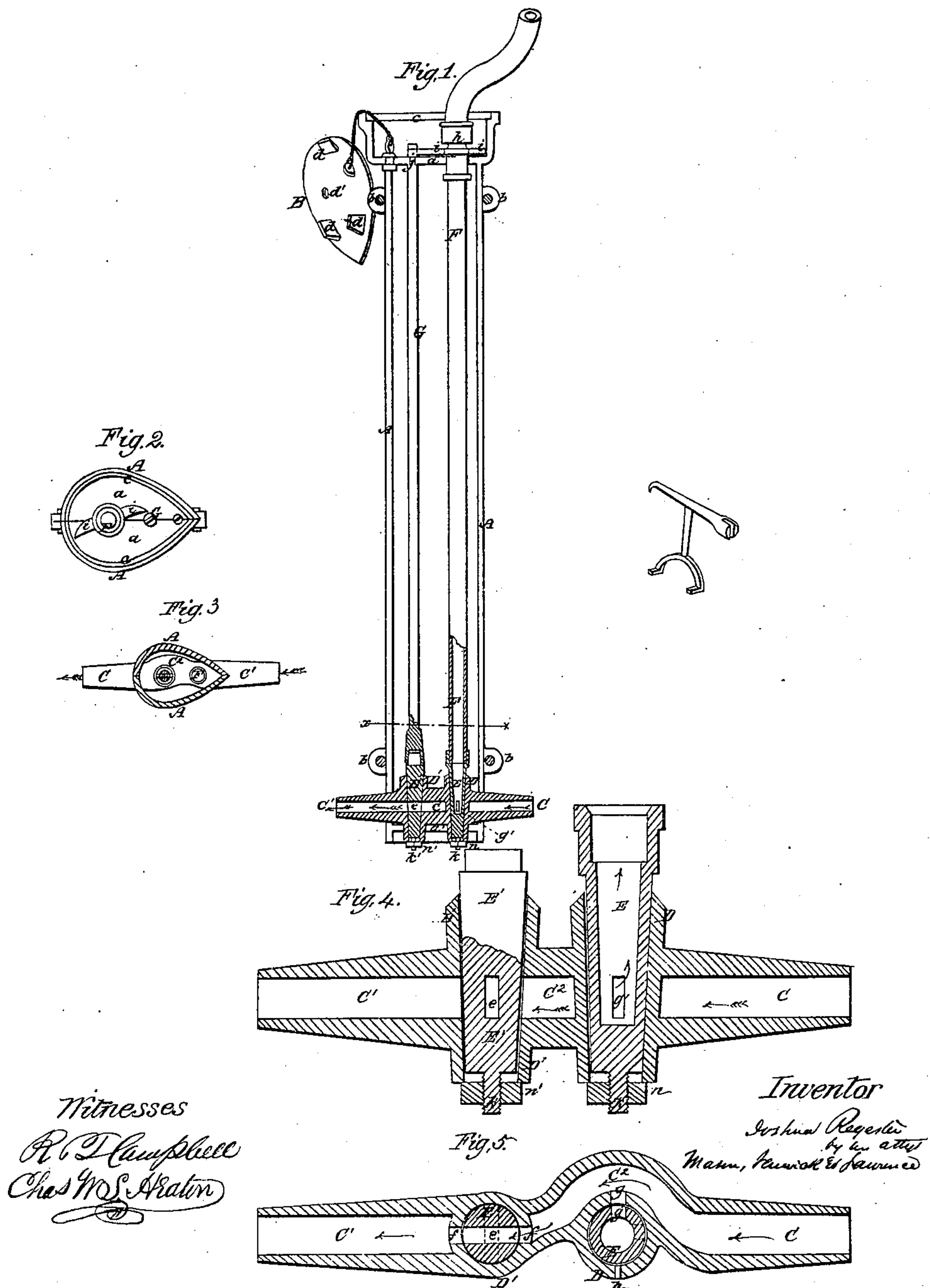


J. REGESTER.
HYDRANT.

No. 38,841.

