

No. 824,752.

PATENTED JULY 3, 1906.

A. F. H. STEPHENS.
LABEL DAMPER.

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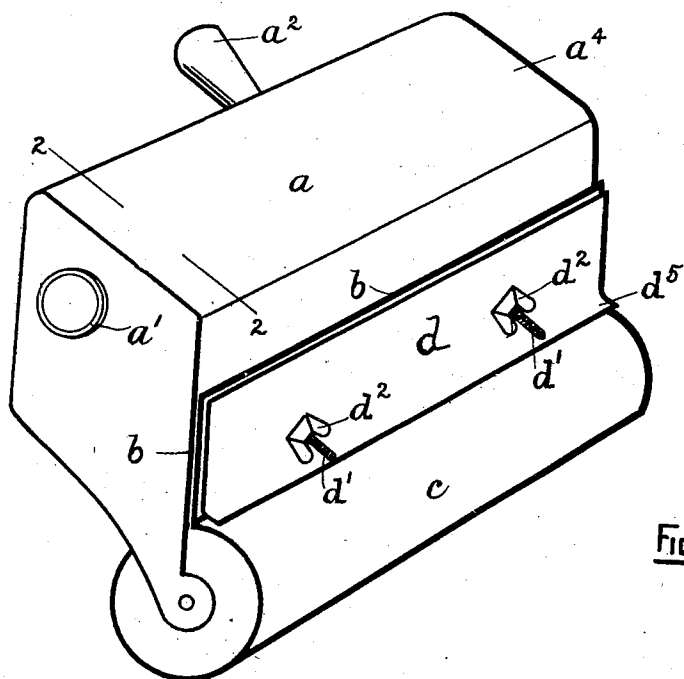


Fig 1.

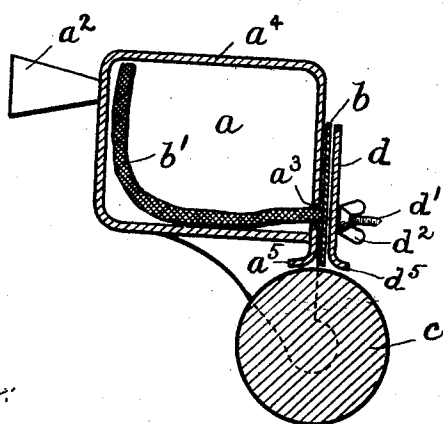


Fig 2

Witnesses:

W. H. Boulton

J. H. Boulton

Inventor:

Albert F. H. Stephens
By *W. H. Boulton*
attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT FRANCIS HAMBLY STEPHENS, OF CAMBORNE, ENGLAND.

LABEL-DAMPER.

No. 824,752.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 3, 1906.

Application filed April 28, 1905. Renewed June 2, 1906. Serial No. 319,923.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT FRANCIS HAMBLY STEPHENS, chemist, a subject of the King of Great Britain, residing in Commercial street, Camborne, in the county of Cornwall, England, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Label-Dampers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to label-dampers of the roller type constructed so that the degree of moisture passing to the roller can be regulated with great nicety as desired.

The label-damper is provided with a body or reservoir for containing water, having one or more outlets in which suitable wicks are placed. The ends of the wicks pass through apertures in the front of the body or reservoir and rest upon a sheet of absorbent material, which is held against the front of the reservoir by a movable plate operated by nut-and-screw adjustment. The lower end of the absorbent material touches the circumference of a roller carried in suitable bearings affixed to or forming part of the frame.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved label-damping device, and Fig. 2 is a section taken on the line 2 2.

The body or reservoir *a* of the device is provided with a screw-cap *a'*, closing a filling-aperture, and with a socket *a''* to receive a suitable handle. The apertures *a'''*, forming outlets for the water, are located at the lower part of the reservoir nearest the roller *c* and are preferably rather larger than the wicks *b'*, so that the water is fed by gravity when the device is in use, but is fed by capillary attraction through the wicks *b'* when the device is not in use and is laid down resting on the top plate *a''*, with the roller *c* uppermost. By this means the roller *c* is always kept moist and ready for use.

The absorbent material is in the form of a flat pad *b*, against which rest the ends of the wicks, the lower end of the pad touching the

circumference of the roller *c*. The plate *d*, which is adapted for adjustment in any suitable manner against and away from the pad *b*, extends across the front of the reservoir, to which it is secured, for instance, by the screwed pins *d'*, which are fast on the reservoir-front and pass through the pad *b* and plate *d*, being secured by the wing-nuts *d''*. By adjustment of the nuts *d''* the pad *b* is more or less compressed by the plate *d* against the fixed front of the reservoir, and the quantity of moisture passing through said pad is thus regulated. Preferably the plate *d* and the lower part of the reservoir-front are provided with oppositely-disposed flanges, such as *d'''* and *a'''*, to allow for the horizontal play of the lower end of the pad *b* in either direction, according to whether the device is rolled backward or forward.

It will be understood that the device is applicable for damping other things besides labels—for example, cachets, envelopes, stamps, tickets, and letter-copying sheets.

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

A damping device for labels or for analogous purposes comprising a reservoir having apertures in the lower part to feed the liquid by gravitation, a roller, bearings in which said roller is mounted beneath said reservoir, an absorbent pad, a plate adjustably mounted on the front of the reservoir and adapted to compress the pad, and wicks in the aforesaid apertures to feed the liquid by capillary attraction to the pad when the device is turned roller uppermost, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand, in presence of two subscribing witnesses, this 7th day of April, 1905.

ALBERT FRANCIS HAMBLY STEPHENS.

Witnesses:

R. BARCLAY FOX,
W. H. DANIELL