

(No Model.)

S. C. WILCOX.

SALT CELLAR.

No. 294,341.

Patented Feb. 26, 1884.

Fig. 1.

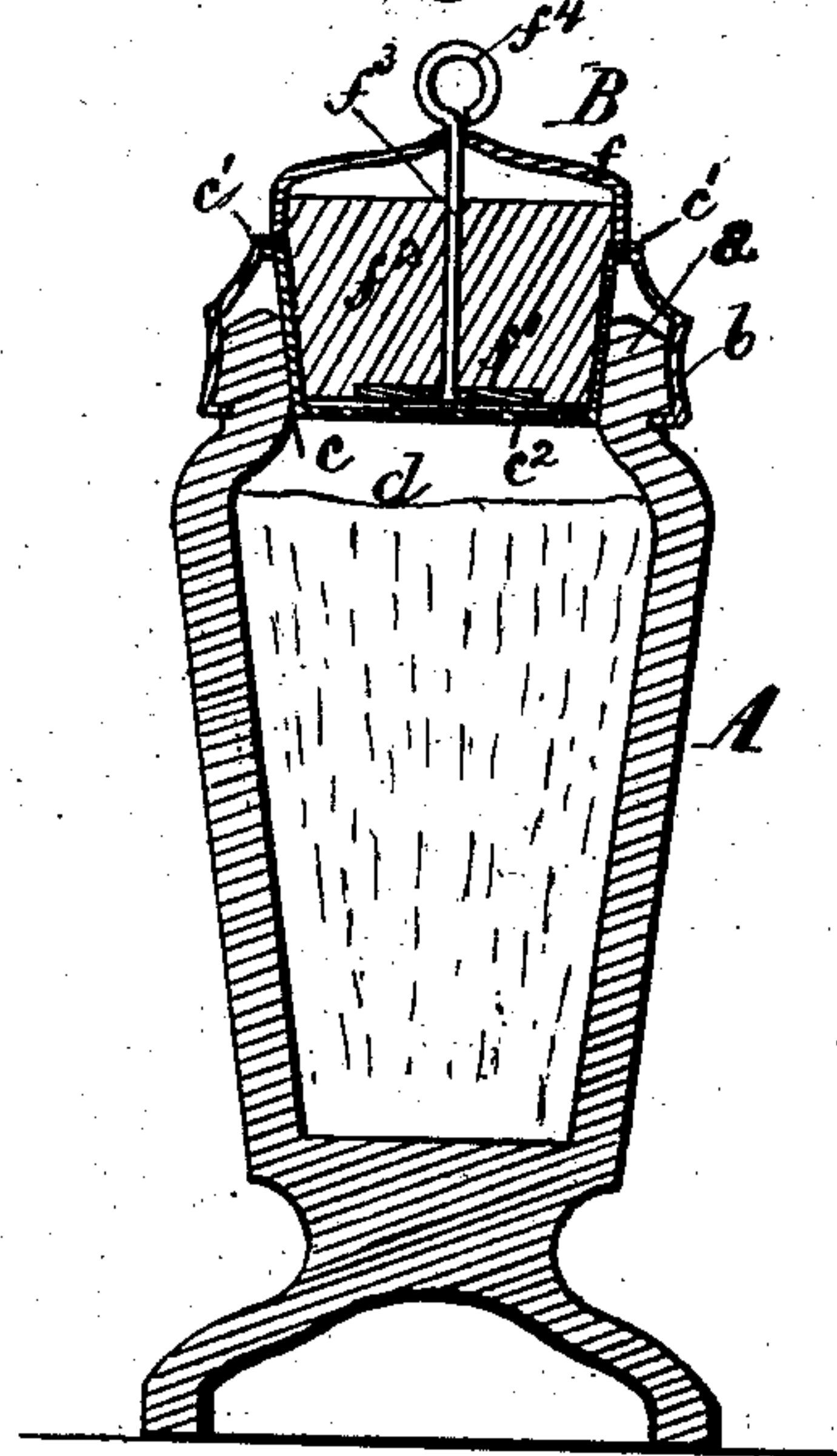


Fig. 5.

