

A. H. ALLEN.

Opera Chair.

No. 12,017.

Patented Dec. 5, 1854.

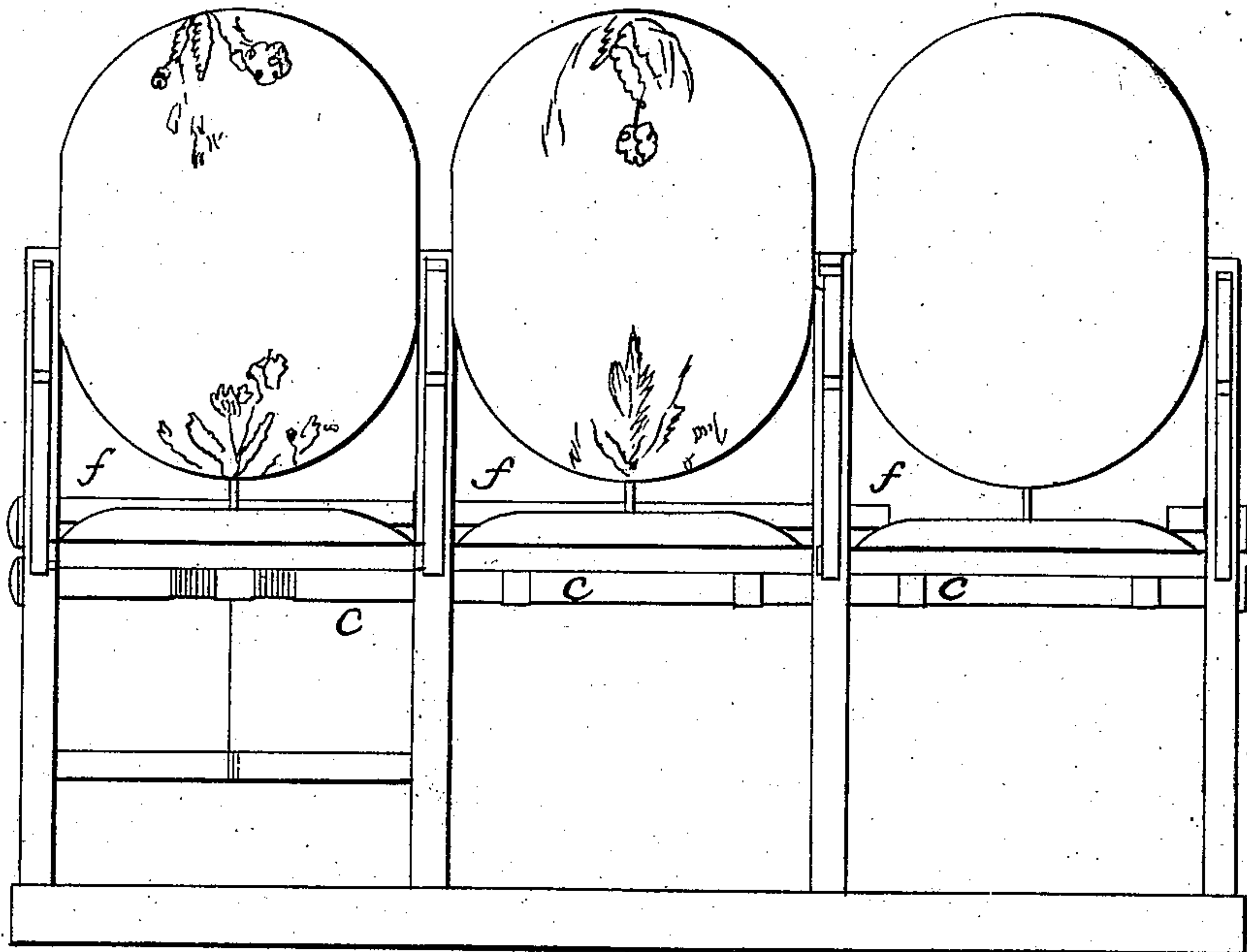


