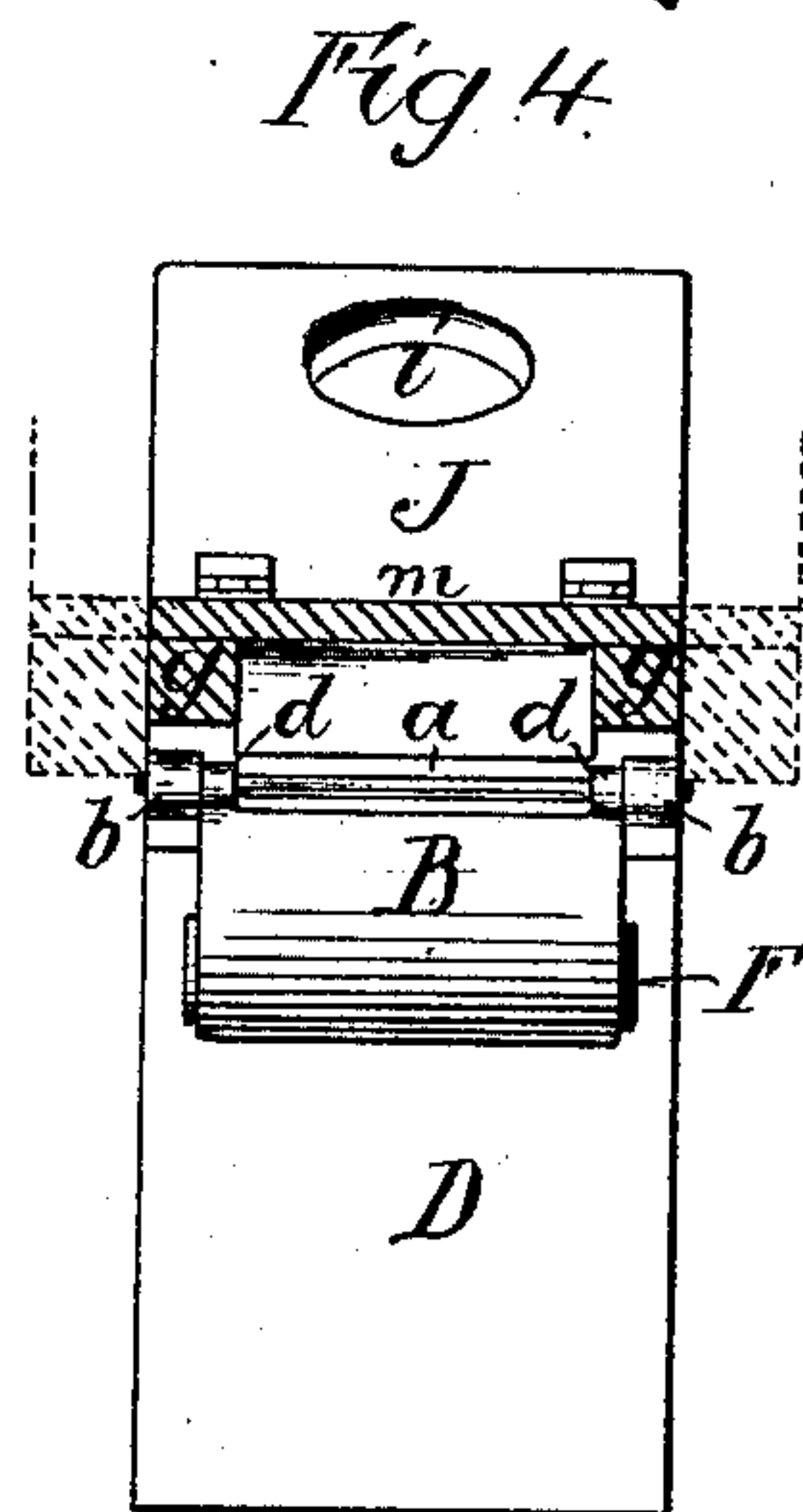
