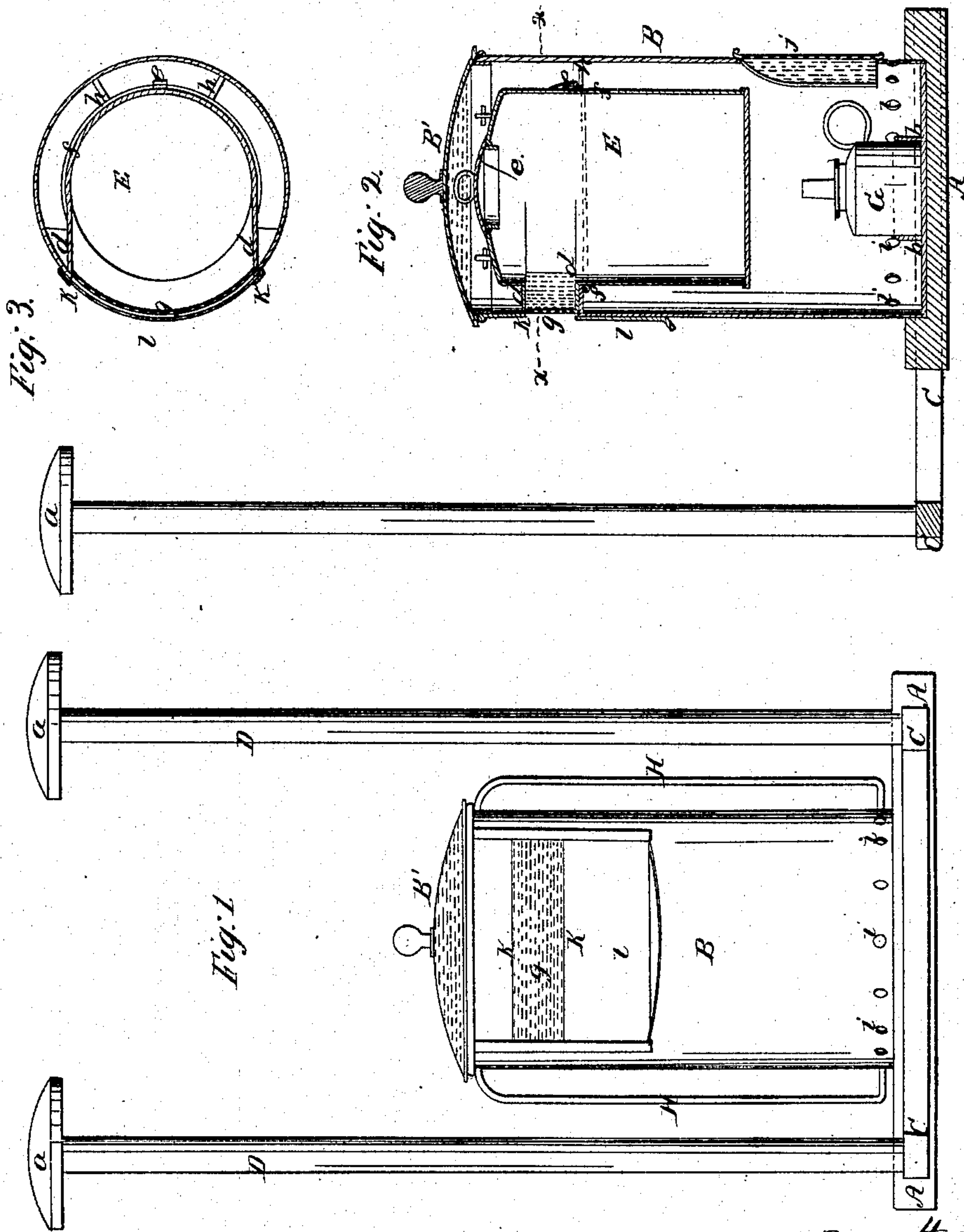


# S. E. Payson, Vapor Bath.

N<sup>o</sup> 36,856.

Patented Nov. 4, 1862.



Witnesses;  
J. W. Coombs  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SARAH E. PAYSON, OF PETERBOROUGH, NEW HAMPSHIRE.

