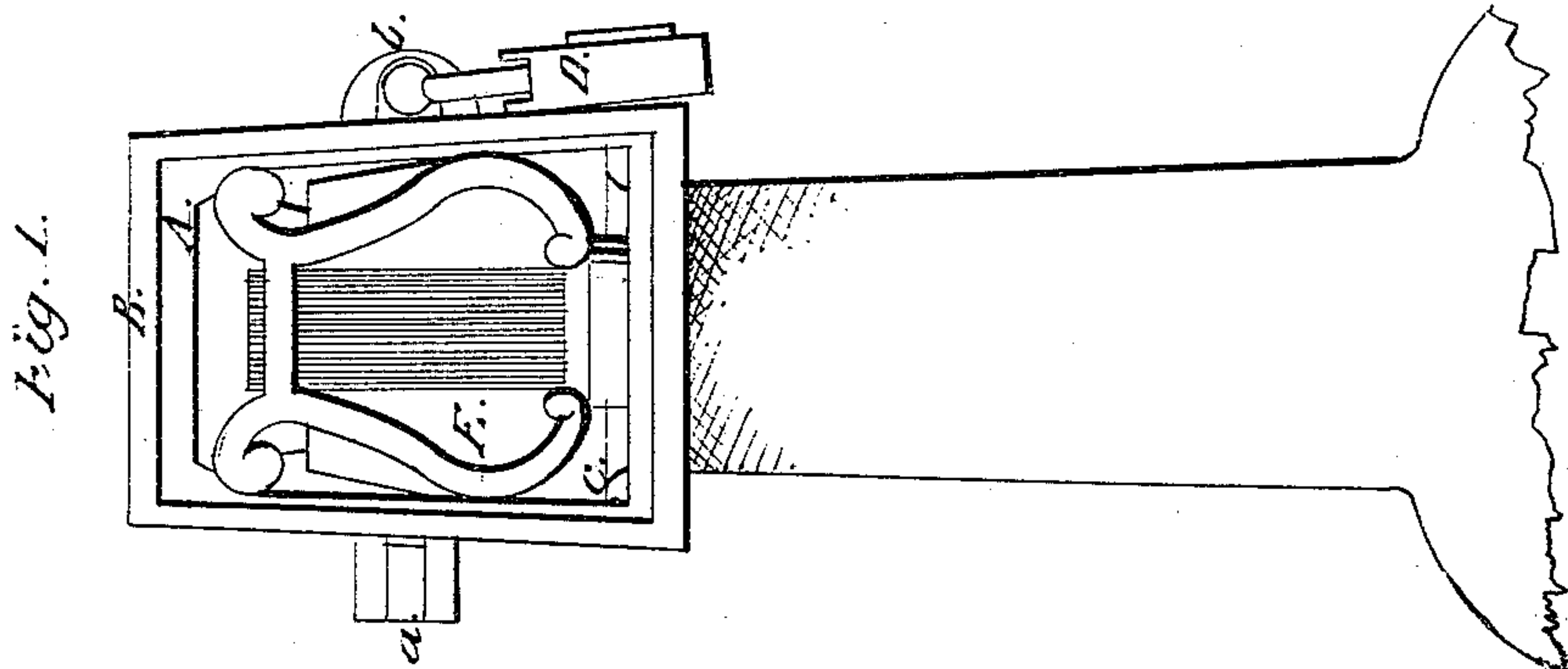
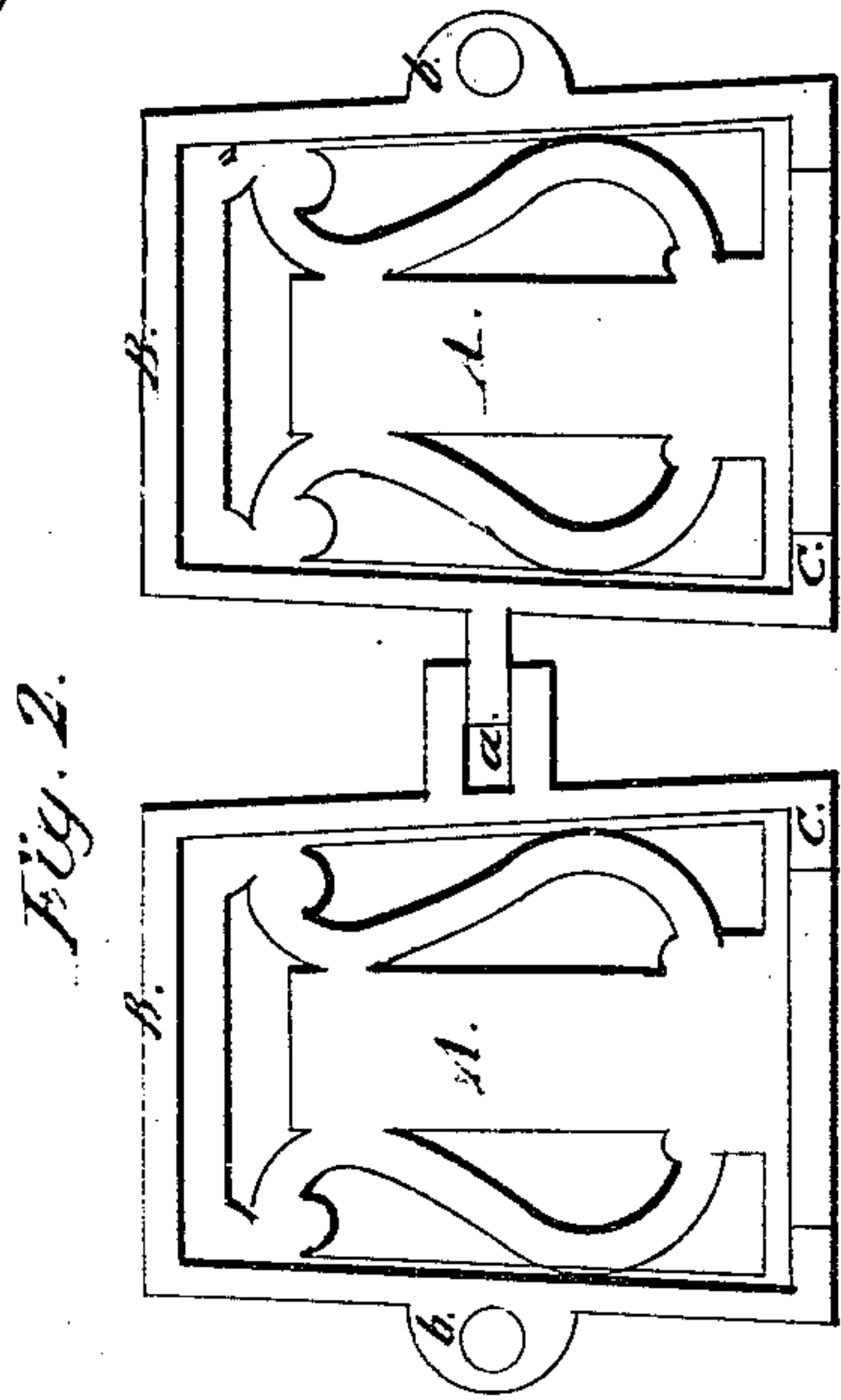


