

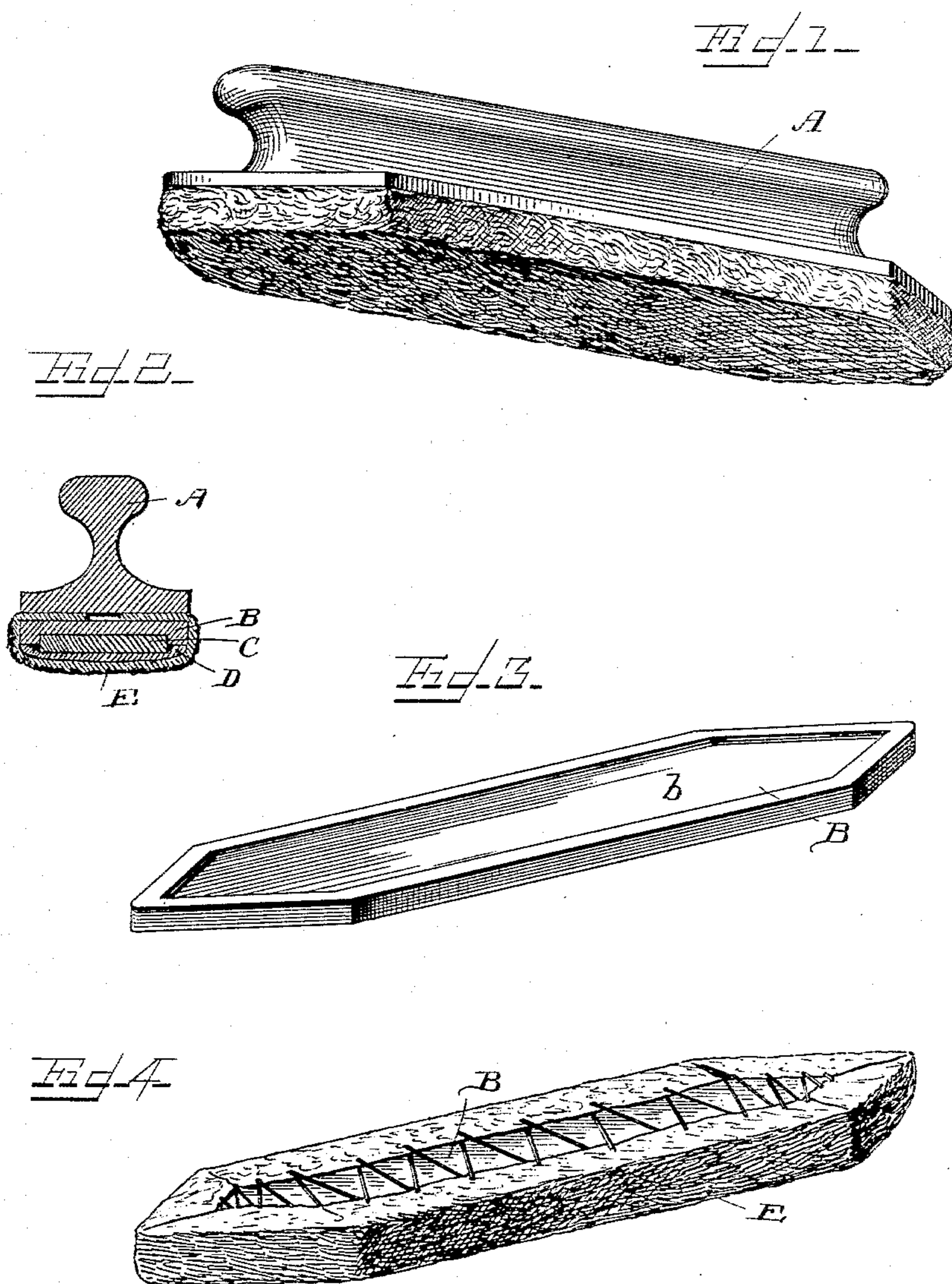
(No Model.)

E. F. BROWN.

BRUSHING AND FINISHING SILK HATS.

No. 321,680.

Patented July 7, 1885.



WITNESSES  
F. L. O'Rand.  
W. A. Craig

INVENTOR  
Edw. F. Brown  
H. J. Emis  
Attorney

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD F. BROWN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## BRUSHING AND FINISHING SILK HATS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 321,680, dated July 7, 1885.

Application filed May 26, 1885. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, EDWARD F. BROWN, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Brushing and Finishing Silk Hats; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention has relation to a new and useful improvement in processes for finishing and brushing silk and felt hats; and the object of the invention is to produce a soft and glossy finish to hats of this class, which may be done at the time of manufacture, and likewise at any subsequent period, whereby the hat may be made to assume a new appearance after wear; and to these ends the novelty consists in the application of vaseline, cosmoline, paraffine, or analogous agents, through the medium of a fibrous pad, as will be hereinafter more fully described, and particularly pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings the same letters of reference indicate the same parts of the device which I use in my process.

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of the finishing-brush. Fig. 2 is a cross-section of the same. Fig. 3 is a reverse view of the block containing the reservoir-chamber, and Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the same finished and ready to be cemented to the handle.

A is the handle, which may be made of wood, metal, rubber, celluloid, or any similar material, and of such a shape as will suit the fancy of the manufacturer or the demands of the trade. B is the reservoir-block, containing the recessed reservoir *b*, containing the cloth or felt strip C. D is a similar though thinner strip of felt of a size and shape corresponding to the form of the reservoir-block B. E is an outer covering of beaver, or silk felt, or plush, with the nap outward, and secured over the block B by stitching, as shown in Fig. 4. The strips C and

D are first thoroughly saturated with the vaseline or other agent by immersing them in the agent while boiling hot, and then placed in position on the reservoir-block, as above described, and then bound by the outer covering, E, the stitched face of which is cemented to the handle A, as shown in Fig. 1, and the whole is ready for use. By capillary attraction the agent in the reservoir-strip C is carried through the covering E, so as to keep up a continual supply on its outer surface, and in finishing a hat the handle is grasped by the thumb and fingers of the right hand, and with the hat in the left it is brushed around the surface, the same as in ironing the hat, and a beautiful glossy finish is attained. As the medium used is water-proof, an increased advantage is obtained, as the finish is not lost or disturbed by being wet.

I am aware that highly-refined petroleum mixed with essential oils has been used; but this method is objectionable for the reason that the odor of the petroleum is offensive, and the essential oils cause a too rapid evaporation of the compound, so that the gloss is lost, and it does not retain its water-repellent property, which constitutes one of the chief elements of value in my invention. I have mentioned paraffine as a substitute for vaseline; but I prefer the latter on account of its being amorphous. It coats every fiber of the nap of the hat with a water-proof coating, and, being amorphous, no crystals are present to give a metallic luster, as would be the case if paraffine were used.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new and useful, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

The process herein described, which consists in brushing and finishing the surface of silk or beaver hats with vaseline, as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

EDWARD F. BROWN.

Witnesses:

E. H. BRADFORD,  
H. J. ENNIS.