

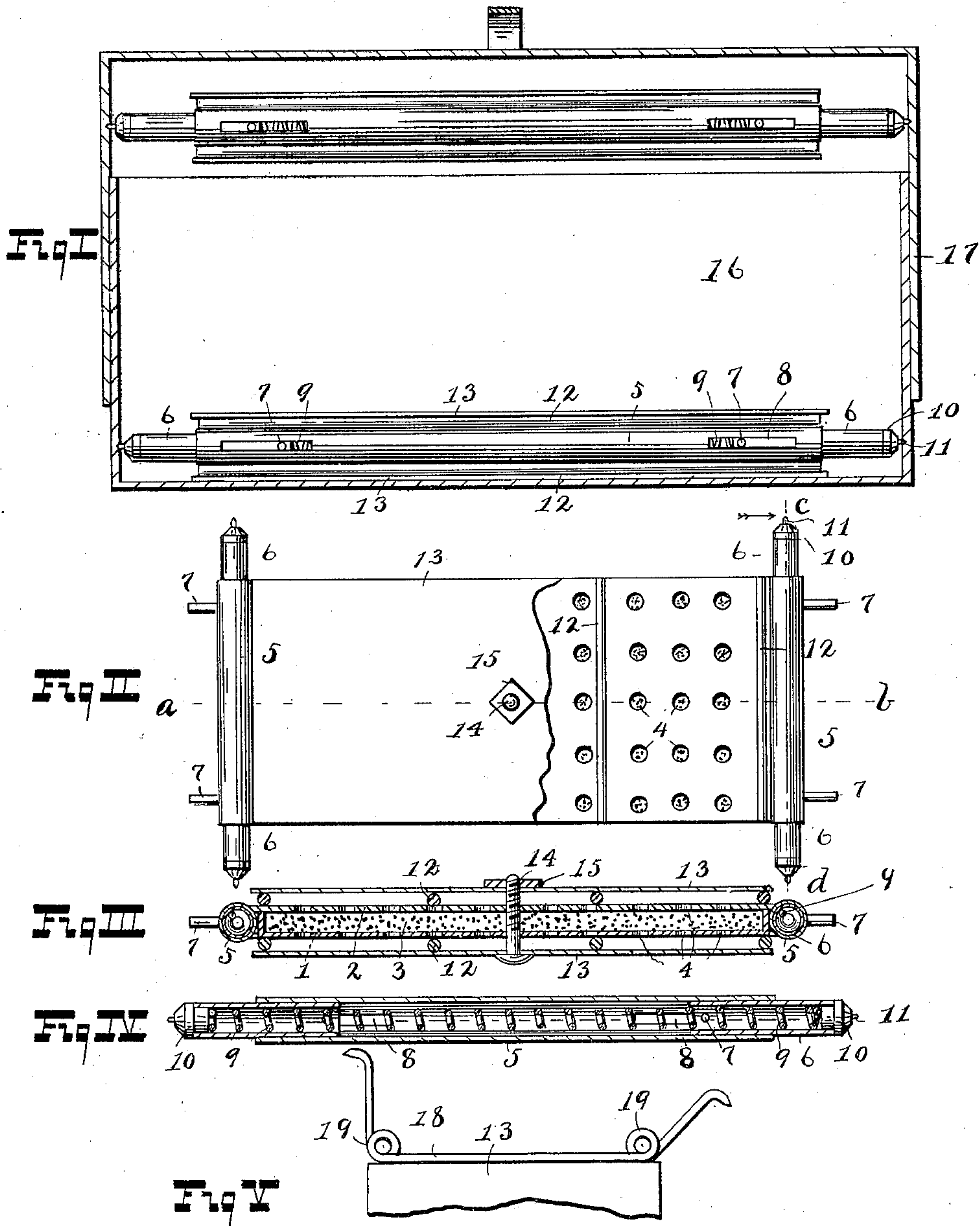
No. 662,892.

Patented Nov. 27, 1900.

H. B. DALTON.
MOISTENING DEVICE.

(Application filed Dec. 13, 1897.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARRY B. DALTON, OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI.

MOISTENING DEVICE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 662,892, dated November 27, 1900.

Application filed December 13, 1897. Serial No. 661,625. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HARRY B. DALTON, a citizen of the United States, residing in Kansas City, in the county of Jackson and State of Missouri, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Moistening Devices, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to improvements in moistening devices adapted to be used in cases or grips designed to contain articles requiring the presence of moisture—as, for instance, cigars, chewing-tobacco, &c.

The object of my invention is to provide a moistening device that may be readily fastened in place in a case and may be easily adjusted to any desired position therein, the receptacle holding the moistening material being provided with releasable fastening devices adapted to engage the walls of the case.

My invention provides, further, a moistening device having a perforated receptacle for the moistening material, the receptacle being provided with a releasable cover for the insertion or removal of the moistening material and guards for preventing contact of the goods held in the packing case or grip with the perforated walls of the receptacle.

My invention provides, further, spring-actuated supports for the receptacle, adapted to engage the walls of the case.

