

J. G. DREHER.
Bouquet-Holders.

No. 157,804.

Patented Dec. 15, 1874.

Fig: 1.

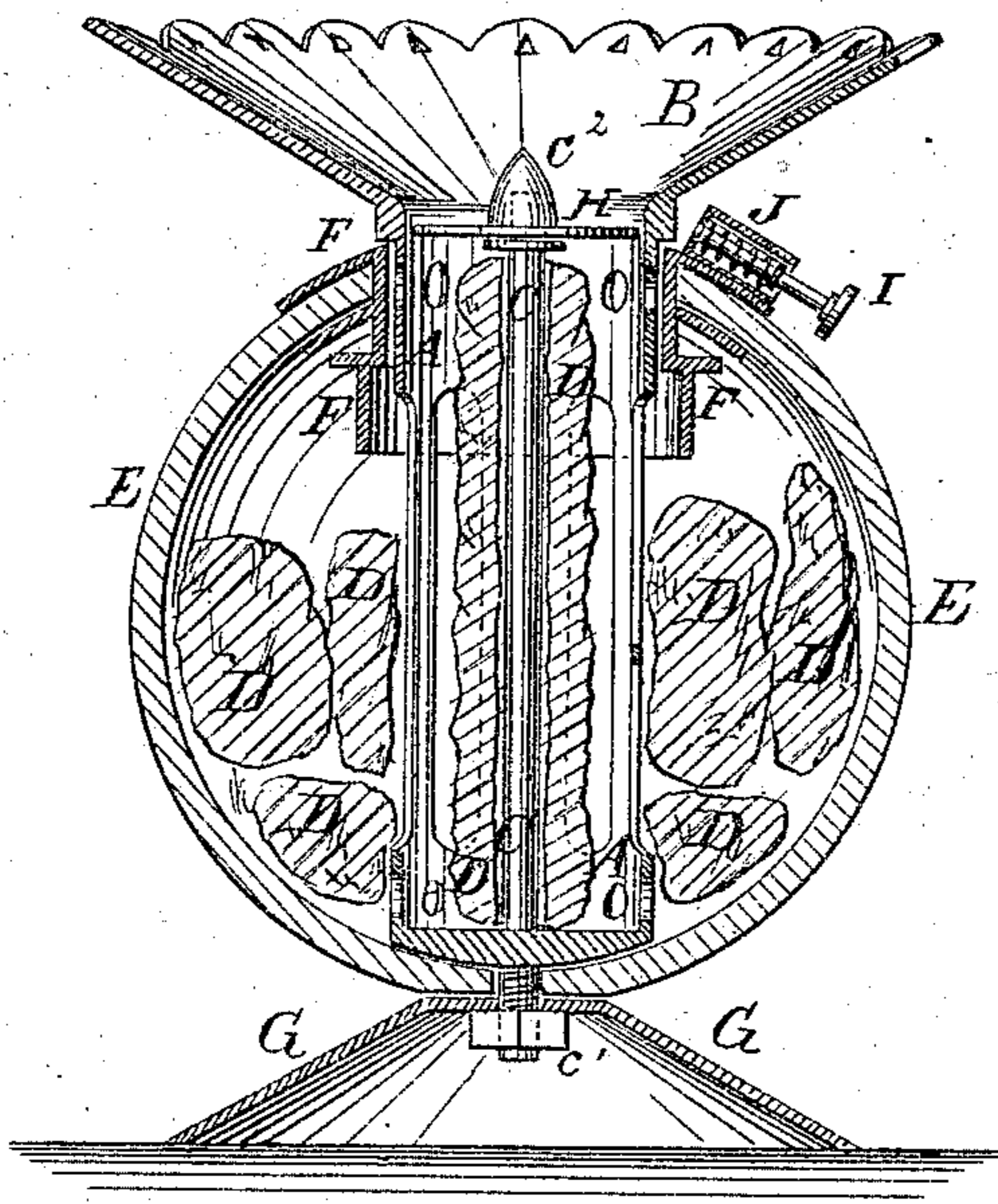


Fig: 3.

