No. 786,576. PATENTED APR. 4, 1905.

J. C. LOOK.

MOP OR BRUSH HOLDER.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 31, 1900.

Fig. 1.

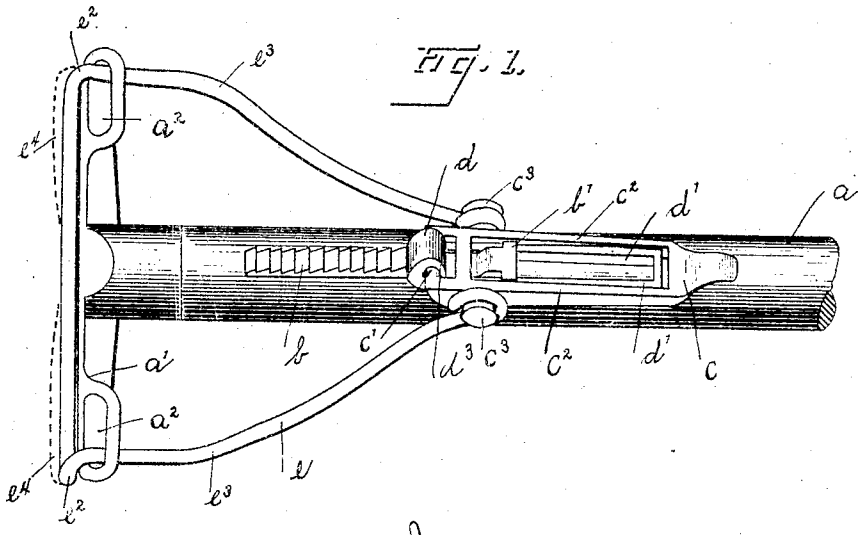
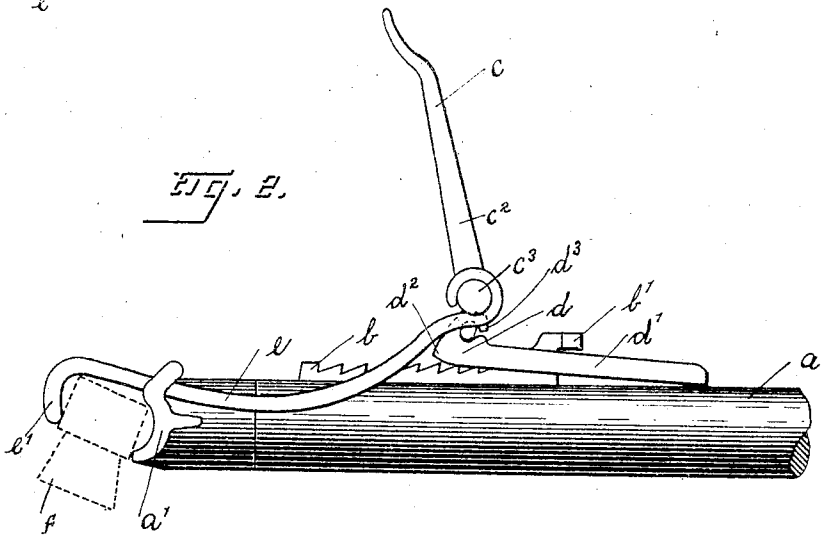


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

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No. 786,576. Patented April 4, 1905.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN C. LOOK, OF TUDOR, CALIFORNIA.

MOP OR BRUSH HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 786,576, dated April 4, 1905.

Application filed December 31, 1900. Serial No. 41,641.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN C. LOOK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Tudor, county of Sutter, State of California, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Mop or Brush Holders, of which the following is a specification.

The object of the improvement is to provide a mop or brush holder of strength and neatness and easiness of operation. This is accomplished by using a form of clamp-head having guides thereon, an adjustable lever, and a clamp having normally bow-shaped springs. As a mop-holder it presents compactness and neatness. As a brush-holder it presents the strength necessary for holding rigid objects. Also a great range of sizes of mops or brushes may be used.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the holder in the closed position. Fig. 2 is a side view in the open position.

a is the handle; *a'*, the clamp-head; *b*, *c*, and *d*, the adjustable lever device; *e*, the clamp.

The adjustable lever device here used is shown and claimed in my application, Serial No. 17,704, filed May 23, 1900; but any form of adjustable lever may be used. In the lever device here shown the ratchet *b* is fastened to the handle *a*, and the other parts are held in place by virtue of said fastening. The pawl *d* is slotted in its length, having parallel bars d' d', which operate over the ratchet and under the retainer b' of the ratchet. Its front end is provided with a catch d^2, that fits in the teeth of the ratchet. The lever *c* is attached to the pawl by closing the apron d^3 over the fulcrum-bar c'. The lever is slotted in its length, having bars c^2 c^2 for operating over the pawl and lugs c^3 c^3 for attaching the bail of the clamp.

On the clamp-head a' are slots a^2 a^2 for guiding the clamp-wire *e* through which it operates. The clamp-wire *e* is shaped in front to about a right angle or hook e' over the face of the clamp-head. Rearward of the guides a^2 a^2 or from the hook e' to the lugs c^3 c^3 the clamp-wire is formed into normally bow-shaped springs, and for a brush-holder are preferably curved in planes substantially at right angles to the longitudinal plane through the handle and clamp-head. This gives the brush the proper angle in respect to the handle, as seen in Fig. 2, dotted lines *f* being the brush.

The clamp-spring instead of curving directly from the end e^2 e^2 to the lugs c^3 c^3 may extend directly back to the point e^3 e^3 and then curve toward the lugs c^3 c^3. This leaves more room for inserting the mop. The clamp on the face of the clamp-head may also be curved and would be represented when open by the dotted lines e^4 e^4.

The springs are for the purpose of taking up the space between any two of the teeth of the ratchet, for in holding rigid objects or a hard mop if it is not tight enough in one tooth the lever by the action of the spring may be placed in the next tooth back and be made very tight.

The operation is as follows: The lever *c* is raised, as in Fig. 2. This draws the pawl *d* out of the teeth on the ratchet. The clamp is then open for inserting the mop. For closing the clamp the lever and pawl are moved back to the required tooth and the lever put down.

My invention is to be distinguished from the prior art in that I am the first to combine with a device for bringing together the clamping-jaws of the clamp step by step—that is to say, a device in the nature of a ratchet as distinguished from a device in the nature of a screw which draws together the clamping-jaws by infinitesimal gradations—and combining with such a step-by-step device a single continuous clamp-wire which is normally bow-shaped or curved on both sides to a degree that the clamping action tends to straighten the said clamp-wire. The said degree must be such that part of the curve lies on both sides of a direct line from the point of the hook e' to the pivot-point c^3 on the lever, as a bow-shaped spring-wire drawn by the ends tends to straighten until it reaches the line from the point of power to the point of resistance.

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

In a mop or brush holder, a handle provided with a cross-head having guides extending laterally therefrom, a lever adjustable along the handle by a series of spaced rigid stops, and

a clamp-wire having sides attached to the lever, said clamp-wire being of one continuous spring-wire, said wire passing through the said guides and bent at an angle over the face of the cross-head, and the sides attached to the lever being curved normally bow-shaped to permit of extension of said sides under tension to take up the distance between two successive stops, said curved sides having the bow in a plane substantially at right angles to the longitudinal plane of the cross-head and handle, and curved to a degree that the bow crosses a direct line from the pivot on the lever to the point of the hook over the face of the clamp-head, substantially as described.

JOHN C. LOOK.

Witnesses:
H. H. BIRKHOLM,
H. B. FIELD.