

No. 680,610.

Patented Aug. 13, 1901.

C. W. MEINECKE.
ICE OR WATER BAG.

(Application filed Feb. 12, 1901.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

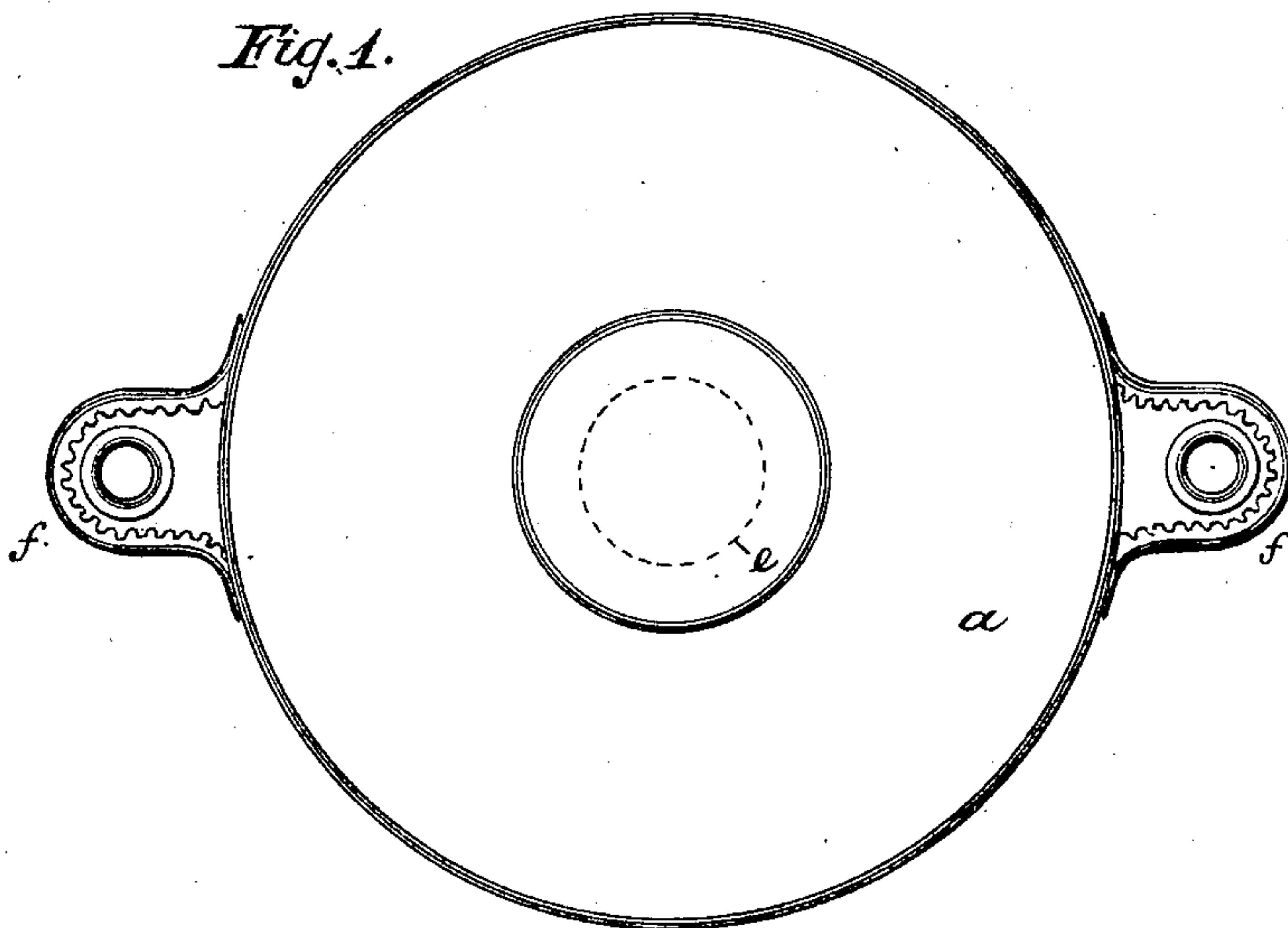


Fig. 2.

