(No Model.)

# J. M. McFARLAND.

## SLATE CLEANER.

No. 404,795. Patented June 4, 1889.

FIG. 1

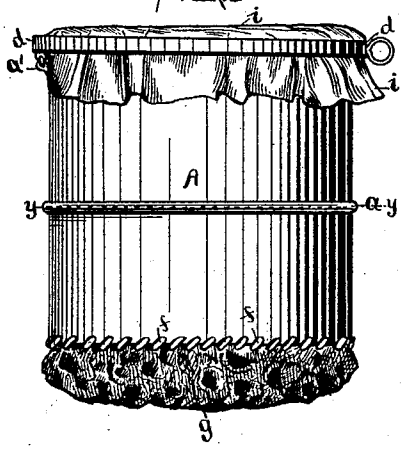



FIG. 2

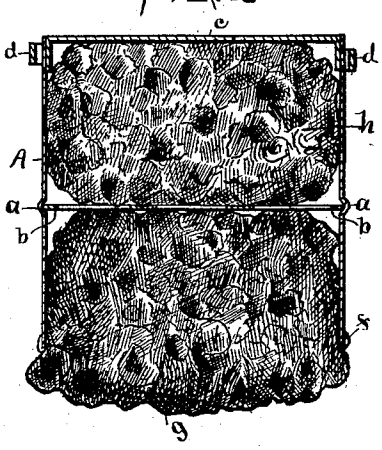



FIG. 3

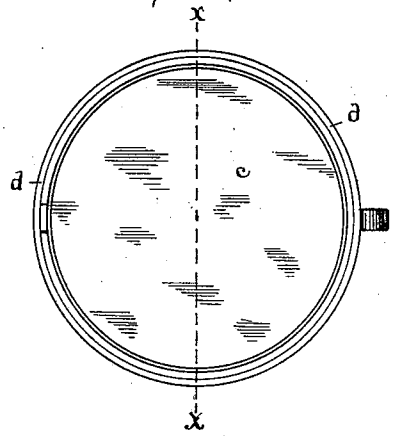



FIG. 4

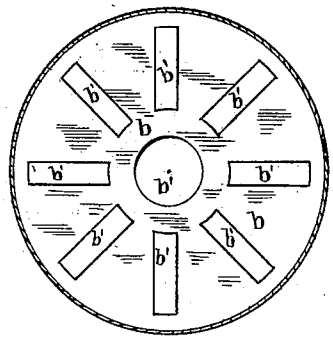
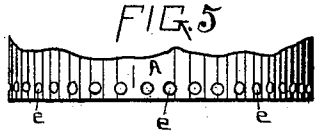



FIG. 5




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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES M. McFARLAND, OF COLUMBUS, OHIO.

## SLATE-CLEANER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 404,795, dated June 4, 1889.

Application filed August 30, 1888. Serial No. 284,155. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES M. McFARLAND, a citizen of the United States, residing at Columbus, in the county of Franklin and State of Ohio, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Slate-Cleaners, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to that class of slate-cleaners in which a washing-sponge and drying-cloth are contained within and connected with a cylindrical case.

The objects of my invention are to provide a simple and inexpensive form of slate-cleaner, to so construct the same as to admit of the slate being first washed and then rubbed dry, and to provide the case with a supply-sponge so located as to admit of moisture being transmitted therefrom to the erasing or cleaning sponge. These objects are accomplished in the manner illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my device. Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal section of the same, taken on line *x x* of Fig. 3. Fig. 3 is a plan view of my device, showing the drying-cloth removed. Fig. 4 is a transverse section taken on line *y y* of Fig. 1. Fig. 5 is a view in elevation of the lower end of the case with the protecting-threads removed.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

A represents a cylindrical case, which is preferably formed of thin metal. At about the center of its height the case A is provided with a circumferential bead *a*, thus forming an internal groove, in which is made to rest the edge of a metallic disk-shaped partition *b*. This partition is supplied with a number of perforations *b'*.

*c* represents a follower, consisting of a metallic disk having downwardly extending a circumferential flange. The follower is adapted to fit and to be made to slide within the upper end of the case A.

*d* represents a circular bail of slightly greater circumference than the case A, said bail being hinged on one side, as shown, to a lug *a'*, made to project outwardly from the case A near its upper end.

Formed about the lower end of case A is a row of perforations *e*, through which is made to pass a suitable cord or thread *f*, said cord passing outwardly through said perforations, thence beneath the edge of the case, upward and again outward, thus covering or partially covering the lower edge of the case, for the purpose hereinafter specified. Within the lower compartment of the case A is fitted a cleaning-sponge *g*, the lower end of which is allowed to project outwardly through the lower end of said case.

Within the upper compartment of the case A, and resting upon the partition *b*, is a supply-sponge *h*. Over this supply-sponge *h* is placed the follower *c*, as shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings. The bail *d* having been turned back from the case, a suitable cloth *i*, of any desired material, is laid over the upper end of the case and upon the upper side of the follower in such position that its edges will overlap the upper end of said case. The cloth is then secured in its position by lowering the bail *d* over the upper end of said case, and thus binding the overlapping portion of the cloth *i* against the case.

The operation of my device is as follows: The sponges *h* and *g* having first been saturated with water and being in the above-described positions, the marks upon a slate or blackboard may be readily erased by grasping the case A and rubbing said board or slate with the projecting end of the sponge *g*. This having been accomplished, the slate or board may be dried by reversing the case and rubbing said slate or board with the dry cloth-covered end.

It will be seen that when the erasing-sponge *g* becomes dry it may be supplied with moisture by pressure upon the cloth-covered follower *c*, thus causing through the descent of the latter in the case a sufficient pressure upon the supply-sponge to force the water down therefrom through the perforations of the partition *b* into the sponge *g*.

It is obvious that the sponge *h*, being protected from the air, will retain moisture a much greater length of time than the exposed sponge *g*, thus admitting of the use of my cleaning device for a considerable length of time without necessitating the resaturation of the sponges.

The lower end of the case, being protected

by the cord *f*, will prevent at all times the contact of the metallic case with the slate or board.

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

1. The combination, with the case A, having perforated partition *b*, of the supply and erasing sponges *h* and *g*, located, as described, within said case, and follower *c*, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

2. The combination, with the case A, having perforated partition *b* and hinged bail *d*, of the supply and erasing sponges *h* and *g*, located within the case, as described, follower *c*, and drying-cloth *i*, the latter held by bail *d*, described, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

JAMES M. McFARLAND.

In presence of—
W. S. SHEPHERD,
C. C. SHEPHERD.