

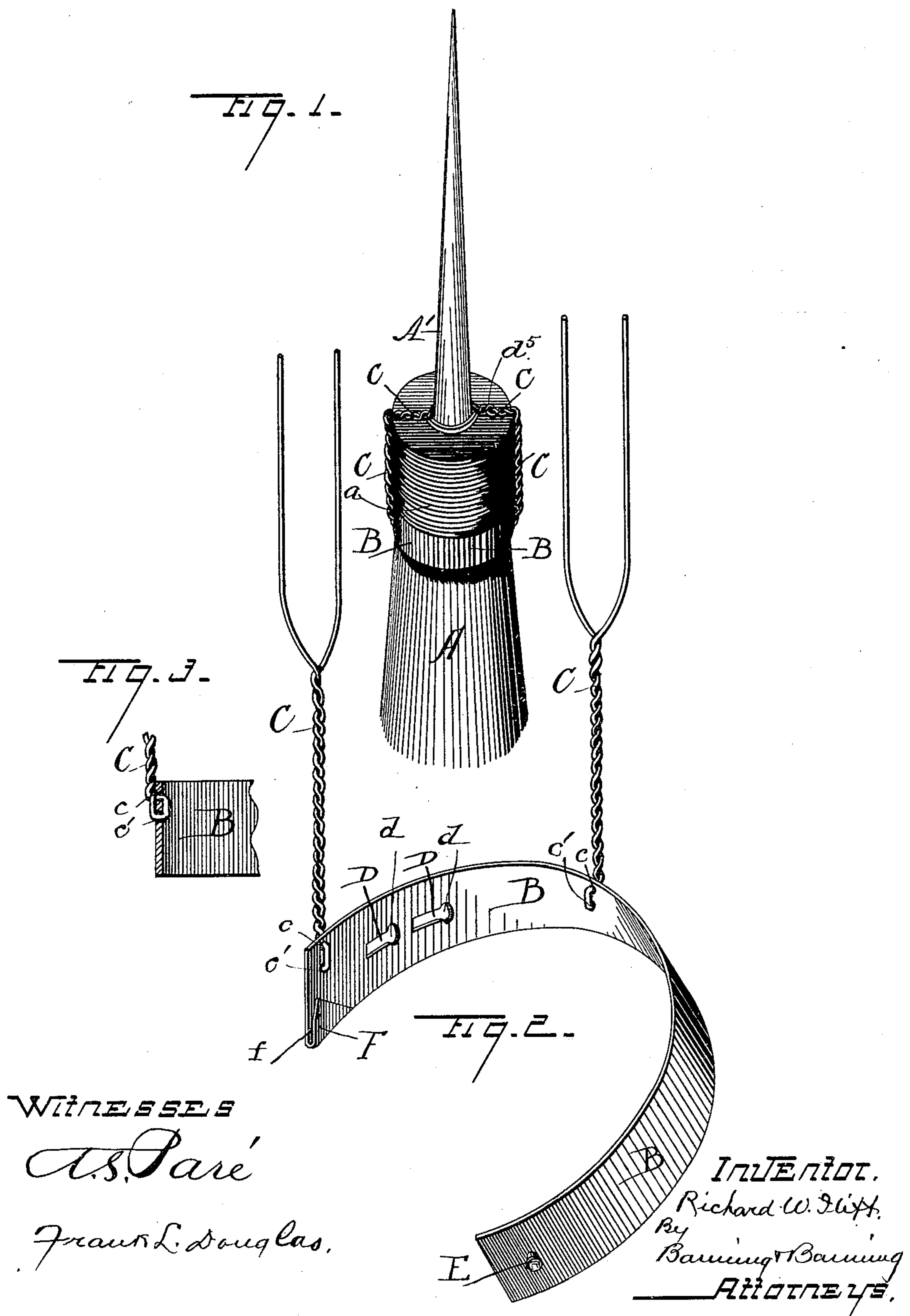
(Model.)

R. W. ILIFF.

BRUSH.

No. 388,137.

Patented Aug. 21, 1888.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RICHARD W. ILIFF, OF HINSDALE, ILLINOIS.

## BRUSH.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 388,137, dated August 21, 1888.

Application filed February 23, 1887. Serial No. 228,614. (Model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, RICHARD W. ILIFF, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hinsdale, Du Page county, Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Brushes, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in paint-brushes, and especially to the bridles often attached thereto; and it consists in the construction and novel combination of parts hereinafter described, and pointed out in the appended claim.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a paint-brush with the bridle attached. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the bridle detached. Fig. 3 is a detail view of a portion of the bridle, showing the attachment of the copper wire.

Referring to the drawings by letter, A designates a brush, having the handle A' and the wrapping-wire *a*, of usual construction.

B is the bridle-strap, made of some flexible material, and provided near one end with the stud or button E, and near the other end with a series of aligned slots, D, having the enlarged portions *d*, for the insertion of the head of the button at their inner ends. The bridle-strap is preferably of equal width throughout, and has at the lower edge of the end adjacent to the slots D a turned-up flap, F, forming a seat, *f*, for the lower edge of the opposite end when the strap is closed.

C C are copper wires arranged on each side of the bridle strap, and each wire is doubled at the center and passed at that point through the openings *c c'*, which are aligned vertically and are below the upper edge of the bridle-strap. The wire is so passed that both ends will be outside the bridle-strap, and the said ends are twisted from the strap to such a distance that when the parts are applied to the brush the twisted branch of the wire will pass along the sides and over the top of the wrapped-wire head of the brush. At the top of the head of the brush the twisted branches of the wire C are bent at an angle inward toward the handle, and when the wire reaches the latter the two

branches are separated and passed in opposite directions one or more times around the brush. After encircling the brush as many times as may be desired the extreme ends of the wire are twisted together, as at *d*<sup>5</sup>.

In putting the device on the paint-brush, the upper edge of the strap is placed against the lower edge of the wrapping-wire *a* and buttoned as tightly as possible around the bristles. The copper wires are then brought up, as above stated, and their untwisted ends wrapped around the handle A' a sufficient number of times to retain the wires and tightly enough to keep the edge of the strap close against the lower edge of the wrapping-wire, so that no paint can ooze between the two when the brush is in use. By means of said bridle the bristles of a new brush may be held closely together and prevented from spreading, so that the brush will flow paint as evenly and equally as a half-worn brush.

It is necessary to use some soft and very flexible wire—such as copper wire—else the bridle strap could not be brought up close against the edge of the wrapping-wires, nor could the device be taken off one brush and placed on a second one when the first was worn out. By using the copper wire the device can be placed successively on more than a dozen brushes.

By means of the openings *c c'* the wire C can be brought up on the outside of the bridle-strap, so as not to prevent close contact between said strap and the wrapping-wire.

Having described my invention, I claim—

The improved bridle for paint-brushes herein described and shown, comprising the flexible band B, having its ends adjustably connected, one of the ends having an upturned flap, F, forming a seat, *f*, for the other end, the band being further provided with vertically-aligned openings *c c'*, and the flexible wires passed outward through said openings and twisted above the same, as specified.

RICHARD W. ILIFF.

Witnesses:

THOMAS A. BANNING,  
GEORGE C. COOK.