

F. FEARON.  
APPARATUS FOR DEADENING SOUND.

No. 48,350.

Patented June 20, 1865.

Fig 2

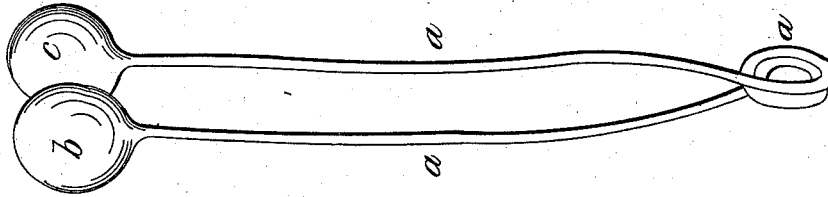
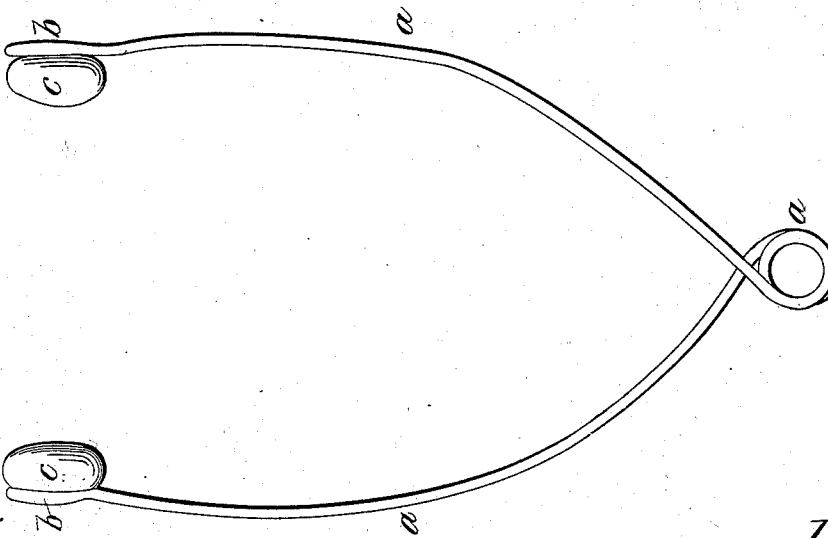


Fig 1



Witnesses:

Harry J. Gedge.  
Wm. Gedge

Inventor:

Fancis Fearon

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANCIS FEARON, OF LONDON, ENGLAND.

## IMPROVEMENT IN APPARATUS FOR DEADENING SOUND.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 48,350, dated June 20, 1865.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FRANCIS FEARON, of Great George Street, Westminster, London, England, have invented an Improved Apparatus for Softening or Deadenng Sound; and I do hereby declare the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying sheet of drawings.

The object of my invention is to lessen the effect of sound in the ears of travelers by railway or in the many other cases where continuous crashing or other unpleasant noise may be distressing to individuals.

In order to effect my object, I make an apparatus by the use of which a small plate, padded on its inner face with some soft elastic, semi-elastic, or other material, and made of iron, silver, or any suitable metal or material, is made to press lightly on the "tragus" of each ear, the pressure being obtained by means of a metal-wire spring, descending from each plate under the lobe of the ear, and so downward below the under jaw.

Figure 1 on the drawings is a front elevation of the apparatus, (natural size,) made with strong wire acting as spring, the plates being of brass and the padding covered with velvet, Fig. 2 being a side view of same, *a* indicating the spring, *b* the metal plates, and *c* the pads, in each of the figures, respectively.

It will be understood that although I show only one form of apparatus as a type of my invention, I make the spring part of my apparatus in any form, shape, or way, or of any material I may find in practice most conducive to the end required—namely, a gentle but firm pressure of the padded plates on the tragus of the ear; and although I prefer to effect my object as shown—say by wire or thin plates passing from a common center beneath the lower jaw up to and past the lobe of each ear—yet I make the apparatus, when desired, to fit

on from the back of the head or neck, or even from the top of the head, and this I effect with very slight alterations of the parts, such alterations being principally in the curve of the wire spring under the lobe of the ear, or over the ear, to bring the plates onto the tragus. I prefer the apparatus to pass from under the lower jaw and in front of the lobe of the ear, as being less visible when worn, for if the back of the plates and the wire be enameled the color of skin, the apparatus will not readily attract the eye, particularly when carried by men wearing whiskers or beard, or both, or by ladies wearing bonnet-strings, &c.

If desired, I make that part of the spring which comes beneath the jaw, or the junction, if the spring be in two parts, in such wise that by pressure of the thumb and finger one or both of the plates may be temporarily pressed outward from the tragus of the ear, thus permitting full sound to enter.

Having now described the nature of my invention and shown a means by which I carry it into practical effect, I would have it distinctly understood that I do not confine myself to the precise details herein given, or to the figure shown on the sheet of drawings, as modifications may be made without departing from my invention; and

I claim—

The exclusive use of an apparatus for softening or deadening sound by means of pressure on the tragus of each ear, substantially as herein described, and illustrated by the drawings.

FRANCIS FEARON.

Witnesses

HARRY J. GEDGE,

Solicitor, 4 Millman Street, Bedford Row, London.

JOHN GEDGE,

11 Wellington Street, Strand, London.