H. P. ROBERTS.

SHOE BLACKING KIT.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 7, 1907. RENEWED AUG. 10, 1908.

906,742. Patented Dec. 15, 1908.

FIG. 1.

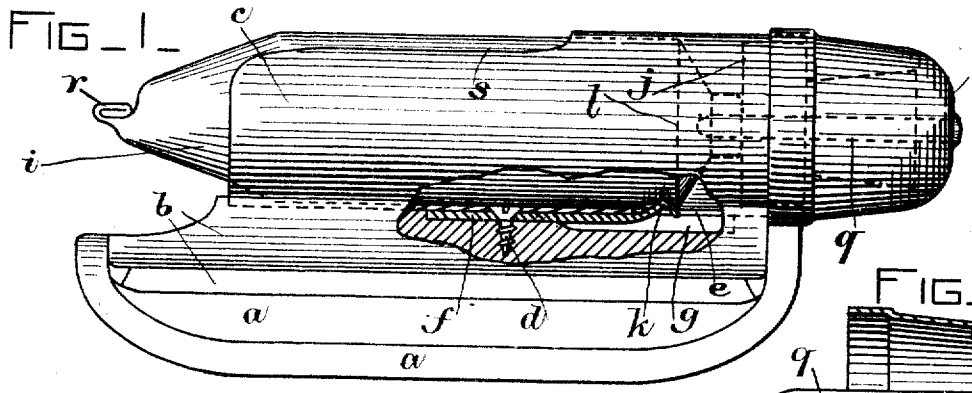


FIG. 5.

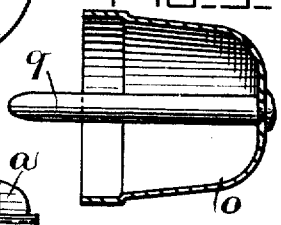
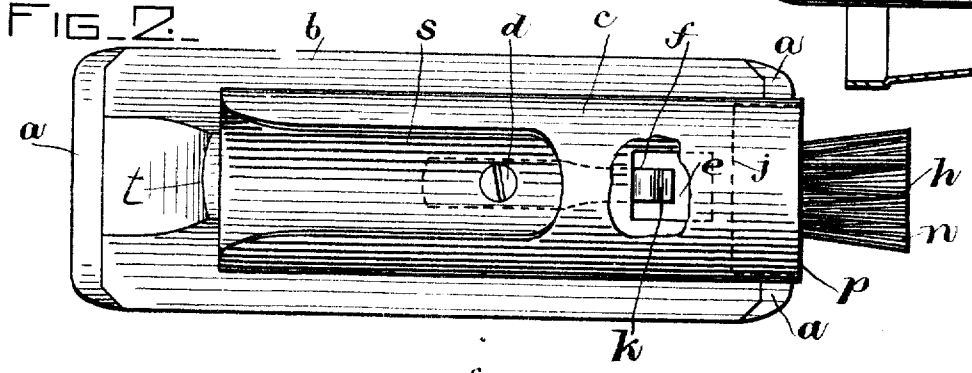


FIG. 2.



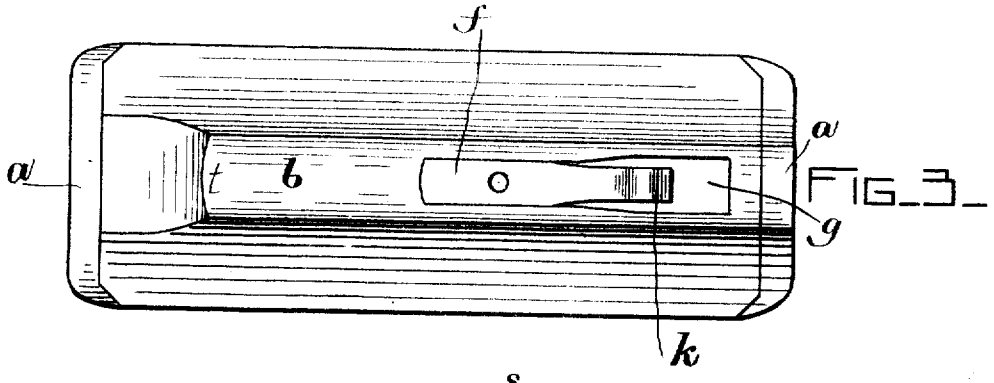
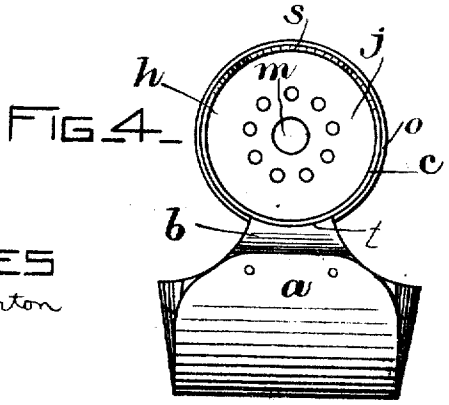


FIG. 3.

FIG. 4.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY P. ROBERTS, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO GRAVES AND GRAVES COMPANY, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, A CORPORATION OF MAINE.

