

J. P. ORFE.
 BOOT CLEANER.
 APPLICATION FILED APR. 17, 1908.

909,930.

Patented Jan. 19, 1909.

Fig. 1.

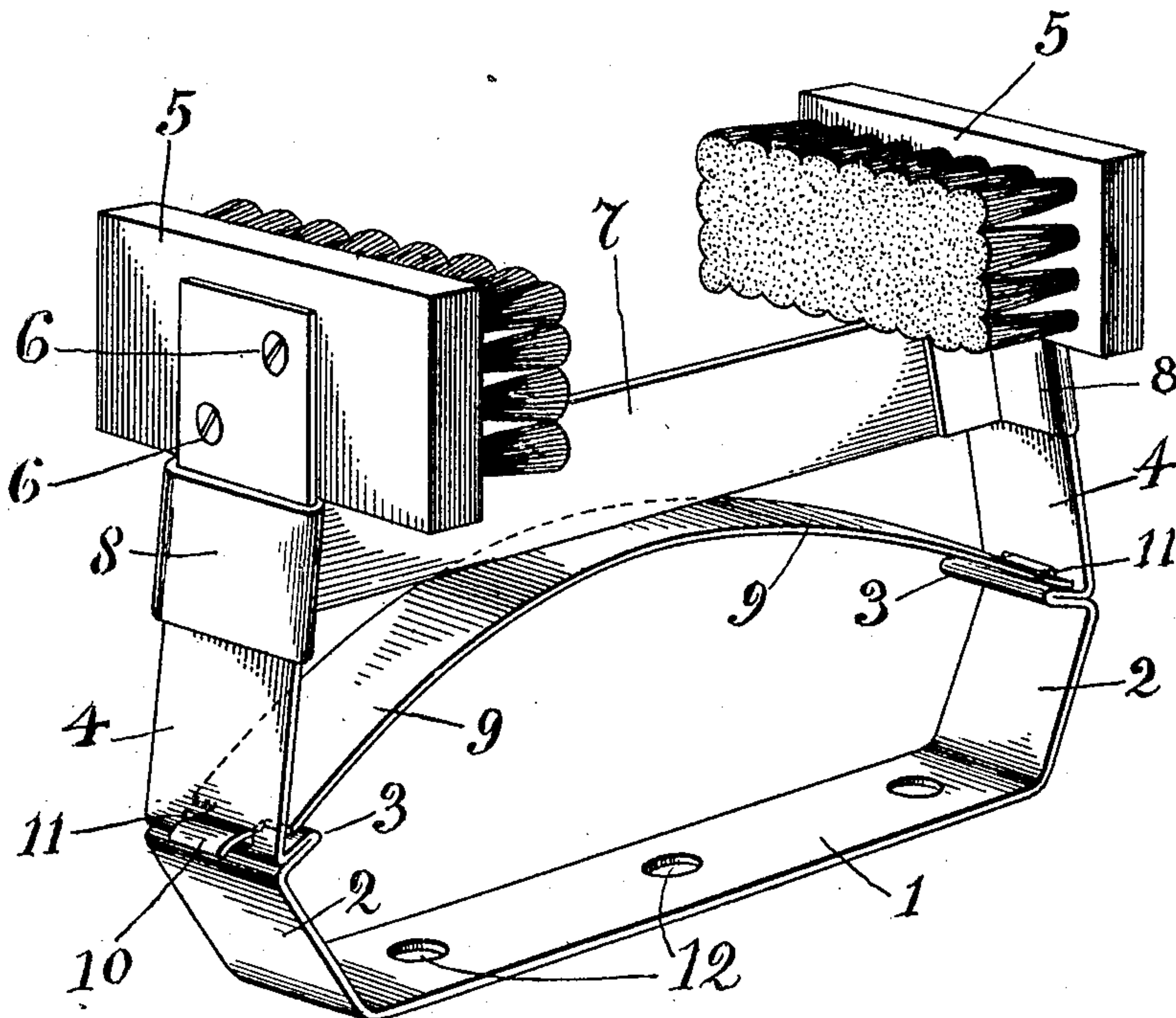
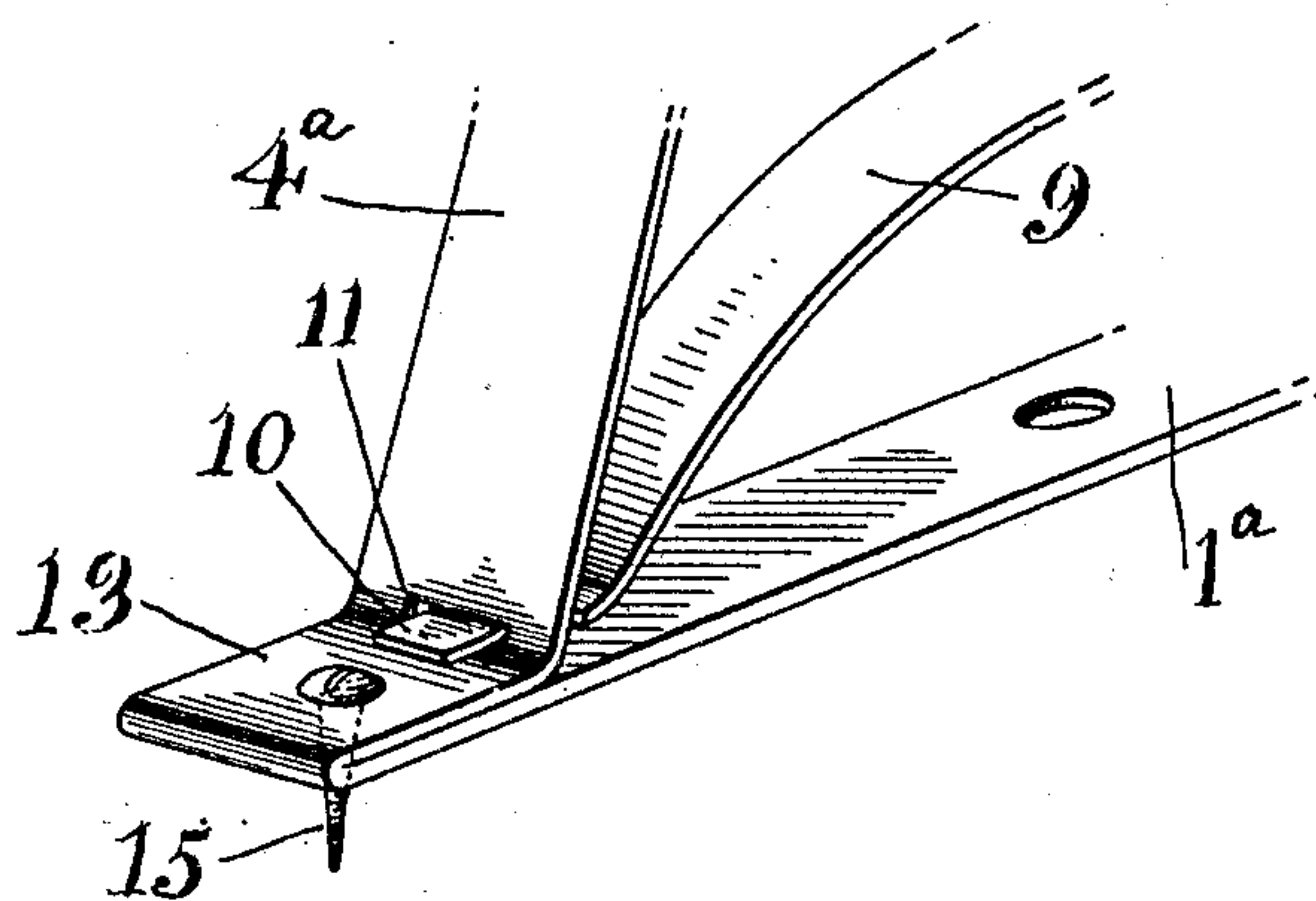


