N. Lawrence.

Butter-Dish.

No. 71889 Patented Dec. 10, 1867.

Fig. 3

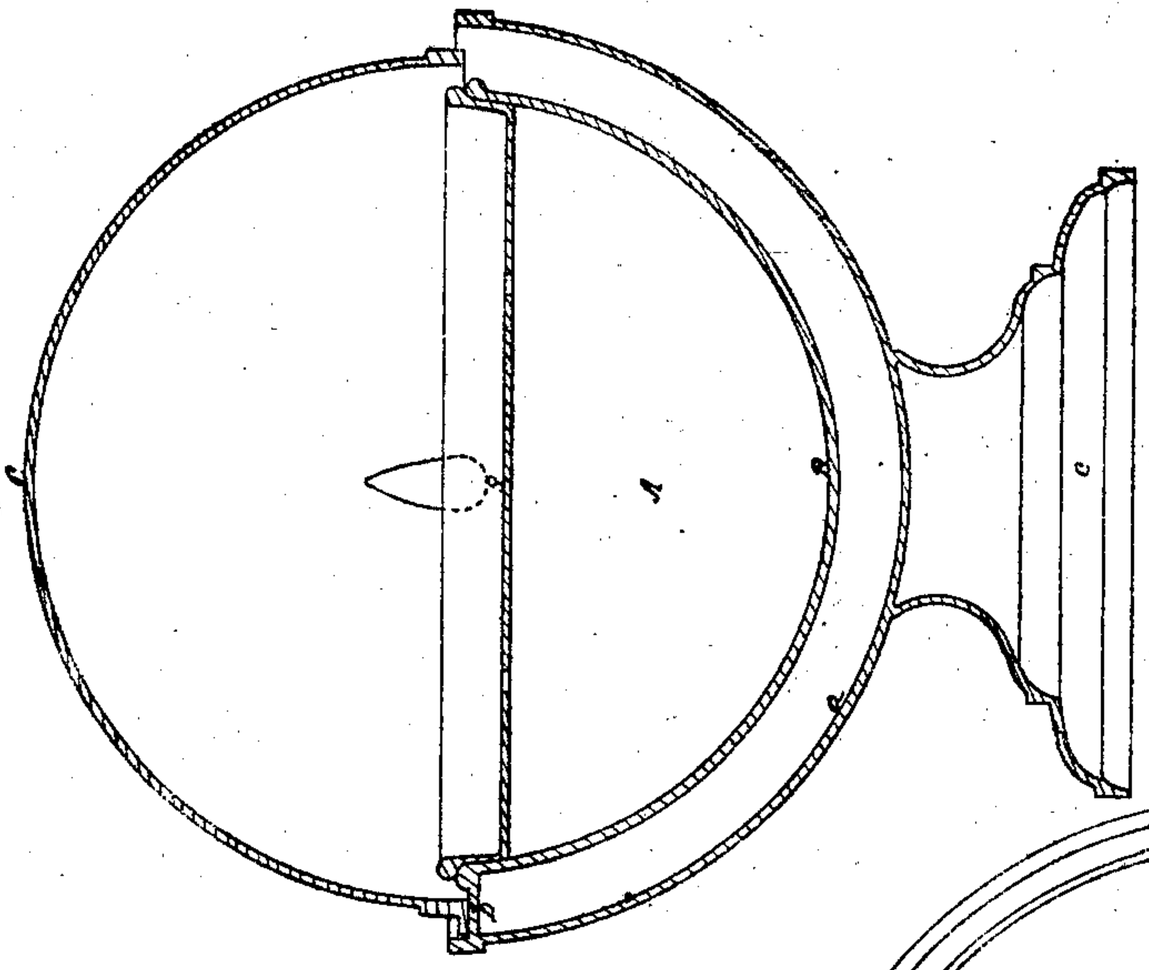