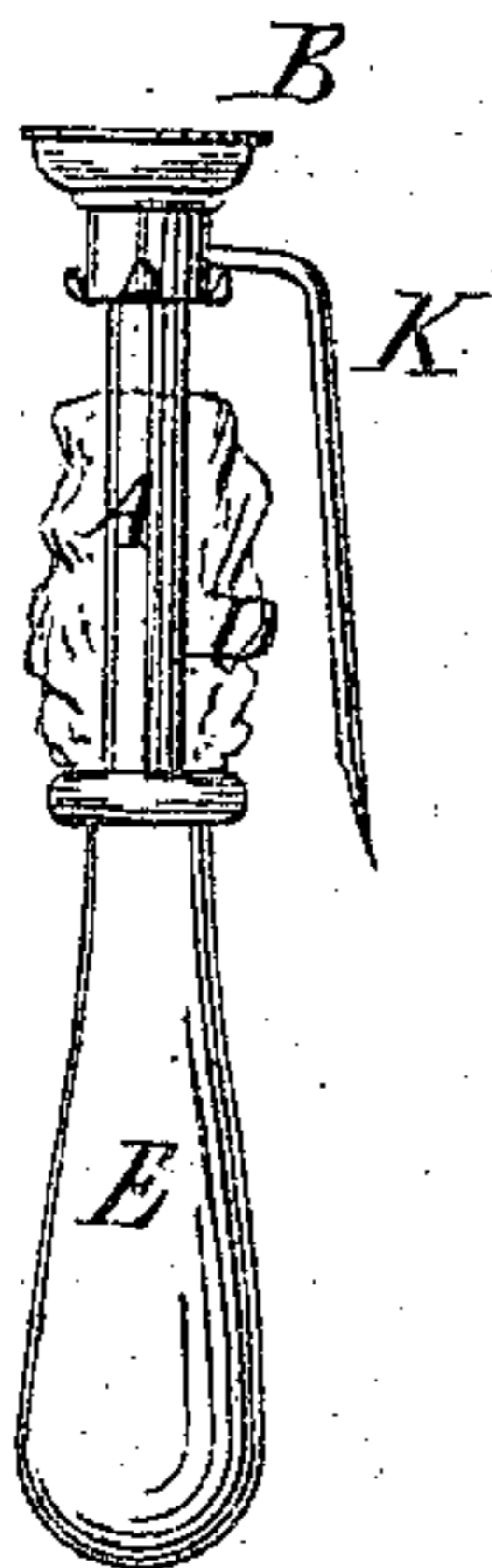


Fig: 4.

