

R. C. CLARK.  
Water-Closets.

No. 158,677.

Patented Jan. 12, 1875.

Fig:1.

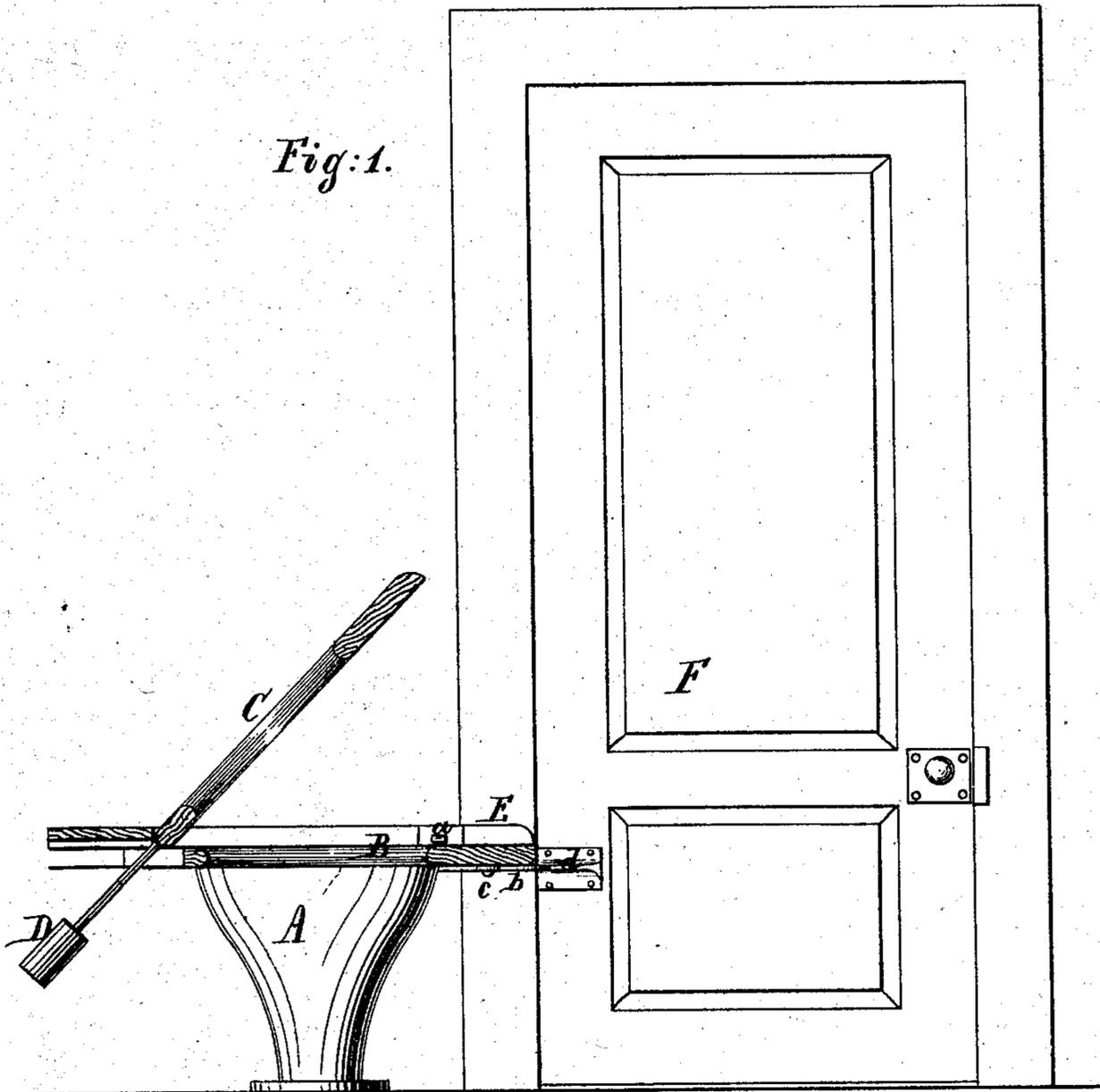
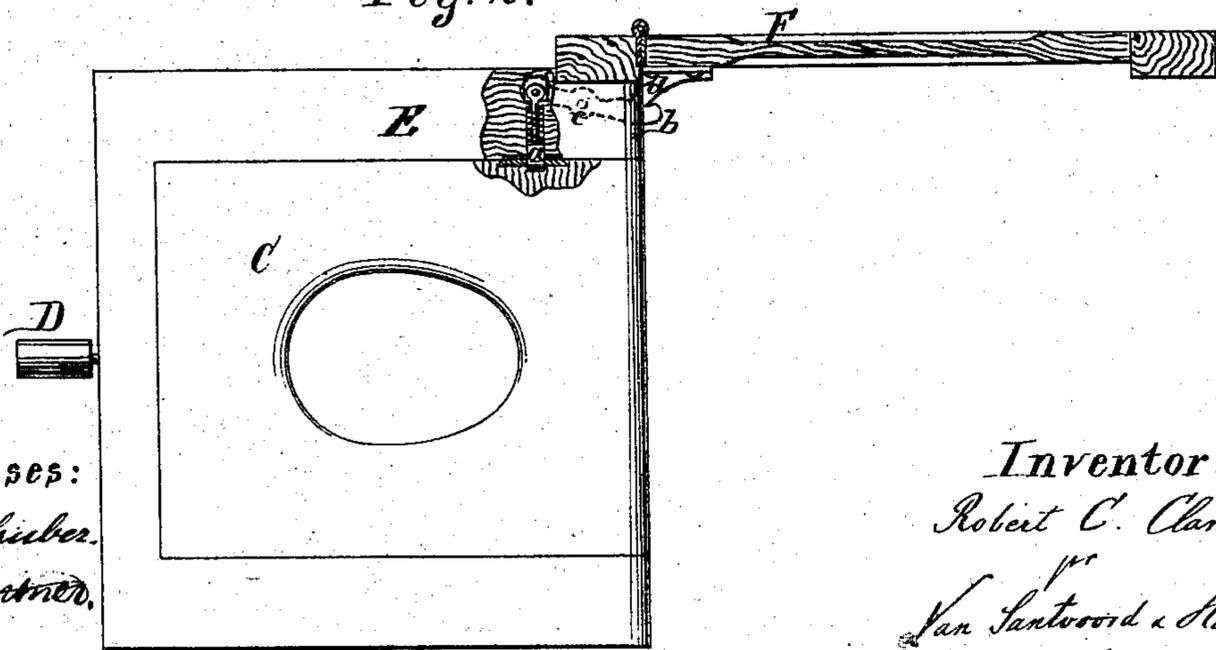