FIG. 1

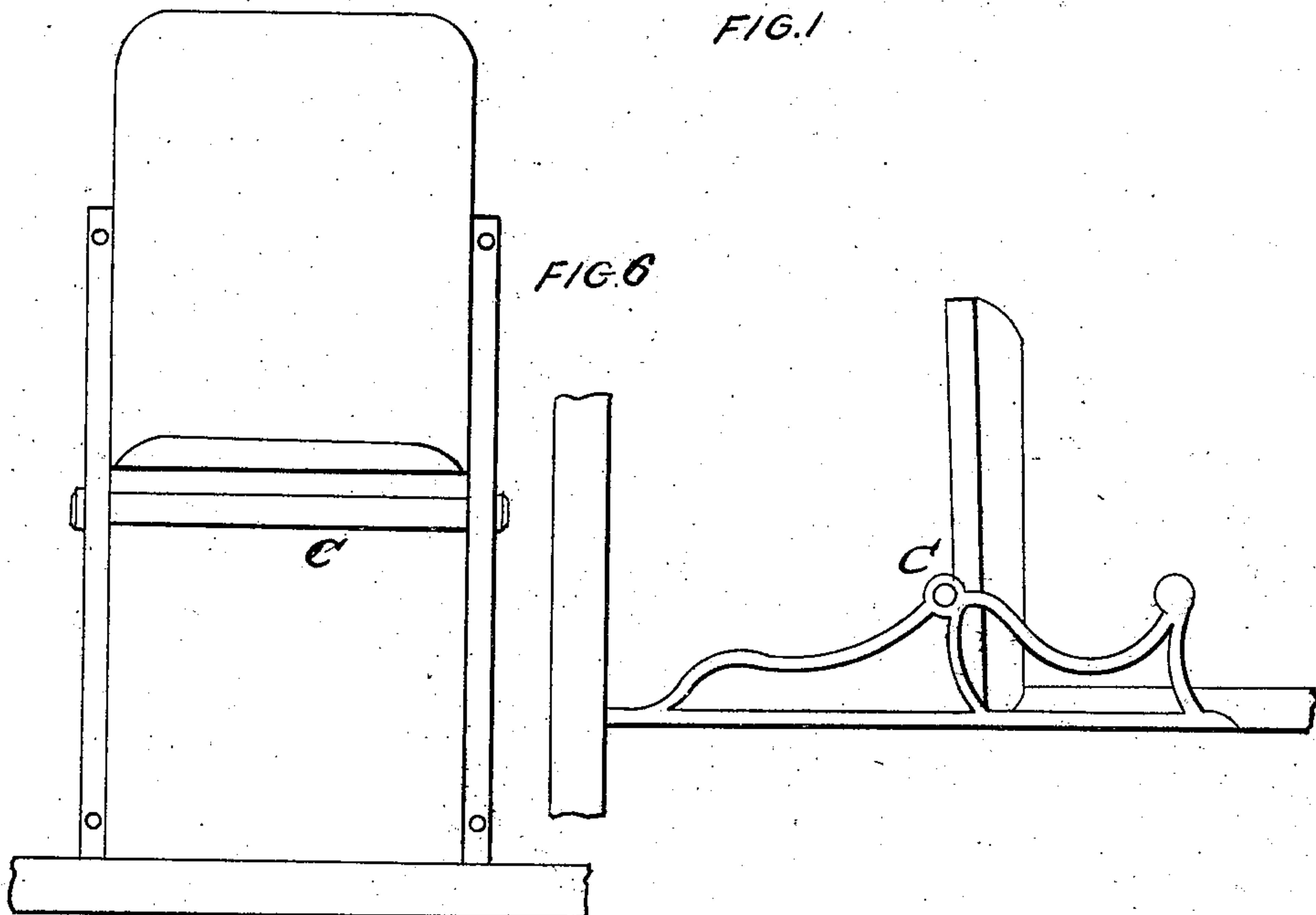


FIG. 6

WITNESSES

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