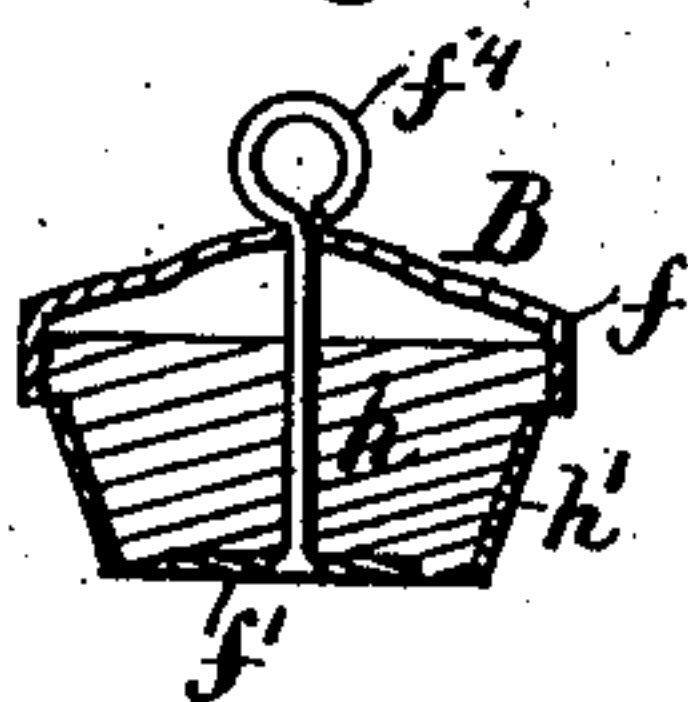


Fig. 2.

