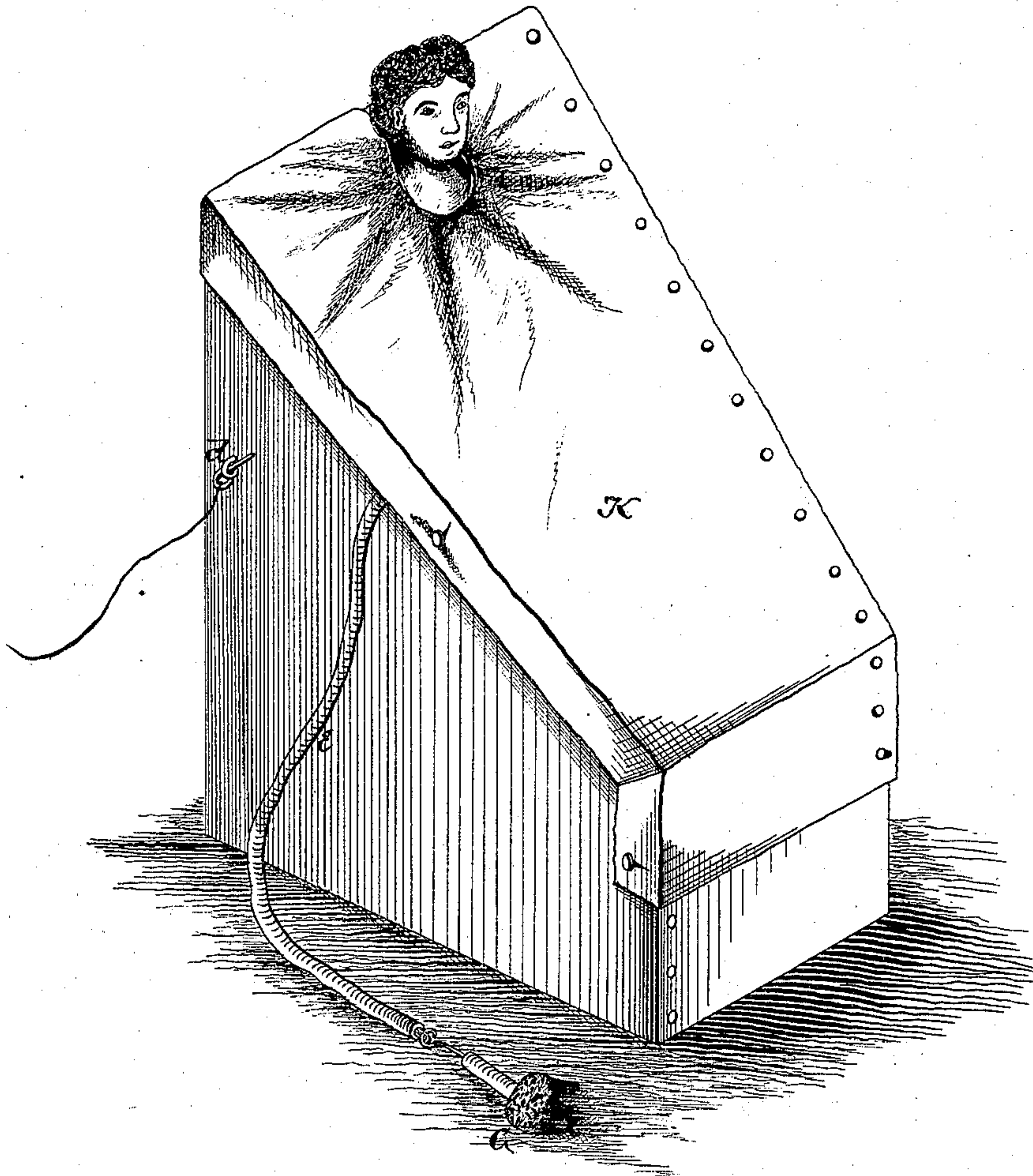


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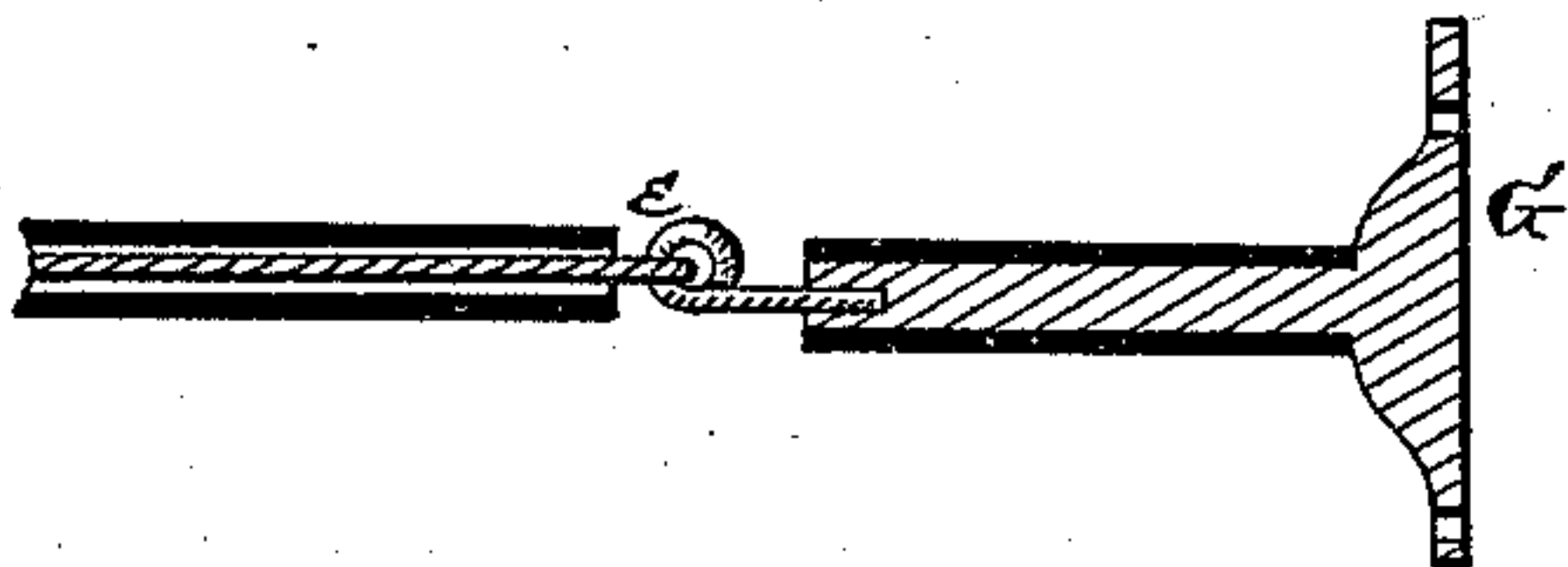
No. 174,018.

Patented Feb. 22, 1876.