## IMPROVEMENT IN VAPOR BATHS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 36,856, dated November 4, 1862.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, SARAH E. PAYSON, of Peterborough, in the county of Hillsborough and State of New Hampshire, have invented a new and useful Apparatus for Converting a Bed into a Vapor Bath; 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, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a front view of the apparatus. Fig. 2 is a central vertical section of the same at right angles to Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a horizontal section of the boiler and its case in the plane indicated by the line *xx* in Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures.

The object of my invention is twofold—viz., first, to enable a vapor-bath to be administered in a bed without changing the position of a sick patient, and, second, to obtain an apparatus for administering such a bath so inexpensive as to bring it within the reach of nearly all classes, and which enables the bath to be taken as a luxury without the aid of a second person.

The invention consists in an apparatus composed of a boiler and lamp inclosed within a suitable casing, to which the boiler is fitted in such a manner as to provide for the escape of the vapor through a suitable perforated or reticulated medium, the whole being placed upon a suitable base, in which is provided suitable supports for the upper bedclothes, that when the apparatus is placed in a bed between the mattress and the upper clothes or covering the said clothes or covering may be kept out of contact with the patient, and also prevented from interfering with the evaporation or the elimination of the vapors, and the aforesaid casing being furnished with suitable means of confining the said clothes or covering to its sides to make it form, in combination with the mattress, a vapor bath of convenient form and size.

To enable others to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

A is a flat board or base, of convenient size, having provided in it a circular recess for the reception of the bottom of an upright cylindrical case, B, of sheet metal, and having fitted to its bottom a sliding frame, C, in which are

secured firmly two upright pillars or standards, D D, having broad round heads *a a*, for the support of the bed clothing or covering. The casing B is intended for the reception of the boiler E and the spirit or other lamp G, which is placed under it to supply the heat necessary for the generation of the vapor. The lamp is fitted to a suitable seat, *b b*, provided for it on the bottom of the casing. The boiler E consists of a cylindrical kettle with movable cover *c*, for filling it, and having a broad projecting mouth-piece, *d*, in front and near the top, for the issue of the vapor, the said mouth-piece being fitted with a perforated plate, *g*, or with wire-gauze, to cause an equable or nearly equable distribution of the vapors from all parts of it, and the said boiler is provided at its back with a projection, *e*, which, as well as the mouth-piece *d*, rests on a metal ring, *f*, which is secured to the interior of the casing B by arms *h h*, for the reception and support of the boiler, such mode of support providing for an upward circulation of the air and heated products of combustion from the lamp. In the lower part of the casing B there are holes *i i*, for the admission of air to supply oxygen to the lamp, and the door *j*, which is provided in the back of the said casing for the introduction and removal of the lamp, is perforated for the same purpose. Opposite to the proper position of the mouth-piece *d* there is provided in the case B an opening, *k*, to correspond with the said mouth-piece, and this opening is fitted with an adjustable slide, *l*, to regulate the issue of vapor. The cover B' of the casing B is movable for the introduction of the boiler, and is perforated for the escape of the deoxygenated air and gaseous products of combustion from the lamp.

H H are two bars, attached at their upper and lower ends to the sides of the casing B, near the top and bottom thereof. These rods serve both as handles by which to carry and move the casing with the lamp and boiler, and also for securing the bedclothes.

To operate the apparatus, the boiler is filled with water to a suitable height and the lamp lighted, and when the water is hot enough the apparatus is placed at the foot of the bed on the mattress and between the sheets or under the upper clothes or covering, with the standards D D toward the head and at a suitable or convenient distance from the casing. The up-



per clothes are then drawn over the standards and between the bars H H and the sides of the casing and tucked closely both at the foot and sides and around the shoulders of the patient, leaving only the head and face uncovered. Care must be taken not to let the clothes cover closely either the top or back of the casing. When the clothes are thus secured, they combine with the mattress to form a bath, into which the vapor issues through the perforated plate or wire-gauze *g*.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination of a boiler, a lamp, a surrounding and supporting casing, a suitable base, and standards D D, for the support of the upper bed clothes or covering, substantially as and for the purpose herein specified.

2. The combination, with the boiler, lamp, casing, and standards, of bars H H, attached to the sides of the casing, substantially as and for the purpose herein set forth.

SARAH E. PAYSON.

Witnesses:

GEO. A. PAYSON,

ANNE R. PAYSON.