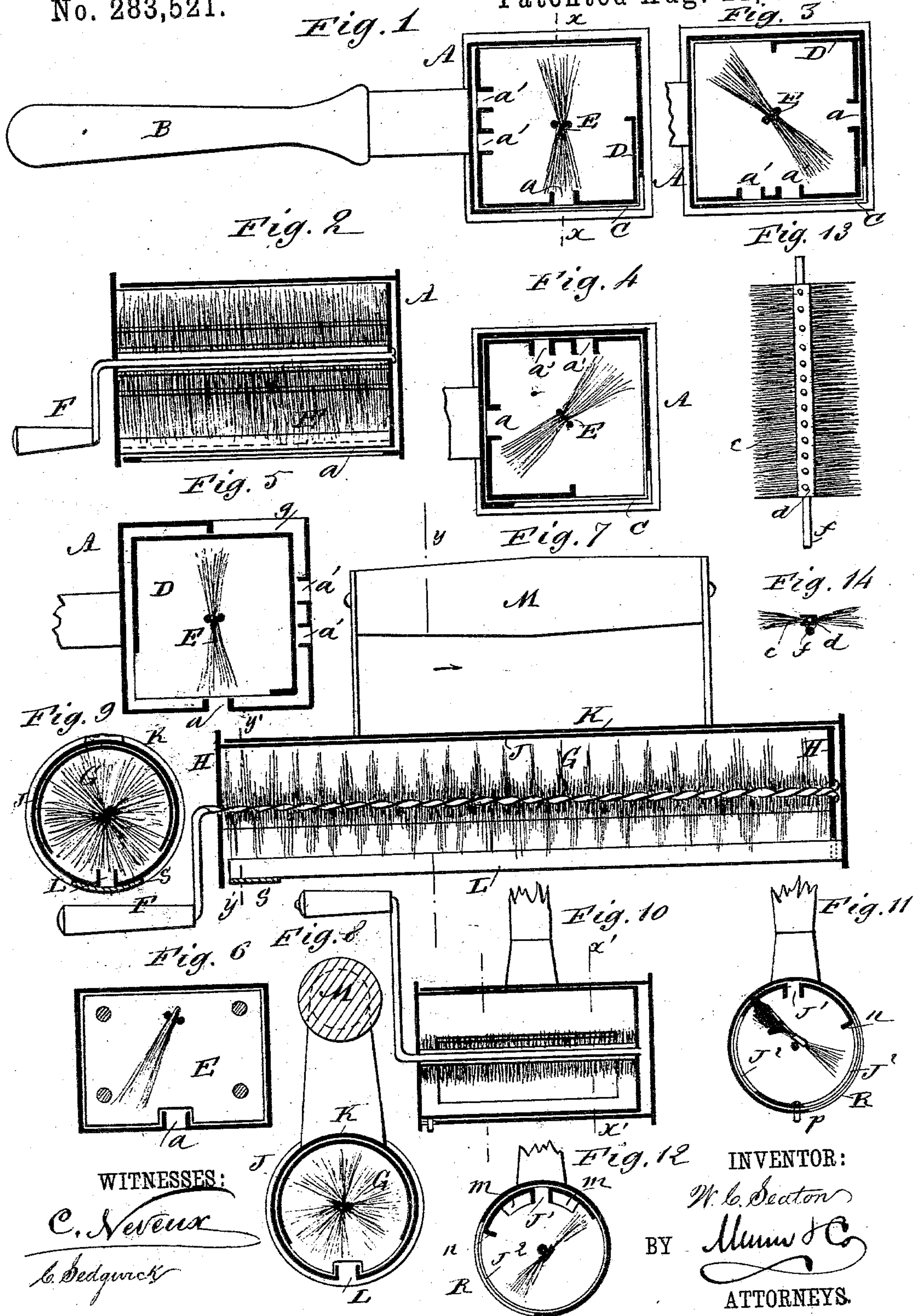


No. 283,521.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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WICK-TRIMMER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 283,521, dated August 21, 1883.