3 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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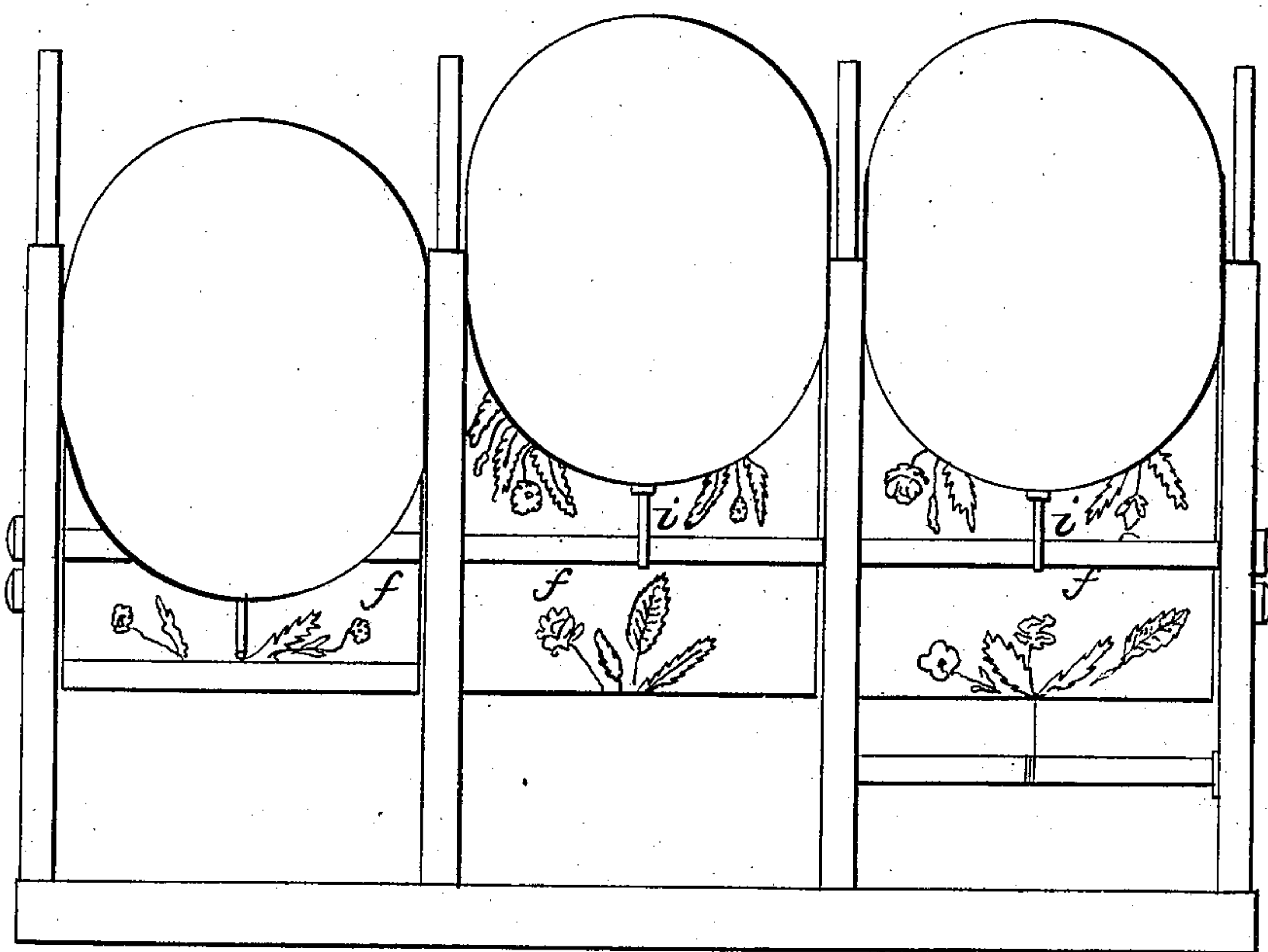
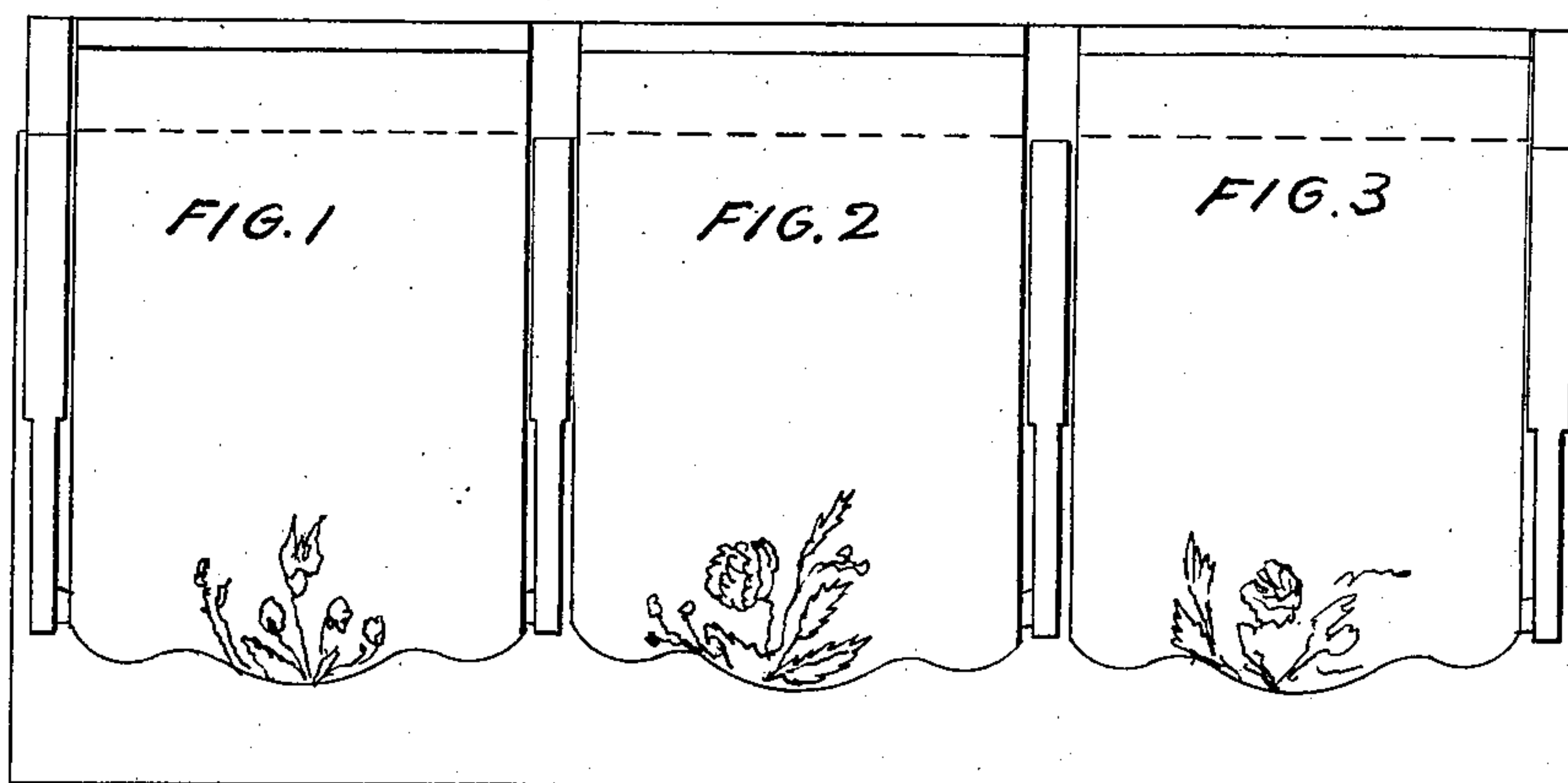


FIG. 2.



