

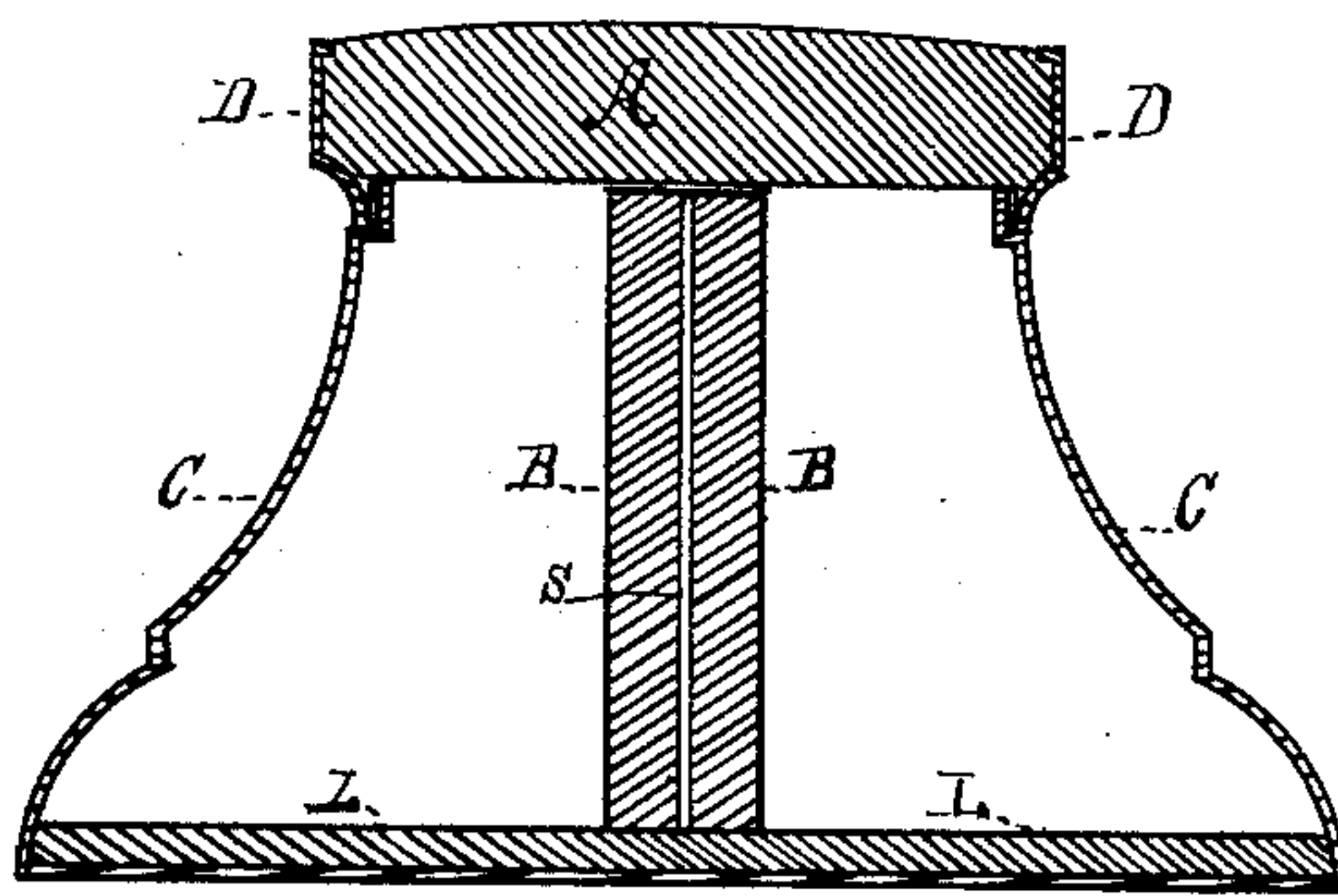
(Model.)

E. W. ARCHER & D. B. FESSENDEN.

MOIST PAD AND PAPER WEIGHT.

No. 245,043.

Patented Aug. 2, 1881.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWIN W. ARCHER, OF BOSTON, AND DANIEL B. FESSENDEN, OF EVERETT,
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MOIST PAD AND PAPER-WEIGHT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 245,043, dated August 2, 1881.

Application filed February 3, 1881. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, EDWIN W. ARCHER, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, and DANIEL B. FESSENDEN, of Everett, in the county of Middlesex and said State of Massachusetts, residents, respectively, of Boston and Everett, and both citizens of the United States, have invented a new and useful Moist Pad and Paper-Weight, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to a moist pad and paper-weight in which the pad is formed of woody fungus, used either in the raw state or subjected first to heat to kill the animal life, said pad touching or resting upon a column or post of the same material rising vertically from the bottom of the water-chamber. The pad is inserted in a detachable rim, and forms a top of the cup or water-receptacle. The bottom of the water-cup can be weighted or the cup itself can be made of glass or some other heavy material, so that it may be used as a paper-weight. The resiliency of the pad is increased by subjecting it to heat, either by boiling it or baking it, while the porosity of the substance is not diminished. The water is not applied directly to the pad, as is ordinarily the case in sponge-cups and other moisteners which use glass or rubber rolls; but the water is first put into the cup of the moistener, and it then ascends the post heretofore spoken of, and by that means is conducted to the pad and evenly distributed through it and over its surface in sufficient amount to moisten the fingers for the counting of bills or other papers, as well as to moisten stamps, labels, and envelopes. Another decided advantage obtained from the use of this material for the moistener-pad is that so long as there is any water at all in the cup it will, as a result of capillary attraction, be drawn through the post to the pad, and will at all times lie evenly upon the upper surface of the pad, whether the same is in use or not. It does not require constant replenishing with water, as do all other moisteners now in use or heretofore known. The substance used will retain moisture longer than sponge or any material that we have ever before known.

It is not essential to the utility of our invention that the pad should be in permanent

contact with the post of the material. It is sufficient that they be placed adjacently to each other, so that the pad may be occasionally pressed down until it comes in contact with the post and receives a supply of moisture from it. The vertical post we can make either of a solid piece of the woody fungus or we can use refuse scraps of the same piled one upon the other and held in position by being crowded down over a wire post rising vertically from the bottom of the cup.

The drawing shows a vertical central section of our invention, in which A represents the moist pad, which is compressed into a rim or collar, D, which collar is provided with inside flanges at the top and bottom to hold the pad in place and prevent its being pressed down or crowded up out of the rim. This rim is screwed or otherwise fastened upon the cup or water-chamber C. From the center of the bottom of the cup rises vertically a wire post, s, upon which is put the material which forms the post or conductor B. The water lies at any desired height in the cup about this post B.

On the extreme bottom of the chamber or cup C we sometimes may place a plate, L, of lead or some other heavy substance, to render the apparatus more stable and serviceable as a paper-weight; but this is a detail of construction, and will be unnecessary when the cup is made of heavy material.

The woody fungus of birch trees is preferable, but fungus of any other species of tree will answer the purposes of our invention.

We claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The porous pad A, made of woody fungus, as described, and confined in the rim D, combined with a cup, C, wire post s, and porous post B, of woody fungus, to form a moistener and paper-weight, as shown and described.

2. A moistener in which the pad is made of woody fungus, either in a raw state or first subjected to the action of heat, combined with a receptacle for the holding of water.

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