My invention provides, also, certain novel features of construction hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, illustrating my invention, Figure I represents a vertical cross-section view of a packing-case in which are secured two of my moistening devices shown in end elevation. Fig. II represents a plan view of the moistening device with a portion of the side guard broken away, so as to disclose the perforated receptacle. Fig. III represents a vertical sectional view taken on the dotted line *a b* of Fig. II. Fig. IV represents a longitudinal sectional view of one of the end tubular guides and spring-actuated case-engaging devices. Fig. V represents a plan view of the end of the receptacle provided with a modified form of case-engaging device, comprising a single wire pointed

at its ends and composed of spring material.

In this view one of the arms is bent inwardly to the position occupied by it when the moistening device is inserted in the packing-case.

Similar numerals of reference indicate similar parts.

1 indicates the receptacle for the moistening material. The receptacle is shown as being in the form of a rectangular-shaped box having a cover 2. The moistening material 3 is preferably of a substance like mineral wool; but any good absorbent may be utilized. The walls of the receptacle and cover are provided with perforations 4, adapted to permit

the passage therethrough of the moisture from the interior of the receptacle. At each end of the receptacle and secured transversely thereto is a tubular guide 5. In each guide 5, at each end, is a sliding plunger 6, adapted to move in and outwardly in the tubular guide. Each plunger 6 has secured near its inner end a stud 7, adapted to be grasped by the fingers for the purpose of drawing the plunger 6 inwardly. The guide 5 is provided near each end with a longitudinal slot 8, through which the stud 7 extends. Within the guide 5 and the tubular plungers 6 is placed a coiled spring 9, the ends of which abut against the inner ends of the caps 10, which are secured one at each outer end of each plunger 6. The caps 10 are each provided with a central point 11, adapted to penetrate the walls of the case. The tension of the springs 9 is such that the plungers will be forced outwardly until the points 11 have engaged the case-wall. The studs 7 prevent the plungers being forced entirely out of the guides. Transversely across the top and bottom of the receptacle 1 are secured several strips 12, upon which are secured the plates 13, which serve as guards to prevent the goods held in the case, such as boxes of cigars, from closing the perforations 4 and also prevent goods from being mildewed by too close proximity to the perforations through which the moisture in the receptacle escapes. Extending through perforations provided therefor in the upper and lower plates 13 and the top and bottom of the receptacle 1 is a vertical bolt 14, upon the upper end of which is provided a nut 15, which is located upon the top of the upper plate 13.

This bolt and nut serve to secure the cover and guard-plate 13, secured thereto, to the body of the receptacle.

In Fig. I is shown a packing-case, such as is commonly used for sample-cases for boxes of cigars. It is of the telescoping kind, comprising two parts, (indicated by 16 and 17, respectively.)

My invention is operated as follows: The bottom moistening device is first placed in the lower half of the case, the plungers 6 being forced inwardly by pressing inwardly on the studs 7. After the device has been placed in the desired position in the case the studs are released, and the springs 9 force the points 11 into the walls of the case, preventing the displacement of the device. The goods are then placed in the case, and afterward the upper moistening device is secured in position in the same manner as described with reference to the lower one. To fill the receptacle with moistening material, such as mineral wool, the nut 15 is removed from the bolt 14 and the cover 2 removed from the body of the receptacle. The cover is then replaced and secured by the placing of the nut on the bolt. Then the whole device may be placed in water until the wool has become saturated. It is then ready for use.

In Fig. V, I have illustrated a modification of the case-engaging device, comprising a piece of spring-wire 18, secured transversely to the end of the receptacle similarly to the tube 5. One or more coils may be provided in the wire, as indicated by 19, near each side of the receptacle to serve as a spring. The ends of the wire then extend outwardly at an angle, the extreme ends being pointed, so as to penetrate the walls of the case a short distance. My invention is capable of other modifications without departing from the spirit of my invention.

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

1. A moistening device comprising a rec-

tangular receptacle provided with two perforated parallel walls, a guard-plate disposed oppositely to each of said perforated walls, a bolt extending through the receptacle and securing the guard-plates thereto, and supporting devices on the receptacle adapted to engage the walls of a packing-case, substantially as described.

2. A moistening device comprising a perforated receptacle for moistening material, an imperforate guard covering the perforated receptacle and secured thereto but provided with an intervening air-space for the escape of moisture around the edges of the guard, and supporting means for the receptacle, substantially as described.

3. A moistening device comprising a perforated receptacle for moistening material, an imperforate plate covering the said perforations but out of direct contact with the receptacle, a guiding-tube on each end of the receptacle, two pointed devices mounted in each of said tubes, and a spring in each of said tubes bearing against the two pointed devices located therein, substantially as described.

4. A moistening device comprising a rectangular receptacle provided with two perforated walls, an imperforate guard-plate covering each of said perforated walls but having an air-space between the receptacle and the guard-plates, a bolt passing through the receptacle and secured to the guard-plates, two tubes secured one to each end of the receptacle, two pointed bolts mounted in each tube with the pointed ends out, and a spring in each tube bearing against the two bolts tending to force them outwardly, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

HARRY B. DALTON.

Witnesses:

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