(No Model.)

J. MARET.

ENVELOPE MOISTENER AND SEALER.

No. 426,728. Patented Apr. 29, 1890.

Fig. 1

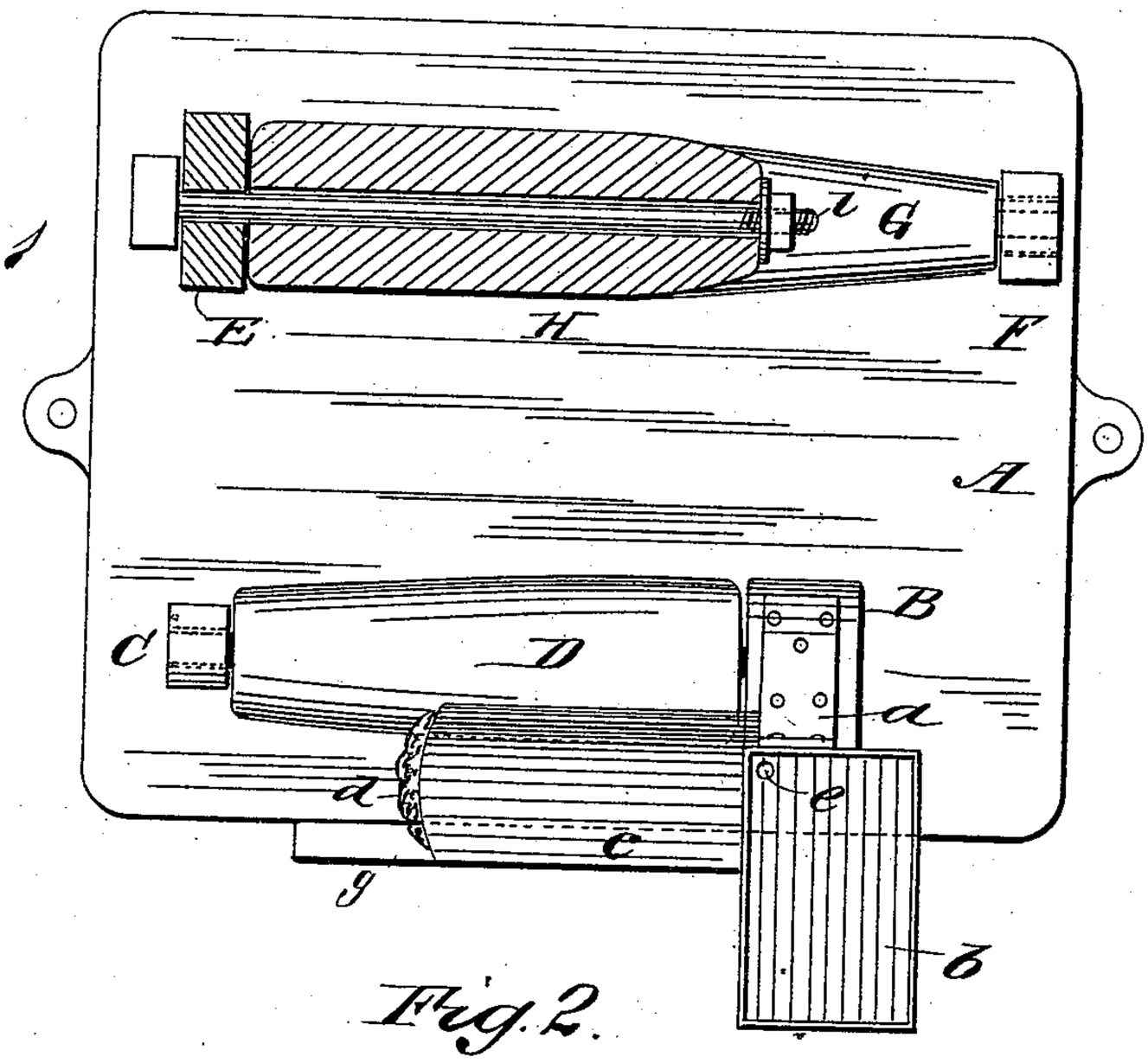
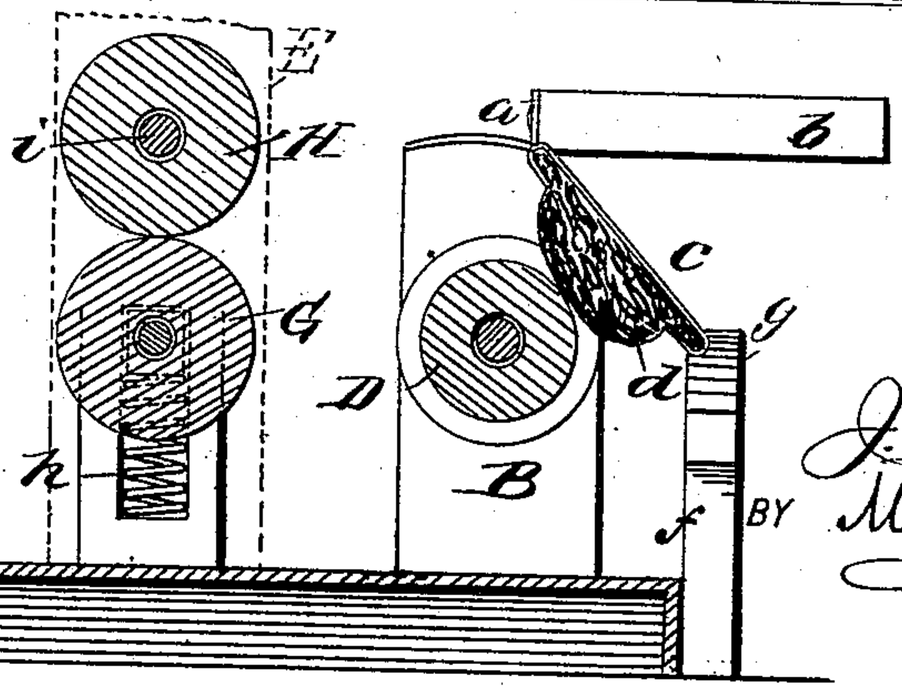


