

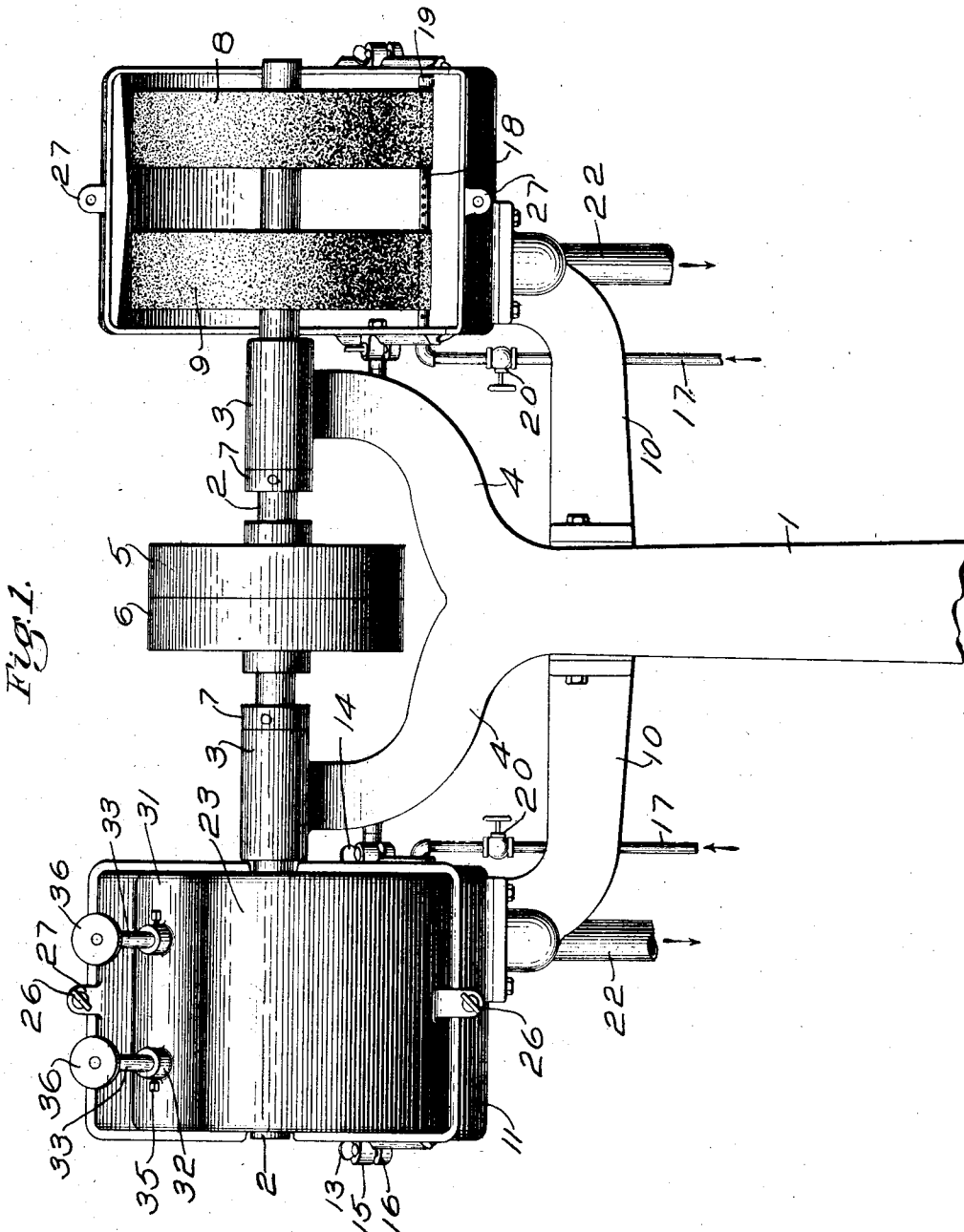
G. T. McLEOD.
BRUSH CLEANER.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 15, 1909.

957,989.

Patented May 17, 1910.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses:
Roswell F. Hatch.
Redfield H. Allen

