

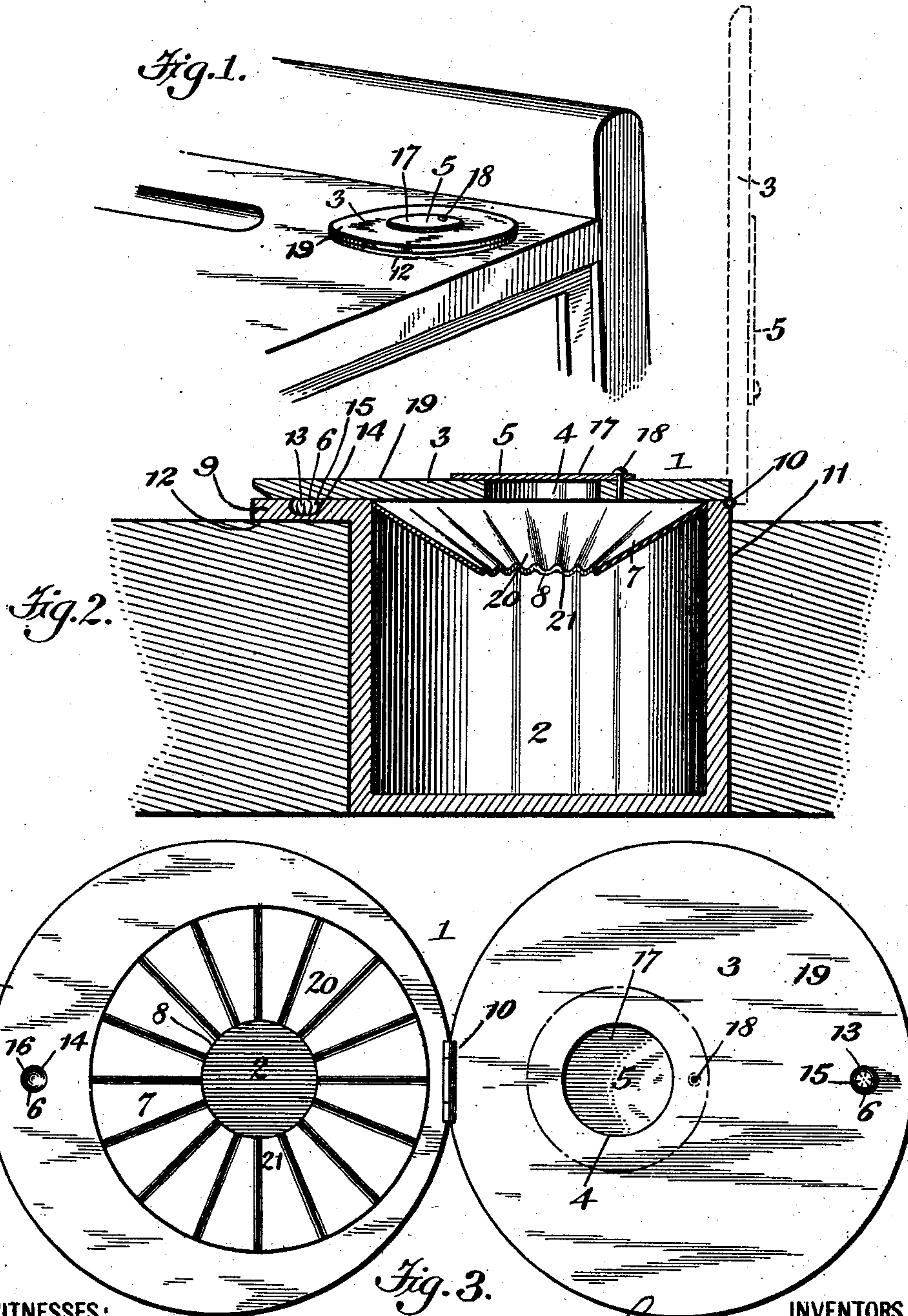
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L. M. DYER & A. B. COLHOUN.
INK WELL.

(Application filed Mar. 23, 1901.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LOUISE M. DYER AND ADA BYRON COLHOUN, OF YAZOO CITY, MISSISSIPPI.

INK-WELL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 690,643, dated January 7, 1902.

Application filed March 23, 1901. Serial No. 52,652. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, LOUISE M. DYER and ADA BYRON COLHOUN, citizens of the United States, residing at Yazoo City, in the county of Yazoo and State of Mississippi, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Ink-Wells, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to ink-wells; and it has for its object to provide an improved ink-well which is particularly adapted for use in schools and is formed to fit within the customary ink-well chamber or opening in the desk-top and to project but slightly above the same, and thus present but slight obstruction to books and other objects which are placed upon the desk.

The invention further aims to provide an ink-well which may be readily filled without overflowing and which shall be generally superior in point of simplicity of construction, convenience in use, and general efficiency.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a portion of a school-desk provided with our improved ink-well. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view of the improved ink-well, the cover being shown in full lines in closed position and in dotted lines in open position to permit filling of the ink-well. Fig. 3 is a detail top plan view of the improved ink-well with the cover in open position to permit filling of the ink-well.

Corresponding parts in all the figures are denoted by the same reference characters.

Referring to the drawings, 1 designates our improved ink-well, which embodies the usual body portion or ink-reservoir 2 and is provided with a pivoted cover or closure 3. The cover 3 is provided centrally with a dipping-opening 4, and the dipping-opening 4 is normally closed by a pivoted supplemental cover 5.

