

F. FOWLER.  
Earth-Closet.

No. 222,581.

Patented Dec. 16, 1879.

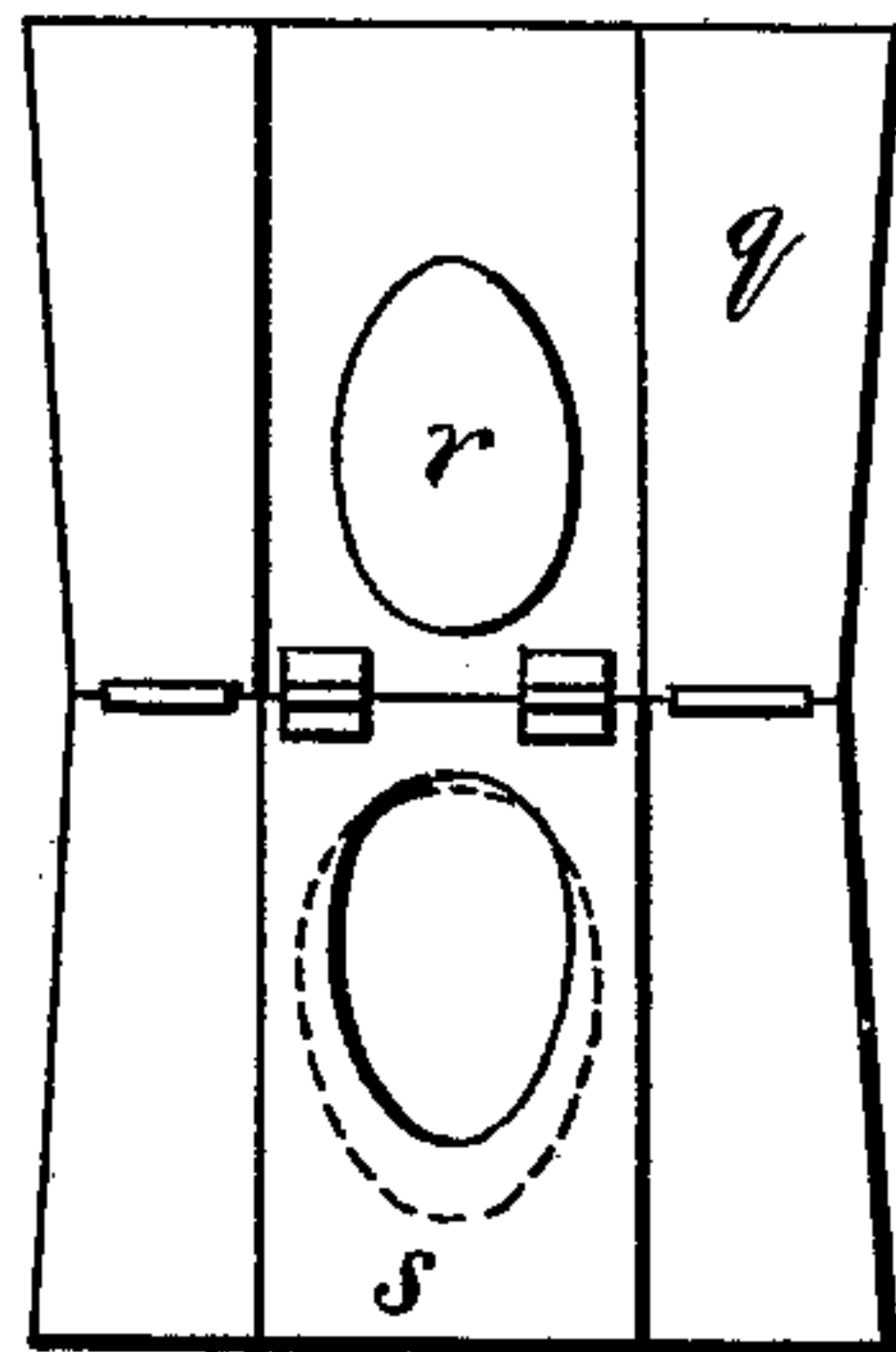


FIG. 2.

