M. V. BAUER.

TOKEN.

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1,353,709. Patented Sept. 21, 1920.

Fig. 1.

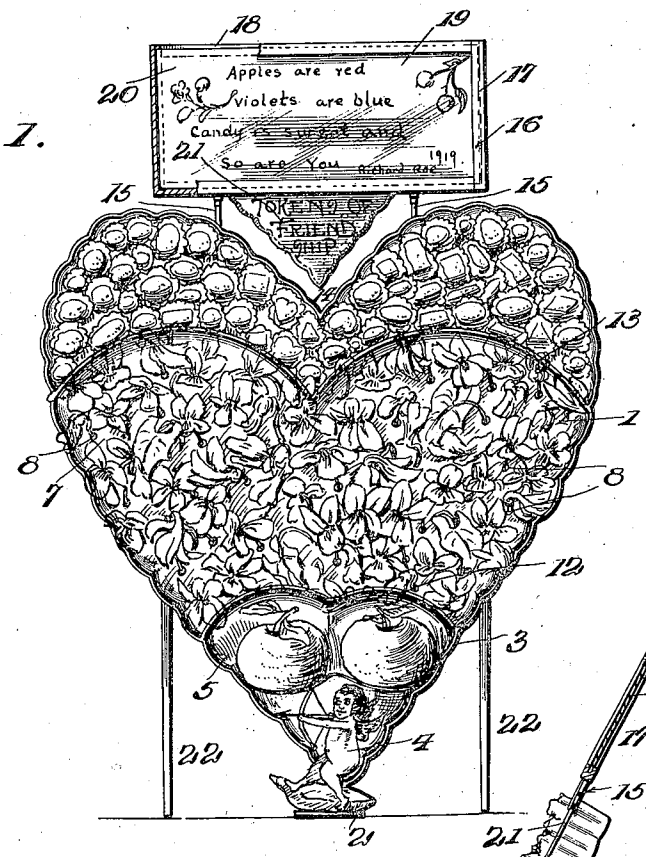
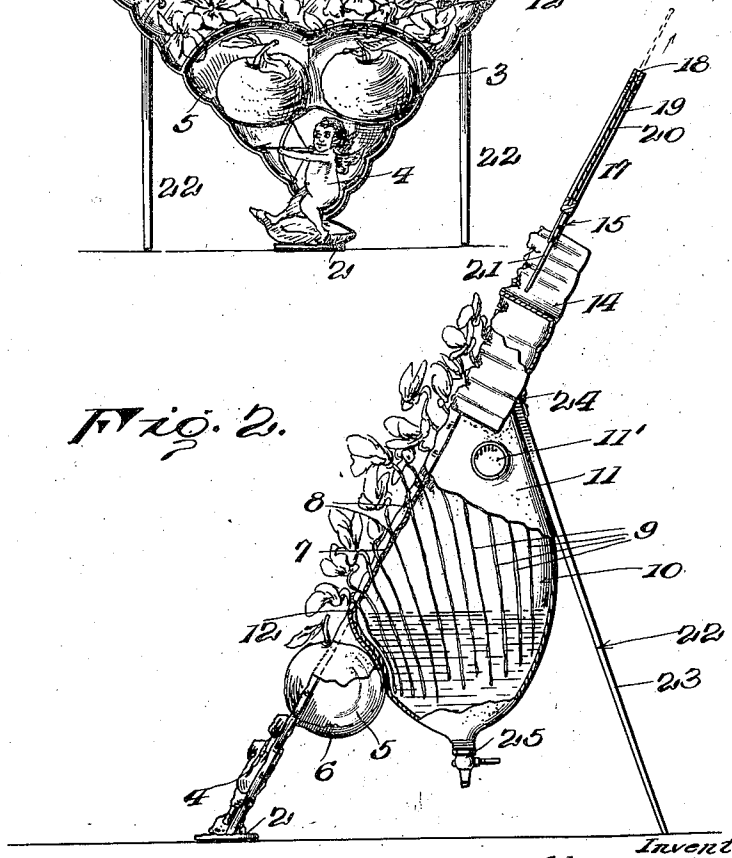


Fig. 2.