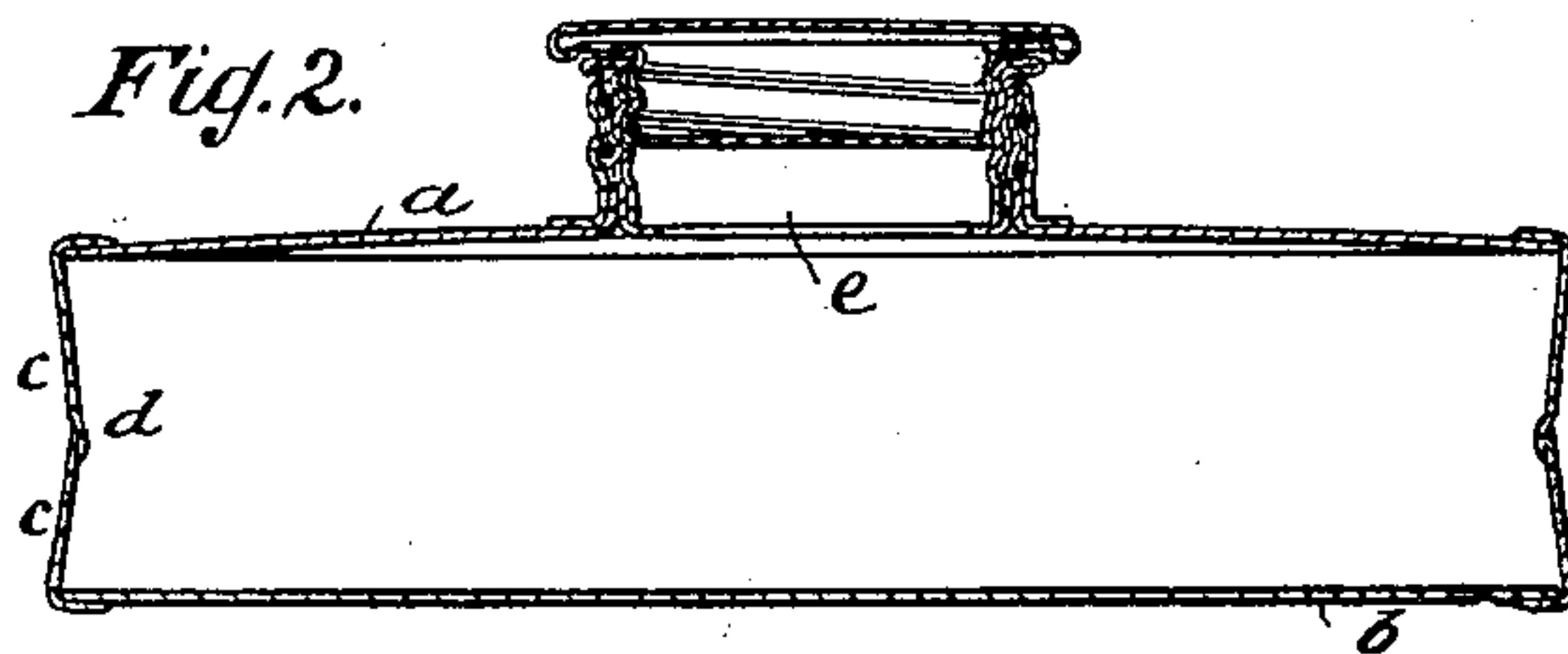


Fig. 3.

