

No. 672,178.

Patented Apr. 16, 1901.

W. A. PENFIELD.
INDICATOR FOR LAMP FOUNTS.

(Application filed July 16, 1900.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1

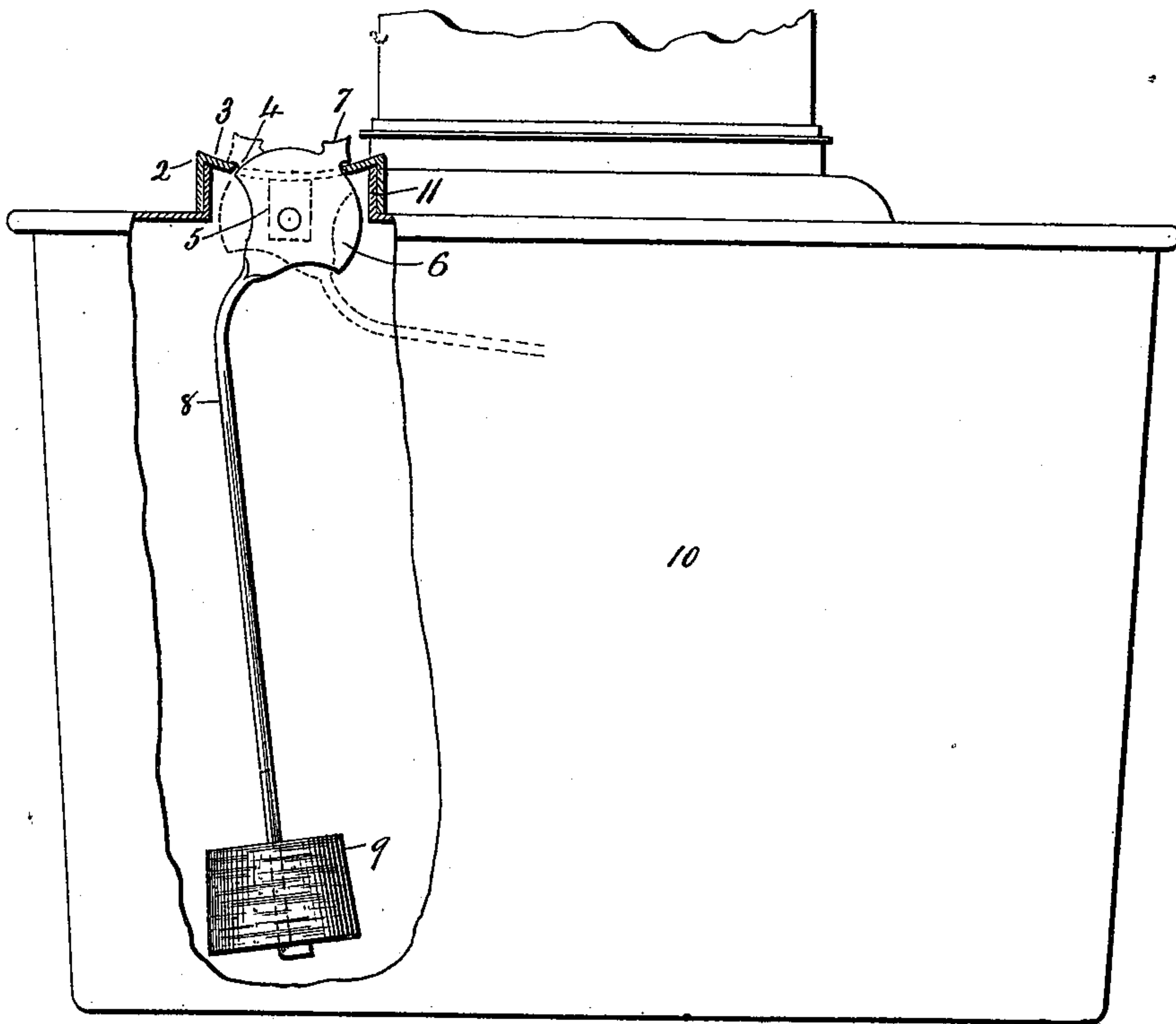


Fig. 3

Fig. 2

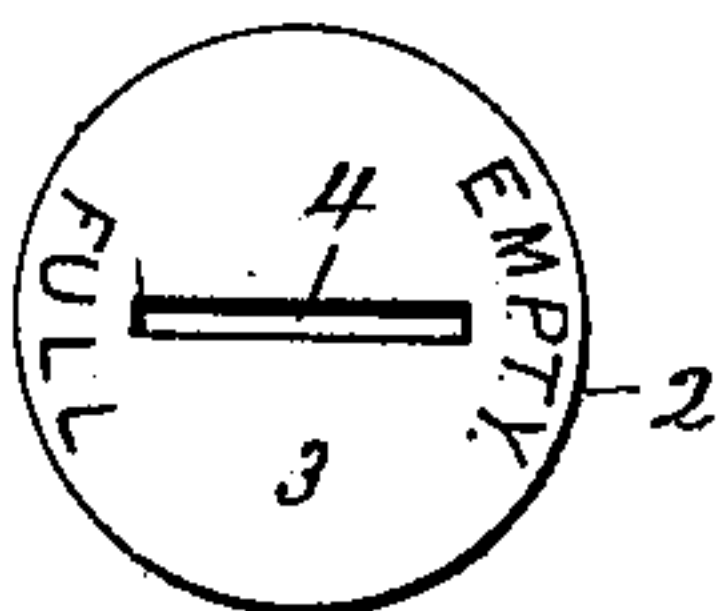
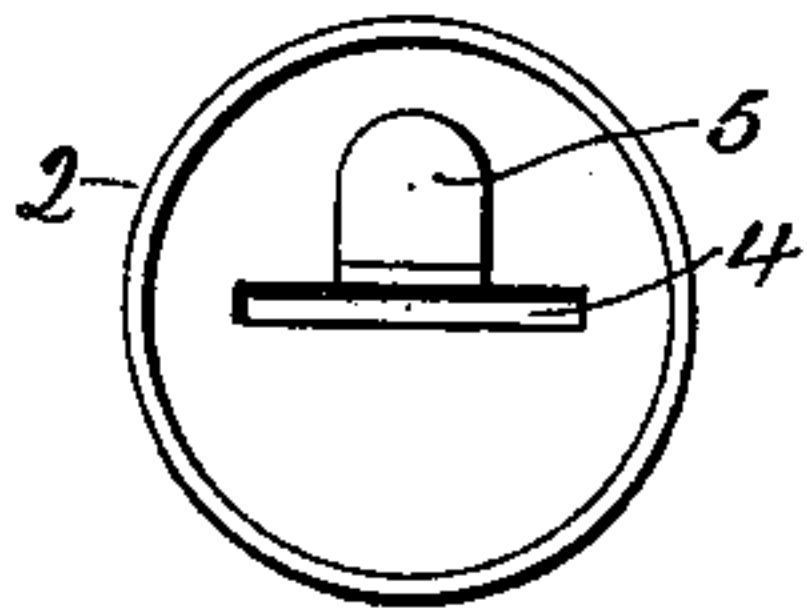