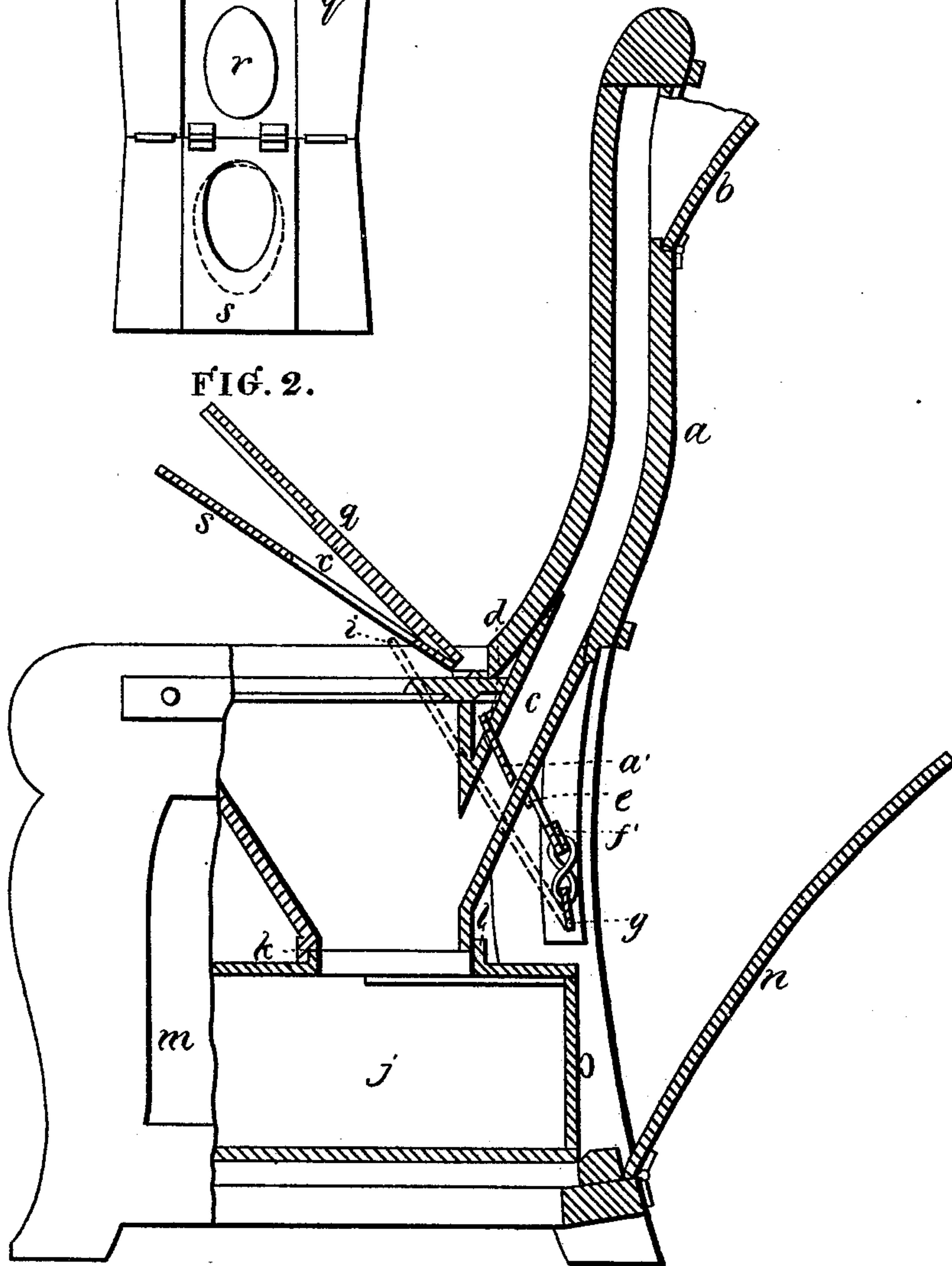


FIG. 1.