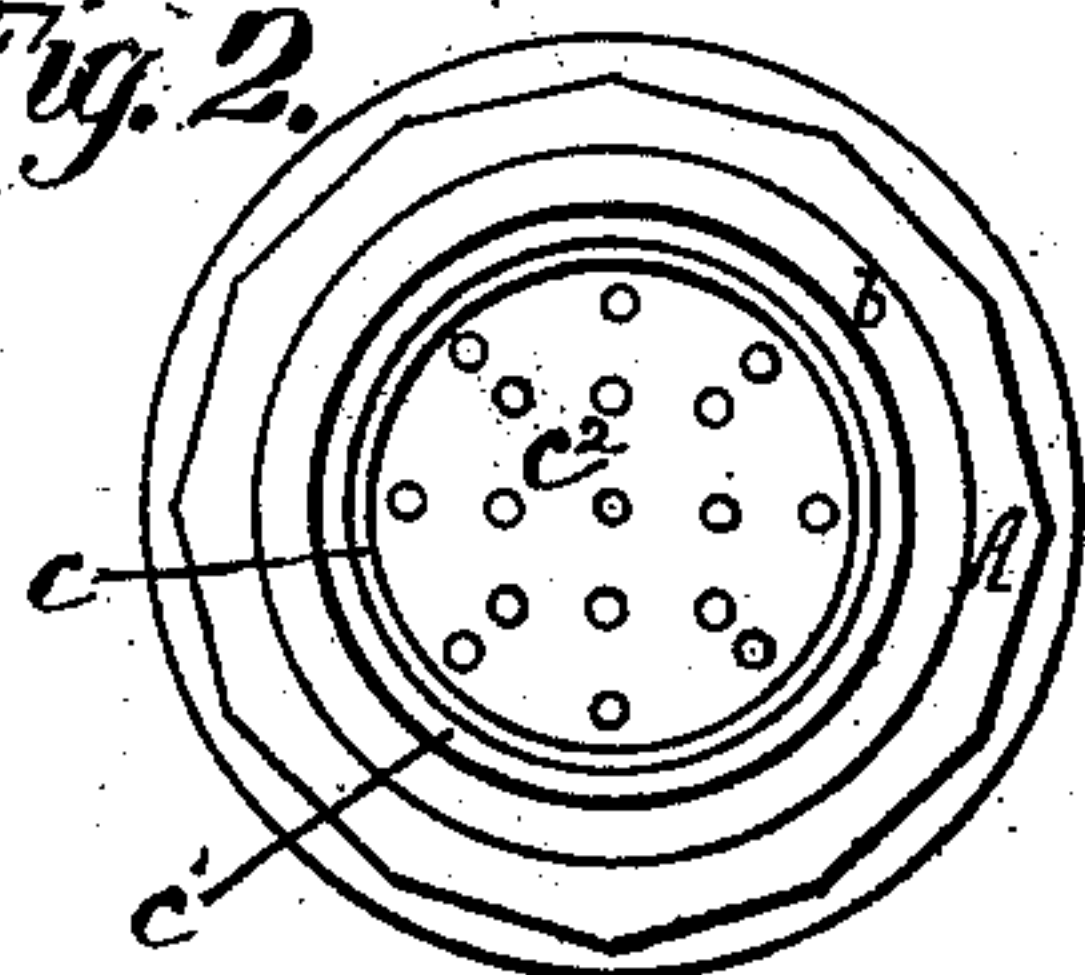


Fig. 4.

