

No. 721,237.

PATENTED FEB. 24, 1903.

R. J. RILEY.

## ERASER CLEANER.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 23, 1902.

NO MODEL.

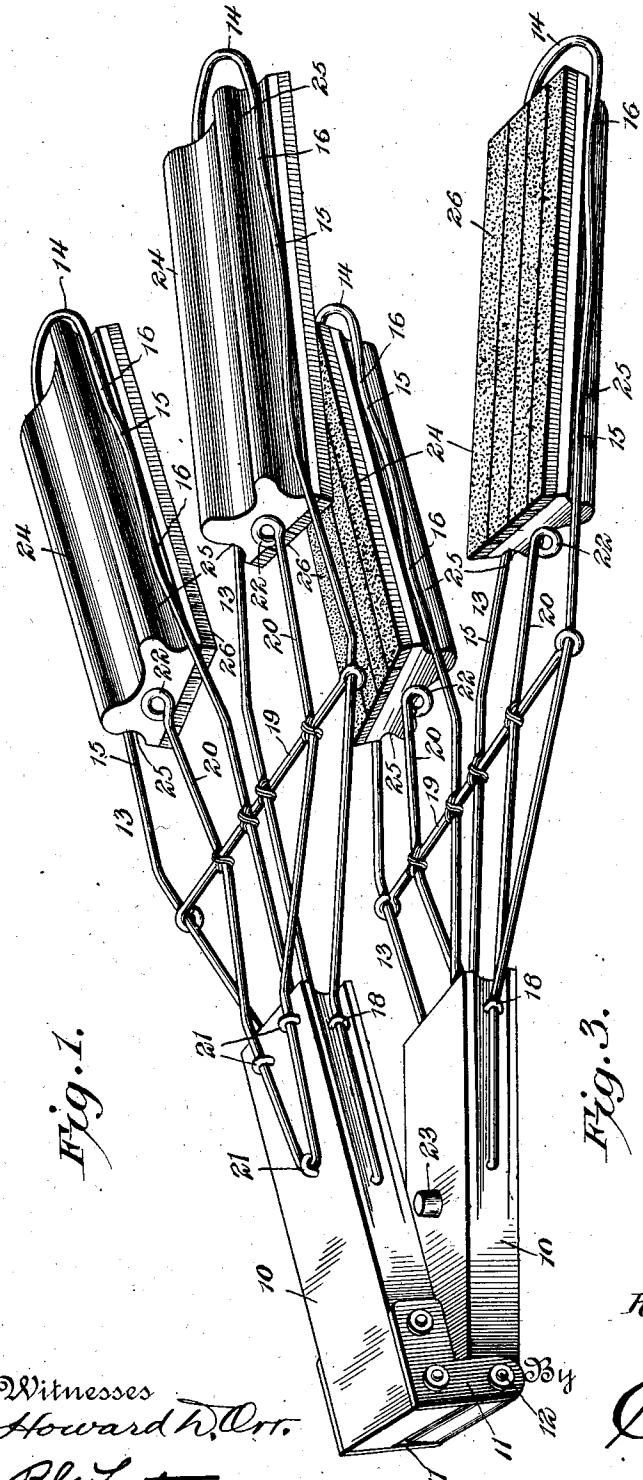


Fig. 3.

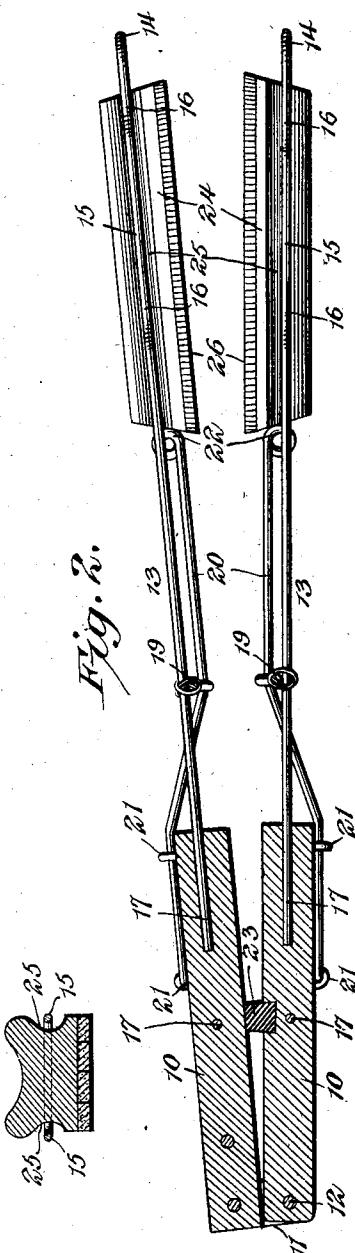


Fig. 2.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT J. RILEY, OF ZION CITY, ILLINOIS.

## ERASER-CLEANER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 721,237, dated February 24, 1903.

Application filed June 23, 1902. Serial No. 112,924. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT J. RILEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Zion City, in the county of Lake and State of Illinois, have 5 invented a new and useful Eraser-Cleaner, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in blackboard-eraser cleaners; and the object thereof is to provide an instrument of the above character with which a plurality of erasers can be simultaneously cleaned and held at a convenient distance from the operator to avoid the disagreeable feature and annoyance of the escaping dust. It further 5 more does away with the objectionable manner of cleaning erasers upon the window-sills or walls of school buildings.

