UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES C. SLAFTER, OF MINNEAPOLIS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF HIS RIGHT TO CLARENCE O. NASH, OF ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA.

IMPROVEMENT IN OIL-CANS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **176,368**, dated April 18, 1876; application filed February 25, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES C. SLAFTER, of Minneapolis, in the county of Hennepin and State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Oil-Cans; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 is an elevation of an oil-can embodying my invention, with a portion of the nozzle broken away. Fig. 2 is a detached view of the valve, and Fig. 3 represents the blank or plate of metal from which the valve is made.

The object of my invention is to prevent the oil which trickles down the outside of the nozzle or delivery-tip of an oil-can from passing to the outside of the body of the can, where it is liable to soil articles with which it (the can) is brought in contact.

To this end the invention consists in combining with such nozzle a drip cup or disk, to receive the oil which flows down the outside of the nozzle, a perforation to permit the oil thus collected to pass into the body of the can, and an automatic valve arranged within said nozzle, and operating to prevent the oil from flowing out through the above-mentioned perforation when the can is in an inverted position, as will be fully explained.

In the drawings, A is the body of the can, the neck B of which is provided with a screw-thread, into which the nozzle C screws in any usual manner. The nozzle C is of the usual tapering form, and has a drip cup or disk, D, attached thereto. Immediately above this cup there is a perforation, *c*, through the nozzle. E E′ is a valve, the body or upper part E of which is made hollow, tapering in form, and of such size as to fit accurately the inner surface of the nozzle at the point where the hole *c* is located. *e* is a slot in the valve. (See also Fig. 3.) The lower end E′ of the valve is bent at about a right angle to the body E, and is loaded or weighted, for a purpose which will be explained. *c′* is a pin projecting from the inner surface of the nozzle, and passing through the slot *e* in the valve, thus keeping said valve in proper position and limiting its movements. The valve is made from a single piece or blank of metal, Fig. 3, formed into the requisite shape by any usual or preferred method of manufacture. When the can is inverted for the purpose of delivering the oil through the nozzle, the valve moves toward the small end of the nozzle and covers the perforation *c*, (as indicated in Fig. 1,) thus effectually preventing any escape of oil at this point. When, however, the can is returned to an upright position, the valve falls back to the position indicated by dotted lines, thus uncovering the opening *c*, and permitting such oil as may drip or pass down the outside of the nozzle to enter the body of the can. In addition to the effect of the weighted end E′ of the valve in causing it to move over and from the opening *c*, the oil, in flowing into and out of the nozzle C, encounters this end, which is at right angles to the nozzle, and thus insures that the valve shall be properly moved.

What I claim is—

In an oil-can, the combination of the nozzle C, provided with a perforation, *c*, the drip-cup D, and the tubular sliding valve E E′, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JAMES C. SLAFTER.

Witnesses:

GEO. W. HURL,

CLARENCE O. NASH.

J. B. SMITH.

CAR-COUPLING.

No. 176,369. Patented April 18, 1876.

Fig. 1.