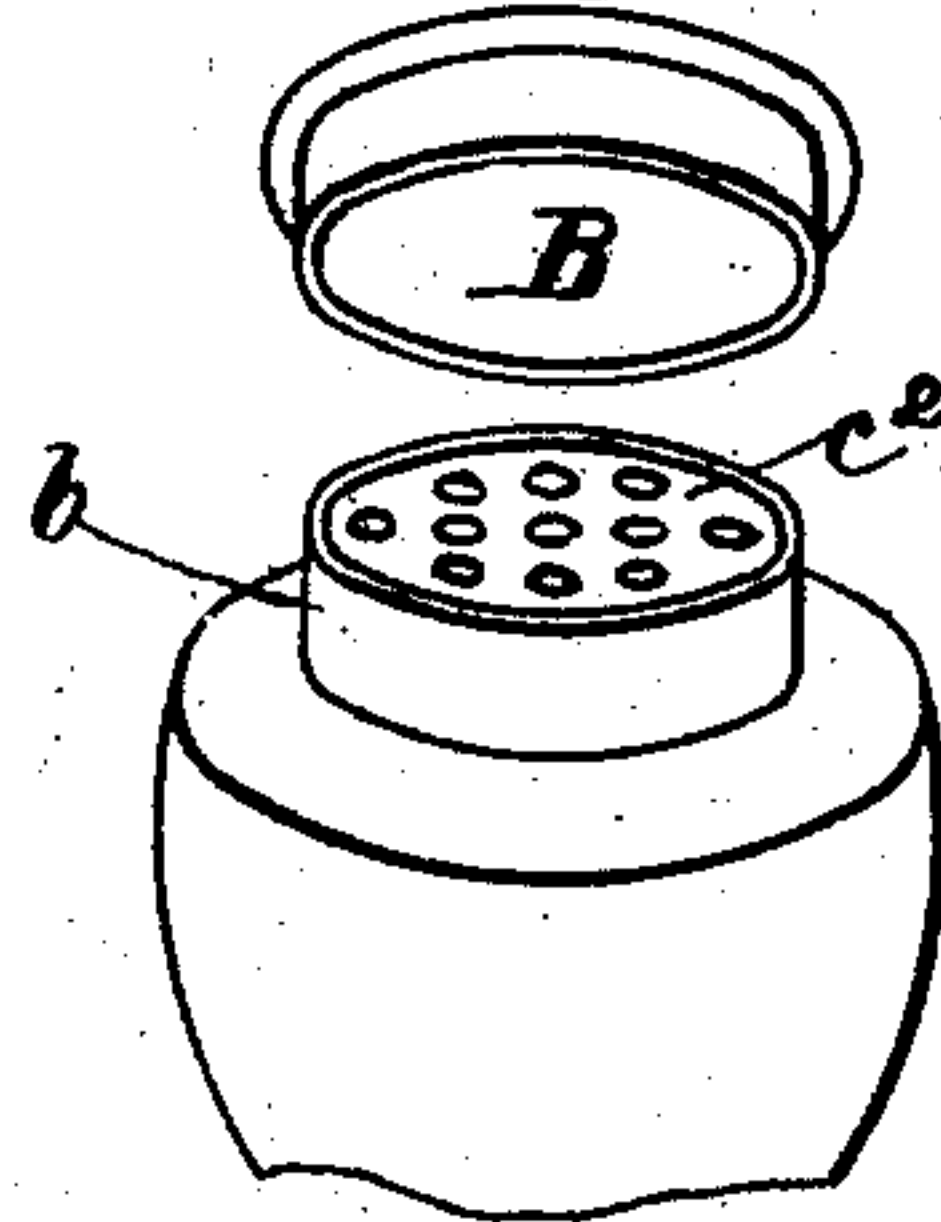
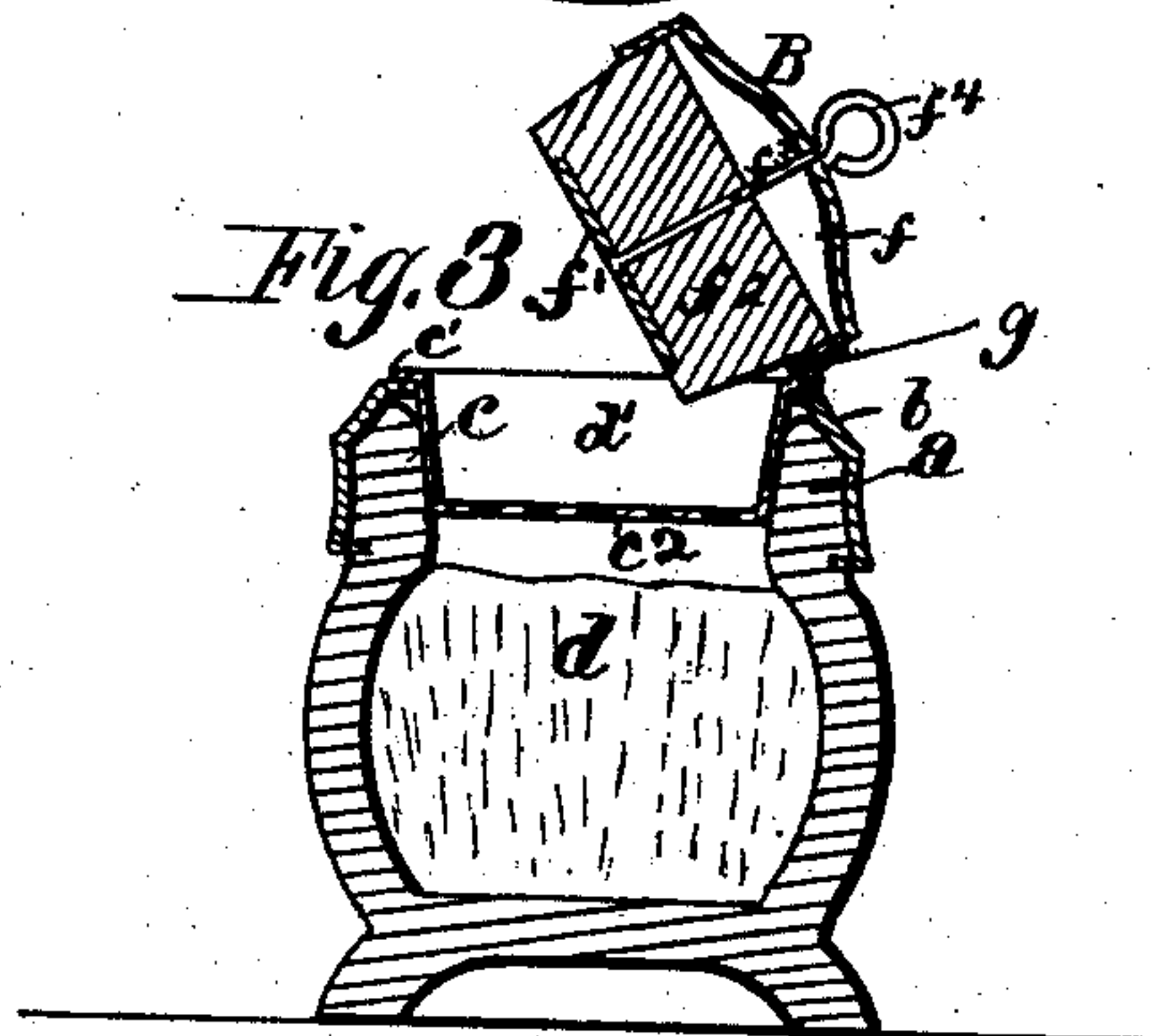


Fig. 3.



Attest.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

STEPHEN CLARK WILCOX, OF DUBUQUE, IOWA, ASSIGNOR TO LE ROY DELOS RANDALL, OF SAME PLACE.

