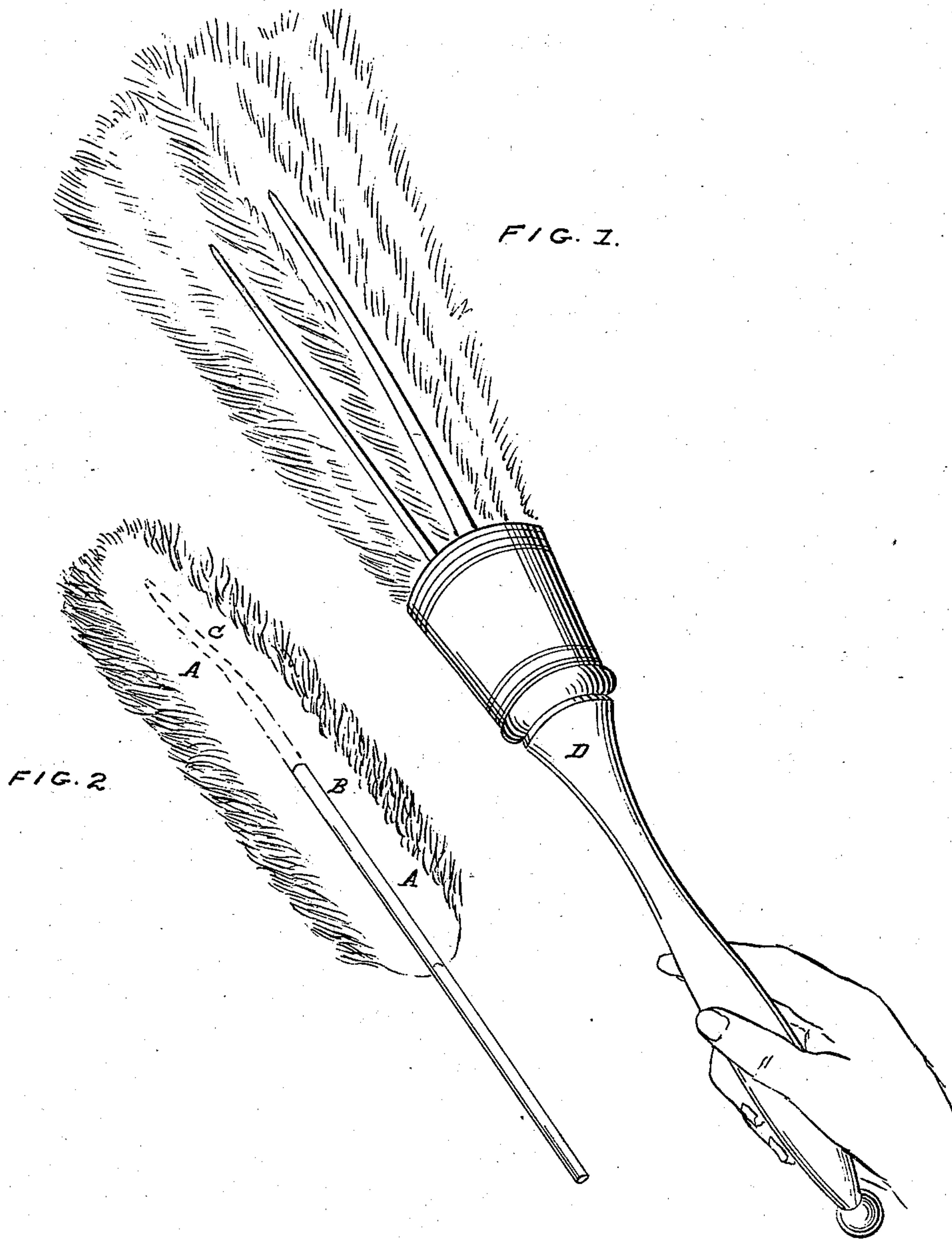


A. DIETZ.
Dust Brush.

No. 56,018.

