

No. 701,278.

Patented June 3, 1902.

W. ADCOCK.
WALL PAPER CLEANER.
(Application filed Aug. 29, 1901.)

(No Model.)

FIG. 1.

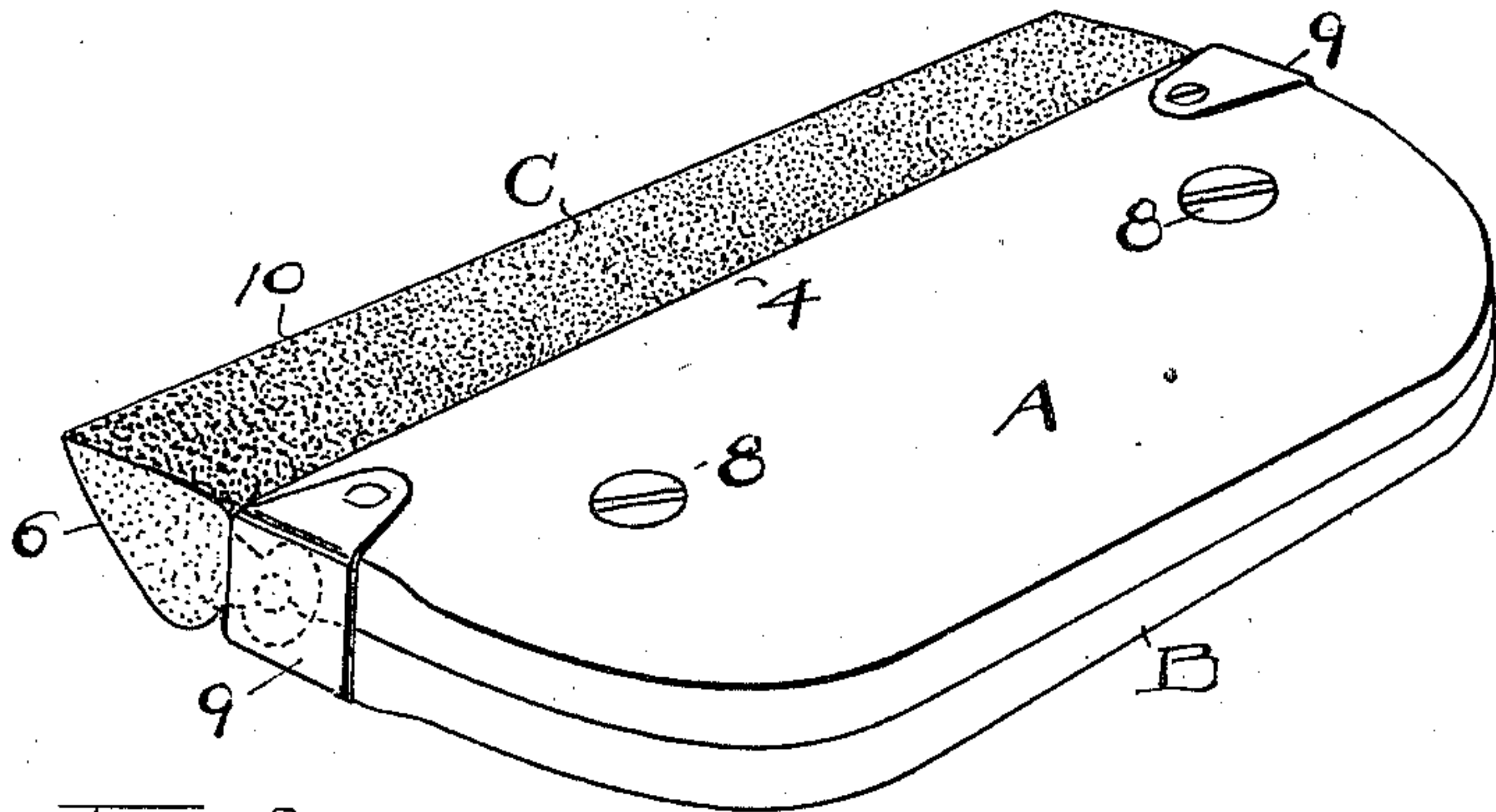


FIG. 2.

