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T. C. DI GIOVANNA

2,629,890

HOLDER FOR STEEL WOOL

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Fig. 1

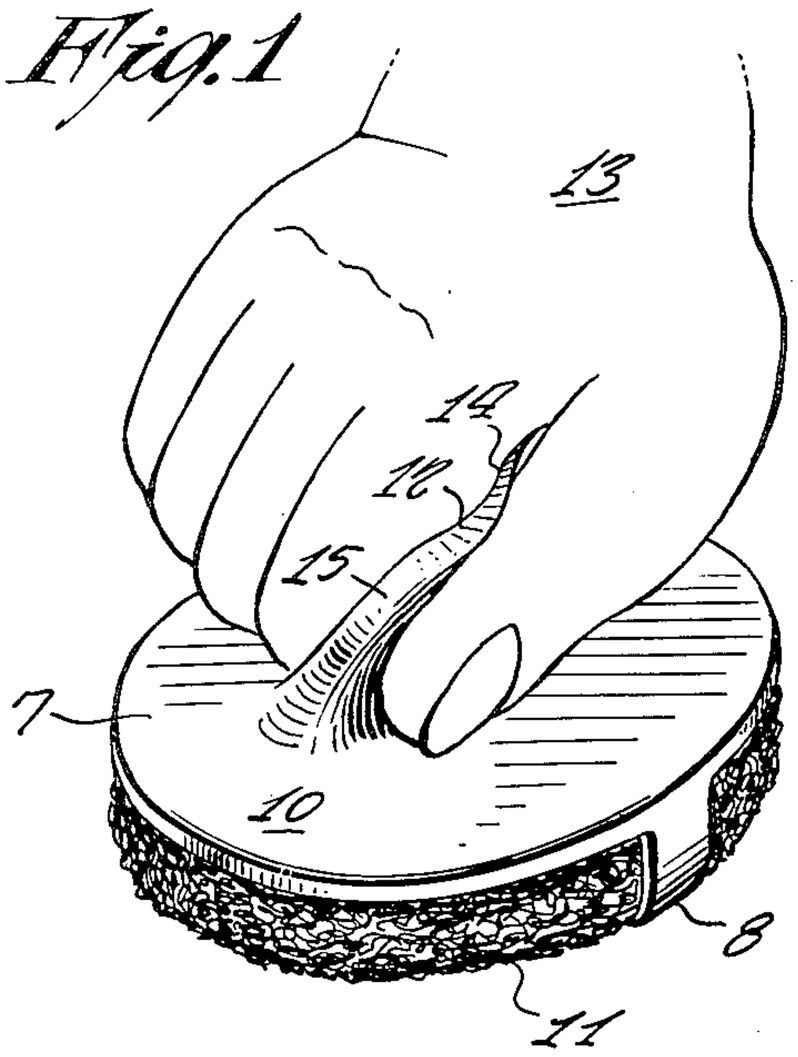


Fig. 2

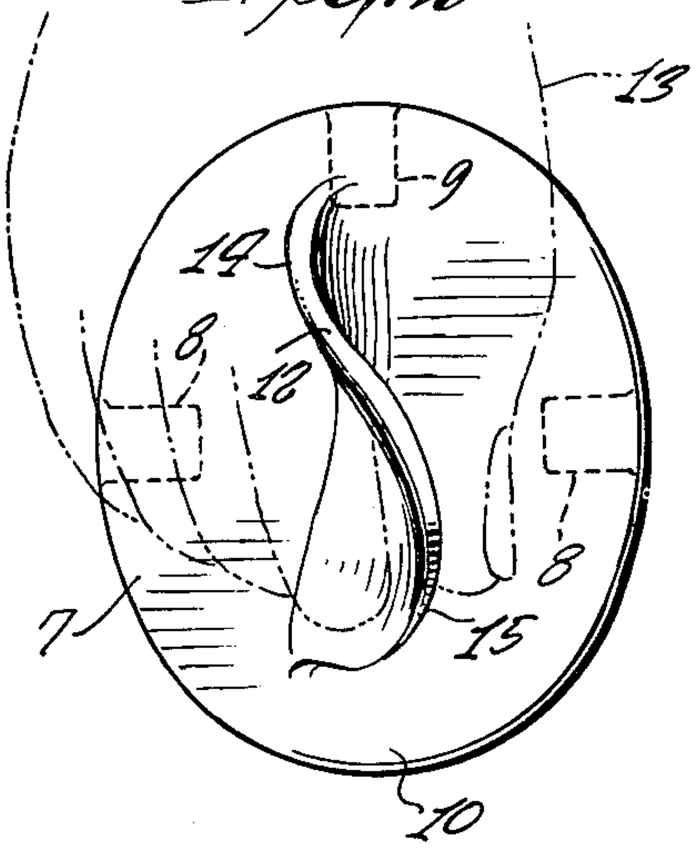


Fig. 5

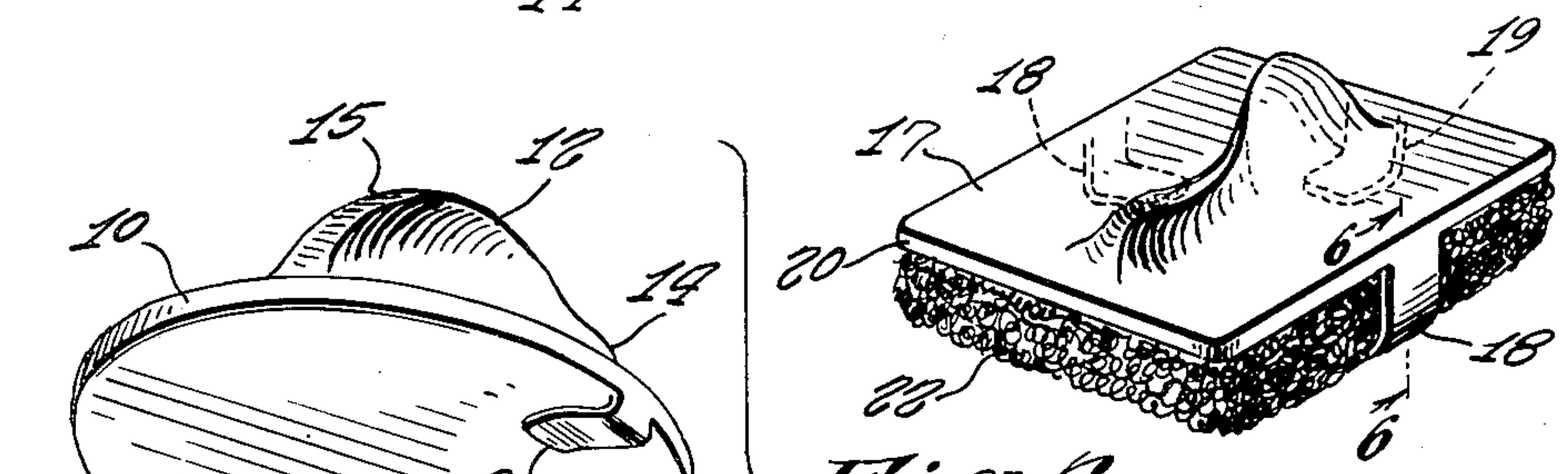


Fig. 3

Fig. 4

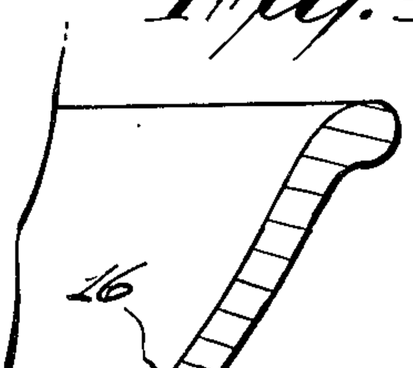
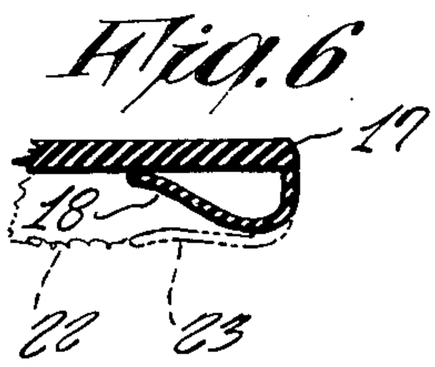


Fig. 6



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2,629,890

HOLDER FOR STEEL WOOL

Tigellia Cisco Di Giovanna, Brooklyn, N. Y.

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1 Claim. (Cl. 15—209)

1

This invention relates to holders and devices for holding scouring and polishing means, and particularly to a holder for artificial metal wool such as steel wool.

The main object of my invention is to provide a manually gripped holder for such scouring and polishing means that is especially adapted to fit the hand and be firmly held thereby.

Another object of the invention is to have such a manual holder capable of holding steel wool in pad form, as for example, that form of steel wool known on the market as "Brillo."

A further object is to have a steel wool holder of the character indicated which is provided with means for releasably holding a pad of steel wool in effective position for use.

It is also an object to have a holder such as mentioned that is flexible to allow the steel wool held thereby to conform to the surface upon which the steel wool is applied.

A practical object of this invention is, of course, to have a steel wool holder that is reasonable in cost and simple to make and use.

Other objects and the advantages of my invention will appear more fully in detail as the specification proceeds.

In order to facilitate ready comprehension of the invention for a proper appreciation of the salient features thereof, the invention is illustrated on the accompanying drawing forming part hereof, and in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a holder for steel wool and the like made according to this invention and embodying the same in a practical form;

Figure 2 is a top plan view of the same holder;

Figure 3 is an exploded view of the holder disclosing the detail of the retaining means for holding the steel wool in place;

Figure 4 is a side view of the holder in use upon a curved object to illustrate how the holder conforms itself to the shape of an object to which it is applied;

Figure 5 is a perspective view of a modification; and

Figure 6 is a fragmentary section taken on line 6—6 in Figure 5.

