opposite side of the gum to that against which the rest piece is applied. The stem or body, the rest piece, and the bridge piece or arch of the first appliance are in one piece, or in rigid connection, or so contrived as to afford a firm and steady bearing, rest, or fulcrum for the second appliance. The second instrument (or "elevator,") is serrated or otherwise conveniently formed at one end for acting directly upon the tooth in the operation of extraction, and is also conveniently contrived for resting on the bridge piece or arch, for which purpose I prefer to shape it with an orifice near the end, by which it is passed over the end of the bridge piece. The compound instrument is generally applied by so placing the first or "fulcrum instrument" that the rest piece may bear, rest, or press against the gum on one side or surface thereof, and the elevator is rested on the bridge piece or arch at the opposite side, and works thereon as a lever on its fulcrum, and thus acts upon the tooth; in fact, both appliances or instruments may be worked as levers in some cases, the handles being moved in antagonistic or opposite directions. The first or fulcrum instrument may be said to be formed with two fulcra, one being the rest piece and the other the place of contact with the elevator or second appliance.

Instead of the two instruments which constitute my apparatus being separate or detached, as above described, I sometimes modify the contrivance by jointing, connecting, or attaching them together, their arrangement being in other respects similar to what has before been stated.

Fitkin's Improvements in Instruments for Extracting Teeth.

I now proceed, with reference to the accompanying Drawings, to describe the best means known to me for carrying my Invention into effect.

Figures 1 and 2 are views of the first or fulcrum instrument, and Figures 3 and 4 are views of the second instrument or elevator. A is the handle of the fulcrum instrument; B, its stem or body, preferably of steel; C, the rest piece, which is in a piece with the stem; it is covered with a piece of leather or other soft material, or may even be padded, in order to press more gently against the jaw or gum; D is the bridge piece, arch, or arm; it springs from the bottom of the shank or from the rest piece, and is in a piece therewith. Its curve or exact form may vary, but it must be of the shape described, that is to say, of such shape, that when the rest piece is placed against the jaw or gum at one side, say, for example, the inside, the arch or bridge piece crosses or bridges over, or extends above the crown of the tooth, and presents a bearing point for the elevator at the other side of the gum, say, the outside. *d* is the part of the arch or bridge piece forming the point or fulcrum on which the elevator works. E is the handle of the elevator; F, the steel stem or body of the same, its end *h* being serrated or otherwise adapted for acting on and extracting the tooth; *g*, shewn also in plan, Figure 5, is an eye in a projection on the stem F, by which the elevator is mounted on the arch D. The curves of the stems or bodies B and F may be varied to adapt the instrument for different teeth. Figure 6 shews the two instruments combined; Figure 7 shews them as applied to the extracting of a tooth; J is the tooth to be extracted; and I, the gum. Here the rest piece C bears against the inside or back of the gum; the arch crosses over above the crown of the tooth, and presents the fulcrum *d* in front of the gum (the rest piece C might be applied on the outer side of the gum.)

I proceed to exemplify the mode of employing the apparatus:—The operator takes the handles one in each hand; the end of the fulcrum instrument is inserted into the patient's mouth, the rest piece being placed against the gum of the tooth to be extracted, and the arch or bridge piece crosses or extends over the crown of the tooth (either of the one to be extracted or the next) presenting its outward end at the opposite side of the teeth, (that is, at the side opposite to that at which the rest piece is,) a short distance from the teeth and a little above the gum. The elevator is then mounted on the arch by passing the orifice *g* over the end of the arch; the end of the elevator is applied against the tooth, and by depressing both handles (the elevator working on the point *d*) the tooth may be raised almost perpendicularly from its socket. A fulcrum may by these means be obtained in the exact position required.

The arrangements at the end of the elevator may be modified both as to

the part which acts upon the tooth, and that whereby it is mounted upon the arch or bridge piece. Instead of the rest piece C and arch D being in a piece with the stem B and with each other, they may be rivetted or otherwise rigidly fixed together, or the arch may be jointed to the stem, and bear against a fixed stop, being firmly retained in a steady position by a screw or other like means to form a firm, stable, and unshifting fulcrum for the elevator.

