

P. S. BURNS.
CLEANING AND POLISHING APPARATUS.
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991,131.

Patented May 2, 1911.

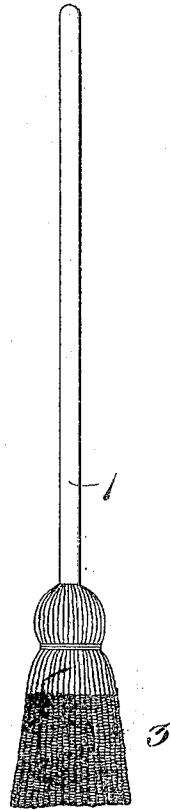


Fig. 1.

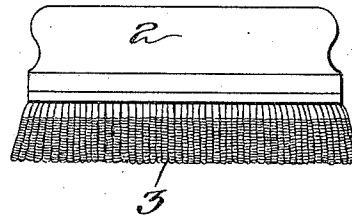


Fig. 2.

Witnesses:
Edward Maxwell
Arthur F. Randall

Inventor:
Peter S. Burns,
by Geo. S. Maxwell, Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PETER S. BURNS, OF MILTON, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO MILTON CHEMICAL COMPANY, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, A CORPORATION OF MASSACHUSETTS.

CLEANING AND POLISHING APPARATUS.

991,131.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 2, 1911.

Application filed November 21, 1908. Serial No. 463,741.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PETER S. BURNS, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Milton, in the county of Norfolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Cleaning and Polishing Apparatus, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like letters on the drawings representing like parts.

My invention is a device for cleaning and polishing the surfaces of wood, metal and other objects, and its particular excellence consists in providing an apparatus capable of absorbing or taking up the dirt, dust, etc., and holding said foreign matter within itself, and yet in such a way that the more or less oily and otherwise inflammable body will not spontaneously ignite, notwithstanding its dense nature which would otherwise be subject to spontaneous combustion.

In the accompanying drawings, I have shown my invention applied to a mop in Figure 1, and to a black-board eraser in Fig. 2, both of said figures showing the devices in side elevation.

It will be understood that my invention is applicable to a wide range of embodiments, being herein illustrated in a mop 1 and eraser 2 as a matter of convenience.

When a large mass of fibrous material such as shown, consisting of cotton, wool, or other suitable materials for the purpose, becomes more or less impregnated with oily matter it is very liable to ignite spontaneously, and it is well known that fires from this cause are common. Accordingly I provide the brush, eraser, broom, mop, or other duster or cleaner or polisher, with a cleaning or polishing portion 3 consisting of fibrous material having an oily dust-absorbing surface containing a non-combustible element or otherwise having a non-combustible character. Preferably the portion 3 is formed by impregnating the cotton, wool, or other fiber with a compound of rape-seed oil and paraffin oil, the compound being very lightly used so as not to give any oily exudation, but present in sufficient amount only to take up the dust and dirt

without soiling or smearing in the slightest the object being cleaned or polished. For a mop or heavy article I employ about 40% of rape-seed oil or other heavy absorbent drying (including semi-drying) vegetable oil, mineral oil, or animal oil, with about 60% of non-spontaneously combustible oil such as paraffin oil, the proportion of the latter being less on lighter articles. The drying oils, including semi-drying oils, when put upon cotton, wool or other fibrous combustible material, would make the said cotton, wool or other fibrous material liable to spontaneous combustion, and I prevent this liability to spontaneous combustion by first mixing with said drying oils a large proportion of non-spontaneously combustible oils, such as paraffin oil.

The impregnated region 3 is at least co-extensive with the polishing and cleaning portion of the apparatus, and while it is not necessary or advisable to have the entire article thus constituted, I wish it understood that my invention is present when the cleaning or polishing portion of the apparatus is of the nature described, irrespective of whether the remainder of the apparatus is the same or not.

Having described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:

A cleaning and polishing apparatus, containing a fibrous absorbent cleaning and polishing material, having its surface fibers rendered sufficiently oily with a drying oil to absorb finely subdivided dirt in the process of cleaning without liability to soil or render oily the object being cleaned, and impregnated with a controlling amount of non-spontaneously combustible ingredients rendering the impregnated oily fibrous material non-spontaneously combustible as a whole.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

PETER S. BURNS.

Witnesses:

M. J. SPALDING,
EDWARD MAXWELL.