Fig. 1

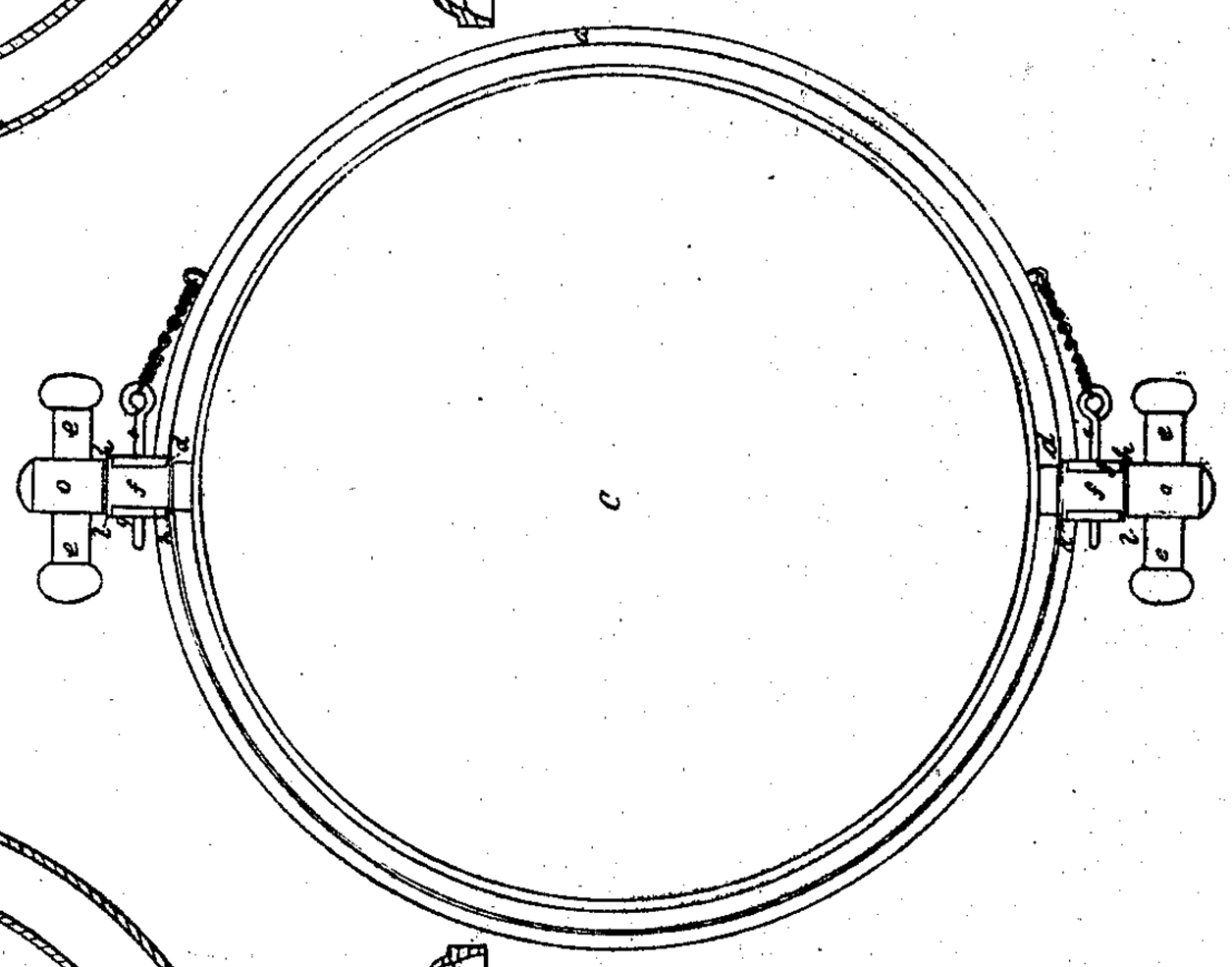
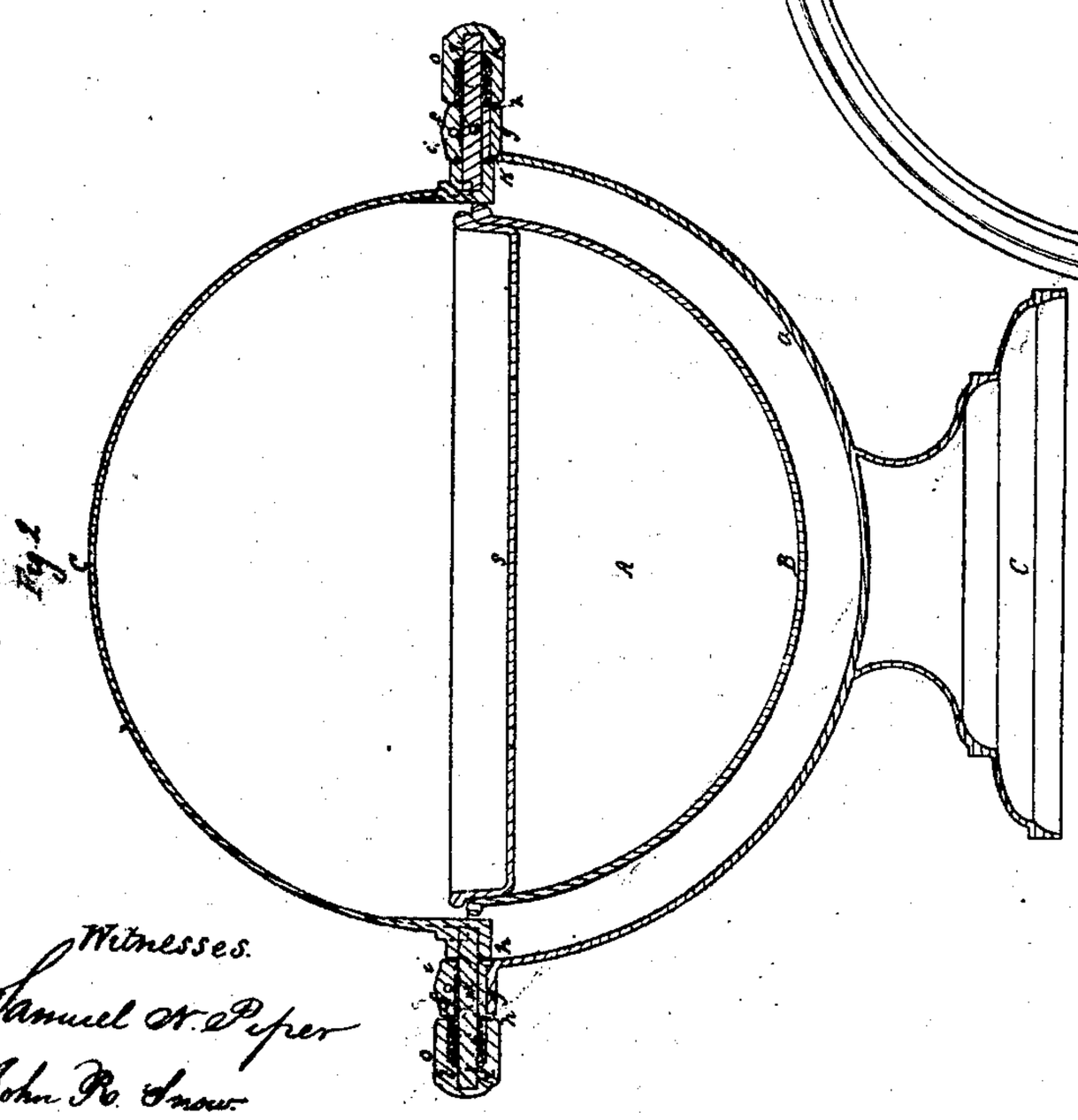