Inventor.
Martha Viola Bauer.
by Lacey & Lacey,
Atty's.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARTHA VIOLA BAUER, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARTHA VIOLA BAUER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Washington, District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Tokens, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to tokens and more particularly to a token which may be presented as an expression of friendship or admiration and which will be highly ornamental and at the same time possess utility as a support or container for fruit, flowers or confections.

An object of the invention is to provide a token so constructed that fruit, flowers and confections may be arranged therein or supported thereby in a highly attractive and pleasing manner which will greatly enhance the ornamental appearance of the article as well as displaying the gift of fruit, flowers and confections to the best advantage.

Another object of the invention is to provide a novel, attractive, and convenient arrangement of the several means provided for containing or supporting the fruit, flowers and confections.

The invention has as a further object to provide, in an article of this class, a novel means for supporting flowers in such a manner that their stems will be immersed in water and the flowers therefore kept in fresh condition. Incidentally the invention contemplates so arranging the font for containing the water that the same will serve as a means for preventing collapse of the article when set up for use or display, and which font will at the same time be collapsible so that initially the article may be folded to substantially flat form to permit of more convenient packing for storage and shipment.

The invention has as another object to provide a novel means for individually supporting pieces of fruit in an attractive manner and so that the same will not be liable to become bruised or be accidentally dropped from the article.

In the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 is a front elevation of the token embodying the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal sectional view therethrough, parts being shown in elevation.

The article consists essentially of an easel indicated in general by the numeral 1 and preferably stamped or otherwise formed from sheet metal although any other material suitable for the purpose may be employed. In the illustrated embodiment of the invention, that plate is heart shaped and is provided at its lower end or, in other words, at the apex of the heart with a foot piece indicated by the numeral 2. The marginal portion of the plate may be scalloped or ornamented in any other desired manner, the drawings illustrating a scalloped flange 3 which projects forwardly from the plate at the margin thereof. The foot piece 2 serves as a rest for the lower end of the easel, and the plate comprising the easel is stamped or otherwise provided with an image 4 representing Cupid. It will be understood, of course, that the plate at its said lower end may bear some other image and in fact it may be stated at this point that the article as a whole may be fashioned in various designs to render it appropriate for presentation during the different holiday seasons, as for example Easter, Christmas, New Year or St. Valentine's Day, or it may be of a design representative of some particular occasion or event, and therefore neither the image 4 illustrated in the drawings nor any other ornamental details are to be considered as controlling but on the other hand merely as illustrative of the general invention.

In the present embodiment of the invention the plate comprising the easel is stamped or pressed in above the image 4 to provide one or more pockets 5 of any suitable size and contour and design to receive pieces of fruit or the like, the pockets being of a general semispherical contour as illustrated in Fig. 2 so as to support the fruit in such manner as to prevent its accidental dropping from the easel and yet in a manner to attractively display the fruit. Thus in the illustrated embodiment of the invention, the easel will be supported, as will be presently explained in an inclined position, and it is therefore desirable to so form the pockets 5 that the lowermost portions or bottoms of these pockets, indicated by the numeral 6, will be located slightly below the lowermost points of the open fronts of the pockets so that the fruit may

be securely seated within the pockets and yet nearly the whole of the fruit will be exposed to view.

