

J. J. GORMAN.
Paint-Brushes.

No. 139,887.

Patented June 17, 1873.

Fig. 1.

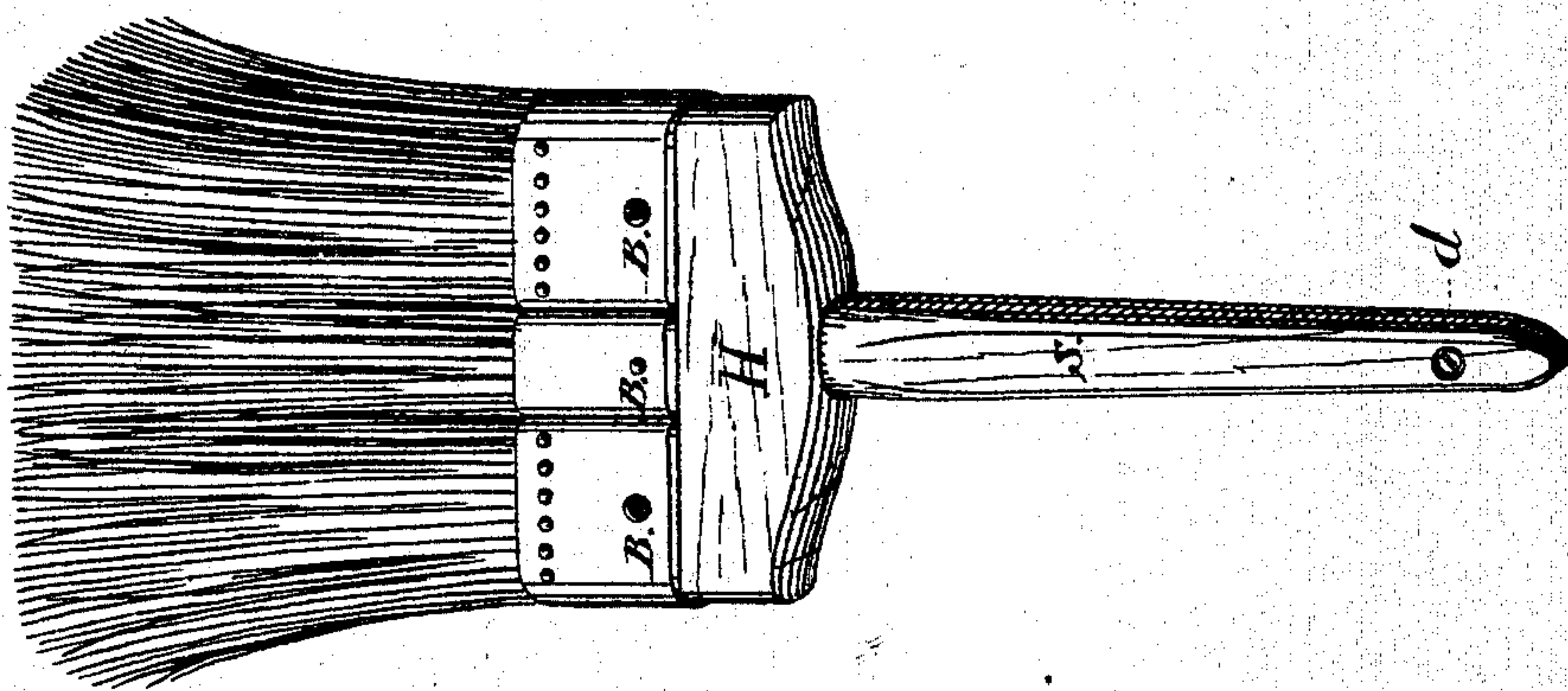


Fig. 2.