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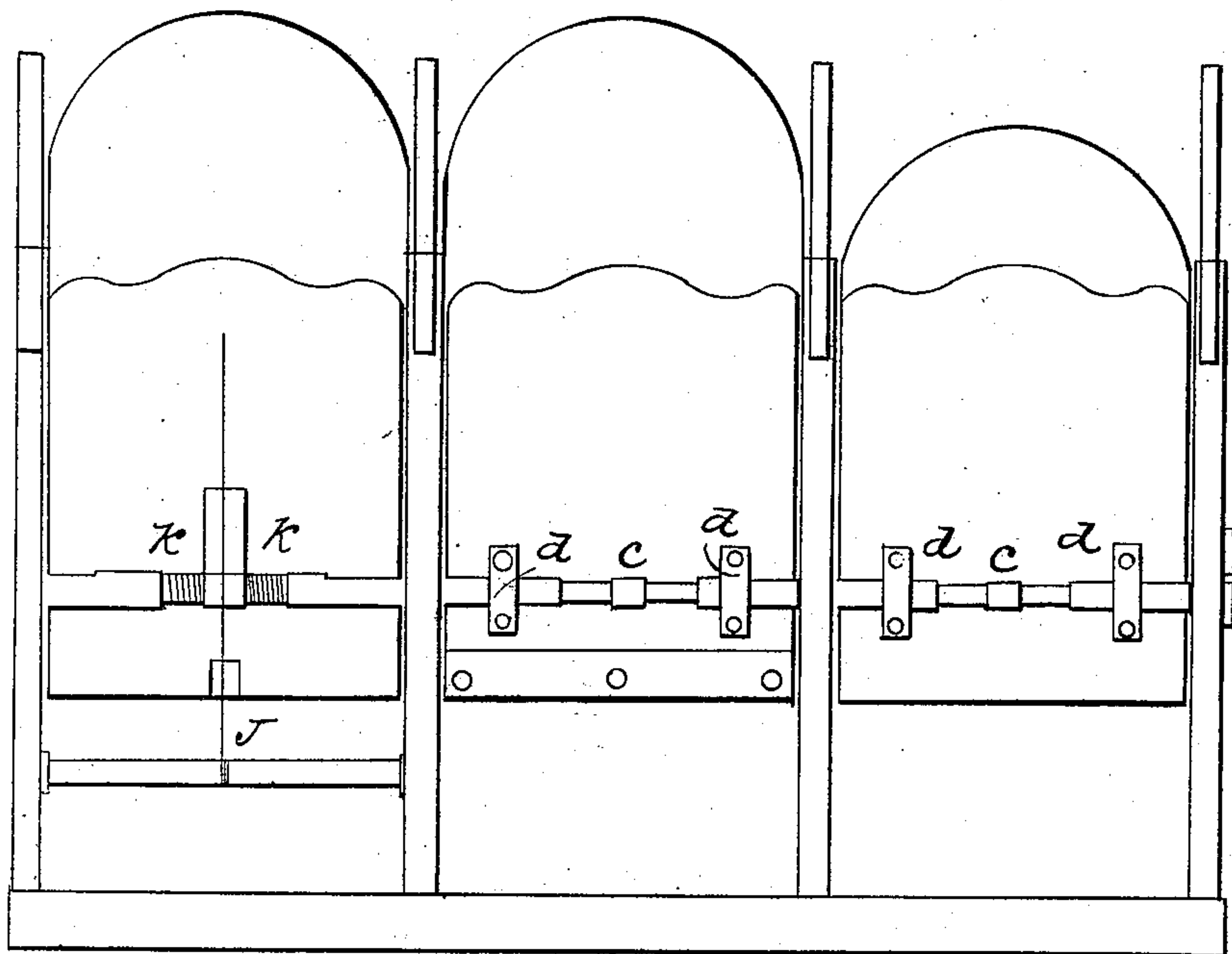


FIG. 3.