WITNESSES:

Chas. H. Kimball.  
H. G. Briggs

INVENTOR:

Frank Fowler  
By his atty.  
William Henry Clifford

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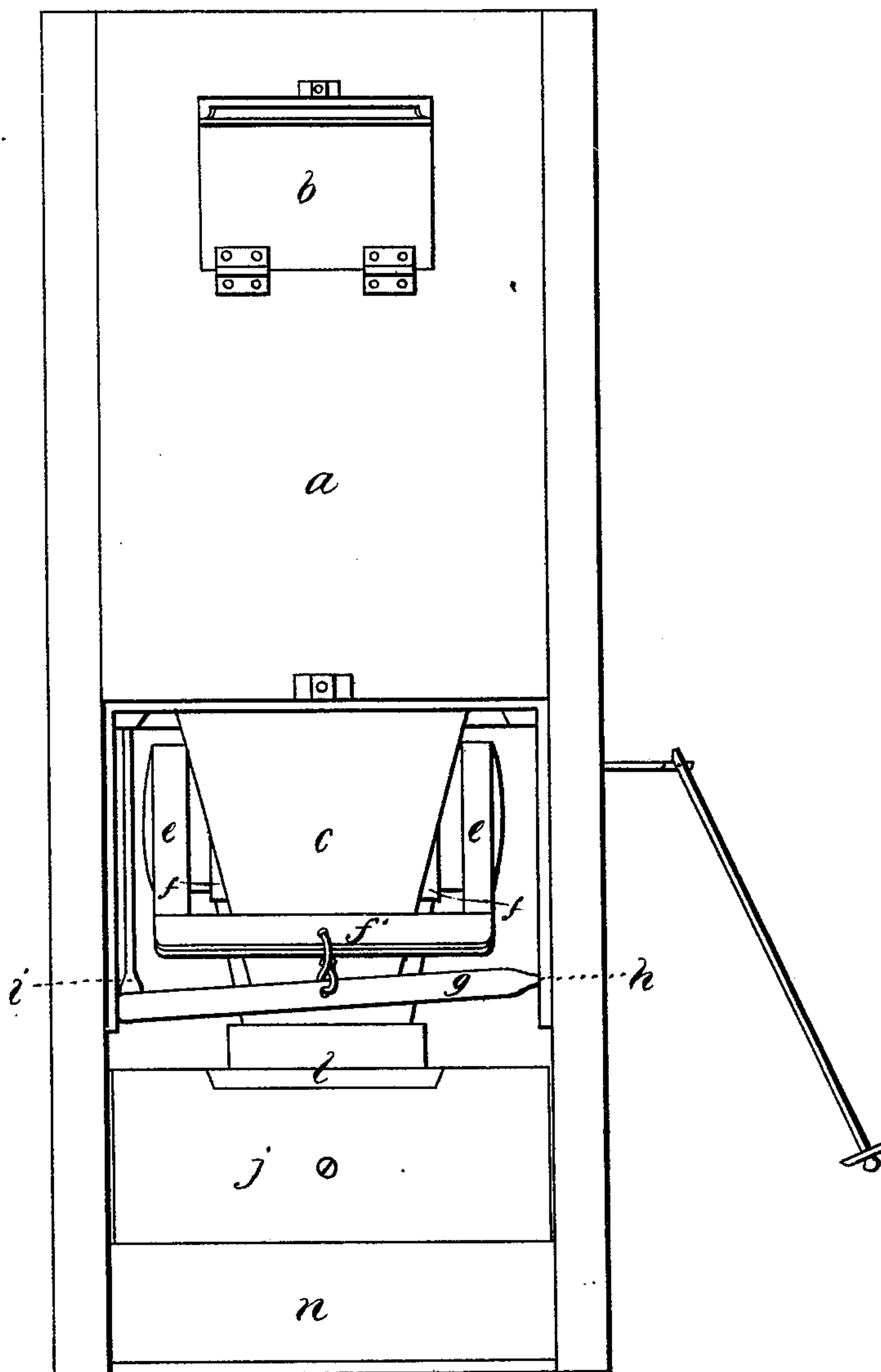


FIG. 3.

