

I. H. Southworth.
Comb.

no
50400.

Patented Oct. 10. 1865

Fig. 1.

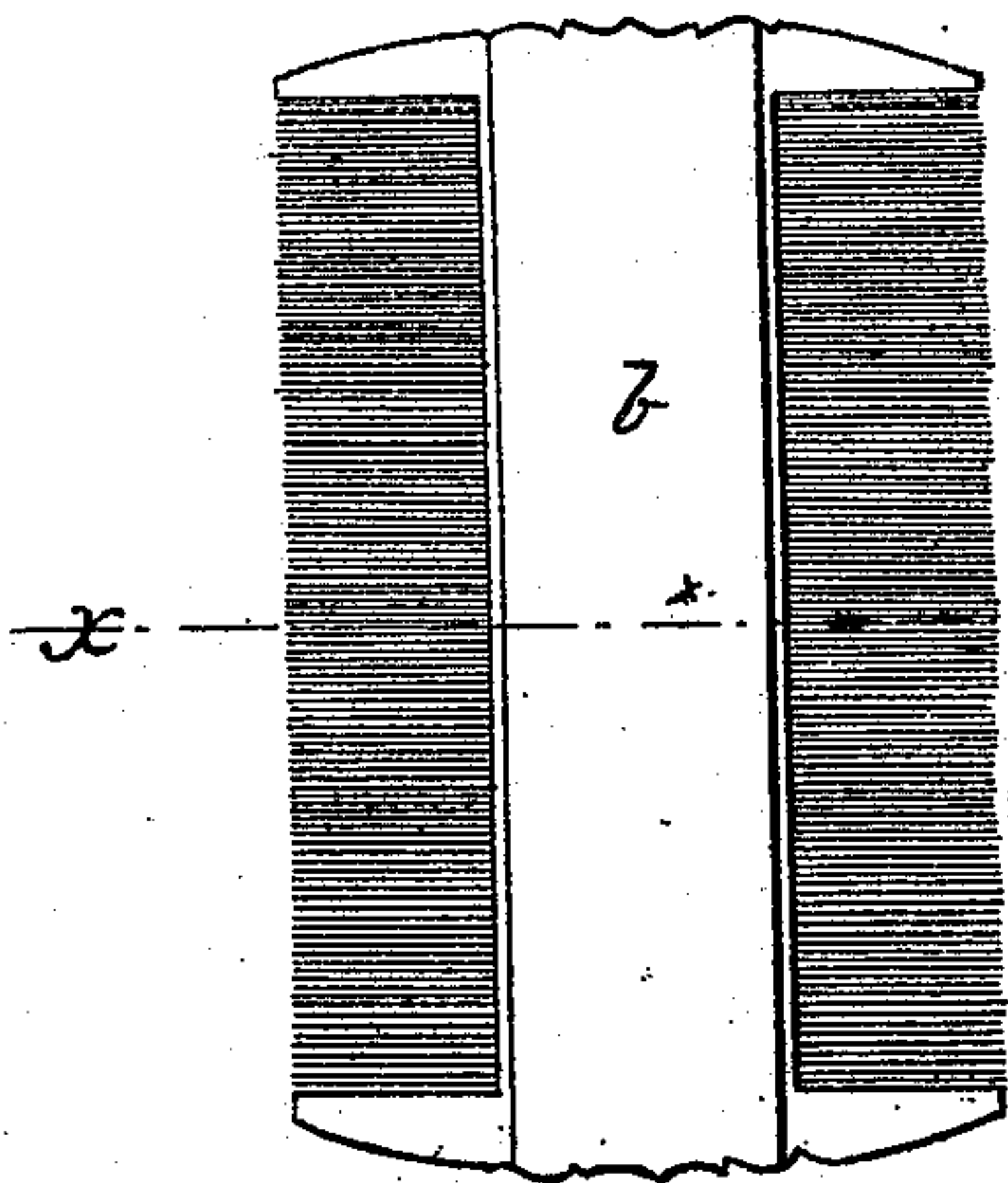


Fig. 2.

