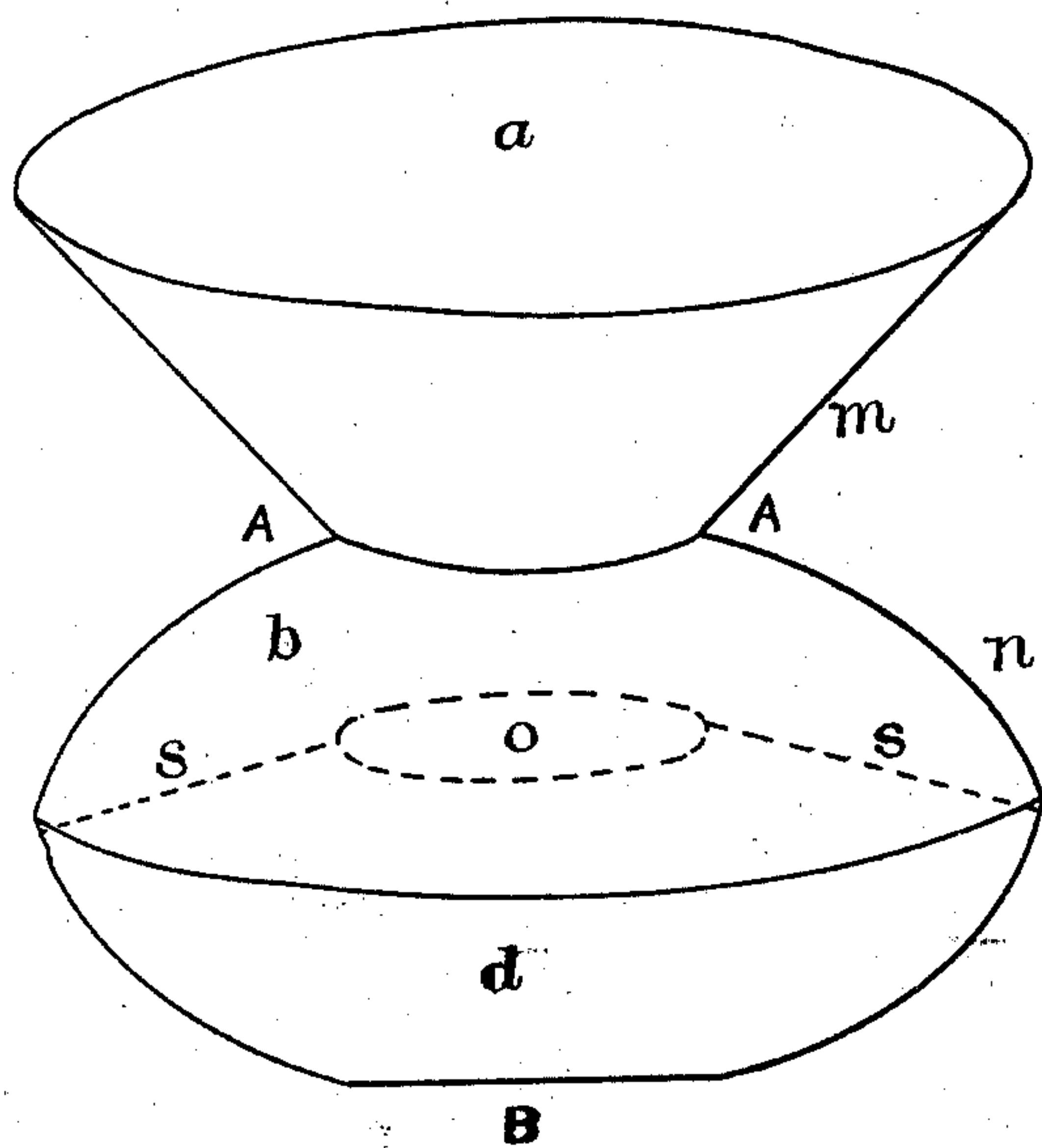