Application filed April 23, 1883. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM C. SEATON, of Quebec, in the Province of Quebec and Dominion of Canada, have invented a new and Improved Wick-Trimmer, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of my invention is to provide a new and improved device for cleaning and trimming wicks of all kinds.

The invention consists in a wick-trimmer consisting of a box containing a removable box in which a revolving or rocking brush is journaled, which wick-trimmer is provided with single and parallel slots and recesses, to adapt the device to be used for cleaning and trimming single, double, and circular wicks.

The invention also consists in various parts and details and combinations of the same, as will be fully described and set forth hereinafter.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a cross-sectional elevation of my improved wick-trimmer, showing it adjusted for a single straight wick. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional elevation of the same on line *x x*, Fig. 1, showing it adjusted the same way. Fig. 3 is a cross-sectional elevation of the same, showing it adjusted for a double wick. Fig. 4 is a cross-sectional elevation of the same, showing it adjusted for a circular wick. Fig. 5 is a cross-sectional elevation of a modification of the same, showing it adjusted for cleaning a single straight wick. Fig. 6 is a cross-sectional elevation of the same, showing a modified construction of the brush. Fig. 7 is a longitudinal sectional elevation of a wick-trimmer with a cylindrical casing and a spiral brush. Fig. 8 is a cross-sectional elevation of the same on the line *y y*, Fig. 7. Fig. 9 is a cross-sectional elevation of the same on the line *y' y'*, Fig. 7. Fig. 10 is a longitudinal sectional elevation of a modified construction of the wick-trimmer. Fig. 11 is a cross-sectional elevation of the same on the line *x' x'*, Fig. 10. Fig. 12 is a cross-sectional elevation of a modification of the same. Fig. 13 is a longitudinal elevation of a modified construction of the brush. Fig. 14 is a cross-sectional elevation of the same.

A box, A, attached to the handle B, is provided with a recess, C, in the bottom and in the lower part of the outer side, which box A is open at one end, into which open end a box, D, can be passed, which is provided with a longitudinal slot, *a*, in the middle of one side, the edge of the slot being turned up on the inside of the box, as shown, and with two parallel longitudinal slots, *a' a'*, in another side. The said box D has one of its sides removed entirely, and that side opposite the one in which the two slots *a' a'* are formed extends only to, or about to, the middle of the height of the box, and has its edge turned inward, as shown. In the said box D a longitudinal brush, E, with two radially-opposite rows of bristles, is journaled, and is provided at one end with a handle, F.

The brush E may be constructed of two twisted wires, between which the bristles are held; but it can also be constructed of bristles *c*, held between two strips of metal, *d*, secured to a shaft, *f*, which is journaled in the box D, and provided with a crank-handle.

In place of providing the box D with a rotary brush, it can be provided with a rocking brush, as shown in Fig. 6; or a spiral brush can be provided in place of the brush E, as shown.

If desired, the box A can be provided with a longitudinal slot, *a*, in one side, two parallel longitudinal slots, *a'*, in the other side, and a recess, *g*, in the top, in which case the box D would not be provided with any slots, but would only have to have one side and part of another removed, as shown in Fig. 5.

In the modification shown in Figs. 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12 a spiral cylindrical brush, G, or one of the brushes described above, is journaled in the end disks, H, of a cylindrical casing, J, inserted into a cylindrical or tubular casing, K, provided with a longitudinal slot, L, the edges of which are turned upward, so that if the wick is passed through the said slot and the brush G is revolved, the wick can be cleaned. In the construction shown in Figs. 10, 11, and 12 the inner casing, J, is provided with a longitudinal slot, J', having its edges turned inward, and at one end of the slot two openings, *m*, are formed in one end disk, H, through which openings the carbonized parts of the wick swept off by the brush

can be removed from the casing. The inner casing, J, is provided with two large longitudinal openings, J², at the edge of one of which an inwardly-projecting flange, n, is formed, which, with the adjoining flange of the slot J', forms a pocket for retaining the carbonized parts swept from the wicks.