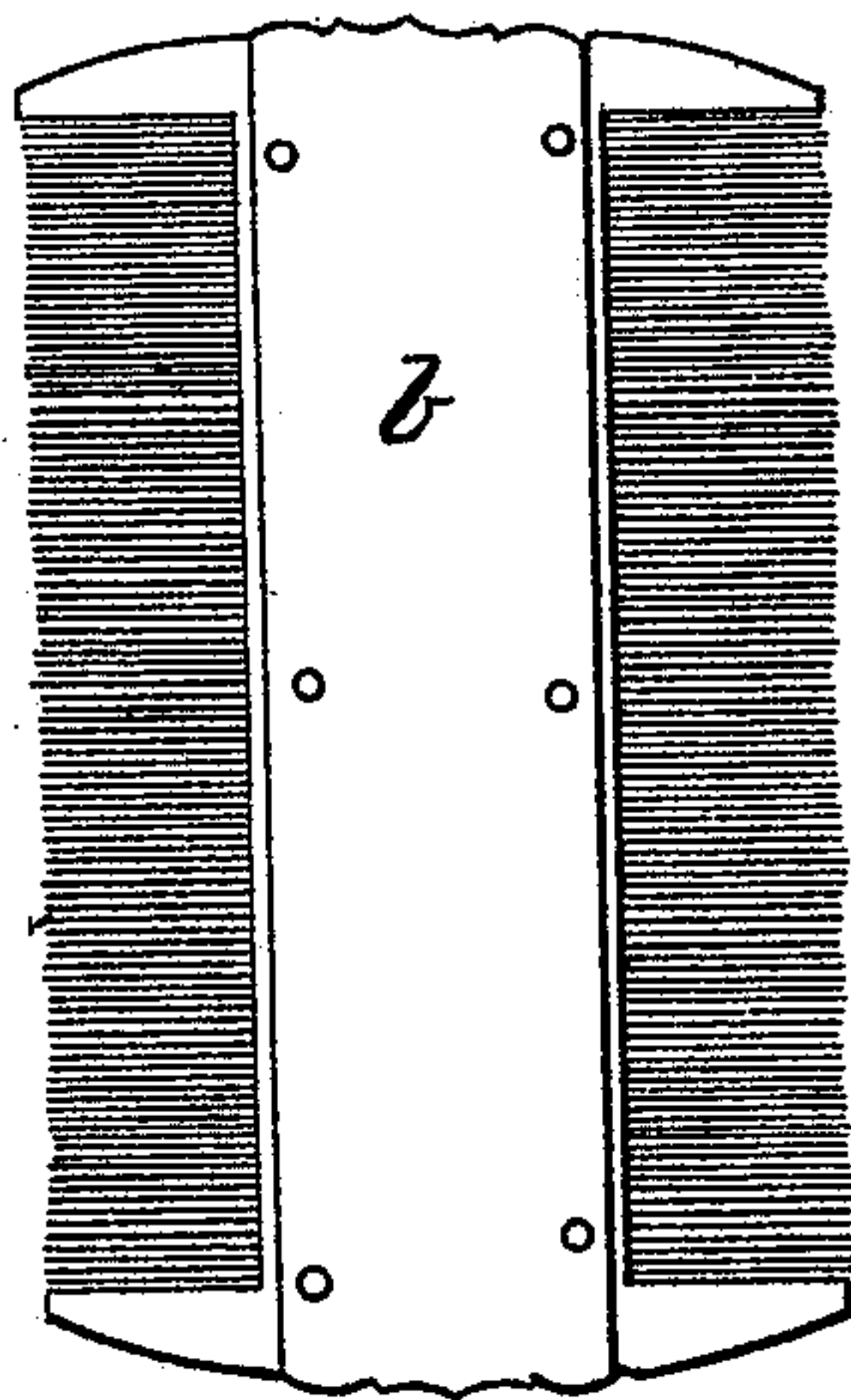


Fig. 3.

