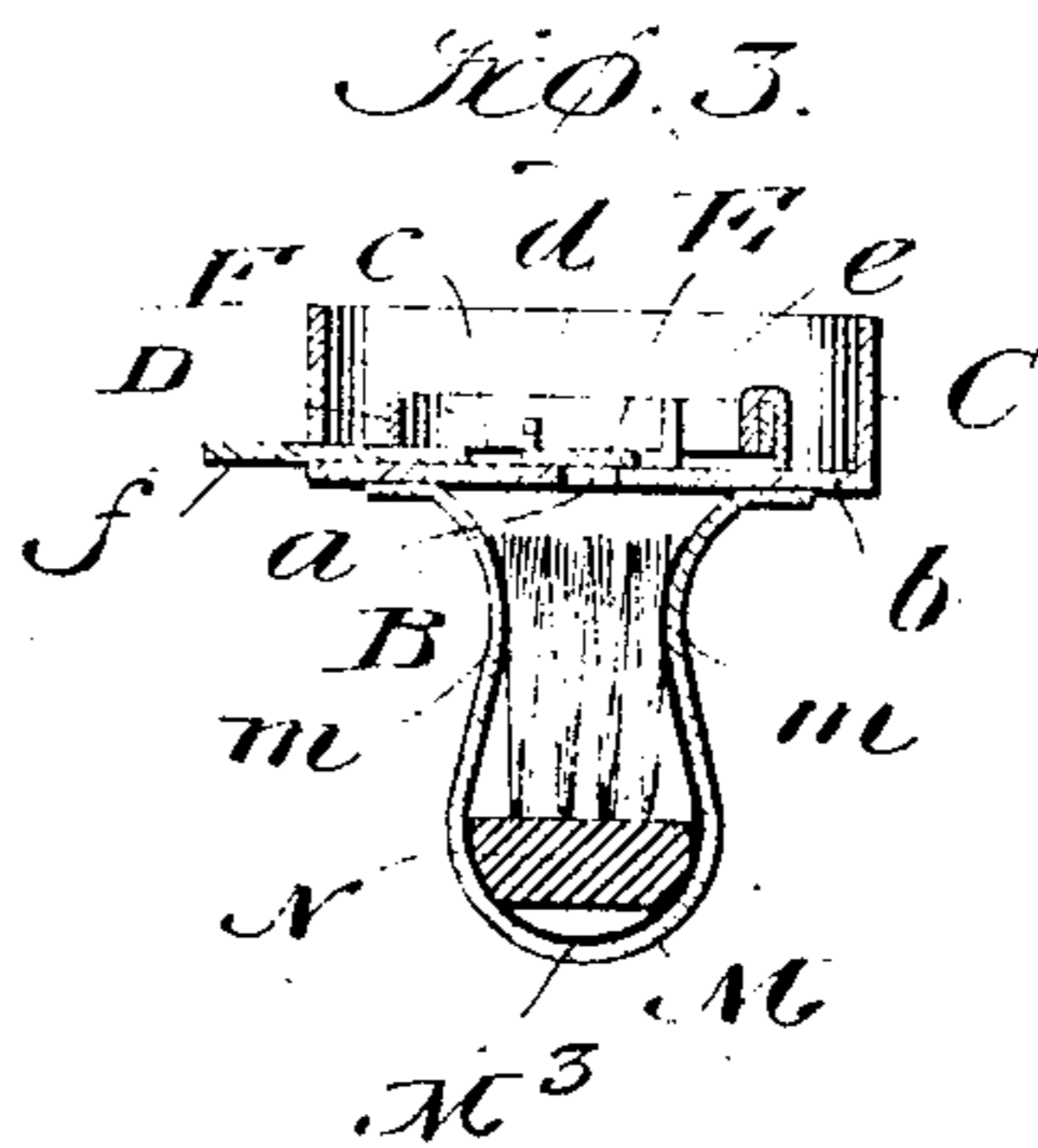
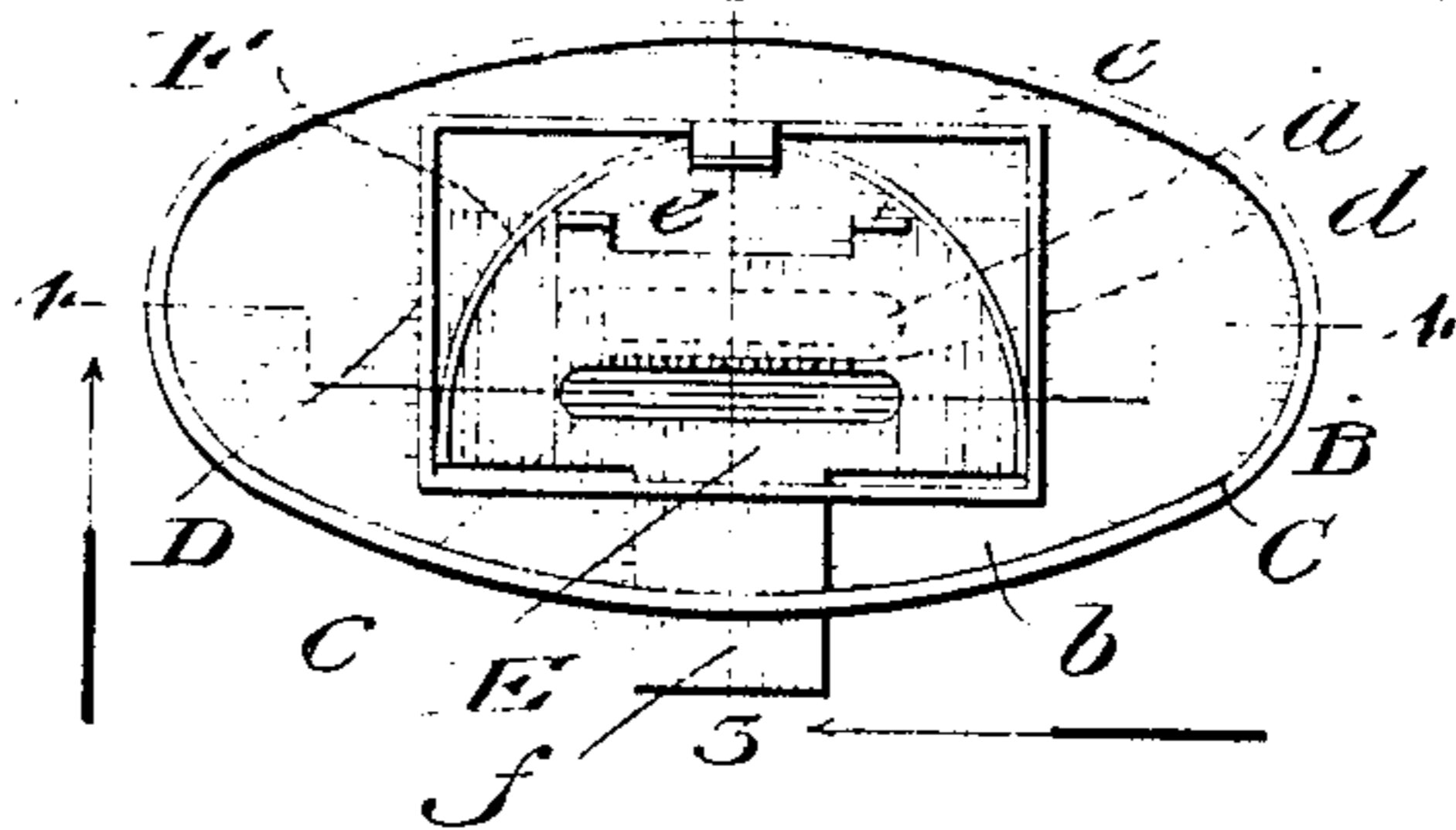


