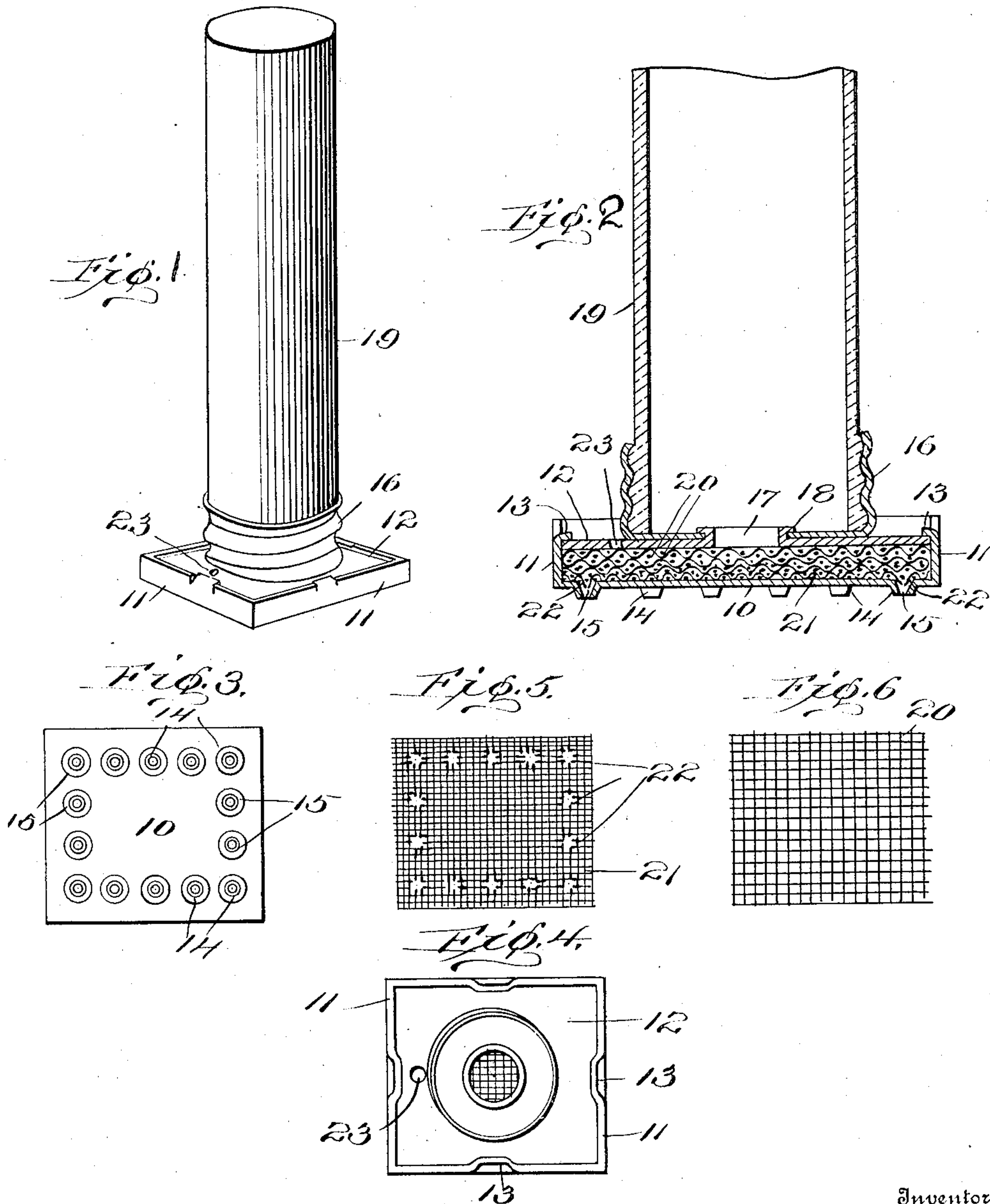


L. W. HOMIRE.
MOISTENING DEVICE.
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940,598.

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Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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MOISTENING DEVICE.

940,598.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 16, 1909.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEVERETT W. HOMIRE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Louisville, in the county of Jefferson and State of Kentucky, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Moistening Devices; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to moistening devices, and has for an object to provide a receptacle having improved means for feeding liquid therefrom to an article in the form of globules.

A further object of the invention is to provide a casing adapted to be secured to a receptacle, the casing being provided with openings surrounded by bosses and with material within the casing adapted to feed liquid from the receptacle to the openings in the form of globules.

With these and other objects in view, the invention comprises certain novel constructions, combinations and arrangements of parts, as will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the drawings:—Figure 1 is a view in perspective of an embodiment of the invention similar to that shown in Fig. 2. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal, diametrical sectional view of one embodiment of the present invention. Fig. 3 is an inverted plan view of the casing. Fig. 4 is a plan view of the case as seen from the top when in operation. Fig. 5 is a plan view of one of the fabric fillers for the casing. Fig. 6 is a plan view of another fabric filler.