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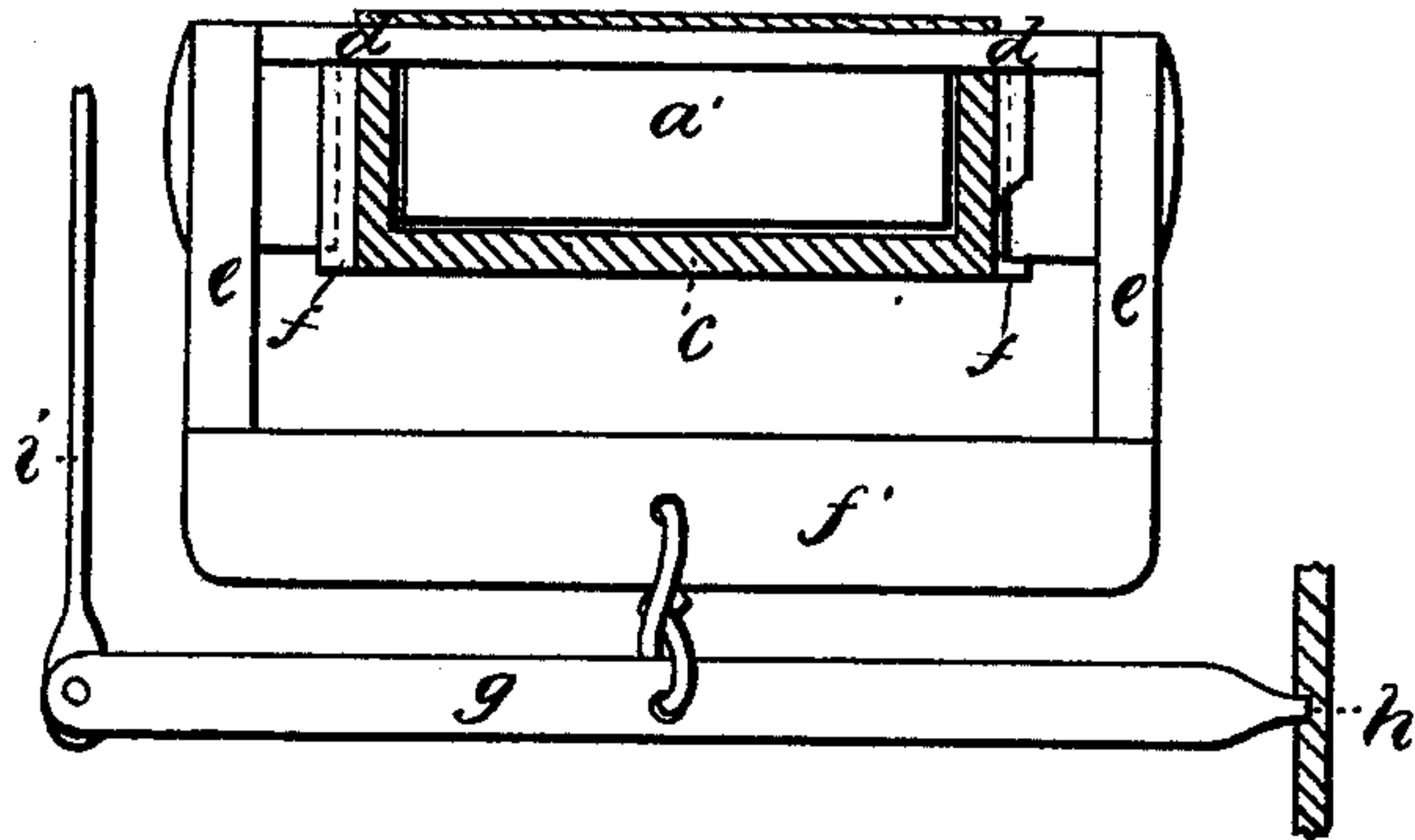


FIG. 4.