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

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BOOT-CLEANER.

No. 909,930.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 19, 1909.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH PHILIPP ORFE, citizen of the United States, residing at Riverside, in the county of Burlington and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Boot-Cleaners, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to boot cleaners, and especially to that class of cleaners which are designed to be permanently attached to door steps or porches and by the use of which the mud of the street may be quickly and effectually removed from boots or shoes, and it consists in the constructions, combinations and arrangements herein described and claimed.

An object of my invention is to provide a device which is capable of thoroughly cleaning not only the bottom of the boot but the sides as well of accumulated mud and dirt, and to accomplish this quickly and with very little effort on the part of the user of the device.

A further object of my invention is to provide a device which has few working parts, but which is strongly made and not liable to get out of order.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings in which;—

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing one embodiment of my invention, and Fig. 2 is a view showing a modified construction.

The cleaner consists in general of a combined brush and scraper. It comprises a flat strip of metal 1 which may be termed the base. At either end of the base the metal strip is bent at an angle to form an upwardly and outwardly inclined portion 2. An upwardly and inwardly inclined extension 3 is formed by bending the upper end of the portion 2 at approximately a right angle and then bending the strip back upon itself as shown in Fig. 1. The upper portions 4 of the strip are inclined toward each other for a purpose hereinafter explained. Each of these portions 4 bear at their upper ends a brush 5 which is secured to the strip by means of screws 6 passing through openings in the latter. These brushes are preferably of an elongated shape as shown in Fig. 1, although they may be of any convenient form.

The scraper proper consists of a flat strip of metal 7 similar to that of the base and side members. The strip is bent around

each of the side members 4, the bent portions constituting loops, which are adapted to retain the scraper 7 in vertically disposed plane and which also provide means by which the scraper can be moved up or down relatively to the brushes 5.

In order to retain the scraper 7 in its upper normal position, a curved spring member 9 is provided. At each end of the member 9 is a tongue 10 which is adapted to enter an opening 11 in the lower part of the side member 4. The end of the spring 9 is arranged to bear on the extension 3, while the tongue 10 serves as a guide for the spring during the movement of the latter. As has been already stated the cleaner is designed to be placed on a door step or porch and in order to retain it in position, screw holes 12 are provided in the base 1 through which screws may be passed to secure the device to the step.

When the cleaner is to be used the boot is placed on the scraper and downward pressure is exerted on the member 7 while the foot is drawn backward or pushed forward as in the ordinary manner of removing mud or dirt from the bottom of the boot. The pressure of the scraper on the spring 9 causes the latter to spread and its ends ride outwardly on the extensions 3 while the tongues 10 are forced outwardly through the openings 11. Owing to the inclination of the side members 4 the downward movement of the scraper 7 causes the brushes 5 to move toward each other slightly thus exerting a lateral pressure against the sides of the boot. Now when the latter is drawn backward or pushed forward the mud and dirt is effectually removed from the sides by the action of the brushes as well as from the bottom by the action of the scraper. Moreover when the boot is first placed between the brushes and downward pressure exerted, the brushes bear against the boot in its downward movement, the effect being to remove part of the mud, the remainder being completely removed when the boot is drawn backward.

It will thus be seen that I have designed a device which operates effectively in cleaning both the bottom and sides of shoes or boots when used in the manner of an ordinary scraper.

In Fig. 2 I have shown a modified form of the device which may be used to advantage with a wide step. In this form the base 1^a is extended at each end and is bent back

upon itself at 13 to form a securing flange and is then bent upwardly and inwardly to form the side member 4^a. The spring member 9 is arranged to bear on the upper side 5 of the base 1^a, the tongue 10 passing through the opening 11 in the same manner as in Fig. 1. One advantage of the form of the device lies in the facility with which it may be secured to its permanent base. 10 The flanges 13 are perforated to admit screws 15 and a straight drive may be had for these screws since there is nothing immediately above them to interfere. In the form shown in Fig. 2 the scraper and 15 brushes are brought nearer to the base and the device is therefore rendered more stable.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is—

1. In a boot cleaning device, a frame having resilient side members, a pair of opposed brushes secured to the extremities of said side members, a scraper slidably secured to said side members and a spring member adapted to engage said scraper and having 25 reduced end portions arranged to project through openings in said side members.

2. In a boot cleaning device, a frame having a pair of resilient side members, inclined toward each other a pair of opposed brushes secured to the extremities of said side members, a scraper having its ends looped around said side members and slidable with respect thereto, a curved spring disposed between said side members and having reduced end portions adapted to pass through openings 35 in said side members, said spring being arranged to retain said scraper in a normally elevated position.

3. In a boot cleaning device, a frame having resilient side members, a pair of opposed brushes secured to the extremities of said side members, a scraper slidably secured to said side members, and a spring member arranged to retain said scraper in a normally elevated position. 45

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

JOSEPH PHILIPP ORFE.

Witnesses:

JAMES J. GROGAN,
WM. BENDKOST.