

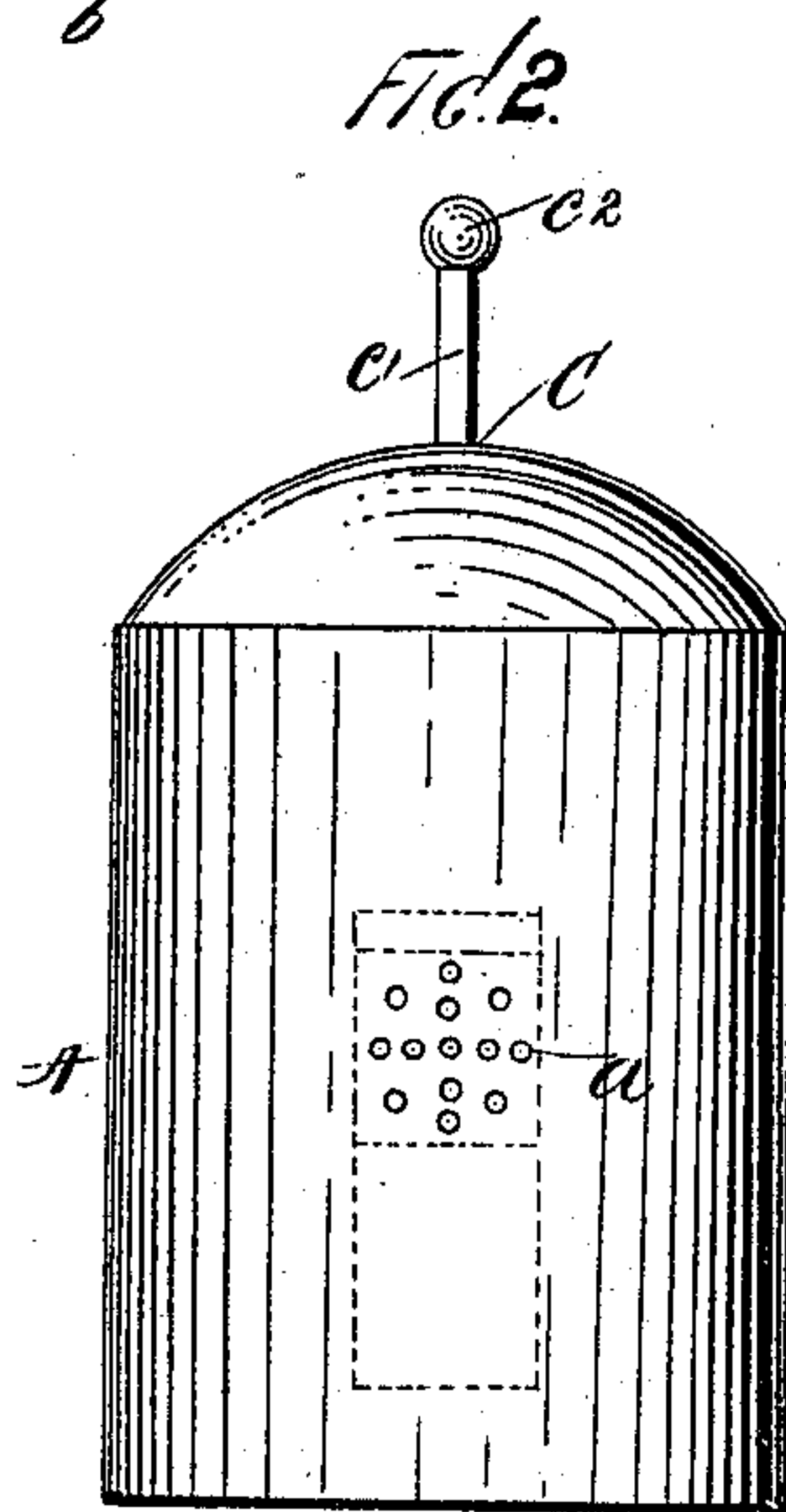
