

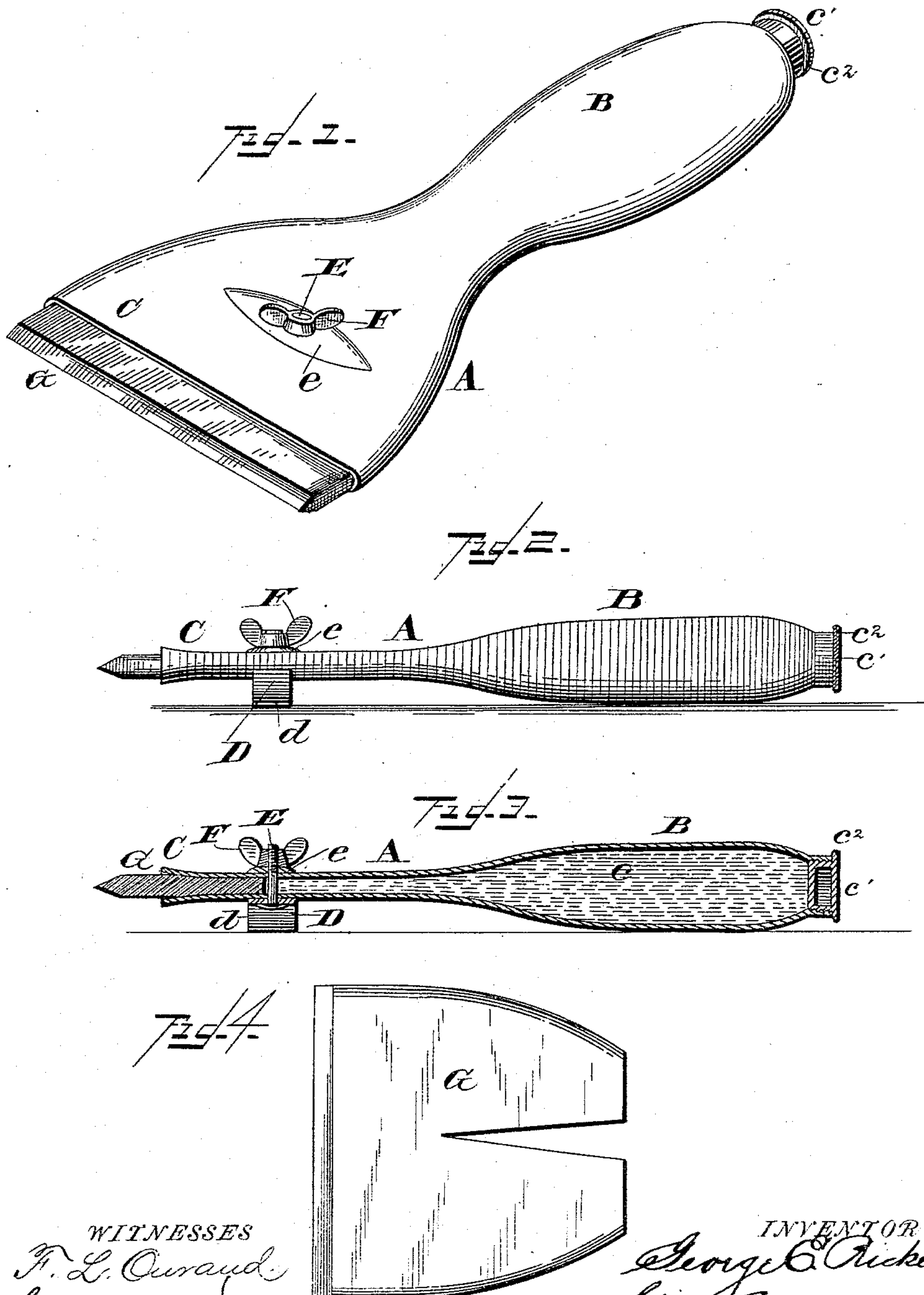
(No Model.)

G. E. RICKETTS.

BRUSH FOR MOISTENING THE SHEETS OF COPYING BOOKS.

No. 412,120.

Patented Oct. 1, 1889.



WITNESSES  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE E. RICKETTS, OF GOSHEN, INDIANA.

## BRUSH FOR MOISTENING THE SHEETS OF COPYING-BOOKS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 412,120, dated October 1, 1889.