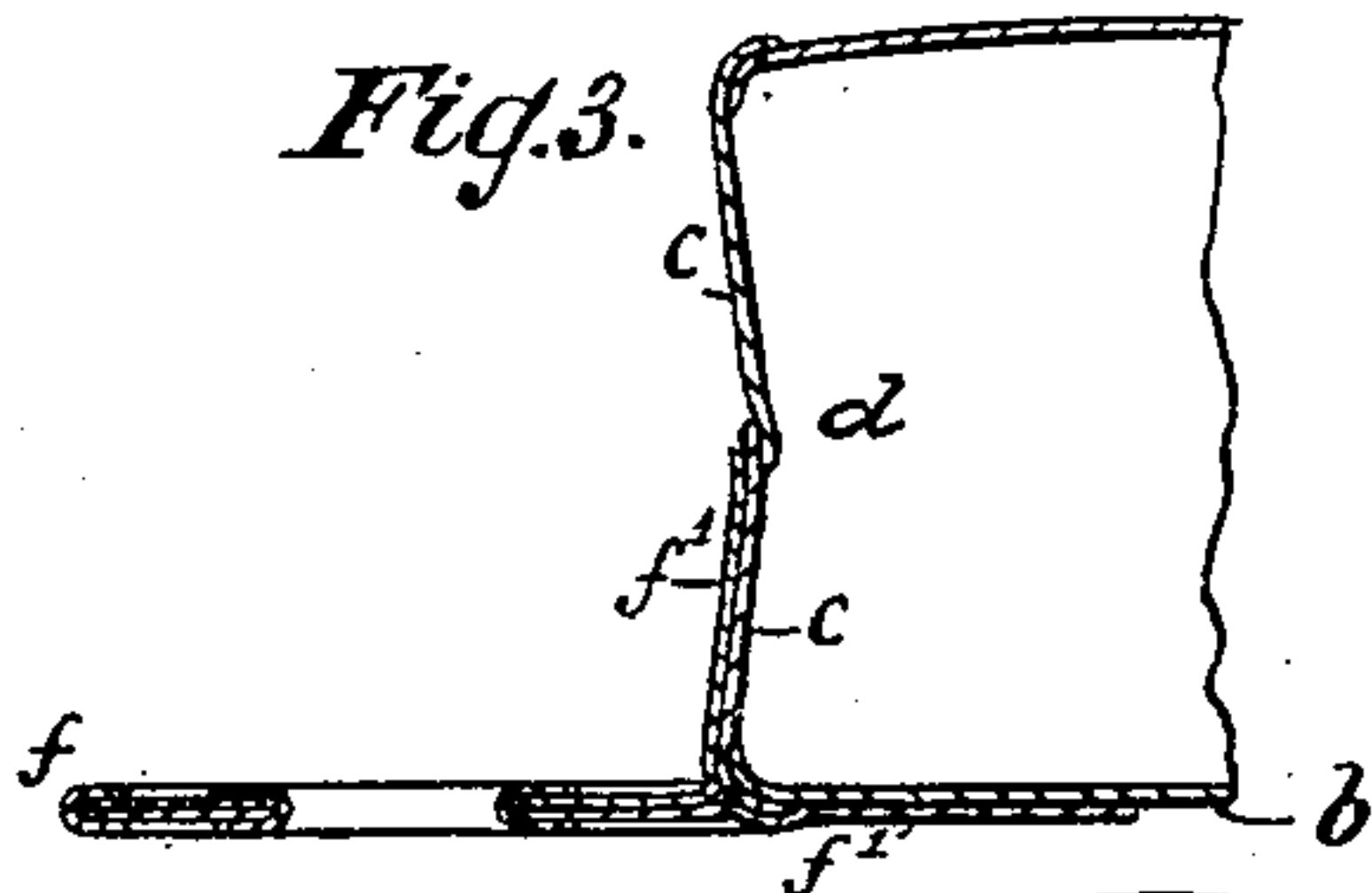


Fig. 5.



Fig. 4.

