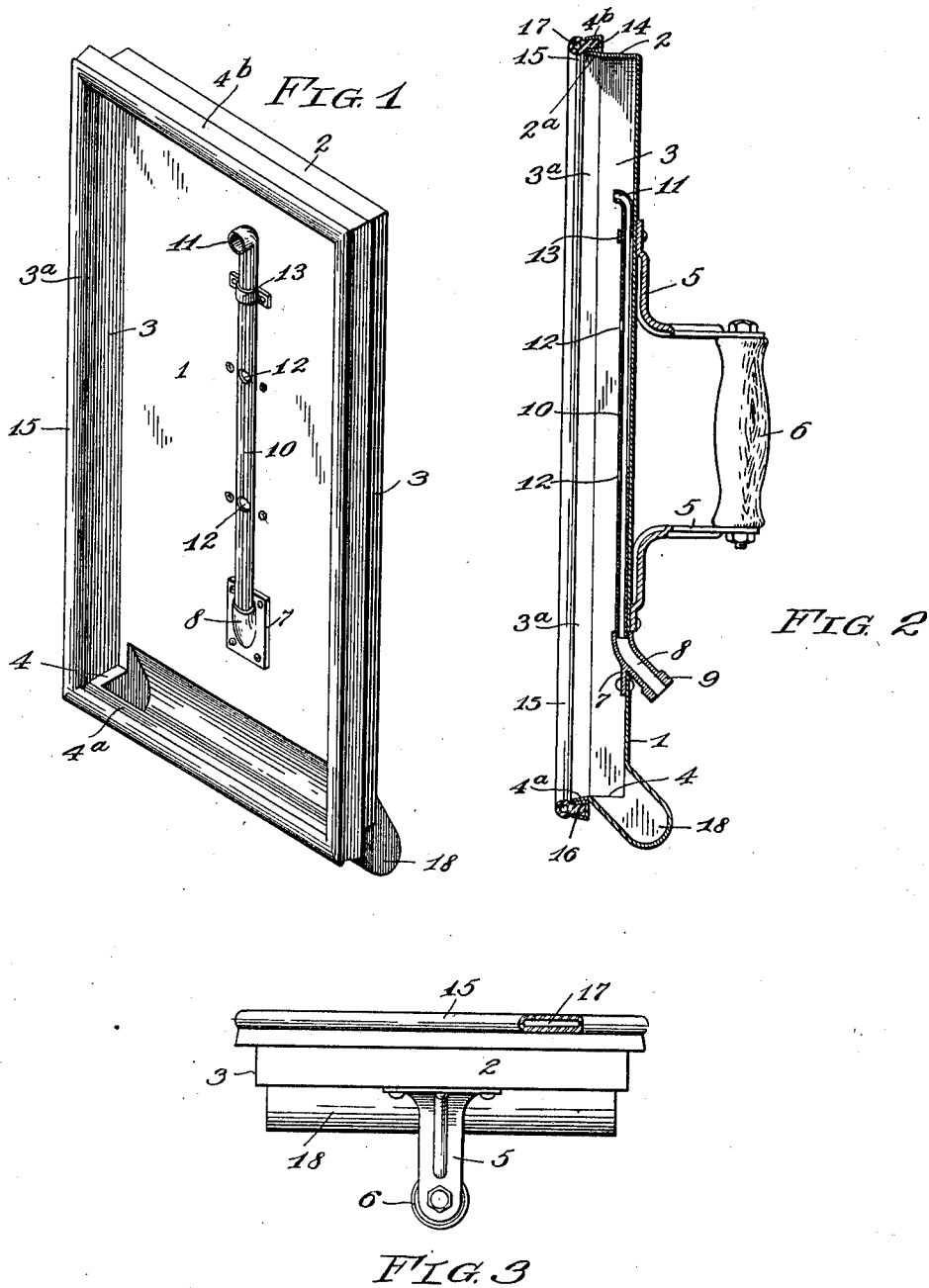


J. H. FOSTER.
WALL PAPER REMOVER.
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1,021,184.

Patented Mar. 26, 1912.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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WALL-PAPER REMOVER.

1,021,184.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES H. FOSTER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Wall-Paper Removers, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to devices for removing wall paper, paint, and the like, by the application of steam to the surface to be cleaned, the device being exemplified in a box-like construction having a connection for supplying steam to the interior thereof and being provided with an edge which is adapted to retain the steam within the box and prevent its escape between such edge and the surface being treated.

It is the object of this invention to provide a device of this kind which is particularly efficient in operation, which is economical of production, and which is convenient of manipulation.

Still further, and generally, the invention may be defined as consisting of the combinations of elements embodied in the claims hereto annexed and illustrated in the drawings forming part hereof, wherein—

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a device constructed in accordance with my invention; Fig. 2 a central vertical sectional view through the device shown in the preceding figure, and Fig. 3 a top plan view of said device.

