

J. J. WITMAN.  
TOOTH BRUSH.  
APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 12, 1910.

993,629.

Patented May 30, 1911.

FIG. 1.

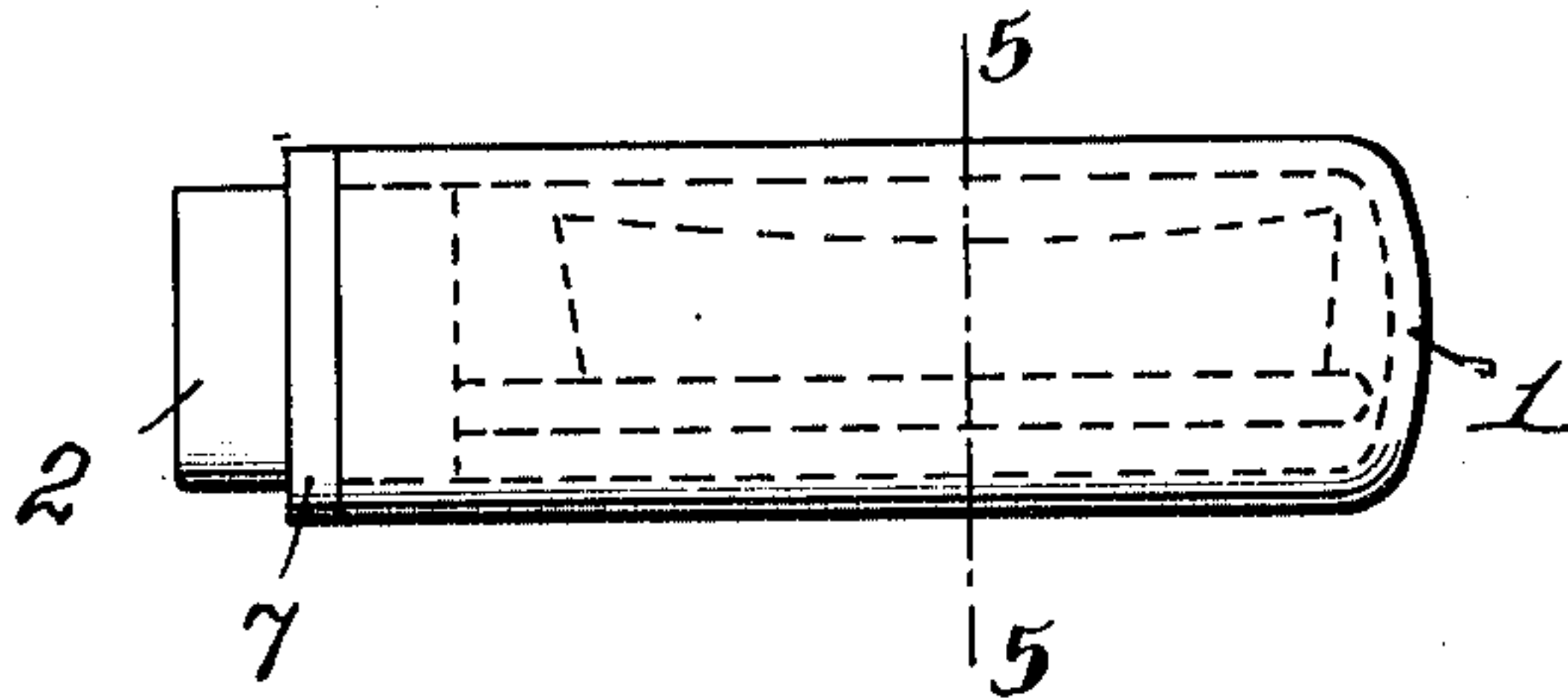


FIG. 2.