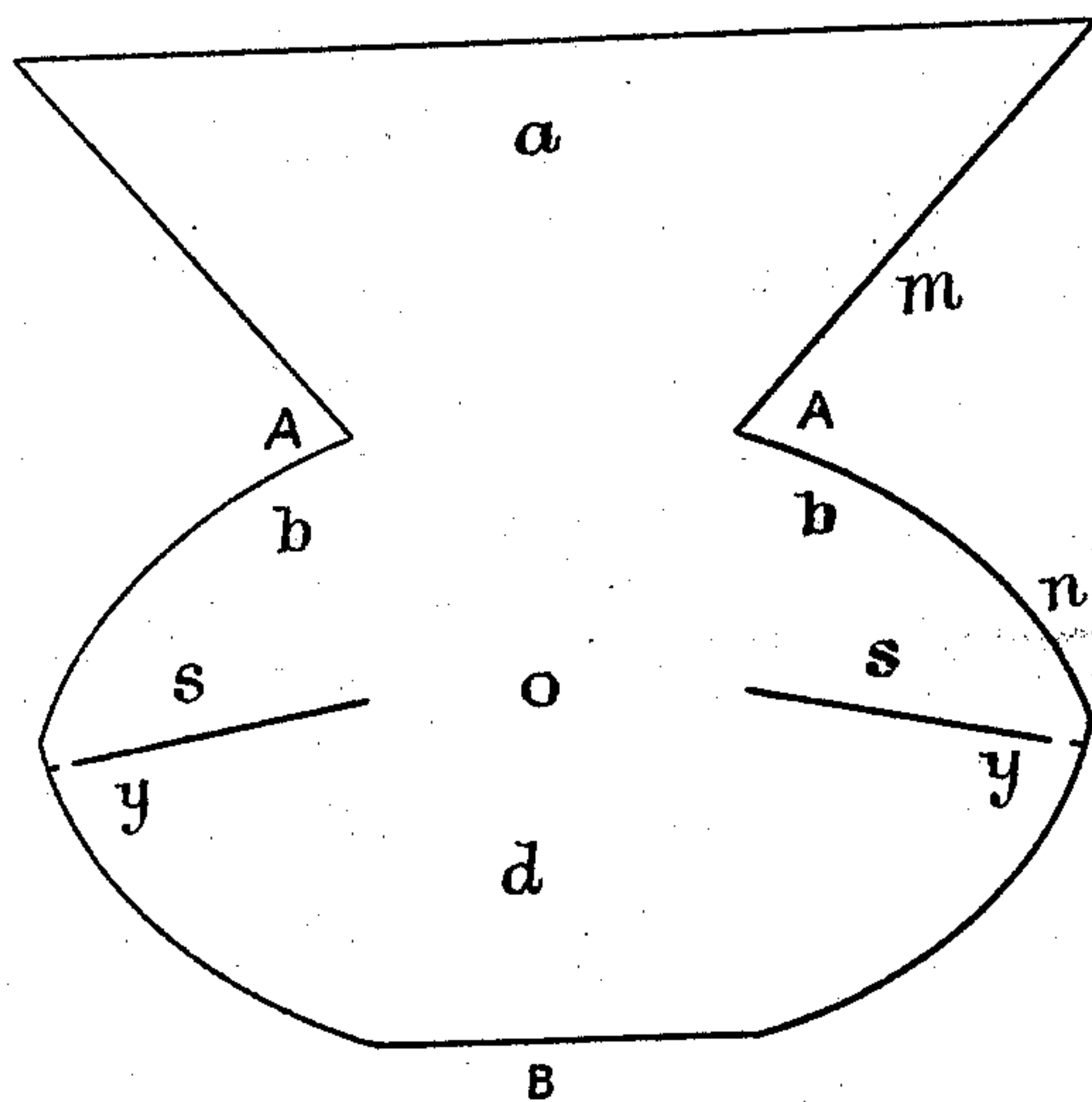
J. H. FERRISS.  
Cuspadore.

