

(No Model.)

W. H. RICKER.

FOUNTAIN FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF SODA WATER.

No. 512,058.

Patented Jan. 2, 1894.

Fig 1

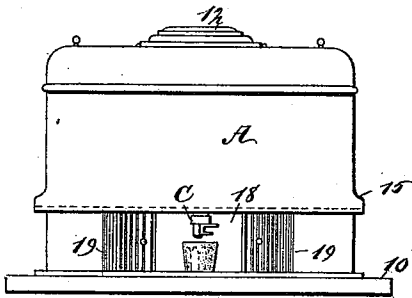


Fig 2

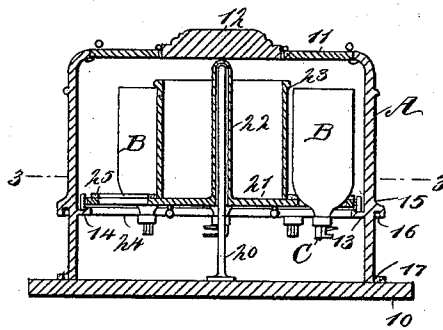


Fig 3

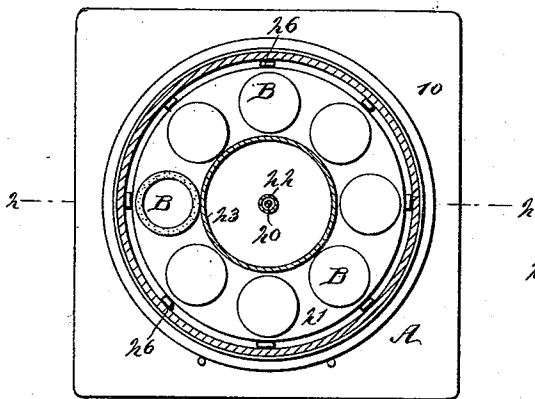


Fig 4

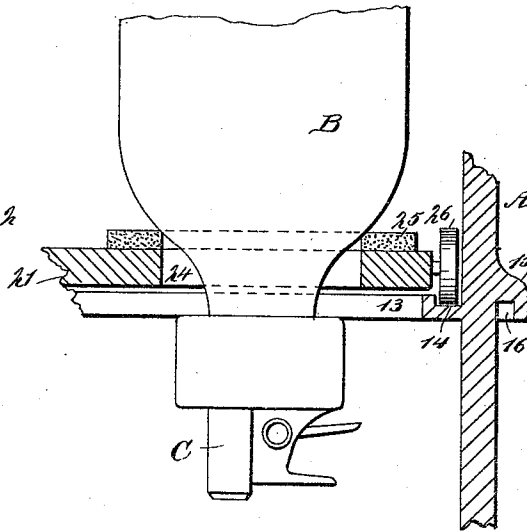


Fig 5

WITNESSES:
H. Walker
C. Sedgwick

a
a'
a
19

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. RICKER, OF CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS.

FOUNTAIN FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF SODA-WATER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 512,056, dated January 2, 1894.

Application filed May 2, 1893. Serial No. 472,734. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. RICKER, of Cambridge, in the county of Suffolk, State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Fountains for the Distribution of Soda-Water and other Liquids, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to an improvement in fountains for the distribution of soda water and other liquids, and it has for its object to provide a fountain which will be exceedingly simple, durable and economic, and capable of holding a number of jars, the jars being adapted to be provided with automatically closing faucets or stoppers.

A further object of the invention is to so construct a fountain of the character above described, that any one of the jars contained therein may be brought to a predetermined point to discharge a portion or as much of its contents as may be desired.

A further feature of the invention is to construct the fountain in such manner that the jars may stand in an inverted position, head downward, adjacent to a refrigerating chamber, and the jars without coming in contact with the refrigerating material may be kept properly cool.

The invention consists in the novel construction and combination of these several parts, as will be hereinafter fully set forth and pointed out in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, in which similar figures and letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a front elevation of the fountain. Fig. 2 is a vertical central section taken practically on the line 2—2 of Fig. 3. Fig. 3 is a horizontal section taken practically on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is an enlarged detail view, illustrating the manner in which a jar is supported within the fountain; and Fig. 5 is a horizontal section through one of the doors of the discharging chamber of the fountain.

