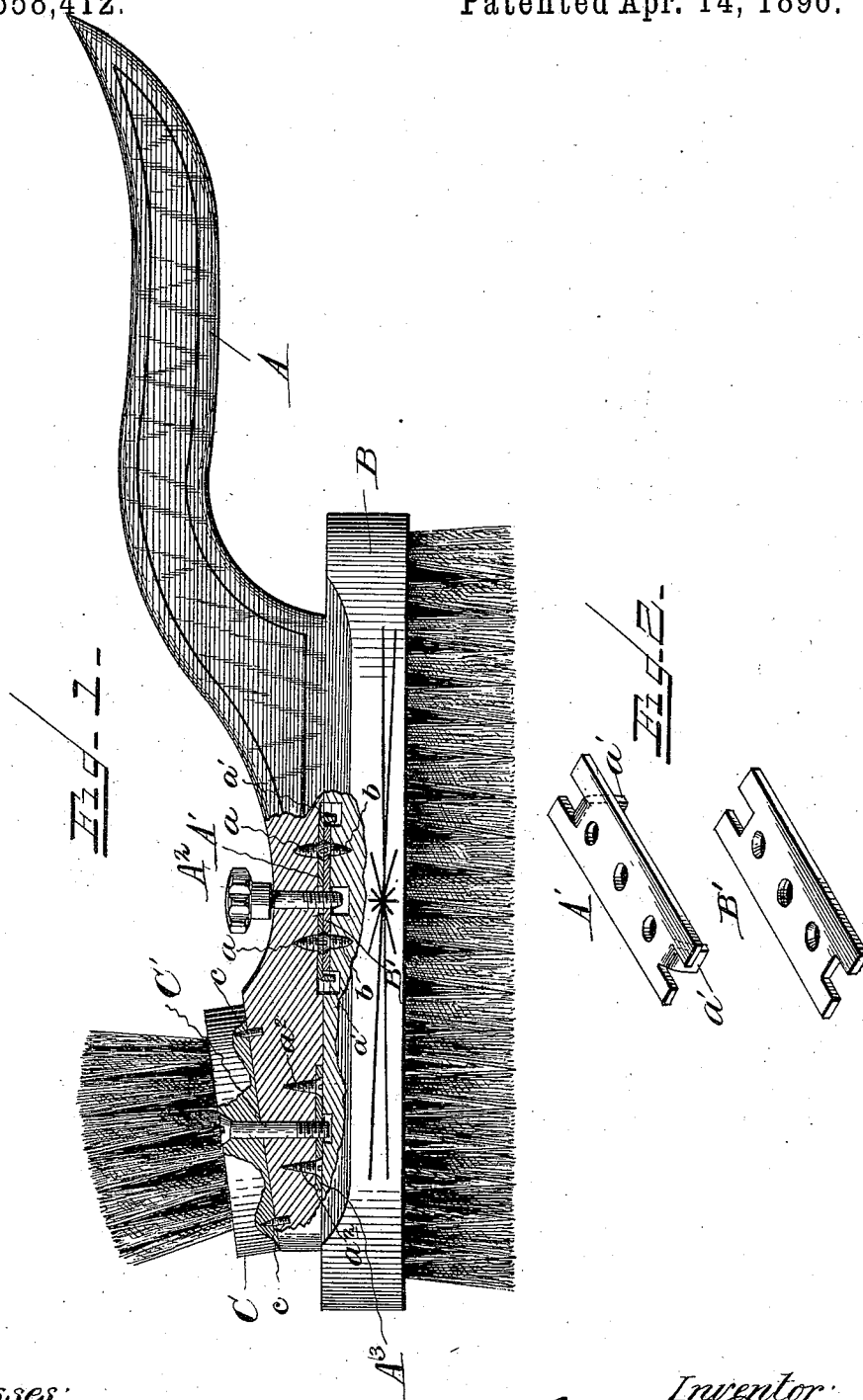


(No Model.)

G. P. NEAL.
BLACKING BRUSH.

No. 558,412.

Patented Apr. 14, 1896.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE P. NEAL, OF EVANSVILLE, INDIANA.

BLACKING-BRUSH.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 558,412, dated April 14, 1896.

