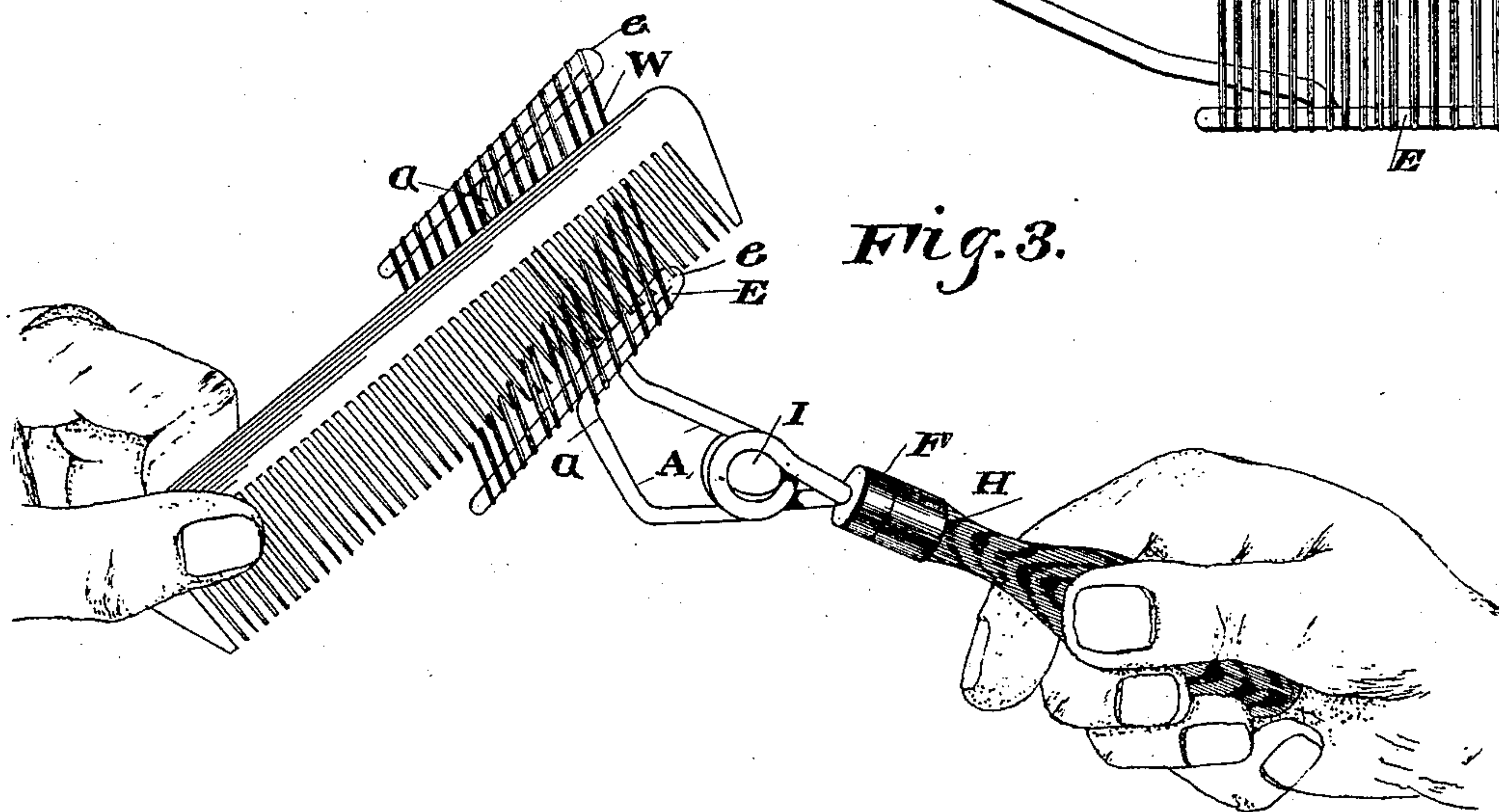
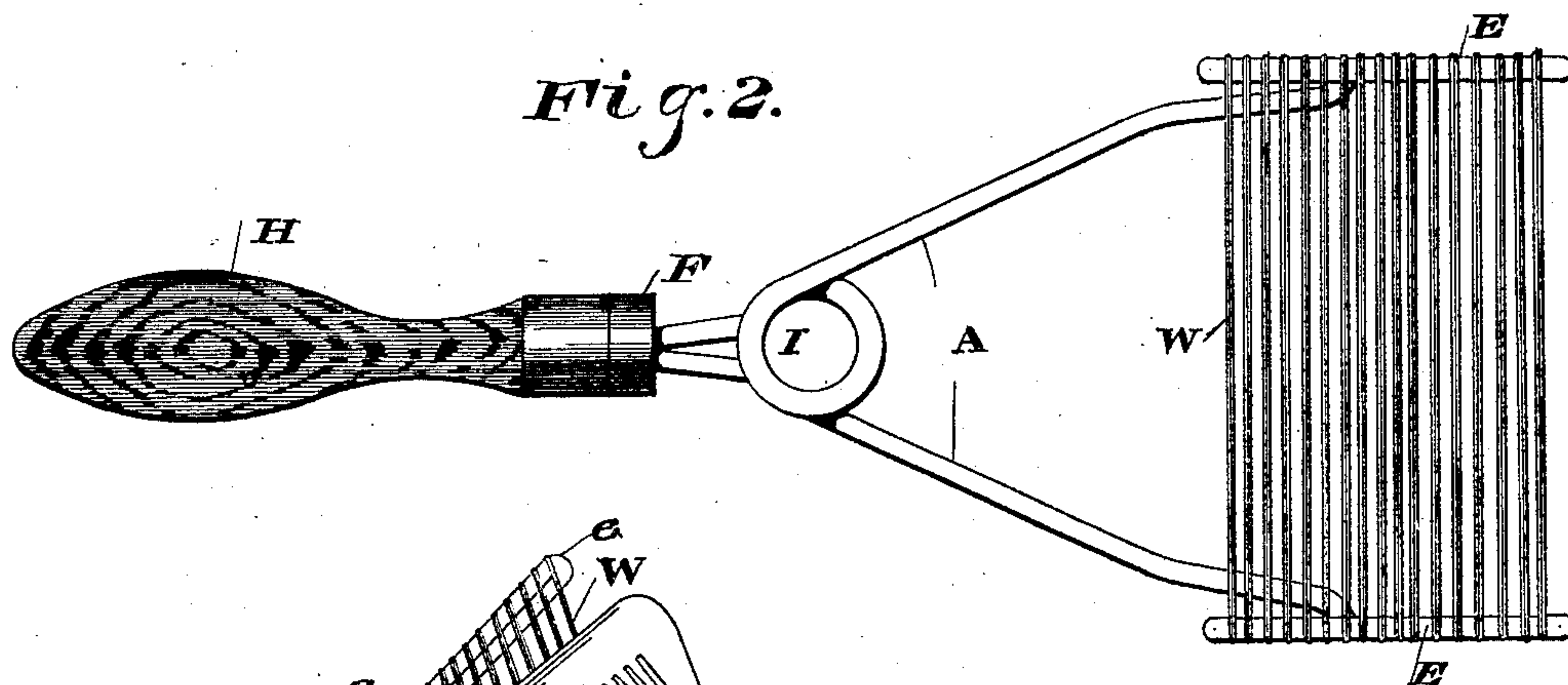