The fountain may be constructed of any suitable or approved material. Ordinarily

its body portion A, is preferably constructed of earthen-ware or like material, although metal or wood may be employed if found desirable. The body rests upon a base 10, of marble, wood, earthen-ware, or any desired material, the base being given any contour that fancy may dictate, and the same may be said with reference to the body. When the body is made circular, as shown in the accompanying drawings, it is provided with a cover 11, which when removed may be made to expose the entire interior portion of the body, the cover being also preferably provided with a central lid 12, as shown best in Figs. 1 and 2. A ring or annular flange 13, is located preferably within the body between its center and the bottom thereof, a predetermined distance from the bottom or base. The ring or annular flange 13, may be and preferably is formed integral with the body, and the said flange has produced in its upper surface a channel 14. A second flange 15, is formed upon the exterior of the body opposite the inner flange, and the exterior flange may extend entirely around the body, but is always located at the front portion thereof. The exterior flange has produced in its under surface a channel 16, and upon the base, close to the exterior of the body another channel 17, is formed immediately beneath the upper channel 16. In the front of the body an opening 18, is located, in order that access may be obtained to the interior, and if in practice it is found desirable a number of these openings may be located at different points around the body. The openings are normally closed by means of articulated doors 19, the doors being preferably constructed in sections as shown in Fig. 5, in which it will be observed that a number of plates having their ends curved or formed with partial rings are interlocked, the ends of two plates being brought together, and a third plate is employed to connect the two, the third plate being located at the rear of the door. The front plates are designated in Fig. 5 as *a* and the rear plate as *a'*, but I desire it to be understood that the articulated doors may be made in various other ways.

Centrally within the body a standard 20, is

located, and this standard is utilized to pivotally support a horizontal partition 21. The partition is likewise made of metal, wood or an earthen-ware material, and is provided with an attached tube 22, closed at its upper end, into which the standard extends; but other means may be employed for connecting the partition upon the flange 13, as, for example, the partition may be made stationary.

A receptacle 23, is erected upon the upper face of the partition around the standard 20, which receptacle is open at its top and is adapted to receive ice or other refrigerating material. The partition 21, is likewise provided with a series of openings 24, and each opening is ordinarily surrounded by a gasket or ring-like cushion 25, made of any suitable elastic or yielding material, as for example, rubber, leather or fiber; and a jar B, adapted to contain the soda water or other liquid to be dispensed, is located bottom upward over each of the openings 24 in the partition, the neck and mouth of each jar extending downward below the partition.

The fountain may be adapted to any approved mode of cooling jars of liquid provided with a valve or self-locking stopper. The stopper illustrated in the drawings and designated as C, is that patented to myself November 15, 1892, No. 486,298, but any other equivalent or like stopper may be employed. The stopper C, however, is especially adapted to a partition such as has been described, namely, a partition with circular openings and a gasket cushion around each opening, to rest the jar upon, and keep the cold air from escaping in the section below. It is evident that the partition may be made stationary or revolved, and any particular jar or bottle brought to the opening 18 to discharge its contents or a portion of the same, into any vessel placed in position to receive said contents, as shown in Fig. 1. Furthermore, as all the jars are grouped adjacent to the refrigerating chambers, they will be properly cooled without being brought into contact with the refrigerating material, and in order that the partition 21 may turn smoothly and freely it is provided with a series of friction rollers 26, which travel in the channel 14 of the inner flange 13, the doors, as heretofore stated, working in the exterior channels 16 and 17. The gasket openings in the partition can be placed in a straight line if desired, and the mouth of the jars in that event will extend through the holes to the lower section in a corresponding straight line or

row, and under this arrangement a great number of jars may be manipulated at the opening in the lower compartment.

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

1. A soda water fountain, comprising a casing having one or more openings in its lower portion, and provided with an inner annular flange between its center and bottom, and a partition resting upon the said flange and provided with a central ice receptacle and with a series of apertures around said receptacle, substantially as described.

2. A soda water fountain, comprising a casing having an opening in its lower portion, and a partition mounted to revolve in the casing and provided with a central ice receptacle and with a series of apertures around the ice receptacle, substantially as described.

3. In a fountain for dispensing soda water and other liquids, the combination, with a casing having an annular flange produced upon its inner face, a partition loosely located within the casing and provided with rollers traveling upon this flange, and a pivot sustaining the central portion of the partition within the casing, the partition being provided with a series of circularly arranged openings and cushions surrounding the upper edges thereof, of a refrigerating receptacle located upon the partition within the circle of openings, and jars removably located within the openings of the partition, the capped mouths of the jars extending downward below the partition, as and for the purpose specified.

4. In a fountain for dispensing liquids, the combination, with a casing having openings near its base and exteriorly-located opposing channels, articulated doors traveling in the openings in the casing, a partition located horizontally within the casing, provided with a series of circularly arranged apertures, guides for the margin of the partition, and a pivot supporting the central portion of the partition, of a refrigerating receptacle carried by the partition within the circle of its openings, cushions located around the openings in the partition, and jars supported upon the cushions, the capped necks of the jars extending downward below the partition, as and for the purpose specified.

WM. H. RICKER.

Witnesses:

A. M. ROBBINS,
U. D. CROCKER.