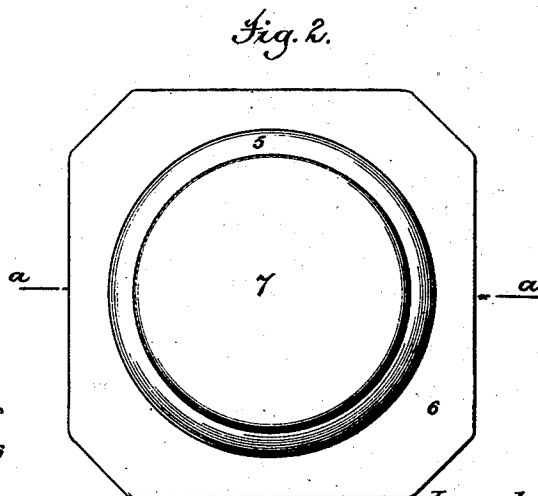
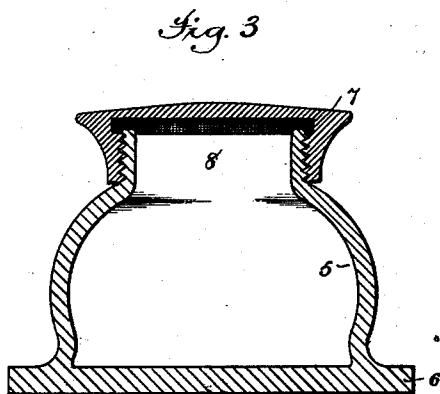
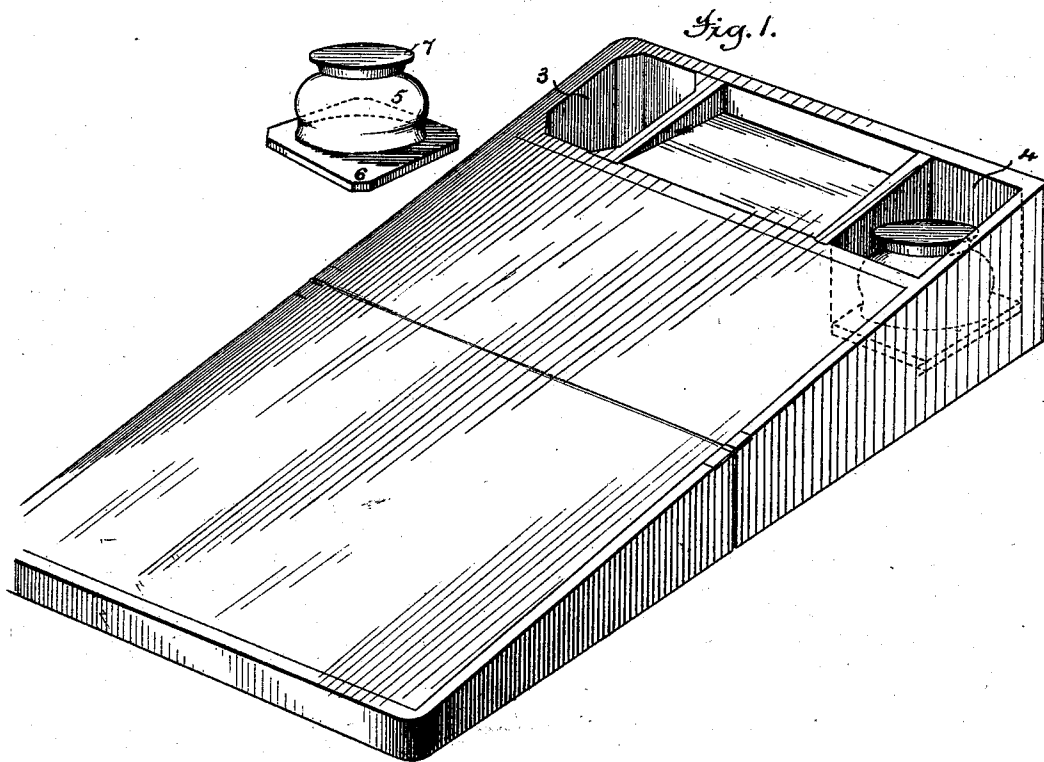


B. BROWER.
Inkstand.

No. 222,811.

Patented Dec. 23, 1879.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BLOOMFIELD BROWER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN INKSTANDS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **222,811**, dated December 23, 1879; application filed September 10, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BLOOMFIELD BROWER, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Portable Inkstands, of which the following specification, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, is such a full, clear, and exact description, as will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same.