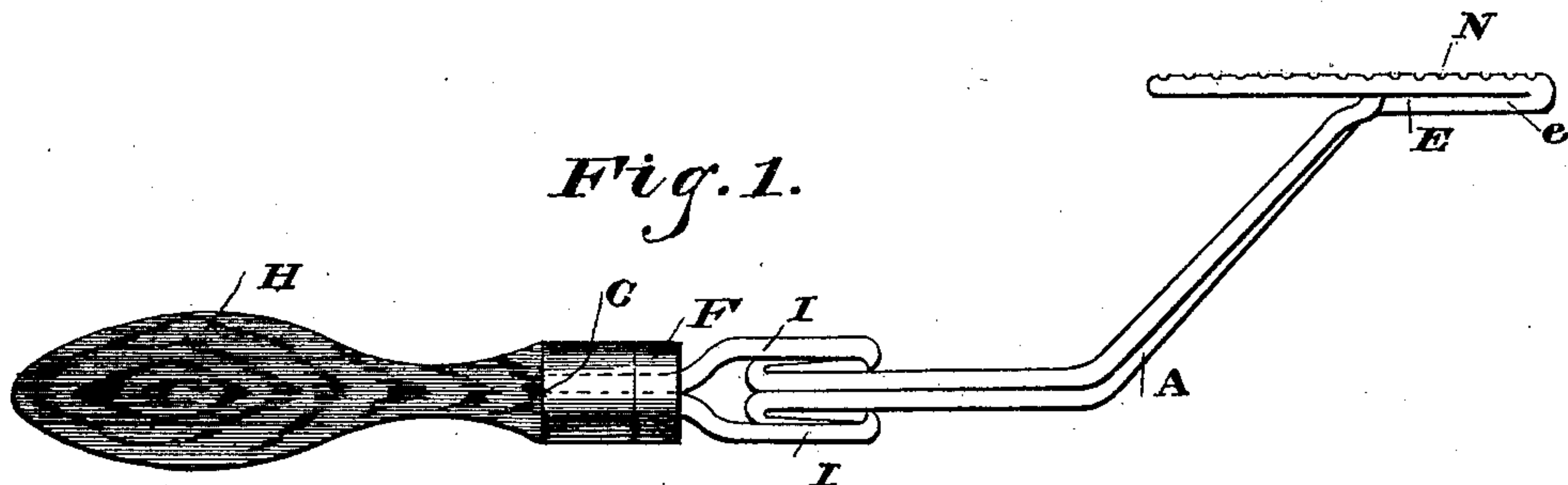


