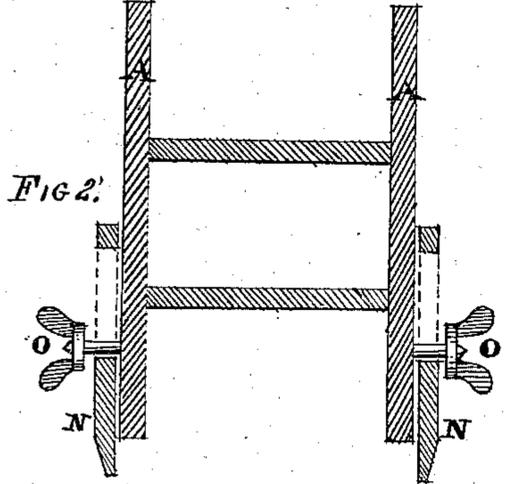
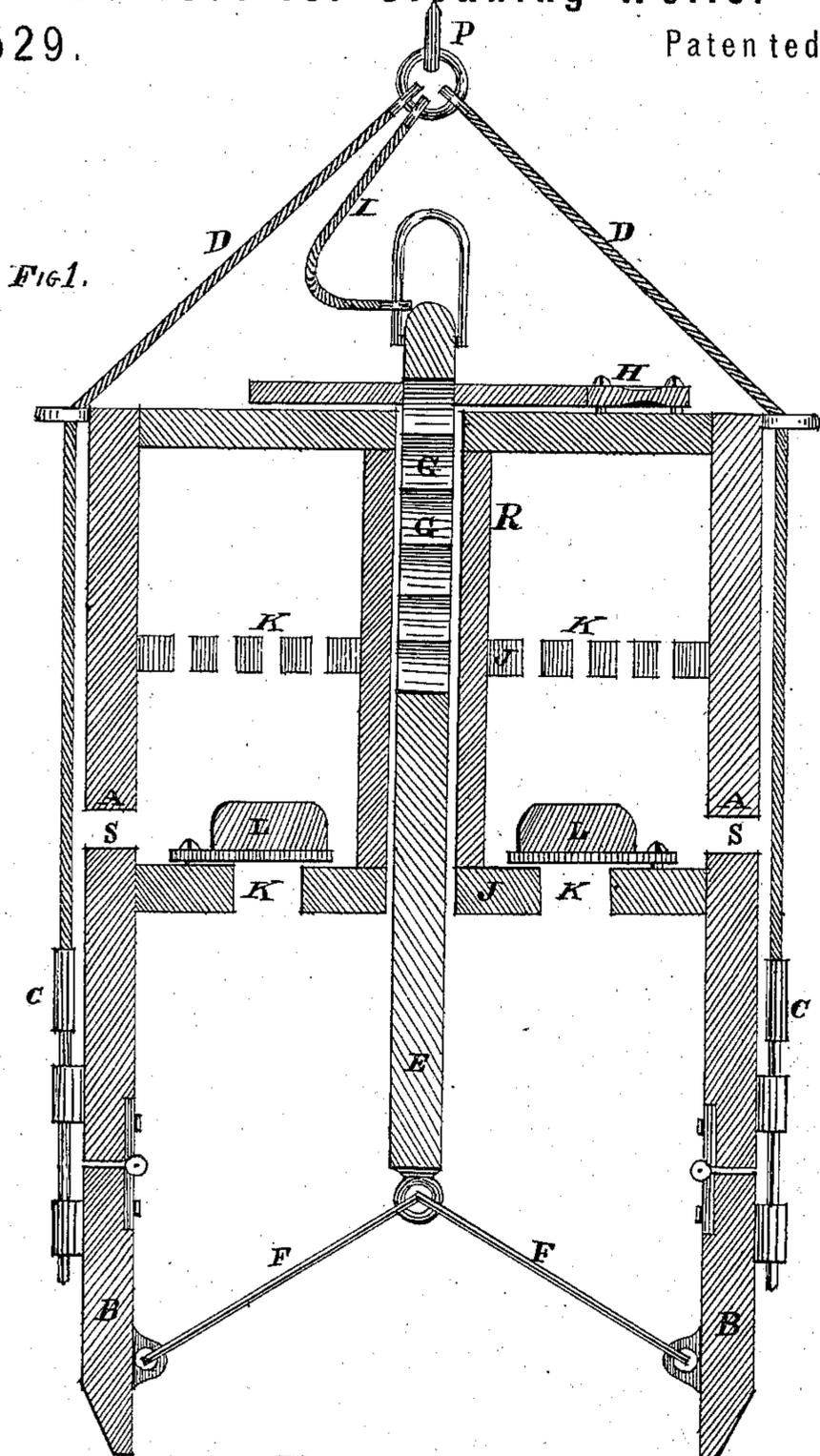


**W. F. BROWN.**  
**Devices for Cleaning Wells.**

No. 137,529.

