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FILE CLEANER

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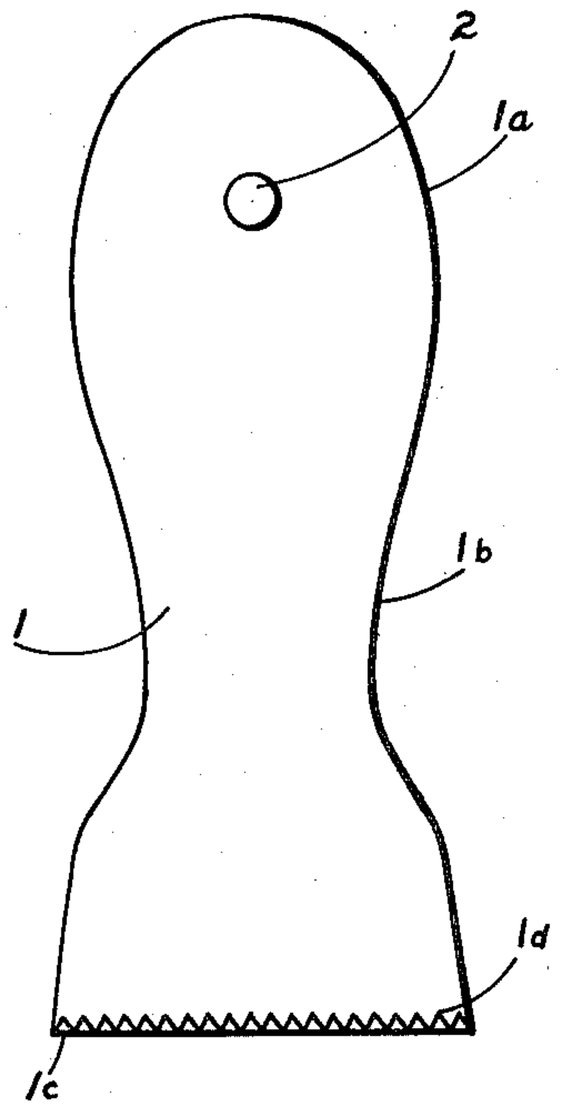

FIG. 1

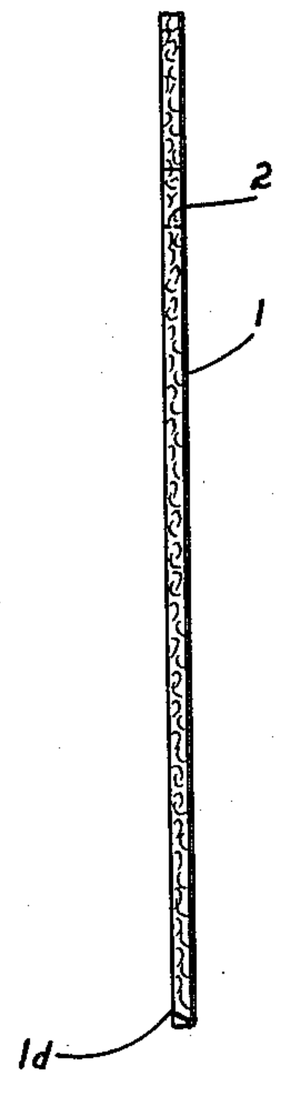

FIG. 2

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FILE CLEANER

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1 Claim. (Cl. 15—236)

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This invention relates to cleaners and scrapers, and more especially to a file cleaner for removing filings and dirt after the operation of using an ordinary file.

An object of the invention is to provide a file cleaner made from a material into which the file being cleaned will cut teeth to permit the cleaner thereafter to reach the bottom of the file teeth to effectively clean out everything thereat.

Another object is to provide a file cleaner which is readily gripped by the operator without fatigue, which is inexpensive to make, which will clean itself during use, and which will have a comparatively long life.

All these and other objects, as suggested herebelow, are attained by the method and means now to be described, and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevational view of a preferred form of the invention, after use for the purpose intended.

And Fig. 2 is an edge or end elevational view of the same.

Like numerals refer to like parts throughout the several views.

The filer cleaner is made of a processed or non-natural material of a homogeneous character, capable of being rather readily cut itself by the teeth of the file to be cleaned, during the early part of the cleaning operation. The material, for instance, may be a non-metallic cotton and cellulose processed material, such as that known as "vulcanized fibre." Or it may be a processed wood fibre, such as that known as "Masonite."

The character of such material is that it will be readily and uniformly cut by the file teeth to quickly form cleaning teeth of its own, filling the file teeth spaces, and the filings and/or "dirt" will be both pushed out and adhesively carried out by the nature and file-formed shape of this material, which is co-operatively unlike that of the file steel. At the same time, during the cleaning operation, the file-contacting portion of the cleaner material will itself be filed off, to thus not only self-clean it, but also to provide filed material which will cling to and so more effectively carry off the steel filings and dirt from between the file teeth.

Such material is soft enough to be promptly

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formed to cleaning shape by the file teeth, dense and non-crumbly enough to retain sharp-cut points to reach to the lowermost portions of the file-teeth spaces for complete cleaning thereof, of uniform consistency and without grain or variable texture so that its cleaning action will be uniform, hard enough so that it can be used over a sufficient time period to be practical in use, and with a somewhat adhesive quality when associated with filings of steel, etc., so as to more thoroughly free the file teeth of its unwanted accumulations. All this, in addition to its valuable self-cleaning function through the action of being filed away itself, along with its adhering material.

The article itself may preferably be of the shape shown in the drawing, Fig. 1, having a somewhat semi-circular upper end 1*a*, a reduced or finger-gripping portion 1*b*, and an expanding-side portion ending in a straight laterally-extending edge 1*c*, which is here shown after use, with the cleaning teeth 1*d* formed therein by the action of the file.

A hole 2, centrally disposed in the upper handle portion, is shown cut through the sheet material forming the article, which may be used both for the purpose of suspending the cleaner on a hook or nail, and as a circular cleaning edge for cleaning small round files, such as "rat-tails."

The pattern or shape of the article, and its aperture, is stamped, sawn, or otherwise cut from sheet material as above. And since the edge of its handle portion contains both convex and concave vari-dimensional curves of the same cleaning material, it too can be used for cleaning the teeth of files having like, or near-like, curved surfaces, such as "half-rounds."

Thus, in the one simple article is a composite cleaning edge ideally adapted for a universality of commonly-found conditions; and such multiple use of the handle portion as well results in a serrated handle edge which only makes more effective the gripping efficiency of the article in use, for still better cleaning results in less time.

Having now described the invention, what is claimed as new, and for which Letters Patent of the United States is desired, is:

A file cleaner for metal files, comprising a rigid flat sheet of non-metallic non-malleable pro-

cessed fibrous material, having its face surfaces of substantially greater width than the thickness of its edge surfaces, and having a file-cuttable cleaning edge of substantially greater length than thickness, said cleaning edge being structurally capable of having spaced fibrous portions entirely removed by the file teeth to leave fibrous cleaning portions between the file teeth, said removed portions being inherently capable of intermingling with and adhering to metal filings pushed from between the file teeth as said cleaning edge is cut by the file teeth.

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