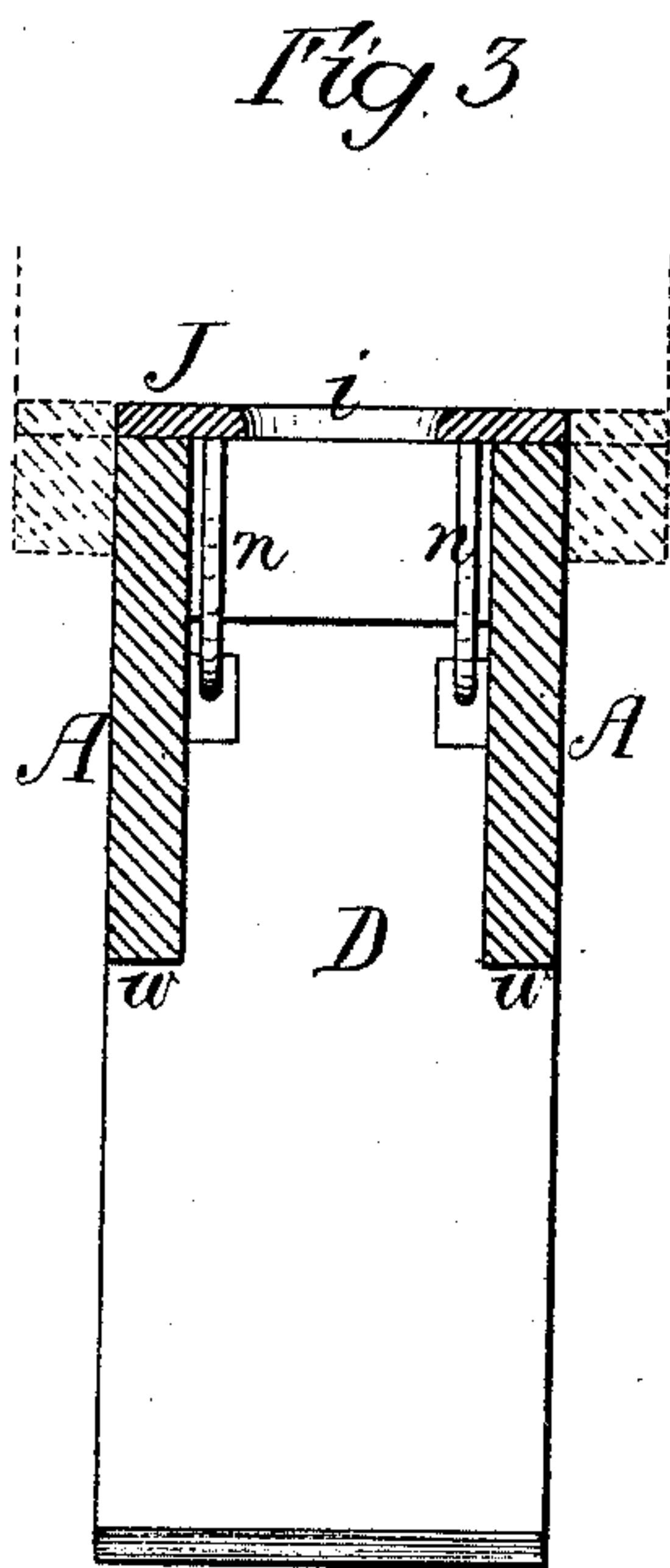
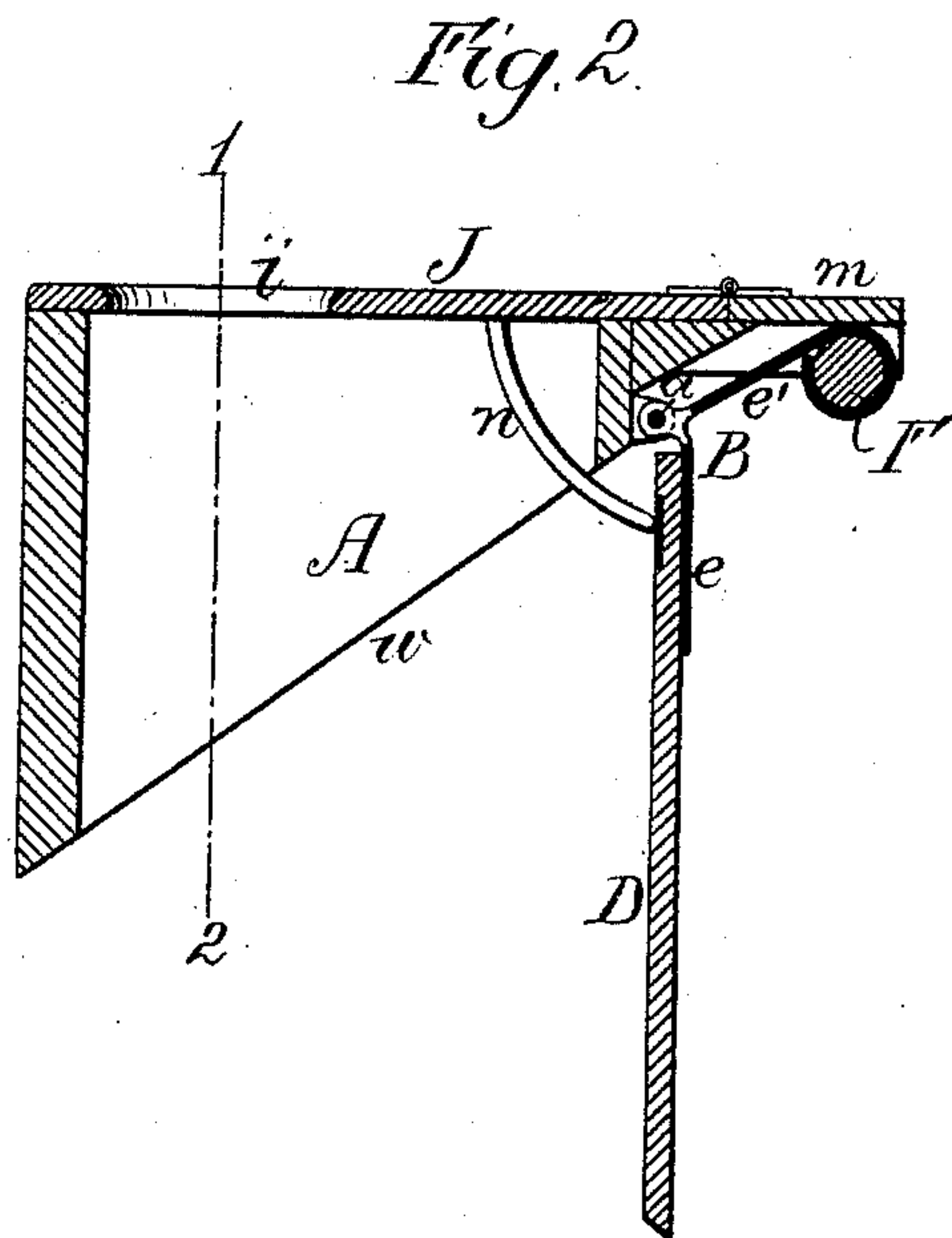
