No. 700,584. Patented May 20, 1902.

M. VAUTOUR & H. PREFONTAINE.

BAKING CUP CLEANER.

(Application filed Apr. 29, 1901.)

(No Model.)

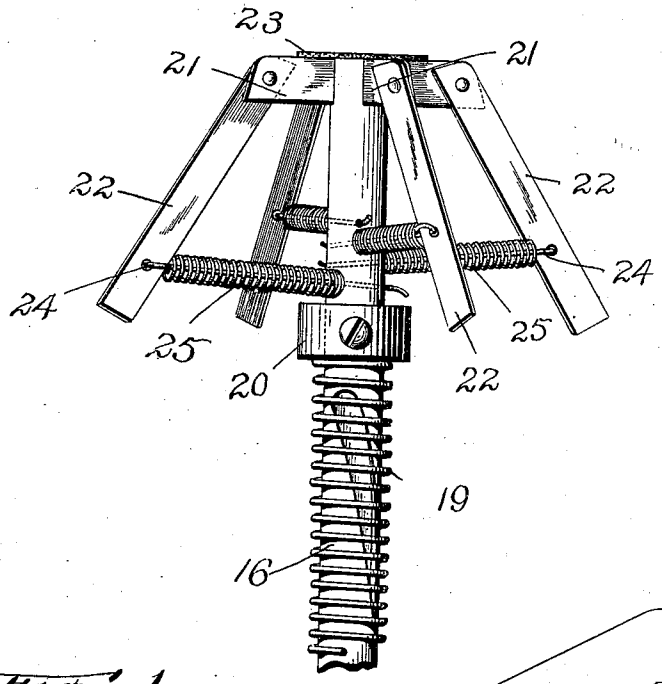


Fig. 1.

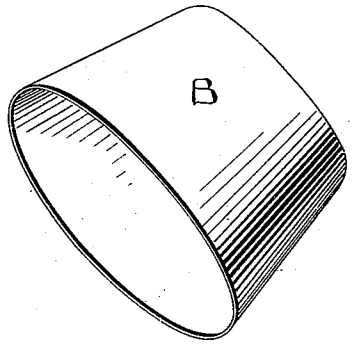
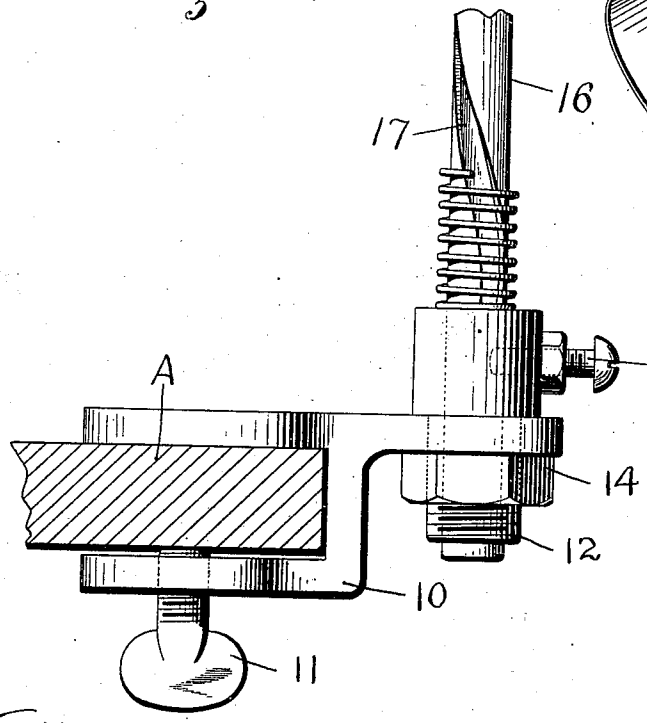


Fig. 2.



Witnesses.
C. F. Wesson.
M. E. Regan.

Inventors.
M. Vautour
and
H. Prefontaine.
By
Southgate & Southgate
Attorneys.

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARCEL VAUTOUR AND HERMENEGIL PREFONTAINE, OF FISHERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS.

BAKING-CUP CLEANER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 700,584, dated May 20, 1902.

Application filed April 29, 1901. Serial No. 57,927. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, MARCEL VAUTOUR, a subject of the King of England, and HERMENEGIL PREFONTAINE, a citizen of the United States, both residing at Fisherville, in the county of Worcester and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Baking-Cup Cleaner, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a construction which has been especially designed for scraping and cleaning out baking-cups employed in bakeries for cooking individual cakes.