I wish it to be understood, that instruments similar in form and action to the elevator (except in respect of the arrangements for mounting it on the bridge piece) have already been used, but these elevators, when applied, have been rested on the finger or gum, and thus working on an unstable fulcrum, or on no fulcrum at all, are liable to slip and occasion much pain and even danger. Also "keys" have been used for extracting teeth, in which a shifting or moveable claw is employed to act upon and extract the tooth; but in my arrangement, the elevator works on a steady, fixed, and stable fulcrum, which may be placed in the most convenient position for operating. And by using my compound instrument, the pain and risk of the ordinary punch or elevator are wholly avoided, as are also the dangers arising from the "forceps" and "key."

Having now described the nature of my said Invention, and in what manner the same may be performed, I declare that I claim,—

First, the general arrangement and combination of parts constituting the improved compound instrument or apparatus herein described.

Second, the constructing of the "fulcrum instrument" with the "rest piece" and the fixed "arch" or "bridge piece" in a piece with or in rigid or firm connection with each other, and with the stem or body of the instrument, so as to form a firm and steady fulcrum for the elevator to work on, as herein-before described.

In witness whereof, I, the said William Fitkin, have hereunto set my hand and seal, this Twentieth day of February, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and sixty-two.

WILLIAM FITKIN. (L.S.)

Witness,
M. Henry,
Patent Agent,
84, Fleet Street, London.

LONDON:
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Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty. 1862.

A. D. 1861, Aug. 20, N° 2065.
FITKIN'S Specification.

(1 SHEET.)

107

FIG. 5.

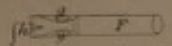

FIG. 4.

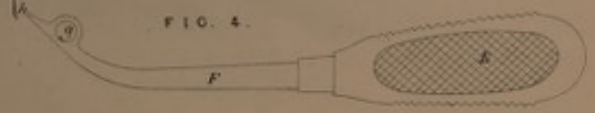

FIG. 3.

FIG. 6.

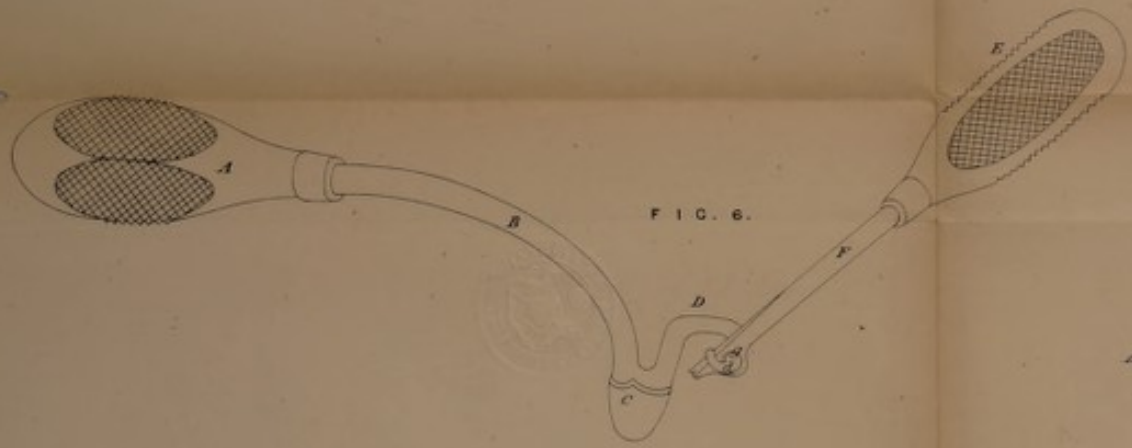

FIG. 7.

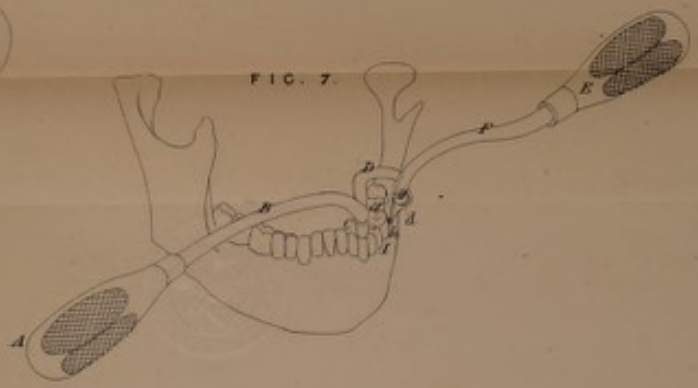

FIG. 1.

FIG. 2.

The filed drawing is colored.

Drawn on Stone by Malley & Sons.

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Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty. 1862.