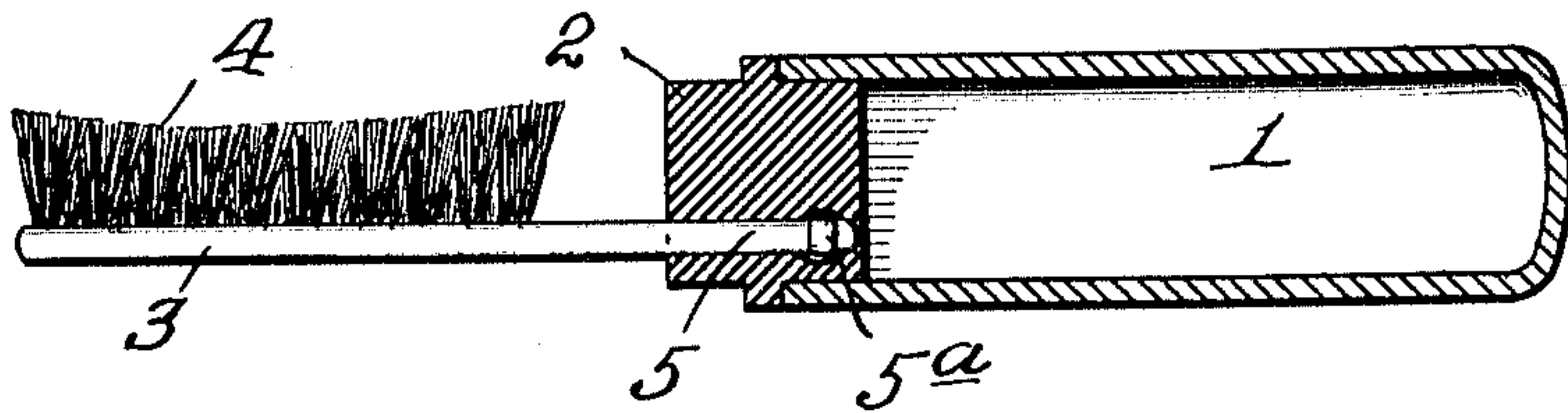


FIG. 3.

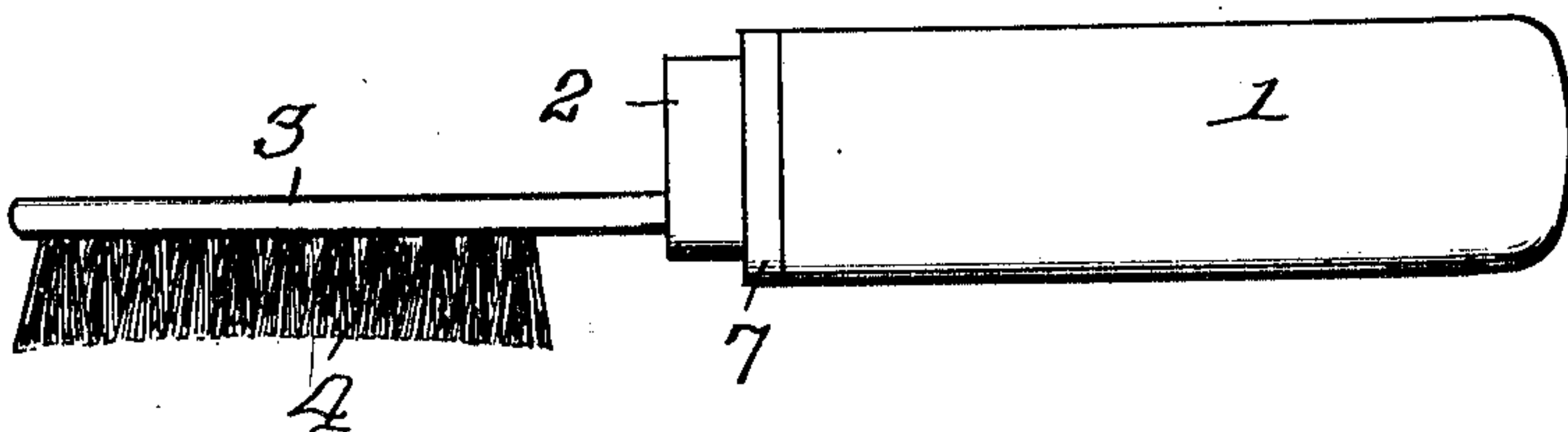


FIG. 4.