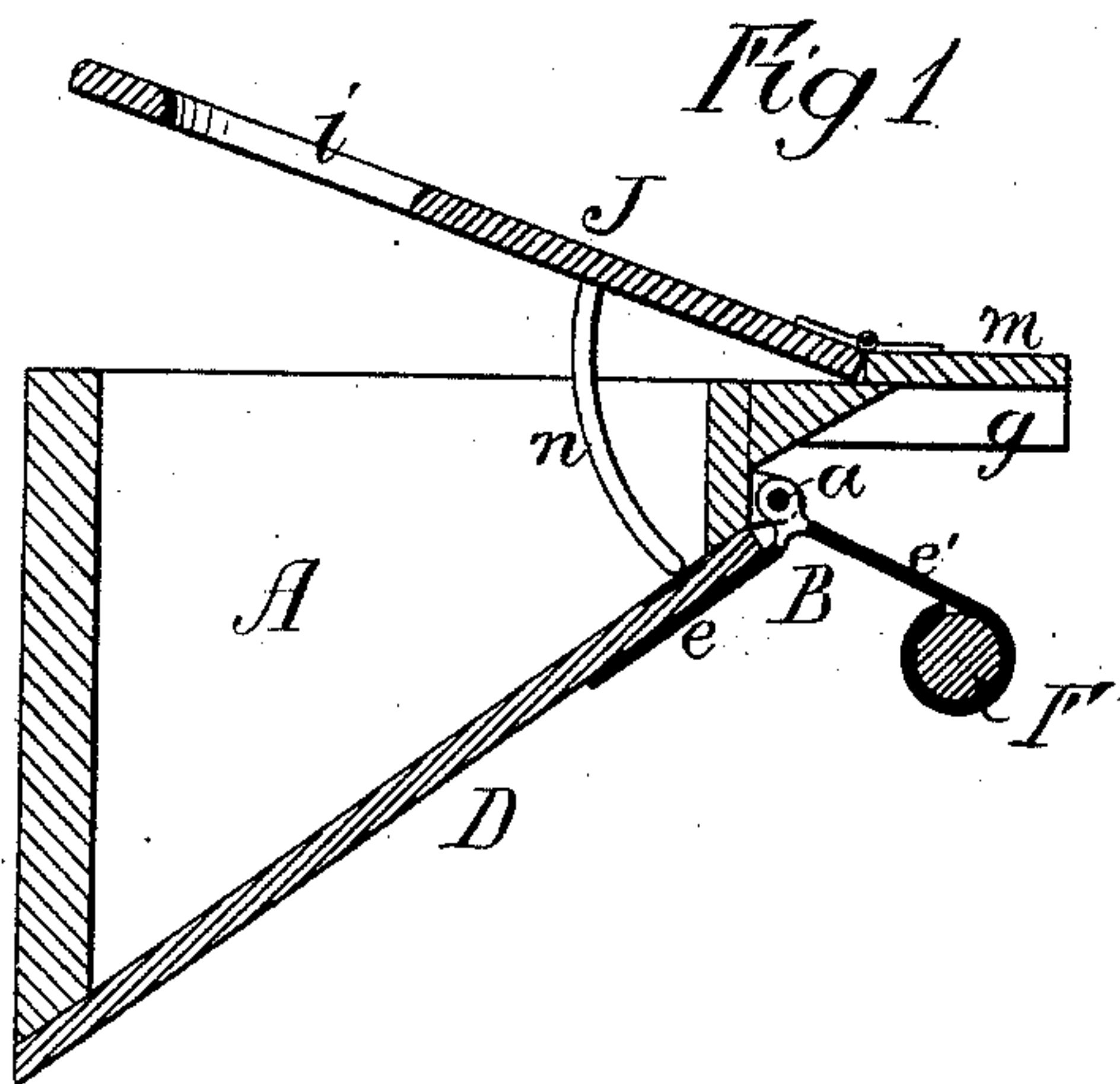