Patented June 9, 1863.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSHUA REGESTER, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

IMPROVEMENT IN HYDRANTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 38,841, dated June 9, 1863.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSHUA REGESTER, of Baltimore, in the county of Baltimore and State of Maryland, have invented a new and useful Street-Washer and Hydrant-Cock Combined; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is an elevation of my invention, seen by removing one side of the metallic casing. Fig. 2 is a top view of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a horizontal section through Fig. 1 at the point indicated by the red line *x x* thereon. Fig. 4 is an enlarged vertical section through the cocks. Fig. 5 is an enlarged horizontal section through the same.

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

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements on the street-washing apparatus for which Letters Patent were granted to me on the 23d day of July, 1861, whereby I combine in one machine the twofold advantages of a street-washer, or a means for connecting a hose to the cock for outside washing and watering purposes, and also a house-supply cock for supplying water for domestic use, both cocks being combined in the one stem or single-way cock in such a manner that while the lateral capacity of the outer casing, which incloses the apparatus, is materially reduced, an uninterrupted supply of water may be obtained at one and the same time both for the house and the street, or for either one purpose or the other, as will be hereinafter fully explained.

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

In the accompanying drawings, A A represent the two semi-elliptical (in cross section) parts of a metallic casing which contains and supports the cocks. This casing is made of sufficient length to extend down to the branch pipe which leads from the street-main, and its flaring head or top is on a level with the sidewalk. The head and cap plates *a a'* are cast with the main portions of the casing, and notched out at their edges to receive and sup-

port the top and bottom portions of the apparatus which the casing contains, as shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings. The ears *b b* are tapped for receiving screws, which confine the two halves of the casing firmly together, and the flaring top of this casing is covered by a cap, B, which fits down snugly into the rabbet *c*, its upper surface being flush with the edge of the casing. The projecting lugs *d d*, which are shown in Fig. 1, are the bottom of this cap or cover B, fit closely against the interior surface of the flaring top of the casing A A, and prevent the cover from being removed from its seat except by lifting it up bodily or horizontally, which can be done by a small tool that is introduced through the perforation *d'*. This construction prevents malicious persons from tampering with the cocks, and also forms a good fastening, which will not be liable to get out of order. The cocks are arranged at or near the bottom of and within the casing A A, as shown in Fig. 1. The tapering tails C C' project through the casing a sufficient distance to allow of a joint being made with the branch pipes without the inconvenience or necessity of taking the machine apart. These tail-stocks C C', together with the sockets D D' for the cock-plugs, are cast in one piece, and the axes of these tapering tubes coincide; or, in other words, they are in the same vertical plane; but the communication of these tubes with each other is obtained by forming a conduit, C², around the socket D and bulging out one side of the cock in order to do this. The plug E', which fits into the tubular socket D', is like any common single-way cock-plug having but one water-passage, *e*, through it, which, on being turned so as to communicate with the slots *f f* through the socket-tube D', will allow water entering C to pass freely out through C'. This cock is intended to supply water to the house for domestic and other purposes, and it will be clearly seen that as long as the cock is open this supply will be constant. The water which is taken from the bend C² into the second cock passes through the opening *g* in the socket-tube D and opening *g'* in the hollow plug E, when this latter opening is brought to register with the former, and thence the water is conducted to the top of the casing A A by means of the

