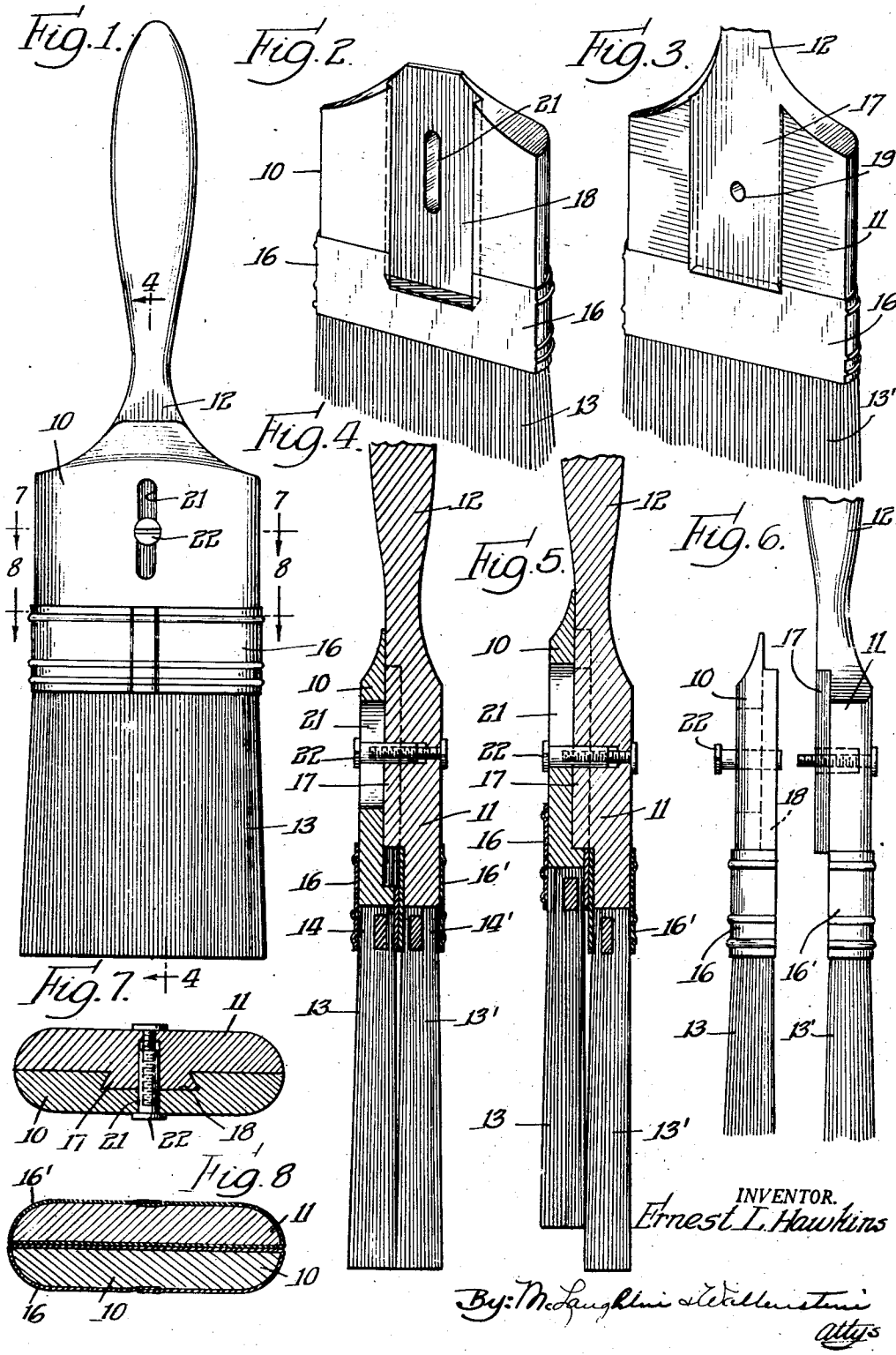
Sept. 4, 1945. E. L. HAWKINS 2,384,029

PAINT BRUSH

Filed Dec. 2, 1943



Patented Sept. 4, 1945 2,384,029

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,384,029

PAINTBRUSH

Ernest L. Hawkins, Chicago, Ill.

