W. F. FRANCIS.

MOISTENER.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 4, 1916.

1,190,279. Patented July 11, 1916.

Fig. 1.

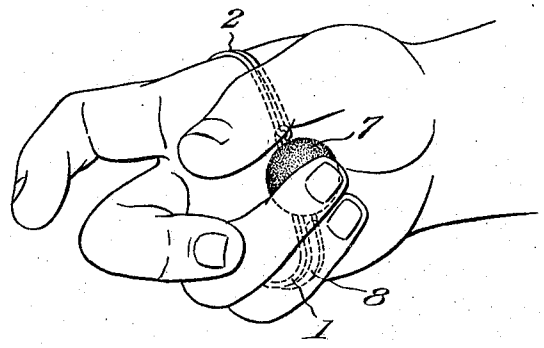


Fig. 2.

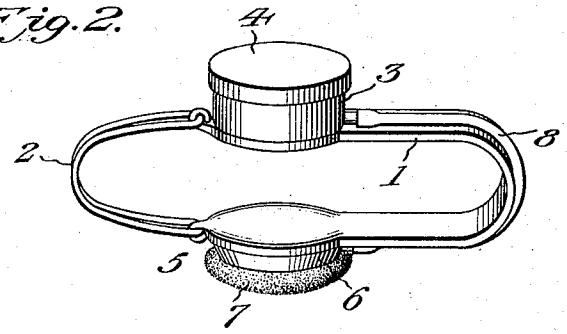
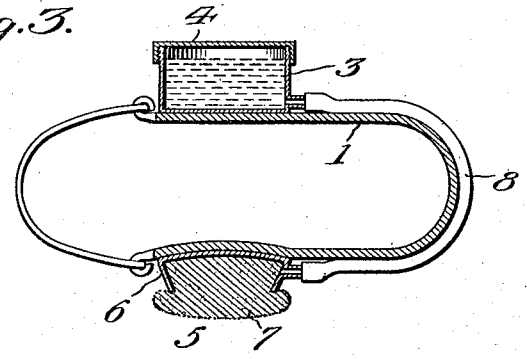


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIE F. FRANCIS, OF DOTT, WEST VIRGINIA.

MOISTENER.

1,190,279. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 11, 1916.

Application filed April 4, 1916. Serial No. 88,904.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIE F. FRANCIS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Dott, in the county of of Mercer and State of West Virginia, have invented new and useful Improvements in Moisteners, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a moistener especially designed for application to the human hand and for the use of bank tellers and others in moistening the thumb or thumb and fore finger for greater convenience in separating and handling bank bills, etc., during the operation of counting or assembling the same in stacks.

The object of the invention is to provide a device of this character which is simple of construction, light in weight, adapted to be applied and worn without inconvenience, which will supply moisture for a comparatively long period, and which may be applied and removed with facility.

The invention consists of the features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawing in which:—

Figure 1 is a view showing the application of the invention. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the device detached. Fig. 3 is a vertical longitudinal section through the device.

The device comprises a substantially U-shaped body 1, forming with a securing member 2 a band to embrace and extend transversely across the body of the hand. The part 1 is preferably made of a strip of flat rubber, while part 2 may be made of a rubber or other elastic cord or strip which will yield sufficiently to adapt the device to fit any hand of ordinary size and to be placed under tension to hold the device firmly in position.

The free end of the upper portion of the member 1 carries a water reservoir or cup 3 provided with a suitable closure 4, while the free end of the lower arm of said member 1 carries a moistening device 5 comprising a cupshape body 6, of rubber or other suitable material, containing a filling 7 of felt or other suitable absorbent material. A conducting tube 8 extends around the body 1 and connects the water reservoir with the cup 6, for the supply of water to the absorbent material.

In the use of the device, it is fitted upon the hand as shown in Fig. 1, and the water flows by gravity from the reservoir 3 through the tube 8 to the absorbent material 7 in the cup 6 which cup is positioned in the middle of the palm of the hand, and as fast as the moisture dries out from the felt or is used a fresh supply of water is furnished, thus enabling the device to be employed without the necessity of frequently filling the water reservoir. The device as thus applied allows free motion of the hand as a whole, as well as of the thumb and fingers, as will be readily understood. The operator using the device bends the thumb or any of the fingers which is to be moistened to bring the same in contact with the absorbent material in the cup, whereby the thumb and any or all of the fingers may be conveniently moistened to secure increased efficiency in handling bank bills and other sheets, as will be readily understood. It will be seen that the device is simple of construction, reliable and efficient in action, may be furnished at a low cost, and is adapted to be applied and removed with convenience and facility.

I claim;—

1. A device of the character described comprising a U-shaped body of elastic material, an elastic member forming with said body a resilient elliptical band to extend across and embrace the hand of the operator, a water reservoir carried by the upper limb of the body portion, a moistener carried by the lower limb of the body portion, said moistener comprising a cup having a body of absorbent material therein, both the reservoir and cup being free from connection with said elastic member, and a conducting tube extending along the body from the reservoir to the cup.

2. A device of the character described comprising an elliptical elastic band adapted to extend transversely across the body of the hand and resiliently grip the same, a water reservoir upon the top portion of said band, a moistener upon the bottom of the band comprising a cup having a body of absorbent material therein, and a conducting tube leading along the band from the reservoir to the cup.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

WILLIE F. FRANCIS.

Witnesses:
G. B. FLETCHER,
U. S. HAND.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."