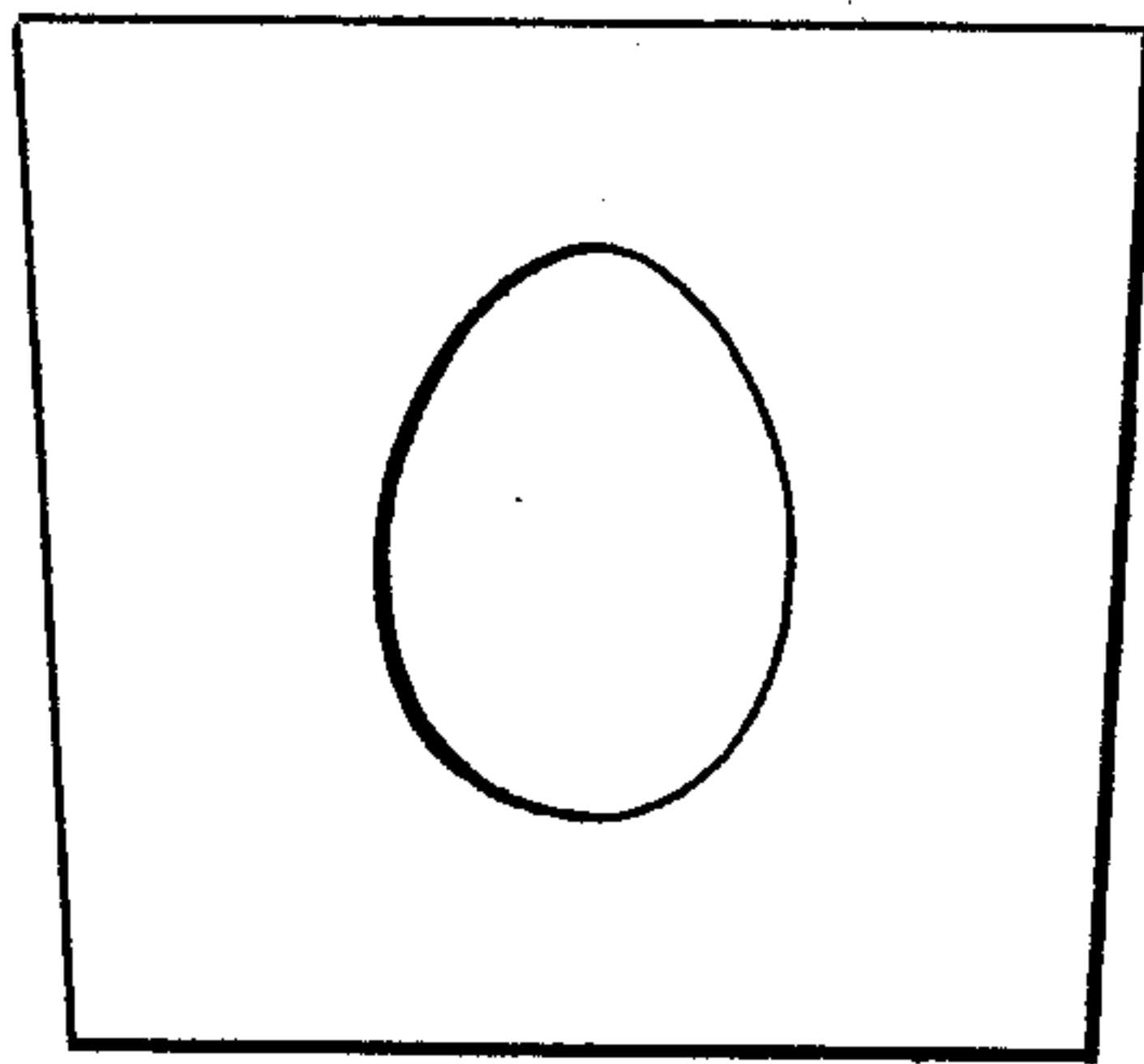


FIG. 5.

