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C. W. SWANSON.

PAINT BRUSH.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 5, 1903. RENEWED JAN. 9, 1905.

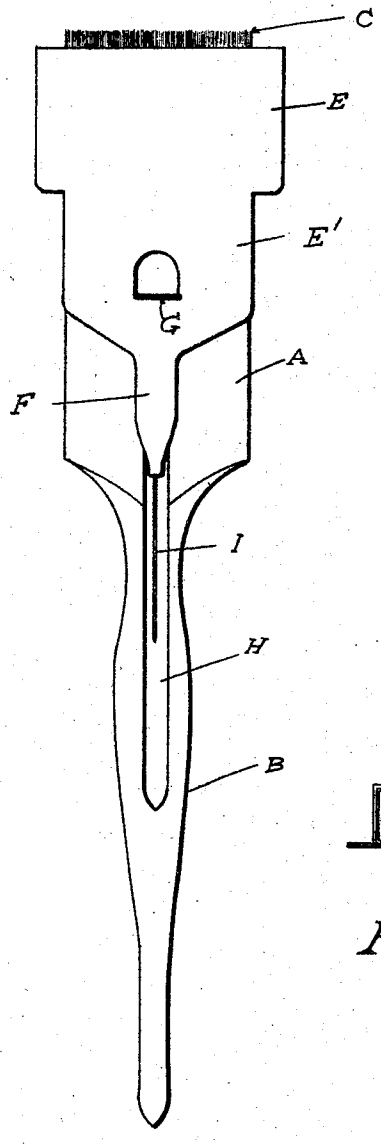

Fig. 1.

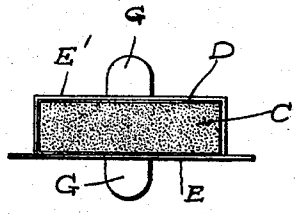

Fig. 3.

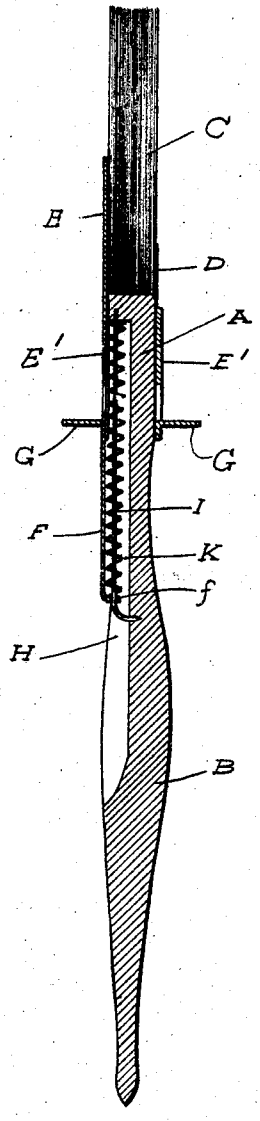

Fig. 2.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CARL W. SWANSON, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

PAINT-BRUSH.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 782,530, dated February 14, 1905.

Application filed December 5, 1903. Renewed January 9, 1905. Serial No. 240,189.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CARL W. SWANSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Paint-Brushes, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to paint and similar brushes, and has for its object to facilitate the rapid manipulation of the brush when used for lining and similar fine work, where the spread of the bristles and the application of the paint delivered thereby is required to be uniform and even along a straight line, as where two or more different colors are applied side by side to the same or adjacent surfaces and their meeting margins are required to be sharp and distinct. Nice work of this character when executed with the ordinary paint-brush requires a steady hand and painstaking care on the part of the painter and is a laborious and time-consuming operation even at the hands of the most experienced and skilled workmen. My invention is designed to render such work easier and quicker of performance and superior as to results; and to these ends my invention consists in the combination, with the usual form of paint-brush, of an attachment in the nature of a guard or shield having the peculiarities of construction and coöperation with the brush fiber, substantially as hereinafter described and claimed.

My invention will be readily understood when considered in connection with the accompanying drawings, which illustrate a preferred embodiment thereof, and wherein—

Figure 1 is a plan view of a brush equipped with my attachment, the latter being shown in advanced or operative position relatively to the brush fiber. Fig. 2 is a central longitudinal sectional view thereof with the guard or shield shown in retracted or inoperative position; and Fig. 3 is an end view of Fig. 1.

Referring to the drawings, A designates the head of the brush, B the handle, herein shown as integral with the head, C the bunch of bristles or other brush fiber secured in or to the head, and D the thin band or ferrule surrounding the joint between the brush-fiber and head, all as is usual and well known in the ordinary forms of flat paint and similar brushes.

