

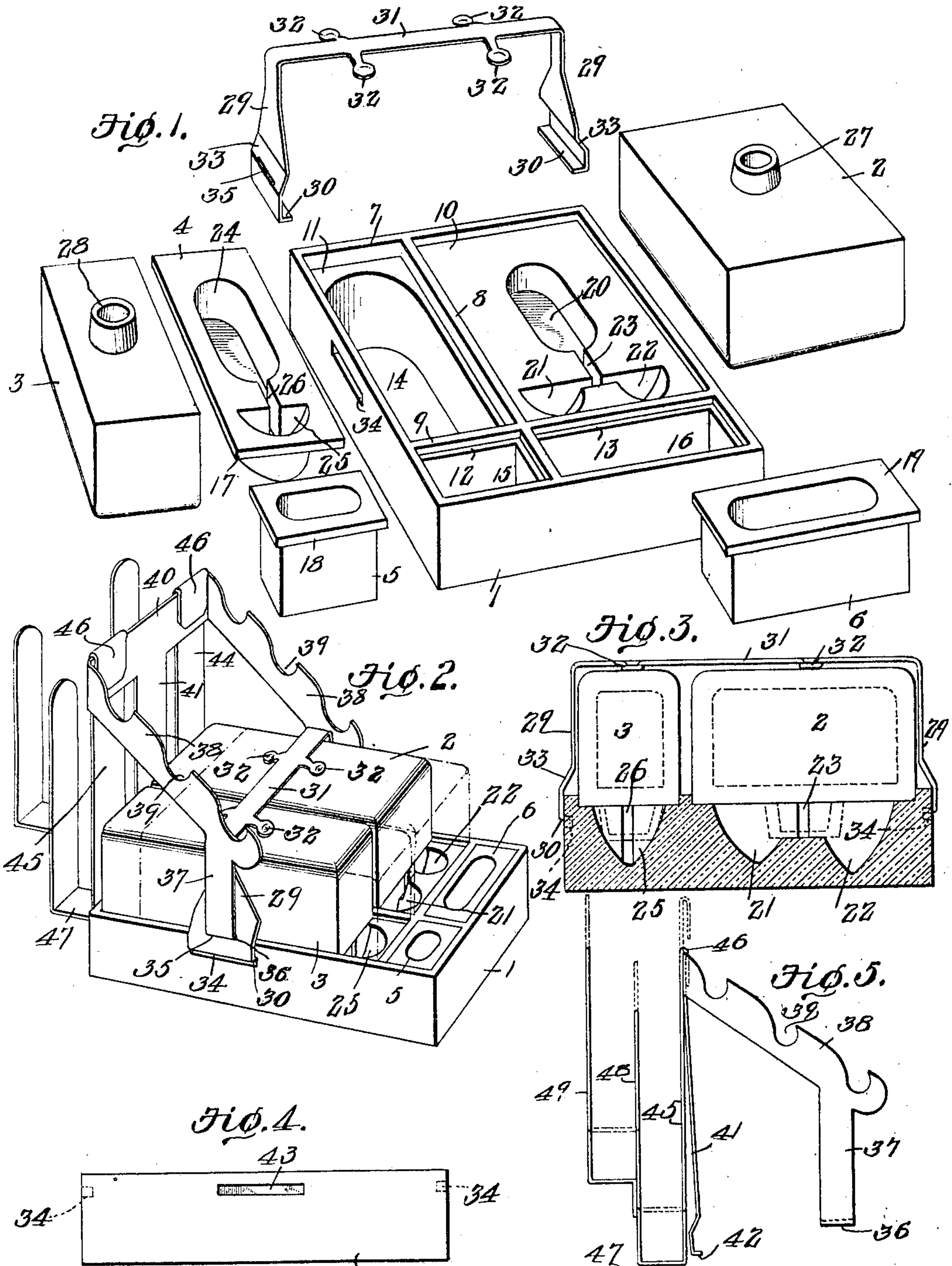
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W. P. SWOPE.

INK WELL.

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WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM P. SWOPE, OF OWENTON, KENTUCKY.

## INK-WELL.

No. 818,581.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented April 24, 1906.

Application filed January 30, 1906. Serial No. 298,674.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM P. SWOPE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Owenton, in the county of Owen and State of Kentucky, have invented a new and useful Ink-Well, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to ink-wells.

The object of the invention is to provide an ink-well having a novel form of reservoir combined therewith which shall perform the dual functions of supplying ink to the well and of closing the same when desired to prevent evaporation or thickening of the ink.