The object of this invention is to provide a construction which will act automatically to insure a thorough scraping or cleaning of each dish which is acted upon thereby.

To these ends this invention consists of the baking-cup cleaner and of the combination of parts therein, as hereinafter described, and more particularly pointed out in the claims at the end of this specification.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a view, partially broken away, of a baking-cup cleaner constructed according to our invention; and Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a baking-cup of ordinary form.

In cooking or baking individual cakes—such, for example, as are frequently termed "cup-cakes"—it often happens that crumbs or portions of the cake will adhere to the cup in which the same is cooked, and before the cup can be used again it is essential that the same should be thoroughly scraped out or cleaned. This has heretofore ordinarily been done with a knife and by hand.

The especial object of our present invention is therefore to provide a cup-cleaning mechanism which will operate automatically and insure a more perfect scraping out and cleaning of baking-cups than has heretofore been secured.

To these ends a cup-cleaning device constructed according to our invention comprises a rotary head, which may consist of cross-pieces or an end corresponding substantially to the diameter of the cup to be cleaned. Mounted in the rotary head are inclined scraping arms or knives, which are normally spread apart by springs and which are arranged to be compressed or forced toward each other when a cup is applied to the head. Any desired means can be employed for turning or driving the rotary head.

In practice the vertical spindle of the rotary head is preferably normally lifted by a spring and is provided with a spiral groove for turning or twisting the same when the spindle is forced down.

Referring to the accompanying drawings and in detail, A designates a table or other support to which our cup-cleaner is attached. Secured to the edge of the table A is a bracket or clamp 10, secured in place by a wing-nut 11. Mounted in the bracket 10 is a socket-piece 12, fastened in place by a nut 14. Extending down through the socket-piece 12 is a vertical shaft 16, which is held in place by a spiral groove 17, which is engaged by the end of a screw 18. The shaft 16 is normally lifted by means of a coiled spring 19, bearing against a collar 20. At its upper end the shaft 16 is provided with a head part comprising extending arms 21, pivotally connected to which are scraping blades or knives 22. On top of the arms 21 we provide a cushion or center piece 23, although the use of such center piece is not essential. Connected with each of the scraping blades or knives 22 is a wire 24, extending through the spindle or vertical shaft 16 and provided with a coiled spring 25. By means of this construction when a cup B—such, for example, as illustrated in Fig. 2—is applied to the rotary head, so as to depress the vertical spindle, the spiral groove of the spindle will cause the same to rotate or turn automatically, cleaning out the inside of the cup in a simple and efficient manner. During the rotation of the spindle each of the scraping knives or blades 22 will be forced out by its spring to bear with a substantially uniform pressure along its entire length upon the side of the cup which is being cleaned or scraped out.

Different diameters of rotary heads will be used for different-sized cups, although the same rotary head may be employed for different cups whose sides are more or less flaring.

We are aware that numerous changes may be made in the construction of our device by those skilled in the art without departing from the scope of our invention as expressed

in the claims. For example different means may be employed from those herein illustrated for turning or rotating the spindle. We do not wish, therefore, to be limited to the construction we have herein shown and described; but

What we do claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. In a device for cleaning baking-cups, the combination of a vertical spindle, a cleaning-head comprising a support on the upper end of said spindle, with scraping blades or knives pivotally connected at their upper ends thereto, a wire extending from each scraping blade or knife through the spindle, a spring tending to throw each blade or knife outwardly, a stop on each of said wires for limiting the outward motion of its knife, and means for rotating the spindle.

2. In a device for cleaning baking-cups, the combination of a socket, a spring-supported spindle having a spiral groove, a pin or screw engaging the groove, and a cleaning-head mounted on the end of said spindle, and comprising a support, cleaning blades or knives pivoted at their upper ends thereto, a guide-wire extending from each cleaning blade or knife through the spindle, a spring mounted on each of said guide-wires tending to swing its blade or knife outwardly, and a stop on each of the guide-wires for limiting the outward motion of its cleaning blade or knife.

In testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

MARCEL VAUTOUR.
HERMENEGIL PREFONTAINE.

Witnesses:
PHILIP W. SOUTHGATE,
JOHN F. CROWELL.