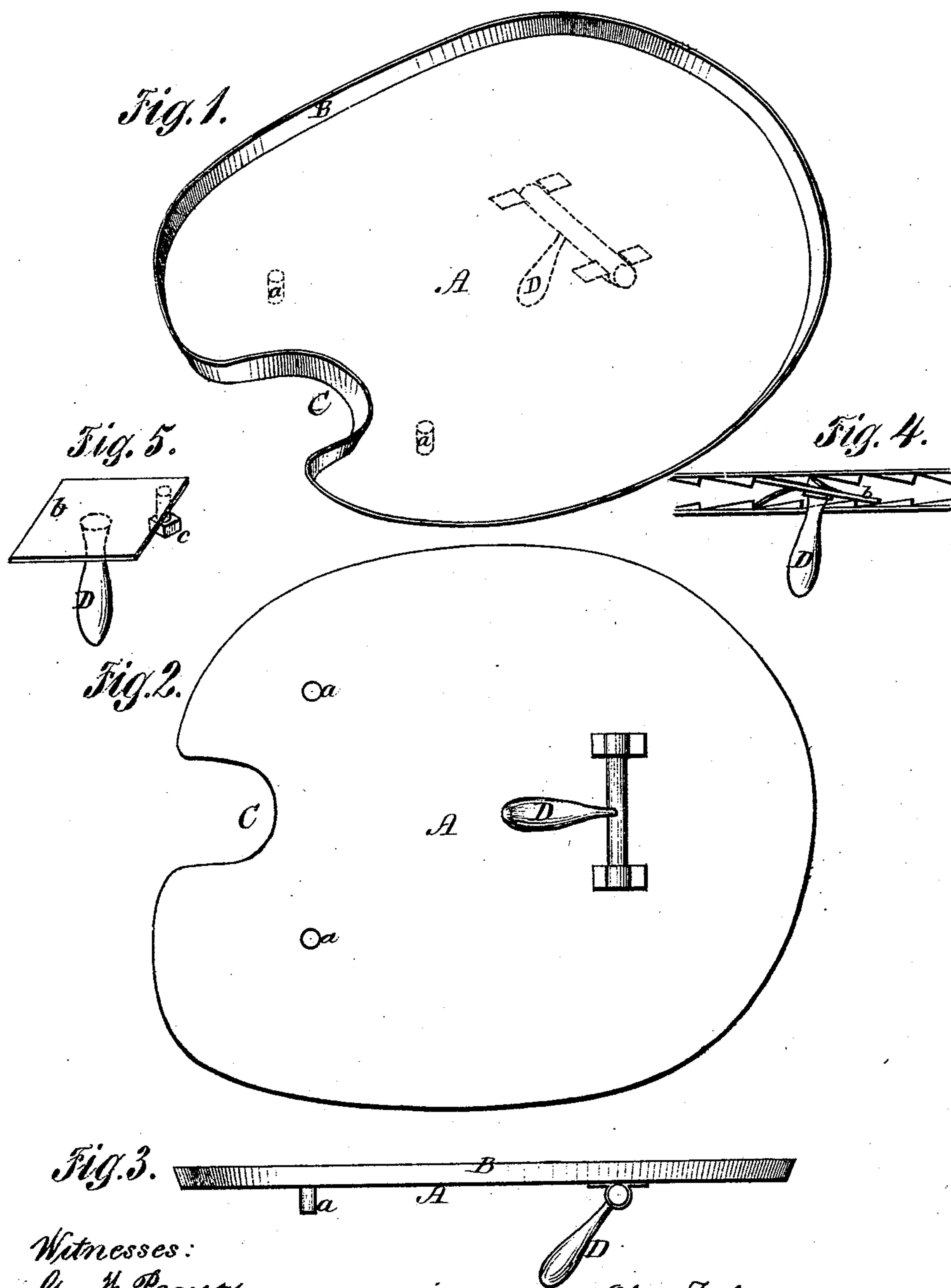


*O. Fahnestock,*

*Writer.*

*No. 98,362.*

*Patented Dec. 28, 1869.*



*Witnesses:*

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# United States Patent Office.

O B E D F A H N E S T O C K , O F L E B A N O N , I N D I A N A .

*Letters Patent No. 98,362, dated December 28, 1869.*

## IMPROVED WAITER.

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, O B E D F A H N E S T O C K , of Lebanon, county of Boone, in the State of Indiana, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Waiters or Trays; and I hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which like parts are indicated by like letters in the several figures.

It is well known that it is often desirable to use one hand in placing articles on a waiter or taking them off, while holding the waiter with the other one, resting it on the fore-arm; but in this condition it is unsafe, in the hurry of handling, especially when not well balanced, and in case of being jostled. To remedy this is the object of my invention.

In the drawings—

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my improved waiter.

Figure 2, an under-side view.

Figure 3, a side view.

Figures 4 and 5 show other means of attaching an adjustable handle.

My waiter may have any of the well-known forms, such as square, oval, &c. At one end, however, I form a recess for the arm above the elbow to enter, while a handle is permanently or temporarily secured to the bottom, for the hand to grasp securely, while the bottom rests on the fore-arm.

A represents the bottom of the waiter.

B, a rim or flange.

C, the recess for the arm.

D is a handle, pivoted to the bottom in any well-known way, so it can be turned up against the bottom when not in use, and be out of the way.

*a a* are small feet, which, in connection with the handle, serve to steady the waiter when it is placed on its bottom or set down.

It will readily be seen that the arm, above the elbow, fitting snugly into the recess C, will serve to steady the waiter while resting on the fore-arm, and the han-

dle D is firmly grasped, thus enabling the other hand to be used for removals, &c.

It may be desirable to have the handle detachable and adjustable. This can readily be done in several ways. A slot, longitudinally in the waiter, or small holes in its bottom, will enable the handle to be attached and adjusted, by means of a nut screwing down upon a pin passing from the handle up through the openings in the waiter.

Fig. 4 illustrates a method of sliding the handle through toothed racks or flanges, attached to the bottom of the waiter, similar to the common device for tightening the cords of window-curtains.

Fig. 5 shows a plate, *b*, which the handle may be attached to, and this plate can slide along the bottom in suitable grooves or flanges, while a set-screw, *c*, will secure it at any desirable point. Other equivalent means may be used to effect the same purpose.

If desired, a permanent U-shaped handle can rigidly be attached to the bottom, at a proper point for the hand to grasp.

Ordinary waiters can be made to operate in a similar manner to mine, by securing, either permanently or in a detachable manner to one end, a pronged piece to fit the arm. In some instances the handle underneath may be dispensed with, the hand passing up around and grasping the edge of the waiter. But my improvement is more especially suited to large waiters, where the handle becomes a necessity, as well as the recess.

Having thus described my invention,

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

An improved waiter, having a recess, as at C, to fit the arm, and a handle, D, underneath it, arranged and constructed in the manner shown, and for the purpose set forth.

O B E D F A H N E S T O C K .

Witnesses:

R O E . H A Z E L R I G G ,

O L . S T R A H A N .