Application filed February 26, 1889. Serial No. 301,220. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE E. RICKETTS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Goshen, in the county of Elkhart and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Brushes for Moistening the Sheets of Copying-Books; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

The invention relates to improvements in brushes for moistening the sheets of copying-books used in conjunction with letter-presses, the objects being to provide a fountain-brush of that kind from which the flow of water may be at all times equal and uniform, the said flow increased or diminished to the desired amount, and which may be laid down on either side without discharging water upon its support; and it consists in the construction and novel combination of parts, hereinafter described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and pointed out in the appended claim.

Figure 1 of the drawings represents a perspective view of a letter-press brush embodying the invention. Fig. 2 represents an edge view of said brush placed upon a suitable support and showing that it may be placed thereon on either side without the delivering-edge of the brush touching said support. Fig. 3 represents a central longitudinal section of the brush on the line  $x x$  of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 represents the delivering felt-cloth or equivalent material detached from the holder.

Referring to the drawings by letter, A designates the stock of the brush, comprising the handle B and the holding-case or holder C. The said stock is of flexible springy sheet metal or equivalent material, the handle and holder being preferably integral. The handle B is ovoid in form, as shown, of considerably greater diameter from side to side than the holder C, and its interior space constitutes a chamber  $c$  for containing the necessary amount of water. The outer end of the handle is provided with a threaded opening, in which engages a screw-plug  $c'$ , which may, if desired, have a circumferential outwardly-extending milled flange  $c^2$  on its outer end to

render the removal of the plug easy. The edges of the holder C diverge from its point of juncture with the handle and are preferably rounded, as shown, the convexity being outward.

D is a strap or band, preferably of sheet metal, secured transversely to one side of the holder at a suitable distance from its edge and provided at equal distances on each side of the central line thereof with the similar convex bends  $d$ , which stand outward from the holder to a distance about equal to that of the corresponding side of the handle therefrom.

E is a screw, which passes through transverse openings in the sides of the holder and the band D between the convex bends  $d$ , and which may, if desired, have its head secured to the band between said bends, its threaded end projecting through a re-enforcing block  $e$ , secured to the opposite side of the holder.

F is a thumb-nut, which engages upon said threaded end outside of said block, and by means of which the distance between the sides of the holder may be increased or diminished, the said nut being a set-nut.

The sides of the holder should have sufficient spring to cause them to move outward or from each other when the thumb-nut is partially unscrewed. The said thumb-nut projects about as far from the adjacent side of the holder as the corresponding side of the handle B. Thus by means of the convex bends  $d$  and the thumb-nut the device may be laid on either side upon a flat support with the holder parallel to and not touching the said support.

G is the web of the brush, which may be of any suitable material, such as felt, asbestos, hair, sponge, or other equivalent substance. Felt, however, is preferable, because it unites with its powers of absorption and capillary attraction the quality of being easily made into sheets of uniform thickness, so that its inner end can be readily cut and fitted into the open end or mouth of the holder. The said web G is notched longitudinally and centrally, in order that the portions on each side of said notch may pass inward on each side of the shank of the screw E, and its edges are tapered and rounded to fit snugly within the holder. The free edge of the web is cut trans-



versely parallel to the edge of the holder and is preferably beveled on each side, so that when the web bends during use the beveled portion of its edge will rest evenly upon the  
5 paper.

It is evident that when the device is laid down on either side the convex bends *d* or the thumb-nut will prevent the edge of the web touching the support and discharging water  
10 thereon, as the web in its normal position is aligned with the holder. It is also evident that the water can escape but very slowly by evaporation from the web and that the amount of water delivered to the web can be increased  
15 or diminished, as desired, by means of the thumb set-nut, which can approximate the sides of the holder and diminish the delivery to the amount desired.

The device is simple in construction and  
20 will be found to be effective in practice.

The handle is preferably of greater diameter from edge to edge than from side to side, as that is the most convenient shape for the

water-chamber within, and the holder has its sides comparatively close together and nearly  
25 parallel to fit snugly over the web, though it is better to bend its edges into acute or sharp angles, which will increase the spring of the sides.

Having described my invention, I claim— 30

In a letter-press brush, the stock comprising the ovoid handle and the flat flaring holder, the web having the reduced inner portion fitting in the holder, the thumb-nut and screw in the holder for regulating the flow of the  
35 liquid to the web, and the band having the bends forming a support for the holder, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereunto affixed my signature  
40 in presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE E. RICKETTS.

Witnesses:

H. D. WILSON,

HARRY C. WILSON.