

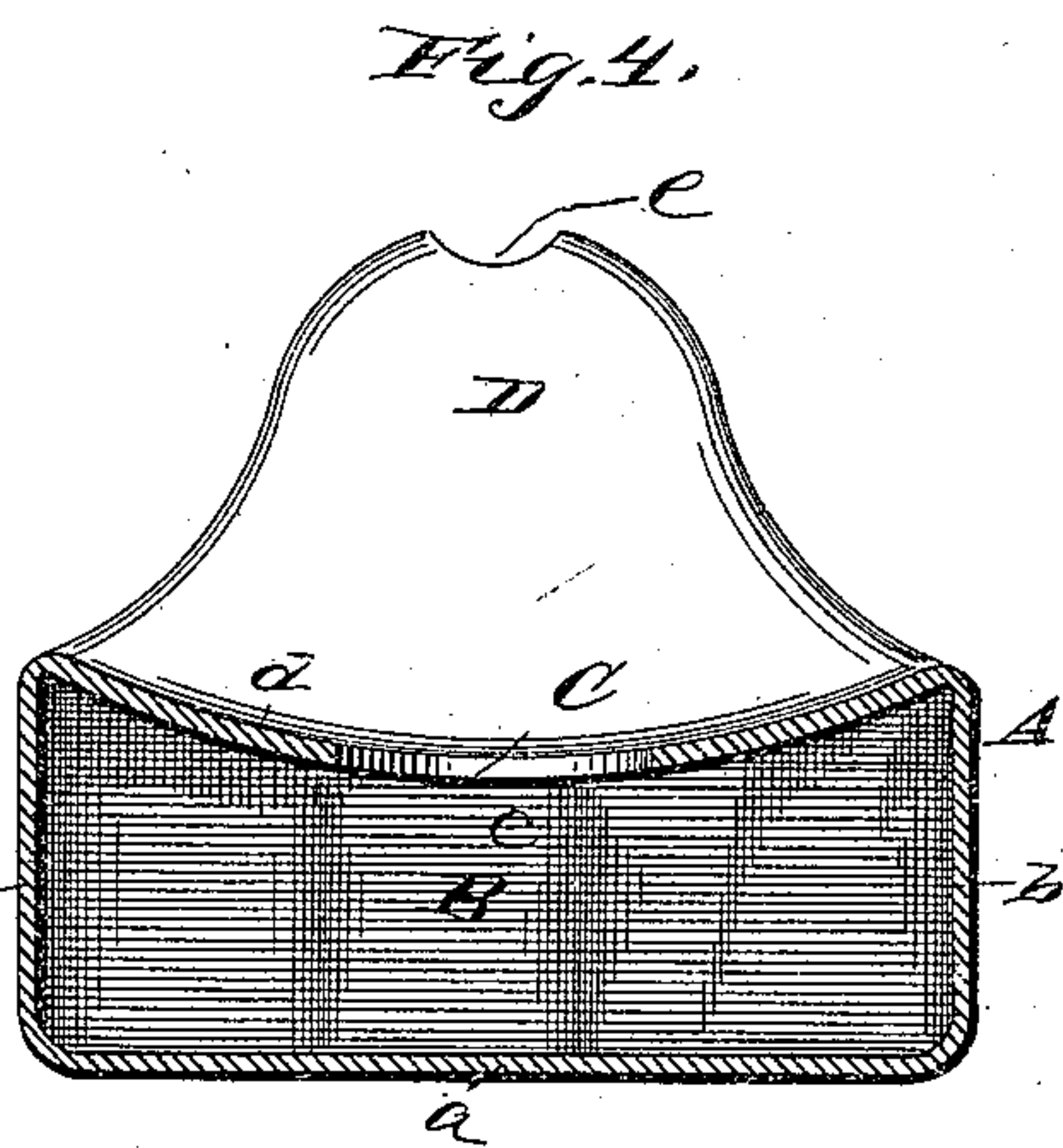