SALT-CELLAR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 294,341, dated February 26, 1884.

Application filed September 8, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, STEPHEN C. WILCOX, a citizen of the United States, residing at Dubuque, in the county of Dubuque and State of Iowa, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Salt-Cellars, of which the following, in connection with the annexed drawings and letters of reference thereon, is a specification.

My invention relates to a salt-cellar provided with a cover, which excludes air from the salt contained within it, and which salt-cellar is provided with a horizontal perforated diaphragm, through which the salt is discharged when the said cover is either removed or thrown up and back on a hinge.

It also relates to a salt-cellar provided with a cover or plug which has a yielding periphery, whereby the mouth of the salt-cellar may be hermetically sealed against the entrance of air while the cover or plug is in position.

In the use of ordinary salt-cellar it is found that the salt cakes from the action of the air, thus causing great inconvenience; and for remedying the effects of this a shaker has been combined with a salt-cellar, but this does not prevent the salt from caking and sticking together under the influence of the atmosphere.

In the accompanying drawings of my improved salt-cellar, Figure 1 is a vertical central section, and Fig. 2 a top view, of one style of construction which I adopt. In Fig. 2 the top or plug has been removed. Fig. 3 is a vertical central section of a salt-cellar having its top or plug hinged to it. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a salt-cellar with its top or cap elevated. In this view the diaphragm is at the extreme tip of the collar of the salt-cellar, and the cap is packed with a ring of rubber on its inner surface. Fig. 5 is a detached sectional view of the plug or top packed with rubber on its periphery, which is conical.

In the several views of the drawings, A designates a vessel, of any desired form and configuration, for containing salt. At the top or neck portion, *a*, of this vessel a metal finishing-band, *b*, is applied, and upon the top of this band, and within the collar or neck *a*, a metal device, *c*, which consists of a ring with flange *c'* and a perforated plate, *c''*, is fitted, as shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3. This device *c* divides the

salt-cellar into two chambers, as *d* and *d'*, the perforated plate forming a diaphragm between the said chambers. The interior surface of the ring is preferably made with an upward flare, so as to insure a wedging fit of the cover or plug B. The cover or plug B shown in Fig. 1 is formed of a metal flanged piece, *f*, and a disk, *f'*, with a cork, *f''*, clamped between them. The parts *f* and *f'* are connected by a riveted rod, *f'''*, which forms a handle, *f''''*, as shown. This cover or plug is of tapering form, and it fits the surface of the device *c* very closely, so that when forced downward its cork *f''* forms an air-tight joint, and excludes air from entering the chamber *d*, in which the salt is contained. If this fit of the plug or cover were not tight, the air would insinuate itself down around its periphery, and enter the chamber *d'*, then pass down through the perforations in the diaphragm or plate *c''* into the chamber *d*, and moisten the salt and cause it to become caked.

In using the salt-cellar the plug or cover is raised and the salt discharged through the perforations of plate *d''*.

In Fig. 3 the plug or cover is hinged at *g* to the metal finishing of the salt-cellar; but in all other respects the construction and operation are the same as shown in Fig. 1.

In Fig. 5 the plug or cover is formed with a solid body portion, *h*, and around the same a rubber gasket, *h'*, is applied. The rubber gasket is to serve the same purpose as the cork body *f''*, and therefore I regard this construction as the equivalent of the one shown in Figs. 1 and 3.

In Fig. 4 the perforated plate *c''* is applied at the top of the metal finishing of the salt-cellar, and a rubber gasket is applied either within the cap-like cover B or upon the periphery of the neck of the salt-cellar. This cap-like cover may also be hinged, as shown in Fig. 3, and on the side opposite to the hinge a suitable spring fastening-catch may be applied.

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

1. A salt-cellar provided with an air-tight closing cover or plug and a perforated diaphragm, substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. A salt-cellar provided with a ring having a perforated bottom, whereby chambers d and d' are formed within the vessel for containing the salt, and with a yielding plug or cover, which fits down into the chamber d' and seals the chamber d hermetically, substantially as described.
- 5 3. A salt-cellar, as a new article of manufacture, provided with a yielding plug or cover, whereby the salt contained in it is excluded from air and prevented from caking, substantially as described.

STEPHEN CLARK WILCOX.

Witnesses:

GEO. GRAY,
AL. KOEPLI.