Describing the device by reference characters, 1 denotes the back of a box-like casing, made preferably of sheet metal, 2 the top, 3 the sides of the box and 4 the bottom. The back is provided with a handle, said handle being conveniently formed from a pair of angular stampings 5 riveted to the back, said stampings supporting the handle proper 6, which is preferably of wood or other non-conducting material. To the inner face of the back there is riveted a plate 7, said plate having formed therewith a connection 8, one end of the connection projecting outwardly through an aperture in the back and being provided with an enlarged end 9 to which a flexible steam supply pipe (not shown) may be connected.

The inner end of the connection 8 has fitted thereinto the distributing pipe 10.

This pipe may be secured in place, as by solder, and is provided with an inwardly directed end 11 having a discharge outlet and has, between such end and the plate 7, additional discharge outlets 12, formed in the body of the pipe. Near the end remote from the plate 7, the pipe is secured to the back, as by means of a sheet metal clip 13 extending around the pipe and riveted to the back.

As will appear more clearly from Fig. 2, the top, bottom and side walls are flared outwardly near the front edge of the box, as shown at 2^a, 3^a and 4^a. The front edge portions of the metal of the box are bent backwardly, outwardly, and forwardly to form a dove-tailed channel 14. The outwardly flared walls 2^a, 3^a and 4^a form a support for the wall 4^b of said channel adjacent thereto. In this channel there is fitted a strip of flexible, yielding material, preferably rubber. This strip comprises a rounded front portion 15 and a flared rear portion 16, such flared rear portion being dove-tailed in shape and being adapted to fit within the channel 14. For the purpose of lightening the weight of the material of which the strip is constructed and at the same time make it more yielding, whereby it may adjust itself to the irregularities in the surface being treated and prevent the escape of steam, I make the strip 15 hollow, as shown at 17.

In operating devices of the character shown herein, water of condensation is liable to collect in the box and to accumulate around the lower edge thereof, interfering with the work. To prevent the water of condensation from accumulating where it will retard the work, I form a receptacle 18 projecting downwardly and rearwardly from the bottom wall 4 and from the lower portion of the back wall 1, the front wall of said receptacle merging with the bottom wall substantially at the junction of the outwardly flared portion 4^a of said wall with the body 4 thereof. This receptacle is somewhat shorter than the width of the back and bottom walls of the box. Owing to the location of the receptacle and the manner of constructing the same, it will not be necessary to provide it with a drain valve, as its capacity will be sufficiently great to prevent it from filling with water

for a considerable length of time. The receptacle may be very conveniently emptied, during the intervals between the application of the box to the wall, by merely inverting the box.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. A device of the character set forth comprising in combination a box-like structure having an open front, the side walls thereof having their front portions bent to form a dovetail channel, and a strip of yielding material fitted to said channel and projecting forwardly beyond the edges of said walls.

2. In a device of the character specified, the combination of an open fronted box having a back and forwardly projecting sheet metal sides, said sides being flared outwardly adjacent to their front edges and the metal of which said sides are composed being bent rearwardly, outwardly, and forwardly to form a dove-tailed channel one wall of which is in substantial contact with the outwardly flared portions of the sides, and a strip of flexible or yielding material mounted in said channel and conforming to the shape thereof the forward edge thereof projecting beyond the edges of said sides.

3. In a device of the character specified, the combination of a box-like structure having forwardly projecting sides and a strip of hollow, yielding material applied to said sides, near their front portions, together with means for supplying a heating agent to the interior of said box.

4. In a device of the character specified, the combination of a box-like structure having forwardly projecting sides and a channel extending around the front edge portions of such sides, and a strip of flexible, yielding material applied to said channel, said strip having its inner portion substantially cylindrical in section and provided with a bore extending therethrough, together with means for supplying a heating agent to the interior of said box.

5. A device of the character specified comprising a box-like structure having a downwardly directed trough or receptacle extending from the bottom thereof, and means for

supplying condensable vapor to the interior of said structure.

6. In a device of the character specified, the combination of a box-like structure having forwardly projecting sides, and a strip of yielding material applied to and extending around the front edge portions of said sides, the bottom being provided with a downwardly extending trough or receptacle located at the rear of said strip and the front edge portion of the box, together with means for supplying condensable vapor to the interior of said structure.

7. In a device of the character specified, the combination of a box-like structure, a strip of yielding material applied to and extending around the front of said structure, and a downwardly extending trough or receptacle located outside of said strip and extending downwardly below the bottom portion of the strip, together with means for supplying condensable vapor to the interior of said structure.

8. In a device of the character specified, the combination of a box-like structure having a back and forwardly projecting side walls, a plate secured to the inner surface of the back and having a connection, one end of said connection projecting within said back and the other end of said connection being located outside of said back, and a fluid distributing pipe carried by the inner end of said connection.

9. In a device of the character specified, the combination of a box-like structure having a back and forwardly projecting side walls, a plate secured to the inner surface of the back and having a fluid supply connection, a fluid distributing pipe carried by said connection and extending along said back, said pipe having a plurality of discharge orifices, and means, additional to the plate, for securing the pipe to said back.

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

JAMES H. FOSTER.

Witnesses:

HENRY W. KLUG,

EDWIN MANN.