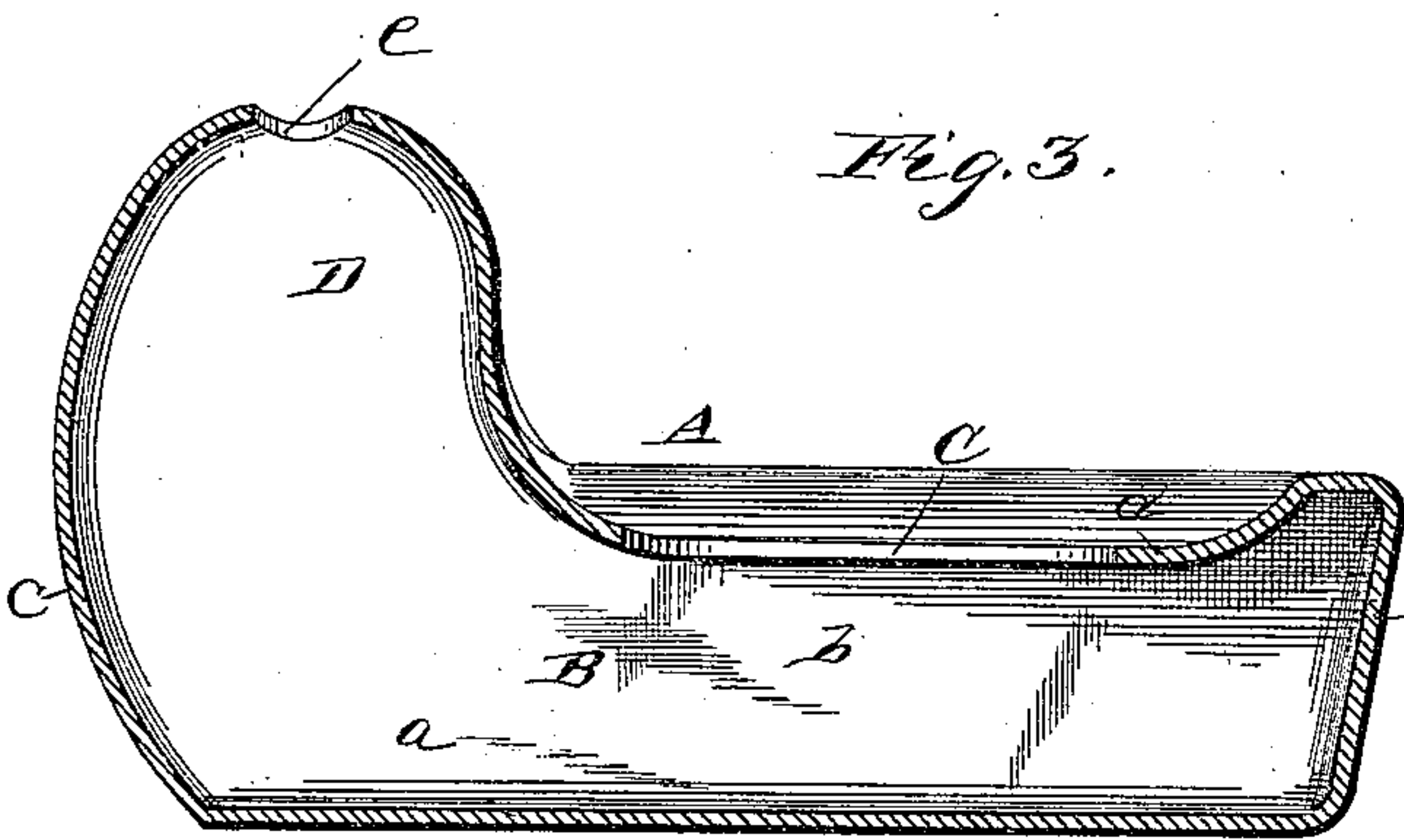
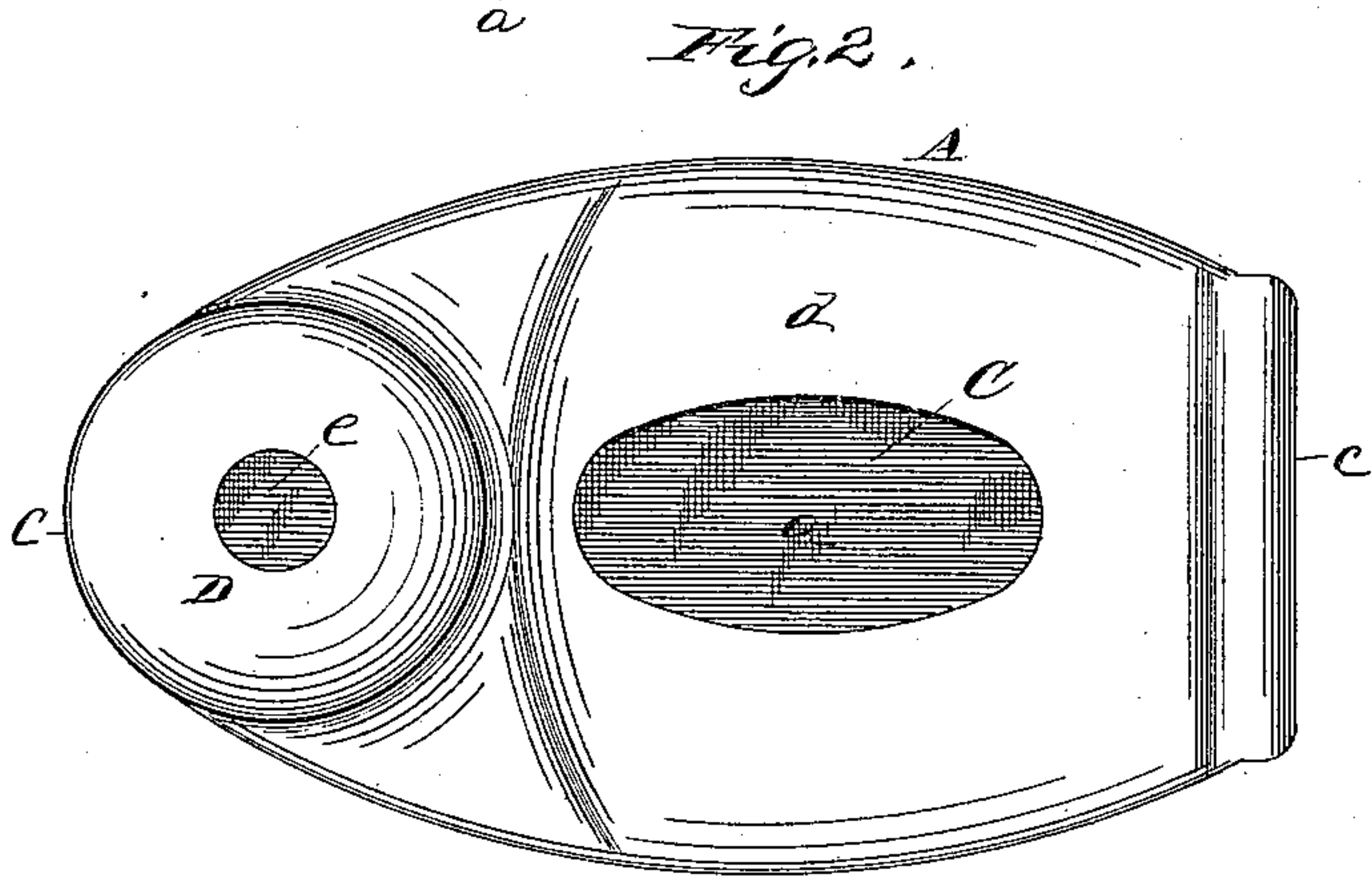
