

No. 885,196.

PATENTED APR. 21, 1908.

C. P. STEIL.  
ANTISNORING SHIELD.  
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 8, 1906.

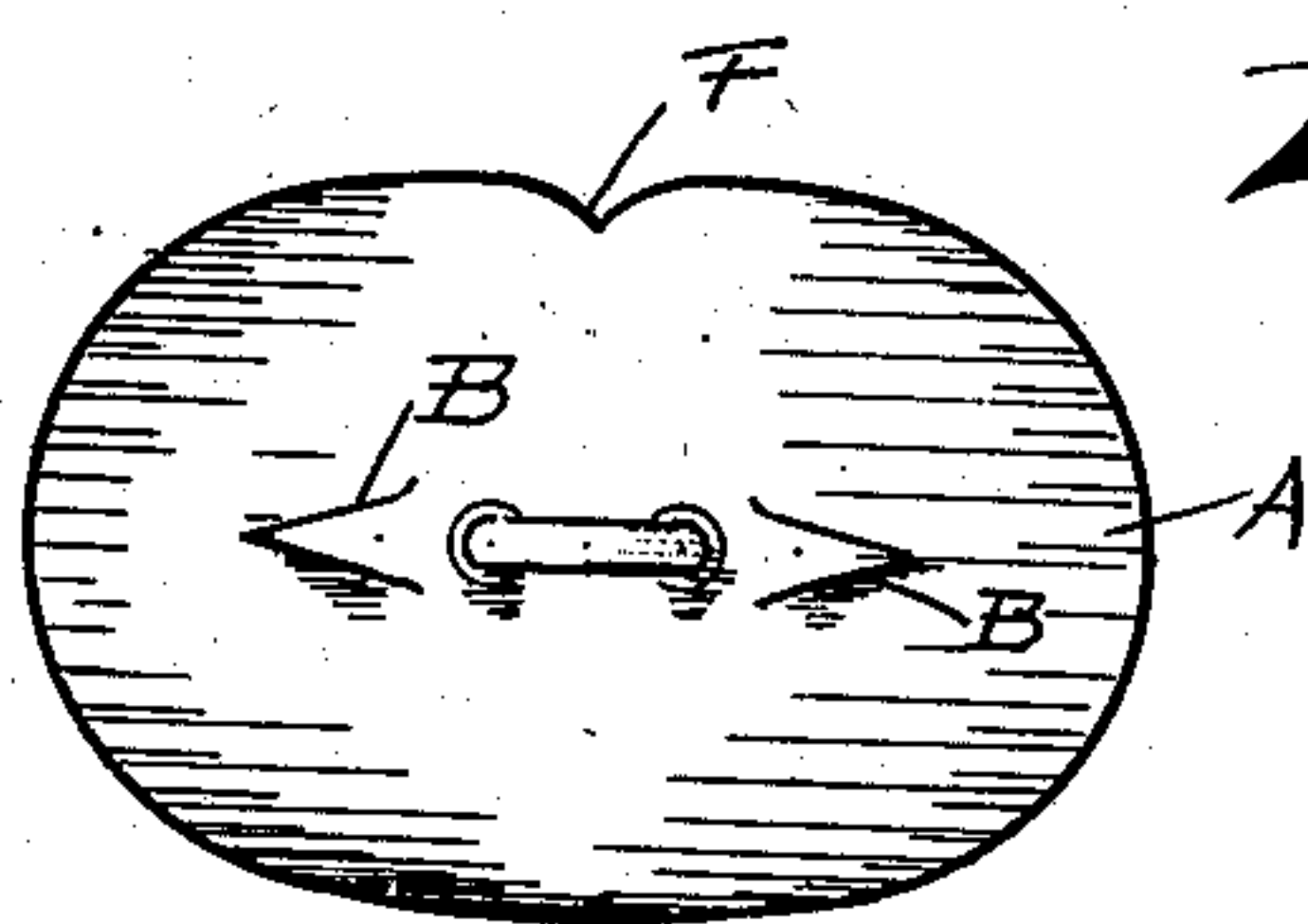


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

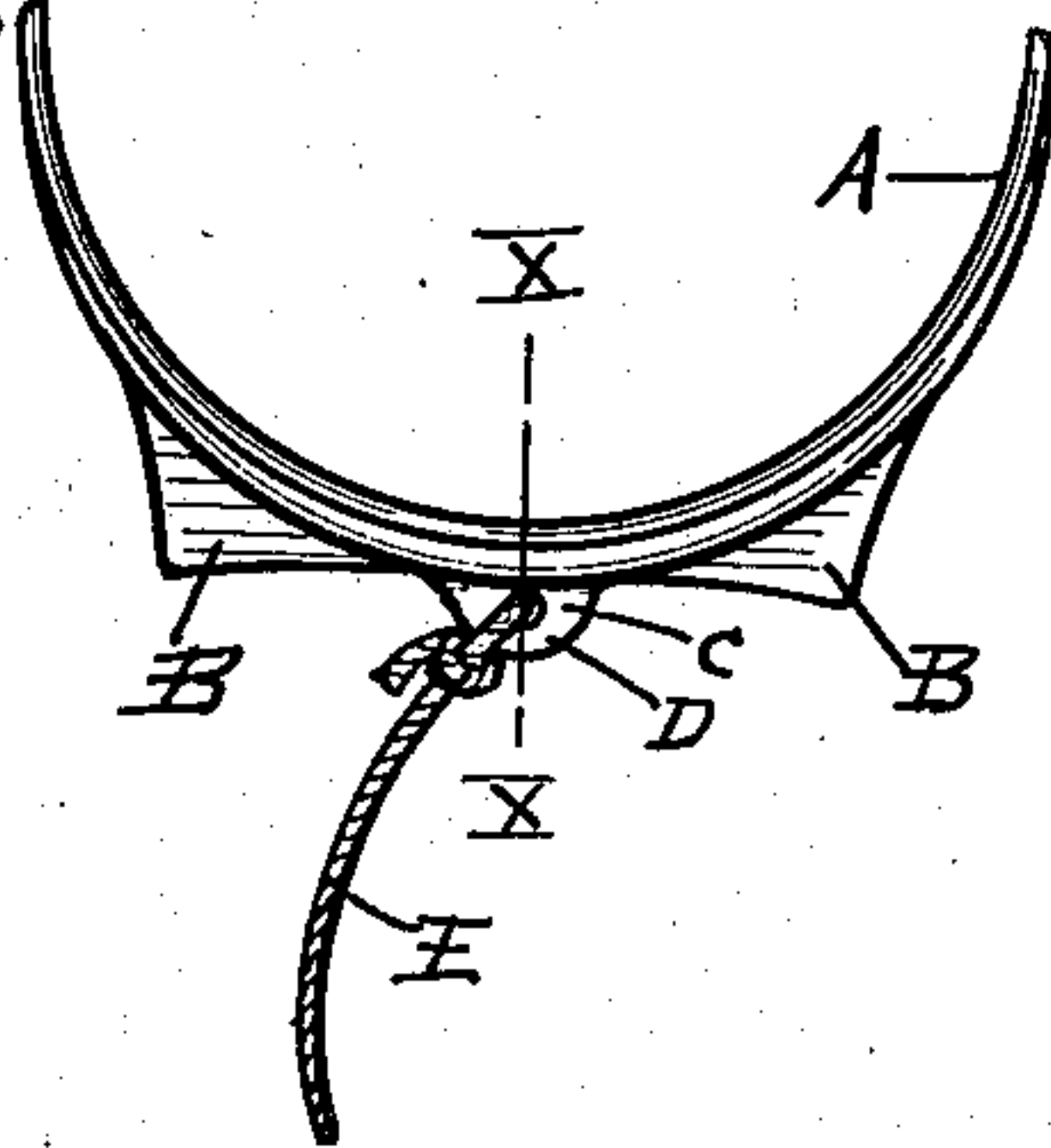


Fig. 3.