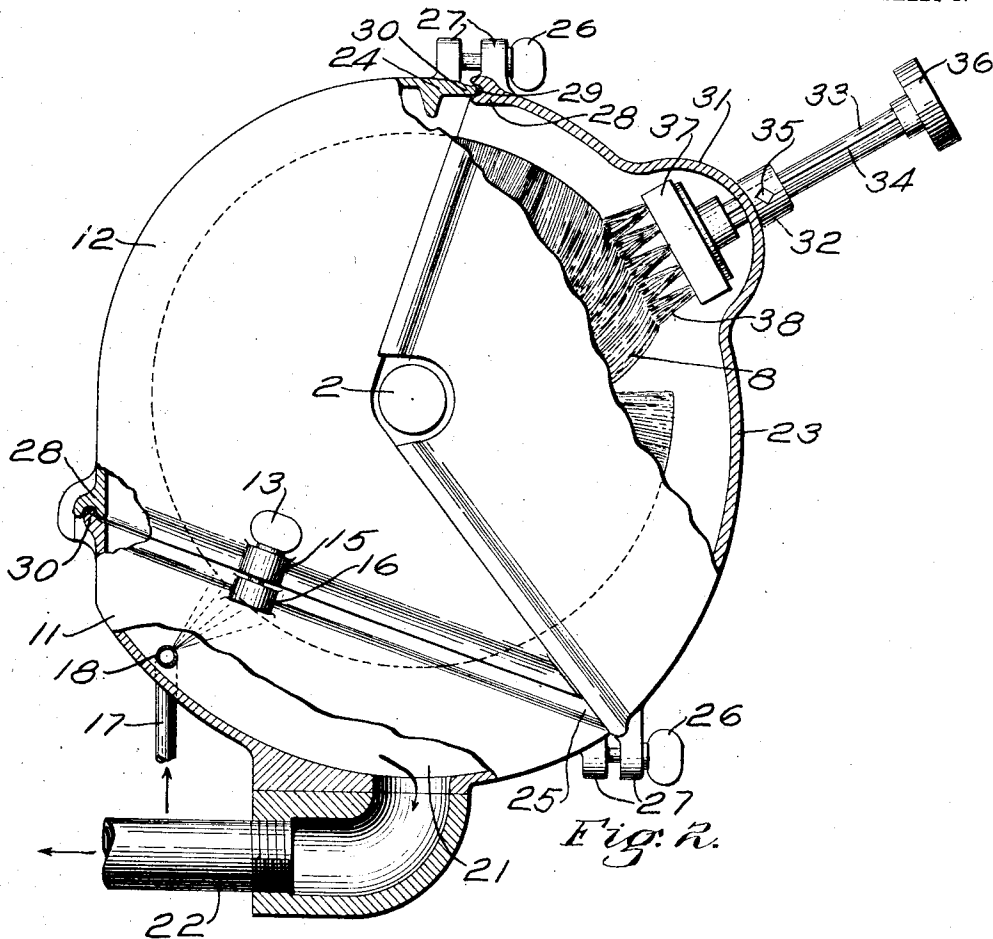
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE T. McLEOD, OF DEDHAM, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO THOMAS G. PLANT,
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BRUSH-CLEANER.

957,989.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 17, 1910.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE T. McLEOD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Dedham, in the county of Norfolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Brush-Cleaners, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like numerals on the drawings representing like parts.

The invention to be hereinafter described relates to brush cleaners.

In the manufacture of shoes, it is common to apply to some of the shoe parts a dressing, preferably of liquid character, and after the application thereof to subject the shoe part thus treated to a rubbing or buffing action by means of a brush. Owing to the character of the dressing, the brush elements become saturated with the dressing to such an extent as to render them inefficient in treating the shoe.

The aims and purposes of the present invention are to provide means for readily cleaning such brushes, all of which will be made clear from the following description and accompanying drawings of one form of means for carrying the invention into practical effect, it being understood that the invention in its true scope is definitely defined by the claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation of a machine embodying the features of the present invention; and Fig. 2 is a side elevation, parts being shown broken away and in section, of a brush and its casing with the brush cleaner in place.

Mounted on a suitable standard 1 is a shaft 2 sustained by bearings 3 projecting from part of said column, said column being preferably divided to provide two arms 4, 4 to support said bearings. The shaft 2 has mounted thereon between the bearings 3, 3 the fast and loose pulleys 5 and 6 by which said shaft may be rotated from any suitable source of power, said shaft 2 being prevented from endwise movement in its bearings 3, 3 by means of suitable collars 7, 7 secured thereto, as indicated in Fig. 1. At its outer ends the shaft 2 carries two brushes 8 and 9, one of said brushes being preferably employed to apply liquid dressing to the shoe, and the other of said brushes being preferably designed to polish the sur-

face to which the liquid dressing has been applied by the other brush.

Projecting laterally from the column 1 on either side thereof is an arm 10 for supporting a brush casing, said brush casing in the present form of the invention preferably comprising a lower portion 11, Fig. 2, fixed to said arm 10, and a removable section 12 secured thereto by suitable means such as screw bolts 13 and 14 passing through appropriate lugs 15 and 16 secured respectively to the removable and stationary section of the casing. This general character of casing is desirable in order that the brushes 8 and 9 may be conveniently removed from their supporting shaft 2 by removal of the removable casing section 12.

The parts so far described comprise the elements ordinarily in use during the application of the liquid dressing and the subsequent polishing operations.

Extending into the stationary section 11 of the casing is a pipe 17 which has a transversely extending arm 18 within the casing provided with a series of apertures and closed at its outer end as by a cap 19, the construction being such that water or other fluid may be forced through said pipe 17 into the brush casing and be directed upon the brushes therein. If desired, the pipe 17 may be provided with a valve 20 to regulate the flow of liquid therethrough.

