

G. W. THOMAS.

CHIN MASK.

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955,562.

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CHIN-MASK.

955,562.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Apr. 19, 1910.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GERTRUDE W. THOMAS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Baltimore, in the State of Maryland, have invented certain Improvements in Chin-Masks, of which the following is a specification.

This invention is an improvement in masks or facial bandages, and relates more especially to that class of such devices which are designed for application to the chin for the purpose of removing certain defects.

The primary object of my invention is to provide a mask or bandage which will be effective in remedying the facial defect commonly known as a double-chin, by supporting the neck and retaining the bodily heats so as to induce perspiration and stimulate the affected parts.

A further object of my invention is to provide a form of facial bandage or chin-mask which will prevent the sagging and drooping of the mouth, as well as obliterate lines or wrinkles.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will hereinafter appear, and what I claim as new in the art, and desire to secure by Letters-Patent, is more specifically set forth in the appended claim.

In the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification: Figure 1 is a perspective view, illustrating the application of my improved chin-mask. Fig. 2 is a detail perspective view of the improved chin-mask, and Fig. 3 is a similar view, illustrating a modification.

Like numerals of reference indicate like parts in all the figures of the drawings.

In carrying out my invention I may construct the device in a single piece and of the same material throughout. This preferred form of construction is shown in Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings, and in this instance the material which I employ is rubber, on account of its effective and remedial qualities, hereinafter specified.

In making up the device as shown in Fig. 2 a plain sheet of rubber is employed, which is molded to provide the wide body portion 5, of a shape approximating the contour of a person's neck and chin, the cooperating neck straps 6, 6, extending from the ends thereof, and the cooperating head straps 7, 7, extending from the upper edges of said body portion at the juncture of the neck straps therewith, that part of the body por-

tion which receives the chin being in the form of a pocket 5^a.

For the purpose of connecting the head and neck straps I employ in each instance what are commonly known as glove-fasteners, of the ball and socket type: the ball, as 8, being attached to the outer end of one strap and the socket, as 9, attached to the outer end of the other or companion strap. Adjustment of the straps is provided for by having several spaced apart balls 8, with any one of which a single cooperating socket 9 is adapted to engage, and to insure a reasonably close yet non-binding fit of the mask the neck straps are made comparatively wide and provided with a pair of fastening devices, as shown.

As will be noted there is a particular advantage in employing a series of the fastening devices described, for that they permit of the device being readily and conveniently applied to any size of neck, securely held in place, and very easily removed.

The remaining embodiment of my invention consists in making the body portion and parts of the neck and head straps of stockinet, and in this instance the end portions of the straps 7 may have attached thereto, so as to form continuations thereof, elastic tapes 10, so that the mask itself may be held closely against the chin and neck. This modification therefore consists not only in a change of the material of which the device is made, but also in adding elastic extensions to the otherwise non-elastic end portions, the several parts otherwise being the same shape and construction as heretofore described in connection with Fig. 2 of the drawings. A similar provision of elastic extensions may be made with reference to the neck straps 6, though the latter may be entirely of stockinet.

In applying the device the body portion is placed over the chin and throat or neck, the straps 6 6 passed around the back part of the neck and fastened, and then the straps 7 brought over the top of the head and fastened, said latter straps passing up at opposite sides of the head in front of the ears. When the device is made entirely of rubber it is very effective in removing the facial defect known as double-chin, inasmuch as the mask binds closely against the chin and throat or neck, and by effectually excluding air from these parts confines the body heat and produces profuse perspiration, which

results in stimulating the affected parts so that they will resume their normal condition. A dash of cold water after such application of the device closes the pores and prevents the likelihood of colds. In using this device it is not necessary to keep the head and lower jaw in one position, as the yielding rubber mask remains in intimate contact with the chin and throat or neck during movement of the head, as well as during the motions of the lower jaw, as in talking or eating; thus the device may be worn at any time, night or day, without inconvenience and with equal effect.

Practically the same results are attained by making the device of stockinet, as indicated in Fig. 3 of the drawings, but in this instance it cannot be made quite as cheaply and does not remain at all times in intimate engagement to the same extent it does when rubber is used. In fact the device when made of stockinet is mainly used during the sleeping hours, and for the purpose of keep-

ing the mouth closed and forcing the wearer to breathe through the nostrils, thus preventing snoring and labored breathing.

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

A chin-mask for the purposes set forth, comprising a single piece of molded sheet rubber shaped to provide a body portion having a pocket 5*, neck straps 6 6 at the ends of said body portion, and head straps 7 7 extending from the upper edges of the body portion; together with ball and socket fastening devices attached to the ends of the straps for connecting the same, respectively, substantially as shown and described.

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

GERTRUDE W. THOMAS.

Witnesses:

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