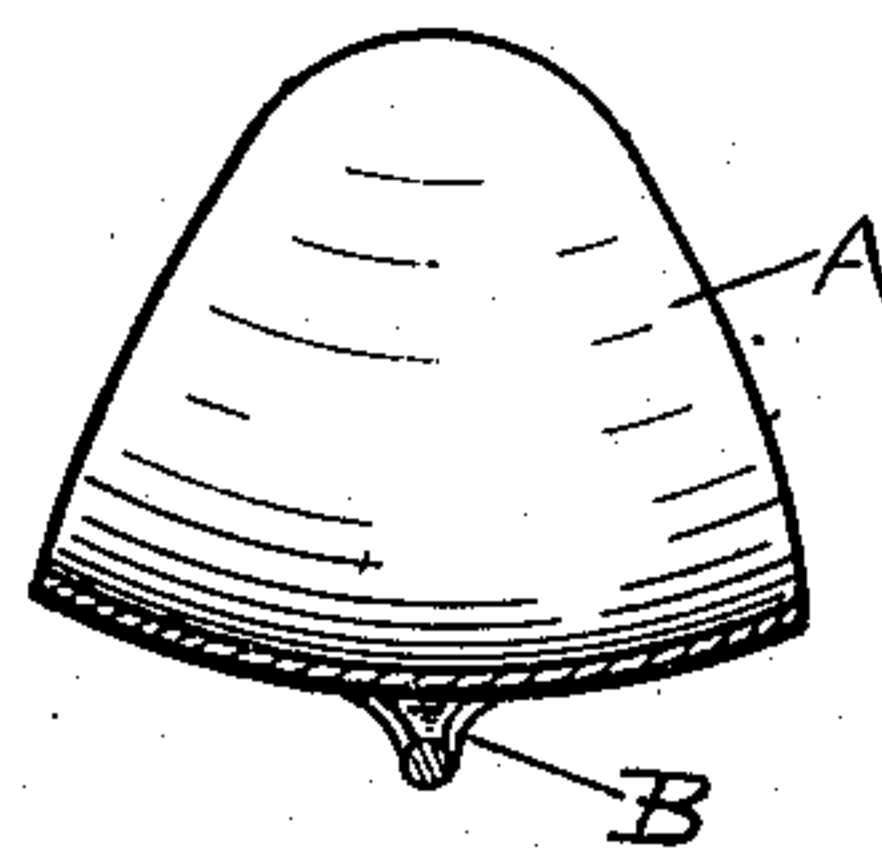
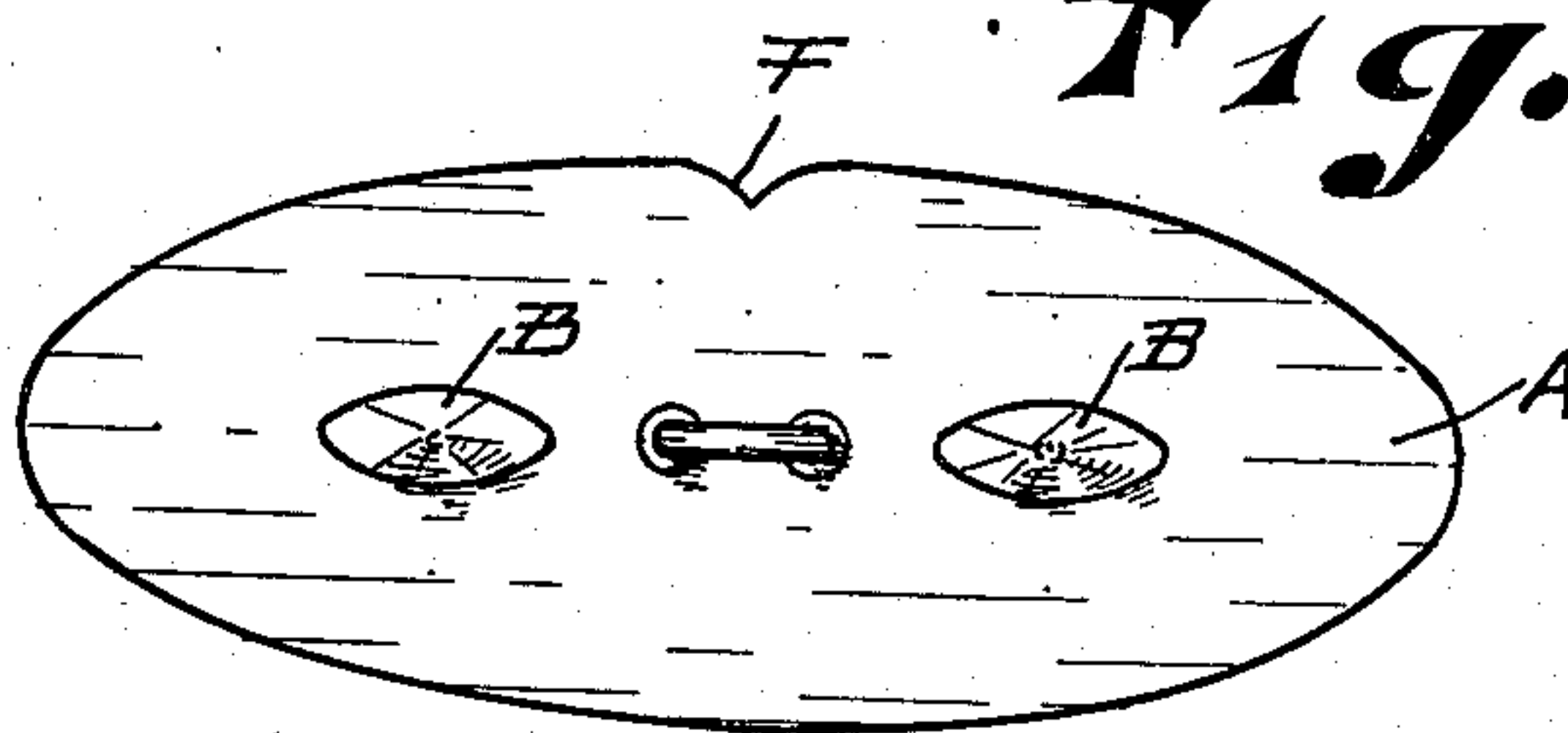


