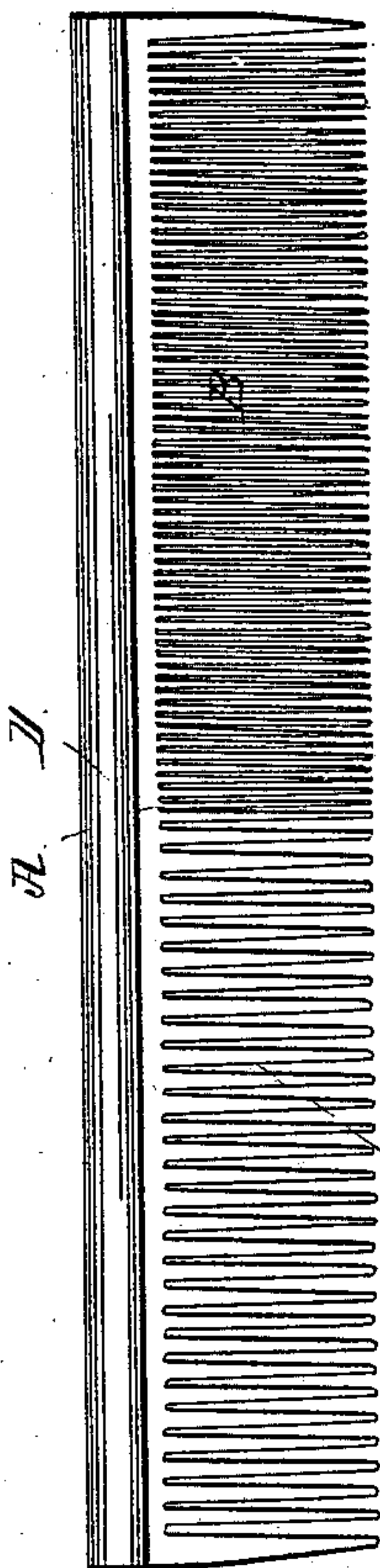


*J. Smith,*  
*Comb.*

*N<sup>o</sup> 82,560.*

*Patented Sep. 29, 1868.*

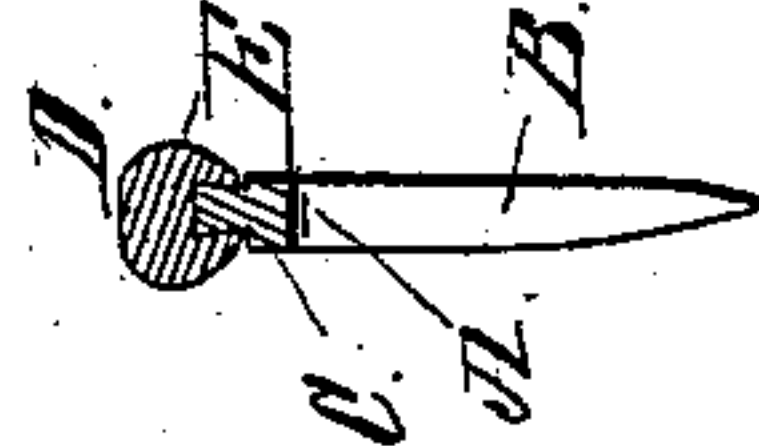
*Fig: 1.*



*Fig: 4.*



*Fig: 5.*

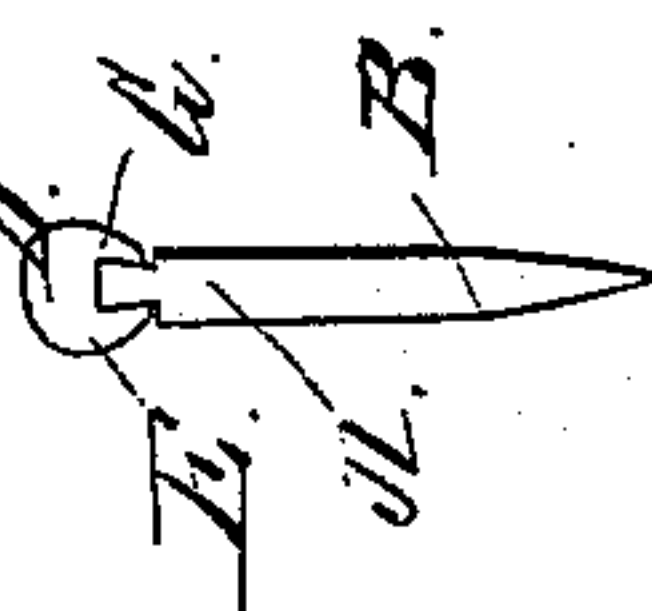


*B.*



*Fig: 3.*

*Fig: 2.*



*witnesses:*  
*W. H. Reed*  
*J. W. Bates*

*Inventor:*

*J. Smith*

# United States Patent Office.

JOEL SMITH, OF LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS.

*Letters Patent No. 82,560, dated September 29, 1868.*

## IMPROVED COMB.

*The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.*

### TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, JOEL SMITH, of Leominster, county of Worcester, and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Combs for the Human Hair; and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, of which—

Figure 1 represents an elevation of my invention.

Figure 2, an end view.

Figure 3, an enlarged section of the horn back.

Figure 4, an enlarged section of the comb, as prepared for reception of the horn back; and

Figure 5, a transverse section of finished comb.

This invention, relating to a novel improvement in horn combs for the human hair, consists of forming a dove-tail tenon on the body of the comb, (see fig. 4,) for reception of a dove-tail-grooved horn back, (see fig. 3,) which is slid on to the body of the comb, embracing the body, and dispensing with the use of screws or rivets in attaching the back to the body of the comb, thus stiffening the back, and giving to the comb a neat and finished appearance, and at much less cost than where metal is used for the purpose.

In the said drawings, A denotes the body of the comb; B B, the teeth; C C, the dove-tail tenon formed on said body. D is the horn back, of which E E is the dove-tail groove in said back, (see fig. 3,) for reception of the dove-tail tenon C C of the body A, by means of which the horn back D (which may be made of wood or any other non-metallic substance, while I prefer horn,) is slid on to and held by the body A, making a close and permanent connection, and without the use of screws, as shown in the drawings.

I am aware that the backs of combs have been provided with metallic covers, and, in like manner, that strips of metal have been inserted in grooves on opposite sides of the back of the comb, and rivets passed through the said strips and the comb, for the purpose of strengthening the comb, but I do not claim such, for the reason that I have found from experience (as a manufacturer) that the expansion and contraction of the brass so employed, and the horn comb itself, were not uniform, causing a slack connection, and tending to form receptacles for dirt, dandruff, and verdigris, while the protruding rivets and brass mounting caught in the hair while using the comb.

These objections to the metallic mounting of horn combs suggested to me the propriety of eschewing the use of metal, and substituting for brass mounting the same material of which the comb itself is made, whereby, the expansion and contraction of the horn back and body of the comb being uniform, a close-fitting and durable connection is obtained, the comb strengthened, much lighter to handle, and presenting a more neat and finished appearance, than where brass or other metal is used for the purpose.

Having described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, as an improved article of manufacture, is—

Attaching a horn back to the body of a horn comb, substantially as and for the purposes described and set forth.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my signature, this 29th day of June, A. D. 1868.

JOEL SMITH.

Witnesses:

C. H. MERRIAM,

J. W. BATES.