(No Model.)

S. ALLIN.

SPONGE CUP.

No. 328,743. Patented Oct. 20, 1885.

Fig. 1.

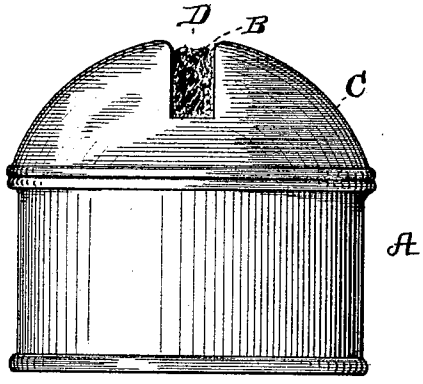


Fig. 2.

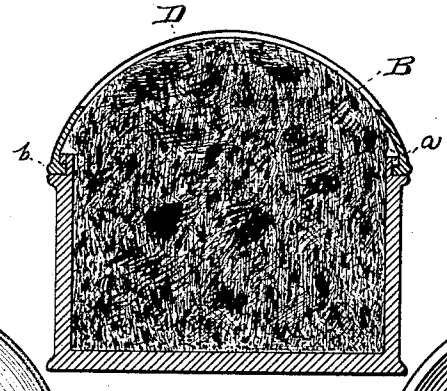


Fig. 3.

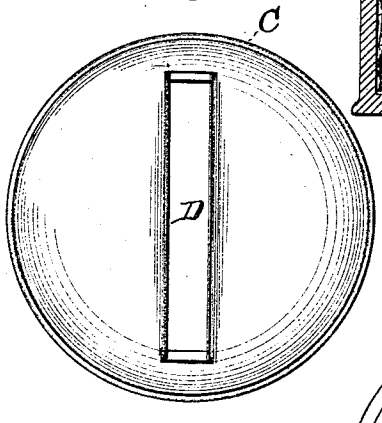


Fig. 4.

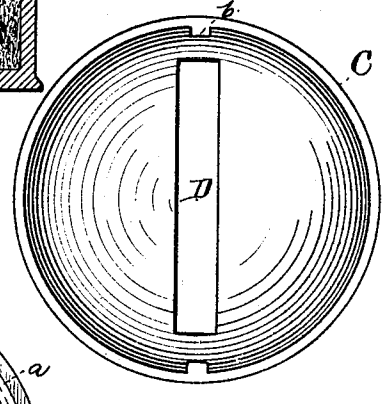
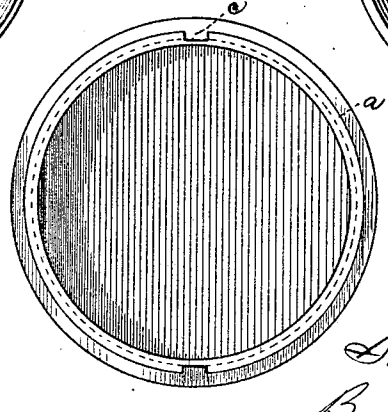


Fig. 5.



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SPONGE-CUP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 328,743, dated October 20, 1885.

Application filed June 15, 1885. Serial No. 168,811. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL ALLIN, a subject of the Queen of Great Britain, residing at New York city, in the county and State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Sponge-Cups, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to produce a simple and cheap sponge-cup, of any convenient size, that shall inclose so much of the sponge as will prevent rapid evaporation, and at the same time allow enough of the surface of the sponge to be kept uncovered to permit of being readily used as a pen-wiper and for similar purposes, and that by the manipulation of the cover shall enable the entire upper surface of the sponge to be presented for use in portions from time to time as desired.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which Figure 1 is a view in elevation of the cup with inclosed sponge; Fig. 2, a vertical section of the cup and sponge; Fig. 3, a top view showing opening in cover; Fig. 4, a view of the cover looking from beneath, and Fig. 5 a top view of the cup with the cover removed.

A represents the cup, C the cover, and B the sponge. The cup and cover are made of any suitable material that is impervious to water, as glass or porcelain, or of cast, spun, or punched metal. On the upper edge of cup A is a flange or rib, *a*, under which, through openings *c*, pass lugs *b*, projecting from opposite sides of the rim of cover C. Turning the cover to one side or the other locks the parts together and prevents the cover from being lifted off by the upward pressure against it of the distended sponge.

Instead of rib *a* and lugs *b* to keep the cover in place on the cup, the cover may be made heavy enough of itself to resist the upward pressure of the swollen sponge.

The cover C is preferably a hollow hemisphere, across the surface of which is a long opening, D, extending almost to the periphery or outer edge on both sides, and is from one-fourth to one-half an inch in width. Through this opening D in cover C sponge B is reached by the pen or finger or other object to be moistened, and is the only means of escape by evaporation of the water or liquid with which the sponge is soaked.

By usage and evaporation that portion of sponge B that is presented through opening D in cover C becomes soiled. By merely turning cover C a short distance to one side or the other a fresh part of the sponge is uncovered and ready for use as before, thus avoiding the necessity of frequently refilling the cup or resoaking the sponge, as is the case in those sponge-holders in which a large surface of the sponge is exposed at one time.

The opening D might extend only from the center of the cover to one side. This would permit the entire upper surface of the sponge to be exposed by the turning of the cover. I prefer, however, the opening shown, extending on both sides of center, as a form more convenient in use.

What I claim is—

1. The combination, with a sponge-cup, of a turning cover provided with an elongated opening, which, by the turning of the cover, will expose different parts of the upper surface of the sponge, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination, with a sponge-cup, of a cover, a locking device holding the cover upon the cup, but permitting such cover to be turned, and an elongated opening in said cover exposing different parts of the upper surface of the sponge as the cover is turned, substantially as set forth.

This specification signed and witnessed this 9th day of June, 1885.

SAMUEL ALLIN.

Witnesses:
N. W. KIDDLE,
E. C. ROWLAND.