(No Model.)

W. E. LEWIS.

INKSTAND.

No. 454,874. Patented June 30, 1891.

Fig. 1.

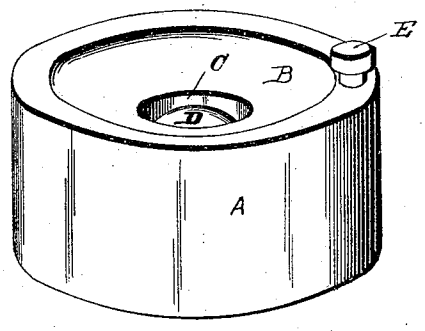
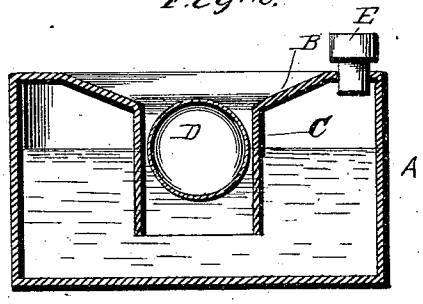


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:
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THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM E. LEWIS, OF CORRY, PENNSYLVANIA.

INKSTAND.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 454,874, dated June 30, 1891.

Application filed September 12, 1890. Serial No. 364,726. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM E. LEWIS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Corry, in the county of Erie and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Inkstands; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to improvements in ink-wells; and it has for its object, among other things, to provide a buoyant automatic stopper resting within the pen-dipping tube or well, which, by reason of its buoyancy, will normally close said tube to exclude air from the ink, and which will sink when the pen-point has been pressed against it and allow ink to pass its sides to feed said pen-point. This object is accomplished by the construction, which will be fully understood from the following description and claim when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved automatic stopper ink-well, and Fig. 2 is a vertical diametrical sectional view of the same.

In carrying out my invention I do not desire to limit myself to any particular material in the construction of the several elements thereof, and it is obvious that such modifications may be made in said construction as fairly fall within the scope of my invention.

Referring by letter of designation to the drawings, the body A is preferably constructed in the form illustrated, although it is obvious that it may be of a rectangular or any other desirable contour conducent to a thorough operation of the automatic device hereinafter described. This body A has its top B sloping from a point adjacent to its periphery toward the center, whereby all drippings from the pen are drained back into the bottle, and it is provided at such central point with an annular aperture of a sufficient diameter to allow a free dipping of the pen. Preferably formed integral with and depending from the top B, surrounding the central opening thereof, is a tube C, which extends to a point adjacent to the bottom of the well, and is open at its lower end to permit the ink to rise therein.

The spherical stopper D, which is hollow to increase its buoyancy and of a diameter to fit the depending tube C, so as to move freely therein, is designed and adapted to be pressed downward and when so pressed to allow the ink to rise above it to feed the pen, by which the sphere is pressed downward.

The bottle or body A is preferably constructed in one piece of vulcanized rubber molded or otherwise formed, and it is provided in its top adjacent to its periphery with a vent-opening, which is closed when desired by a plug, as indicated by E.

With a well of this character it will be seen that when the same is at rest the sphere D, by reason of its buoyancy, will assume the position illustrated in Fig. 2 and practically prevent evaporation of the ink, and it will also be seen that when the pen-point has been pressed against said sphere it will sink and the ink will rise above its sides and feed the pen. When the pen has been removed, the sphere will readily assume its normal position and close the well-tube.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

The ink-well having its top sloping toward the center and having a central opening therein, the tube C, depending from said opening into the well and of a corresponding diameter throughout, and the hollow rubber ball D of a diameter to fit closely in said tube, which ball is allowed to move within the tube and by its buoyancy close the same when the pen has been removed from the ball in use, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM E. LEWIS.

Witnesses:
D. T. FLEMING,
FRANK LAURIE.