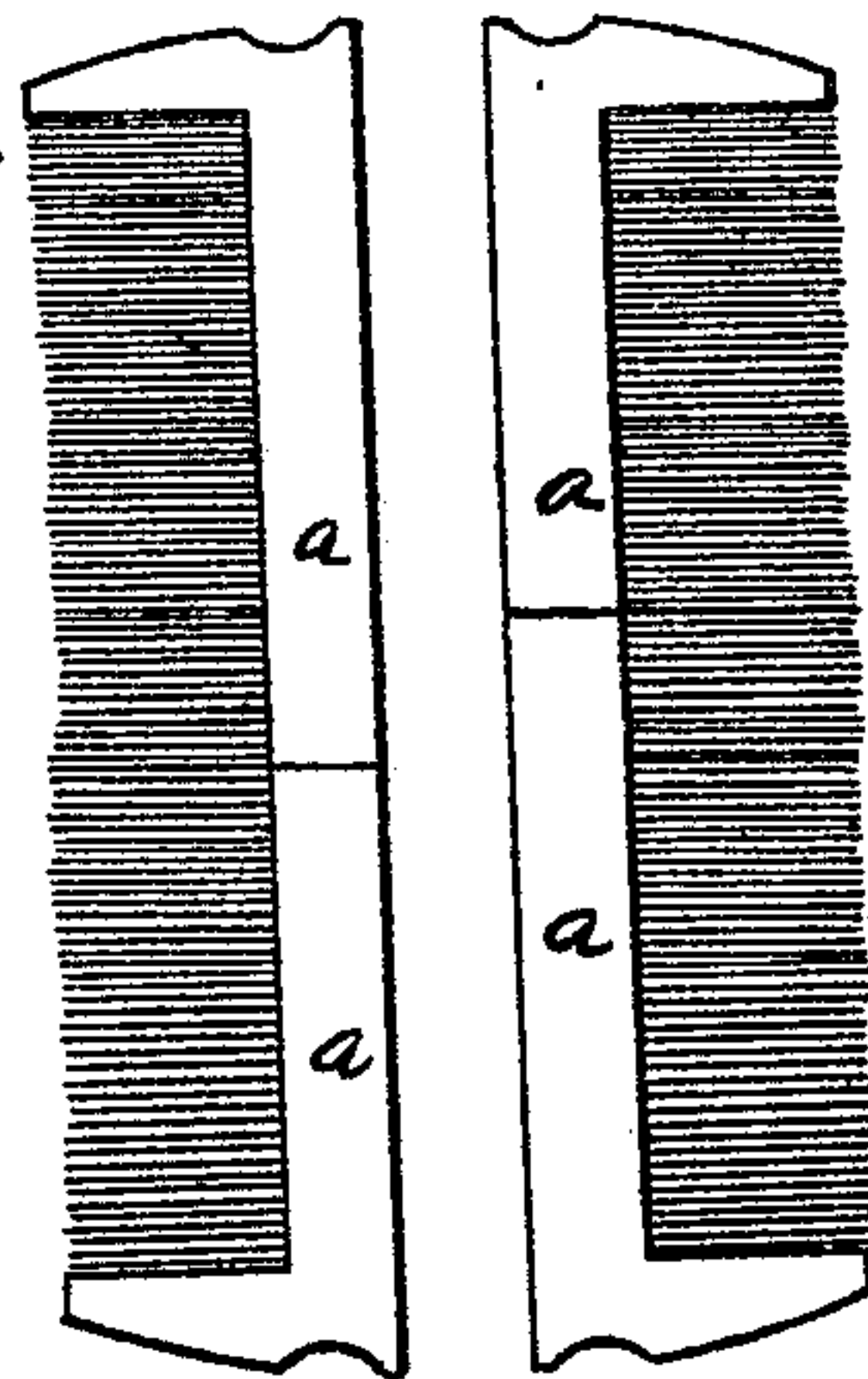


Fig. 4.



Fig. 5.