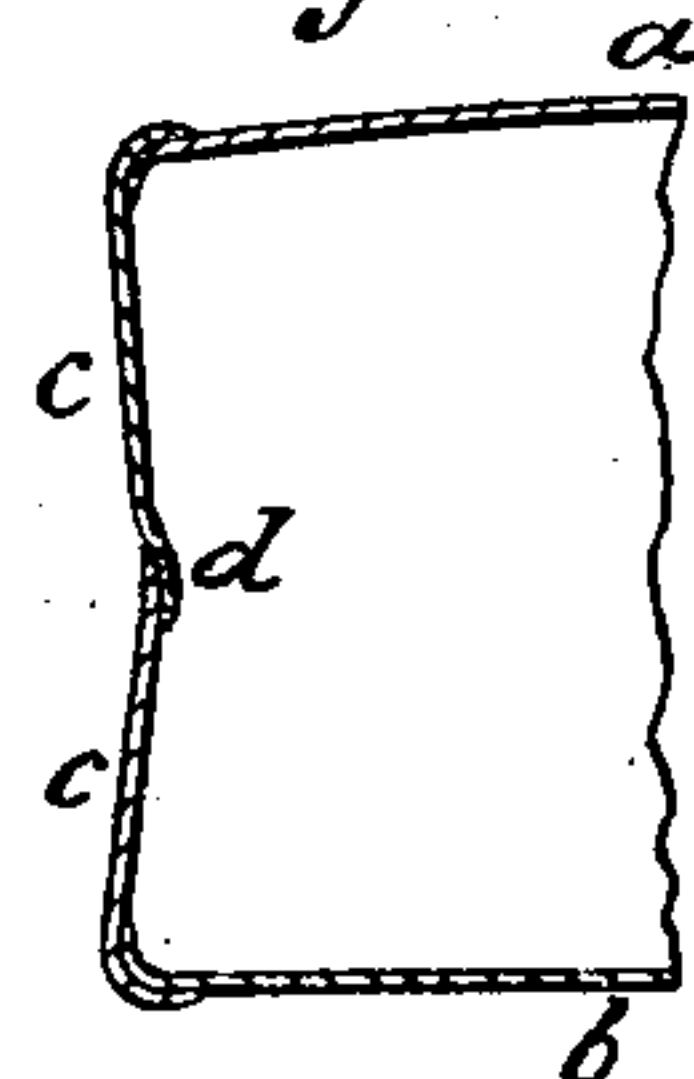
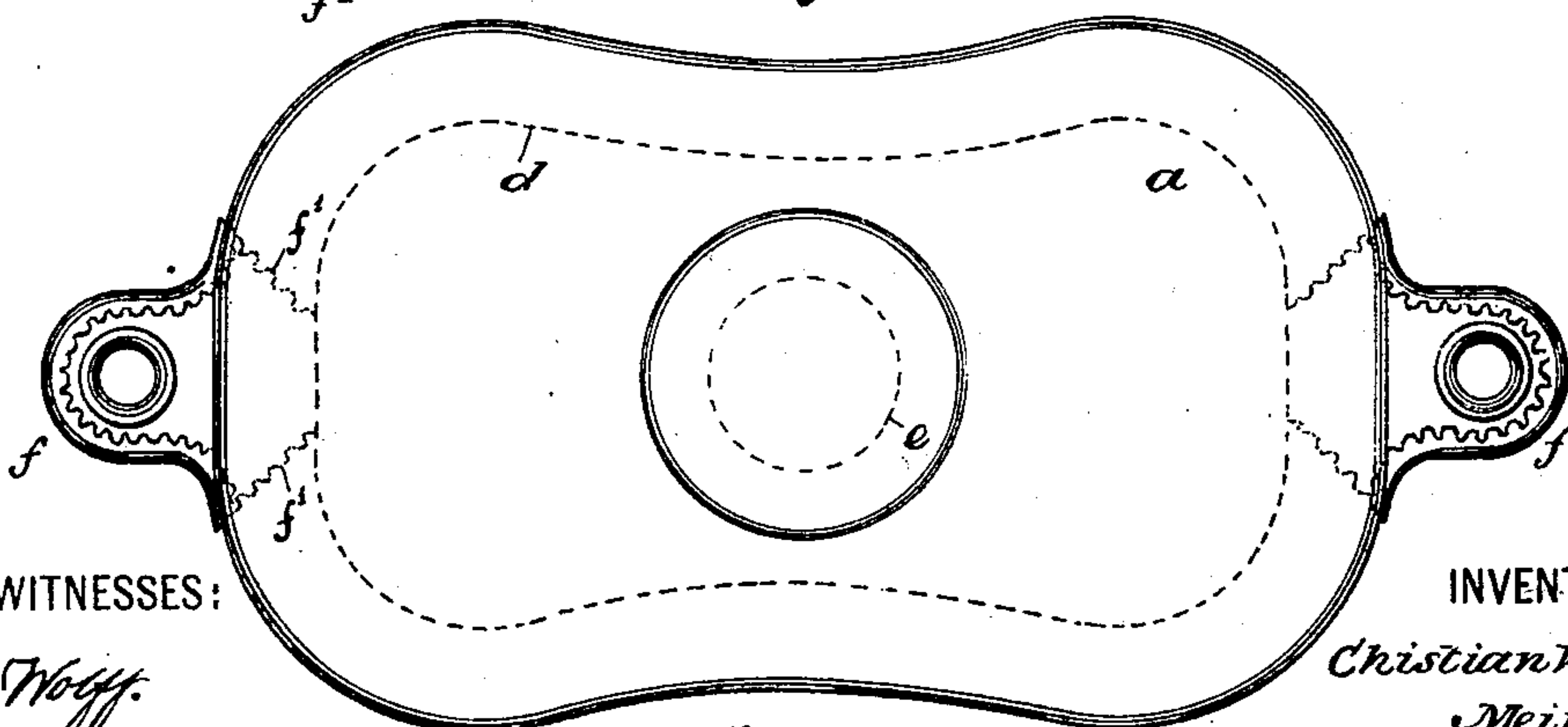


