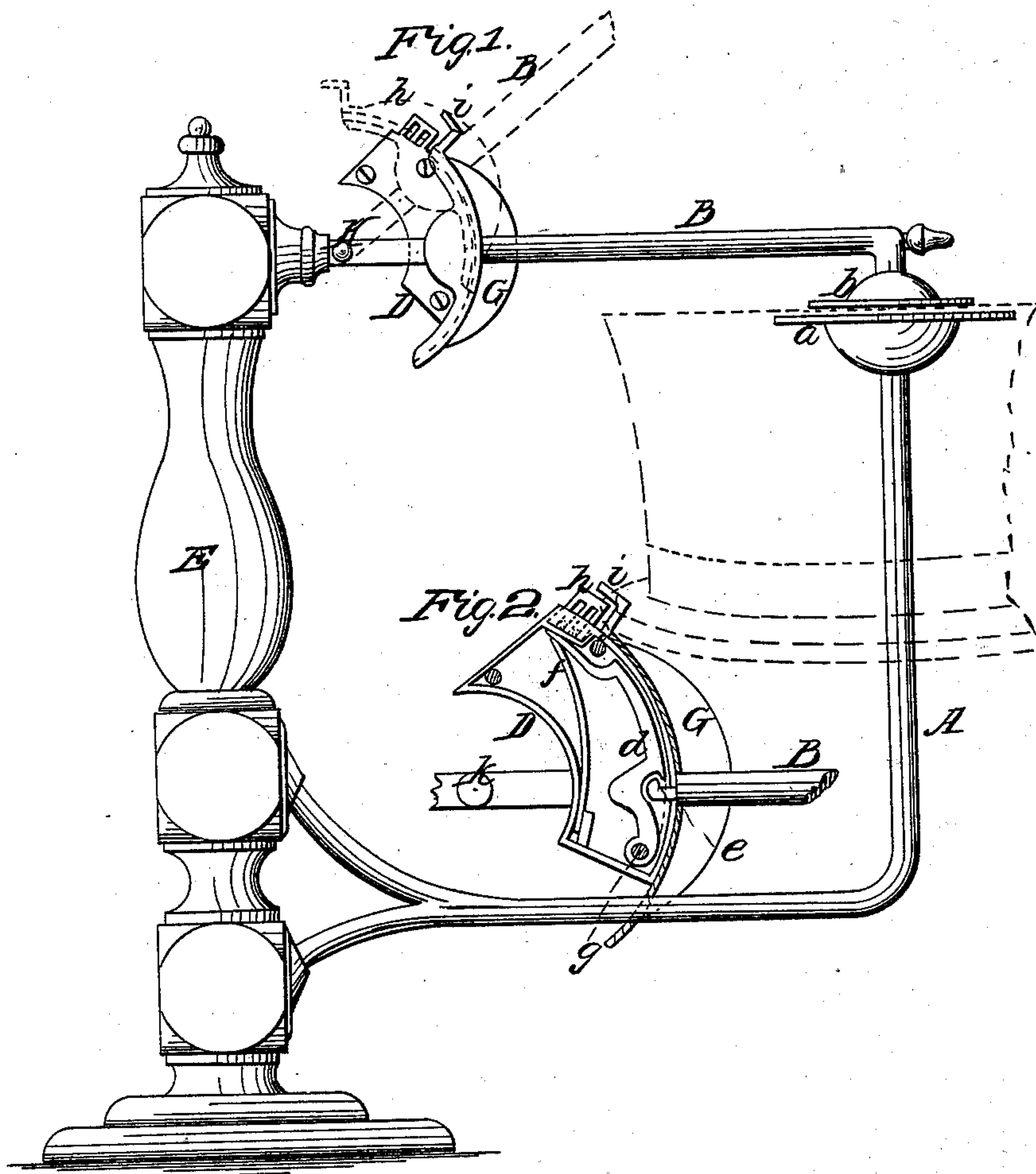


Z. Waters,

Hat-Holder,

N^o 80,374,

Patented July 28, 1868.



Witnesses:
 Am Deane Overell
 G. Cotton

Inventor:
L. Waters
per *invented*
Attorneys.

United States Patent Office.

ZERA WATERS, OF BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS.

Letters Patent No. 80,374, dated July 28, 1868.

IMPROVED HAT-HOLDER.

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, ZERA WATERS, of Bloomington, in the county of McLean, and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Hat-Holders; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of my invention.

Figure 2 is a detail view of the lock-mechanism.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts.

The object of this invention is to provide a means for holding hats, and locking the same, in such a manner that none but the person having the key to the lock can take it from the rack.

It is particularly designed for hotels, steamboats, and public halls, to prevent those mistakes in taking hats from racks, which mistakes are generally annoying and disadvantageous to one of the parties concerned, and will save hotel-keepers, and other persons who are responsible for the loss of hats, a great deal of expense in replacing stolen hats.

It consists of a fixed hat-pin, A, having a disk, *a*, on which the top of the hat rests, and a rod, B, having a disk, *b*, arranged to shut down upon the hat when on the disk *a*, and to lock when so shut down, thereby holding the hat between the two disks *a* and *b*, and preventing its removal until the rod B is raised, which can only be done after unlocking the lock D, which constitutes the joint, by which the rod B is vibrated up or down.

The lock-case D is affixed to some stationary standard, E, or its equivalent, as shown, and is formed with a semicircular profile, on which the correspondent arched plate G, affixed to the rod B, slides as the said rod is vibrated, thus forming a joint, by which the said rod is raised from or shut down upon the hat.

The lock-mechanism consists of a catch-lever, *d*, pivoted at *g*, and held against the catch *e*, on the rod B, by a spring, *f*. The lever *d* thus holds the rod B from being raised until the said lever is pushed down to free it from the catch *e*, which operation is performed with a proper key, *h*, which is entered in a corresponding key-hole at the upper end of the lock-case. The key being pressed in, and the rod B raised, the hat can be taken from the disk *a*.

As the rod B is raised, the semicircular face G passes over the key, thus enclosing it in the lock.

The rod B remains raised by means of the friction of the lever *d* against it, and is thus in readiness to be brought down upon a hat placed on the disk *a*. When so brought down, the key *h* is thrown out, where it is held from being thrown completely out by a guard, *i*. The key is then taken by the owner of the hat. As the rod is brought down, its catch *e* is caught by a corresponding catch on the lever *d*, and is thus self-locking.

An extension of the rod B is pivoted at *k*, or some point which is the centre of semicircular face of the lock-case, so that the rod B will be held in contact with the lock-case, and will also slide upon it.

A number of such hat-holders may be arranged in a rack, each having its particular key, and, when a hotel-guest, or person attending any public place, wishes to secure his hat, he places it on one of these, shuts down the rod B, and takes away the key.

I desire to be understood as not limiting myself to the construction of the lock-mechanism, for that may be variously modified or substituted.

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

1. A rod, B *b*, having any suitable lock-joint, substantially as described, in combination with the hat-rest A *a*, all as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The lock-mechanism, substantially as described, in combination with a rod, B *b*, and rest A *a*, all as and for the purpose set forth.

ZERA WATERS.

Witnesses:

H. S. HERR,

H. S. WOODARD.