

No. 740,586.

PATENTED OCT. 6, 1903.

J. A. OHLSSON.  
TOOTHPICK.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 1, 1902.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

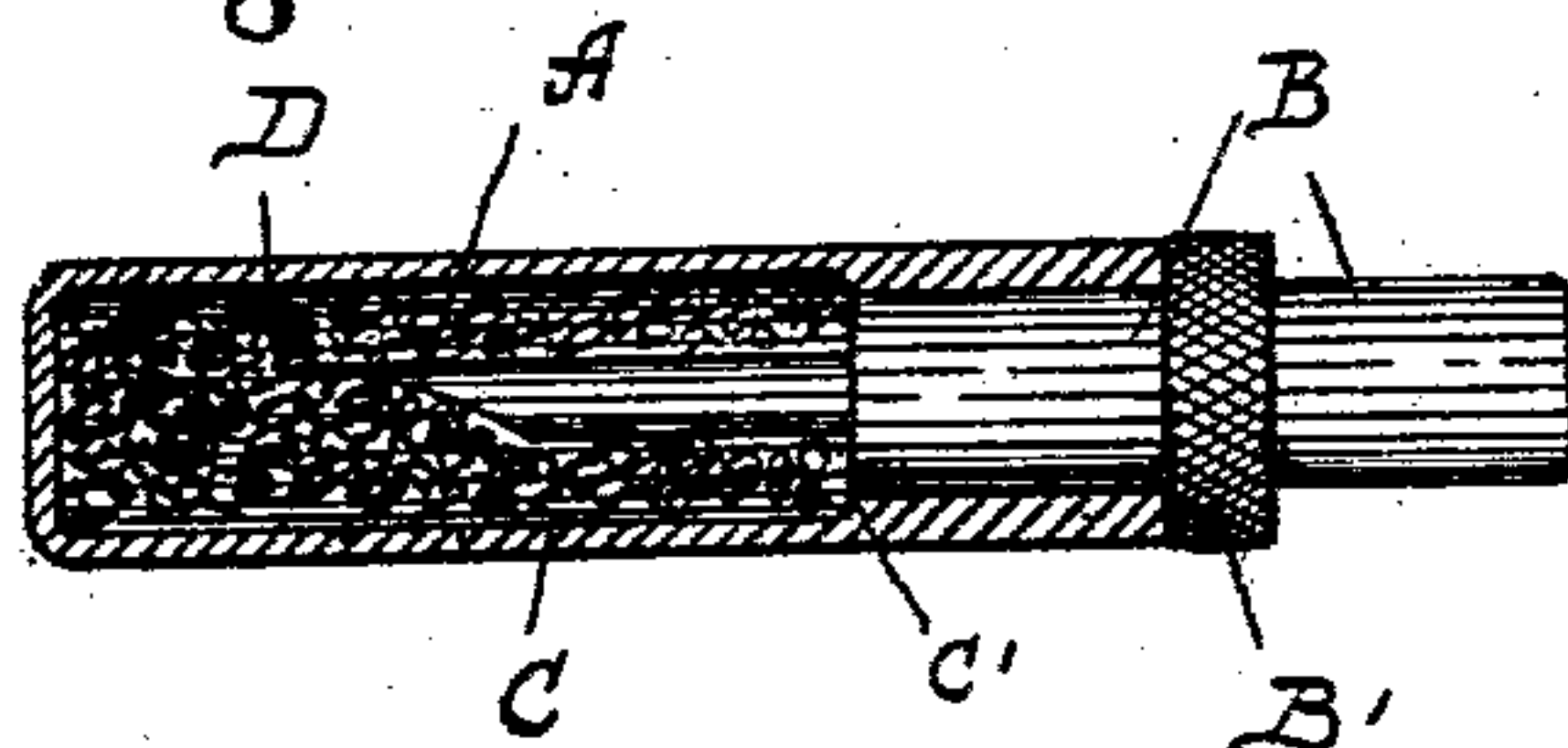
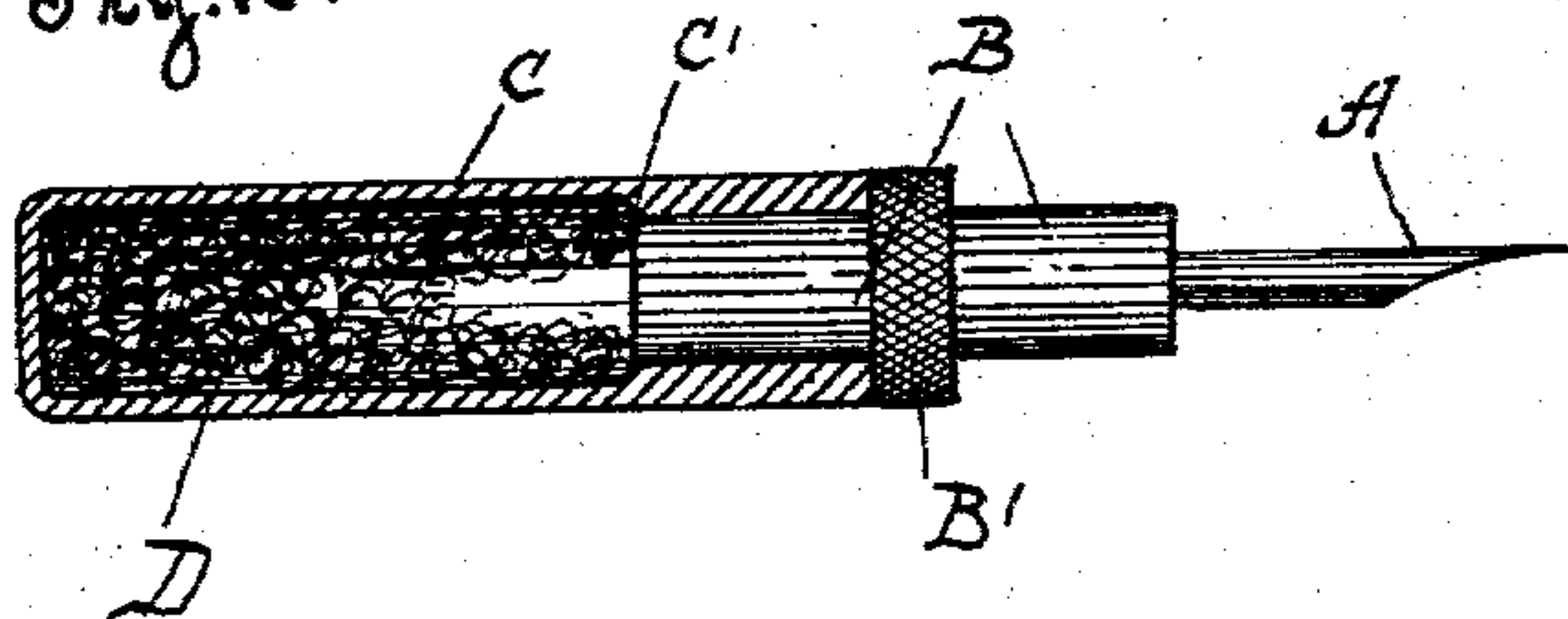