Fig:2.



Witnesses:  
E. Bilhuber.  
H. Germer.

Inventor:  
Robert C. Clark  
Van Santwood & Hauff  
Atty's

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT C. CLARK, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## IMPROVEMENT IN WATER-CLOSETS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **158,677**, dated January 12, 1875; application filed December 5, 1874.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ROBERT C. CLARK, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Water-Closets, of which the following is a specification:

This invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which Figure 1 represents a vertical section. Fig. 2 is a sectional plan or top view.

Similar letters indicate corresponding parts.

This invention consists in combining with the seat of a water-closet a spring-catch, which is actuated by the door of the closet, said seat being hinged and subjected to the action of a spring or weight, in such a manner that whenever the door of the closet is opened or closed, the spring-catch releases the seat and the seat is thrown open, and consequently every person who enters the closet will find the seat thrown open, and the seat is not liable to be soiled by slops or water that may be poured into the basin of the closet.

In the drawing, the letter A designates the basin of my closet, on top of which is secured a platform, B, to which is hinged the seat C. The platform B is provided with a large hole, which gives free access to the basin, and to the seat C is secured a weight, D, (or, instead of this weight, a spring may be used,) so that the same, when left free to follow the action of said weight, will be thrown open to the position shown in Fig. 1. The platform B is provided with a frame, E, and through one of the side rails of this frame extends a spring-catch, *a*, which, when the seat is depressed, engages with a cavity in its side, and prevents the same from flying open. With this spring-catch is connected a lever, *b*, which turns on a pivot, *c*, and which is actuated by a tappet, *d*, secured

to the door F of the closet. If the door is in a convenient position to the seat C the tappet *d* may be made to act directly on the lever *b*; but if the door is at some distance from the seat C, the lever *b* and the tappet *d* must be connected by intermediate levers and wires, or by any other suitable means, the connection being such in all cases that whenever the door F is opened or closed the spring-catch *a* is pulled back, and the seat C is left free to follow the action of its weight or spring. If a person enters the closet for the purpose of using the seat, he or she closes the door, and then the seat must be depressed so that it can be used. On leaving the closet the door is opened, and the seat, being released by the spring-catch, turns up. Any person entering the closet, therefore, will find the seat open, and consequently said seat is not liable to be soiled by slops or water, or other impurities which may be poured or thrown into the basin.

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

The combination of a spring-catch, *a*, with the hinged seat C of a water-closet, subjected to the action of a weight or spring, and with a tappet, *d*, secured to the door F of the closet, and serving to actuate the spring-catch whenever the door is opened or closed, substantially in the manner herein shown and described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 27th day of November, 1874.

ROBERT C. CLARK.

Witnesses:

W. HAUFF,  
CHAS. WAHLERS.