

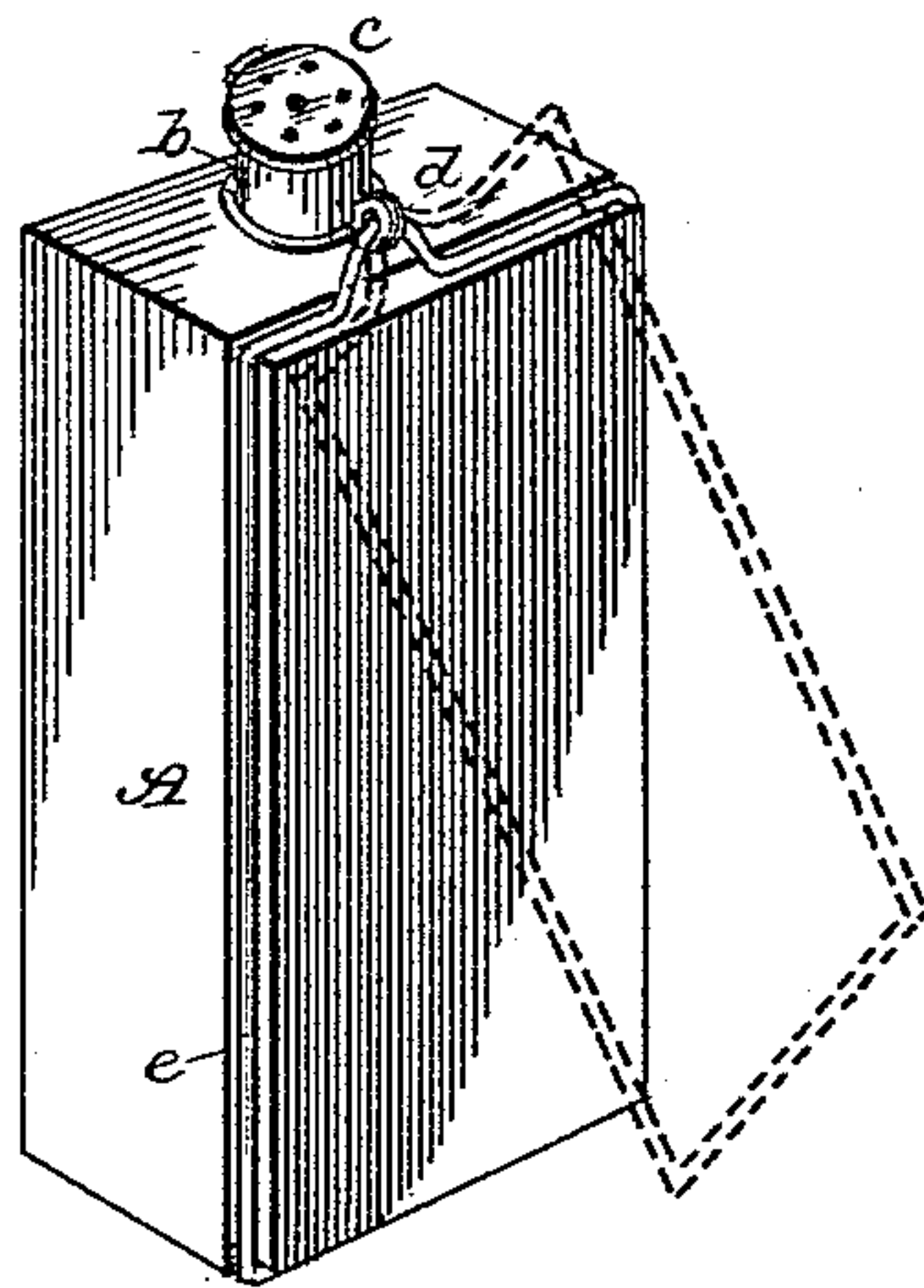
(Model.)

C. E. RAMAGE.

SLATE CLEANER.

No. 277,341.

Patented May 8, 1883.



—Witnesses—

Louis F. Gardner
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES E. RAMAGE, OF ALLEGHENY, PENNSYLVANIA.

SLATE-CLEANER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 277,341, dated May 8, 1883.

Application filed December 27, 1882. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES E. RAMAGE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Allegheny, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Slate-Cleaners, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

10 My invention relates to an improvement in slate-cleaners; and it consists in an oblong flask, to the neck of which is attached an elastic open frame that clasps and holds a piece of cloth for cleaning the slate, the neck of the flask being covered by a perforated hinged cap, through which water contained in the flask is to be sprinkled on the slate.

20 My object is to furnish to scholars a handy, cheap, and substantial means for cleaning their slates, to avoid the disgusting habit of spitting on them and of using their fingers, sleeves, or aprons to wipe off whatever marks or filth they wish to remove from their slates. To succeed in my endeavors I adopt for my slate-cleaner a form easily handled or carried, that may be kept clean by simply removing the cloth that has been in use and substituting another therefor. A little water poured into the flask when its top or lid is raised suffices for a whole day or longer, since by shaking the flask, its neck being turned down, only a sprinkling of the moisture escapes. Instead of a perforated cap or lid, a perforated cork may be used; but I prefer the hinged cap, as it is not liable to be lost or misplaced.

35 The accompanying drawing represents my invention.

40 A represents an oblong flask with a short neck, *b*, on top. On the neck is hinged a perforated cap or lid, *c*, that clasps its upper edge sufficiently to remain closed until opened by some slight effort. The neck *b* is placed in

the middle on the flask, nearly flush with its rear side, to make room in front for a hinge, *d*, to which an open elastic frame, *e*, is hinged, that is of the length and width of the flask, and provided on its lower side with a clasp that catches under the bottom of the flask. The front side of the flask is slightly raised, forming a shoulder or offset all around it, near its edge, of a depth and width to receive the elastic frame *e* when bent down and place it below the surface of the flask. A piece of cloth spread over the front of the flask when the frame *e* is raised will be firmly held by the frame when bent down over it and clasped under the bottom of the flask. Thus the cloth may be placed or removed and changed by a child without the least difficulty.

60 I am aware that slate-cleaners with a sponge in the necks and pads under their bottom are in use; but their form is unhandy, and the exchange of pads, when soiled, for clean ones requires time and a degree of skill that young scholars generally do not possess.

65 Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. A slate-cleaner provided with a hinged elastic frame that holds a piece of cloth for wiping and cleaning a slate, substantially as described.

2. A slate-cleaner in the form of an oblong flask with a neck covered by a perforated cap or cork, through which the water contained in the flask may be sprinkled on the slate, in combination with a hinged frame for holding a piece of cloth upon the flask, substantially as described.

75 In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

CHARLES E. RAMAGE.

Witnesses:

LOUIS MOESER,
T. F. LEHMANN.