

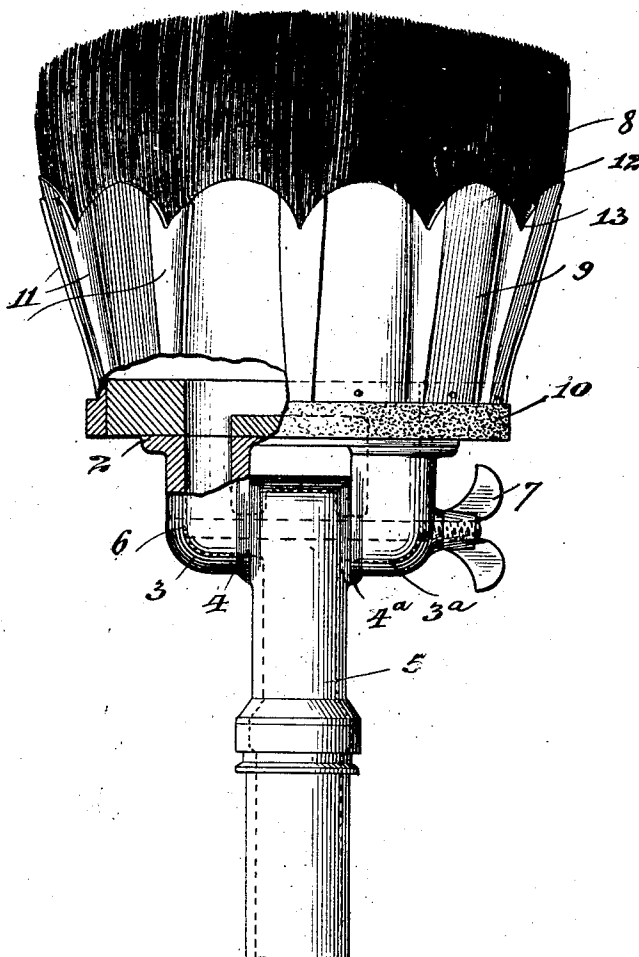
F. HOUSTON.

BRUSH.

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1,026,676.

Patented May 21, 1912.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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BRUSH.

1,026,676.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 21, 1912.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRED HOUSTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Rockford, in the county of Winnebago, State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Brushes, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates in general to a brush, but more specifically to a brush used in connection with suction sweeping apparatus. In brushes of this type a curtain is usually employed which is connected to the head of the brush and extends downwardly to the ends of the bristles, or to any intermediate point between the ends of the bristles and the head.

The primary object of my invention is to construct a curtain of a resilient material, such as rubber, which, when pressed backward, will assume its normal position upon pressure being released on the brush.

Further objects of my invention are to provide a curtain that will not prevent the proper operation of the brush even though such pressure is placed upon the bristles as to bring the lower edge of the curtain in contact with the surface being cleaned.

In the drawing, the figure shows a side elevational view of my device.

Referring now more particularly to the drawing, the body 2 of the brush is provided with two upstanding hollow lugs 3 and 3^a, having parallel flat faces 4 and 4^a oppositely disposed, between which is mounted a pipe-coupling 5 that is pivoted on a pin 6, one end of the pins being threaded and provided with a wing nut 7 by means of which the frictional engagement between the parts may be increased or decreased to obtain a proper adjustment. The pipe-coupling 5 is hollow and has side openings into the lugs 3 and 3^a, which lugs in turn, open into a central passage in the body 2 (the opening in the body not being shown). Secured to the head in any well-known manner are a plurality of bristles 8. A rubber or other resilient form of curtain 9 surrounds the bristles, the curtain being secured to the head, and extends toward the ends of the bristles. The exact length of the curtain is immaterial. Around the periphery of the

head I attach a section of soft material 10, such as felt, so that the brush will not injure an object that it may come in contact with.

In my preferred form of construction I secure a plurality of strengthening ribs 11 to the curtain 9 which extend longitudinally of the axis of the head; the purposes of which will be hereinafter more fully explained.

In operation it is, of course, understood that the pipe-coupling 5 is connected to a suitable hose through which air is drawn, and as the brush is moved over the surface to be cleaned with pressure applied, the bristles will be bent, bringing the lower edge of the curtain in contact with the surface operated on. This bending of the bristles may cause the curtain to be folded backward upon itself and when pressure is relieved the curtain will assume its normal position. The reinforcing strips of rubber serve in aiding the curtain to more readily return to its proper position. In my preferred form of construction I also provide scallops 12 at the lower edge of the curtain so that when the pressure upon the brush brings the edge of the curtain in contact with the surface operated upon, there will still be the V-shaped openings 13 formed by the scallops to permit a sufficient amount of air to be drawn under the curtain thereby not destroying the operation of the vacuum apparatus for properly drawing air through the brush.

I do not wish it to be understood that I am limited to a rubber curtain, as any form of curtain would serve equally as well which is composed of a resilient material that would assume its normal position when folded back upon itself, nor do I wish it to be understood that I am also limited to the scalloped edge, as it is obvious that any edge would serve equally as well as the one herein shown which is provided with recesses extending inwardly from the lower edge; and

Therefore without confining myself to the particular details of construction herein shown,—I claim:

A brush for use with suction sweeping

apparatus comprising a head provided with a central opening, a hollow handle connected thereto and communicating with said opening, long bristles secured to said head and surrounding said opening, a resilient curtain surrounding said bristles but of less length than said bristles and having its

lower edge scalloped and a series of resilient strips of material secured to said curtain longitudinally of the axis thereof.

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