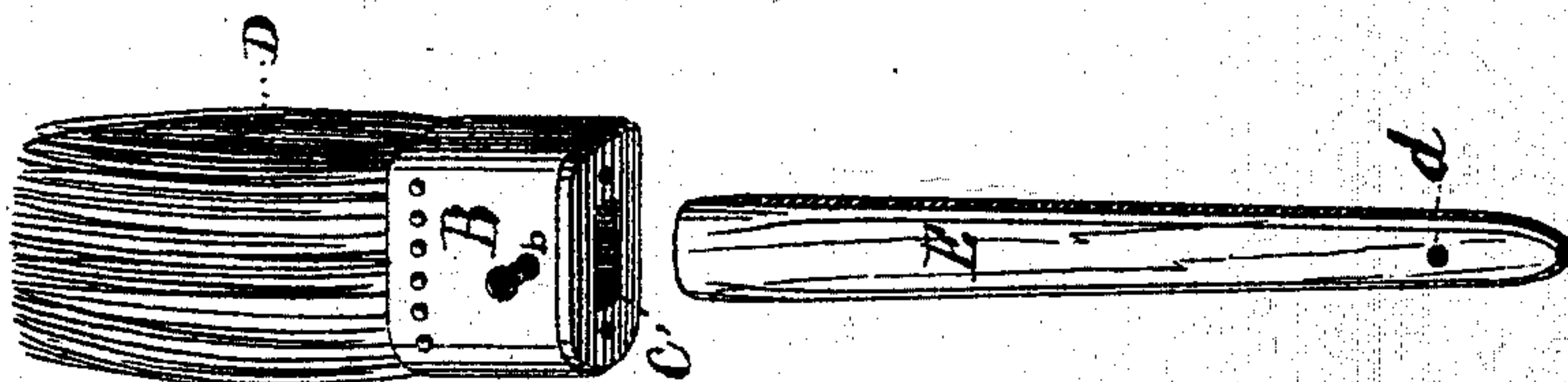


Fig. 3.

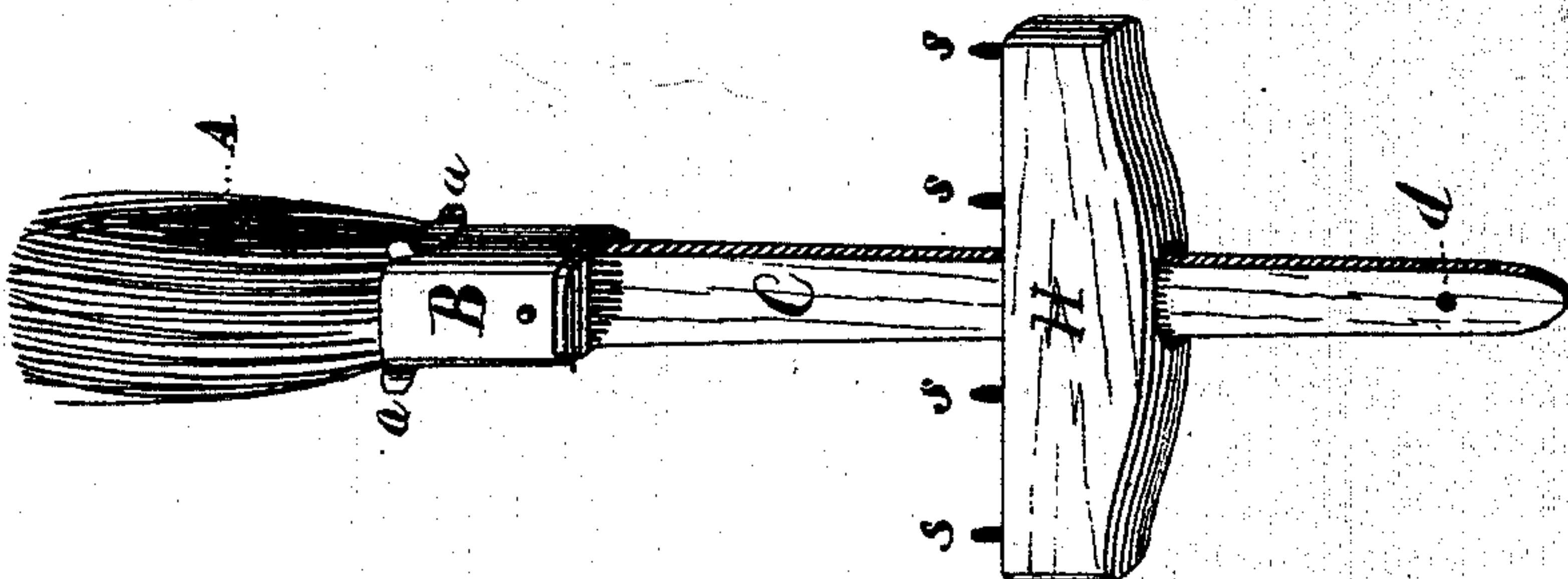
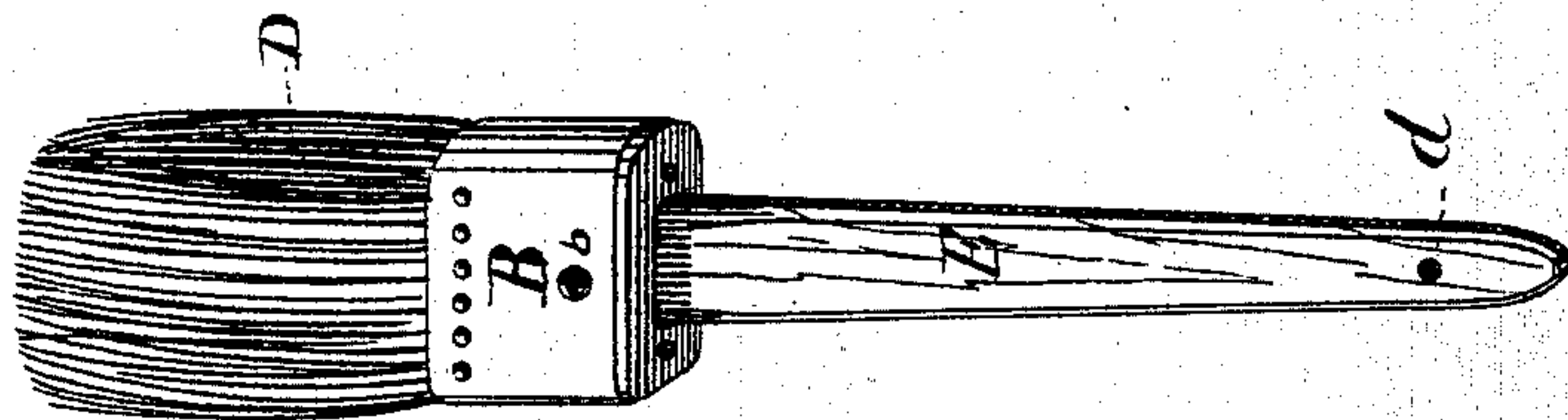