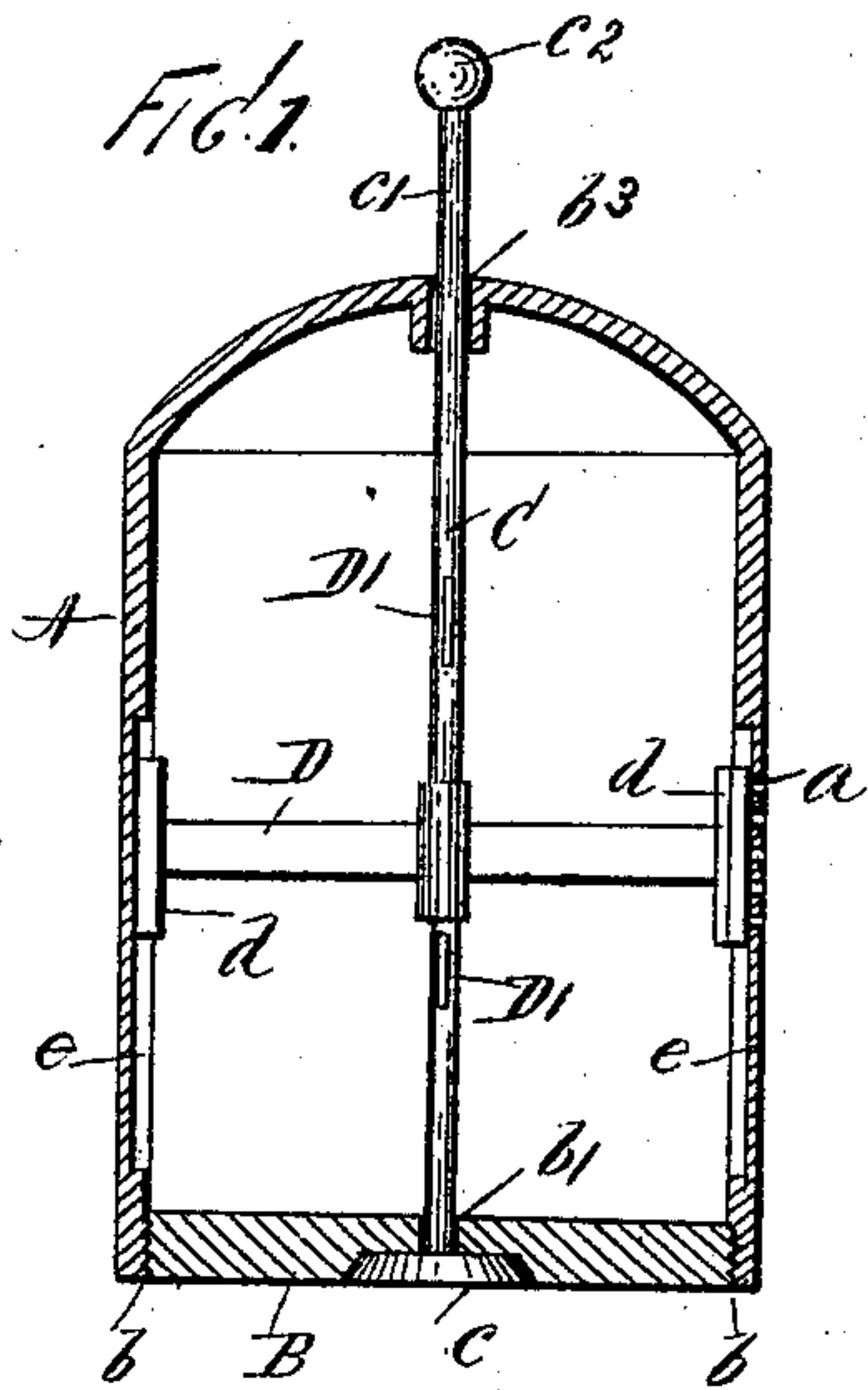
No. 617,489.