APPLICATION FILED NOV. 10, 1908.

Patented Aug. 31, 1909.



Witnesses:

Mr. C. Dealy

J. M. Polia - Inventor.
by James Phelan - Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN MARTIN TOBIN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

ATTACHMENT FOR TOOTH-POWDER RECEPTACLES.

932,833.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 31, 1909.

Application filed November 10, 1908. Serial No. 461,950.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN MARTIN TOBIN, citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Attachments for Tooth-Powder Receptacles, of which the following is a specification.

My invention pertains to tooth-powder boxes; and it contemplates the provision of simple, inexpensive and efficient means, designed to be used in connection with a tooth-powder box for guiding to position and holding a tooth brush and delivering powder in proper quantity thereto, and this without liability of the powder being spilled and wasted, and also without liability of the powder being moistened and deteriorated by the brush when the latter is wet or damp.

With the foregoing in view, the invention will be fully understood from the following description and claim when the same are read in connection with the drawings, accompanying and forming part of this specification, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing in inverted position a tooth-powder box equipped with a device constituting a practical embodiment of my invention, and also showing a tooth brush in proper position in the guide and holder of the device. Fig. 2 is a plan view showing my improvements in the form of an attachment adapted to be placed over the mouths of and used on a number of tooth-powder boxes in succession. Fig. 3 is a transverse section, taken in the plane indicated by the line 3—3 of Fig. 2, looking in the direction of the arrow on said line, and showing a brush in the guide and holder. Fig. 4 is a section taken in the plane indicated by the line 4—4 of Fig. 2, looking in the direction of the arrow on said line and showing the brush in side elevation.