6 designates suitable means for locking the cover 3 in closed position. Within the body portion 2 and at the top of the same is arranged a concave or dished guard 7, which extends continuously around the inner walls of the said body portion and is provided with a central opening 8 in registration with the dipping-opening 4 in the cover 3.

In the preferred form of construction the body portion 2 is annular in form and is pro-

vided at its top edge portion with an annular outwardly-projecting flange 9, upon which the cover 3 rests when in closed position. The outer edge portion of the cover exactly fits the outer edge contour of the flange 9 to effectually maintain the body portion 2 in closed condition. The cover 3 is preferably hinged to the top edge of the body portion, as at 10, and the flange 9 and the cover 3 preferably taper in width, as shown in Fig. 3, to the point of hinge connection 10. When the ink-well is inserted in the desk-opening 11, as illustrated in Fig. 1, the flange 9 rests firmly upon the top of the desk, as at 12, and effectually supports the entirety. The locking means 6 may consist of a member 13, carried by the cover 3 and arranged to coengage with a member 14, secured to the flange 9. The member 13 may consist of a spring-tongue 15, and the member 14 may consist of an eye 16, which is formed to receive the same. The locking means 6 are preferably arranged at a point diametrically opposite the hinge 10.

The supplemental cover 5 consists of a flat plate 17, which is pivoted at one edge to the cover 3, as at 18, and may be readily swung laterally to open or close the dipping-opening 4. The main cover 3 also consists of a flat plate 19, and the combined main cover 3 and supplemental cover 5 project but slightly above the plane of the supporting-flange 9, whereby the ink-well presents but slight obstruction above the desk 12.

The concave or dished guard 7 consists of a downwardly-projecting continuous flange 20, which forms the central opening 8, and the flange 20 is corrugated in its upper surface portion, as at 21, radially of the ink-well, forming centrally-tapering grooves, through which the ink may readily flow to and through the opening 8 and into the body portion 2.

The operation and advantages of our improved ink-well will be readily understood. In filling the same the main cover 3 is thrown backwardly upon its hinge 10 and the ink is poured into the body portion through the central opening 8 in the guard 7. When the ink has risen in the body portion to a level coincident with the plane of the opening 8, the ink rises through said opening onto the guard 20. This rising of the ink onto the guard 20 may be noted by the person filling

the ink-well, and the filling operation may be checked before the ink has overflowed onto the desk or elsewhere. This feature of our improved ink-well is of great advantage, as it is extremely difficult with ink-wells of common construction to determine the exact moment in the filling operation at which the ink rises to the required level. The guard 7 permits the ink to rise to a level considerably above the plane of the opening 8 without overflowing, and the possibility of the ink thus rising to a safe level is enhanced by the dished or concave formation of the guard. The corrugations 21 of the flange 20 facilitate the flow of the ink downwardly through the opening 8. The flat formation of the flange 9, main cover 3, and supplemental cover 5 presents a minimum obstruction of the ink-well above the supporting-desk, and this feature is of manifest advantage, as the ordinary ink-well is constantly in the way in the use of books and other articles which are frequently shifted about on school-desks or other desks. When the ink-well has been filled, the main cover 3 is secured in closed position by the locking means 6, and in school use the locking means may be closed by the teacher or attendant and maintained closed until further filling of the ink-well becomes necessary. The only access to the ink-well obtainable is through the dipping-opening 4, which is ordinarily only of sufficient size to permit the introduction of a pen. This arrangement and provision of parts precludes to a great extent, and especially in schools, the tampering of the scholars with the ink-well and the ink contained therein, as well as the contamination of the ink or soiling of articles by dipping the same in the ink-well. The entire device because of the improved formation and assemblage of parts is of increased utility and advantages in a wide range of usage and is also simple in construction and inexpensive in manufacture. We do not desire to be understood as limiting ourselves to the details of construction and arrangement as herein described and

illustrated, as it is manifest that variations and modifications may be made in the features of construction and arrangement in the adaptation of the device to various conditions of use without departing from the spirit and scope of our invention and improvements. We therefore reserve the right to all such variation and modification as properly falls within the scope of our invention and the terms of the following claims.

Having thus described our invention, we claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. An improved ink-well, comprising a body portion or ink-reservoir provided with a pivoted main cover adapted in form to close the orifice of the ink-reservoir and provided with a central dipping-opening and a supplemental pivoted cover for the same, and a dished or concave guard arranged within the body portion at the top of the same and provided with an opening in registration with the dipping-opening in the main cover.

2. An improved ink-well, comprising a body portion or ink-reservoir provided with a pivoted main cover adapted in form to close the orifice of the ink-reservoir and provided with a central dipping-opening and with a supplemental pivoted cover for the same, and a dished or concave guard arranged within and at the top of the body portion and provided with an opening in registration with the dipping-opening in the main cover, said guard consisting of a continuous downwardly-slanting flange provided with radially-arranged corrugations forming centrally-tapering grooves whereby the ink is directed to and through the opening in said guard.

In testimony whereof we have signed our names in the presence of the subscribing witnesses.

LOUISE M. DYER.
ADA BYRON COLHOUN.

Witnesses:

J. A. CLARK,
JOHN C. HENDERSON.