Patented Jan. 10, 1899.

C. LAWTON.  
SUGAR OR SALT SHAKER.

(No Model.)

(Application filed Mar. 16, 1898.)



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CECILIA LAWTON, OF CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA.

## SUGAR OR SALT SHAKER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 617,489, dated January 10, 1899.

Application filed March 16, 1898. Serial No. 674,097. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CECILIA LAWTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Charleston, in the county of Charleston and State of South Carolina, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Devices for Shaking or Sprinkling Salt, Sugar, Spices, Liquids, &c., of which the following is a full and complete specification, such as will enable those skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to devices for sprinkling salt, sugar, spices, liquids, &c.; and it has for its object to provide a simple and improved device of this character in which the exit-openings will be always automatically closed when the device is in normal upright position.

The invention is fully disclosed in the following specification, of which the accompanying drawings form a part, in which the separate parts of my improvement are designated by the same letters of reference in each of the views, and in which—

Figure 1 is a vertical transverse sectional view of a device embodying my improvements, and Fig. 2 is a side view of the device.

Referring to the drawings, A designates the body of the vessel, which may be of any suitable or adapted contour and may be constructed of any suitable material. Said body or vessel A has exit-openings *a* in its side or bottom in lieu of at its top. The vessel A forms a closed receptacle and is provided with a detachable bottom B, which may be connected with the body by screw-threads *b* or in any other suitable manner.

C designates a rod or stem, which is longitudinally and slidably mounted in the vessel A and passes through a bearing-opening *b'* in the bottom B thereof, and this stem carries at its lower end a disk or head *c*, which is adapted to fit within a corresponding recess *b<sup>2</sup>* in the bottom B. The relative construction and arrangement are preferably such that when the vessel is resting in normal upright position upon its bottom B the disk or head *c* will be flush with the bottom surface of the latter, as shown in Fig. 1. The stem C carries cross-pieces or radial arms D, which carry at their outer end a flat head or plate *d*, which may be formed of metal, cork, wood, or any

adapted material and bears interiorly against the portion of the sides of the vessel A in which the exit-openings *a* are formed. The head or plate *d* corresponds to this portion of the sides or walls of the vessel, and the relative construction and adjustment are such that when the vessel stands in normal upright position (thus pressing the disk or head *c* of the stem into position with relation to the bottom B) the head or plate *d* will completely cover the exit-openings *a*.

It will be noted that besides the fact that my improved construction and arrangement are especially adapted for automatically closing the exit-openings whenever the vessel is in normal upright position the closure of said exit-openings also excludes air from the vessel, so that the contents are thus preserved in proper condition.

I prefer to form flattened heads or plates *d* at diametrically opposite sides of the stem cross-pieces or arms, so that the stem is braced in position, and the stem may be further braced or strengthened by the provision of additional cross-pieces or radial arms *D'*, suitably arranged at right angles to the cross-piece D. The vessel is preferably provided with a smooth interior wall-surface of a diameter corresponding to the removable bottom B, so that the stem mechanism may be withdrawn, if desired, through the bottom opening. Suitable guide-grooves *e* may be provided interiorly in the sides of walls of the vessel for the reception and guidance of the flattened heads or plates *d*.

The stem C preferably projects through an opening *b<sup>3</sup>* in the top of the vessel A, and its extended projecting top end *c'* may be provided with a ball or knob *c<sup>2</sup>*, which will serve as a handle by which the vessel can be lifted and which can also be employed to depress the stem whenever the latter does not operate by its own gravity. The operation of the stem by means of its projecting top end can also be employed to shake up the contents of the vessel and prevent clogging or packing of the same. The cross-pieces or arms D *D'* are preferably flat, like a knife-blade, so that they will cut their way through the contents of the vessel if the latter have become hardened.

I do not desire to be understood as limiting



myself to the precise forms and details of construction as herein shown and described, as manifest variations and modifications may be employed without departing from the spirit  
 5 of my invention. I therefore reserve the right to all such variations and modifications as properly fall within the spirit and scope of my invention and the terms of the following claims.

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

1. A vessel of the class described, adapted to normally rest in upright position and pro-  
 15 vided with outlet-openings in its side walls, a stem slidably mounted within said vessel and embodying a lower end portion projecting through the bottom thereof, and cross-  
 20 pieces or radial arms projecting from said stem and carrying heads or plates adapted to close the outlet-openings in the walls of the vessel, the relative construction and arrange-  
 25 ment being such that when the vessel rests in normal upright position and the project-  
 ing bottom portion of the stem is forced upwardly, the plates or heads upon the arm will be in operative position for the closure of the outlet-openings, substantially as set forth.

2. A vessel of the class described, adapted  
 30 to normally rest in upright position and pro-

vided with outlet-openings and vertical grooves in its side walls, and a valve-seat in its bottom, a stem slidably mounted in said vessel, and embodying a lower end portion  
 35 projecting through the bottom thereof, and a valve formed on the said lower end portion of said stem and fitting the valve-seat, cross-  
 40 pieces or radial arms projecting from said stem and carrying heads or plates adapted to close the openings in the walls of the vessel, said heads or plates fitting and being adapted to move in the vertical grooves in the inner  
 45 surface of the walls of the vessel, the relative construction and arrangement being such that when the vessel rests in normal upright po-  
 50 sition and the valve on the projecting bottom portion of the stem is forced upwardly into the seat, the plates or heads upon the arms will be in operative position for the closure of the outlet-openings, and the bottom por-  
 55 tion of the vessel sealed, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name, in presence of the subscribing witnesses, this 12th  
 55 day of March, 1898.

CECILIA LAWTON.

Witnesses:

ANNIE B. GOURDIN,  
 ROSE DOUGLAS LEWIS.