Patented April 8, 1873.



WITNESSES;  
*Geo. Swan*  
*James G. Warren*

INVENTOR.  
*William F. Brown*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM F. BROWN, OF HARDIN COUNTY, KENTUCKY, ASSIGNOR OF TWO-THIRDS HIS RIGHT TO WILLIAM F. COOMBS AND BENJAMIN HOWSLEY, OF SAME PLACE.

## IMPROVEMENT IN DEVICES FOR CLEANING WELLS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **137,529**, dated April 8, 1873; application filed October 21, 1872.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM F. BROWN, of the county of Hardin, in the State of Kentucky, have invented certain Improvements in a Device for Cleaning Wells or Pits, of which the following is a specification:

This invention consists in a square box made of wood, about two or more feet square and four feet long, with two partitions inside so as to divide it into nearly three equal compartments, the lower one of these having four openings through it covered by valves made similar to the ordinary pump, while the upper one is perforated with numerous small holes to permit the water to pass through it and out at the holes in the side of the box. These last-named partitions have a small hollow pipe-box in the center which extends up through them as high as the top of the box. This pipe-box has a sliding bar running up through it, made to fit the opening loosely, for the purpose of operating the shutters or folding caps at the lower end of the box. These caps or covers are made of wood, in two parts, and hung to the end of the box by means of hinges so that when closed they will completely cover the end of the box. These covers or caps are connected with the central bar by means of iron bails in such a manner that when the bar is drawn up it closes the caps on the matter to be drawn up, and the bar is held in that position by a spring-catch at the top end until the box is drawn up; but when set ready to be lowered again the caps are opened, as shown in the drawing, and are so held by means of keys slipped through slotted lugs on the side of the box and covers until the box is sunk in the sand or mud sufficiently deep to fill it, when the keys are drawn out and the covers closed on the dirt by means of the bar in the center of the box, as before described. The lower end of the box is also provided with additional sliding covers at the end of the folding caps, in order to prevent thin mud or sand from pressing out as the covers are closed.

The object of this my invention is to provide a means by which wells or pits containing foul air may be cleaned without danger or the necessity of descending the well or pit person-

ally, all of which I claim to have accomplished by means of the invention as above described.

Figure 1 is a sectional view of the device, showing the interior arrangement of the several parts. Fig. 2 is also a sectional view of the lower end, showing the sliding covers at the end of the caps.

In the drawing, A A is the box, all of which is made of wood, about two or more feet square, and about four feet long. B B are folding covers or caps to close the lower end of the box so as to hold the dirt. C C are keys by which the caps are held in position when let down into the well. D D are cords by which these keys are drawn out as the box is raised. E is the bar by which the box is raised and the caps operated or closed. F F are the bails connecting the bar with the caps. G G are notches in the bar. H is a spring, by means of which the bar E is held up. I is the cord by which the bar is raised and the box drawn out of the well. J J are partitions in the box. K K are openings through them. L L are valves covering the openings in the lower partition. These valves are intended to be used first to ventilate the lower end of the box when let down into the water, and also to prevent the water in the upper end from running through on the dirt as it is raised up. N N are sliding covers to close the ends of the folding caps to prevent the dirt from passing out as they are closed. O O are clamp-screws by which they are held in place. P is the ring and cord by which the box is drawn up. R is the pipe-box or chamber of the bar E. S S are openings through the sides of the box for the water to pass out.

I have thus fully described the nature and object of my invention. Its operation is simply setting the machine as shown in the drawing, after which it is let down into the well, and, when sunk into the sand or mud sufficiently deep to fill the box, power is applied to draw it up, which will first draw out the keys C C and permit the caps B B to be closed over the dirt and held in that position until the box is drawn out of the well, the water in the upper part of the box passing out at the holes S S at the sides as it rises.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination of the box A A with its folding caps B B, keys C C, cords D D, bar E, bails F F, notches G G, spring H, cord I, partitions J J with their openings K K K K, valves L L, slides N N, thumb-screws O O, rope P, pipe-box R, and openings S S, when

arranged, constructed, and operated substantially as and for the purpose hereinbefore set forth.

WILLIAM F. BROWN.

Witnesses:

JNO. J. SWAN,

JAMES Z. WATKINS.