

W. Staehlen,

Spittoon,

No 20,451,

Patented June 1, 1858.

Fig. 1.

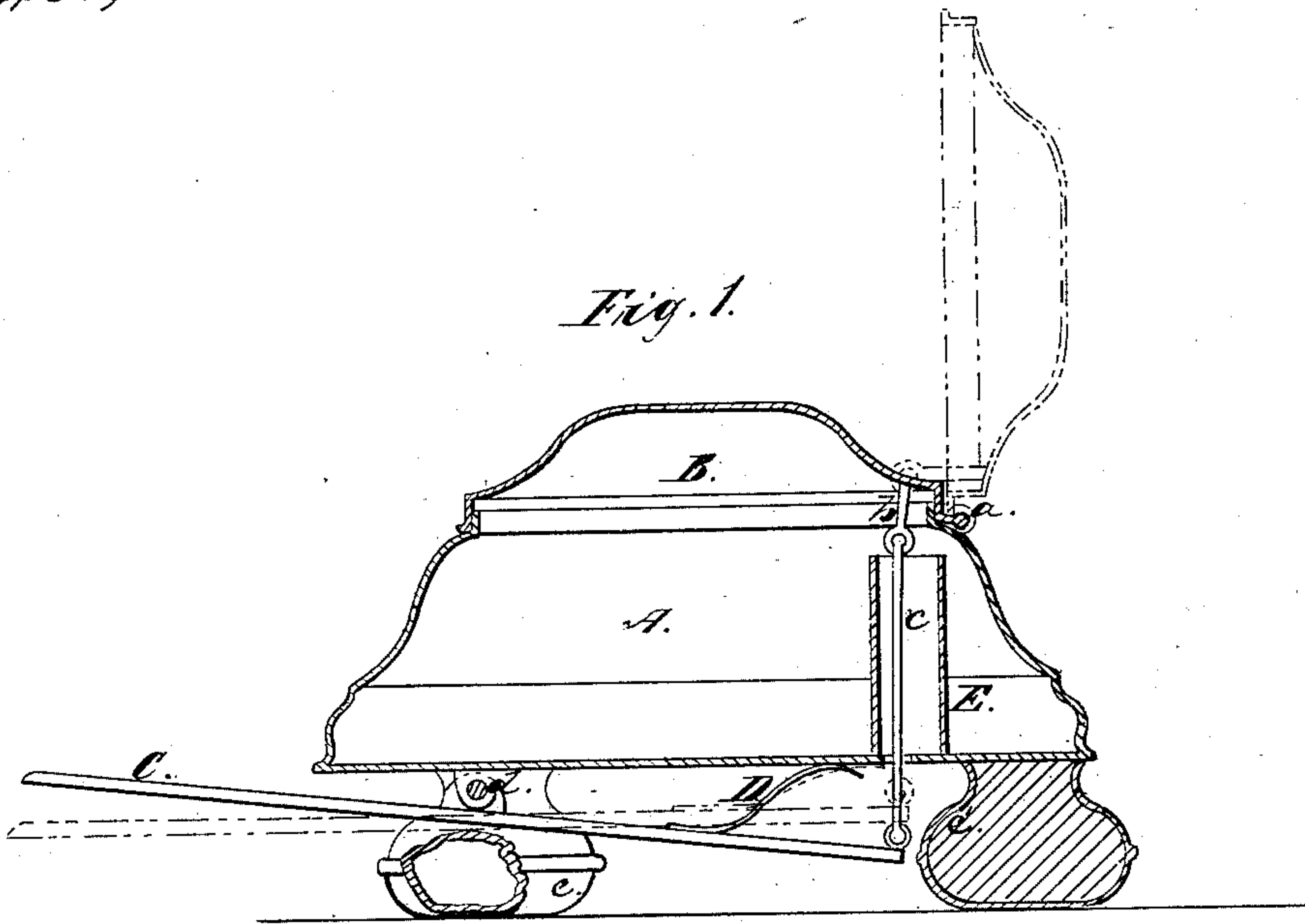
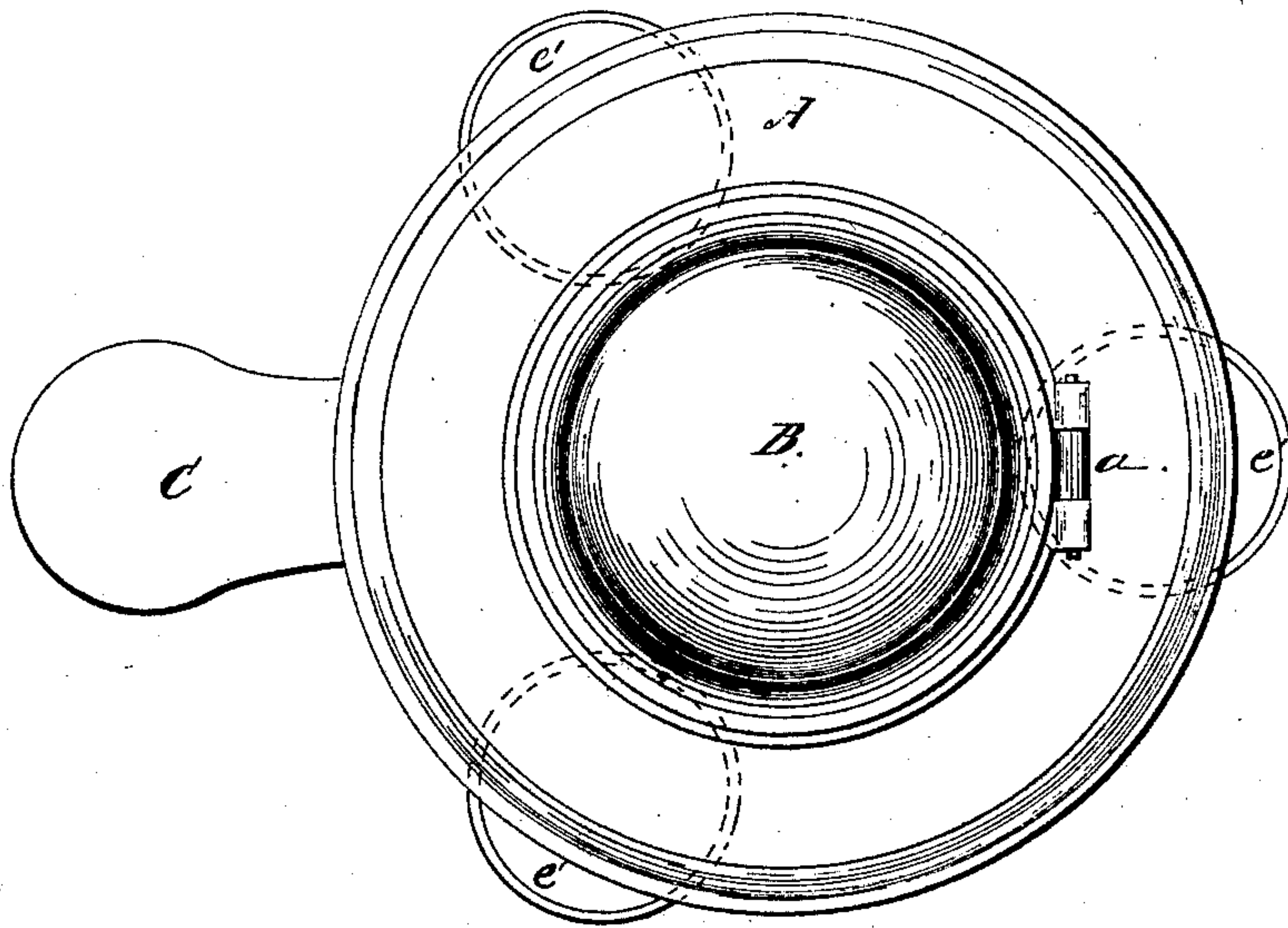


