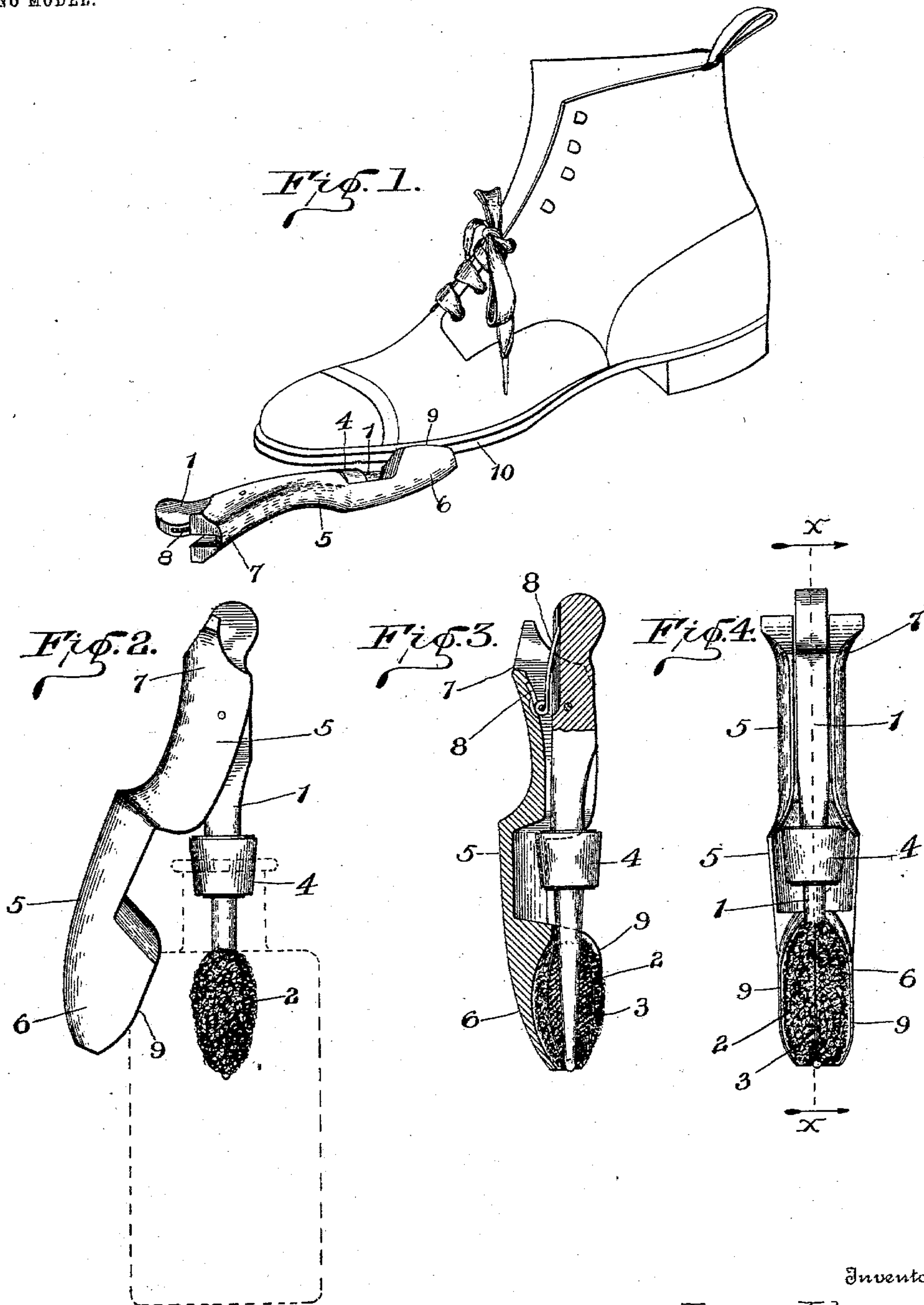


No. 720,930.

PATENTED FEB. 17, 1903.

J. JOHNSON.
SHOE POLISHER OR INKER.
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 22, 1902.

NO MODEL.



