No. 878,688. PATENTED FEB. 11, 1908.

A. THOMA.

ELECTRIC HEATED HAND MOLDER FOR FILLING SHOES.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 11, 1907.

Fig.

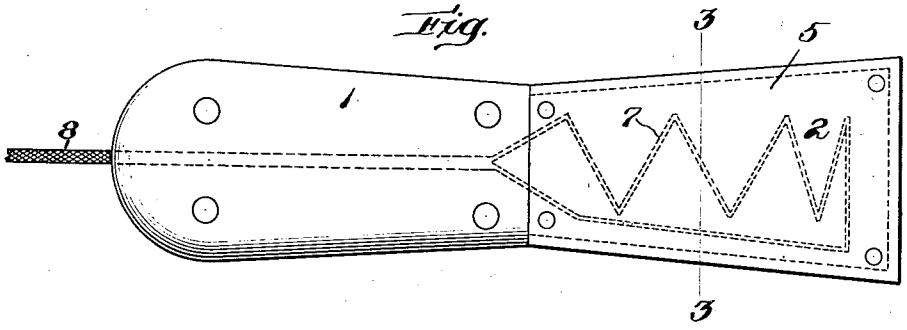


Fig. 2.



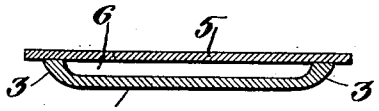


Fig. 3.

Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANDREW THOMA, OF CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO NORTH AMERICAN CHEMICAL COMPANY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., A CORPORATION OF MAINE.

ELECTRIC-HEATED HAND-MOLDER FOR FILLING SHOES.

No. 878,688. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 11, 1908.

Original application filed March 5, 1906, Serial No. 304,225. Divided and this application filed June 11, 1907. Serial No. 378,345.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANDREW THOMA, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Cambridge, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Electric-Heated Hand-Molders for Filling Shoes, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like letters on the drawings representing like parts.

My present invention is a tool for use with plastic shoe filler for filling shoe bottoms, whereby the filler is molded or shaped under the influence of heat, this case being a divisional application of my original application Serial No. 304,225, filed March 5, 1906.

In the drawings Figures 1 and 2 are views in top plan and side elevation respectively of one preferred embodiment of the molding tool which constitutes my invention; and Fig. 3 is a cross-sectional detail, taken on the line 3—3, Fig. 1.

The shoe filler which this tool is specially intended to mold is tough, or not readily separable and moldable, excepting in the presence of heat, and, in order to shape it quickly and neatly, it is desirable that the top surface thereof shall be superheated by direct contact with a smoothing iron, as set forth more at length in my foundation Patent No. 808,224, of December 26, 1905. Accordingly, as electricity is commonly found in modern shoe factories, and as it is inconvenient to otherwise localize the desired amount of active heat at the operating end of a hand tool, I have devised the special hand molder which constitutes my present invention. Secured to a handle 1. of suitable shape and size to be grasped firmly by the hand, and preferably flattened so as to aid in enabling the operator conveniently to turn the tool quickly when loaded with filler and then manipulate it firmly and properly for the subsequent smoothing or molding operation, is a forward metal part 2, having a molding surface on its under side, with rounded corners 3, and opposite scraping edges 4 projecting from a flat top or spoon-like lifting side 5. Within the forward part 2 is a cavity 6, containing usual heating resistance 7, supplied by current from a feed wire 8 in usual manner.

In use, the operator, having a shoe in his left hand, and the molding tool in his right hand, dips the tool into the partially melted filler at the source of supply, and, by means of the flat upper side 5 of the molder, lifts the proper amount of filler and places it in the bottom cavity of the shoe. The depositing of the filler properly and neatly is accomplished instantly by a slight turn of the wrist, which causes the spoon-like top of the molding tool to dump its load along the length of the shoe cavity, and thereupon the tool is righted, and the smoothing surface of its under side is brought at once down upon the heap of filler, smoothing it lengthwise and laterally in all directions by means of the flat heated under side and the rounded edges. The particular shape of the portion 2 aids in all these operations, as the diverging straight edges which extend obliquely to the general direction of the handle aid in properly pushing and smoothing the filler straight ahead. The length of the smoothing portion of the tool corresponds approximately to the width of the usual bottom cavity of the shoe, so that the square-ended shape of the tool further aids in the proper manipulation of the filler, and also gives the desired lifting area and shape to the flat top part 5, which enables the tool to lift the right amount of filler. I have found it desirable also to have the angular scraping corners for enabling the operator to readily pick out or push down a small amount of filler at the corners of the cavity. The operator moves the hand molder back and forth with an exceedingly quick motion, which is usually sufficient to compress and place the filler in all the corners of the cavity and level the filler down properly so as to fill the entire cavity. He then turns the tool up edgewise and cuts or scrapes off by means of the scraping edges 4 all surplus filler and ragged edges from the welt surface and sides or edges of the cavity.

It will be understood that my invention is not limited to the precise constructional details herein shown, as various changes may be resorted to in the arrangement and combination of parts without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

Having described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:

1. An electric hand molder, comprising a handle, a hollow heat-radiating molding portion carried thereby having a smoothing surface approximately as long as the width of

a usual shoe cavity and having a substantially square front end, and heating means for localizing heat in said cavity.

2. An electric hand molder, comprising a handle, a hollow square-ended flattened heat-radiating molding portion carried thereby having a smoothing surface approximately as long as the width of a usual shoe cavity, and heating means for localizing heat in said cavity.

3. In a shoe filler apparatus, an electrical hand molder, comprising a handle provided with a flat, hollow blade of heat-conductive material, having a curved under side for smoothing purposes, terminating in a projecting scraping edge, and a flat spoon-like top side for applying purposes, and electrical heating means in said blade between said two sides.

4. In a shoe filler apparatus, an electrical hand molder, comprising a handle provided with a flat, hollow blade of heat-conductive material, having a curved under side for smoothing purposes and a flat spoon-like top side for applying purposes, and electrical heating means in said blade between said two sides.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ANDREW THOMA.

Witnesses:
M. J. SPALDING,
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