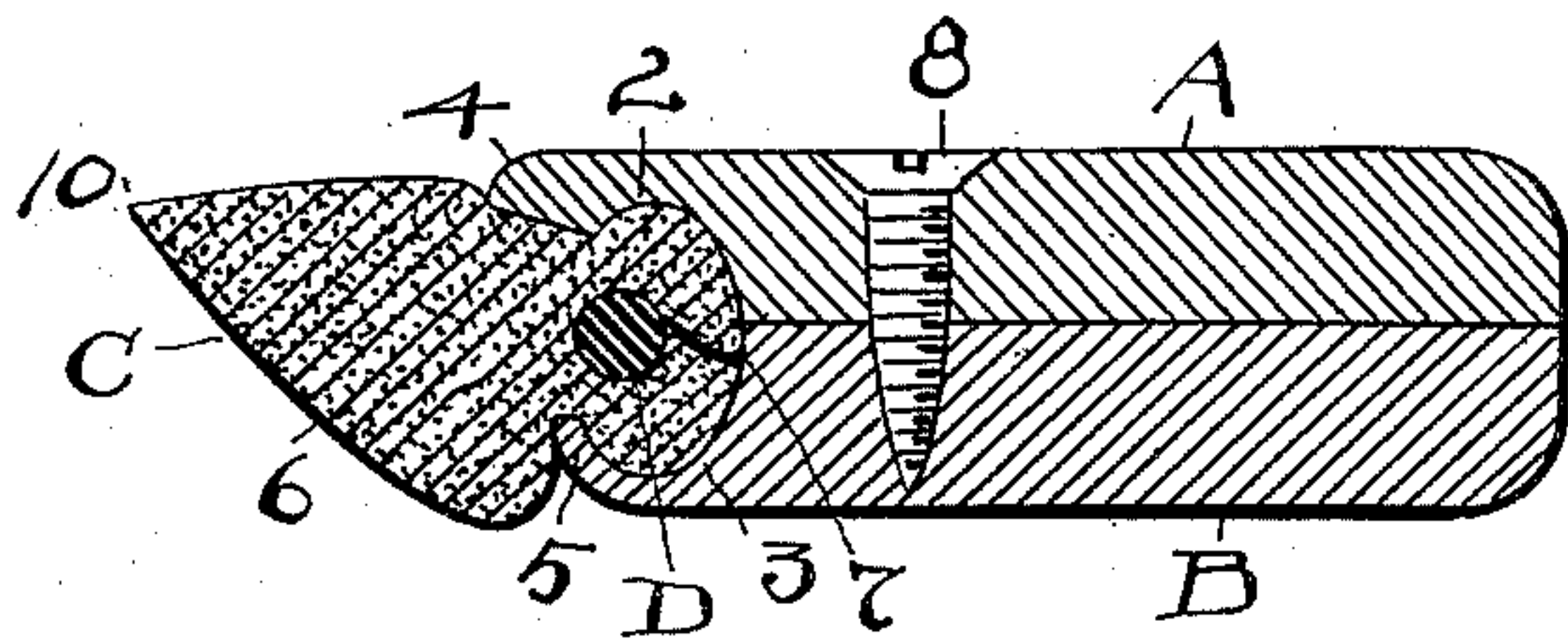


FIG. 3.

