

W. Beach,
Privy Seat Cover.

N^o 56,881

Patented Aug. 7, 1866.

Fig: 1.

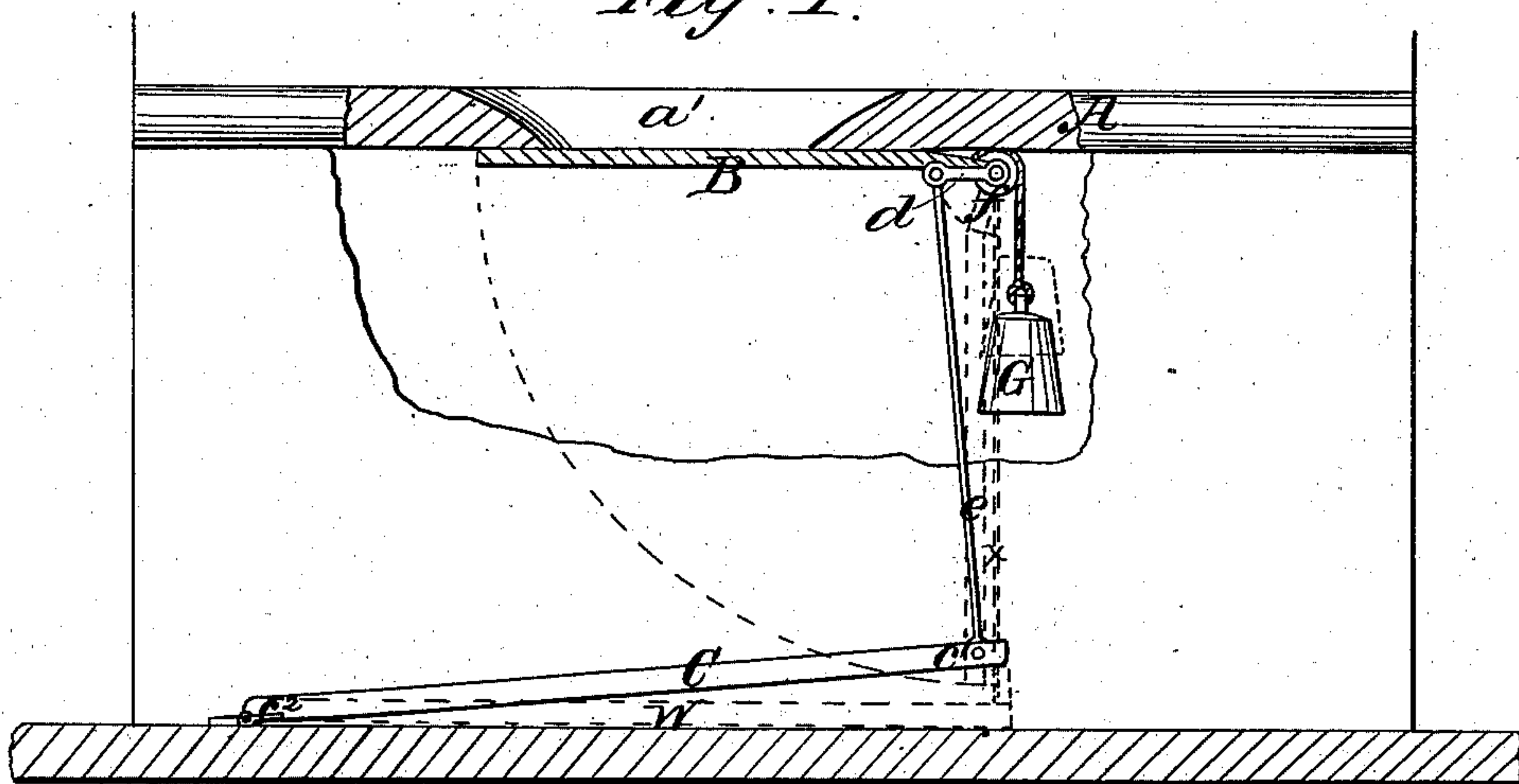
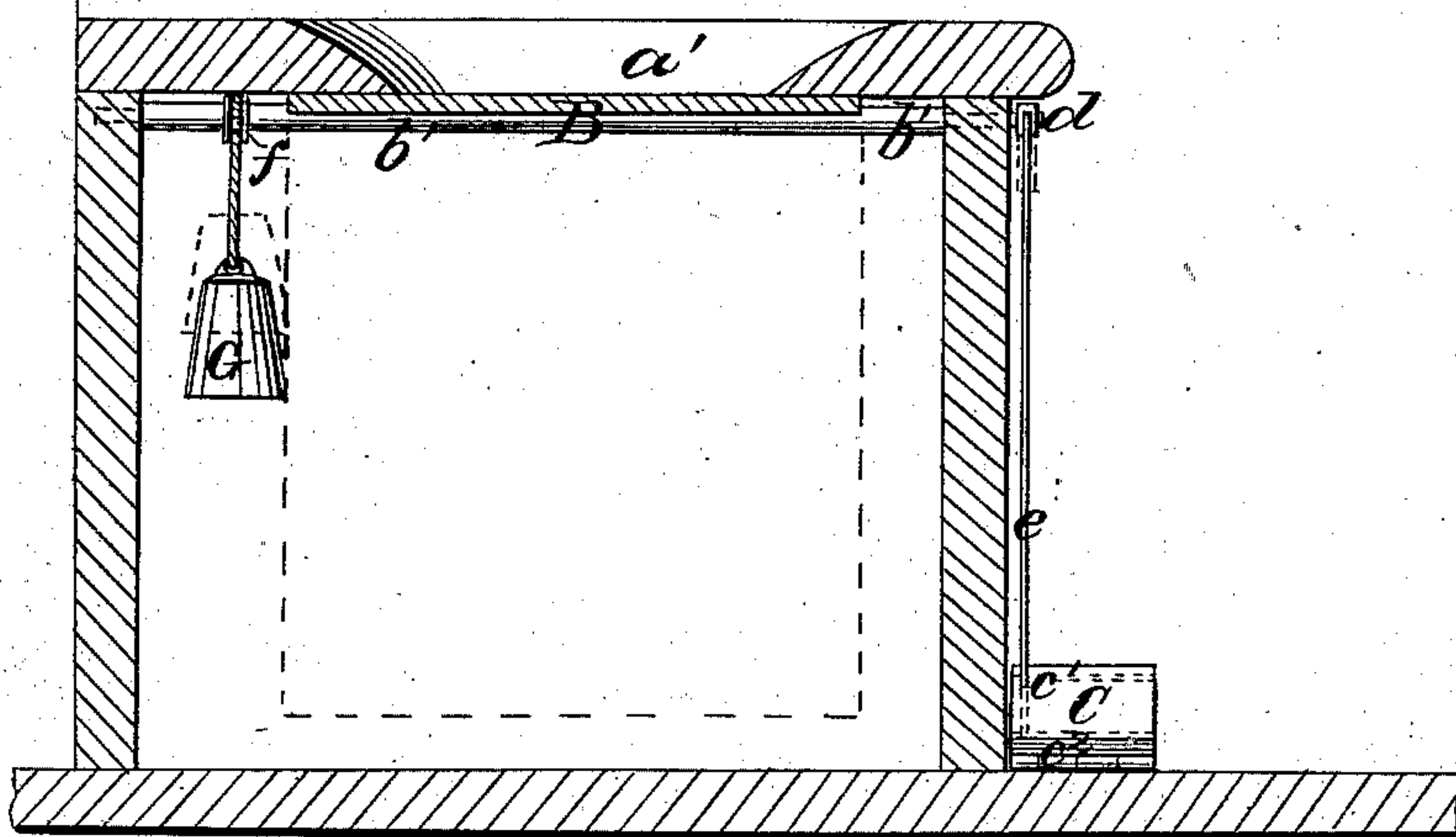