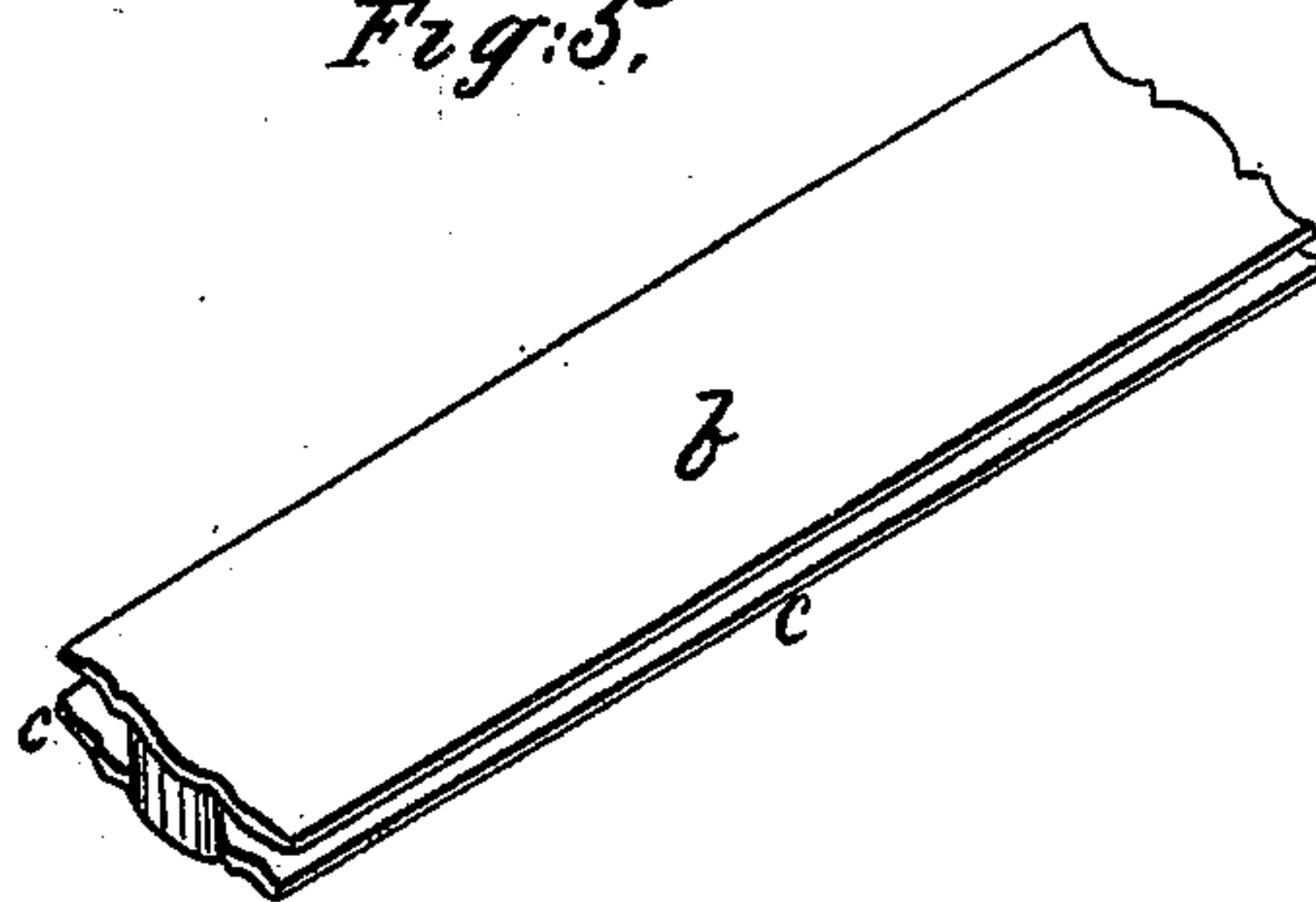
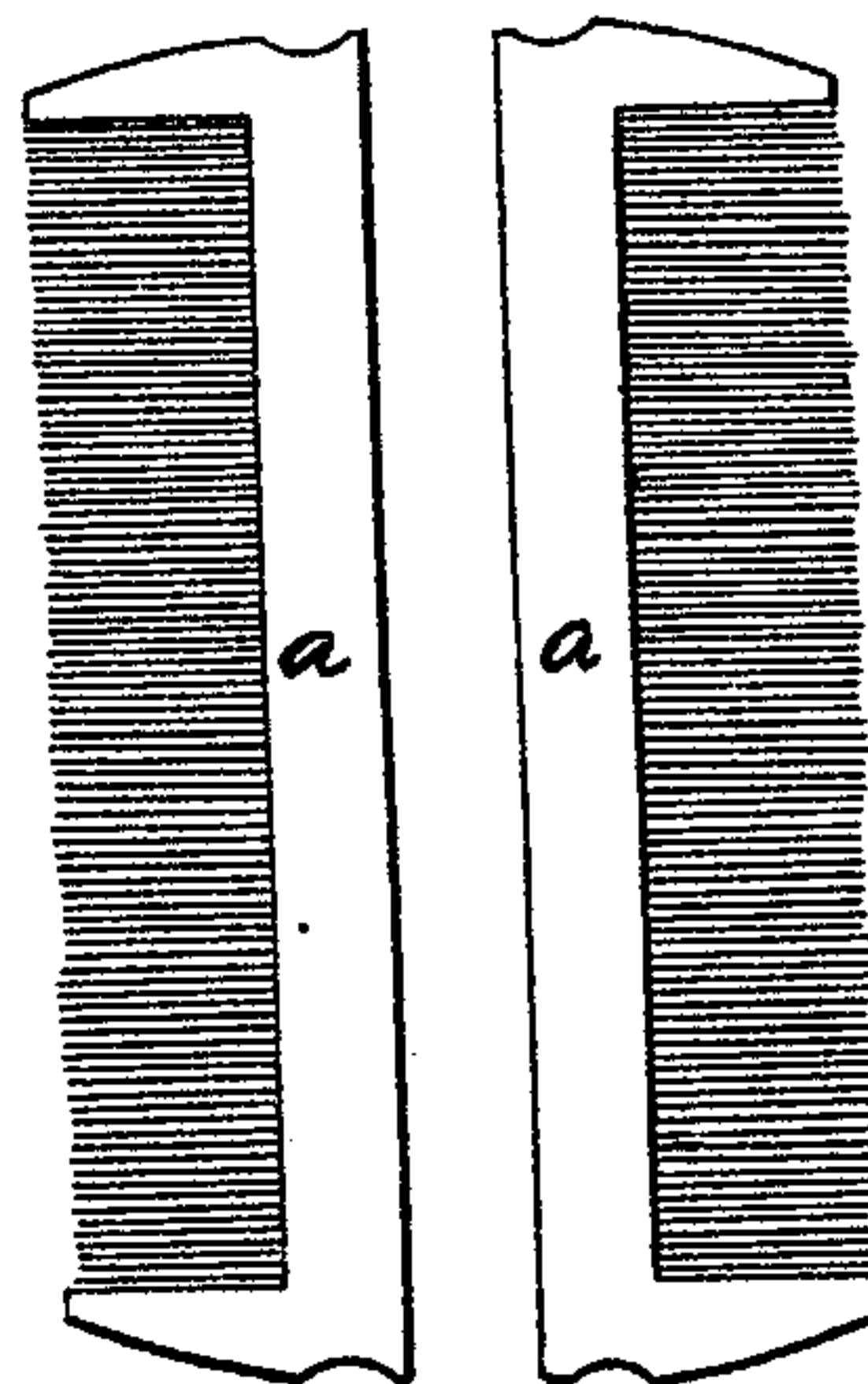


