

(No Model.)

C. W. MONROE.

AIR MOISTENER.

No. 343,720.

Patented June 15, 1886.

Fig. 1.

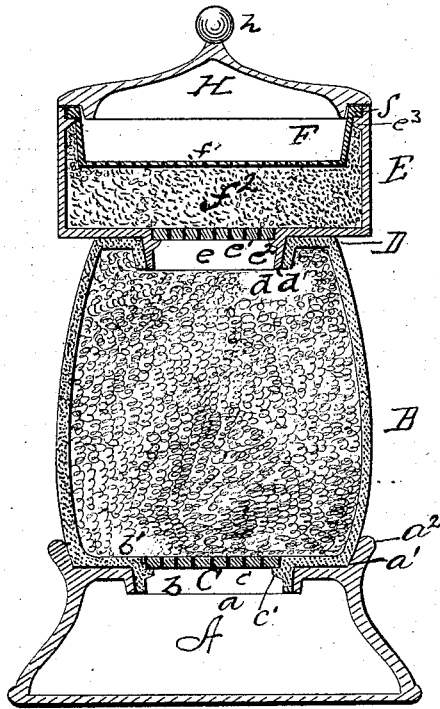


Fig. 2.

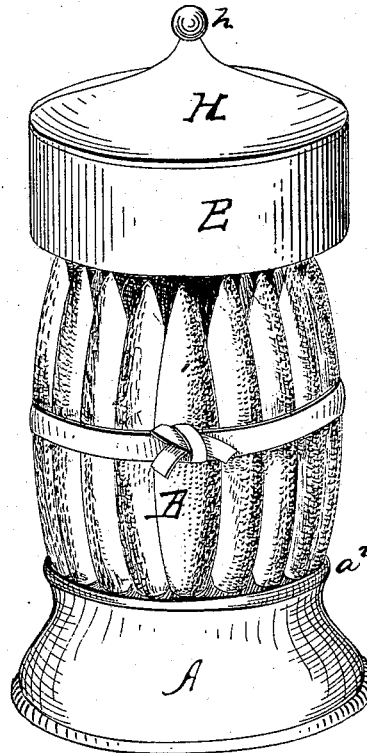


Fig. 3.

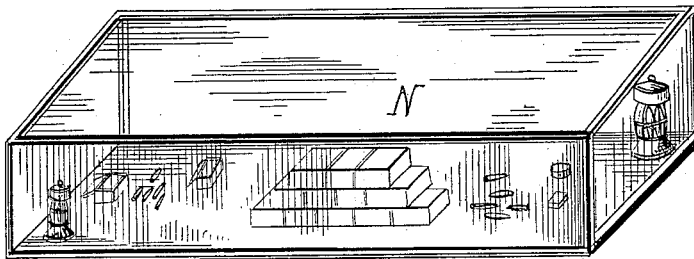
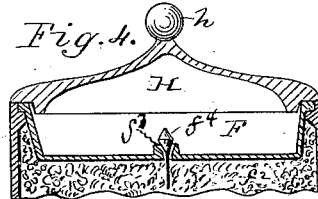


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES
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AIR-MOISTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 343,720, dated June 15, 1886.

Application filed February 20, 1886. Serial No. 192,716. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES W. MONROE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bay City, in the county of Bay and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Air-Moisteners; and I do 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 represents a vertical section of the device; Fig. 2, a perspective view, and Fig. 3 illustrates it in use. Fig. 4 represents a modification.

This invention relates to improvements in air-moisteners or devices for rendering the air moist, and it is primarily intended for use in places where cigars and tobacco are kept.

It is well known that cigars lose their value as they dry, and various ways have been devised for keeping them moist. The best quality are placed in air-tight safes or are wrapped in foil. Sometimes they are periodically steamed or even moistened with water. One of the commonest ways is to place open vessels of water in the cases in which cigars are kept, and also wet sponges are employed. All these ways are open to serious objections. Some of them are costly, some are futile, and some injurious to the cigars. The simplest and most usual ones—the use of sponges or vessel of water—are especially objectionable, particularly in warm weather, as the sponges become sour and the water foul.