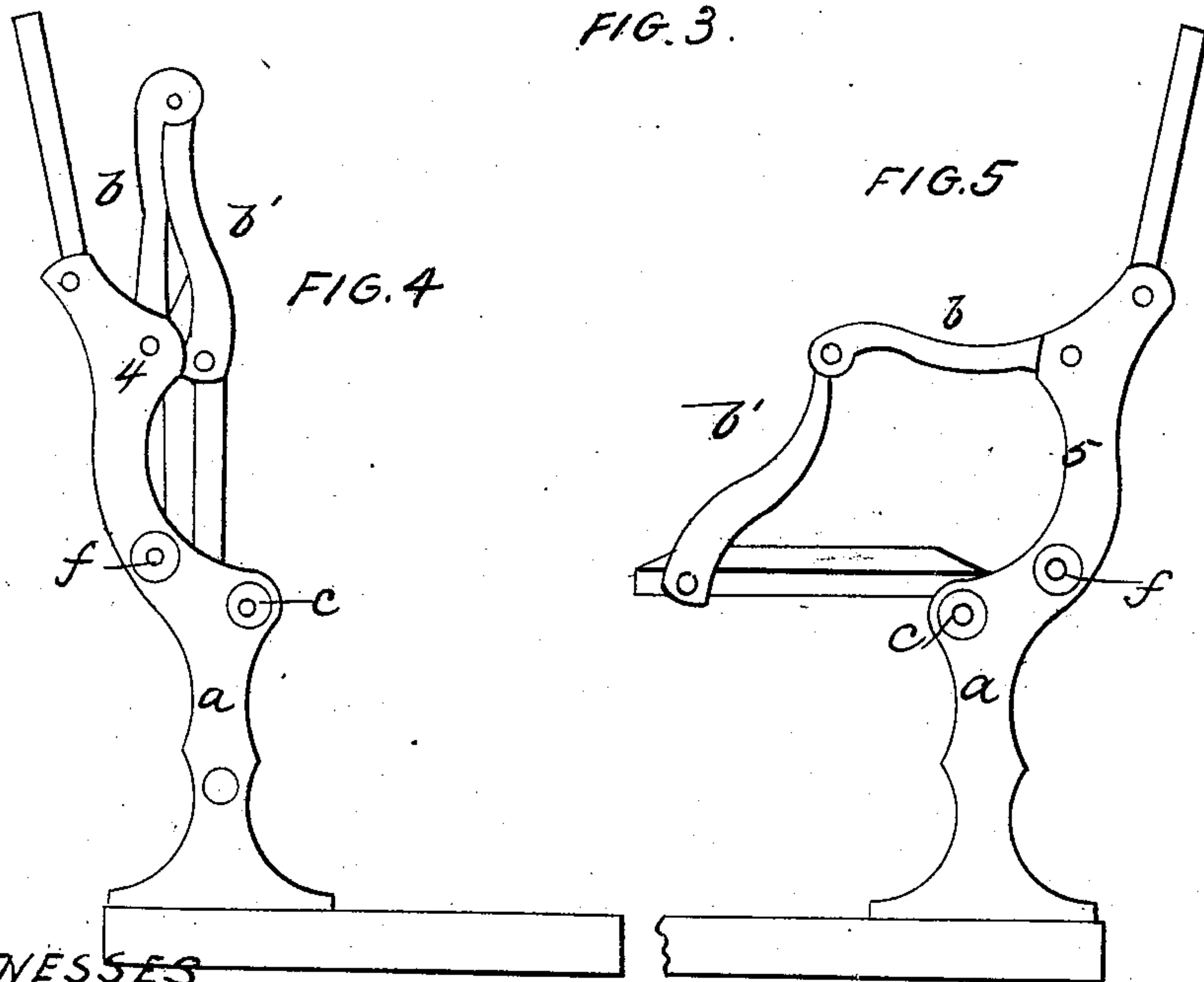


FIG. 4

FIG. 5

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

AARON H. ALLEN, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

## SEAT FOR PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 12,017, dated December 5, 1854; Reissued January 15, 1861, No. 1,126.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, AARON H. ALLEN, of the city of Boston, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have invented a new and Improved Self-Adjusting Opera-Seat; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof.