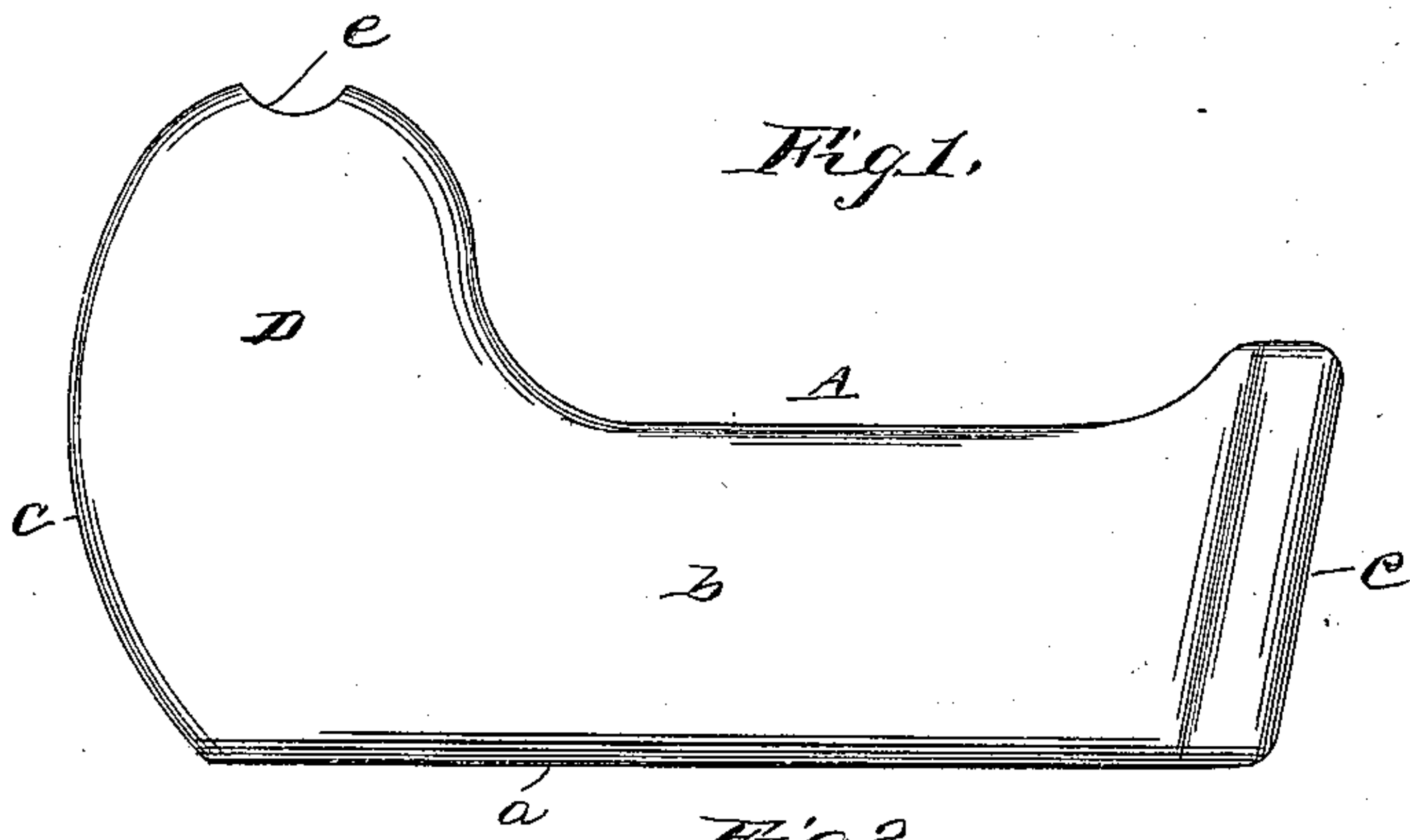
(No Model.)