Further objects are to facilitate the filling of the reservoir, to combine it with the base of the ink-well in such manner as while it will be free to have movement relatively thereto it will be held against accidental disconnection therefrom and will positively preclude escape, and thus waste of ink, and to provide a novel form of pen-rack and envelop-and-paper rack which shall be capable of being combined with or removed from the ink-well at will.

With the above and other objects in view, as will appear as the nature of the invention is better understood, the same consists in the novel construction and combination of parts of a reservoir ink-well, as will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and in which like characters of reference indicate corresponding parts, Figure 1 is a collective detail view in perspective of the ink-well and reservoir, showing the parts disconnected. Fig. 2 is a view in perspective with the parts assembled. Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view. Fig. 4 is a view in rear elevation of the end of the base of the ink-well. Fig. 5 is a view in side elevation exhibiting the pen-rack and the envelop-and-paper rack combined therewith.

The base 1, reservoirs 2 and 3, detachable ink-well 4, sponge-cup 5, and pen or pin tray 6 are made of any suitable non-corrosive substance, preferably of glass, porcelain, or the like. The base, which is herein shown as approximately rectangular in form, is provided with a marginal upstanding flange 7, a longitudinal flange 8, and a transverse flange 9, the said flanges being preferably all of the same height and serving to define seats 10, 11, 12, and 13, the seats 10, 12, and 13 being of the same depth and the seat 11 being approximately twice the depth of those first named. The seat 10 is adapted to accom-

modate the ink-reservoir 2, the seat 11 to accommodate the detachable ink-well 4 and ink-reservoir 3, the seat 12 to accommodate the sponge-cup 5, and the seat 13 to accommodate the pen or pin tray 6. In order to adapt the base to have combined with it the ink-well 4, sponge-cup 5, and tray 6, the base is provided with orifices 14, 15, and 16, that extend entirely through it for the purpose. In order to hold the ink-well 4, sponge-cup 5, and tray 6 properly combined with the base, the first-named element is provided with a flange 17, the second with a flange 18, and the third with a flange 19, that are of a size to fit snugly within the seats 11, 12, and 13.

The upper face of the seat 10 is provided with a longitudinally-disposed ink-distributing chamber 20, with two ink-wells or ink-dips 21 and 22, the latter being of greater depth than the former, as shown in Fig. 3, and with a duct 23 connecting the chamber and the wells. The ink-well 4 is provided with a similar ink-distributing chamber 24, with an ink-well or ink-dip 25 and a duct 26 connecting the chamber and the well.

Each of the ink-reservoirs is provided on that side which will be the under one in use with a neck 27 and 28, respectively, that are adapted to work within the ink-distributing chambers 20 and 24, but are of such length as not to contact with the bottom thereof, as clearly shown in Fig. 3.

The seats 10 and 11 are of sufficiently greater length than the reservoirs 2 and 3 as to permit them to be moved backward a sufficient distance to bring their front sides in alinement with the rear walls of the ink-wells, as clearly shown in Fig. 2, thereby permitting the pen readily to be dipped into either one of the wells and when moved outward to a position shown by dotted lines in Fig. 2 to cover the wells. In practice the reservoir 2, which is the larger one, will contain black ink and the reservoir 3 will contain red or any other colored ink. By having the reservoirs movable relatively to the wells it will be seen that when not in use these may be always kept covered, thus to prevent evaporation of the ink or thickening thereof, whereby the ink is conserved, and the utility of the article as a whole is largely enhanced.

To cause the reservoirs 2 and 3 to bear upon the seats 10 and 11 with sufficient force to secure a substantially air-tight juncture between the parts, there is a pressure-exerting member employed, which consists of two



arms 29, having their terminals provided with inturned flanges 30, and a bar 31, connecting the arms and provided with two pairs of oppositely-disposed spring-fingers 32, that  
 5 are adapted to bear upon the upper sides of the reservoirs 2 and 3, respectively. As herein shown, the lower portions of the arms, or those carrying the flanges 30, are broader than the bar and are provided with inset  
 10 bends 33, that are provided for the purpose of permitting the arms to lie close to the outer sides of the two reservoirs, as shown in Fig. 3, thus to cause them always to remain in engagement with the seats 10 and 11. The  
 15 flanges 30 engage lateral seats 34, provided in the sides of the base, and as the pressure-exerting member is made of resilient metal there will be no danger of the parts becoming disconnected in use.