Referring now to the principal novel element of my invention and to the means for actuating the same, E designates a flat guard-plate or shield overlying one side of the brush fiber and having an integral inner or shank portion E′, bent into rectangular form in cross-section to embrace and have a loose sliding fit on and over the head and fiber of the brush. One side of the shank E′ of the guard has an integral rearwardly-extending arm F terminating in an apertured or slotted inwardly-turned end portion *f*. These several parts E, E′, F, and *f* of the guard may conveniently and cheaply be cut and bent into the required forms from a single blank of some suitable thin sheet metal, such as tin.

G designates each of a pair of lugs or ears extending outwardly from and at right angles to the opposite sides, respectively, of the shank of the guard, which lugs may simply and conveniently be formed by cutting out and bending back integral portions of the metal of the guard, as shown.

As a means for maintaining the guard normally retracted and the brush fiber exposed I have shown the head and handle of the brush as provided with a continuous longitudinally-extending groove H in one side thereof, in which is fixedly mounted a rod *l*, constituting a guide and support for a coil-spring K, surrounding the same. One end of this spring abuts against the inner end wall of the groove H, while its other end abuts against the apertured or slotted end *f* of the arm F, which slidingly embraces the guide-rod *l*.

The manner of operating the brush is as follows: The spring K normally keeps the guard retracted, as shown in Fig. 2, so that the outer and chief operative portion of the brush fiber is exposed, and the brush may be used the same as any ordinary brush for body-work and coarse or rough applications of a single or continuous color; but when the brush is to be used for linework, as in trimmings and the like, and clean, sharp, clear margins are required, the operator after having dipped the brush pushes down the guard by pressing his

finger against one or the other of the lugs G until the face of the brush fiber C adjacent to the marginal line to be formed is nearly covered by the guard-plate E, as shown in Fig. 1. This limits and determines the degree of spread of the bristles on that side of the brush according to the extent to which the bristles are covered by the guard-plate, making the limited amount of spread substantially even and uniform and not liable to produce perceptible variations in the resultant work due to variations in the pressure applied to the brush. This enables the brush to be manipulated much more rapidly than is usual in the case of ordinary brushes. In painting narrow surfaces, such as the edges of door and window casings, which project at right angles from the adjacent walls, the guard-plate forms a complete and effective shield for the latter, at the same time enabling the entire brush to be in action, since it guards the broad side of the brush fiber. When the brush has to be redipped, the operator simply withdraws his finger from the lug G, whereupon the spring K retracts the guard and exposes the brush fiber.

While I have herein shown and described my invention as embodied in a flat brush, it is obvious that my improved attachment hereinabove described might also be advantageously applied to a brush of the round or oval type. It is also obvious that changes and modifications in the detail form and structure of the elements of my improved brush might be made by those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention, and hence I do not limit the invention to such detail features except to the extent that the latter are made the subject of specific claims.

I claim—

1. The combination with a paint-brush, of a guard or shield overlying the brush fiber, means connected therewith for normally retracting the same to expose the brush fiber, and means connected therewith whereby it may be readily advanced over the brush fiber to limit the spread of the latter, substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. The combination with a paint-brush, of a guard or shield overlying the brush fiber, said guard having a shank embracing and slidably fitting the head of the brush, a guard-retracting spring connected to said shank and lugs projecting outwardly from said shank for engagement by the finger of the operator to advance the guard over the fiber, substantially as described.

3. The combination with a paint-brush having a longitudinally-grooved handle, of a guard or shield overlying the brush fiber, said guard having a shank embracing and slidably fitting the head of the brush and said shank having a rearwardly-extending arm overlying said groove of the handle, of a guard-retracting spring lying in said groove and engaging the end of said arm, and lugs projecting outwardly from said shank for engagement by the finger of the operator to advance the guard over the fiber, substantially as described.

4. The combination with a paint-brush having a longitudinally-grooved handle, of a guard or shield overlying the brush fiber, said guard having a shank embracing and slidably fitting the head of the brush and said shank having a rearwardly-extending arm overlying said groove with an inwardly-bent end entering the latter, of a guide-rod in said groove slidably engaged by said inwardly-bent end of the arm, a guard-retracting spring surrounding said rod and abutting at one end against the end wall of said groove and at the other against said inwardly-bent end of the arm, and outwardly-projecting lugs on the opposite side of said shank adapted to be engaged by the finger of the operator to advance the guard over the fiber, substantially as described.

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