

W. KEUFFEL.
Artists' Ink-Slabs.

No. 146,187.

Patented Jan. 6, 1874.

Fig. 1,

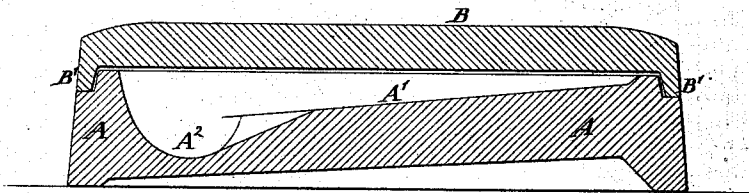
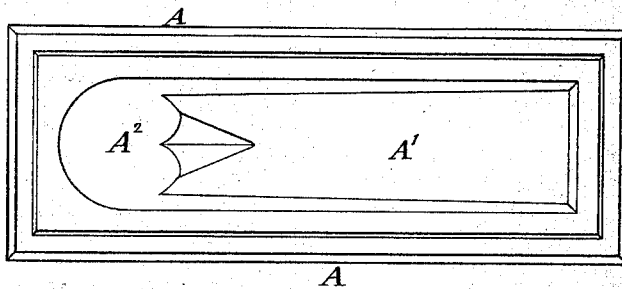


Fig. 2,



Witnesses,

A. Hoermann
C. C. Livings

Inventor,

William Keuffel
His attorney
J. S. Watson

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM KEUFFEL, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN ARTISTS' INK-SLABS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **146,187**, dated January 6, 1874; application filed July 29, 1871.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM KEUFFEL, of the firm of Keuffel & Esser, wholesale stationers, in New York city, have invented a certain new and Improved India-Ink Slab, of which the following is a specification:

Slabs have long been known constructed with inclined surfaces, down which the ink would flow as fast as ground, and other forms have been known with covers, which prevent the ink from collecting dust and drying up. I have succeeded in producing a cheap and novel article of manufacture, possessing qualities which I believe never before to have been combined.

I make a rectangular base and cover, both of crockery highly glazed, except upon the surface where the ink is to be ground. There it is roughened by the removal, or partial removal, of the glazing. The grinding-surface is inclined, and at its base is a deep recess, adapted to receive and to retain the ground ink.

The following is a description of what I consider the best means of carrying out the invention.

The accompanying drawings form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a longitudinal vertical section, and Fig. 2 is a top view, of the base or main body without the cover.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts in both figures.

The main body of the slab is marked A, and parts thereof A¹ and A², respectively. The cover is marked B, and has a rim or hanging lip, B', around its border, which matches in a

corresponding rabbet around the top of the bed A. The bottom of the main body A has a recess, with the surface inclined, which, as also the under face of the cover, may be used to grind india-ink or colors; but the principal surface for this purpose is the rough or unglazed inclined surface A¹. This inclined surface is the main upper surface of the main body A. Its upper end is sunk a little, and its lower end is sunk much more, and terminates in a deep concave, A².

The forms may be molded, dried, and treated, in all respects, in the same manner as ordinary crockery-ware. The number of warped and defective articles is too small to seriously raise the price.

My ink-slab may be produced complete with little expense for labor or material.

The tapering groove, which extends a little distance into the surface A¹ from the deep concave recess A², may be dispensed with altogether without destroying the usefulness of the invention; or it may be varied in length and depth, at pleasure.

I claim—

As an improved article of manufacture, the ink-slab described, in two parts, matched together, with the rough inclined grinding-surface A¹, reservoir A², and cover B, constructed and adapted to serve together as herein set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

Witnesses:

C. C. LIVINGS,
A. HOERMANN.

W. KEUFFEL.