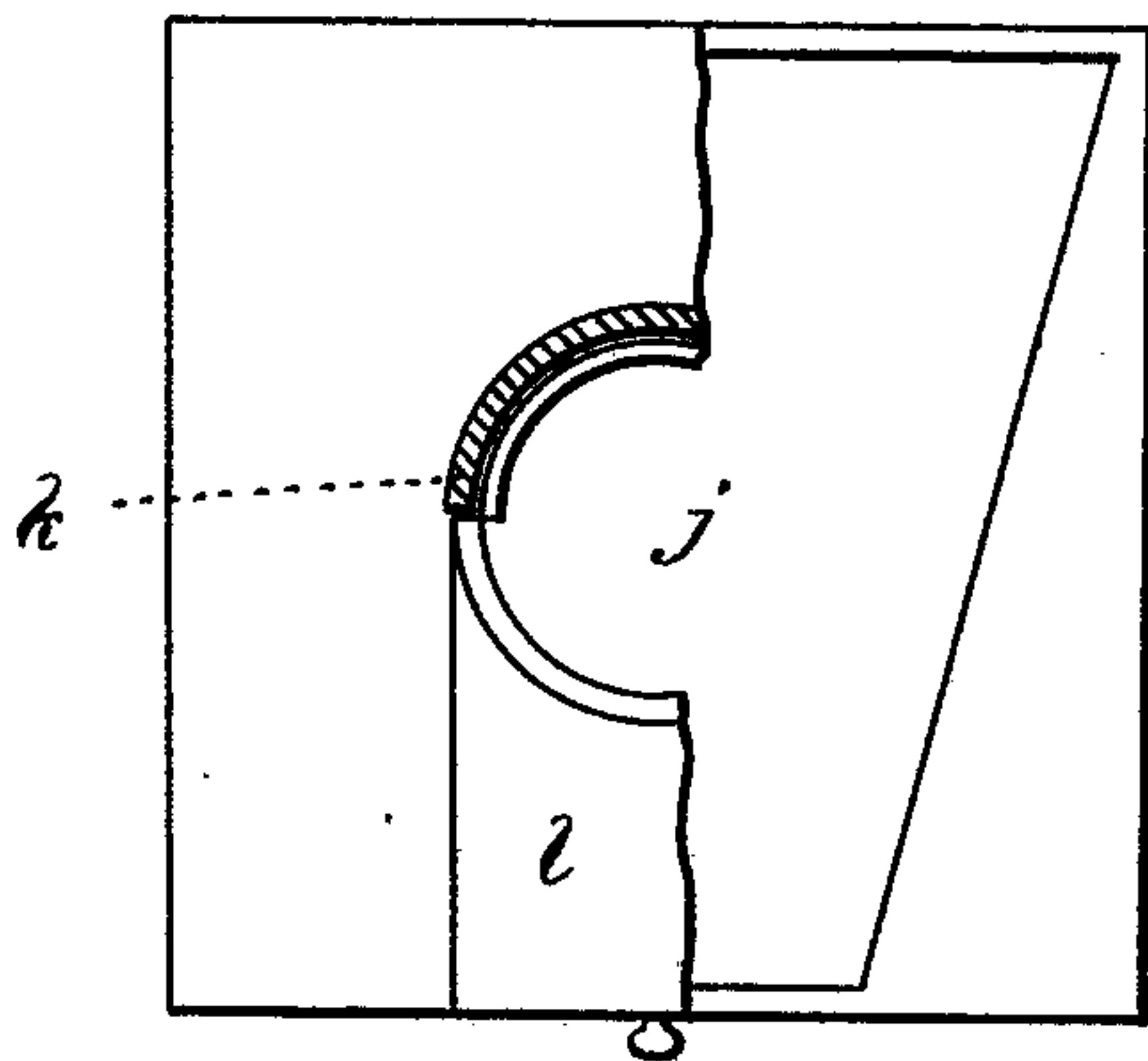


FIG. 6.

WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK FOWLER, OF DEERING, MAINE.