The outer casing, K, is provided with a large longitudinal opening, R, and at the open end it is provided with two notches, into which a stud, p, projecting from the inner casing, J, can pass, for the purpose of holding the inner casing in the desired position in the outer casing. For instance, as shown in Fig. 11, the inner casing, J, is held in the outer casing, K, in such a manner that one opening, J², of the inner casing coincides with the opening R in the outer casing, and the device is then in a position adapted to clean circular or duplex wicks. In Fig. 12 the positions of the inner and outer casings are similar; but in this case the inner casing is only provided with one opening, J².

I have described the casing shown in Figs. 7 to 12, inclusive, as being tubular or cylindrical; but they can be made square or any other desired shape.

If the device is to be constructed for use as an oil-stove-wick trimmer, the outer casing is to be provided with a single slot, a, having upturned edges, as shown in Fig. 6, and the inner casing need not be provided with a slot, but simply with a large opening. The refuse matter, &c., will then be held by the upturned edges of the slot of the outer casing. The slots in the casing must not be too wide, but must be of just sufficient size to permit the wick to enter. If the slots are too narrow, their upturned edges cannot project inwardly a sufficient distance to catch all the carbonized parts of the wick, dirt, or other refuse swept from the wick. For this reason I make the casings by turning upward the longitudinal edges of metal plates for forming flanges of the desired height, and then I bend the said plate into a circular or other suitable shape, with the flanges forming the grooves separated the desired distance. I then solder or otherwise fasten a strip, S, of metal on the outer surface of the tubular or other casing thus formed at the end of the slot in the said casing, which strip S holds the flanges the desired distance apart. I am thus enabled to make the slot the desired width, and at the same time to make the flanges of such height that they can catch all the refuse. The brush is provided with a suitable crank-handle, F, for turning it, and the casing K can be provided with any suitable handle, M, for holding it.

The operation is as follows: If a single wick is to be cleaned, the box D is passed into the box A in such a manner that the slot a will be at the bottom, and the end of the wick is passed through the slot a, and the carbonized portions are swept off the same by revolving

the brush. If two parallel wicks are to be cleaned at the same time, the box D is so adjusted that the two parallel slots a' will be at the bottom, the upper ends of the two parallel wicks are passed into the said slots, and the carbonized portions are swept off by revolving the brush E. If a circular wick is to be cleaned, the box D is so adjusted that the open part—that is, the part from which the side has been removed—will be at the bottom, as shown in Fig. 4, so that the upper edge of the circular wick or part of the same can be passed into the said recess and the carbonized portion swept off by the brush E. In the modification shown in Fig. 5 the inner box, D, must also be placed in the outer box, A, in different positions; but in the device shown in Figs. 1 to 4 the handle B could always be held horizontally, whereas in the modification shown in Fig. 5 the handle must be held vertically when two wicks are being cleaned, and the device must be inverted when a circular wick is being cleaned. In all cases the pieces of carbonized wick will be swept into the box D and cannot drop upon the lamp, &c., and when the box D has been drawn out of the box A the said particles of carbonized wick, &c., can easily be removed from the said box. In the modification shown in Figs. 7 to 9 the end of the wick to be cleaned is passed into the slot L, and then the brush G is rotated. In the modification shown in Fig. 9 the brush can easily be adjusted, as described above, to clean a single, double, or circular wick, as may be desired.

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

1. In a wick-trimmer, the combination, with a box open at one end and provided with an opening in its periphery, as set forth, of a removable box having openings and slots, with upturned edges therein, and a brush journaled in the heads of said box, whereby single, double, and circular wicks may be trimmed, substantially as described.

2. In a wick-trimmer, the combination, with the box A, having a recess, C, of the removable box D, having slots a a' a', and having one side and part of another removed, and of the brush E, journaled in the box D, substantially as herein shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.

3. In a wick-trimmer, the combination, with an outer casing, of an inner casing in which a rocking or revolving brush is journaled, which inner casing is provided at one end with apertures m, for removing the refuse and dirt swept from the wicks, substantially as herein shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.

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Witnesses:

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