Fig. 6.



Witnesses,
Thos. R. Roach
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Inventor

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ISRAEL H. SOUTHWORTH, OF ESSEX, CONNECTICUT.

IMPROVEMENT IN COMBS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 50,400, dated October 10, 1865.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ISRAEL H. SOUTHWORTH, of Essex, in the county of Middlesex and State of Connecticut, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Fine-Tooth Combs, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan of my improved comb formed of pieces inserted within a grooved holder and cemented therein. Fig. 2 is a plan of my improved comb formed of pieces inserted within a grooved holder and riveted thereto. Fig. 3 is a plan of pieces of refuse combs matched together ready to be united to the grooved holder. Fig. 4 is a section on the line *xx* of Fig. 1. Fig. 5 is a view of the grooved holder detached. Fig. 6 is a plan of two perfect half-combs to be secured in place in the grooved holder.

Fine-tooth combs, when made of any material excepting ivory, are objectional for the following reasons: Those of rubber are offensive, owing to the smell of sulphur used in the manufacture; those of metal pull and cut the hair, and those of horn split or double up. In consequence of these objections combs of ivory are universally preferred to those made of any other material; but, owing to the high cost of ivory, combs of this material cannot be furnished at a moderate cost; and in order to economize stock in making fine-tooth ivory combs the material has been cut so thin that the combs are frequently broken in using.

The object of my invention is to overcome the above-mentioned difficulties and to provide a durable fine-tooth comb, of ivory or other suitable material, at a very much less price than the various descriptions of combs heretofore made; and my invention consists in securing within a grooved holder pieces of comb made of ivory, rubber, horn, or any other material adapted to the purpose, or securing separate pieces cut from refuse combs where one side is whole or where both sides are broken in the manufacture, and matching them together

in suitable lengths, so as to form a durable comb of a neat finish, which can be sold at a considerably reduced cost.

To enable others skilled in the art to understand and use my invention, I will proceed to describe the manner in which I have carried it out.

In the said drawings, the pieces *a* of the comb, consisting of halves or smaller portions of refuse or broken combs, are carefully cut into suitable lengths and matched together so nicely as to make the joint imperceptible, so as to form any size of comb required.

A piece of bone, *b*, or other cheap material adapted to the purpose is cut of the required length and provided with grooves *c*, (see Figs. 4 and 5,) and the perfect halves, or the matched pieces *a* of the refuse combs, are fitted therein and held securely in place by cement or by rivets, (see Figs. 1 and 2,) thereby substituting a cheap material for the central portion of the comb, which, when the comb is made of ivory, is a consideration of importance, (the price of bone being about five cents per pound, while that of ivory is nearly five dollars.)

By utilizing the waste stock in the manufacture of combs, as above described, I am enabled to make them wider and the teeth deeper than is usual with combs in common use, and the central grooved piece or holder, being made of a cheap material, is made of sufficient thickness to prevent any liability of its being broken or of the teeth becoming loosened or detached therefrom.

This I regard as an improvement on the manufacture of combs described in the Letters Patent of the United States granted to me on the 23d day of August, 1864.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent as an improvement in the manufacture of fine-tooth combs, is—

The grooved holder *b*, into which are fitted the halves or pieces *a*, substantially as described.

I. H. SOUTHWORTH.

Witnesses:

THOS. R. ROACH,
W. J. CAMBRIDGE.