Fig: 2.



Witnesses;
Aug. Morrison
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Inventor;
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM BEACH, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN PRIVY-SEAT COVERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 56,881, dated August 7, 1866.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM BEACH, of the city of Philadelphia, in the State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Privy-Seat Covers; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a privy-seat, partly broken out, having my improvement applied thereto; and Fig. 2, a vertical transverse section of the same, like letters of reference indicating the same parts when in both figures.

The covers or lids of privy-seats being generally either loose or hinged upon the upper side of the seats, the holes are consequently often left open, and besides the free escape of effluvia, ready access is afforded to house-flies and mosquitoes for breeding therein. The lids, when closed down, condense the rising moisture, and are, consequently, wet when raised. The purpose of my improvement is to obviate these objections.

My invention consists in providing the seat of a privy with a cover or lid constructed and applied to the under side of the said seat so that it will close automatically and open from the pressure of one's foot placed upon a treadle connected therewith, substantially as hereinafter described.

In the drawings, A is the seat, provided with the usual hole *a'*; B, the lid or cover, and C the treadle. The lid or cover B is rigidly fixed to a shaft, *b'*, which extends across and close beneath the seat A, and has journals which turn in appropriate holes made in the front and back of the supports of the seat. The front journal projects through its support, and has fixed on its end a short arm, *d*, which

is parallel to or projects from the shaft *b'* in the same plane and direction as the lid B. The free end of this arm is jointed to a vertical rod, *e*, and the lower end of said rod is jointed to the end *c'* of the treadle C, and the opposite end, *c''*, of the latter is hinged to the floor of the privy.

On the rear portion of the shaft *b'* a grooved pulley, *f*, is fixed, which carries a cord, to which is suspended a weight, G, in such a manner as to overbalance the weight of the lid B, rod *e*, arm *d*, and treadle C, as represented in the drawings.

Operation: When a person steps upon the treadle C the latter will be brought down parallel with the floor of the privy, as indicated by the dotted lines *w*, Fig. 1, and at the same time the lid or cover B will be opened downward to the vertical position indicated by the dotted lines *x*, lifting the weight G upward, and immediately on stepping off of the said treadle C the weight G will sink, and, consequently, turn the lid B upward against the under side of the seat A, or into its normal position, and thus close the hole *a'*, as required.

A spring may be substituted for the weight G and pulley *f*; but the latter are more effective for the purpose, and are less liable to get out of order. Also, a pulley and cord may be substituted for the arm *d* and rod *e*, if preferred.

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

The cover or lid B, hinged to the under side of the privy-seat, and operated by means of a treadle, substantially as and for the purpose described.

WILLIAM BEACH.

Witnesses:

BENJ. MORISON,
C. W. HOWARD.