In said drawings, Figure 1 represents a writing-case provided with two of my improved inkstands, one of which is shown as resting in its receptacle therein, while the other is shown as removed, the better to illustrate its structure. Fig. 2 represents said inkstand by a plan view; and Fig. 3 represents a transverse section thereof on the line *a* of Fig. 2.

The object of my invention is the production of an inkstand which, having a flanged base of greater diameter or extent than its body or reservoir, may be readily fitted within the inkstand-recess of a writing-desk, tourist's case, and other like articles; and the invention consists in an inkstand made from hard rubber, celluloid, or similar material, and having a base of greater diameter or extent than its body or ink-reservoir, whereby its sides may be trimmed or shaped so that they will fit within the recess provided in a writing-desk, and the like, and engaging the sides thereof, enable the cap or cover of the inkstand to be unscrewed and removed, or be replaced by being screwed upon the neck of the inkstand without its being withdrawn from the recess, all of which will be particularly hereinafter described.

Writing-desks, tourists' cases, scholars' companions, and similar portable cases adapted to contain writing materials, are commonly supplied with inkstands, which are fitted into recesses, as 3 4, provided in some part of the article. These writing-desks, tourists' cases, and the like articles are manufactured independently of the inkstands, and consequently are provided with recesses of various shapes and sizes, which vary considerably in form, thus being rectangular, as at 4, octagonal, as at 3, or of other shape, and deep or shallow, as the case may be. Such constructions ne-

cessitate the production of inkstands suited to the shape and size of the recesses, and hence require that the market shall be supplied with a vast number of sizes and shapes of inkstands, that each desk, case, and the like may be properly fitted with an appropriate one.

This has been commonly done by forming them in a variety of shapes and sizes from glass, stoneware, iron, and other metals, which constructions, aside from their liability to breakage and consequent leakage, are cumbersome and weighty, and thus illy suited for use as part of the fittings of a portable writing-case.

In carrying out my invention I construct the inkstand by molding it from rubber, (suitably vulcanized,) celluloid, papier-maché, (properly waterproofed,) and similar light materials, providing a hollow body or reservoir, 5, for containing the ink, which has a flanged base, as 6, that extends or protrudes considerably beyond the sides of the said body. The body 5 is open at its top to form a mouth, 8, that may be closed by a screw-cap, as 7, or by other suitable means. This protruding flange 6 forms a base of such dimensions, relative to those of the body 5, that an inkstand may be constructed of the light materials described, and, when filled with ink, be put into use upon desks without danger of its being upset and its contents spilled.

Such inkstands may be readily fitted into the recesses of writing-desks and the like, whether said recesses are rectangular, as 4, octagonal, as 3, or other form, it being only necessary to select an inkstand approximating the general dimensions of the recess, and cutting or filing off the edge of the flange of its base by means of a pocket-knife or other simple tool until said base snugly fits the recess. Thus fitted in place, it is obvious that the edges of the base will so engage and bear upon the sides of the recess as to furnish a proper resistance, enabling the cover to be removed and replaced without disturbing the inkstand or its contents, whether said cover is in the form of a stopper, cap, or screw-cover.

It will be observed that by thus constructing the inkstand with a base enlarged so as to protrude beyond the body, said inkstand, when inserted in a holding-recess, may be con-

veniently seized by the fingers grasping said body, and thus readily removed when it is desired to use the same independently of the writing-desk, or it is necessary to clean the same.

This construction of inkstand, adapted as it is to be readily fitted within a holding-recess, obviously renders it unnecessary to provide a very great number of sizes for use with writing-desks and the like, for the reason that a large size may be reduced in its proportions so as to fit a number of different sizes of recesses. Thus a stationer is relieved from carrying an expensive stock, and the manufacturer avoids the cost of a great variety of expensive molds.

It is apparent that the body 5 and cover 7 may be made round, as shown, or of any other configuration, without departing from the invention.

What is claimed is—

1. As a new article of manufacture, an ink-

stand made of rubber, celluloid, or similar material, and having a hollow body or reservoir, and a base provided with a comparatively thin projecting flange, substantially as described.

2. An inkstand the base whereof is provided with a comparatively thin projecting flange composed of rubber, celluloid, or similar material, that may be cut or abraded so that its size and shape can thus be readily reduced to fit a receiving-recess of a writing-desk or similar article, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

BLOOMFIELD BROWER.

Witnesses:

MARTHE J. WHITNEY,
ABBIE E. BROWER.