J. J. GORMAN.  
Privy-Seat.

No. 223,131.

Patented Dec. 30, 1879.



Witnesses  
*M. Deumer*  
*Harry Smith*

Inventor  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN J. GORMAN, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

## IMPROVEMENT IN PRIVY-SEATS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **223,131**, dated December 30, 1879; application filed October 2, 1879.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN J. GORMAN, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Privy-Seats, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to so combine the hinged lid of a privy-seat with a casing or frame and a self-closing valve that the escape of noxious gases from the cess-pool when the seat is not occupied will be prevented; and this object I attain in the manner which I will now proceed to describe, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a view of my improved privy-seat when not in use; Fig. 2, the same as it appears when occupied; Fig. 3, a transverse section on the line 1 2, Fig. 2; and Fig. 4, a rear view, partly in section, of Fig. 1.

A represents a casing or frame, which may be fitted to the inside of or may take the place of the ordinary privy-seat frame.

A bar, *a*, is adapted to lugs *b* at the rear of the casing, and to lugs *d*, formed on a bent plate, B, one portion, *c*, of which is secured to the under side of a valve, D, the other portion, *c'*, of the plate carrying a weight, F.

J is a lid, having the usual opening *i*, and hinged at the rear edge to a transverse bar, *m*, carried by bars *g*, which project rearwardly from the casing A. From the under side of this lid J project two curved arms, *n*, the lower ends of which bear upon metal plates secured to the upper face of the valve D.

When the privy-seat is not occupied the weight F causes the closing of the valve D tightly against the inclined seat *w*, formed by the lower edge of the casing A, the hinged lid J being thereby elevated, as shown in Fig. 1, but the escape of noxious vapors or gases from the cess-pool being prevented by the valve.

When a person occupies the privy-seat the lid J is depressed, thereby, through the medium of the arms, causing the valve to move downward and backward until it occupies the position shown in Fig. 2, or a position inclined rearwardly in respect thereto, and is thus entirely out of the way.

When the occupant of the seat rises the weight F causes the restoration of the valve D to its former position, as shown in Fig. 1, and the consequent elevation of the lid J.

The casing A and valve D may be made of wood or metal, or a wooden casing may be lined and a wooden valve faced with sheet metal or like material.

The counterbalance-weight is preferred in place of a spring, owing to the tendency of the spring to become corroded and useless by the action of the gases and acids to which it is subjected.

The lower ends of the arms *n* simply bear upon the valve D, and are not secured thereto, so that the lid J may be thrown back in order to expose the interior of the casing A and the valve D for cleansing or other purposes. The arms *n* may be attached to the valve instead of to the lid, and a suitable adjustable stop or catch may be provided to prevent the elevation of the lid by children. One arm alone, or more than two arms, may be employed.

I claim as my invention—

1. The combination of the casing A, adapted to or forming part of the frame of a privy-seat, the self-closing valve D, the hinged lid J, and an arm or arms, *n*, whereby the movement of the lid is transmitted to the valve, and vice versa, as set forth.

2. The combination of the casing A, the pivot-rod *a*, the valve D, and the plate B, carrying a counterbalance-weight, F, as set forth.

3. The combination of the casing A, the self-closing valve D, the hinged lid J, and the arm or arms *n*, unconfined at one end, so as to permit the elevation of the lid J, as specified.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN J. GORMAN.

Witnesses:

ALEXANDER PATTERSON,  
HARRY SMITH.