(Specimens.)

T. E. GARDNER.

SOAP TABLET.

No. 354,186. Patented Dec. 14, 1886.

Fig. 1.

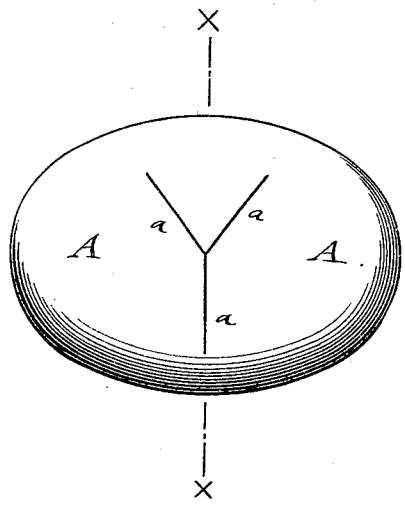
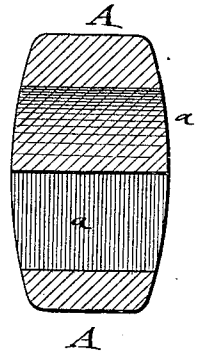


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS EXTON GARDNER, OF LONDON, ENGLAND.

SOAP TABLET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 354,186, dated December 14, 1886.

Application filed July 16, 1886. Serial No. 208,201. (Specimens.) Patented in England April 8, 1886, No. 4,936.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS EXTON GARDNER, of London, in the Kingdom of England, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Soap Tablets, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improved transparent soap tablet or cake in which suitable letters, words, or devices are embodied in such a manner that the letters, words, or devices will remain in the same until the cake is completely worn away by use; and the invention consists of a transparent soap tablet or cake in which a letter, word, or device is formed by thin slits passing entirely through the body of said cake or tablet.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a top view of a tablet or cake of transparent soap. Fig. 2 is a vertical transverse section of the same on line *x x*, Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A in the drawings represents a tablet or cake of transparent soap, in the body of which is arranged a suitable letter, word, or device by means of slits *a a*, that are cut through the body of the same by a cutter formed of thin metal blades so arranged that said letter, word, or design is formed. For this purpose the cake or tablet is placed above or below the cutter and the same quickly lowered or raised, so that the blades pierce the body of the tablet and are then quickly withdrawn therefrom. The blades of the cutter form narrow slits in the body of the cake, said slits extending through the same, but which close up again immediately when the blades are withdrawn, owing to the elasticity of the soap. As the transparency of the cake or tablet A is destroyed at the parts pierced by the cutter-blades, the word, letter, or device is clearly seen when holding the tablet toward the light. The letter, word, or device will always remain in the soap until the same is entirely used up, as the dirt and suds do not penetrate into the slits, owing to the close contact of the faces of the slits. In this manner the soap tablet will always show the trade-mark or other distinctive characteristic mark until it is entirely worn away by use.

I am aware that trade-marks have been made in cakes of soap by cutting out letters, figures, &c., and filling them in with soap of a different color from that of which the soap is made. I am also aware that cakes of soap have been provided with apertures to facilitate drying and handling.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

A tablet or cake of transparent soap having a letter, word, or device formed in the same by cuts of a most minute thickness, said cuts extending entirely, or nearly so, through the cake, whereby the effect of a solid letter, word, or device in said cake is produced by the breaking of the rays of light by the cuts, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

THOMAS EXTON GARDNER.

Witnesses:

ARTHUR W. MCLELLAN,

GEORGE PERCY SKELSEY.