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3



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JAMES MARET, OF MOUNT VERNON, KENTUCKY.

ENVELOPE MOISTENER AND SEALER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 426,728, dated April 29, 1890.

Application filed February 21, 1890. Serial No. 341,250. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES MARET, of Mount Vernon, in the county of Rock Castle and State of Kentucky, have invented a new and Improved Envelope Moistener and Sealer, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the annexed drawings, forming a part thereof, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of my improved envelope-moistener with parts in section. Fig. 2 is a side elevation, and Fig. 3 is a vertical transverse section.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

The object of my invention is to provide apparatus for moistening envelopes, for sealing, closing the envelope, and pressing the flap down upon the body of the envelope, thereby causing it to be securely sealed.

My invention is also designed for moistening the corner of the envelope for receiving the stamp.

My invention consists of a sponge holder and moistener, an envelope-guide and guide-roller, and a pair of rollers for closing the envelope after it is moistened and pressing the flap down to insure perfect sealing, all as will be hereinafter more fully described.

To the base A are attached standards B C, in which is journaled the tapering roller D. To the standard B is attached an arm *a*, to which is secured a water-reservoir *b*. A sponge-holder *c* is secured to the water-reservoir *b* and contains a thin flat sponge *d*. The reservoir *b* is provided with an aperture *e* in the corner adjoining the sponge-holder *c*, and is adapted to deliver water to the sponge contained by the holder, the amount of water passing to the sponge being governed by a plug or screw in the aperture *e*. To the side of the base A is attached a standard *f*, which supports a guide *g* underneath the sponge-holder *c*.

In standards E F, attached to the base A, is journaled the tapering roller G, the bearings of the said roller being supported by spiral springs *h*, placed in mortises in the standards E F. Upon a rod *i*, projecting from the standard E, is journaled a roller H. The said roller H is provided with a tapering end, which facilitates the entrance of the envelope between the rollers G H.

The operation of my improved envelope-moistener is as follows: The flap of the envelope is inserted between the guide *g* and the sponge-holder *c* and drawn forward over the roller D. The gummed surface of the envelope is thus brought in contact with the moist sponge *d*, which deposits sufficient water upon the gum to cause it to adhere as the envelope is moved forward between the rollers G H. The operation of carrying the envelope forward in this manner closes down the flap and presses it firmly upon the body of the envelope. To moisten the envelope for receiving the stamp, the corner thereof upon which the stamp is usually placed is passed over the guide *g*, under the moistened sponge *d*, and over the roller D, and to the envelope thus moistened the stamp is applied in the usual way.

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

1. In an envelope-moistener, the combination, with a roller, of a guide in front of the roller, a reservoir above the roller, and a sponge-holder below the reservoir and between the guide and roller, substantially as described.

2. In an envelope-moistener, the combination of the reservoir *b*, the sponge-holder *c*, the sponge *d*, the guide *g*, the roller D, and the rollers G H, substantially as specified.

3. In an envelope-moistener, the combination, with a tapering roller, of an inclined guide in front of the roller and a sponge-holder between the guide and roller, substantially as described.

4. In an envelope-moistener, the combination, with a tapering roller and a sponge-holder in front of the roller, of tapering rollers journaled one above the other in rear of the first-named roller, and with their small ends opposite the large end of the said first-named roller, substantially as described.

JAMES MARET.

Witnesses:
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