J. C. MATTHEWS.

CLEANING DEVICE.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 10, 1918.

1,320,260. Patented Oct. 28, 1919.

Fig. 1.

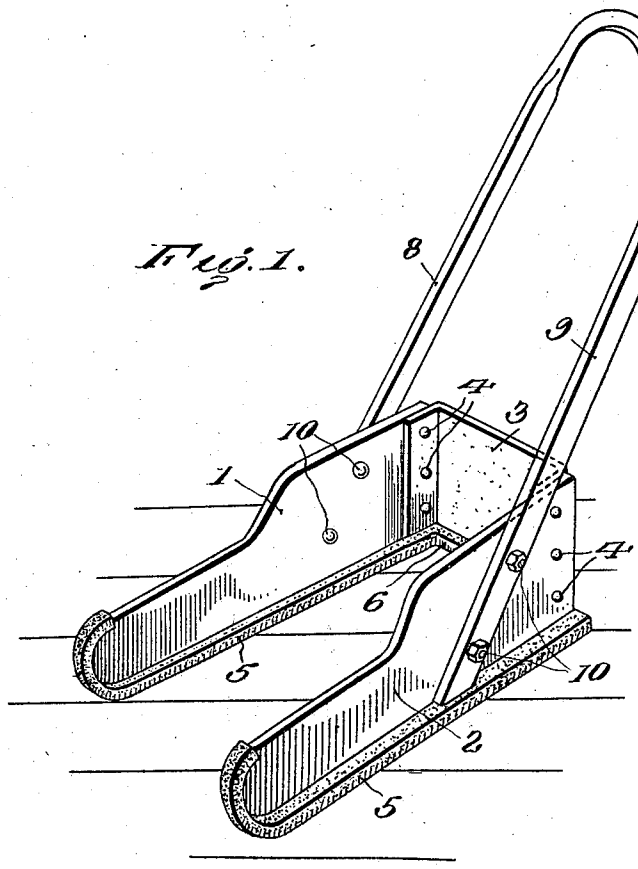


Fig. 2.

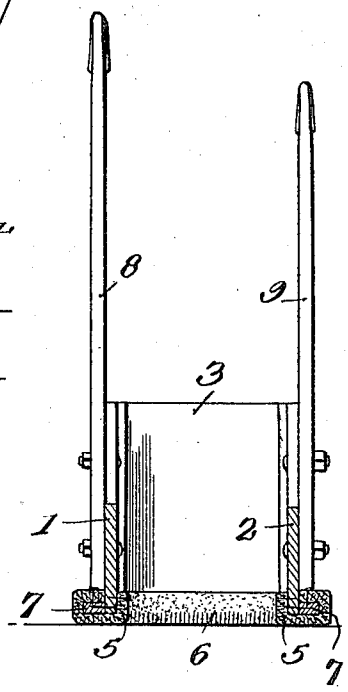
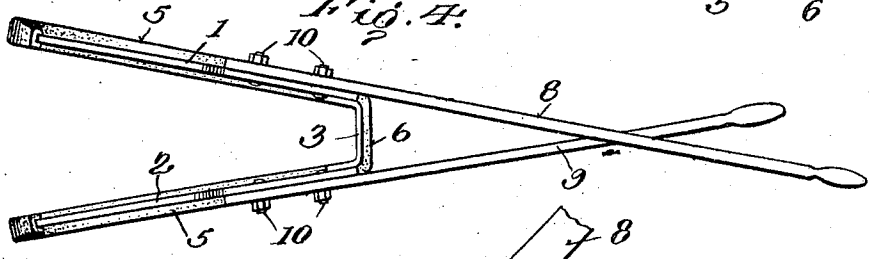


Fig. 4.



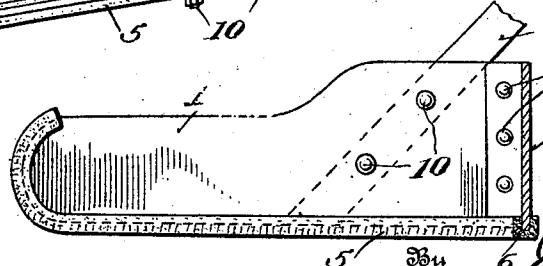


Fig. 3.

Inventor

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By

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN C. MATTHEWS, OF TRION, GEORGIA.

CLEANING DEVICE.

1,320,260. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 28, 1919.

Application filed December 10, 1918. Serial No. 266,058.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN C. MATTHEWS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Trion, in the county of Chattooga and State of Georgia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cleaning Devices, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improved cleaning device, and contemplates more particularly a sweeper for cleansing and polishing floors and similar surfaces.