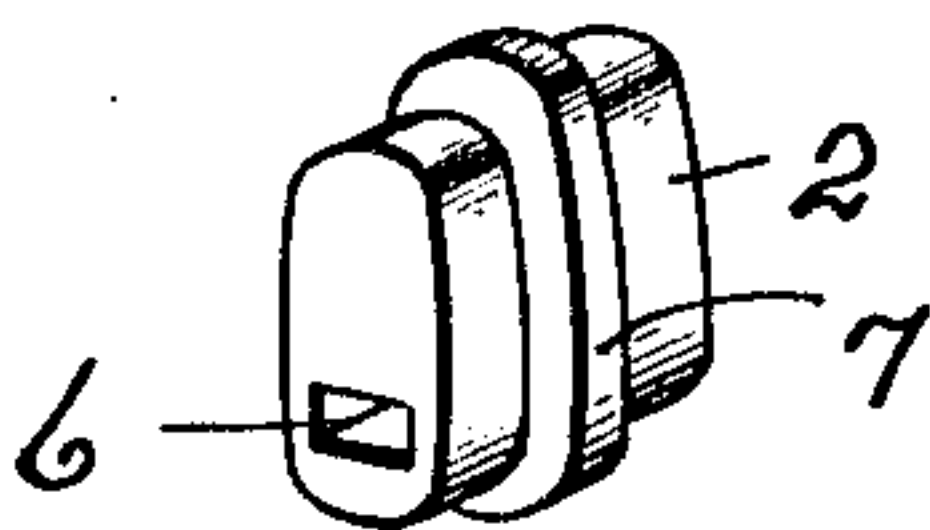
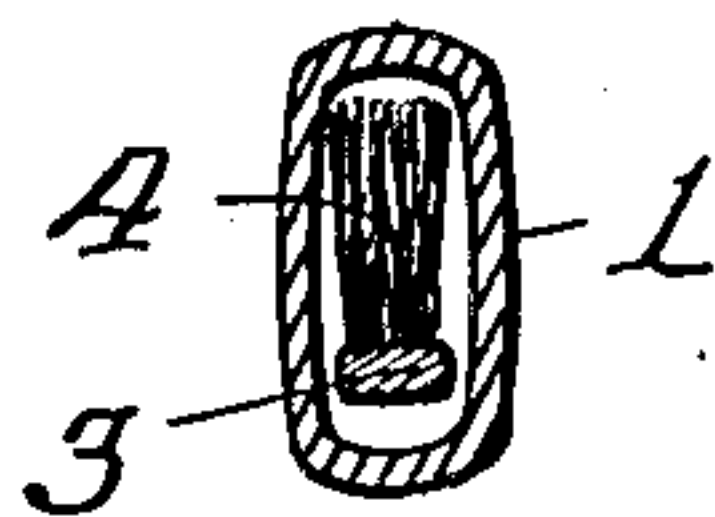


FIG. 5.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN J. WITMAN, OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA.

TOOTH-BRUSH.

993,629.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 30, 1911.

Application filed September 12, 1910. Serial No. 581,635.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN J. WITMAN, citizen of the United States, residing at Reading, in the county of Berks and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Tooth-Brushes, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in tooth brushes and the object is to provide a tooth brush with an incasing handle, so that the brush may be carried in the pocket and still remain free from contact with the clothing, with the result that the brush portion is always kept in a sanitary condition.

The device consists of a brush secured to a plug, and a cap adapted to engage either end of the plug, so that when in open position the cap forms the handle.

The invention is more fully described in the following specification and clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which:—

Figure 1 is a side view of the brush closed. Fig. 2 is a central longitudinal section, with the brush in open position. Fig. 3 is a side view with the brush in open position and turned in the plug with the bristles in position for use. Fig. 4 is a detail view of the plug. Fig. 5 is a section through 5—5 of Fig. 1.

The numeral 1 designates the tubular casing, which is preferably made of approximately oval cross-section for convenience in carrying in the pocket.

The numeral 2 designates the plug. This plug is adapted to be engaged at either end by the casing and is formed with a central ring 7 to limit its movement.

The plug may be made of rubber or like material, and it is formed with an opening 6, which is rectangular and oblong in cross-section.

The numeral 3 designates the brush. This is of the usual construction, with bristles 4 and it is formed with a shank 5 of substantially the same cross-section as the opening 6 in the plug, and into which it is inserted. This shank has formed thereon, near its extremity, a locking collar 5<sup>a</sup> which registers with an enlargement in the plug opening 6 when the shank is placed in position in the

plug. This locking collar will prevent the accidental withdrawal of the brush while being used, but still permit its removal when desired.

When the device is closed, the brush appears with the bristles pointing toward the longitudinal center of the device and when the casing is removed and the plug 2 inserted in reverse position, the brush still remains in this position but, inasmuch as the plug is of rubber or like material, the shank 5 may be turned, and the rectangular shape of the opening 6 will cause the brush to be held in the reverse position (see Fig. 3) as securely as it will be held in the first named position. This latter position of the brush will permit the brush to be used with comfort.

To replace the device, the brush is turned in the plug, and the plug withdrawn from the handle and inserted therein in reverse position, thus affording a convenient and sanitary means of carrying the brush.

It is evident that the brush may be made integral with the plug, which plug may be of elongated form, thus forming a handle, while the casing covers the brush portion when not in use.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:—

In a device of the character described, a casing, elongated in cross section, a similar plug adapted to be inserted at either of its ends in the casing, a central stop collar on the plug, the plug being provided with an opening elongated in cross section, a brush having a shank of elongated cross section, said shank being adapted to removably and snugly fit in said plug opening, and an enlargement on the end of the shank which is inserted into the plug, said plug being of an elastic nature permitting the shank to be turned and so held in said opening and serving together with the enlargement to prevent accidental removal of the shank therefrom.

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

JOHN J. WITMAN.

Witnesses:

CLARA E. YOUNG,  
ED. A. KELLY.