Throughout the views, the same reference numerals indicate the same or like parts.

When scouring and polishing pots, pans, bowls and the like, it is often inconvenient to use a wad of metal wool to scour the same, as it is a matter of practice and dexterity to hold the wool effectively to perform good work. In addition, such work always entails a hazard, for it

2

occurs all too frequently that pieces of the wool cuts into the fingers and begin to cause festers and boils or other serious conditions.

Upon considering this problem, it has occurred to me that the steel wool, preferably in the form of a pad should be mounted in or upon some kind of support capable of being held in the hand, both to provide a good hold on the metal wool and also to protect the hand from the wool. As a result of such cogitation, I have succeeded in producing a special holder for steel wool and the like, as will now be particularly set forth in detail.

Hence, in the practice of my invention, and referring also again to the drawing, a resilient and substantially flat holder body 7 is preferably made of natural or artificial rubber or plastic and may be of round or oval outline, as shown in Figures 1 to 4. Upon two opposite side edges and at one end, this holder body is provided with retaining fingers 8, 8, 9 directed inwardly beneath the body and made of a stiffer and less yielding form of rubber or plastic. It is to be noted that at the remaining end 10 of the body no retaining finger is located, but instead, this end is clear and unobstructed in order to allow a pad 11 of steel wool or the like to be slid inward beneath the holder body so as to become engaged by fingers 8, 8, and 9. When slipping the pad into position, these retaining fingers may be pried outward by the operator until the pad is seated in final position, when the pad will conform in outline with the outline of the holder body and be ready for use.

In order to manipulate the mentioned holder and apply the steel wool to the utensils to be scoured or polished, the holder body 7 is provided upon its upper surface with a hand grip 12 of elongated and generally upstanding form. However, in order to cause this hand grip to conform to the palm and the fingers of the hand 13, this grip is formed with a pitch like a propeller blade, so that toward one end 14 it bends toward the left to fit the palm and toward the other end it veers off to the right at 15 to be gripped by the fingers. Being of the same material as the holder body, this hand grip, located as it is upon the intermediate portion of the mentioned holder body, the hand obtains a firm grip on member 12, and thus provides a good hold on the device as a whole without the hand coming into direct contact with the steel wool.

Inasmuch as the entire holder is of resilient material, it is easily possible to scour and polish concave and convex objects such as the concave

bowl 16 partly shown in Figure 4, the steel pad 11 naturally also conforming to the shape of the object to which it is applied. The material of the holder may be, as already mentioned of rubber or plastic, and the material among the plastics that is suitable is any one of the vinyl series and the like.

While I have described the holder body as of round or oval outline, such a profile is merely one of convenience, for as shown in Figure 5, the body 17 may be of square or rectangular outline. This form of holder has the two side retaining fingers 18, 18 and one end retaining finger 19, while the other end 20 of the holder is free and clear for insertion or removal of the rectangular steel wool pad 21 held by retaining fingers 18, 18, 19. The upper surface of the holder is provided with the integral hand grip member 22 by which to hold the device and manipulate the same at will.

As shown in Figure 6, the pad retaining finger 18, for example, is normally biased upward and inward toward the underside of the holder body 17, but when the pad 22 is introduced between the finger 18 and body 17, the finger is separated from the body as indicated at 23. The retaining fingers are preferably made of a less resilient rubber or plastic than that of the holder body 7 or 17, and they may even be internally reinforced by a metal or plastic clip or finger, and this is such an obvious expedient as to seem unnecessary to illustrate.

In any event, it is evident from the foregoing that a pad of steel wool may be held in useful manner without danger to the hand and manipulated conveniently to scour and polish various utensils of different shapes in effective manner.

It has been shown, also that the form of the holder as a whole may be selected for convenience, so that it may be round, oval, square, rectangular or of any other outline desired, so long as one end or side is free from retaining fingers

to allow for replacement of a steel wool pad. In any form of the holder, the hand grip is also substantially the same in form, being formed with a twist to facilitate gripping the same.

Manifestly, variations may be resorted to and parts and features may be modified or used without others within the scope of the appended claim.

Having now fully described my invention, I claim:

A steel wool holder adapted to hold a pad of steel wool in effective position for use, including a holder body of resilient material having a predetermined outline, a plurality of inwardly directed retaining fingers extending integrally from the edges beneath said holder body for retaining a pad of steel wool against the underside of said body, and a grip member fixed upon the upper surface of the holder body, the said grip member being formed with a pitch along its length, thereby bending the said grip member in one direction at one end and in the opposite direction at its other end in order to facilitate conforming to the palm and fingers of the hand when gripping the said holder, and the said retaining fingers being less resilient than the said holder body.

TIGELLIA CISCO DI GIOVANNA.

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