Fig. 4.



Attest.

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JAMES J. GORMAN, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO.

IMPROVEMENT IN PAINT-BRUSHES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **139,887**, dated June 17, 1873; application filed November 4, 1872.

To all whom it may concern :

Be it known that I, JAMES J. GORMAN, of Cincinnati, county of Hamilton and State of Ohio, have invented an Improvement in Convertible Brushes, of which the following is a specification :

My invention relates to a new and useful improvement in brushes, whereby a broad brush is constructed in parts, so that when by use it becomes no longer valuable as a broad brush it may be separated into the smaller ones of which it is composed, and form several small brushes useful for other purposes. It may be used for paint, paste, varnish, whitewash, whitening, calcimining, and other brushes.

In the drawings, Figure 1 shows the brush when put together for use. Figs. 2, 3, and 4 show the several smaller brushes when separated for use, and also the manner of connecting them together, when desired.

A is a small brush, in which the bristles or other materials of which the brush is formed are held together by a casing, B, of tin, or other suitable material, usually made rectangular instead of oval, and having on opposite sides, at the bottom of the casing, the broad hooks *a a*. The handle C of this brush is broad, thin, and with flat sides. D D are intended to be used as side brushes, and are constructed in a similar manner to A, only having the outer edges oval, with the screw-holes *b b* in the casing over the point where the handle is attached to the brush, with the mortise *c* in the head, and having on either side of it brad or pin holes. All of the handles have in the upper part the screw-holes *d d d*. H is the additional head or cap, which is used when the brushes are secured together. It has a mortise in the center, and on the lower side the pins S S S S.

The brushes are attached by bringing the side brushes D D up against the center one A, pressing the broad hooks *a a* of the center brush beneath the edges of the casing of the side brushes, then putting the additional head or cap H over the handle C of the center brush, bringing it down against the heads of the brushes, when the pins S S S enter the corresponding holes in the heads, and the

whole is securely fastened together. The additional handles E E are then inserted on either side of C in the mortise in H, and serve as wedges to prevent cap H from slipping off, and add to the handle C the necessary additional strength for so large a brush. The handles are then fastened together by a screw at *d*.

The brushes may be secured together by passing a cap of tin, or other suitable material and of suitable size, down over the heads B B B after they have been put side by side; but I prefer the use of the additional head or cap as it serves as a resting-place for the fingers when using the brush.

The brush is sold as it appears in Fig. 1, all put together, and is designed as a new article of manufacture.

The principle may be applied to other kinds of brushes. Its advantages consist in this: The great expense of brush is the bristles, which, for a broad brush for whitewashing, and especially for painting and varnishing, need to be long and of fine quality. By my construction the brush can be used as a broad brush until the bristles become too short for such use, or until it makes brushes of suitable length for other work. Then it can be taken apart and made into three good small brushes instead of being thrown away.

By the same principle more than three brushes may be combined, if desired.

What I claim is—

1. Handle S, constructed of two or more pieces, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

2. A brush composed of smaller brushes combined and attached together by the broad hooks *a a* and additional head or cap H, or its equivalent, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

3. As a new article of manufacture, a convertible brush, constructed of smaller brushes so secured together that they may be separated and used singly, when desired.

JAMES J. GORMAN.

Witnesses:

ALBERT G. CLARK,
JOHN E. HATCH.