It is the object of this invention to produce a device which shall be effective, which is simple and cheap, will dispense with costly safes, and fully and satisfactorily accomplish the desired end.

In the annexed drawings, the letter A indicates a hollow base made of non-porous or water-tight material. In the top of this base is the central hole, *a*, around which is the seat *a'*, and beyond it is a rim, *a''*. Resting on this base A is a reservoir of porous ware, B. This reservoir has a neck, *b*, snugly fitting the hole *a*, and the bottom *b'* of the reservoir rests on the seat *a'* within the rim *a''*, the reservoir being thus

firmly held to the base A. In the bottom the reservoir has an opening, *c*, concentric with its neck *b*, which neck is hollow, and in this opening *c* is placed a sieve, C, resting on a bead, *c'*, or projections. The top D of the reservoir has a central hole, *d*, and an inwardly-projecting lip, *d'*, around such hole. This reservoir is to be filled with some substance—such as mineral wool—through which water will slowly percolate. If desired, this reservoir may be made in two parts and of some appropriate design, such as a bunch of cigars, as in Fig. 3.

On top of the reservoir rests the cover E. This is a hollow receptacle having a neck, *e*, to fit the hole *d*, and also a sieve, *e'*, at such neck resting on the bead *e''*. At the top this cover has an inward lip, *e'*, on which rests the outward rim, *f*, of a pan, F. This pan has a perforated bottom, *f'*, and rests on filtering material *f''* within the cover, the cover being made of non-porous or water-tight material. On top of the cover, over the pan, is a lid, H, having the handle *h*. The various parts of this device are preferably circular.

In use the pan F is filled with water, the lid put on, and the moistener placed where it is wanted—say in the show-case N. As the water trickles through the bottom of the pan, it passes through the filtering material and among the wool in the reservoir. As it spreads here and reaches the shell, it gradually seeps or oozes through the porous material, and tends to form a watery film on the outside; but as fast as the water comes out it is evaporated, and passes as moisture into the air in the case, and from this is absorbed by the cigars and tobacco in the case, and the greater the absorption the greater the evaporation from the surface and the greater the amount of ooze, and conversely. The surplus water that percolates down through the mineral wool runs into the base A, and can be used over again.

This device thus furnishes a constant supply of just sufficient pure water to give the tobacco the proper amount of moisture without wetting it too much and without exposing the device to any taint.

The device can be used constantly, and needs no attention except refilling with water and at rare intervals renewing the filter.

In Fig. 4 the pan F is shown with only one perforation f^3 , and this is closed with a valve, f^4 , the construction and operation being like that of a "student's lamp." By this latter construction the water only flows from the pan F as it is consumed below.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

1. A device for moistening air, consisting of
10 a non-porous cover having a perforated bottom, a non-porous base having an opening in its top, and a porous reservoir having an opening in its top and bottom and adapted to contain mineral wool, as set forth.
- 15 2. A device for moistening air, consisting of a non-porous cover having a perforated bottom and containing a water-receptacle having a perforated bottom, and between the bottom of the receptacle and its own bottom filtering material, a non-porous base having an opening in
20 its top, and a porous reservoir having an open-

ing in its top and a perforated bottom and containing mineral wool, as set forth.

3. A device for moistening air, consisting of a porous reservoir having an open top and a
25 non-porous cover having a perforated bottom, above which bottom is filtering material, and above this a perforated pan or receptacle for water, as set forth.

4. A device for moistening air, consisting of
30 a porous reservoir having an open top and containing mineral wool and a non-porous cover having a perforated bottom, above which bottom is filtering material, and above this a perforated pan or receptacle for water, as set forth.
35

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

CHARLES W. MONROE.

Witnesses:

A. H. INGRAHAM,
F. E. HEMENWAY.