Application filed November 27, 1895. Serial No. 570,314. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE P. NEAL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Evansville, in the county of Vanderburg and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Blacking-Brushes; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My said invention relates to shoe-blackening brushes of that character wherein the brush is reversible in relation to the handle; and it consists in certain improvements in the means employed for reversibly securing said brush and handle together, and also in a brush wherein not only the polishing-brush but the "dauber" is also reversible upon the handle, all as will be hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, which are made a part hereof, and on which similar letters of reference indicate similar parts, Figure 1 is a side elevation of a shoe-brush embodying my said improvements, portions thereof being broken away to show the connection between the two brushes and the handle in central longitudinal section. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of two interlocking plates constituting a portion of the means employed for connecting the polishing-brush and handle.

In said drawings the portion marked A represents the handle of the brush, B the polishing-brush, and C the dauber.

The handle and the two brushes are or may be in themselves of a common form and construction, my invention relating especially to the means whereby they are reversibly secured to each other.

The handle A is formed with a horizontal lower face of a length adapted to rest firmly upon the central portion of the back of the polishing-brush throughout the greater portion of its length. Midway of said horizontal face a metal plate A' is secured by means of screws a, the heads of which are flush with the face of said plate, which is also "let into" said handle until its outer face is substantially flush with the face thereof. The central portions of said plate at each end are

bent downward, as shown in Fig. 2, forming downwardly-projecting lugs a'. A thumb-screw A² extends through a vertical perforation in said handle and a central perforation in said plate which registers therewith and engages with a screw-threaded perforation in the back of the brush B, as will be presently described. Near the front end of said handle another metal plate A³ is let into its horizontal face and secured by screws a², which plate is provided with a central screw-threaded perforation, with which the screw which secures the dauber is adapted to engage.

The brush B has a plate B' let into its back at the position to register with the plate A', being secured by screws b and provided with a central screw-threaded perforation, with which the thumb-screw A² in the handle is adapted to engage. Each end of said plate B' is notched, as shown in Fig. 2, and mortises or recesses are formed in the back of the brush B immediately beneath said notches, which are adapted to receive the downwardly-projecting lugs a' of the plate A'. The two plates thus interlocking, and being adapted to be tightly drawn together by the screw A², the handle is held securely and rigidly to the brush.

The dauber C is provided with a central perforation, through which a screw C' extends down through a perforation in the handle and engages with the screw-threaded perforation in the plate A³ on the under side of said handle. Brads or lugs c set into the face of the handle, upon which the dauber rests, on each side of said screw C', engage with depressions or perforations in the adjacent face of the back of said dauber, and thus secure it from revolving on said screw, which, when tightly drawn, holds said dauber very rigid.

In use, as will be readily understood, the position of the brush B may be reversed upon the handle A by loosening the screw A² until the lugs a' of the plate A' may be freed from their engagement with the notches in the ends of the plate B', when said brush may be turned until its position is reversed, the lugs and notches of said plates reengaged, and the screw A² tightened until the parts are again firmly secured to each other; also, when the dauber C' becomes worn upon one side its position may be conveniently reversed by in-

serting a screw-driver between the bristles to engage with the slot in the head of the screw C', which may be then backed out sufficiently to permit the brush C to be released from its engagement with the projections c, when it can be turned to the position desired and the screw C' again turned up to secure it in this position. By this construction a brush is provided of unusual durability in that both brushes may be reversed as often as wear upon them makes it desirable to do so and both sides or end of the brushes thereby worn evenly.

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

1. A blacking-brush composed of a handle and a dauber and polishing-brush, said dauber and polishing-brush being each reversibly secured to said handle by interlocking plates having a central securing device and interconnecting notches and prongs at points at a distance from said central securing device, substantially as set forth.

2. A blacking-brush consisting of the handle A, having the plate A' with the lugs a' on its ends secured thereto, the brush B with the plate B' having the central screw-threaded perforation therein secured thereto, and the

thumb-screw A² extending through said handle and engaging with said central screw-threaded perforations in said plate B', said plate B' being also provided with notches which are adapted to interlock with the lugs of said plate A', substantially as set forth.

3. The combination of the handle A, the plate A' secured to its under face, the brush B, the plate B' secured to the top thereof, said plates A' and B' being provided with interlocking parts, a set-screw extending through the handle and engaging with a screw-threaded perforation in said plate B', the plate A³ secured on the under side of said handle below the dauber, said dauber C secured to the top of said handle by a screw C' extending through the center thereof down through the handle and engaging with a screw-threaded perforation in said plate A³, and lugs or brads c secured in one part, on each side of said screw, and engaging with the other, whereby said dauber is firmly secured and may be reversed, substantially as set forth.

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

GEO. P. NEAL.

Witnesses:

B. C. WILKINSON,
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