J. Dugan.
Bottle Stopper
No 3,866. Patented Aug 17, 1869.



Witnesses;
Fred. Maynes
& Kinmer

Inventor;
James Dugan

United States Patent Office.

JAMES DUGAN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

Letters Patent No. 93,866, dated August 17, 1869; antedated August 12, 1869.

IMPROVED BOTTLE-LOCK

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, JAMES DUGAN, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Caps for Locking Bottles, Demijohns, and other like vessels, of which the following is a full clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 represents a locking-cap constructed in accordance with my invention, showing the same in its closed condition, and as applied to a bottle-neck; and

Figure 2, an interior view of said cap as thrown open.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

My invention relates to caps of a detachable character used for securing bottles, demijohns, and other necked vessels closed with a cork or stopper, from being opened, and the contents extracted from them surreptitiously.

Said invention or improvement consists in a vertically-divided and hinged or opening-and-closing metal cap, capable of being fastened when closed, with a lock, and constructed so that when shut to, it embraces the neck of the bottle or other vessel and covers the cork, and is formed with an interior lower flange or projection, to bite under the swell or rib on the neck, so that it cannot be drawn off or removed without being unlocked and opened.

Referring to the accompanying drawing—

A A are the two halves of a cylindrical or taper cap, hinged as at *a*, and made of metal, or other suitable material, with a top or tops, B, and lower internally-projecting flange or flanges C, also being formed with projections *b b*, through which the bow of a padlock, D, may be passed.

Instead of making the cap in sections, A A, it may be struck out of sheet-metal, in one piece, and have a spring-like action, to admit of its being opened and closed in a similar manner, and it may be made of different shapes, to fit differently-shaped bottle or vessel-

necks. The construction, however, represented in the drawing will suffice to explain the peculiar character of the invention. Its application is as follows:

The padlock D having been unlocked, the sections A A are opened, and the cap slipped over or passed around the neck of the bottle, after which said sections are closed and locked.

Thus situated and locked, the cap, it will be seen, cannot be drawn off from the neck E of the bottle, or other vessel, by reason of its internal projection or flange C protruding, so that it catches under the swell or rib *c* of the neck on any attempt to lift the cap from off the latter; and, inasmuch as said cap is more or less of a closed-in character at its top, the cork or stopper cannot be withdrawn from the neck without first unlocking, or unlocking and removing the cap.

By making the cap to open and close, as described, and forming it with a lip or flange, C, the same is more readily applied to the neck, and one cap may be made to suit various-sized necks.

There being no adjustment necessary of the projection or flange C, its action as a stop to prevent withdrawal of the cap when closed is rendered certain.

The lock, too, being independent of the cap, may be used for other purposes, or for caps of different sizes.

I am aware that bottle-stoppers made with a cap hinged horizontally, and containing a flexible material, have heretofore been used. These, therefore, I do not claim; but

What is here claimed, and desired to be secured by Letters Patent, is—

The cap B, opening vertically, and provided with lugs *b* and flange *c*, whereby it may be secured to the neck of a bottle by an independent lock, to enclose the stopper and prevent access thereto, as shown and described.

JAMES DUGAN.

Witnesses:

FRED. HAYNES,
A. KINNIER.