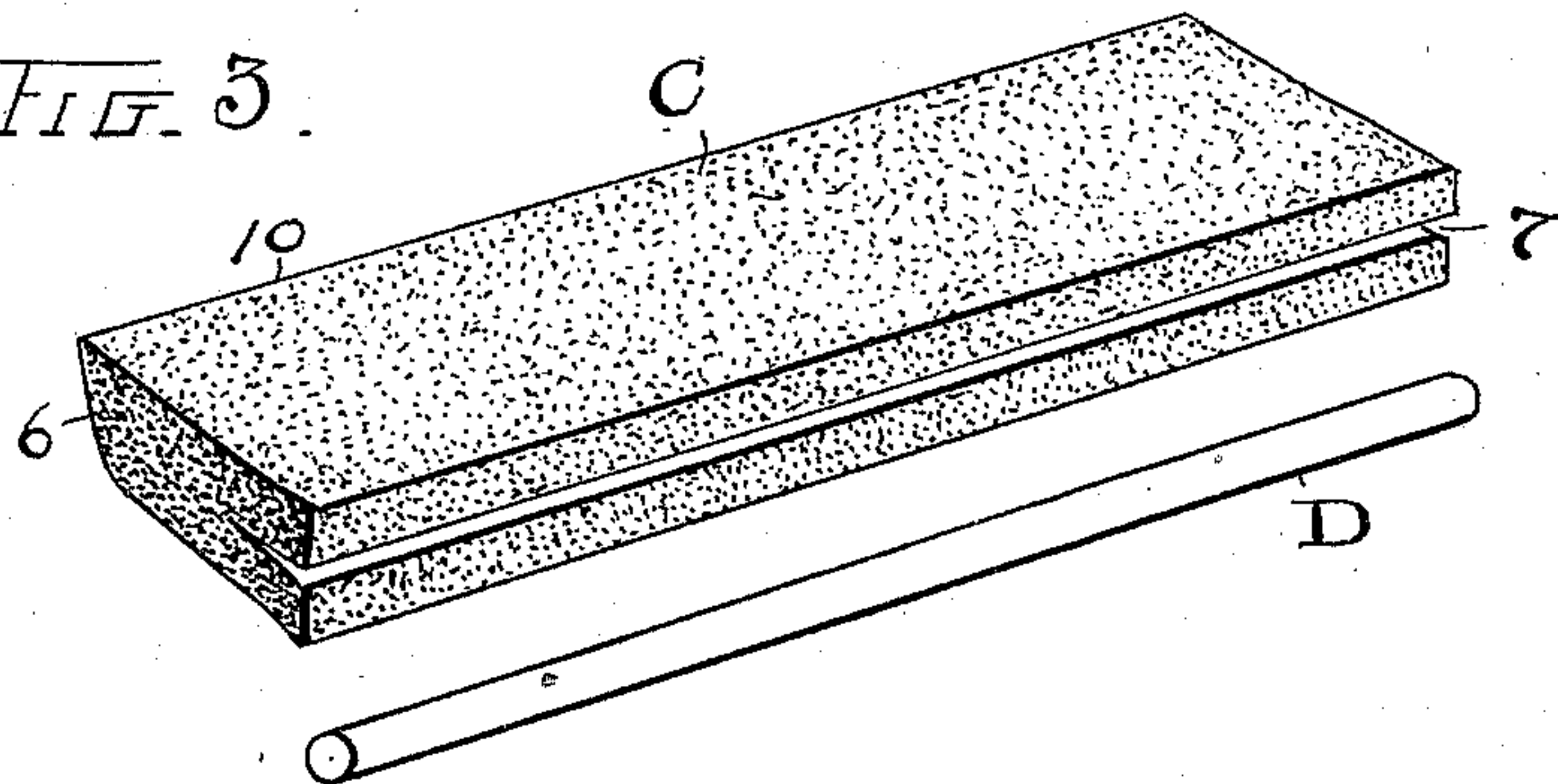


FIG. 4.