The standard is formed as shown in the drawings Figures 4, 5 and marked *a*, *a*, and secured to the floor like those now in use except that at that part to which the arm is attached there is a mortise or slotch to receive the end of the jointed arm hereinafter described.

The arm is formed of two pieces, a rest or arm piece marked *b*, *b*, in Figs. 4, 5, and a standard marked *b'* *b'* joined together at the scroll and by a pin forming a joint and serving is a pivot. The lower end of this standard, is attached to the seat by a pin which also serves as a pivot. The other end of the arm piece is inserted in the mortise or slotch in the standard before described and secured therein by a pin passing through it and serving as a pivot, thus allowing the end of the seat to rise and fall as hereinafter described. These several attachments may also be made by hinges or other analogous devices.

The seat is hung on a shaft extending from one standard to the other, see Figs. 1, and 3, and marked (C) by means of metal straps bent around the shaft and secured at the ends to the seat by bolts or screws, as shown in the drawings and marked *d*, Fig. 3. The seat is thus allowed to rise and fall around this shaft as a center, the seat is connected with the shaft as before described at about one third of the distance from the back end. There is another shaft, see Figs. 1, & 2, *f*, *f*, extending from one standard to the other, and far enough above and back of the one just described to admit of the back end of the seat resting and pressing upward against it when the seat is in a horizontal position, by means of which the seat receives and sustains the weight of the body when in use thus dispensing with a support or standard at the other end.

There is attached to the back end of the seat a weight see drawings Fig. 3, and marked (*e*) so that when the seat is relieved of the pressure upon it, it will rise from the horizontal to the vertical position as seen on Fig. 4. This end may be accomplished by springs instead of weights, in which case the spring may be formed around or upon the shaft spiral or otherwise, as shown in Fig. 3, and marked K, K.

Instead of the spring or weight, and to accomplish the aforesaid result the back of the seat may be weighted and allowed to move upward and downward in a groove formed in the standard by a pin projecting from each side of it into this groove—and the lower end of the back attached to the back end of the seat by hinges or analagous devices or it may rest upon it without being attached thereto, so that the back being heavier than that part of the seat extending beyond the shaft, C, Fig. 1, will when the seat is relieved of the pressure upon it, fall until the pin before mentioned rests upon the lower end of the groove and thus cause the seat to rise as before set forth.

When the weight or spring is used as in Fig. 3, *e*, *k*, the back is suspended and attached to the standard by a pin on each side projecting from it about midway—allowing it to move on it as a pivot the lower end of the back is attached to the shaft, *f*, Fig. 2, by a spring *i*, thus retaining it in its place when not in use and by its flexibility making it adjustable and yielding to the movement of the body.

For additional support to the seat a brace may be formed upon the shaft or foot rest shown in Fig. 3, extending from it to a bar or slide on the under part of the seat and attached to it as shown in the drawings and marked J, Fig. 3. For this purpose also the standard of the arm may be extended so as to rest on the floor when the seat is in the horizontal position. The standard may be made as shown in Fig. 6, and the jointed arm dispensed with.

When there are a series of seats in a row the continuous shaft is made by forming on

the end of one a screw passing through the standard into a thread formed in the end of the other contiguous to it to receive it.

Now what I claim as my invention and wish to secure by Letters Patent is—

The seat constructed hung and adjusted substantially as hereinbefore described so as to assume and retain the vertical position when not in use, whether by means of the weight or spring or sliding back con-

nected and supported by means of the shafts F' in Figs. 1 and 2 or by pins or other analogous devices for the connection and support of the seats, substantially as before described.

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Witnesses:

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JAS. B. RORR.

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