Application December 2, 1943, Serial No. 512,549

4 Claims. (Cl. 15—201)

My invention relates to paint brushes. It relates more in particular to an improved two-part paint brush having many features and advantages over conventional paint brushes heretofore known.

In my prior patent, No. 2,329,534, I disclosed two embodiments of an invention comprising a paint brush wherein one part of the paint brush carried the handle. The parts were adjustable longitudinally so that all or only approximately half of the bristles could be made to engage the work, wherein, despite the adjustable character of the brush, the handle comprised substantially a continuation of the brush as a whole and wherein the weight, size and balance of the finished brush were substantially the same as the corresponding characteristics of the conventional single piece brush of the prior art. While the brush of my prior invention offers many advantages over the conventional style of brush, I find that it can be still further improved, particularly in the direction of improving the manufacture, while, at the same time, simplifying and improving the parts from a manufacturing standpoint.

The principal object of my invention is the provision of an adjustable paint brush of the character disclosed in my patent, above identified, but having certain advantages and improvements thereover.

I have disclosed a preferred embodiment of my invention in the drawing wherein—

Fig. 1 is an elevational view of a paint brush constructed in accordance with my invention;

Figs. 2 and 3 are fragmentary isometric views of two portions of the paint brush assembled to form a completed brush, the portions shown in Figs. 2 and 3 being engageable together in face-to-face relation along the faces exposed to view in the two figures;

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary, vertical, central, sectional view taken along the line 4—4 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 4 but with the parts in a different position;

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary, side elevational view but with the two parts separated from each other; and

Figs. 7 and 8 are transverse sectional views taken on the lines 7—7 and 8—7, respectively, of Fig. 1.

The brush of my invention includes two body portions 10 and 11, the latter carrying handle 12. The body portions carry bristle sections 13 and 13', their ends being secured in suitable bases 14 and 14' and mounted to their respective sections in conventional ways known in the art using usual forms of reenforcing strips 16 and 16' for each section.

When the parts are assembled, as shown in Fig. 1, the paint brush of my invention, from the standpoint of size, weight, balance and the like, is substantially identical with a corresponding conventional single piece paint brush of the prior art. The sections 10 and 11 have generally flat sides, however, and are separable and adjustable with respect to each other. The section 11, carrying the handle 12, has a flat projection or tongue 17 and this is adapted to engage in a shallow recess or groove 18. The tongue and groove construction thus provided may be undercut as indicated in Fig. 7 so that the parts are entirely separable from each other only by sliding them out of contact in an endwise direction. By examining Figs. 2 and 3, it will be noted that the recess or groove 18 is somewhat longer than the projection or tongue 17. The tongue 17 extends to the reenforcing strip 16' of the section 11 while the groove 18 obviously extends some slight distance below the reenforcing strip 16 of the section 10, the said reenforcing strip being cut away at that portion of the flat face of the section 10 which is occupied by the groove 18. The extent to which the tongue 17 can be extended into the groove 18 is determined by the location of the lower end of this groove 18 and this distance determines the distance which the bristles 13' can be made to project beyond the bristles 13. The section 11 is provided with a hole 19 and the section 10 with a slot 21 through which a fastening member 22 is extended to support the two sections in the two positions to which they are adjusted. The length of the slot 21 affords a practical limitation to the extent to which the bristles 13 may be made to project beyond the bristles 13'.

With the construction described, it is obvious that the two body portions of the head may be in alignment as shown in Fig. 1 and the ends of the bristles 13 and 13' also aligned; or the bristles 13 may project some distance beyond the bristles 13'; or a reverse position may be established in which the bristles 13' may project some distance beyond the bristles 13. The brush may be used, therefore, as an ordinary brush or either set of bristles may be used as in stripping or for any purpose in which a painter may wish to use a lighter brush or a brush with a smaller bristle surface in contact with the work. This ability to engage all or either section of the bristles may be made to provide for uniform wear while at the same time obtaining all of the advantages of a split brush from the standpoint of actual applica-

tion of paint. One set of bristles may be of a different character than the other, if desired, but preferably the bristles 13 are the same in character and amount as the bristles 13'. If some coarse and some finer bristles are used, conventional practices can be followed such as by placing coarser bristles in the interior of the brush and the finer bristles on the exterior portion.