Fig. 2.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

W. STAEHLEN, OF WILLIAMSBURG, NEW YORK.

SPITTOON.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 20,451, dated June 1, 1858.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM STAEHLEN, of Williamsburg, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Spittoons; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a vertical central section of my improvement. Fig. 2 is a plan or top view of the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both figures.

This invention consists in having the treadle of the spittoon which actuates its lid so placed relatively with a loaded base, that the spittoon will be prevented from upsetting when the treadle is depressed by the foot for the purpose of raising the lid.

To enable others to fully understand and construct my invention, I will proceed to describe it.

A, represents the body of the spittoon, which is of circular or oval form, it being formed of sheet metal and "spun" into the desired shape.

B, is the cover, which is connected to the body A, by a joint or hinge *a*.

To the underside of the cover B, and near its hinge or joint, a pendant *b*, is attached. This pendant has an eye formed at its end, and a rod *c*, is connected therewith, said rod having a hook formed at its upper end, which hook passes through the eye, as seen in Fig. 1. The lower end of rod *c* is connected in a similar way to the inner end of a treadle C, which has its fulcrum at *d*. The outer end of the treadle extends sufficiently far beyond the side of the spittoon so that the foot may act readily upon it.

D, is a spring which is attached to the upper surface of the treadle, the upper end of said spring bearing against the under side of the spittoon.

E, is a vertical tube which is fitted within the spittoon. This tube incloses the rod *c*, and extends upward nearly to the top of the spittoon, a hole being made through the bottom of the spittoon, within the tube, to allow rod *c* to pass through.

The body A, of the spittoon is provided with three knobs *e*, *e*, *e'*, which serve as feet and are attached to its bottom at equal distances apart. The knob *e'*, is nearly in line with or directly below the hinge *a*, and it is loaded or filled with lead or other weighty substance. The other knobs *e*, *e*, are empty or hollow.

The lid or cover B, is sufficiently heavy to keep closed by its own gravity when not otherwise acted upon, the spring D being sufficiently strong to keep down the inner end of the treadle C, and to assist in keeping closed the cover B.

When a person desires to use the spittoon he places his foot on the treadle C, depresses its outer end, and the inner end will consequently be elevated, the spring D, compressed and the cover B raised, as shown in red outline in Fig. 1. When the foot is withdrawn from the treadle, the lid or cover B closes by its own gravity, assisted by the spring D.

In consequence of having the foot *e'*, loaded as described, and the fulcrum *d*, of the treadle placed at the side of the bottom of the spittoon opposite to the foot *e'*, the spittoon is prevented from being upset when the treadle is depressed, for the fulcrum *d*, is placed at the greatest distance from the foot *e'*, so that the least possible degree of leverage power is exerted upon the spittoon to overthrow it. This contingency would otherwise be liable to occur, owing to the resistance offered to the treadle by the weight of the cover and the friction of the working parts.

I do not claim a lid attached to the spittoon, and so arranged as to be actuated by a treadle, for such device has been previously used or applied to spittoons; but

I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:—

Arranging the treadle C, relatively with the loaded base or foot *e'*, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

WILLIAM STAEHLEN.

Witnesses:

C. S. NEWELL,
R. BOEKLER.