Similar letters designate corresponding parts in all of the views of the drawings, referring to which:

A is a tooth-powder box which may be made of the elliptical shape illustrated or of any other shape desired in cross-section, and B is my novel means, as a whole. The said means may, without involving departure from the scope of my claimed invention, be arranged relative to the box and permanently or detachably connected therewith in any manner consonant with the purpose of said invention. I prefer, however, to

make the said means in the form of an attachment adapted to receive and be held by frictional contact on the open end or mouth of a tooth-powder box, this being of material advantage inasmuch as it renders my improved means capable of being used in succession on an indefinite number of tooth-powder boxes.

As illustrated my novel means B for the purpose stated comprises a body C of a shape and size to snugly receive and be held by frictional contact on the mouth or open end of the box A, and having a discharge opening *a* in its horizontal wall *b*, an open frame D fixed on the upper or inner side of said wall *b*, a horizontally slidable valve E movable on the wall *b* and in the frame D and having an opening *c* and a toothed flange *d* extending upwardly at one side thereof, and also having upwardly extending projections *e* and a finger-piece *f*, a bowed spring F connected to one bar of the frame D and opposed to the projections *e* of the valve E, and a guide and holder M for the bristle-bearing portion of a tooth brush N, which guide and holder is fixed with respect to and depends from the horizontal wall *b* of the body C. The spring F serves to return the valve E to and yieldingly hold the same in the position shown in Fig. 2—i. e., in a position to prevent escape of powder through the opening *a* in the wall *b*, but it will be readily understood that when inward pressure is exerted on the finger-piece *f* and the valve E is moved, against the action of the spring F, to put the opening *c* of the valve in registration with the opening *a* in the wall *b*, powder is free to pass from the box. It will also be understood that incidental to the said movement of the valve against the action of the spring, the toothed flange *d* of the valve will agitate or put the powder in motion, and in that way will assure the passage of a proper quantity of powder through the openings when the same are registered. This latter will be appreciated as an important advantage when it is remembered that tooth powder under some conditions becomes damp, and in the absence of the toothed flange *d* which is moved through it, would be liable to clog above the registered openings of my novel means.

The brush guide and holder M may be open at one or both ends, preferably the latter, and is of the shape illustrated in cross-section—that is to say, is of loop-form with

its side walls deflected inwardly at an intermediate point of their height, as indicated by *m*. This latter will be appreciated as a desirable feature of my invention when it is
 5 noted by reference to Fig. 3 that said feature prevents the bristles of the brush contacting with the wall *b* of the body *A* and in that way precludes dampening and deterioration of the powder in the box when the bristles of
 10 the brush are wet or moist.

In the practical use of my improvements, the bristle-bearing portion of the tooth-brush is placed in the guide and holder *M* with its bristles opposed to the wall *b*, in which
 15 position it will be retained by the guide and holder. Then while holding the box, the user presses the valve *E* inwardly against the action of the spring *F* so as to register the aperture *c* with the aperture *a*, where-
 20 upon a certain quantity of powder will be deposited upon the bristles of the brush and in such manner that none of the powder is spilled and wasted. Subsequently to the supply of powder to the bristles of the brush,
 25 the valve is relieved of pressure when the spring *F* will operate to return the valve to its normal position and thereby cut off the supply of powder. With this done the brush is withdrawn from the guide and
 30 holder and is used in the usual manner.

I prefer in practice to make all of the elements of my novel means of sheet-metal, and in order to prevent the guide and holder *M* from contacting with and discoloring the
 35 head and bristles of the tooth brush I preferably provide the guide and holder *M* with a lining *M*³, of soft, textile or other suitable material, as shown in Fig. 3. By virtue of the provision of the said lining discolora-
 40 tion of the brush head and bristles is obviated, and the brush is always ready to be

placed in the mouth after being removed from the holder and guide *M*.

The embodiment of my invention herein shown and described is, from a practical
 45 standpoint the best of which I am cognizant, but it is obvious that in the future practice of the invention such changes or modifications may be made as fairly fall within the scope of my invention as defined in the
 50 claim appended.

Having described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters-Patent, is:

The combination of a tooth-powder box, a
 55 wall closing the lower end of the box and having an opening for the downward passage of powder, a normally-closed, spring pressed valve controlling said opening and having a finger-piece extending laterally
 60 from one side of the box, and a depending brush guide and holder, of loop form in cross-section, arranged below the opening in the wall and having its longitudinal edges permanently connected through their length
 65 to the underside of the wall, at opposite sides of said opening, and also having its side walls curved inwardly at an intermediate point of their height, the lower or
 70 bight portion of the guide and holder is adapted to receive the bristle-bearing portion of a tooth brush and prevent upward movement of said portion for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set
 75 my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN MARTIN TOBIN.

Witnesses:

GEO. A. KROENER, JR.,
 BERTHA K. TOBIN.