SHOE-BLACKING KIT.

No. 906,742. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 15, 1908.

Application filed October 7, 1907, Serial No. 396,267. Renewed August 10, 1908. Serial No. 447,826.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY P. ROBERTS, a citizen of the United States, residing in Boston, in the county of Suffolk and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shoe-Blacking Kits, of which the following, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification.

My invention relates to means for blacking and polishing shoes, and concerns particularly unitary or self-contained groupings or kits of materials and implements, supplying all requirements for applying the blacking to and polishing the shoe.

It is understood that arrangements of this general type have been devised heretofore, so the novelty of this invention resides in the particular materials, and arrangements and groupings of implements selected.

The invention consists in a brush having a polishing surface, a receptacle provided with fittings for holding an open collapsible tube of blacking, a dauber arranged with its back to the tube of blacking and provided with a channel leading to the bristles of the dauber, a plunger adapted to enter the open tube of blacking after passing through the channel of the dauber, and a cap covering the dauber.

The invention furthermore consists in such arrangements and combinations of parts as may be more particularly pointed out and described.

The drawings show in: Figure 1, a side elevation of my shoe blacking brush with a collapsible tube of blacking held in position thereon. Fig. 2, a plan of the brush and the casing or shell for holding the tube of blacking. Fig. 3, a plan of the brush. Fig. 4, an end elevation of the brush and casing as viewed from the left of Fig. 2. Fig. 5, a longitudinal section of the cap for the casing and the plunger for closing the blacking tube.

The brush may be made in any usual manner, the one illustrated having a polishing facing *a* of felt, attached to a wooden backing *b*. The upper surface of the wooden backing is grooved or hollowed out longitudinally as at *t* to receive the cylindrical shell or casing *c*, which is fastened by the screw *d* to the wooden backing of the brush, and the said casing *c* serves as a handle to grip the brush, and also as a receptacle for holding a package of blacking, as *i*. I have found that collapsible tubes form the best packages for blacking of semi-liquid or fluid nature, as pressure can be thereby applied to the blacking causing it to flow from the tube, and such semi-liquid kinds of blacking appear to be well adapted to devices of the class being described. Between the casing *c* and the backing *b* of the brush, a spring *f* is located and held in place by the screw *d*. The end of the spring extends into a recess *g*, formed in the wooden backing of the brush, to permit free movement of the spring. The hole *e* admits the spring through the bottom of the casing.

To the front of the casing *c* is fastened the dauber *h*, and a collapsible tube *i* of blacking, from which the cover has been removed, is pushed into the casing or receptacle *c*, into close contact with the back *j* of the dauber, the tube of blacking being secured in place in the receptacle by the pressure of the upturned latch-like portion *k* of the spring *f*, which indents the soft metal of the tube *i*, just back of the stiff, rigid ring or edge *l* at the angular joint of the conical portion forming the mouth of the tube with the body of the said tube. When the blacking in the tube is exhausted, the tube is removed from the casing *c* by a smart backward jerk on the tube which causes the spring to retract and releases the edge *l* so the tube may be withdrawn from the casing. A hole *m* in the dauber, coincident with the mouth of the tube *i*, distributes the blacking forced therefrom by applying pressure at the opposite end of the tube *i*, to the bristles *n* as required, but when no blacking is being used, the dauber may be covered by the cap *o* that fits tightly over the end *p* of the casing.

There is a tendency for the blacking to harden in the mouth of the tube *i*, impeding or stopping flow of blacking through the dauber. To remedy this matter, I attach a plunger *q* to the cap *o*, which is long enough to pass through the channel of the dauber into the mouth of the tube *i*, where it may break up lumps of blacking adhering thereto, and also act to close the mouth of the tube, preventing the blacking spilling therefrom.

When using my appliance, the cap *o* is removed from the handle or receptacle *c*, and if blacking does not flow readily to the dauber, the end *r* of the tube *i* may be folded over thereby applying pressure to push blacking from the tube into the hole or channel in the dauber. The long slot *s* in the

casing *c* provides means for handling the tube *i* as its length decreases. Sufficient blacking is applied with the dauber *h* to the shoe, when the dauber may be covered by the cap *o*. The shoe may now be polished by the felted facing *a* of the brush as usual. In the appended claims, the term "kit" is used to distinguish the complete device, and the term "brush" for the polishing element made of felt, bristles, or an equivalent.

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

1. In a shoe blacking kit, a brush, a hollow handle on the brush, a dauber at one extremity of the handle, means for detachably holding the open end of a collapsible tube of blacking in the handle in contact with the base of the dauber, a cap for the extremity of the handle covering the dauber, and a plunger attached to the cap adapted to enter and close the open end of the collapsible tube of blacking in the handle, substantially as described.

2. In a shoe blacking kit, a brush, a dauber, a receptacle for an open tube of blacking, and a spring latch to secure the tube in the receptacle, substantially as described.

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

HENRY P. ROBERTS.

Witnesses:

CHAS. F. HOWE,

GEORGE CLARENDON HODGES.