20 Each of the arms 29 adjacent to the flanges is provided with longitudinal slots 35, that are adapted to be engaged by the inturned toes 36, formed on the lower ends of the arms 37 of a pen-rack, which, as shown, is provided  
 25 with two inclined members 38, having pen-holder-seats 39, formed therein. The members 38 are connected by a cross-bar 40, preferably integral therewith, from which depends a member 41, having its lower end pro-  
 30 vided with an inturned flange 42 to engage a seat 43 in the rear end of the base, and by this arrangement the pen-rack is held positively and yet detachably combined with the pressure-exerting member and with the base.

35 As a matter of further and specific improvement there is provided an envelop-and-paper rack, which consists of two members 44 and 45, the upper end of each of which is provided with a clip element 46, adapted by frictional  
 40 engagement with the bar 40 to be held detachably combined therewith. Each member 44 45 has its lower portion bent at right angles to its length, as at 47, and thence parallel with the member 44 45, as at 48, forming in conjunction with the member 44 45 a  
 45 paper-rack. A member 49 is secured to each of the members 48 and forms in conjunction therewith an envelop-rack.

The reason for having the ink-reservoir 4  
 50 detachable is that when the reservoir 3 is to be combined with or positioned upon the base that the latter has to be inverted, and if the reservoir 4 were not detachable when this procedure takes place the ink contained  
 55 therein would flow out.

In positioning the reservoir 2 with the base the former is filled with ink. The base is then inverted. The neck 27 is then placed within the distributing-chamber 20 and fitted snugly in the seat 10, and the base is then  
 60 brought to its normal position, whereupon the ink will feed gradually from the reservoir into the chamber 20, and thence through the duct 23 to the wells 21 and 22. To fill the  
 65 reservoir 3, the same procedure is observed

with the exception that the ink-well 4 is removed from the base.

It will be noted by reference to Fig. 3 that the ink in the two wells will remain at a uniform depth, thus causing the pen to take just  
 70 enough and never too much, the large well being shallow for small pen-points and the small well being deep for large pen-points; but at no time can a pen be dipped deep enough for a point to take up enough of ink  
 75 to cause it to bleed or blot.

It will be seen from the foregoing description that although the improvements herein defined are simple in character they will be  
 80 thoroughly efficient for the purposes designed and will result in the production of an ink-stand that will retain ink in the best possible condition for use and without waste for an extended period.

I claim—

1. An article of the class described comprising a base having ink-wells of different depths, and a superposed ink-reservoir, one of the parts being movable relatively to the other to open or close the wells.

2. An article of the class described comprising a base provided with a plurality of ink-wells of different depths, and a superposed ink-reservoir movable upon the base to open or close the ink-wells.

3. An article of the class described comprising a base provided with an ink-well and with upstanding marginal flanges, a superposed ink-reservoir mounted for longitudinal movement upon the base to cover or uncover  
 100 the ink-well, and being limited in its movements by the flanges, and yielding means for holding the reservoir combined with the base.

4. An article of the class described comprising a base embodying a fixed and a re-  
 105 movable ink-well, and ink-reservoirs superposed upon the base and movable thereon to cover or uncover the ink-wells.

5. An article of the class described comprising a base embodying a plurality of ink-  
 110 wells of different depths, one of which is detachably combined with the base, and superposed ink-reservoirs movable relatively to the base to cover or uncover the ink-wells.

6. An article of the class described comprising a base provided with an ink-well, an ink-reservoir superposed upon the base and movable thereon to cover or uncover the well, a pressure-exerting member coacting with the reservoir and having a detachable  
 120 connection with the base, a pen-rack detachably combined with the pressure-exerting member, and a paper-and-envelop rack detachably combined with the pen-rack.

7. An article of the class described comprising a base provided with an ink-well and with terminal and lateral seats, an ink-reservoir movably mounted upon the base to cover or uncover the ink-well, a pressure-exerting member coacting with the reservoir and hav-  
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ing inward-projecting flanges to engage the lateral seats and having slots adjacent to the flanges, a pen-rack having inward-projecting toes to engage the slots and a flange to engage the terminal seat, and a combined paper-and-envelop rack having clip members to engage with the pen-rack.

8. An article of the class described, comprising a base provided with a plurality of ink-wells, superposed ink-reservoirs movably mounted upon the base to open or close the ink-wells, and a fastening device for securing the reservoirs to the base.

9. An article of the class described com-

prising a base having ink-wells therein and flanges surrounding the wells and extending upward from the base, and a superposed ink-reservoir disposed above each well and held against displacement by the flanges, said reservoirs being detachable from the base to open or close the wells.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses:

WILLIAM P. SWOPE.

Witnesses:

WALTER WILHOITE,  
H. W. ALEXANDER.