Fig. 2



Witnesses.
Samuel N. Piper
John R. Snow

N. Lawrence
by his attorney
R. H. Eddy

United States Patent Office.

NATHAN LAWRENCE, OF TAUNTON, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO REED AND BARTON, OF SAME PLACE.

Letters Patent No. 71,889, *dated December* 10, 1867.

IMPROVED BUTTER-DISH.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL PERSONS TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS MAY COME:

Be it known that I, NATHAN LAWRENCE, of Taunton, of the county of Bristol, of the State of Massachusetts, have made a new and useful Improvement in Butter-Dishes having semi-spherical rotary covers; and do hereby declare the same to be fully described in the following specification, and represented in the accompanying drawings, of which—

Figure 1 is a top view, and

Figures 2 and 3 vertical and transverse sections of a butter-dish provided with my invention.

In the drawings, A denotes a vase, having a semi-spherical body, *a*, containing a semi-spherical and concentric cup, B, the two being connected at their edges by a portion, *b*, of an annulus. A strainer, *s*, for supporting the butter, is placed within the cup B. This butter-dish, so made and supported by a foot, *c*, is provided with a rotary semi-spherical hollow cover, C, from opposite sides of which two journals, *d d*, extend in opposite directions, they being arranged so that their axes are one hundred and eighty degrees apart. Consequently such journals are in one straight line running diametrically through the cover. Each of such journals terminates in a head, *o*, provided with two wings, *e e*, and runs through a box or bearing, *f*, going entirely around the journal. The two bearings, *f f*, are supported in sockets or ears, *g g*, extending from the vase A, each bearing being provided with lips, *h*, to keep it from moving endwise in its socket. It is kept in the socket by a pin, *i*, going through it and the walls of the socket. Within each head, *o*, is a chamber, *k*, to receive a helical spring, *l*, which encompasses the journal and bears against the outer end of the bearing *f* and the outer end of the chamber *k*, such spring serving as a means of producing friction to hold the cover in any position, whether wholly or partially, over the butter-dish.

As ordinarily made, such butter-vases or dishes have their journals supported in boxes, which are stationary or immovable as respects the outer shell or vase, the said boxes being provided with movable caps. I prefer to make each box in one block or piece, movable with respect to the vase, and with one end on the journal, because when so made there is no danger of losing the cap off the box or journal; and, furthermore, I combine with such box and its journal the friction-spring to operate as explained. This friction-spring prevents the cover from suddenly falling back from over the vase, as it is apt to do in depositing or moving the vase on a table or otherwise.

I claim, therefore, the arrangement and combination of the friction-spring with the cover and vase, the journal and the bearing to extend entirely around the said journal, as specified.

NATHAN LAWRENCE.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM W. SWAN,

JOSEPH H. RINES.