Like characters of reference designate corresponding parts throughout the several views.

The invention, forming the subject-matter of this application is capable of practically unlimited embodiments so far as its shape, size and connection with receptacles is concerned and for a great variety of uses.

In the drawings has been illustrated an embodiment of the device adapted to serve as a moistener for the attachment of postage stamps and sealing of envelopes, it being understood that such embodiment is only one of the many, and is here shown simply as representative.

In the embodiment shown a casing is provided comprising a face plate 10 having

sides and ends 11, and a back plate 12 inserted and secured within the sides and ends and substantially in parallelism with the face plate 10 and in any approved manner as by turning down portions of the sides and ends as shown at 13, such means of fastening only being shown as one of the many which may be employed. The face plate 10 is provided with a plurality of downwardly extending bosses 14 formed by punching from the upper side and to produce the openings 15 at the extremities of such bosses.

Upon the top plate 12 means for connecting the casing with the receptacle is provided, here shown as the screw cap 16 and connected with the plate in any approved manner as by a central boss 17 flanged over as at 18 upon the screw cap 16. The fastening means of different style employed attaches the casing to a receptacle here shown as a bottle or vial 19, provided with screw threads for engagement with the screw cap 16, it being understood, however, that any means for connecting the casing with any form or shape of receptacle falls within the scope of the present invention.

Between the face plate 10 and the top plate 12 one or more sheets of gauze fabric or of material provided with a mesh are employed the one nearest to the face plate here shown as 21 being preferably provided with downwardly stamped projections 22 which extend within the bosses 14. Provision is made for introducing air into the casing to permit the fluid in the receptacle to properly flow, such means being here shown as the opening 23, it being understood that the position and relation of the opening to the other parts is not essential as here shown, but that any means for introducing air into the receptacle to permit the flow of fluid is comprehended in the present invention.

To begin operation with the device it is preferable to remove the casing and associate parts from the receptacle and soak the same in the liquid to be employed for some time to thoroughly saturate the fabrics contained in the casing. Such fabrics are preferably wire gauze, although the invention is not limited to such material. After the fabrics have become saturated the receptacle here shown as in the bottle 19 is filled with a liquid and the casing connected therewith by the means provided, here shown as the screw cap 16. The receptacle and casing are

then turned to the position shown at Figs. 1 and 2 whereupon small globules of the liquid are formed at the base of the conoidal bosses 14 and are suspended there until they are approached to an article as to paper, whereupon they are transferred to the paper still in the form of spaced globules and other globules immediately form in their places.

The formation and transmission of the liquid in the form of globules is a very important feature of the present invention as by such means a large number of articles may be moistened, as for instance a large number of envelops, the globule form of the water or other liquid preventing rapid evaporation or absorption thereof, so that though a large number have been moistened the moistening liquid is still retained upon the surface in the form of globules and the stamp or other articles may be applied thereto a considerable time after the operation. Of course, when the stamp or other article is applied the pressure of such article upon the globules causes such liquid contained in such globules to spread and moisten a great portion or all of the surface.

By employing the device for stamping envelops a number of envelops are positioned with the corner exposed to which the stamp is to be applied and the device pressed upon or touching the envelop to transfer the globules suspended upon the bosses 14 to the envelop whereon they stand until the stamp is applied.

The size, form or relation of the parts as here shown is only shown as illustrative of the invention, it being understood that the present invention comprehends any means for transmitting liquid from a receptacle to an article in the form of spaced globules, and mechanism whereby the globules transferred are immediately replaced by other globules.

What I claim is:—

1. In a device of the character described, a liquid receptacle, a casing connected with said receptacle and having a liquid passage-

way connected with the receptacle and apertures for the delivery of water and means contained within said casing for distributing water through said apertures in the form of globules.

2. In a device of the character described, a vertical receptacle having an opening in its bottom, a casing connected with said receptacle and having an opening connected with said opening in the receptacle and having a number of tubular bosses in its bottom and means located in said casing for retarding the flow of liquid through the same and distributing it through said bosses in the form of globules.

3. A casing of the character described consisting of a liquid receptacle, a casing connected and communicating with said liquid receptacle and having a number of openings in its bottom and a gauze like material located in said casing and serving to deliver liquid through said openings in its bottom in the form of globules.

4. In a casing of the character described, a liquid receptacle, a casing connected with and communicating with said liquid receptacle and having a number of openings and layers of reticulated material located in said casing and serving to deliver liquid through the openings in its bottom in the form of globules.

5. In an article of the class described, a receptacle, a casing associated and in communication with the receptacle, bosses formed upon the casing, and providing openings in communication with the casing, a fabric disposed within the casing and dependent within the bosses, said fabric being also in association with the communication between the casing and the receptacle.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

LEVERETT W. HOMIRE.

Witnesses:

JOHN COCHRAN,
Jos. H. MCGILL.