Patented July 3, 1866.



WITNESSES:

D. Law
W. R. Pennington

INVENTOR,

A. Dietz

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANDREW DIETZ, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

DUST BRUSH AND BROOM.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **56,018**, dated July 3, 1866; antedated June 22, 1866.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANDREW DIETZ, of the city of New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Dust Brushes and Brooms; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, and making a part of this specification.

The nature or character of my invention consists in the production of a dust brush or broom made from or out of chamois or soft leather which is suitable for all the uses and purposes to which ordinary dust brushes and brooms are applied, and which is free, by reason of the nature of the material of which it is made, from anything that will scratch or mar the most highly-polished surface, which can also be washed when dirty, and which is also very durable.

Figure 1 is a representation of a complete dust-brush, and Fig. 2 is a detached view of a single feather of the brush.

The better kinds of dust-brushes—such as are generally used for dusting furniture, carriages, &c., are usually made of bristles or feathers. Such brushes, however, when made of even the softest bristles, soon wear off at the feather ends of the bristles, and are then very likely to scratch or mar any polished surface to which they may be applied. When made of feathers they are even more likely to scratch and injure such surfaces as soon as the light parts of the feathers are worn off, as then the stiff hard stem is bare and rubs directly upon any surface upon which the brush may be used, and every broken feather, by increasing the number of stiff points, renders the brush less fitted for use. The light parts of the feathers are also very soon worn and broken off, and such brushes thus soon rendered valueless. On very highly-polished surfaces such brushes cannot be used at all with safety, but chamois or soft leather, which will not scratch or mar, has to be used. Indeed, soft leather is the only substance which can be safely used for dusting or rubbing highly-polished surfaces, whether of wood or metal, and

its use for such purposes is universal, though in many respects it is inconvenient.

My invention has for its object the transforming the soft-leather skin into a brush, thereby securing all the softness and desirableness of the leather, and also the advantages and convenience of the brush.

The leather is first cut, by hand or otherwise, into strips or pieces somewhat shaped like or resembling the feathered part of a quill, as shown by A, Fig. 2, and the edges and upper end of such pieces are also divided or finely slit toward the middle, substantially as shown in Fig. 2, so that they will be more pliable, and can accommodate themselves to the inequalities of the surfaces over which they may be passed. Two of such pieces are then fastened by strong cement, one on either side, to a small tapering piece of rattan, B, or any suitable material which gives strength and stiffness, like the central part of an ordinary feather. Such part B should be large enough to insure sufficient stiffness, and at the same time be elastic.

To prevent too great stiffness at the end, and also avoid the danger of the rattan being broken if reduced quite small, and to give the greatest flexibility at the part where most required, the rattan, or its equivalent, does not extend to the end, but only about half-way, or a little more, as indicated by the heavy lines in Fig. 2, and from its termination a strip of leather, C, extends nearly to the top of the feather, which secures proper stiffness, and at the same time allows the end of the feather to bend and yield when brought in contact with an irregular or other surface. The leather when so cut—that is, its edges finely divided into narrow strips and fixed to any central rib—becomes substantially like a feather, and a suitable number of these placed together and secured to or in a suitable handle, D, form a brush, as represented in Fig. 1, having all required flexibility and elasticity, and suitable for use for the same purposes and in the same manner as ordinary brushes of similar form.

A brush so constructed is as soft and can be used for all the purposes for which “chamois-skins,” so called, are used, will not mar or injure even the highest-polished surfaces, is far

more durable than any brush made from bristles or feathers or similar materials, does not become harsh or stiff by use, and when soiled can be washed and cleaned.

A larger brush or broom constructed in the same manner is peculiarly suitable for sweeping or cleaning nice carpets, floor-cloths, &c.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The use and application of leather in the construction of brushes and brooms, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

A. DIETZ.

Witnesses:

S. D. LAW,

W. R. RONALDS.