(No Model.)

A. R. EATON.
COMB CLEANER.

No. 452,365.

Patented May 19, 1891.



Witnesses

B. S. Ober

N. J. Collamer

Inventor

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By *her* Attorneys,

Cashow & Co.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALICE ROBERTS EATON, OF LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY.

COMB-CLEANER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 452,365, dated May 19, 1891.

Application filed November 22, 1890. Serial No. 372,317. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALICE ROBERTS EATON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Louisville, in the county of Jefferson and State of Kentucky, have invented a new and useful Comb-Cleaner, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to devices for cleaning combs; and the object of the same is to provide a device of this character possessing certain improvements in the construction and arrangement of parts, all as hereinafter more fully described and claimed, and as illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my improved device before the wires are attached. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same with the wires in position. Fig. 3 is a perspective view showing the device in use.

Referring to the said drawings, the letter H designates a handle, which is preferably of wood and of about the size and shape shown. Into the end of this handle is inserted the bent center of a wire frame-work, which is constructed about as follows: Commencing at one end a straight portion E is provided, which has serrations or notches N along its upper face. Turning at *e*, the wire returns alongside the end piece E to a point *a*, where it bends at right angles and continues in an arm A into a spring coil or eye I, and thence extends into the handle to a point C, which is at the center of the length of wire from which the frame is made. Thence returning alongside its own body it completes the other side of the frame and ends in another end piece E, standing some distance from the first and also provided with serrations or notches. An ordinary ferrule F is placed over the end of the handle around the wire. The latter is of good size and temper and may be nicked, painted, or finished in any other suitable manner.

The letter W designates threads, catguts, ribbons, or wires, but preferably the latter, and these are stretched from one end E to the other seated in the notches N and passed around and secured to the end bars in any suitable manner. The length of each wire W between its points of connection with the end bars E is slightly less than the normal distance between such end bars—that is to

say, the distance which they would spring apart if no wires were there, and hence the several wires draw the ends inward slightly and spring the two parts of the frame toward each other and the outward tendency of the end pieces will impart the desired tension to the wires. The angle *a*, it will be noticed, is at about the center of the end piece, and the arm A leading from said angle is the member of the frame which holds the end piece. Consequently said end piece is in a manner pivotally connected to the arm A, because the latter can twist slightly, as will be clear. For this reason if the wires at one edge of the set are used more than those at the other and they become slightly stretched, the turning of the end pieces around their points of connection *a* with the arms A will cause the wires to be tightened again, and if in the use of the device as hereinafter set forth the comb is applied to the wires nearer one edge of the set than the other those wires will be found to have the same tension as any in the set.

In use a comb is held in one hand and my improved cleaning device in the other, as shown in Fig. 3. The wires W are passed between the teeth of the comb and the latter moved from end to end of the bank of wires, and also raised and lowered, so that the wires shall move up and down between the teeth. In this manner any extraneous matters—such as dandruff, gummed by natural or artificial hair-oil—which may have become lodged between or upon the teeth of the comb will be removed.

What is claimed as new is—

1. In a device of the character described, the combination, with a stiff wire frame doubled at its center, as at C, thence extending into two spring-eyes I, thence into two diverging arms A, which are bent at right angles, as at *a*, and again upon their own bodies, as at *e*, and terminating in end pieces E with their centers over said angles *a*, of wires connecting said end pieces and standing parallel with each other, the lengths of the wires being less than the normal distance between the end pieces, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The herein-described comb-cleaning device, the same comprising a handle H, a stiff wire frame doubled at its center, as at C, and inserted in said handle, thence extending into

two diverging arms A, which are bent at right angles, as at *a*, and again upon their own bodies, as at *e*, and terminating in two end pieces E with their centers over said angles *a*,
5 their outer faces being notched, as at N, and tightly-stretched wires W, connecting the end pieces and seated in said notches, all as and for the purpose hereinbefore set forth.

3. In a device of the character described,
10 the combination, with a stiff wire frame doubled at its center, thence in two diverging arms A, which are bent upon their own bodies, as at *e*, and terminating in end pieces E, of

wires connecting said end pieces and standing parallel with each other, the lengths of 15 the wires being less than the normal distance between the end pieces, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature 20 in presence of two witnesses.

ALICE ROBERTS EATON.

Witnesses:

LYMAN L. PARKS,
HARRY CLAIRE.