tube F, which is furnished on its upper end with a suitable hose-coupling, *h*, as shown in Fig. 1. The lower end of the vertical pipe F is securely fixed to the upper end of the hollow conical plug E, and the upper end of this tube is confined in its place by means of the notched plate *a*, as above described. The curved lugs *i i*, (shown in Figs. 1 and 2,) secured to the upper end of pipe F above the plate *a*, are intended to receive the prongs of the wrench which is used in "cutting off" or "letting on" the water for street purposes. These lugs *i i* also serve as stops to register the position of the opening *g* with relation to opening *g'* by coming in contact with the head of the key-rod G, which is used to operate the plug E'. The tenon which is cast on the head of the plug E' receives a mortise, which is in the lower end of the key-rod G, and this enables the plug E' to be operated by turning the rod G either to the right or to the left. The annular groove *j*, which is formed in the rod G near its upper end, is embraced by notches in the plates *a a*, which keep this rod in its place in a vertical position. The lower ends of the socket-tubes D D' are made of sufficient length to project through the lower plate, *a'*, of the casing A A, and this, together with the upper bearings of rods G and F and the bearings of the tails C C' in the casing A A, keeps the parts in their proper place and in a proper relation one with the other to insure a perfect working of the apparatus at all times. The screw-stems *k k'* on the lower ends of the tapering plugs E E' receive the nuts *n n'*, which keep the plugs down in their respective tubular-sockets D D'. From this description it will be seen that I combine with my improved street-washer a supply-cock, whereby I am enabled to keep up a constant supply of water to the house whether the "street" cock be turned "on" or "off." The water entering under a head at C will pass freely around the "street-washing" cock E and through the "house-supply" cock E'. When this latter cock is open, as indicated by the course of the arrows in Figs. 4 and 5, and when it is desired to use the "street-cock" it is only necessary to turn the tube F by means of the wrench shown in the drawings, as above described, and a double supply can be obtained without materially affecting either.

By constructing the cocks as I have above described it will be seen that the rods F and G will be in the same vertical plane. The space occupied laterally by the cocks is very much reduced, not being much greater than a straight tube would occupy, and this enables me to greatly reduce the lateral dimensions of the casing which incloses the whole apparatus, and this reduction of the casing enables me to obviate an evil which attends the wooden box-casing hitherto used for protecting street-washers, and which I will now describe. The

wooden box-casing is nothing more than four thin boards nailed and strapped together and sunk into the ground for the purpose of keeping the earth from falling in and covering up the cocks, and also to allow a person to get at the cocks for turning the water off or on. These wooden shafts soon decay and require to be replaced by new ones; but the greatest objection of all to these shafts is that they are uplifted by the freezing and thawing of the earth around them. Their great lightness and the extent of surface which they present to the surrounding earth causes the earth in freezing to lift them up, where they remain after the earth thaws and settles, leaving their upper ends projecting some distance above the surface of the sidewalk. Now, to remedy this evil, I employ a metallic casing, within which the entire apparatus is securely confined and supported, so that the casing cannot move without carrying with it its contents; and, in order to reduce the lateral capacity of the casing, and, consequently, the amount of surface which is presented to the surrounding earth, I reduce the width of the cocks by bringing both cock plugs in the same vertical plane and making a conduit around the street-washing cocks, so that while I obtain a direct communication through the cock-tube for a constant house supply, I can obtain water for street-washing purposes without cutting off or even affecting the house supply. By this arrangement I am enabled to contract the casing laterally in one direction, which gives me as the best form for this casing the elliptical or ovated figure shown in Figs. 2 and 3. When this casing is sunk into the ground, as above described, and connected to the branch pipe which leads from the street-main, and also with the pipe leading to the house, these pipes will hold the casing down in its place so firmly that the freezing and thawing of the earth about the casing will not have any material effect upon it, and it will remain in the position in which it was first placed and plumbed—viz., with its upper surface or cap B level with the sidewalk. The perforation shown at *p*, Fig. 5, communicates with the open slot *g'* in the hollow plug E, and when this slot is brought to register with *p*—as, for instance, when this cock is turned off the water which is left in the pipe E will run out through perforation *p*. The object of this is to prevent water from freezing in the pipe F.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. Combining in one and the same tube or tail-stock C C' C² the two cocks E E', arranged and operating substantially as herein described.

2. Making the axes of the two cocks, when combined in one tail-stock or tube, in the same

plane and conducting the water through C and around the street-supply cock, substantially as herein described.

3. Combining with and supporting the street and house supply cocks within a metallic casing constructed substantially as herein described.

4. The combination of the key-rod G, tubu-

lar key-rod F, bearings *a a'*, and supply cocks E E', substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

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Witnesses:

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