## IMPROVEMENT IN EARTH-CLOSETS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **222,581**, dated December 16, 1879; application filed April 12, 1879.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FRANK FOWLER, of Deering, in the county of Cumberland and State of Maine, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Earth-Closets; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, 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 letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a sectional view of the chair and parts. Fig. 2 is a detail of double covers. Fig. 3 is a rear view of chair. Fig. 4 is a detail of regulating cut-off. Fig. 5 is the removable seat. Fig. 6 is a detail of receiving-box.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts.

This invention has for its object the production of an improvement in that article of manufacture known as "earth closets," made and constructed in the form of a chair, convenient for the use of invalids and others.

It consists of the combination of a chair-back, having within a reservoir or receptacle for holding dry earth, a chute or regulating cut-off operated by an arrangement of levers, a bowl, and a receiving removable box, as herein described.

It consists, further, in the combination of the removable receiving-box, with metallic sides, and a hinged solid back to the lower part of the chair and its bowl.

It consists, further, in the combination, with the seat, of a double cover, in a manner herein-after described.

*a* shows the hollow back or reservoir to receive the earth. *b* is a hinged cover to an opening thereto, with cloth side pieces. This door when open admits of the introduction of the earth into the hollow back or receptacle. It may be closed and fastened in any well-known manner.

At the bottom of the hollow back or reservoir is a chute, *c*, to convey the earth through an aperture in the bowl upon the faces in the receiving-box. This conduit is at its upper end as wide as the receptacle for the earth, and is narrowed to the proper width to fit into the aperture in the bowl. In this chute or con-

duit is fitted a cut-off valve, *a'*, which exactly fills and fits the inside space of the chute where it is inserted. This valve is hung upon a cross-bar, *d*, which plays into an opening or slit across the top side of the chute. Attached to this cross-bar are two side arms, *e e*, working in guides *f f* on each side of the chute. At their lower ends these two side arms are again rigidly connected by the yoke *f'*. The two side arms project sufficiently far below the bottom side of the chute to permit of the rise and fall of the yoke *f'*.

*g* shows a horizontal lever, pivoted to the inside of the chair-frame at *h*. At its opposite end there is attached to it a pull-up rod, *i*, which rod projects up through the seat of the chair, and is lifted by the user of the chair, as common.

The horizontal lever *h* is connected with the yoke *f'* by a loose link, in order to admit of the straight or vertical movement of the valve. The operation of this combination is manifest. By pulling upon the lifting-rod, a certain quantity of earth is admitted from the reservoir through the chute and bowl into the receiving-box. When the rod is pushed down the falling of the earth is intercepted.

*j* shows the removable receiving-box, having a circular aperture on the top, which is intended to receive the lower end of the bowl. This box has a lip or flange extending around the hole. One part of the flange is higher than the other part, and is intended to encircle one-half of the circumference of the bottom of the bowl. The other part of the flange passes inside of a projecting flange, *k*, on the lower end of the bowl. The removable top of the receiving-box is shown at *l*, and is used for convenience of emptying the same. The box is also provided within with converging sides, for the same object.

The metallic sides of the chair seat or bottom are shown at *m*, and the hinged back at *n*. The metal panels or sides prevent the escape of stench, and do not retain it, as would wooden ones.

The seat has a further cover, *q*. This cover has an elliptically-formed projection, *r*, and an under or interior cover, *s*. This interior cover has a smaller hole than the one in the fixed seat, for the accommodation of children.

This under seat is held in place when not used by the elliptical projection above spoken of fitting into its hole, and thus uniting it with the outer part of the hinged cover.

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

1. The combination of the hollow back or reservoir *a*, cover *b*, chute *c*, valve *a'*, cross-bar *d*, arms *e e*, guides *f f*, yoke *f'*, lever *g*, and rod *i*, with the bowl and receiving-box, to operate as herein set forth.

2. The combination of the removable receiving-box, with its aperture, flanges, removable top, and converging sides, with the bowl

having the flange *k*, the metallic sides of the chair *m*, and the hinged back *n*, as herein set forth.

3. In combination with the fixed seat and its hole, the cover *q*, the interior cover *s*, and the projection *r*, as herein set forth.

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

FRANK FOWLER.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM HENRY CLIFFORD,  
H. G. BRIGGS.