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:  
Rudolph Norwald.  
Leo G. Stebbins

Inventor:-  
Johan Abraham Ohlsson  
by *[Signature]*  
Attorney

## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHAN ABRAHAM OHLSSON, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

## TOOTH PICK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 740,586, dated October 6, 1903.

Application filed August 1, 1902. Serial No. 117,941. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHAN ABRAHAM OHLSSON, a subject of the King of Sweden and Norway, and a resident of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Toothpicks, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to toothpicks; and the object of the present improvement is to provide a toothpick in which the tip may readily be disinfected and kept in a pure condition while not in use. With this object in view I provide the toothpick proper with a cap adapted to hold a sponge saturated with a suitable antiseptic and with which the tip of the toothpick comes in contact.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a sectional view of my improved toothpick as it appears in a closed condition. Fig. 2 is a side elevation as it appears ready for use.

Similar letters refer to similar parts in both views.

A represents the pointed stem or toothpick proper. While I prefer to make this stem of a quill, any other suitable material or form of picking implement may be used. The lower portion of the stem is provided with a reversible plug B, adapted to engage by frictional contact the open end portion of the cap or antiseptic-sponge holder C, hereinafter mentioned. In order to provide a perfect joint between the plug and the sponge-holder, I provide the central portion of the plug above referred to with a flange B'. The outer edge of this flange is preferably roughened or serrated for the purpose of obtaining a good grip for the fingers in pulling out the plug.

C represents a barrel or tubular body closed at one end and adapted to hold a sponge D, of absorbent cotton, saturated with an antiseptic

liquid. Into this barrel the stem of the toothpick is adapted to be inserted, the point of the stem coming in contact with the sponge, the barrel forming at the same time a casing for the stem.

In order to render the frictional engagement of the plug and the barrel more perfect, the bore of the barrel is reduced at its open end. This also provides a shoulder C' on the inner side of the barrel, which serves as a retaining-wall for the sponge and prevents the same from being accidentally pulled out with the stem or pick.

In using the toothpick the plug, with the stem, is withdrawn from the cap or barrel and reversed, the free or outer end portion of the plug being inserted in the cap, which thus serves as a handle for the toothpick or stem.

I do not desire to limit myself to the particular construction herein shown and described, as I am aware that some changes may be made therein without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention.

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

A toothpick comprising a casing open at one end and closed at the other end, a medicated antiseptic substance contained in the said casing, a picking implement having oppositely-extending bosses adapted to fit within said casing, the open end of said casing having a reduced bore extending inwardly to the approximate center thereof providing an annular shoulder for retaining the antiseptic substance in the casing and also an effective bearing-surface for the said bosses of the picking implement.

JOHAN ABRAHAM OHLSSON.

Witnesses:

C. J. LUNDSTROM,  
HENRY CHENEY.