No. 650,204. Patented May 22, 1900.

M. TILDEN.

INKING PAD.

(Application filed Jan. 24, 1900.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

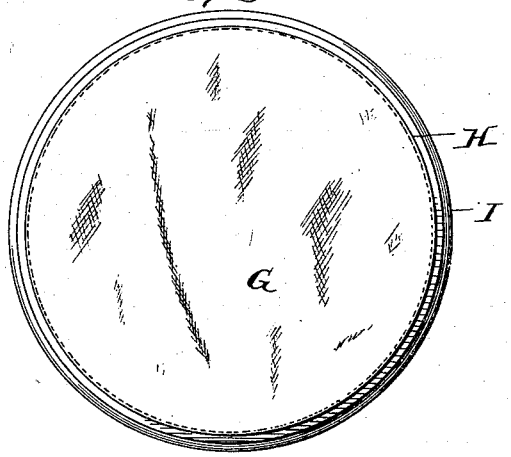


Fig. 2.

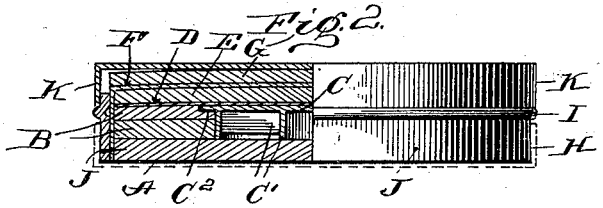


Fig. 3.

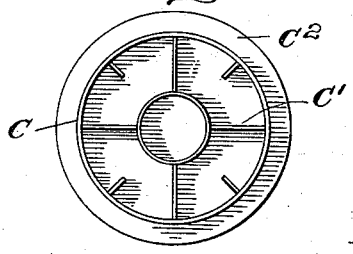


Fig. 4.

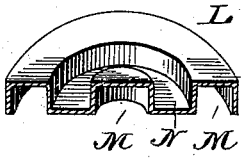
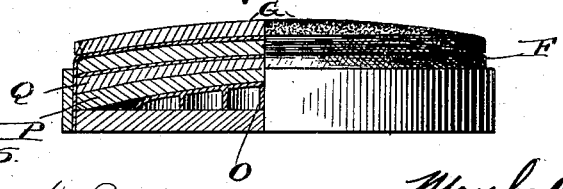


Fig. 5.



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARSHALL TILDEN, OF WILLIMANTIC, CONNECTICUT.

INKING-PAD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 650,204, dated May 22, 1900.

Application filed January 24, 1900. Serial No. 2,654. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARSHALL TILDEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Willimantic, in the county of Windham and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Inking-Pads; 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 pads intended for inking dating-stamps and the like.

The object of the invention is to produce a durable and inexpensive pad capable of effectively inking the stamp and which, further, is elastic enough to obviate disagreeable jarring of the hand and arm of the user and which is incapable of injuring the stamp however carelessly the pad may be struck therewith. So far as I am aware pads heretofore in use do not possess all these desirable features. For example, pads consisting largely of gelatin are not durable and, besides, they are affected by winter and summer temperatures.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view of the pad, the cover being removed. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same with the cover in place and with the left half of the figure in radial vertical section. Fig. 3 is a bottom view of a certain pneumatic cushion. Fig. 4 is a perspective view, partly in section, showing a modified construction of the cushion. Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 2, showing modifications.

In the views, A designates a plane base of wood, and B B rings of wool felt or the like, equal in diameter to the base and resting thereon.

C is an inverted cup of elastic rubber divided into cells by partitions C′, the cells being closed by resting upon the base and the cup itself filling the space within the rings and being provided with a marginal flange C^2, resting upon the rings aforesaid. Upon the rings and cup rests a disk of oil-silk D, and upon this rests a disk E of wool felt or the like. Upon the latter disk rests a sheet F of cloth or canvas, preferably coated with or saturated with shellac or the like substance not readily affected by ink and adapted to render the cloth impervious to liquids. Upon this cloth rests a disk of ink-carrying wool felt G in position to register with the disks below and secured in place by being stitched to the cloth F very near its own margin. The sheet of cloth is materially larger than the disks and is carried down on all sides of the disks and base below it. A ring H, provided with a circumferential bead I somewhat above its middle, is pushed down over the whole to the position shown in Fig. 2, and the cloth being drawn downward on all sides, so as to render the whole upper surface of the pad slightly convex, is cut off at the lower side of the base, and both it and the ring are secured to the base by any suitable means—for example, by nails J.

To fit the pads for shipment, the upper part is inclosed by a cover K, which rests upon the rib I. When the pad is to be used, the cover is removed and inverted and the pad is placed within it, as suggested in dotted lines in Fig. 2.

Instead of using the cup C, I may employ a corrugated cup L of the same material, the corrugations giving downwardly-open cells M and upwardly-open cells N, the number of corrugations depending on the size of the pad and the radial partitions of the other form being used or omitted at pleasure.

In using a pad of this kind nine-tenths of the wear comes upon the central portion of the pad, or, in other words, the stamp usually strikes immediately over the pneumatic cushion. When it so strikes, the air is forced out of the cushion beneath the edges of the cells, giving great elasticity, and the next instant it returns, restoring the pad to its normal form. I have found that practically this construction gives a much better result than can be obtained when the cells are closed, so that the air cannot escape. The inks usually employed upon such pads very quickly destroy rubber; but owing to the location of the rubber in this pad no ink ever reaches it. It is to be noted that the cloth layer F being impervious to ink, or nearly so, very little ink reaches any parts inclosed by the cloth. Should any ink pass within, it is arrested above the cushion by the oil-silk, and on the sides it must saturate the wide felt rings before it can affect the rubber. It is further to

be noted that the pad has no metal or other substance hard enough to injure the type in any position where it can possibly be struck by the stamp, and of course the stitching above mentioned being done with textile threads it is no more likely to injure the stamp than any other portion of the upper disk. Even the band H is preferably made of leather, so that should it be struck, which would hardly be possible, since its margin is far below the upper face of the pad, no possible injury could result.

So long as the special elastic cushion is in the middle only of the pad it is obviously of minor importance whether the construction be as shown in Figs. 2, 3, or 4. For example, it may be as in Fig. 5, where the cushion O is made inclined from the middle outward and downward to the base. In such case the felt rings may be replaced by complete disks P Q, laid over the cushion.

Whatever the specific construction adopted it is important that the central portion of the ink-carrying layer rest upon or be supported by a substantially distinct or independent elastic cushion not extending to the margins of the pad, for by this means the pad is made very elastic at the center, where it is usually struck by the stamp, and at the same time the cushion itself is protected from injury by blows or by the ink, which quickly attacks any material of which the cushion may be composed.

What I claim is—

1. In an inking-pad, an ink-carrying layer resting on a suitable support at the margins, and on an independent elastic cushion at the center.

2. The combination with a suitable base, of elastic material resting upon the base, canvas passing over said material extending downward upon all sides thereof and firmly secured to the base, and an ink-carrying layer of wool felt or the like resting upon the central portion of the canvas and having its margin stitched thereto, substantially as set forth.

3. In an inking-pad, the combination with a suitable base, of an elastic ring resting thereon, a pneumatic cushion of rubber or the like filling the space within said ring and made up of open cells, and a layer of ink-carrying material supported marginally by said rings and centrally by said cushion.

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

MARSHALL TILDEN.

Witnesses:
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ALEXANDER S. STEUART.