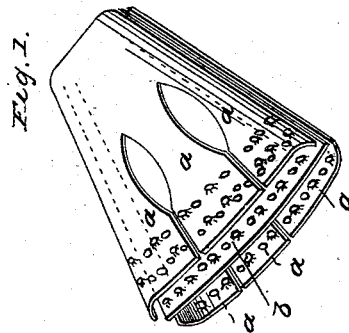
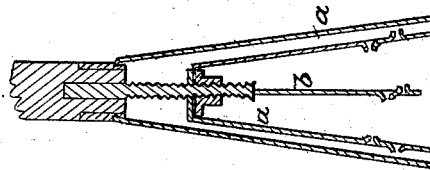
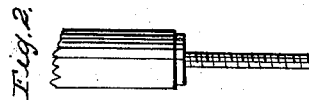
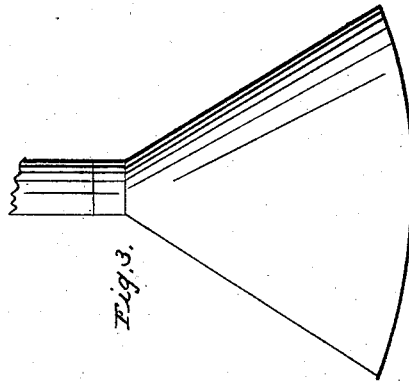


J. KIEFER.
Broom Head.

No. 54,921.

Patented May 22, 1866.



Witnesses:
John Mamma
D. H. Beck

Inventor:
John Kiefer
by H. R. K. Beck
Atty

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN KIEFER, OF HAMILTON, OHIO.

IMPROVED BROOM-HEAD.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 54,921, dated May 22, 1866.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN KIEFER, of Hamilton, in the county of Butler, in the State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Broom-Heads; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of the brush-holder detached. Fig. 2 represents the broom-handle with its rabbeted ferrule and screw. Fig. 3 represents the outline of a complete broom as made with my improved head or holder.

My invention relates to the means of holding the wisp in position; and consists in the combination and arrangement of two series of leaves of punched metal with a single central leaf interposed, whereby the broom-corn is securely held in position, and the body of the broom strengthened, in the manner as herein-after more fully set forth.

I am aware that several forms of broom heads and holders have been introduced in which the corn or wisp is clamped between metal jaws or analogous devices, also in which the screw and shield are employed. Other broom-heads have been devised in which the screw is provided with a loop or bar or link, to which the wisp or broom-corn may be attached and drawn up into a shield. I therefore disclaim all these devices and their equivalents, my invention being limited to the novel features of the wisp-holder irrespective of the means of attaching the handle or of securing the clamp or wisp-holder upon the broom-corn.

To enable others to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe the same with reference to the drawings.

In Fig. 1 the two series of thin metal leaves *a a* and *a' a'* and the central leaf or stiffener, *b*, are secured at the base of the holder to a metal block of suitable size, as seen in the drawings. The two outer series of leaves, *a* and *a'*, and the central leaf, *b*, are punched so as to form perforations with rough edges on both sides for the purpose of biting as with teeth against the opposite sides of the stalks of broom-corn forming the wisp.

The shield or cover, which is a flattened cone of sheet metal, is provided with an open

apex, so as to fit snugly against the rabbet of the ferrule to make a neat joint and give strength to the structure. A mere skeleton-frame may be used instead of the shield or sheath, or the sheath may be dispensed with and the holder may be secured upon the wisp or corn by a strap of leather provided with a buckle, and in that case the broom-handle may be permanently attached to the metal block at the base of the holder. When the broom head or holder is used in this manner the leaves *a a* and *a' a'* will be punched so as to form teeth only on the inner side, and instead of the teeth formed by punching on the outside of these leaves, loops of metal may be formed, through which the strap of leather will pass to secure the wisp in the holder.

The fact that the stiffener *b* is used in combination with the two series of leaves insures the broom to retain its proper flattened form under the compression of the leather strap.

By making the outer leaves in separate series permits them to adjust themselves inside of the strap, binder, or sheath, so as to more securely hold the corn or wisp firmly, as each separate stalk of the wisp will be brought in contact with some of the roughened projecting teeth of either the leaves or stiffener.

It will be readily understood that a broom-head of this construction can be filled and refilled with the greatest facility.

As represented in the drawings, the holder of the wisp, after being filled, is inserted in the sheath, and the screw attached to the handle is inserted through the hole at the apex of the sheath and into the hole in the metal block, (forming the base of the holder,) which is provided with a suitable screw-thread, and by revolving the broom-handle the holder may be drawn into the sheath, which serves as a binder.

To construct the broom, however, in the lightest and most economical manner, using my improved holder with a strap of leather or other material passing under loops attached to the outside of the leaves *a* and *a'*, will, at the same time that it cheapens the article, admit of refilling in the more ready and simple manner.

By the use of these several toothed leaves every stalk of broom-corn is grasped and firmly held, whereas in other constructions, where the corn-stalks are surrounded in mass by the holder, those in the center of the broom often

become loose and fall out, and the entire mass then becomes detached from the holder. My invention entirely obviates this difficulty.

Having now fully described my invention, and the manner of using the same, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The two series of leaves *a a a* and *a' a' a'* in combination with the central continuous leaf, *b*, each of which is provided with teeth by punching the sheet metal, as described, and so

arranged as to be capable of self-adjustment upon the stalks of broom-corn constituting the wisp when compressed thereon, in the manner and for the purpose herein set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereto set my hand this 12th day of January, 1866.

JOHN KIEFER.

Witnesses:

H. R. K. PECK,
D. MCCHESENEY.