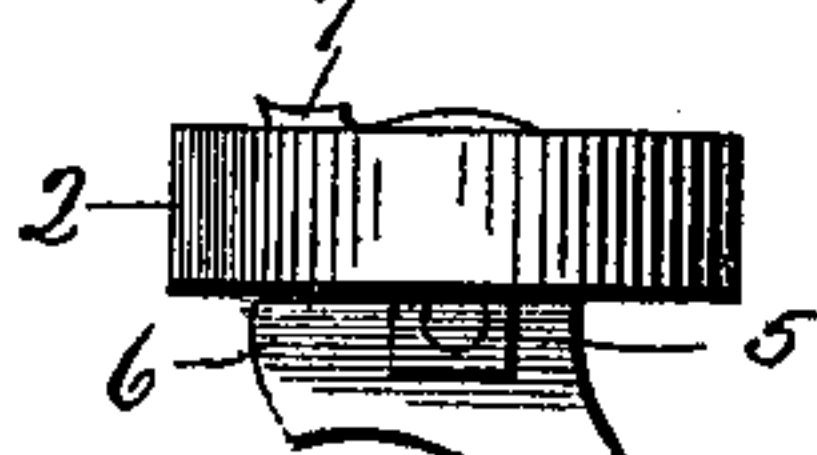


Fig. 4



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM A. PENFIELD, OF MERIDEN, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO THE
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INDICATOR FOR LAMP-FOUNTS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 672,178, dated April 16, 1901.