No. 209,337.

*Fig. 1.* Patented Oct. 29, 1878.



*Fig. 2.*



*Witnesses*

*Charles S. Brintnall*  
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*by W. C. Hagan*  
*his Attorney*  
*Inventor*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES H. FERRISS, OF TROY, NEW YORK.

## IMPROVEMENT IN CUSPADORES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **209,337**, dated October 29, 1878; application filed July 27, 1878.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES H. FERRISS, of the city of Troy, county of Rensselaer, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Spittoons, and of which the following is a specification:

My invention relates to an improvement in spittoons, and the object of which is, by construction, to prevent them from discharging their contents when accidentally tilted or tipped, and also to make the liquid they may contain, by the position in which it is held in the vessel, a gravitating means to restore the latter to its position upon its base when it has been tilted or tipped.

My invention consists in arranging a horizontal diaphragm-plate within a spittoon which has a dished or rounded bottom or base, a trumpet-formed and flaring top, and an intermediate horizontally-contracted zone, with the diaphragm-plate placed between the contracted zone and base, and having a central opening connecting the two parts of the vessel divided by the diaphragm, and also side openings formed in the diaphragm-plate at or near where it joins the inside wall of the spittoon.

In the accompanying drawing there are two figures illustrating my invention, and like letters designate the same parts in both of them.

Figure 1 shows a view, in perspective, of a spittoon or cuspadore with my invention applied, and in which the position of the diaphragm-plate is designated by means of a dotted line. Fig. 2 illustrates a vertical section of the same device, taken through the center.

The various parts of the device to which my improvement is added, as well as the combined improvement, are designated by letter-reference as follows: The trumpeted-shaped and flaring top through which liquids are injected or voided into the spittoon is designated at *a*. The base having a dished form, upon which the vessel rests, and which contains the fluids voided into it, is illustrated at *B*. The horizontally-contracted zone between the top and base is designated at *A A*, produced by the approaching lines of form designated at *m* and *n*. The diaphragm-plate is shown at *S S*, and as having the central opening *O*, with the smaller side openings *y y*, and when applied producing the connected spaces *b* and *d*. The diaphragm-plate is shown as raised

upward toward the central opening, so that when liquids are voided or injected into the opening *a*, which do not pass through the opening *O*, they will run down to the sides of the plate and pass into the lower chamber, *d*, through the openings *y y*.

As ordinarily constructed, the form of spittoon or cuspadore described and shown will, without the improvement of the diaphragm-plate, retain the liquid contents when turned upon its side; but, when suddenly tilted or tipped over upon its side by being run against, it has a tendency to slop over or to jet upward the liquid which it contains. This difficulty is entirely removed by the addition of the diaphragm-plate, and this further advantage comes from its application. When the vessel is constructed without the diaphragm and turned upon its side, the contained liquid can have but little gravitating tendency to right the vessel for the two inclined surfaces of the side hold, and equilibrate the gravitating force of the liquid. When the diaphragm-plate is used, then the liquid is wholly held against the base curve, and produces a gravitating force to restore the vessel to its base.

I am well aware that the form of the cuspadore or spittoon shown and described is not new, and that my invention only exists as an improvement applied to and combined with it.

While I have described and illustrated my invention as applied to one kind of cuspadore or spittoon, I do not desire to limit its application to the precise form shown, but desire to make it an essential element of my invention that the vessel shall contain the equivalent form of dishing base and connected expanded open top.

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

In a spittoon or cuspadore having a rounded or dish-formed base and an open flaring top, and arranged between the bottom of the flaring top and the base, the diaphragm-plate *S*, having the central opening *O*, side apertures *y y*, and forming, with the upper and lower curved walls of the dish-formed base, the connected inclosures *b* and *d*, as shown and as described.

Signed at Troy this 23d day of July, 1878.

JAS. H. FERRIS.

Witnesses:

G. GEER, Jr.,  
WM. C. GEER.