An object of the present invention is the production of an easily handled cleaning device comprising complementary sweeping members hinged together at one end, and adapted to be pushed or dragged over a surface for gathering dust, dirt, waste material, and the like.

Another object of this invention is to produce a sweeper which can be cheaply made, and at the same time possess advantages of durability greatly in excess of the wearing qualities of the ordinary broom.

The invention further consists in the construction and arrangement of the several parts hereinafter described, and pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings which show an embodiment of the invention;—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved cleaning and polishing device.

Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional view thereof.

Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view, and

Fig. 4 is a plan view illustrating the manner in which the complementary sweeping members may be moved toward or away from each other through the manipulation of the controlling handles.

My present invention has been primarily designed for gathering lint, dirt, and waste material in and about mill machinery where the alleys are required to be kept clean and preferably polished.

Referring to the drawings in which similar reference characters designate corresponding parts, the cleaning device comprises complementary sweeping members 1 and 2, joined together by means of a hinge connection 3. The hinge is preferably of some flexible material such as leather, raw hide, etc., and is joined to the sides of the sweeping members 1 and 2 by any suitable means, such for example as rivets 4.

The intermediate portion of the hinge may constitute the back wall of the sweeper as shown, or a separate back wall may be interposed and similarly joined to the sweeping members.

Secured to the lower edges of the sweeping members are gathering and polishing strips 5 formed of card fillet, or fabric filled somewhat closely with very fine wire. In some cases a brushing material of bristles may be attached to said edges, and I do not limit myself to the exact form herein contained. The lower edge of the back wall, or hinge is also preferably provided with a strip of similar material 6. The strips 5 and 6 may be continuous if desired.

This strip material is adapted to adhere in a partially frictional manner to the surface being cleaned, thereby insuring the collection of all waste material, and at the same time produce a polish over the surface traveled. It is secured to the flange or board 7 secured to the sweeping members, as shown in Fig. 2.

By this construction the material is firmly attached to the sweeping members, and a substantial cleaning and polishing edge of sufficient width is obtained.

Suitable handles 8 and 9 are secured to the complementary sweeping members 1 and 2 by means of bolts 10. The handle 8 is slightly longer than handle 9 as shown, the purpose being to readily facilitate the crossing of said handles during the manipulation of the sweeper, as indicated in Fig. 4.

In use my improved sweeper is grasped by the handles 8 and 9, and pushed or dragged over the surface to be cleaned, with the sweeping members however, sufficiently spread to gather the refuse or waste and direct same between said members and rearwardly against the back wall or hinge. The rear portion of the sweeping members may be slightly higher than the front curved ends to permit the accumulation of the waste material collected. When dirt and lint, and other waste material is to be collected from in and about machines and the like, the complementary sweeping members can be manipulated so as to vary the width of the opening between the free ends thereof for adapting the sweeper to the place to be cleaned. During this operation the sweeper need not be lifted from the floor, but simply pushed or dragged as the case may be.

This method produces but slight effort on the part of the operative, and is not tiresome or inconvenient as is the broom sweeping way of cleaning factory and mill floors. It will also be apparent that the polish left on the floor after the passage of the sweeper, cannot be obtained through the use of the ordinary broom.

Minor changes in the form and proportion of my invention may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention, and I do not limit myself to the exact construction herein set forth.

I claim:—

1. A cleaning device of the class described comprising flexibly connected sweeping members between which the collected material is gathered, and means for moving the cleaning device and aforesaid sweeping members.

2. A cleaning device of the class described comprising flexibly connected sweeping members each having a cleaning edge adapted to bear upon the surface being cleansed and means comprising handles extending from said sweeping members for moving the same and the cleaning device.

3. A cleaning device of the class described comprising complementary sweeping members, a hinge connection for said members, a cleaning edge being provided on each sweeping member and hinge connection, and means for moving the cleaning device and the aforesaid complementary sweeping members.

4. A cleaning device of the class described comprising complementary sweeping members hinged at one end and separably movable at the other end thereof, and means attached to said sweeping members for separably moving same, and the cleaning device.

5. A cleaning device of the class described comprising hinged complementary sweeping members each having a flanged edge, a cleaning and polishing material secured to said flanged edges, and means for moving the free ends of said complementary sweeping members toward and away from each other.

6. A cleaning device of the class described comprising hinged complementary sweeping members between which the waste material is collected, and means for moving the open free ends of said sweeping members toward and away from each other, said means including oppositely disposed handles of different lengths extending from the aforesaid sweeping members.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

JOHN C. MATTHEWS.

Witnesses:
C. P. THOMPSON,
B. F. FLOURNOY.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."