At its lowest portion the stationary section 11 of the casing is provided with a drain or waste opening 21 which is in communication with a waste pipe 22 whereby the casing may be properly drained, as will be clear.

As indicated in the right of Fig. 1, it will be noted that the front portions of the brushes 8 and 9 are exposed, that is, the brush casings do not ordinarily surround the brushes entirely, to permit a sufficient section thereof to be available to the operator for properly applying the liquid dressing and polishing a shoe surface. When, however, the said brushes are to be cleaned, the present invention contemplates a complete inclosure of the brushes, as will now be explained.

The exposed or open front portion of the brush casing is adapted to be closed by a cleaner section 23 which extends from the upper portion 24 of the removable section 12

to the lower front portion 25 of the lower fixed section 11, said cleaner section 23 being suitably retained in place by means of screw bolts 26 which pass through suitable lugs 27, 27 on said cleaner section and the adjacent sections 11 and 12. In order that the joint between the several sections of the casing may be made liquid tight, they are preferably formed as indicated in Fig. 2, that is, one section has a portion 28 with a seat for a rubber packing 29 against which rests the edge 30 of the adjacent section, the construction being such that upon setting up the holding devices or bolts 26, the edges 30 may be forced against the rubber packing 29 to form a suitable tight joint.

The cleaner section 23 has a hollow chamber portion 31 extending transversely thereof and is provided opposite each of the brushes 8 and 9 with a perforation and bearing 32 through each of which passes the stem 33 of a cleaner brush carrier, as indicated in Fig. 2. The stem 33 of each cleaner brush carrier is preferably grooved as at 34 to engage the end of a key or screw 35 extending through each of the bearings 32 whereby turning movement of each cleaner brush carrier on its axis is prevented. At its outer end, the cleaner brush carrier 33 has a handle 36 and at its inner end within the casing or chamber 31 it carries a brush 37, the bristles 38 of which are adapted to be forced into contact with the bristles of the brush 8 or 9 opposite which they are disposed, the construction being such that the cleaner section 23 may be clamped into position as indicated in Fig. 2, the screw 35 loosened, and the appropriate cleaner brush 37 forced inward against the brush to be cleaned, whereupon the screw 35 may be set up, if desired, to maintain the cleaner brush in operative relation with the brush being cleaned.

During the cleaning operation, water, steam, or other fluid may be forced through the cleaner pipe 17 against the brush being cleaned, and during the rapid rotation of said brush in contact with the cleaner brush, the gummed or hardened dressing may be softened and removed, the waste material finding exit from the brush casing through the waste pipe, as hereinbefore indicated.

What is claimed is:

1. In a brush cleaner, the combination of a supporting frame, a casing supported on said frame and having an open portion for the presentation of a shoe to be treated by a brush in said casing, a cleaner casing section to close the open portion of the casing supported on the frame, and a cleaner brush carried by said cleaner casing section and adjustable with respect thereto.

2. In a brush cleaner, the combination of a supporting frame, a casing supported by said frame and having an open portion for

the presentation of a shoe to be treated by a brush in said casing, a cleaner casing section to close the open portion of the casing, means for detachably securing the cleaner casing section in place to close said opening, and a cleaner brush carried by the cleaner casing section to contact with and clean the brush in said casing.

3. In a brush cleaner, a supporting frame, a casing supported on said frame and having an open portion for the presentation of a shoe to be treated by a brush in said casing, a cleaner casing section for closing the said open portion, a stem extending through the cleaner casing section and carrying a cleaner brush, and means permitting the cleaner brush to be adjusted toward and away from the brush within the casing on the supporting frame.

4. In a brush cleaner, the combination of a supporting frame, a casing supported on said frame and having an open portion for the presentation of a shoe to be treated by a brush in said casing, a cleaner casing section adapted to close the open portion of the casing and having a cleaner brush chamber, means for detachably securing the cleaner casing section in place to close said opening, and a cleaner brush carried by the cleaner casing section to contact with and clean the brush in the casing supported by the frame.

5. In a brush cleaner, the combination of a supporting frame, a casing supported on said frame and having an open portion for the presentation of a shoe to be treated by a brush in said casing, a fluid supply pipe leading into said casing, a drain leading from the casing, a cleaner casing section adapted to close the open portion of said casing, a cleaner brush, a cleaner brush carrier extending through the wall of the cleaner casing section and adjustable to present the cleaner brush against the brush in the casing, and means for securing the cleaner brush in adjusted position.

6. In a brush cleaner, the combination of a supporting frame, a casing supported on said frame and having an open portion for the presentation of a shoe to be treated by a brush in said casing, a cleaner casing section to close the open portion of the casing supported on the frame, a cleaner brush carried by said cleaner casing section, and a fluid supply pipe for projecting a cleaning fluid onto the brush in the casing.

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

GEORGE T. McLEOD.

Witnesses:

ALFRED H. HANDLEY,
CATHERINE M. GLEASON.