Application filed July 16, 1900. Serial No. 23,699. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM A. PENFIELD, of Meriden, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new
5 Improvement in Indicators for Lamp-Founts; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings and the numerals of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact
10 description of the same, and which said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1, a view, partly in elevation and partly in section, of a lamp-fount provided
15 with my improved indicator; Fig. 2, a detached plan view of the indicator-cap; Fig. 3, a reverse view thereof; Fig. 4, a detached view of the indicator-cap, the segment, with its index, the arm connected with the segment,
20 and the float.

My invention relates to an improvement in indicators for lamp-founts, the object being to provide lamp-founts with simple and reliable means for indicating the amount of oil
25 in the fount at any time, and particularly when the lamp is being filled.

With these ends in view my invention consists in certain details of construction and combinations of parts, as will be hereinafter
30 described, and pointed out in the claim.

In carrying out my invention as herein shown I employ a circular sheet-metal cap 2, the top of which is concaved or dished to form a concavity 3, containing in its bottom
35 a long diametrically-arranged narrow slot 4, against the ends of which the words "Empty" and "Full," or words of corresponding import, are placed. A bracket or arm 5, depending from the center of the lower face of the said cap, has pivoted to it a segment 6,
40 the upper portion of which projects upward through the said slot 4 and is formed with a centrally-arranged index 7, which as the segment turns on its pivot sweeps through a segmental path and in one of its extreme positions stands against the word "Empty,"
45 while in its other extreme position it stands against the word "Full." This segment is located at the upper end of a long arm 8, carrying at its lower end a float 9 of cork or

other bouyant material, which floats upon the surface of the oil in the fount 10, the top of which, as I may here remark, is furnished with a collar 11, over which the cap 2 fits, as clearly shown in Fig. 1. When oil is introduced into the fount through the ordinary
55 filler thereof, which is not shown, or through the opening into which the burner is set, the float is caused to lift, whereby the index 7 of the segment 6 will gradually be carried outward until when the fount is as full as it may be filled with safety the index reaches its extreme position and stands against the word "Full." Then as the oil is gradually
60 exhausted by the burning of the lamp the float falls, with a corresponding movement of the index, from the word "Full" toward the word "Empty." When the index reaches the word "Empty," the oil is practically exhausted from the fount. In any of the intermediate
65 positions of the index the amount of oil may be gaged with approximate accuracy by noting the position of the index between the "Full" and "Empty" points.

It will be seen that my device is of an extremely simple character, and it is as reliable in operation as simple. 75

It is apparent that in producing my invention some changes from the construction herein shown and described may be made. I
80 would therefore have it understood that I do not limit myself to such construction, but hold myself at liberty to make such changes as fairly fall within the spirit and scope of my invention. I am aware, however, that, broadly speaking, it is old to apply to the
85 top of a lamp-fount an indicator provided with an index operated by a swinging arm the lower or free end of which is provided with a float which rises and falls with the oil
90 contained within the fount. I do not, therefore, claim such a construction broadly.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is— 95

The combination with a lamp-fount, of a cap applied thereto and having its top dished to form a concavity containing a diametrically-arranged slot, a bracket depending from the inner face of the top of the said cap, a seg- 100

ment pivoted to the said bracket, projecting
upwardly through the said slot, and furnished
upon its upper edge with an index, an arm
connected with the segment at a point below
5 its pivotal connection with the said bracket,
and a float carried by the said arm.

In testimony whereof I have signed this

specification in the presence of two subscri-
ing witnesses.

WILLIAM A. PENFIELD.

Witnesses:

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W. A. HALL.