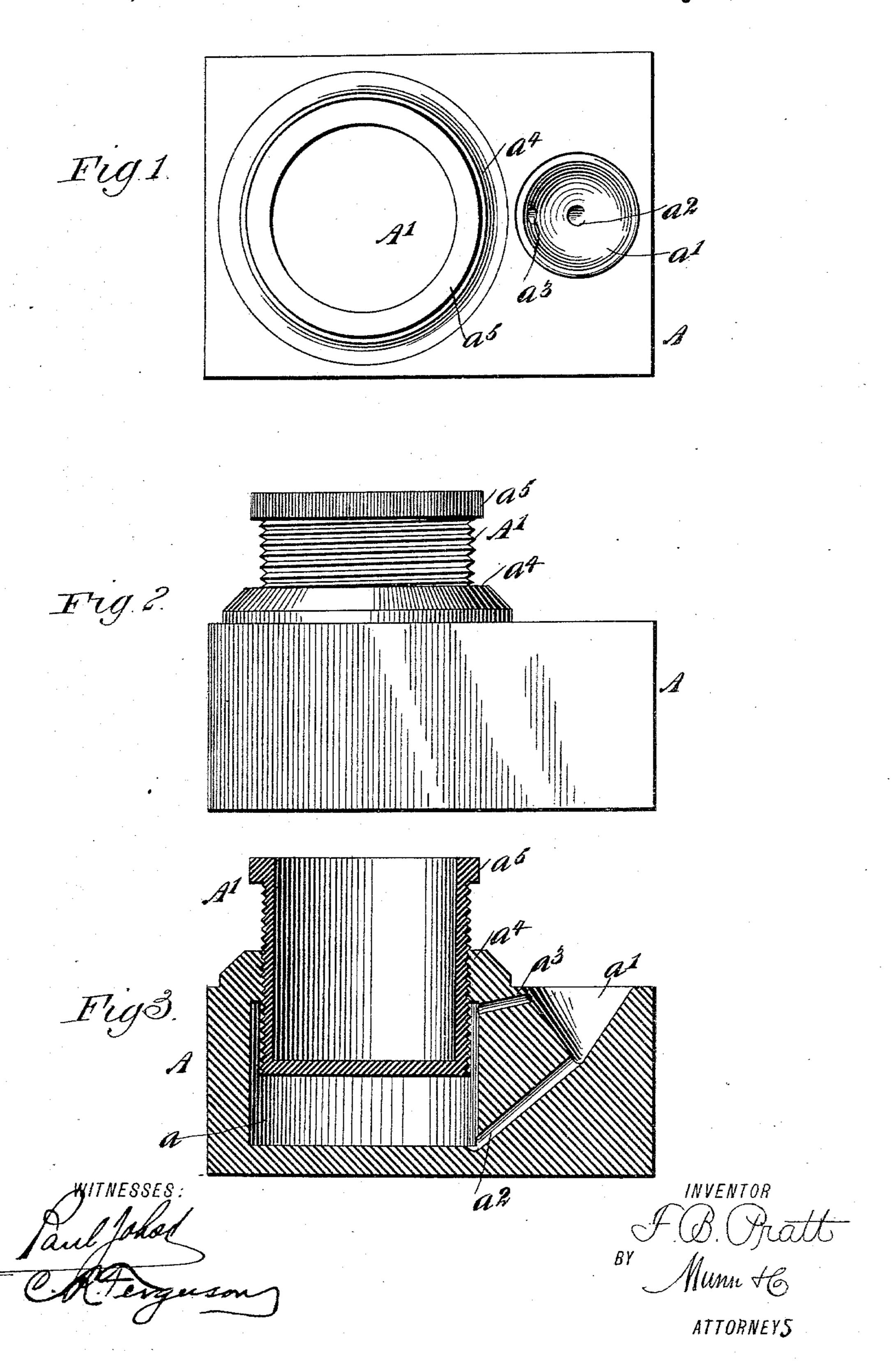
F. B. PRATT.
INKSTAND.

No. 563,615.

Patented July 7, 1896.



## United States Patent Office.

FRANCIS B. PRATT, OF CANTON, MISSISSIPPI.

## INKSTAND.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 563,615, dated July 7, 1896.

Application filed December 14, 1895. Serial No. 572,178. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANCIS B. PRATT, of Canton, in the county of Madison and State of Mississippi, have invented certain new 5 and useful Improvements in Inkstands, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to inkstands of the feeding-reservoir type; and the object is to 10 provide a simple device of this character that may be easily cleaned and filled and in which but a small quantity of ink need be exposed.

I will describe an inkstand embodying my invention, and then point out the novel fea-

15 tures in the appended claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a plan view of an inkstand embodying my improvement. Fig. 2 is a side elevation thereof, and Fig. 3 is a vertical section.

Referring to the drawings, A designates 25 the body of the inkstand, having an ink-well a, and a supply-well a', formed in the top of the body portion forward of the ink-well.

The wall of the supply-well is preferably flared outward and upward, and its bottom is 30 considerably above the bottom of the inkwell. From the bottom of the supply-well a feeder-duct a² extends downward at an incline and communicates with the ink-well at its bottom. An air-duct  $a^3$  leads outward 35 from the upper portion of the ink-well. The duct  $a^3$  is here shown as leading into the upper portion of the supply-well.

Within the upper portion of the ink-well an internally-threaded annular flange  $a^4$  is 40 formed, and is designed to be engaged by the exterior thread of a plug A'. The plug A' has sufficient length to extend to the bottom of the ink-well when screwed down, and its upper end is provided with a milled flange  $a^5$ 

to provide a good grasp for a person's fin- 45

gers while rotating the plug.

The plug A' is made in the form of a cup closed at the bottom and open at the top, and is designed to receive a wet sponge or other material for cleaning pens. The plug may 50 be entirely removed when it is desired to clean or fill the ink-well. It is obvious, however, that the well may be filled through the duct a2, as the air will escape through the duct  $a^3$  and allow the ink to rise in the well. 55 It is obvious that a downward movement of the plug will force ink through the duct a<sup>2</sup> to the well a', which may be filled to any desired extent.

The inkstand and plug may be made of 60 any desired material, and I find hard rubber

well adapted for the purpose.

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

1. An inkstand, comprising a body portion having an ink-well, a supply-well, a feederduct leading from the bottom of the ink-well to the bottom of the supply-well, and an airduct leading outward from the upper portion 7° of the ink-well, and a plug movable vertically in the ink-well and forming a cup for pencleaning material, substantially as specified.

2. An inkstand, comprising a body portion having an ink-well, a supply-well, a feeder- 75 duct leading from the bottom of the ink-well to the bottom of the supply-well, and an airduct leading from the upper portion of the ink-well into the supply-well, a cup-shaped plug closed at the bottom and open at the top, 80 having screw-thread engagement with a flange in the upper end of the ink-well, and a milled flange on the upper end of the cupshaped plug, substantially as specified.

FRANCIS B. PRATT.

Witnesses:

J. P. GEORGE, A. L. AARON.