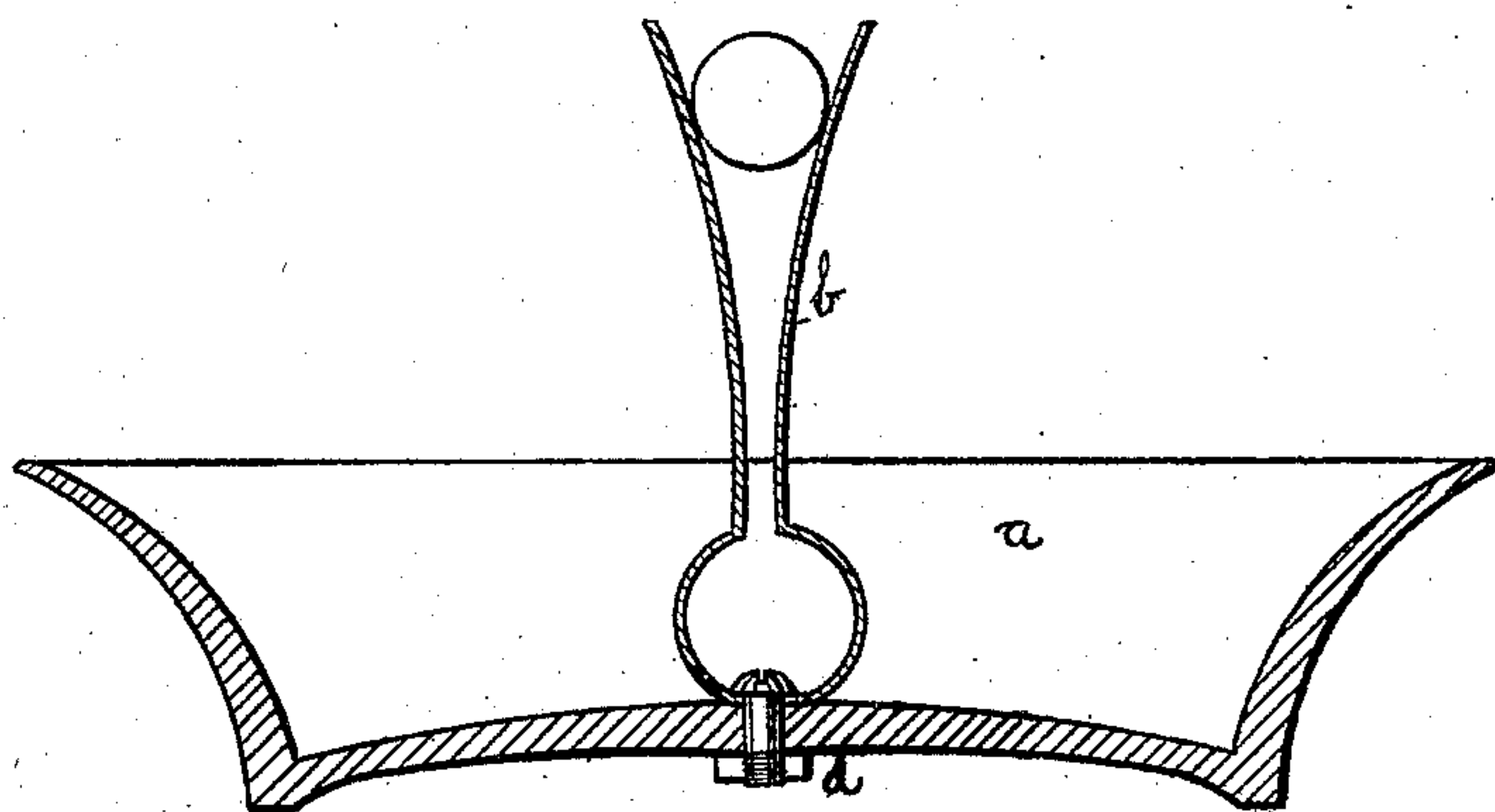


B. L. BLACKFORD.

CIGAR-HOLDER.

No. 177,456.

Patented May 16, 1876.



Witnesses:

Geo. J. Bonner
John Tyler

B. Lewis Blackford Inventor.

By atty

Wm. C. W. Entire

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

B. LEWIS BLACKFORD, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN CIGAR-HOLDERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **177,456**, dated May 16, 1876; application filed April 24, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, B. LEWIS BLACKFORD, of Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cigar-Holders; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification.

My invention has for its object a combined ash and cigar holder for use upon library and card tables, and wherever it may be convenient and desirable. It consists of a saucer or dish, in the center of which is secured a lyre-shaped spring, designed to hold the cigar in such manner that any ashes dropping therefrom will fall into the saucer, as will presently be more fully explained.

To enable others to more fully understand my invention I will proceed to describe the same, referring by letters to the accompanying drawing, which represents a vertical central section of a holder embracing the features of my invention.

a represents a dish or saucer of any suitable material, preferably of sheet metal, and of any attractive design. In the center of said dish or saucer is erected a lyre-shaped spring, *b*, secured to the saucer by means of a screw, *c*, and nut *d*, or in any other manner, though I prefer to secure it in such manner that it may be readily removed for transportation. The legs of this spring may be of any desired length, and should meet the circular base or body at such distance apart that an ordinary cigarette may be embraced by said legs, and gradually tapering outwardly toward their ends, so that cigars of varying sizes may be held in position. This spring should be made

of flat spring metal, and the interior surface of the legs may or may not be serrated or roughened in order to hold the cigar with greater or less tenacity, and the thickness of the metal and dimensions otherwise of the spring will depend entirely upon the judgment of the manufacturer.

It will be observed that while the spring is designed to hold the cigar or cigarette in any position that the ashes will fall necessarily into the dish, and the cigar is prevented from coming again in contact therewith, as is the case in the ordinary ash-receptacles now in use, which existing objection has prevented the more universal adoption of such devices. The necessity for a simple and cheap as well as cleanly device has long been felt, and the absence of such is manifested by the disfigured edges of nearly all card-tables produced by contact with the fire-end of cigars carelessly laid thereon.

My invention may be varied considerably both in material and design as well as construction without departing from its gist, which consists of combining the spring with the saucer, so that the cigar or cigarette is held away from contact with the ash-receptacle.

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

An ash-receptacle, *a*, provided with a spring cigar or cigarette holder, *b*, substantially as and for the purposes hereinbefore set forth.

Witness my hand and seal this 24th day of April, A. D. 1876.

B. LEWIS BLACKFORD. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

E. H. COVEL,

E. T. LOUGHBOROUGH.