No. 778,648. PATENTED DEC. 27, 1904.

T. I. FISHER.

COPY PAD MOISTENER.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 13, 1904.

Fig. 1.

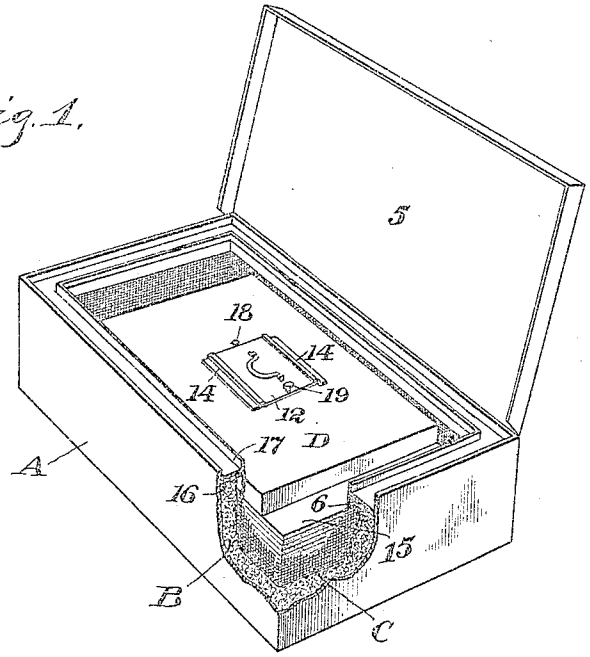


Fig. 2.

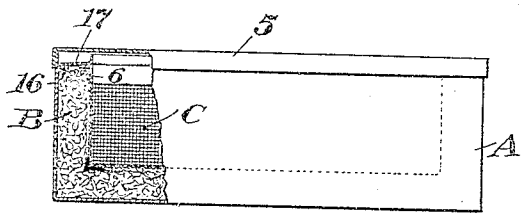


Fig. 3.

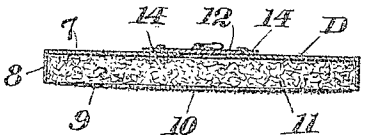
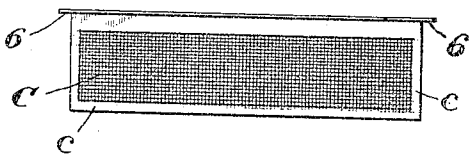


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES:

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No. 778,648. Patented December 27, 1904.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THEOPHILUS I. FISHER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

COPY-PAD MOISTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 778,648, dated December 27, 1904.

Application filed May 13, 1904. Serial No. 207,821.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THEOPHILUS I. FISHER, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city of New York, borough of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Copy-Pad Moisteners; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

My invention relates to copy-pad moisteners, and I have produced a device of this character wherein I can moisten or dampen copy pads or cloths very uniformly and expeditiously.

Broadly stated, my invention consists in providing a suitable foraminous basket or tray for holding the copying pads, blotters, or cloths to be moistened, which basket rests or is supported in a receptacle containing a packing or lining of highly-absorbent material. The basket is preferably provided with a weighted follower adapted to be seated therein and which follower has a solid top and foraminous bottom, between which a packing or filling of absorbent material is placed.

My device is simple in construction, easy to use, efficient in operation, and in practice greatly facilitates the copying of letters and other documents and does the work for which it is intended with great uniformity.

The construction of the device, as well as its functions and advantages, will be apparent from the following detailed description thereof, taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the invention with the cover open, partly broken away at one corner. Fig. 2 is a front elevation, partly broken away, so as to show the perforated basket and the absorbent lining. Fig. 3 shows the basket-follower in cross-section, and Fig. 4 shows the foraminous basket.

The metal box or container is designated by A, and it is preferably made of galvanized iron, though it may be constructed of any metal desired or other non-absorbent material. Its bottom, sides, and top are solid, the latter, 5, being pivoted for convenience and fitted closely thereto, so that I secure a practically moisture-tight receptacle.

The sides and bottom of the box A are lined or packed with a highly-absorbent material B, preferably fine fibrous asbestos, as this material has given superior results to any other I have tried. Within the box is the foraminous basket C, with its bottom and sides contacting with the absorbent material therein. The basket is preferably made of close-mesh wire-cloth attached to the skeleton framework *c* and may be provided with the flange 6, adapted to rest on the top of the absorbent lining. The wire-cloth may be made of any metal or other material which will not be acted upon by moisture, or it may be coated or plated with material which is not so acted upon.

