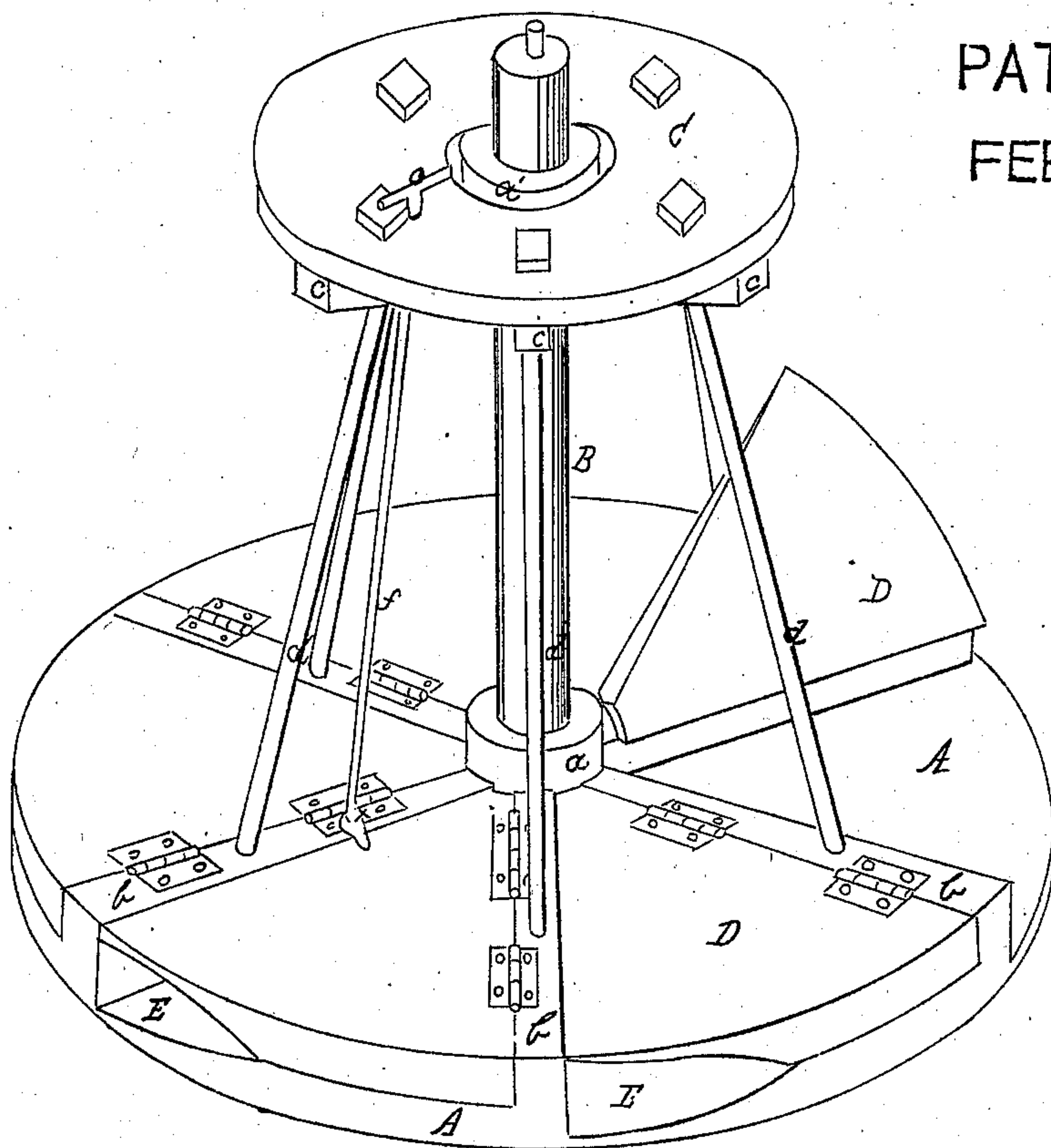


Benjamin D. Compton's Water Wheel.

74667

PATENTED
FEB 18 1868



Witnesses.

V. D. Stockbridge

C. H. Greene

Inventor.

Benj. D. Compton

per
Alexander H. Adams
Att'y

United States Patent Office.

BENJAMIN D. COMPTON, OF DOWAGIAC, MICHIGAN.

Letters Patent No. 74,667, dated February 18, 1868.

IMPROVEMENT IN WATER-WHEELS.

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

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN D. COMPTON, of Dowagiac, in the county of Cass, and in the State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Water-Wheels; and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and the letters of reference marked thereon.

In the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, A represents a large horizontal wheel or disk, surrounding and securely attached to the hub *a* of the shaft B, and provided with ribs *b b* radiating from a common centre. B represents a vertical shaft provided with hubs or collars, *a a'*, near its bottom and top, and with gudgeons or journals at each end. C represents a smaller wheel, attached to the shaft B by the ribs or spokes *c c* radiating from the hub *a'*. D D represent triangular-shaped movable buckets, hinged to the ribs *b b*, and having their outer corners bevelled to provide an opening, that the force of the water may raise the same, and are designed to open and shut as the water presses the front or back sides respectively. *d d* represent metallic rods or braces, running from the large wheel A to the wheel C, securely bracing both wheels, and at the same time providing a rest for the buckets D D, to keep them from being carried over too far by the force of the water against the face thereof. The buckets are fastened down, and the wheel thereby stopped, by means of the button *x*, which is readily turned on or off by the rod *f*, provided with a handle, *o*, or by any suitable device. The upper surface of the disk A is cut away near its periphery to correspond with the bevel on the lower side of the buckets D D, thereby making the cavities E E.

By adjusting this wheel in the current of any stream to a depth corresponding to the width of the buckets D D, the force of the water in the cavities E E, which are toward or fronting the current, throws the buckets D D open until they rest against the braces *d d*, and the buckets D D retain a perpendicular position until they are carried around past the direct line of the current, when the force of the current bears on the back side of the buckets D D, and closes or shuts them down where they are held by the pressure of the water until carried around, so that the cavity E is again in the face of the current of the stream. It will be readily seen that, when the wheel is in motion, one-half of the buckets will be open and the other half shut, or rather all the buckets on one side of the wheel will be open and those on the other side shut.

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

1. The disk A, having a series of triangular or V-shaped hinged buckets, D, and secured to a disk, C, around a vertical shaft, B, by the braces *d d*, in the manner substantially as and for the purposes specified.
2. In combination with the hinged buckets D and disk A, bevelled as described, the latch *f*, constructed as specified, and used as and for the purposes set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing, I have hereunto set my hand, this 26th day of November, 1867.

BENJAMIN D. COMPTON.

Witnesses:

GEO. W. FORDICK,
GEORGE MILLER.