

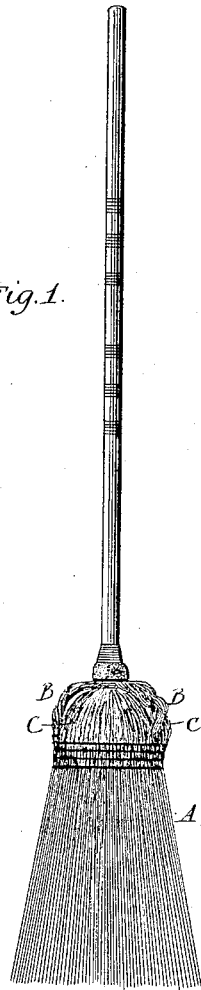
(No Model.)

F. W. RATCLIFFE.  
BROOM.

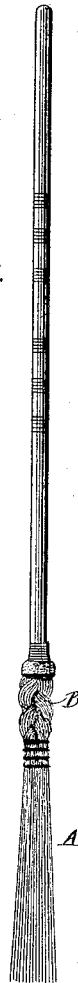
No. 458,757.

Patented Sept. 1, 1891.

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig 2.*



*Witnesses:*

*Wm. T. Norton*  
*M. E. Brundage*

*Inventor*

*Francis W. Ratcliffe*  
by *J. L. Brown*  
*Att. Attorney.*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANCIS W. RATCLIFFE, OF LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY.

## BROOM.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 458,757, dated September 1, 1891.

Application filed February 16, 1891. Serial No. 381,685. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FRANCIS W. RATCLIFFE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Louisville, in the county of Jefferson and State of Kentucky, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Brooms; 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.

The object of my invention is to strengthen and protect the broom by means of wings at its shoulders.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the broom, showing my invention; and Fig. 2 is a like view of an edge of a broom, showing the same.

In both the figures like letters indicate like parts.

A is a broom, and B B are wings of my invention formed over the shoulders C C for strengthening and protecting the broom at those points.

In practically carrying out my invention a portion of the material of which the broom is ordinarily made is laid on the edges of the broom and stiffened at the part over the shoulders, so as to give it a considerable de-

gree of rigidity there, and is secured to the handle and body of the broom in any of the usual ways. I prefer to give this stiffening by plaiting the material forming the wings and also to so arrange the wings as to stand a little off from the body of the broom; but it is obvious that the wings may be stiffened in other ways.

Among the advantages of my invention is this, that the broom, besides being more ornamental, is rendered more durable by being strengthened and protected at the shoulders, where it is liable to wear and break from the knocks and shocks to which it is subject in use.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A broom stiffened and strengthened by means of wings at its shoulders, substantially as described.

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

FRANCIS W. RATCLIFFE.

Witnesses

CHAS. W. ELLISON,  
ALBERT S. YATES.