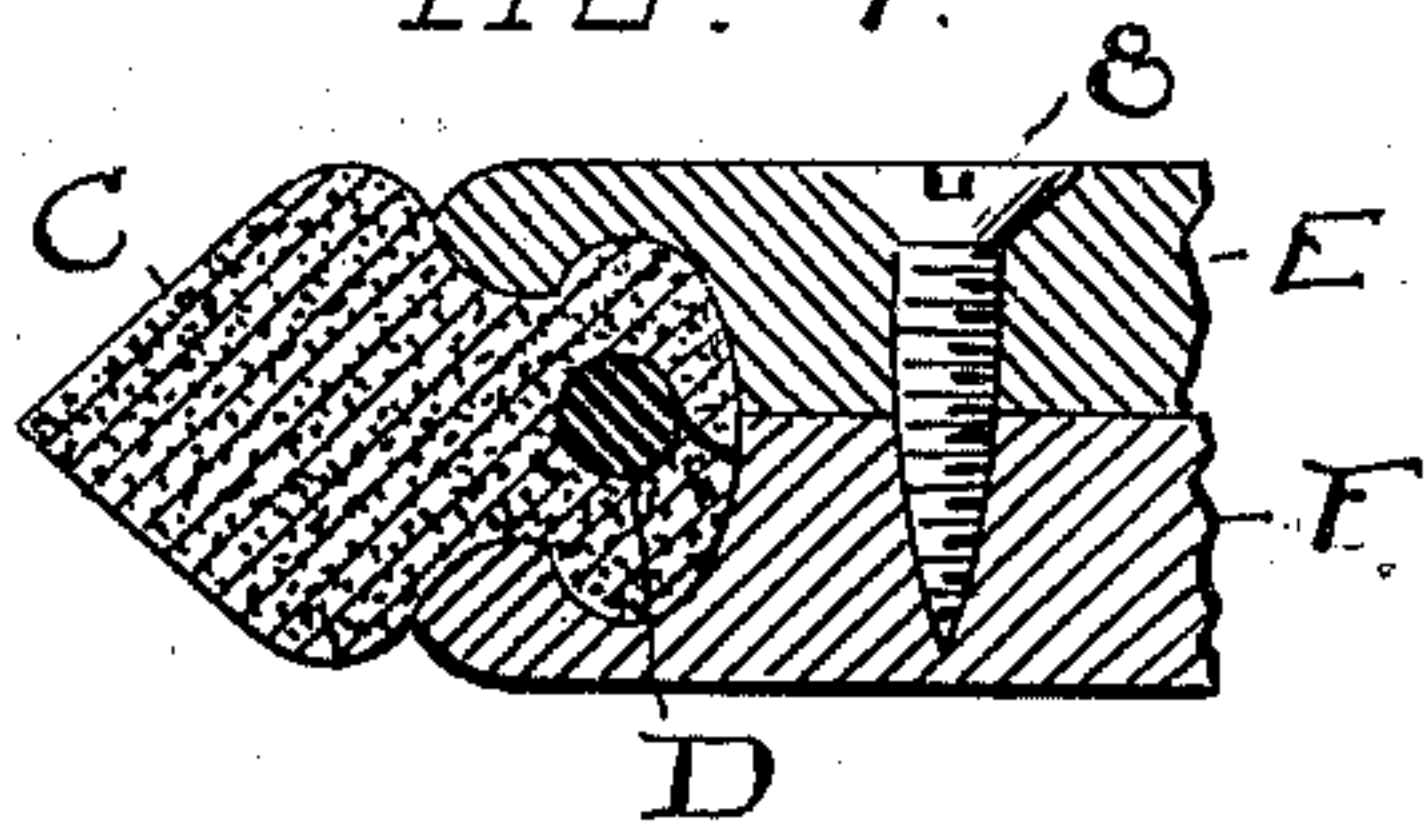
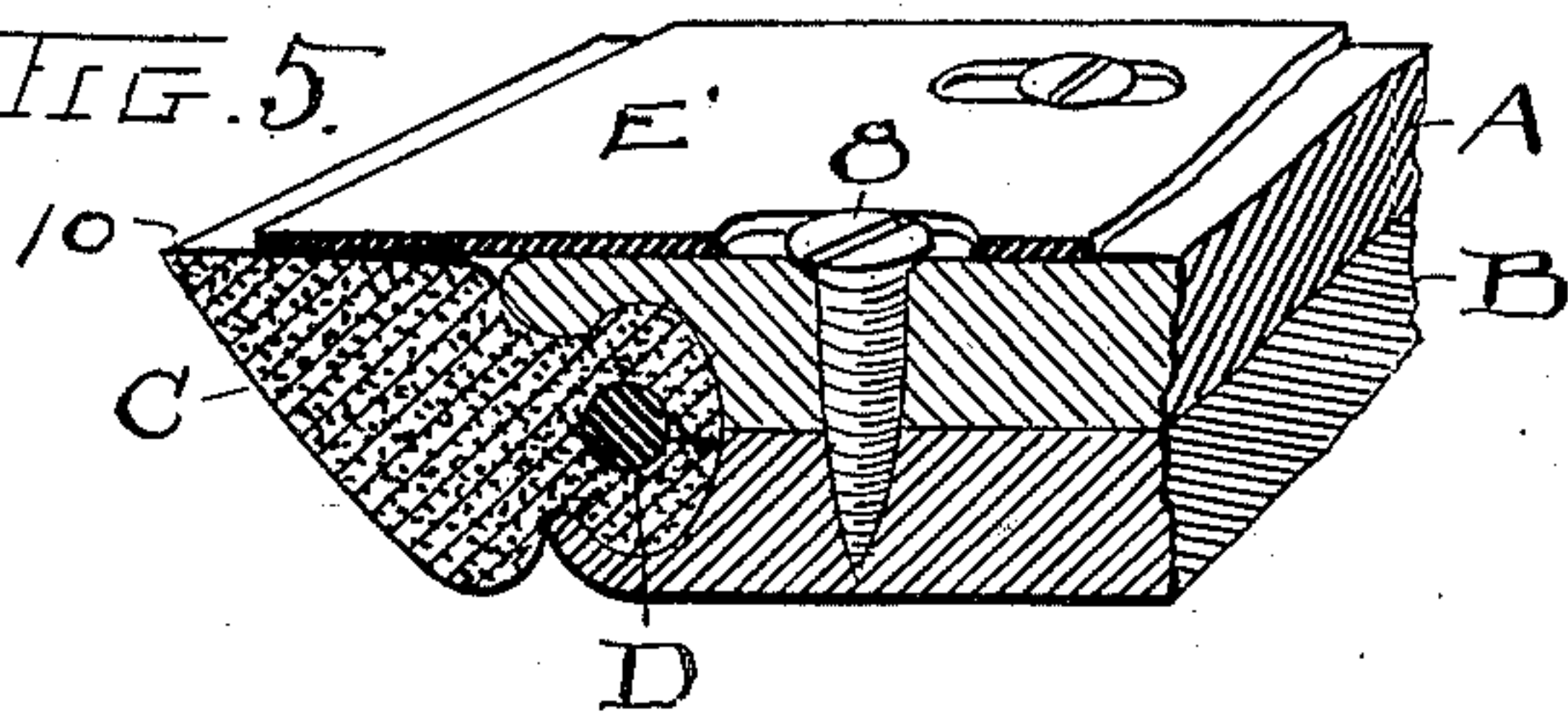


