

Information supplied by Tony Merry:

In the late 1840s G F Harrington had a dental practice at Suffolk House, 84 George Street, Ryde. In 1849 he patented mineral teeth and later plates of tortoiseshell and in 1864 a clockwork drill called the Erado ('I scrape out' in latin). The speed of the drill, once wound up, was controlled by the thumb. Although faster than the previous hand-operated drills, it was very noisy, it's fatal flaw.