No. 685,868. Patented Nov. 5, 1901.

J. L. REAVIS.

PLASTER BITE PLATE.

(Application filed Dec. 26, 1900.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 2.

Fig. 1.

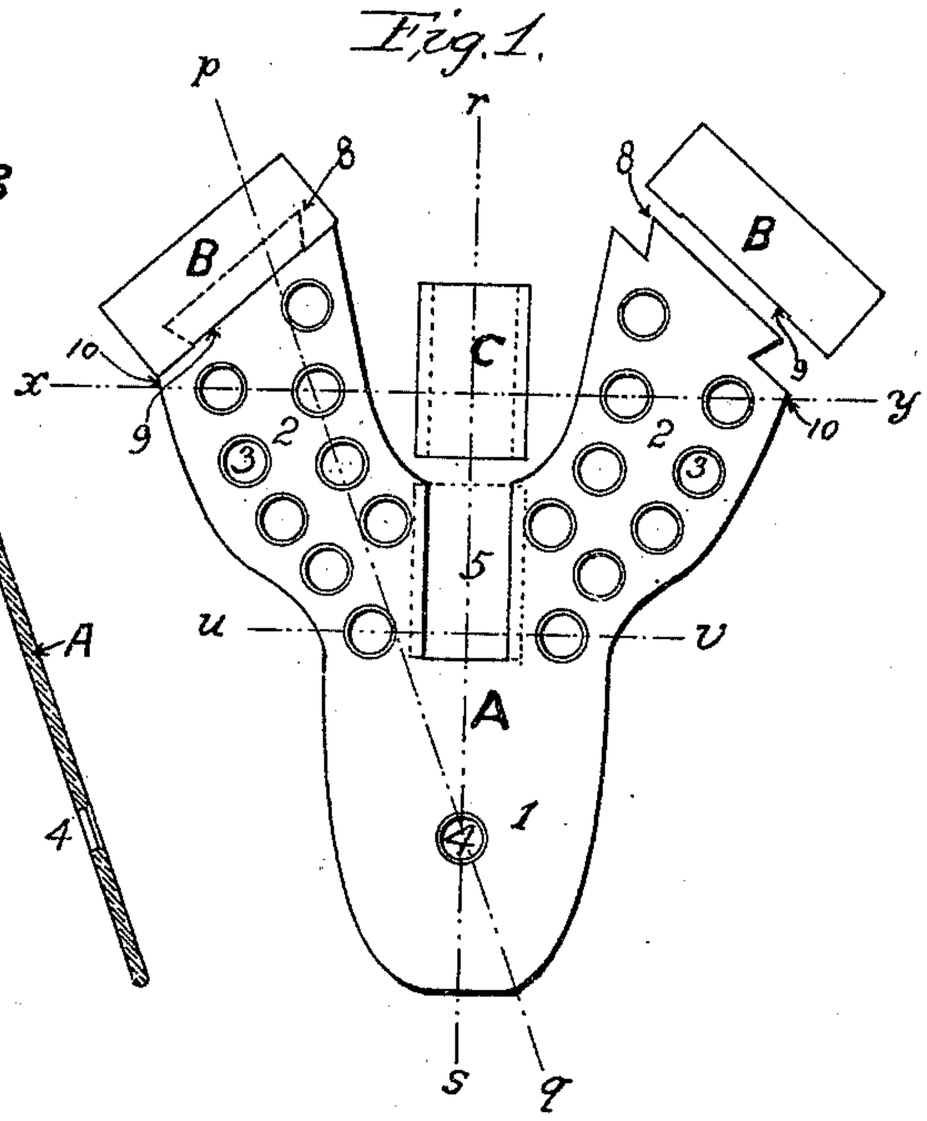


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

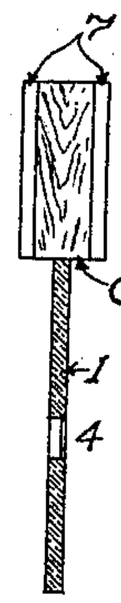
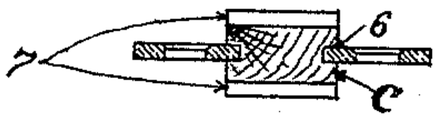


Fig. 5.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES LEE REAVIS, OF LAGRANDE, OREGON.

