

W. T. FRY.
WETTING OR WIPING INSTRUMENT FOR SLATES, &c.
No. 73,968. Patented Feb. 4, 1868.

Fig. 1.

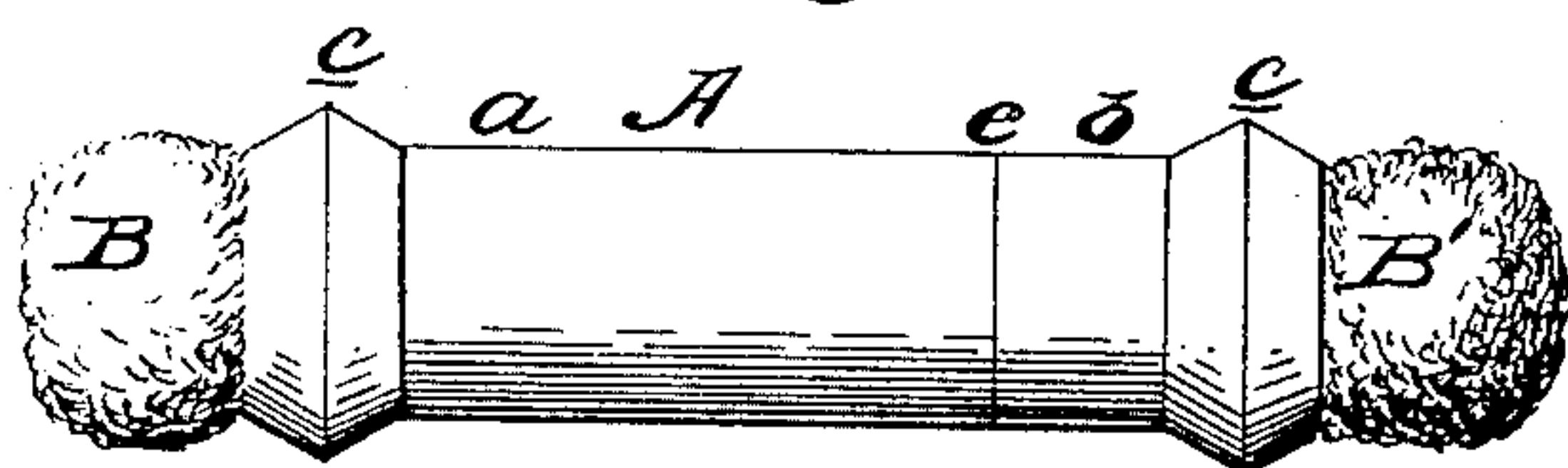
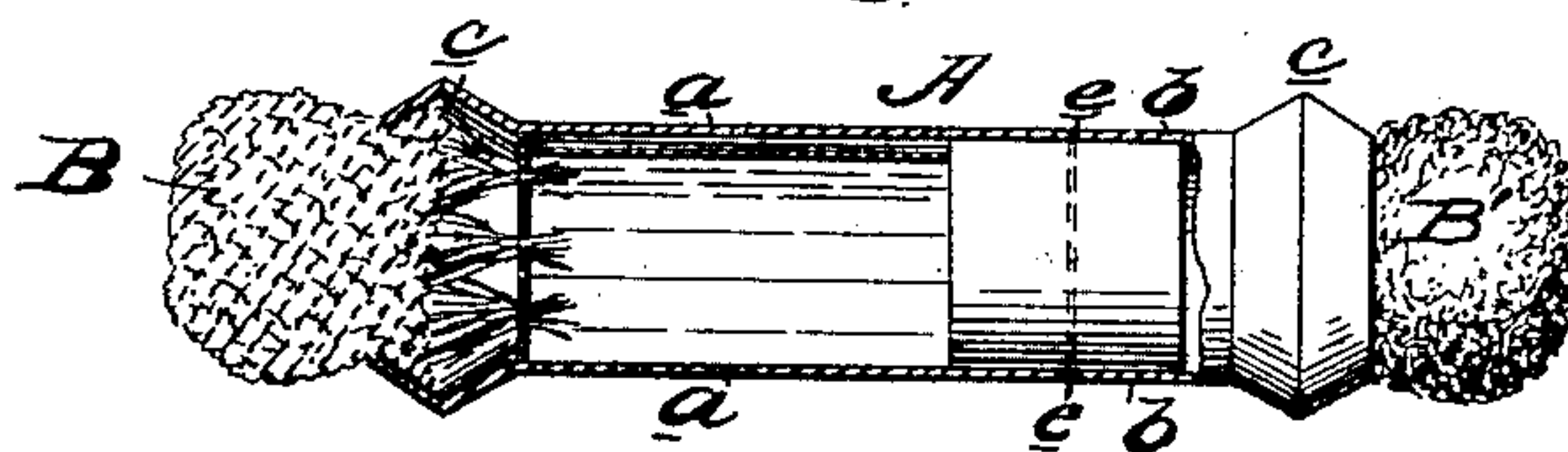