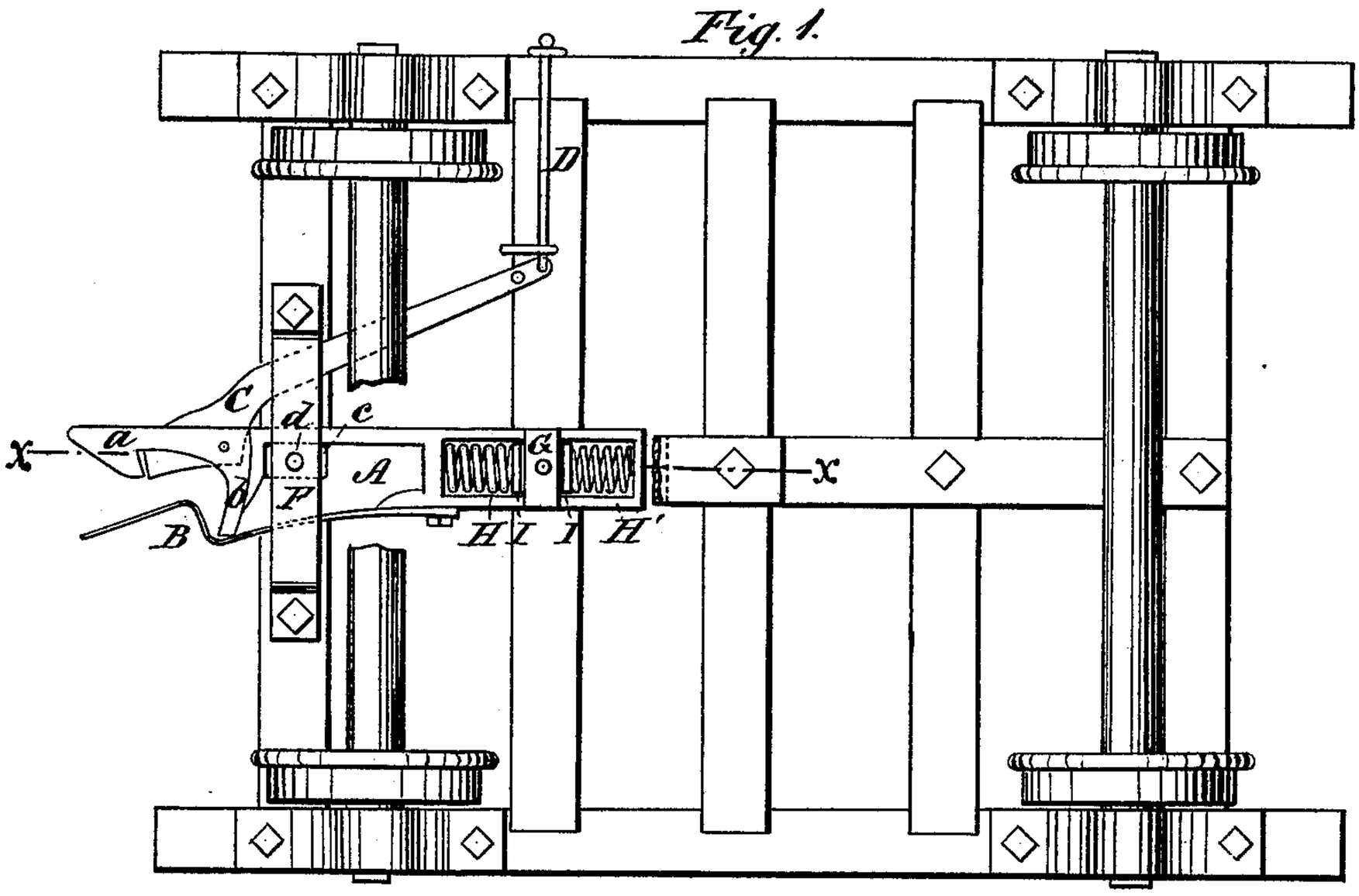


Fig. 2.