PLASTER BITE-PLATE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 685,868, dated November 5, 1901.

Application filed December 26, 1900. Serial No. 41,131. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES LEE REAVIS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lagrande, in the county of Union and State of Oregon, have invented a Plaster Bite-Plate, of which the following is a specification.

Figure 1 is a plan view of the completed device. Fig. 2 shows two sections on the line *x y* of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 shows a diagonal section on the line *p* and *q* of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 shows a section through A and C on line *r* and *s* of Fig. 1. Fig. 5 is a section on line *u v* of Fig. 1.

This invention involves a new method of getting the relation of the human jaws to each other in dental plate-work, commonly termed among dentists as "getting the bite."

The bite-plate above referred to is designed to hold a mixture of plaster-of-paris in water of the same consistency with which impressions are taken for dental platework, and has for its object a bite in which models of the human jaws may be placed and held in correct relation to each other while being attached to what is known among dentists as the "dental articulator."

The bite-plate and combinations consist of three parts, as indicated in the drawings by A B C. A is made of brass plate, gage 15 of standard American gage. It has a handle 1 and body 2, which are cut on a similar plane and circle to lower impression-cups which are familiar to all dentists. The body 2 is perforated with holes to hold the plaster more tenaciously to the body 2. Hole 4 in handle 1 is simply for appearance and convenience in hanging the instrument when not in use.

5 indicates a cut in the anterior portion of the body 2 from its posterior surface forward to the junction of the handle 1 with the body 2 to admit block C being placed in position. The block C is made of wood or metal slightly grooved 6, where held in the jaws bounding 5. Several blocks C of different thickness are required to be kept in stock, from which to choose according to the length of the bite, to be determined in each individual case by the practitioner. The block C should be selected one-eighth of an inch less in thickness than the length of bite desired. Then seal sheet-wax 7 on each side of block C to increase it to proper thickness. Now slide block C into its position in slot 5.

Each end 8 of the body 2 of bite-plate is so cut in shape as to hold rubber tube B, which is slit at 9 and stretched over said end. The rubber tubes B are also to be kept in stock of different sizes in diameter to correspond with the different lengths of bite, as indicated by blocks C, and correspond in length with width of bite-plate, as seen at 10. Place rubber tubes B in position on the part represented by 8, and the bite-plate with combined parts is ready for use. In its use it is applicable in securing the bite for full upper and lower dentures or in cases of teeth in one jaw and edentalous in the other.

After combining A B C mix plaster-of-paris in water to the same consistency as used in taking impressions and pour on each side of the plate 2 until the plaster piles a little higher than block C and tubes B. Insert the plate in the mouth in the same manner you would an impression-cup and instruct the patient to close the jaws. The gums or gums and teeth, as the case may be, will hold the plate firmly in position by clasping block C and tubes B. When the plaster has set, take the bite-plate from the mouth and remove tubes B and the sheet-wax 7 from block C. Trim the plaster on both sides of plate until but a slight groove isleft, showing the imprint of the teeth or gums, as the case may be. If the bite taken is for full upper and lower dentures, place the models of the human jaws in the grooves above alluded to and attach the models while in this position to the dental articulator. If the bite is for one denture, pour the model on the side of the bite which gives the imprint of the teeth. Place the model in position on the other side. Attach the two to the dental articulator and remove the bite. It has fulfilled its mission.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

In a plaster bite-plate the combination of the plate A, the block C connected therewith, and the elastic tubes B removably secured to inner ends of the plate as, and for the purpose, set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JAMES LEE REAVIS.

Witnesses:
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C. H. FINN.