

C. E. BALL.
Hat-Iron.

No. 159,379.

Patented Feb. 2, 1875.

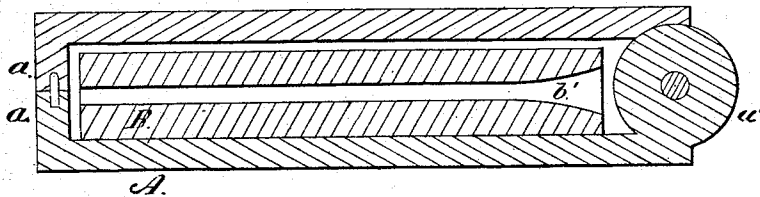


Fig. 1

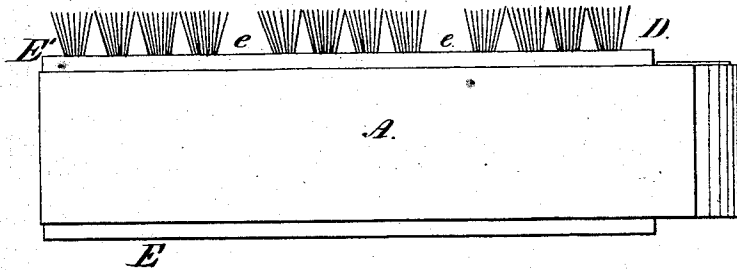
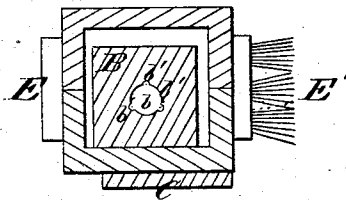


Fig. 2



Witnesses
J. B. Connolly
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES E. BALL, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN HAT-IRONS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 159,379, dated February 2, 1875; application filed September 15, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES E. BALL, of Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a certain new and useful Hat-Iron; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a vertical longitudinal section. Fig. 2 is a side view, and Fig. 3 is a transverse section, of my invention.

My invention has for its object to provide an improved iron for hatters' use, and to combine with such iron a hat smoother and brush.

My invention accordingly consists in the novel construction of a tool consisting of a combined hatter's iron, smoother, and brush.

In the accompanying drawing, A represents a metallic case or shell, made in two sections, *a a*, hinged at *a'*. B is a core or heater, having a longitudinal bore, *b*, at one end of which are inclined channels *b' b'*, the object of which will be hereinafter set forth. C represents a smoother, formed of a strip of velvet or equivalent material, and D a brush, said smoother and brush being located respectively on different sides, as shown, of the case A.

A handle may be also secured to the case in any suitable and convenient manner; but I prefer to employ instead the guards E E', consisting of blocks or pieces of wood, or other non-conducting material, which will enable the case to be grasped without injury, by burning, to the operator's hand, the thumb thereof resting on the side E, while the fingers rest on the side E', occupying the spaces *e e* provided for that purpose.

The method of operating the device is as follows: The core is first removed and placed vertically over a gas-burner, so that the flame may ascend through the bore *b*. The force of the gas will induce currents of air through the channels *b' b'*, affording a plentiful supply of oxygen to support combustion, and producing a low blue flame of intense heat. When the core has been sufficiently heated it is transferred to the case, through which its caloric is duly radiated. While the hat is being ironed it may from time to time be smoothed and brushed with the same tool, thereby saving the time heretofore lost in laying down one tool and taking up another.

This device may be used in the household as well as by manufacturers, enabling any party of ordinary intelligence with a little practice to iron, smooth, and brush a hat at home quite as well as it would be done by a hatter, thereby supplying a want long felt, but never heretofore supplied.

What I claim as my invention is—

As a new article of manufacture the hat-iron and smoother herein described consisting of a hinged metallic case, having wood on two sides, and iron and velvet respectively on the other two sides, and holding a gas-heating core, substantially as and for the purpose described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 2d day of September, 1874.

CHAS. E. BALL.

Witnesses:

JNO. A. BELL,
M. DANL. CONNOLLY.