FIG. 5.



ATTEST

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WALL-PAPER CLEANER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 701,278, dated June 3, 1902.

Application filed August 29, 1901. Serial No. 73,679. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM ADCOCK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Akron, in the county of Summit and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wall-Paper Cleaners; and I do 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.

My invention relates to wall-paper cleaners; and the object of the invention is to provide a cleaner which is adapted to be used in cleaning paper on the wall and to serve as a substitute for the cleaner compositions which have of late years been quite extensively used, as well as for rye-bread and the like.

To these ends my invention consists in a sponge-rubber cleaner constructed and operating substantially as shown and described, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved cleaner, and Fig. 2 is a cross-section thereof. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the sponge-rubber strip and of the rod for fastening it in the holder, as hereinafter fully described. Fig. 4 is a cross-section of a modification of the sponge-rubber strip with double working surfaces and of its holder; and Fig. 5 shows a cross-section of a modification of the holder with a spring backing-plate for the sponge, as hereinafter fully described.

In the form of the invention shown in Figs. 1 and 2 the cleaner is made with a handle part or holder formed in two sections A and B, preferably of wood, and adapted to be clamped upon the rubber strip C or to have the said strip clamped between them. In this instance the said portions A and B are not exactly counterparts of each other, because of a difference in construction at the edges engaging the rubber. Thus both sections are provided with longitudinal channels 2 and 3, respectively, running lengthwise oppositely within their clamping edges, and section A has a forwardly-projecting portion 4, while section B has an intumed or curved lip 5, and there is supposed to be space enough between projection 4 and lip 5 to engage and

clamp the rubber strip C relatively as seen in Fig. 2. It may be more or less than this, but preferably about as shown. In this way the channels 2 and 3 become filled with the rubber and help to hold the strip in place, as we shall see. The said strip C has two peculiarities in its inclined or beveled working side 6 and in its central longitudinal slit 7 in its rear adapted to receive the locking-rod tube or piece D. The said slit extends into the rubber sufficiently to bring the rod D opposite or nearly opposite lip 5 and shoulder on projection 4 and is of such size as not only to spread the rubber on both sides of the slit into channels 2 and 3, but especially to cramp and spread the rubber at the shoulders of portions 4 and 5, and thus firmly grip the rubber when the parts are clamped together.