*Fig 1*



*Fig 4*



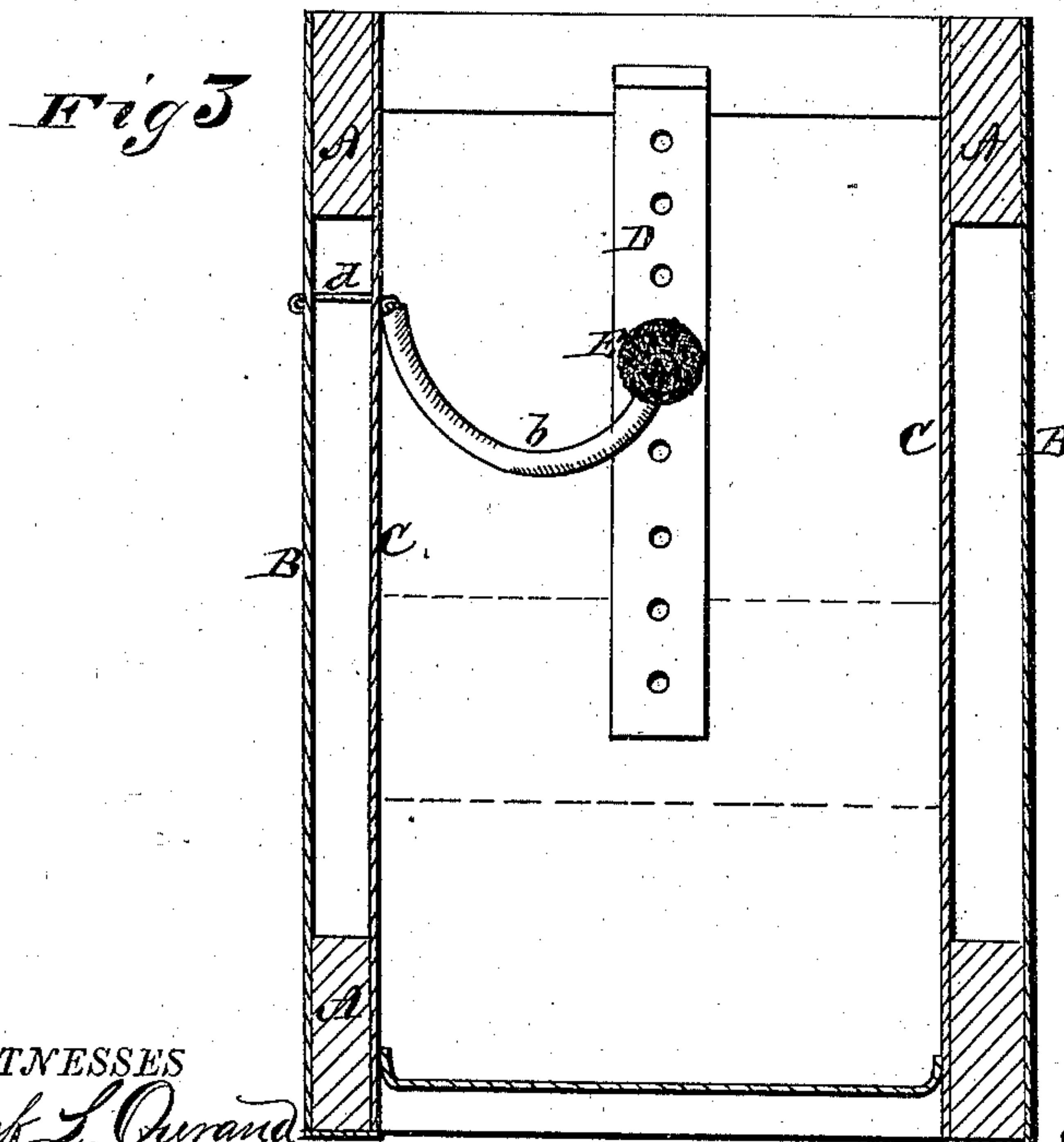
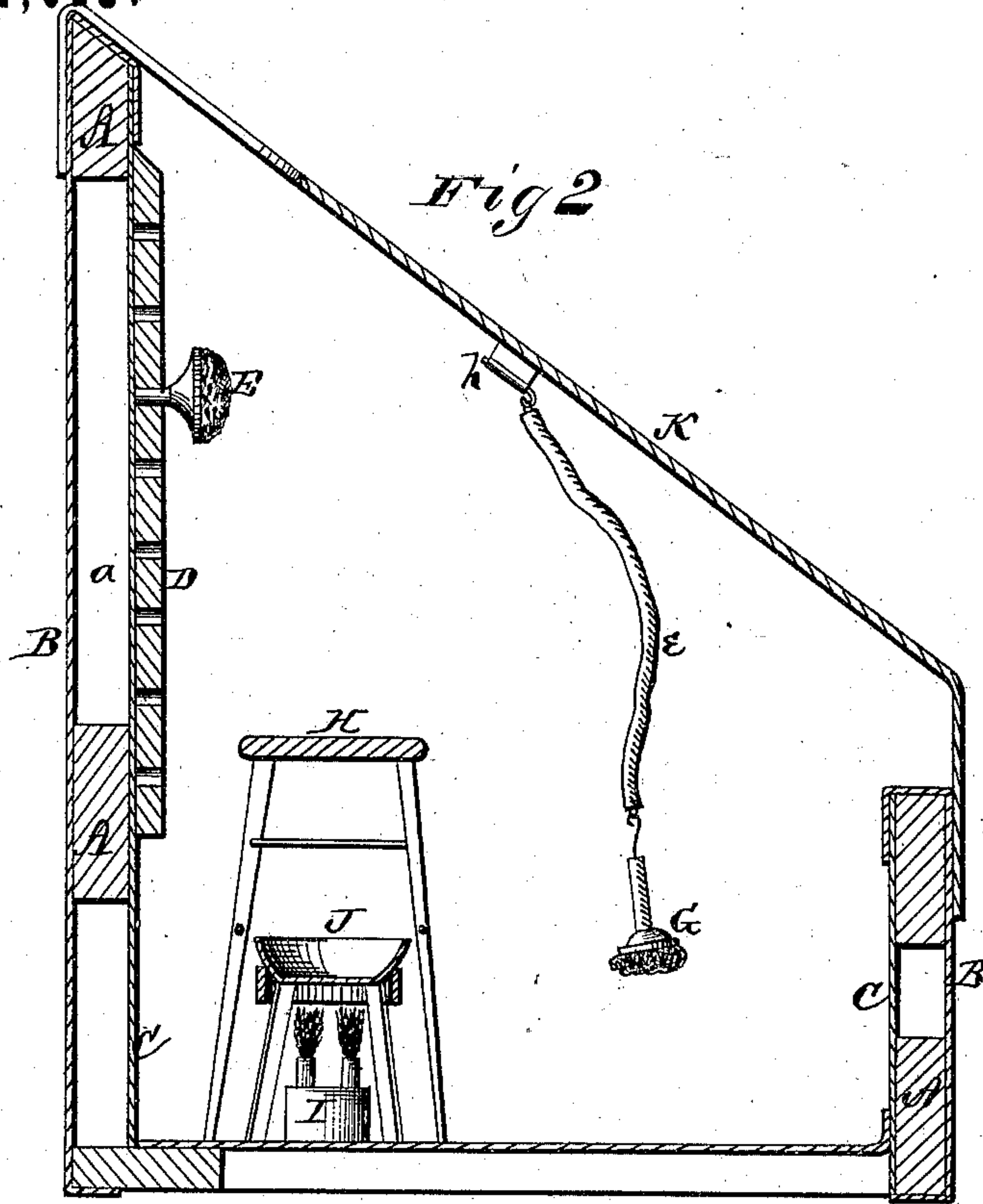
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELIAS SMITH, OF NORMAL, ILLINOIS.

