

G. H. RICE.
Blacking Cases.

No. 137,722.

Patented April 8, 1873.

Fig 1.

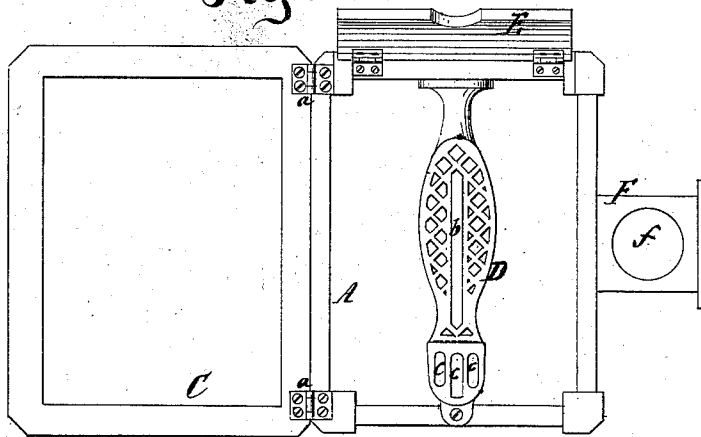


Fig 2.

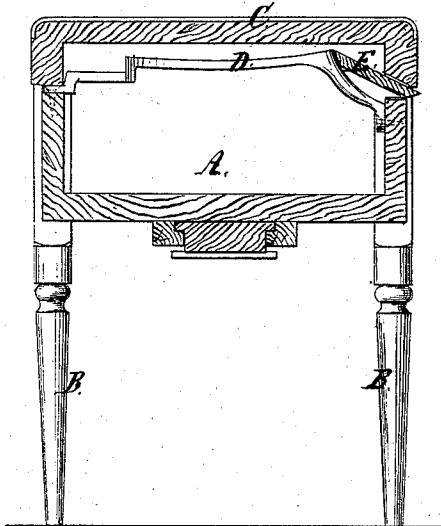
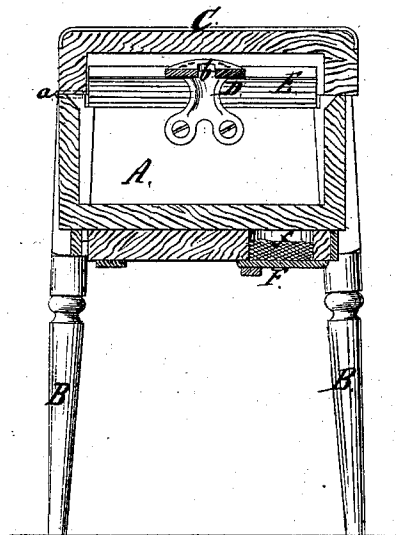


Fig 3.



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE H. RICE, OF NORWALK, CONNECTICUT.

IMPROVEMENT IN BLACKING-CASES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **137,722**, dated April 8, 1873; application filed October 3, 1872.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE H. RICE, of Norwalk, county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and Improved Blacking-Case; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable those skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification, in which drawing—

Figure 1 represents a plan or top view of my blacking-case when open ready for use. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal vertical section of the same when closed. Fig. 3 is a transverse vertical section of the same.

Similar letters indicate corresponding parts.

This invention relates to a blacking-case which is provided with a slotted foot-rest, a hinged dirt-guard, a sliding blacking-holder, and a lid or cover which swings outward in such a manner that, by the slotted foot-rest, the foot, when turned in either direction, is prevented from slipping, and, furthermore, the lid, when swung open, does not interfere with the motions of the brush, and, by the dirt-guard, the impurities disengaged from the boots or shoes or from the brush during the operation of blacking are prevented from flying out beyond the box, while the blacking-holder is out of the way and so situated that, when the same is drawn out, convenient access can be had to the blacking. When the case is closed it forms a settee or stool.

In the drawing, the letter A designates a case, made of wood or any other suitable material, and provided with legs B of convenient length or height. The case A is provided with a lid, C, connected thereto by hinge-joints *a*, and arranged to open outward, as shown in Fig. 1 of the drawing. In the interior of said case is secured a foot-rest, D, which is, by preference, made of cast-iron, and which is provided with one or more long slots, *b*, in the foot-plate, and with one or more slots, *c*, in the heel-support, (best seen in Fig. 1.) The object

of these slots is to prevent the foot from slipping when the same is turned sidewise during the operation of blacking, since, when the foot is turned, the edge of the sole, and also that of the heel of the boot or shoe, will rest in one of the slots *b* and *c*. Opposite the toe part of the foot-rest is the dirt-guard E, which is connected to the case A by hinge-joints, so that it can be turned out to the position shown in Fig. 1, or moved into the position shown in Fig. 2. In the bottom part of the case A is fitted a slide, F, provided with a recess, *f*, for the reception of the blacking-box.

The top of the lid may be upholstered, so that the same, when closed, forms a convenient seat. The case A itself forms the receptacle for the brushes.

When the case is to be used for blacking boots or shoes, the lid and also the dirt-guard are turned back, and the blacking-box holder is drawn out to the position shown in Fig. 1, the foot is placed on the foot-rest, and the brush is applied.

During the operation of blacking the impurities disengaged from the boots or shoes or from the brushes are retained by the guard E, while the blacking-holder is in such a position that the blacking is not liable to be soiled by said impurities.

My blacking-case can be made in a plain or in an ornamental style to suit customers of all classes.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The foot-rest D provided with slots *b c*, in combination with the case A, dirt-guard E, and blacking-holder F, the whole constructed and arranged substantially in the manner herein shown and described.

This specification signed by me this 6th day of September, 1872.

GEORGE H. RICE.

Witnesses:

W. HAUFF,

E. F. KASTENHUBER.