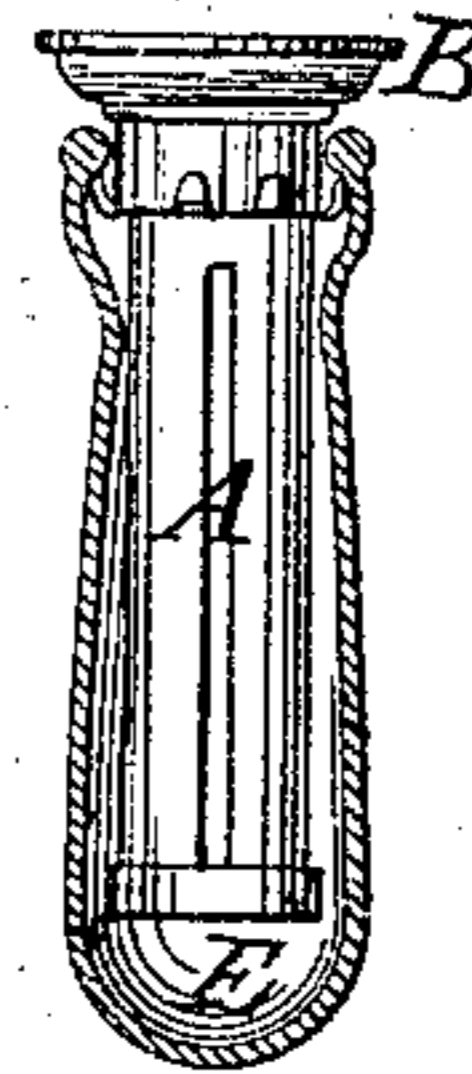
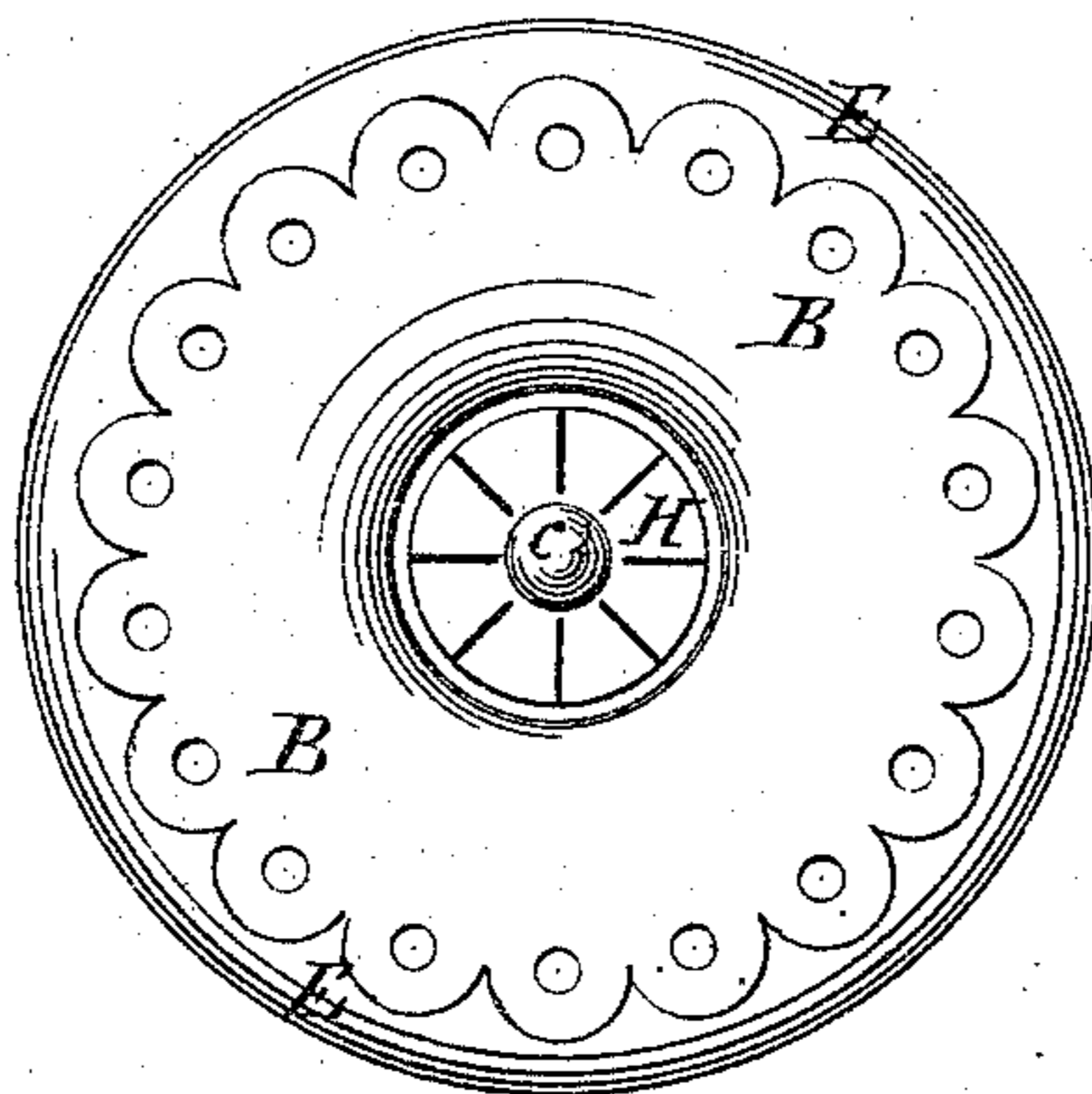


Fig: 2.



WITNESSES:

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JURIAS G. DREHER, OF PINE GROVE, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN BOUQUET-HOLDERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **157,804**, dated December 15, 1874; application filed October 24, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JURIAS G. DREHER, M. D., of Pine Grove, in the county of Schuylkill and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Bouquet-Holder, of which the following is a specification:

Figure 1 is a vertical section of my improved bouquet-holder arranged for use as a vase. Fig. 2 is a top view of the same. Fig. 3 is a side view of the same arranged for use as a button-hole bouquet-holder, and the rubber case being partly drawn off. Fig. 4 is a side view of the same, the sponge being removed, and the rubber case being shown in section.

My invention has for its object to furnish an improved bouquet-holder, simple in construction, and convenient in use, which will keep the stems of the flowers moist, and thus keep the flowers fresh for a long time, and which may be carried about without spilling the water.