## IMPROVEMENT IN ELECTRIC VAPOR-BATHS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **174,018**, dated February 22, 1876; application filed November 4, 1875.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ELIAS SMITH, of Normal, in the county of McLean and in the State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bath Apparatus; and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, making a part of this specification.

The nature of my invention consists in the construction and arrangement of a light portable vapor-bath apparatus, adapted for the convenient application of an electric current during the employment of vapor for medical and hygienic purposes, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, I will now proceed to describe its construction and operation, referring to the annexed drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my invention. Figs. 2 and 3 are vertical sections of the same. Fig. 4 is a longitudinal section of the electrodes used.

The bath-box consists of a frame, A, of wood, of suitable dimensions, sloping from the back to the front. This frame is made of wooden strips about two and a half inches wide by one inch thick, and upon the outside of this frame is fastened enameled or oil cloth B, and upon the inside is fastened a lining, C, of duck-cloth, which has been coated with a preparation of paraffine, melted with benzole. This mixture makes the cloth water-proof and a non-conductor of electricity.

Between the outer and inner walls B C of the box there is an air-space, *a*, which helps to retain the heat during vaporization. On the inside, at the back, is fastened an electrode-support, D, consisting of a strip of wood, perforated with several holes. Into these holes there is placed a metallic electrode, E, which may be placed in any one of the holes in the electrode-support, thereby raising or lowering the electrode, as may be desired, for the purpose of applying electricity to any part of the spine.

The electrode E is connected to one pole of an electric battery by means of a metal cord, *b*, insulated with a rubber tube, and attached to the connector *d* on the inside of the box. The other electrode, G, is connected to the side of the box, at *h*, by an insulated wire, *e*, and the connectors *d* and *h* are then connected with the two poles of the battery.

The electrode G may be used in the hand to apply to any part of the body, or attached to a metal plate and placed under the foot.

A chair or stool, H, is placed inside of the box, for a person to sit upon while being treated; and under this stool is placed a spirit-lamp, I, and pan J of water, for producing vapor, as shown in Fig. 2.

The upper and front part of the box is left open for entrance, and a prepared-cloth cover, K, with an opening in the upper end, for the head to pass through when the cover is buttoned down.

By the employment of this apparatus a profuse perspiration may be produced without much heat or unpleasantness; also, the effect of the electric current is more profound than when ordinarily applied.

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

1. In a vapor-bath apparatus, the combination of the skeleton frame A and double cloth walls B C, forming an air-chamber, *a*, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

2. The combination of the perforated electrode-support D and the electrode E, adjustable therein, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

3. The combination of the double-walled box A B C, perforated electrode-support D, electrodes E G, and cover K, all constructed substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 8th day of October, 1875.

ELIAS SMITH.

Witnesses:

THOS. SLADE,  
L. H. KERRICK.