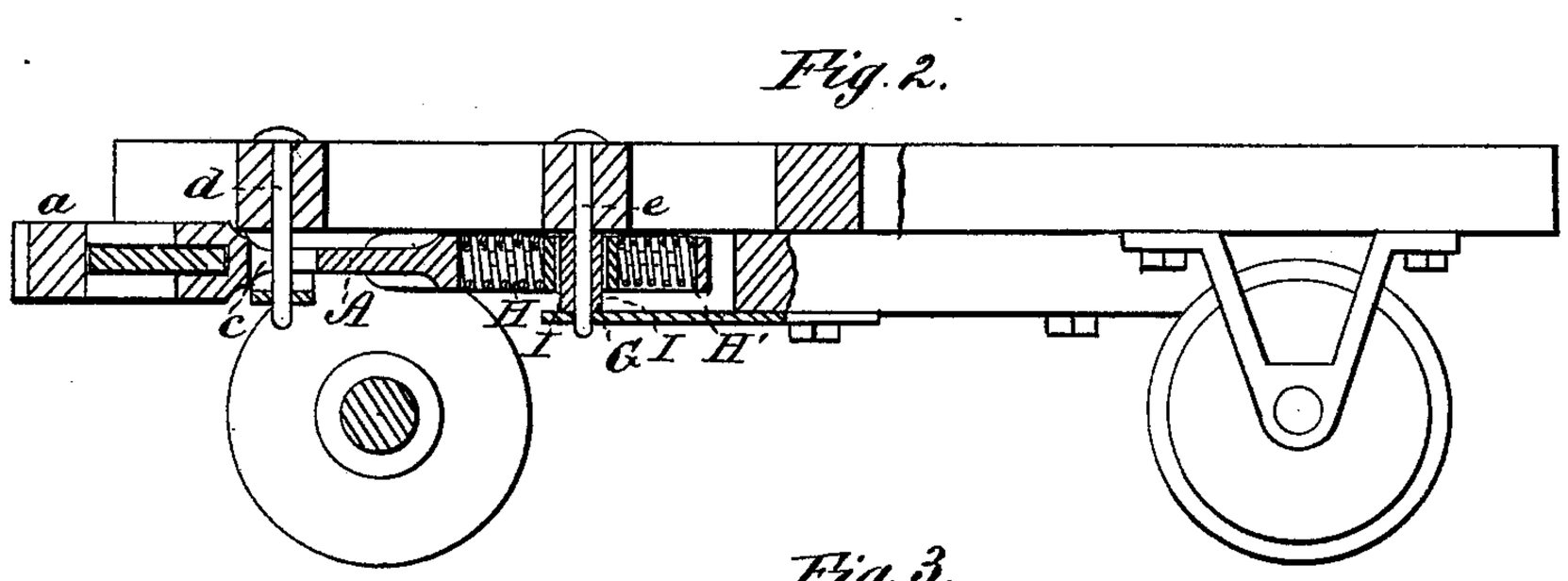
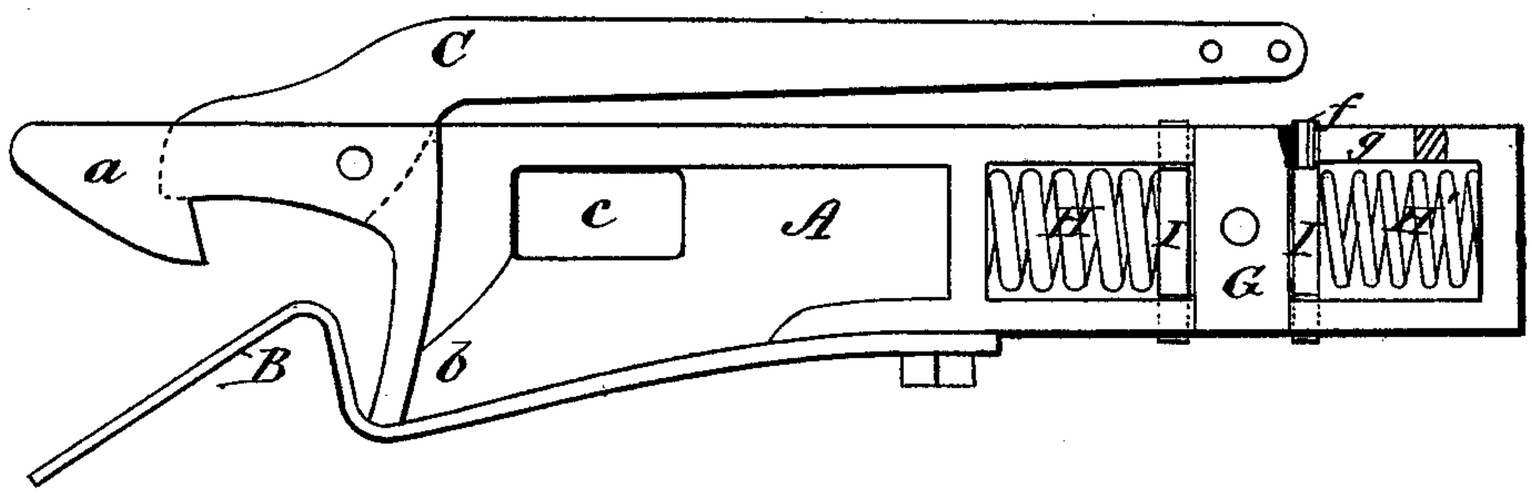


Fig. 3.



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