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

Wm. Albert Steel.
S. H. Stone Godwin.

Inventor:

W. T. Fry
By H. H. H. H.
J. H. Howson

United States Patent Office.

WILLIAM T. FRY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO GEORGE H. JONES
AND HENRY C. BERLIN, OF THE SAME PLACE.

Letters Patent No. 73,963, dated February 4, 1868; antedated January 24, 1868.

IMPROVEMENT IN WETTING OR WIPING-INSTRUMENTS FOR SLATES, &c.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, W. T. FRY, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented an Improved Wetting and Wiping-Instrument; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

My invention consists in the combination of a water-vessel and two sponges, one communicating with and the other free from contact with the water, as described hereafter. By this means the drying of a surface wet from the use of the moist sponge is rapidly effected by the dry sponge.

In order to enable others to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, which forms a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is an exterior view, and

Figure 2 a sectional view of my improved wetting and wiping-instrument.

A is a casing, of metal or other suitable material, and consists of two portions, *a* and *b*, detachable one from the other. At the outer end of each portion of the casing is formed an enlargement, *c*, serving to receive and confine the sponges B B', as illustrated in the drawing. The portion *a* of the casing forms a reservoir for water, and is open to the point where its enlargement commences, but is there closed, with the exception of one or more perforations, through which project strands of fibrous material into the chamber of the enlargement. These strands, as in my former invention, are in contact at their ends with the sponge B, to which they conduct a suitable quantity of the water contained within the reservoir *a*. To the inner end of the portion *b* of the casing is secured a cork or other suitable plug; *d*, which projects some distance into the reservoir *a*, thus securely closing and confining the water within the same.

It will be seen that by the above-described arrangement the sponge B will be constantly supplied with a suitable quantity of moisture from the reservoir *a*, while the sponge B' of the portion *b* of the casing, having no communication with the water, will be dry. This arrangement makes the present instrument more efficient for various purposes than my former wetting and wiping-device, which has a moist sponge only, the dry sponge B' of the present device serving to rapidly remove moisture from surfaces upon which the wet sponge may have been used. This rapid drying is of great advantage, for example, in the case of school-slates. The enlargements *c* at each end of the casing, besides forming ready means of securely attaching the sponges, are of advantage in preventing them from coming in contact with, and thus gathering dust from, any surface upon which the instrument may be laid when not in use. It will be understood that the sponges B B' may be replaced by masses of any suitable fibrous material.

I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. An instrument, consisting of a casing for containing water, one end of the casing being provided with a sponge, or its equivalent, communicating with the water, and the other end with a sponge to which the water cannot gain access, the whole being constructed substantially as and for the purpose herein set forth.

2. I claim the enlargements *c c*, at opposite ends of the case, for the purpose specified.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WM. T. FRY.

Witnesses:

J. C. FITZPATRICK,
MATTHEW DALY.