E. E. MERRON.

BED PAN.

No. 355,881.

Patented Jan. 11, 1887.



Witnesses

*Chas. L. Taylor*  
*H. P. Burkhardt*

Inventor  
*Mrs. E. E. Merron*

By her Attorneys

*C. B. Snow & Co.*



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELIZABETH E. MERRON, OF PORTLAND, MAINE.

## BED-PAN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 355,881, dated January 11, 1887.

Application filed October 18, 1886. Serial No. 216,549. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ELIZABETH E. MERRON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Portland, in the county of Cumberland and State of Maine, have invented new and useful Improvements in Bed-Pans, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in bed-pans; and it consists of the peculiar construction and arrangement of the parts of the same, substantially as hereinafter fully described, and particularly pointed out in the claim.

The object of my invention is to provide an improved article of the class named, which can be used with ease and comfort by the patient while in a reclining position, and without danger of soiling the bed and clothing while using the same or removing it from beneath the patient.

A further object of my invention is to provide a pan which can be used by adults and children alike, and thus dispense with two or more different sizes of pans, as is necessarily practiced with the pans of ordinary construction at present in extensive use, and to so arrange the parts of the pan that it can be emptied of its contents with ease and facility, the device being easily cleansed, which is very important.

In the drawings hereto annexed, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved bed-pan. Fig. 2 is a top plan view thereof, and Fig. 3 is a vertical central longitudinal sectional view of the same on the line *xx* of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a vertical transverse sectional view on the line *yy* of Fig. 2.