The invention consists in the combination of the slotted tube, the conical flange or cup, the gum-elastic case, and the sponge with each other; in the combination of the rod and the conical base with the slotted tube, the conical flange or cup, the gum-elastic case, and the sponge; in the combination of the slitted rubber plate with the rod and the slotted tube of the holder; in the combination of the flanged tube with the elastic case and the slotted tube of the holder; and in the combination of the spring-bolt with the flanged tube, the elastic case, and the slotted tube, as hereinafter fully described.

A is a tube, which may be made cylindrical, or conical, or bulging, or of any other desired form. The tube A is slotted longitudinally, to allow a sponge to pass through to come in contact with the stems of the flowers. Upon the upper end of the tube A is formed a flaring or conical flange or cup, B, to support the flowers, and which may be ornamented to any desired extent. In the case of large or vase bouquet-holders, the lower end of the tube A is closed, and has a rod, C, attached to it, which projects up through the center of the tube A, and is designed to have a piece of sponge, D, tied around it. In the case of small or button-hole bouquet-holders, the rod

C is not used, and the lower end of the tube A is left open, and the slots of said tube extend to the said lower end, so that the piece of sponge D may be slipped up into said slots from their lower open ends, as shown in Fig. 3, where it is secured by a ring slipped upon said lower end. E is a rubber or gum-elastic bulb or case, which may be made globular, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, or may be elongated, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4, or of any other desirable shape. The mouth of the case E is made of such a size as to receive the tube A. In the case of large bouquet-holders several pieces of sponge D are placed in the case E around the tube A, and the mouth of the said case E is strengthened by a flanged tube, F, the lower end of which is enlarged or made flaring to push the loose pieces of sponge away from the slots of the tube A as the case E is compressed. In the case of large bouquet-holders the lower end of the rod C projects to pass through a hole in the bottom of the case E, and through a hole in the base G, and has a screw-thread cut upon it to receive the nut c^1 , by which the rod C, tube A, case E, and base G are held together. The base G may be made conical or flaring, and may be ornamented to any desired extent. H is a rubber disk or plate placed upon the upper end of the rod C, and secured in place by a cap-nut, c^2 , screwed upon the said upper end of the said rod C. The rubber plate H is made of such a size as to fit into the upper end of the tube A, is slitted radially, and is designed to keep the flower-stem in place in the tube A.

To place the flowers in the holder, the thumb of one hand is placed upon the base G, and the first and second fingers of said hand are placed upon the upper part of the case E. The thumb and fingers are then forced toward each other, which presses the tube F down upon the tube A, and forces the case E down upon the base G, which gives it a conical form, and compresses the loose pieces of sponge into the fold of the said case E. I is a small catch-bolt placed in a socket attached to the upper flange of the tube F, and which is held out by a coiled spring, J, also placed within said socket. The bolt I, when the case E is forced downward or compressed, is pushed forward into a hole in the side of the tube A, or be-

neath a cross-bar across one of the slots in said tube, to hold the case E compressed until the flower-stems have been inserted in the tube A; then, by a slight downward pressure upon the case E, the bolt I will be released, and will be forced outward by the pressure of the spring J, allowing the case E to rise to its former position. When it is desired to renew the water in the holder, the stale water is forced out by pressing down the case E. The lower part of the holder is then immersed in fresh water, and the case allowed to rise to its place, which causes the water to be drawn into and fill the case E. When the holder is to be stationary it should be filled with water. When the holder is to be carried a slight pressure upon the case E will force out the surplus water, and it may then be carried without any water spilling out. When the device is to be used as a button-hole bouquet-holder, a pin, K, is attached to the upper end of the tube A, to enable it to be conveniently secured to the lapel of the coat.

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

1. The combination of the slotted tube A, the conical flange or cup B, the gum-elastic case E, and the sponge D with each other, substantially as herein shown and described.

2. The combination of the rod C and the conical base G with the slotted tube A, the conical flange or cup B, the gum-elastic case E, and the sponge D, substantially as herein shown and described.

3. The combination of the slitted rubber plate H with the rod C and the slotted tube A of the holder, substantially as herein shown and described.

4. The combination of the flanged tube F with the case E and the slotted tube A of the holder, substantially as herein shown and described.

5. The combination of the spring-bolt I J with the flanged tube F, the case E, and the slotted tube A, substantially as herein shown and described.

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Witnesses:

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