The follower D has the solid top 7 and sides 8 and foraminous bottom 9, slightly bellied, as shown at 10, and is packed with absorbent material 11, preferably the same as the lining B of the box A. In such bellied construction the tendency of the water is to gravitate toward the lowest or bellied part of the bottom, and as a result very slight pressure applied to this part will cause the water to ooze out much more readily than though the water was equally distributed over a plain foraminated surface. The follower rests loosely in the basket, and while it is generally made slightly larger than the pads to be moistened, so as to entirely cover them, it is made somewhat less in length than the basket, so that there is sufficient room in the basket to permit of the follower being stood on end therein out of the way of the pads when it is desired to remove the latter from or insert them in the basket. In the top of the follower D is an opening provided with a tightly-fitting cover 12, slidable in guides 14 14 thereon, and through which opening water may be introduced to saturate the absorbent material 11.

The follower is provided with a pin or stop 18, which limits the movement of the cover 12, and a pin or screw 19, by which said cover may be fastened in place. When the follower is constructed as described, its weight causes sufficient water to ooze out of the wet packing to moisten the cloths thoroughly and uniformly, but not enough to soak or overwet them. The uniformity with which the cloths are moistened enables the copying to be performed without blurring or smearing.

In Fig. 1 the copying-cloths 15 are shown within the basket C and underneath the follower D. It will be apparent that the "pack" of cloths is exposed on its sides and bottom to the moist absorbent packing in box A and on its top to the packing or filling in follower D.

The interior of box A may be provided with the flanges 16 in substantial alinement with the basket-flange 6, both of which flanges are adapted to support the angle-shaped member 17, which rests loosely thereon and forms a gutter for the introduction of water to the absorbent filling B. A slight space is left between the outer edge of the horizontal flange of the angle-shaped member and the walls of the box, so that water will flow freely therethrough to the absorbent material.

In the drawings I have shown the box or receptacle as rectangular in shape, though it is obvious that it might be made of any shape or form desired.

The manner of using my improved moistening apparatus will be apparent from the foregoing description; but it may be stated briefly as follows: The absorbent material in the box and follower having been saturated with water, the copying-cloths are placed within the basket and the follower placed thereon. The cloths absorb moisture quickly and uniformly from the surrounding absorbent material and may be used almost immediately or allowed to remain in the basket for any length of time desired, as it is found they do not overwet or become discolored or moldy. The greater the number of cloths in the basket the greater is the pressure or weight on the absorbent material beneath the basket, and consequently the greater is the amount of water forced out therefrom to the cloths. On account of the highly-absorbent character of the fibrous asbestos, it is not necessary to replenish the water very often; but when this is required it may be done readily by the means described.

It will be apparent that many changes and modifications may be made in the structure as described without departing from the principle underlying my invention, and I therefore reserve the right to make any and all of such changes.

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

1. In a device of the class described, a receptacle, a foraminous moistening-basket therein and absorbent material enveloping the sides and bottom of the basket.

2. In a device of the class described, a receptacle, a packing of absorbent material therein, a moistening-basket in contact with the absorbent material and adapted to receive moisture therefrom, and a follower arranged to exert pressure on the contents of the basket.

3. In a device of the class described, a receptacle containing absorbent material, a moistening basket or tray therein and means for exposing the contents of the basket on all sides to the absorbent material.

4. In a device of the class described, a receptacle, a packing of absorbent material on the sides and bottom thereof, a foraminous basket interiorly of and exposed to the packing and means for producing pressure on the contents of the basket.

5. In a device of the class described, a receptacle, a packing of fibrous asbestos therein, and a foraminous basket exposed at its sides and bottom to said asbestos.

6. In a device of the class described, a receptacle, a packing of absorbent material therein, a foraminous basket contacting with the absorbent material and a pressure device containing absorbent material and adapted to supply moisture to the contents of the basket.

7. In a device of the class described, a receptacle, a lining of asbestos therein, a foraminous basket adapted to receive moisture therefrom and a follower containing asbestos, and adapted to rest within the basket.

8. In a device of the class described, a receptacle, an interior flange within and near the upper part thereof, a foraminous basket therein provided with a flange and a member resting on said flanges.

9. In a device of the class described, a follower comprising a casing, a bellied foraminous bottom therefor, and a packing of absorbent material confined between said bottom and the casing.

10. In a device of the class described, a receptacle for containing absorbent material, and an open-work basket therein, and a moisture-supplying device adapted to rest within the basket.

11. In a device of the class described, a foraminous basket or tray for containing material to be moistened, and means for exposing said basket or tray on all sides and on the top and bottom thereof to the action of moisture-containing material.

12. In a device of the class described, a receptacle lined with absorbent material on its

bottom and sides, a foraminous tray or basket exposed on its sides and bottom to the action of said absorbent material, and a follower containing absorbent material adapted to rest within the basket whereby the contents of the basket are exposed on all sides to the action of the absorbent material.

13. In a device of the class described, a receptacle, a basket constructed of wire mesh, means for suspending the basket within the receptacle, and absorbent material within the receptacle and surrounding the sides of the basket.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

THEOPHILUS I. FISHER.

Witnesses:
JAS. H. GRIFFIN,
R. B. CAVANAGH.