Despite the fact that the two sections may carry an identical number of bristles, my construction provides a normal weight, balanced brush wherein the handle is practically a continuation of the two body portions or sections and still there is no break in the symmetry of the handle such as provided by the shoulder 28 of my prior patented invention. It will be noted that the projection or tongue 17 comprises a continuation of one portion of the handle, being substantially aligned with the narrow portion of the handle. The upper part of the section 10 engages over the tongue 17 to form a thoroughly symmetrical shape as appears clear from the section of Fig. 4. Since the bottom of the groove 18 limits the movement of the tongue 17, the uppermost portion of the section 10 never reaches the portion of the handle which starts to enlarge; that is to say, it never extends beyond the normay narrow neck portion of the handle. This construction simplifies manufacture, it being possible readily to manufacture the wooden portions of the brush on standard machines without substantial waste of lumber but it also provides for an extremely light, well balanced brush.

The provision of the central tongue and groove construction assures the two sections of the brush remaining in alignment, the fastening means 22 being only sufficient to prevent the sections sliding with respect to each other. The fastening member 22 is so constructed and arranged that it will not readily become contaminated with paint. A quick opening mechanism of any suitable type may be provided so that it is necessary only to release the fastening mechanism slightly and move the section 10 to a desired position using the thumb while grasping the handle 12 in the fingers of the same hand. The fastening means can be entirely removed and the two sections separated from each other for cleaning. This cleaning feature alone is of unusual advantage and warrants the use of the brush of my invention even though the adjustability feature thereof should not be employed.

Here, as in my previously described patent, I have provided a paint brush having a pair of brush heads each carrying a complement of bristles, and each head having a generally flat side and the flat side of the two heads disposed together to form in effect a single composite head so that the handle carried by one head forms a continuation of both heads, or, in other words, a continuation of the single composite head. As contrasted with my previous invention, however, the flat side associated with the handle has a tongue and the flat side of the remaining head has a groove for receiving such tongue. The said tongue and groove, preferably, are self-locking because of the sides of the groove being undercut and the tongue being shaped to extend into said undercut sides. The single fastening means extends through the tongue and groove and through the hole and longitudinal slot provided to receive such fastening means and is adequate to support the heads of the position to which they are adjusted. In other words, many of the significant and advantageous features of my prior invention have been retained but with much greater advantage because of the improvements herein described.

I have described the improvements of my present invention in detail so that those skilled in the art will understand the same but my invention is limited only by the scope of the appended claims.

What I claim as new and desire to protect by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. A paint brush of the character described comprising a handle and a two-section head each having a body portion and a set of bristles secured thereto, one head section being secured to the handle and the handle comprising an extension of the two sections running parallel to said bristles, the section carrying the handle having a tongue extending into a groove of the second section said tongue and groove being on axes parallel to said bristles, and a single fastening means extending through said body portion to hold the head section in adjusted position.

2. A paint brush as defined in claim 1 wherein said groove is relatively longer than said tongue whereby to permit transverse alignment of ends of said bristles or projection of either set of bristles beyond the other.

3. A paint brush comprising a pair of brush heads with flat sides, each carrying bristles, and disposed with their flat sides together, said flat sides having a tongue and groove running longitudinally of the paint brush, a longitudinal slot being provided in said groove and a hole in said tongue, a single fastening means extending through said slot and hole, and a handle integral with one of said heads and shaped to comprise substantially a continuation of both heads, said handle and tongue and groove being on axes parallel to the bristles and parallel with each other, the said groove being undercut and the tongue extending into the undercut portion thereof, whereby the two heads may be adjusted with respect to each other longitudinally and the single fastening means is adequate to maintain the heads in a position to which they are adjusted.

4. A paint brush of the character described comprising a handle and a two-section bristle carrying head, one head section being secured to the handle and the handle comprising an extension of the two sections, the section carrying the handle having a tongue extending into a groove of the second head section, whereby to permit relative lengthwise movement between the head sections, and means for holding the said sections against such relative movement, said handle and tongue and groove being on axes parallel to each other and parallel to the bristles on said head sections, the said paint brush having substantially the weight, balance and size of a generally corresponding single head section brush.

ERNEST L. HAWKINS.