It will of course be understood that the rubber strip C is of such fineness of quality of sponge-rubber as will do the work without injury to the paper, and as it has an affinity for dust and dirt and will take it up much like an absorbent it will remove dust or dirt from paper by simply drawing the rubber over the surface thereof with measurable pressure of the hand. It is not important that the pressure should be heavy, but that it should accompany a rather quick stroke. Then by wiping the rubber off after every two or three strokes, or not so often on paper that is fairly clean, the rubber is kept clean enough to effectually cleanse the paper and leave no streaks or other traces whatever of its own upon the paper.

Of course in work the rubber yields noticeably, having a drawing action; but its quality is such as to enable it to be used for a very long period without showing any wear or tear, and the work it does is absolutely without fault, so far as any cast-off on the floor is concerned. Any one could handle it with white gloves without soiling them, and it leaves no evidences whatever of being used upon the carpets or floor.

In Fig. 4 I show a double-sided rubber strip which is adapted to work from either side or with back-and-forth strokes of the hand without turning the holder in the hand. Either a single or double working surface can

be used with practically the same construction of holder, although in this case the holder may be modified somewhat from what is shown in Fig. 2 to what is practically the same on both sides E and F, as A in Fig. 1, or it might be engaged between two clamping edges the equivalent of these. When the parts are put together, the locking rod or strip D, which may be cylindrical or angular in cross-section, is inserted in slit 7, and the strip C is then placed between the two sides A and B or E and F of the holder. The screws 8 are thereupon tightened, and the rubber is firmly clamped in the holder.

In Fig. 5 I show a further modification of the invention, having a rubber strip C and holder parts A and B, as in Figs. 1 and 2, but supplemented by a very thin sheet of elastic or springy metal E' or its equivalent, slotted for the passage of the clamping-screws 8 and adapted to rest over the back of the rubber, so as to make a firm backing therefor well up toward its thin edge 10. This flexible back brace is calculated to afford a wider effective working surface 6 than is obtained without such backing; but the metal is springy enough to yield sufficiently to get the other good effects of the rubber undiminished. The advantage of this plate is obvious when it is noticed that the rubber is soft and spongy enough to bend and turn back from the pressure in considerable measure, especially toward its reduced edge 10, and thus lose efficiency as said edge is approached; but this cannot occur in any such degree when the plate E' is used, and the plate is made adjustable, so as to always keep it back from the edge of the rubber and not let it approach contact with the paper.

Sheet-metal guards 9 are shown at each end of the holder opposite the ends of rod D to

prevent said rod from possibly working out if there were any such tendency.

By reason of contracting the sides of the holder at the narrowing portions 4 and 5 and spreading the head or inner portion of the strip by rod or bar D a head is formed inside the holder which effectually confines the rubber and makes it impossible to pull the strip out past the gripping portions or shoulders 4 and 5.

What I claim is—

1. A rubber wall-paper cleaner comprising a sponge-rubber portion split lengthwise at its rear and center and having an inclined working surface, a two-part holder for said rubber constructed to clamp thereon, and a spreader located in the base of said split and adapted to spread the rubber in the holder, and screws to temporarily lock the sides of the holder together, whereby the rubber can be removed and replaced, substantially as described.

2. The holder consisting of two clamping side sections A and B having a union channel lengthwise within their lower edge, and screws to clamp them together, in combination with a rubber strip having its edge extending into said channel and split lengthwise at its center, a spreader for the rubber lengthwise through the said split within said channel, the said rubber having an inclined working surface 6 and the said holder having a rigid bearing portion 4 forming a backing for said working surface, substantially as described.

Witness my hand to the foregoing specification this 13th day of August, 1901.

WILLIAM ADCOCK.

Witnesses:

R. B. MOSER,
H. E. MUDRA.