

C. PRENTIS, 2d.
SPONGE-CUP.

No. 188,185.

Patented March 6, 1877.

Fig. 1.

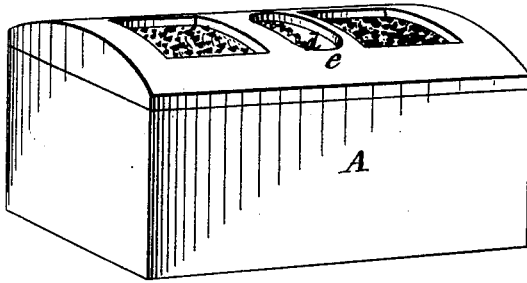


Fig. 2.

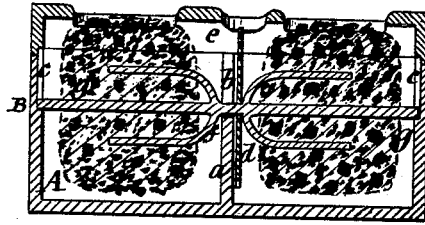


Fig. 3.

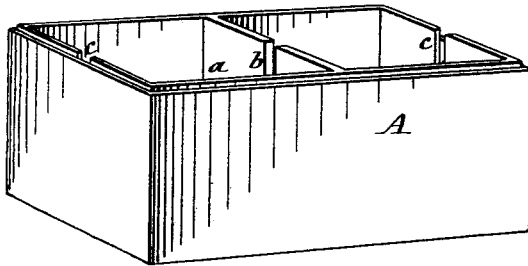
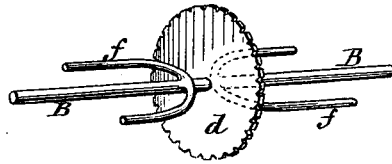


Fig. 4.



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CHARLES PRENTIS, 2D, OF NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT.

IMPROVEMENT IN SPONGE-CUPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 188,185, dated March 6, 1877; application filed February 19, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES PRENTIS, 2D, of the city and county of New London, in the State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Sponge-Cups, for use in counting-houses, banks, &c.; and I do hereby declare that the following specification, taken in connection with the drawings furnished and forming a part of the same, is a clear, true, and complete description thereof.

My improvements relate to that class of sponge-cups in which the sponge may be rotated; and my invention consists of the combination, with a suitable cup, of a shaft having one or more prongs for axially engaging with a sponge or sponges, and a finger-wheel mounted on said shaft, whereby the sponges may be readily rotated without handling them.

To more particularly describe my invention I will refer to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure I represents one of my improved sponge-cups in perspective. Fig. II represents the same in longitudinal vertical central section. Fig. III represents, in perspective, the cup with its cover, sponges, and sponge-shaft removed therefrom. Fig. IV represents the sponge-shaft detached.

A denotes the cup proper. It is, in this instance, divided into two distinct compartments by a central partition, as at *a*, which is provided with a central vertical slot, as at *b*. The ends of the cup at the inner sides are vertically grooved centrally, as at *c*, so as to afford at the bottoms of the grooves bearings for the ends of the sponge-shaft B, which, when in position, occupies also the slot *b*, and has a bearing at the bottom thereof.

The shaft B is provided with a finger-wheel,

as at *d*, which has a diameter large enough to render its periphery accessible through a central opening in the cover *e* of the cup.

On each side of the finger-wheel the shaft is provided with a fork, as at *f*.

The sponges *g* are trimmed so as to be cylindrical in form, and are mounted upon the shaft with the forks properly entered, so that a rotation of the shaft will secure the rotation of the sponges.

It will be seen that if a small quantity of water be supplied to the cup, the sponges may be revolved therein, as may be required from time to time.

When two compartments are employed, one sponge may be used as a pen-cleaner, and the other for use when counting bills. The finger-wheel enables the sponges to be readily rotated without soiling the fingers.

The sponge-openings in the cover may be provided with lids, whereby dust may be excluded when the cup is not in use.

It is obviously not essential that the two sponge-compartments be connected, as shown, and I propose in some cases to employ two or more separate cups, with the shaft extending into all of them, and the finger-wheel located thereon wholly outside of and between the cups.

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

The combination, with a sponge-cup, of the sponge-shaft, its fork or forks, and the finger-wheel for rotating the shaft, substantially as described.

CHARLES PRENTIS, 2D.

Witnesses:

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