In order that the article may support flowers, the plate is formed throughout the portion of its area immediately above the pockets 5, and which area is indicated by the numeral 7, with a plurality of openings or perforations 8 through which may be introduced the stems of the flowers, in the manner clearly shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings. Upon being inserted through the openings or perforations 8, the stems of the flowers, indicated by the numeral 9, will depend behind the plate comprising the easel and within the water font which is provided in connection with the said plate. This font which is indicated in general by the numeral 10, is in the nature of a bag or bowl 11 of some suitable flexible waterproof material such for example as rubber and the said bag is secured in any suitable manner at its upper edge to the rear side of the plate, the mouth of the bag extending about or bounding the margin of the perforated area 7. Furthermore, the bag is also so shaped and of such size that while it will be adapted to contain a sufficient volume of water to immerse the lower ends of the stems of the flowers, it will not be exposed to the view of one looking at the token from the front. The water may be introduced into the bag in any suitable manner as for example by inserting a funnel in an opening 11′ in the bag and pouring the water through said funnel, and it may be found desirable, in order to prevent water running from the surface of the portion 7 into the pockets 5 or into the confection compartment to be presently explained, to form the plate at its forward face with an outstanding flange 12 extending between the flanges 3 at the opposite edges of the plate and defining the line of division between the pockets 5 and the area 7, and a similar flange 13 may be provided upon the face of the plate to separate and divide the upper portion of the area 7 from the confection compartment above mentioned. Thus through the medium of the flanges 3, the area 7 is surrounded by a wall which will prevent overflow of the water poured upon the area 7 in filling the bag 11.

The confection compartment heretofore referred to is indicated in general by the numeral 14 and the same is located immediately above the perforated area 7, being bounded by the flange 13 and the portions of the flanges 3 which extend at the upper side of the plate of the device. It will be understood that the compartment 14 may be integrally stamped from the upper portion of the plate although if desired the compartment may be formed separately from the plate and suitably connected therewith to constitute the upper portion of the article. The compartment 14 may be relatively shallow or relatively deep and the same is open at its front so that the confections may be readily arranged within the compartment and will be attractively exposed to view as clearly shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings. Also this arrangement permits of the ready removal of any individual piece of the assortment without disturbing any other portion of the article.

Short uprights or standards 15 extend upwardly from the upper side of the compartment 14 and support a card holder which is indicated in general by the numeral 16 and which comprises a suitable frame 17 open at its top, as indicated by the numeral 18, and open at its front as at 19 or provided with a transparent pane, either as desired. Any suitable card 20 may be introduced into the card holder through the open top 18 thereof and such card may bear any suitable verse or other reading matter appropriate to the occasion, or this card may be the card of the donor or the donor's name may appear upon the card which bears the reading matter. If desired, an ornamental portion 21 may depend from the lower side of the card holder 16 and may bear any appropriate reading matter or legend.

In order to support the easel in inclined position, a prop or rest 22 is provided and the same comprises legs 23 hingedly connected at their upper ends as at 24 to the rear side or bottom of the compartment 14 and being thus adapted to be folded to position approximately parallel to the plane of the plate comprising the easel when the article is to be packed for shipment. When the props 22 are in supporting position, the bag 11 will be more or less distended and will substantially fill the space between the props 22 and the pockets 5 so that accidental collapse of the props is prevented. However, the bag is provided at its lower end with a drain valve 25 by means of which the water within the bag may be emptied or discharged, whereupon it will collapse or may be collapsed and the props 22 may be swung to substantially parallel position with relation to the plate.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

1. A token comprising an easel having a flower stem receiving opening therein, a prop foldably connected with the easel, and a collapsible water font supported upon the rear side of the easel between the same and the said prop and having its interior in communication with the opening, the font constituting means for preventing accidental folding of the prop when the font is distended by its contents.

2. A token comprising an easel having an article receiving pocket formed therein and having an open side presented at the face of the easel, the lowermost portion of the bottom of the pocket being located in a plane below the lowermost portion of the open side of the pocket.

3. A token comprising an easel having a perforated area, the perforations in the area being designed to receive the stems of flowers, and a water font supported upon the rear side of the easel and having an open top united at its margin to the easel along a line bounding the said area.

4. A token comprising an easel having a flower stem receiving opening therein, a prop for the easel hinged at its upper end to the rear side of the easel, and a collapsible water font supported upon the rear of the easel between the same and the prop and having its interior in communication with the opening.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

MARTHA VIOLA BAUER. [L. S.]