The preferred embodiment of the invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings 20 and described in the following specification; but it will be apparent that the construction set forth is open to various changes and modifications within the scope of the claims here- 25 to appended.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved cleaner. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view through the same, showing the two elements in their normal position. Fig. 3 is a cross-sectional view through 30 one of the arms.

Similar numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

In the preferred embodiment of the invention 35 a pair of handle-blocks 10 are employed, one of which is provided at one end with a pair of ears 11, that embrace the corresponding end of the other section. These ears are pivoted to said section by a suitable rivet 12.

The other ends of the handle-blocks carry 40 spring-arms 13, that are movable toward and from each other upon the movement of the blocks and are constructed to support the erasers with their rubbing-faces in opposing 45 relation, as will be clearly seen. As these arms are similar in all respects, but one need be described. It is formed of a looped wire 14, constituting a pair of spaced arms 15, ar- 50 ranged to embrace the eraser, as shown, these arms having inwardly-extending bearing por-

and a suitable staple 18 may also be employed for more securely fastening said wire. In the present construction two arms are arranged 55 upon each block 10, though more or less may be employed, as desired, and these arms are connected by a cross-brace 19, fastened to intermediate portions of the side rods 15, comparatively close to the adjacent end of the 60 handle-block. Spring retaining-fingers 20 are also attached to the handle-block by means of staples 21, these fingers being also secured to the cross-brace 19 and having their ends free and provided with eyes, as 22. A 65 buffer in the form of a rubber block 23 is interposed between the handle-blocks, being embedded in one and arranged to abut against the other to normally hold the spring-arms in slightly-spaced relation, as shown in Fig. 2. 70

In using this device the erasers 24 are secured in the ends of the arms between the spaced rods, which practically form seats for the same. These rods engage in the usual grooves 25, formed in the opposite side faces 75 of the erasers, thus securely holding them against lateral movement. Their longitudinal displacement is prevented by the spring-arms 20, the free ends 22 of which bear against the ends of the eraser and hold them at the 80 ends of the arms. The erasers are thus held with their rubbing-faces 26 in opposing relation, and the operator, grasping the handle-blocks and holding the arms away from the body, may readily beat the erasers together. 85 During the movement of the arms toward each other the buffer 23 will bring the blocks to a quick stop, and the resiliency of the arms will permit the erasers to come together. They will immediately spring apart, however, and 90 thus the dust and dirt released by the impact can readily escape. The erasers may be held sufficiently far from the operator to prevent any annoyance from the escaping dust, and the apparatus is very advantageous in this 95 one particular. Furthermore, it will entirely obviate the necessity of beating out the erasers upon window-sills or walls of buildings, an ob- 100 jectionable practice which is now almost universally followed.

From the foregoing it is thought that the construction, operation, and many advantages of the herein-described invention will be apparent to those skilled in the art without

further description, and it will be understood that various changes in the size, shape, proportion, and minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

10. 1. In an eraser-cleaner, coacting oppositely-arranged arms, and means for securing erasers upon the arms with their rubbing-faces in opposing relation.
15. 2. In an eraser-cleaner, the combination with pivotally-associated arms movable toward and from each other, of means for securing erasers upon the arms with their rubbing-faces in opposing relation.
20. 3. In an eraser-cleaner, pivotally-associated arms movable toward and from each other, and having seats adapted to receive and hold erasers with their rubbing-faces in opposing relation.
25. 4. In an eraser-cleaner, the combination with pivotally-associated arms movable toward and from each other, of means for securing erasers upon the arms with their rubbing-faces in opposing relation, and a yielding device for normally holding the arms a slight distance apart.
30. 5. In an eraser-cleaner, the combination with pivotally-associated spring-arms movable toward and from each other, of a stop or buffer interposed between the arms to limit their movement toward each other, and means for securing erasers upon the arms with their rubbing-faces in opposing relation.
35. 6. In an eraser-cleaner, pivotally-associated spring-arms movable toward and from each other and comprising spaced rods arranged to embrace the erasers and hold them with their rubbing-faces in opposing relation.
40. 7. In an eraser-cleaner, the combination with pivotally-associated spring-arms mov-

able toward and from each other and comprising spaced rods arranged to embrace the erasers and hold them with their rubbing-faces in opposing relation, of holding-fingers arranged between the rods of the arms and engaging the ends of the erasers.

8. In an eraser-cleaner of the class described, the combination with pivotally-connected handle-blocks movable toward and from each other, of a buffer interposed between the blocks to limit their movement toward each other, and spring-arms attached to the blocks and comprising spaced rods arranged to embrace the erasers and hold them with their rubbing-faces in opposing relation.

9. In an eraser-cleaner, the combination with handle-blocks pivoted together at one end, of a rubber buffer interposed between the blocks to limit their movement toward each other, spring-arms attached to the free ends of the blocks and comprising looped wires having their ends fastened to the blocks, said looped wires being arranged to embrace the erasers and hold them with their rubbing-faces in opposing relation, and spring retaining-fingers secured to the arms and located within the loops to engage the ends of the eraser.

10. In an eraser-cleaner, the combination with handle-blocks pivoted together at one end, of spring-arms attached to the blocks and comprising looped wires arranged to embrace the erasers and hold them with their rubbing-faces in opposing relation, and spring retaining-fingers secured to the arms and located within the loops to engage the ends of the eraser.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

ROBERT J. RILEY.

Witnesses:

C. H. ESTREM,  
U. G. BLOSE.