Referring to the drawings, in which like letters of reference denote corresponding parts in all the figures, A designates the bed-pan of my invention, which comprises a flat bottom, *a*, the vertical side walls, *b*, the corresponding end walls, *c*, and a top wall or roof, *d*, all of which are formed in a single piece of earthen substance, or in separable connected parts of any other approved or desired substance. The front vertical end wall is rounded or curved, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, and the front ends of the bottom *a* and roof *d* are correspondingly curved and rounded to conform to the shape of the said front wall, as is obvious.

The end and side walls of the pan are of sub-

stantially the same height, so as to form a chamber or compartment, B, of substantially uniform depth throughout, which thereby prevents to a very material extent the escape and 55  
spilling of the contents of the device, which is liable to occur in removing the pans of ordinary form, thus soiling the bed and clothing thereon, and which is very disagreeable and 6c  
annoying to the patient.

The rear end wall of the pan is flat or rectangular in form, and it inclines upwardly and outwardly, as shown, so that the said rear end of the device can be readily and easily in- 65  
serted and adjusted beneath the patient, and form a support and rest for the back while in a reclining position, and thereby materially add to the comfort and ease of the patient while evacuating the bowels, for which pur- 70  
pose and others of a kindred nature the device is adapted.

The upper or top wall, *d*, of the pan is provided at its center with an opening, C, which communicates with the chamber or compart- 75  
ment B. This opening is made substantially oval in form, with its longitudinal axis parallel with the corresponding axis of the pan, and the said roof is made concave in form on its upper side, or curved inwardly and down- 80  
wardly from the outer edges of the pan toward the central opening therein, so that the patient can sit or rest thereon with ease and comfort.

To empty the pan it is turned up on the front end and inverted, so that the contents thereof 85  
will escape from the opening in the nozzle, which is of sufficient size to permit of the ready and free escape of the contents, and the hand of the operator, with the cleansing-cloth, can be readily passed through the central open- 90  
ing of the roof.

The operation of emptying and cleansing the pan can be accomplished with more rapidity and ease than is possible with bed-pans of the ordinary class, which is very desirable. 95

It will be seen by reference to the drawings that I provide a comparatively small opening in the roof of the pan and large surfaces on opposite sides of the said opening for the support of the person straddling the device, which 100  
insures comparative ease and comfort, and the vertical side and end walls, of substantially the same height, combined with the small central opening, prevent the escape and spilling



of the contents of the vessel while removing the latter from beneath the patient.

D designates an integral enlargement, which rises vertically from the front end of the upper wall or roof of the pan. This enlargement is located immediately in front of the central opening, C, and in line therewith, and it has a vertical passage, e, formed therein, which opens into the chamber B, thus providing a nozzle to permit a male patient to urinate while occupying the pan.

The operation and advantages of my invention will be very readily understood and appreciated by those skilled in the art from the foregoing description, taken in connection with the drawings.

The device as improved is very simple and durable in construction, efficient and reliable in operation, and cheap of manufacture.

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

As a new article of manufacture, a bed-pan comprising a flat horizontal bottom, a horizontal concave top, d, having a central opening, C, the side walls joining the horizontal bottom and top, the front walls, and the back wall, the said side, front, and back walls being of substantially the same height to form a chamber, B, of uniform depth throughout, and a vertical nozzle, D, projecting upwardly from the front end of the pan and arranged in line with the opening C therein, the said nozzle being hollow and communicating with the pan, and having an opening, e, at its apex, substantially as described, for the purpose set forth.

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

ELIZABETH E. MERRON.

Witnesses:

JOB R. DINAN,  
CHARLES H. TOLMAN.

Correction in Letters Patent No. 355,881.

It is hereby certified that the name of the patentee in Letters Patent No. 355,881 granted January 11, 1887, for an improvement in "Bed-Pans," was erroneously written and printed "Elizabeth E. Merron," whereas said name should have been written and printed *Elizabeth E. Merrow*; and that said Letters Patent should be read with the correction therein that the same may conform to the record of the case in the Patent Office.

Signed, countersigned, and sealed this 25th day of January, A. D. 1887.

[SEAL.]

D. L. HAWKINS,  
*Acting Secretary of the Interior*

Countersigned:

R. B. VANCE,  
*Acting Commissioner of Patents.*