Inventor
James Johnson,

Witnesses

C. S. Frye
A. G. Miller.

By
W. S. Fitzgerald &
Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES JOHNSON, OF WAVERLY, IOWA.

SHOE POLISHER OR INKER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 720,930, dated February 17, 1903.

Application filed March 22, 1902. Serial No. 99,436. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES JOHNSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Waverly, in the county of Bremer and State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shoe Polishers or Inkers; and I do hereby 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.

My invention relates to shoe polishers or inkers; and it is my object to provide an article whereby liquid or other form of blacking may be applied to the sole of a shoe without coming in contact with the shoe-upper.

A further object is to provide a stopper for the bottle containing the fluid.

Other objects and advantages will herein after be made fully apparent, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my device in use as a polisher or inker. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same, showing its use as a stopper for a bottle, the position of the bottle being indicated by dotted lines. Fig. 3 is a central vertical section of the housing as seen from the dotted line *xx* in Fig. 4, also showing the swab and a portion of the swab-handle in section. Fig. 4 is a front elevation of my device complete.

In the drawings, 1 indicates the stem portion of my device. Attached to the lower end of the stem 1 is a swab or brush 2, adapted to take up and retain a certain amount of liquid, the said swab being secured to the stem by means of a wire 3 or otherwise.

Located upon the stem 1 at a suitable distance above the swab is a stopper 4, of cork or any suitable material, so that when the liquid is not being used the bottle may be tightly corked and put away for future use. As best shown in Fig. 2, the swab 2 does not enter the bottle to any great depth, and when such a quantity of liquid has been used as to necessitate the tilting or shaking of the bottle in order to bring the fluid in contact with the swab the stopper prevents the fluid escaping from the bottle.

Pivotaly mounted upon the stem 1 is a housing or shield 5, the end 6 thereof being adapted to receive the swab 2 when removed from the bottle. The opposite end 7, comprising the handle proper of my device, carries a spring 8, one arm of which rests against the upper end of the stem 1 and the other against the wall of the housing, as shown more clearly in Fig. 3. By this means the housing or shield 5 is normally held in the position shown in Figs. 1, 3, and 4.

In operation the stem 1, carrying the swab 2, is inserted into a bottle or receptacle containing liquid blacking, when after the swab has become thoroughly saturated with the liquid it is removed from the bottle. The spring 8, bearing against the upper end of the stem 1, forces the swab into the end 6 of the housing or shield, the said end being so constructed that it will cover the major portion of the swab. It will now be seen that by placing one of the feather-edges 9 of the end 6 upon the upper edge of the sole of a shoe the blacking may be applied thereto without coming in contact with the upper or body portion of the shoe, as clearly shown in Fig. 1.

Although I have shown and described a particular form of shield and swab, I do not desire to be confined to this construction, the essential points being to provide a shield or housing that will partially encompass the swab, thereby leaving only a small portion of the same exposed.

It will be understood that the swab 2 may be formed of felt or other suitable absorbent material.

While I have herein described and illustrated the preferred combination and construction of parts deemed necessary in carrying out my invention, I wish to comprehend all possible substitutes and equivalents which may be considered as falling fairly within the scope of my invention, and I do not, therefore, wish to be confined strictly to the exact showing herein presented, inasmuch as any form of hood or covering may be provided to inclose the brush so as to expose only a portion thereof.

Having thus fully described my invention

and the manner of using the same, further reference to the details is deemed unnecessary.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A swab formed of an absorbent material and having a suitable stem; a housing adapted to fit over said swab and having a handle; means to pivotally connect said stem and handle whereby the swab may be moved out of or into said housing; a spring adapted to normally hold the swab within the housing as set forth.

2. A swab having a stem and a housing having a handle said handle and stem being pivotally united, said housing being semicircular in cross-section and open upon one side

and thus adapted to receive and inclose the swab and means to normally hold said handle and stem substantially parallel with each other as and for the purpose set forth. 20

3. A swab and swab-inclosing housing, the former provided with a stem and the latter with a handle; means to pivotally connect said stem and handle and additional means to normally hold the swab within the housing as and for the purpose set forth. 25

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

JAMES JOHNSON.

Witnesses:

STEPHEN W. SELBIG,
FRANK A. WYNHOFF.