Fig. 4.



Fig. 5.



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES P. STEIL, OF MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN, ASSIGNOR TO HENRY STEIL, OF MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN.

## ANTISNORING-SHIELD.

No. 885,196.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented April 21, 1908.

Application filed October 8, 1906. Serial No. 337,898.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES P. STEIL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Milwaukee, county of Milwaukee, and State of Wisconsin, have invented new and useful Improvements in Antisnoring-Shields, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements more in anti-snoring shields.

10 The general object of devices of this character is not only to prevent snoring but to promote a habit of breathing through the nostrils, but while the desirability of the result sought has long been recognized and various means devised and patented with a view of its attainment, yet none of the devices heretofore devised have gone into general use and none are to be found on the market.

20 The specific object of my invention is to provide a simple and inexpensive device which will not irritate the surfaces with which it contacts and which will be securely held in place, by retaining projections, which will prevent the edges of the device from coming in contact with the delicate surfaces of the lip controlling membranes and cords and which will not interfere in any way with the comfort of the user. Also to provide simple means for supporting the device from the person of the user independently of the means for retaining it in position of use, so that it can be readily relocated in case it should be removed from the mouth in the nighttime.

35 In the following description reference is had to the accompanying drawings, in which,

Figure 1 is a view of my invention as seen from the outer side. Fig. 2 is an edge view of the same. Fig. 3 is a sectional view drawn on line  $x-x$  of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a cross sectional view of one of the prongs. Fig. 5 is a view similar to that given in Fig. 1 but developed to show the device as it would appear if flattened.

45 Like parts are identified by the same reference characters throughout the several views.

The device comprises a shield A of a generally oval contour and bent in the form of an arch (Fig. 2) to fit the jaws of the patient or user. On its outer surface it is provided with tapered radially projecting prongs B

having flattened sides and arranged to project divergently from the plate in a position to extend between the lips at or near the corners of the mouth of the user.

55 The prongs are oval in cross section with the longer diameter extending longitudinally. Between these prongs there is a central flattened projection C provided with an eye D to which a cord E may be secured and passed around the neck of the user. By this means the device can be readily regained if removed when in the dark. The upper margin of the shield A is provided with a notch F whereby it may be snugly fitted to the space between the lips and teeth without irritating the central cord of the upper lip. The device is preferably formed of vulcanized rubber. It may be made either rigid or flexible. The prongs B, however, are preferably rigid. These prongs do not extend over the outer surfaces of the lips, but merely project radially, and therefore cause no irritation whatever. Owing to their tapered and rounded surfaces they cause no irritation at the corners of the mouth, while their flattened sides permit them to extend between the lips without pushing the lips out of their natural position. Their position at or near the corners of the mouth enables them to control the position of the shield and prevent it from shifting into edge contact with the delicate tissues in the angle formed by the lips and gums. The peculiar form of the prongs is of the utmost importance to the success of the device since any irritation caused by the shifting of the shield or the rubbing contact or binding pressure of retaining devices on the outer surfaces of the lips or the beard of the user, will disturb the sleep, and cause the user to resort to efforts more or less conscious in character, to remove the device.

95 Having thus described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

100 In a device of the class described, an arched plate of a generally oval contour, provided with flattened tapered prongs projecting radially from the outer surface of the plate, and adapted to extend between the lips near the corners of the mouth of the user; said prongs being in the form of flat-

tened cones adapted for contact with the lips only at the points where they pass between them and having their extremities substantially in a radial plane extending through the opening between the lips of the user and terminating in rounded points substantially at the outer surface of the lips.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

CHARLES P. STEIL.

Witnesses:

LEVERETT C. WHEELER,  
HENRY STEIL.