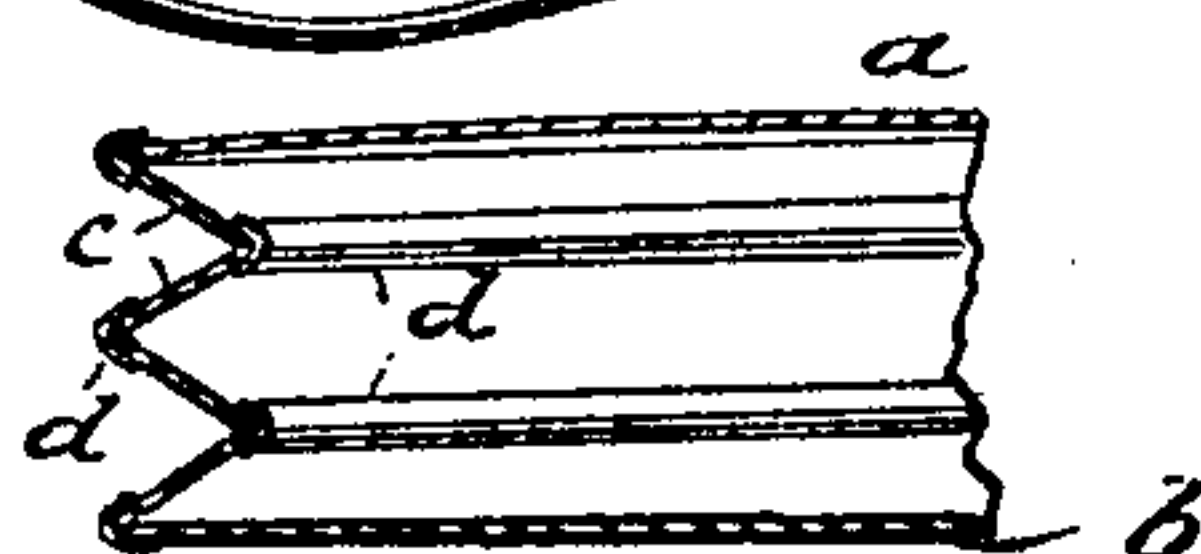
Fig. 6.



WITNESSES:

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Fig. 7.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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ICE OR WATER BAG.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 680,610, dated August 13, 1901.

Application filed February 12, 1901. Serial No. 47,028. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHRISTIAN WILLIAM MEINECKE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Jersey City, in the county of Hudson and State of New Jersey, have invented new and useful Improvements in Bags, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improvement in ice or water bags, whereby said bag is made capacious for practical use and in which the ice will be equally distributed all over the bag and close up to the edges or sides of the bag and whereby the bag when filled with ice or water is substantially flat or concave on the bottom, thus presenting the greatest possible surface of the bag against the body of the user.

Heretofore ice-bags have been constructed with thin or taper edges and when such bags are filled with ice or water the bottom thereof becomes convex and the edges turn upward, so that when the bag is applied to the body of the user such bags have a very limited contact with the body, which detracts largely from their efficiency. The objections mentioned are overcome and the full benefit of the ice or water bag is secured according to this invention by providing means whereby the edges or sides of the bag can be distended in accordion shape by having a plaited edge or side, and when ice or water is placed into the bag the plaits distend, separating the top and bottom of the bag and permitting an equal amount of ice or water to extend close up to the edge or side of the bag, thereby giving the bottom of the bag substantially a flat or concave surface.

This invention consists in providing such a bag with an inward fold at the edge all around the bag, so that when the bag is filled the folded parts open to form the sides of the bag.

This invention is set forth in the following specification and claim and illustrated in the annexed drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of a bag or cushion. Fig. 2 is a sectional side elevation of the bag expanded or filled. Fig. 3 shows a sectional view of a handle. Fig. 4 is a view like Fig. 2 enlarged. Fig. 5 shows the bag collapsed or flat as when empty. Fig. 6 shows

a modified form of bag. Fig. 7 shows a series of plaits or side creases.

In the drawings the bag or reservoir is shown composed of face-pieces *a* and *b* and side *c*, folded or plaited to form a crease, as seen at *d*. This fold is extended continuously entirely about the bag, so as to form a continuous circumferential plait or crease. In practice it has been found that the creased side *c* is satisfactorily formed by two annular pieces of material cemented or secured to one another about their inner edges or circumference, the outer edges of the upper and lower ring or annulus being respectively cemented or fastened to the circumference of the upper and lower faces *a* and *b*. An opening and closing crease is thus obtained which can be compared to the opening and closing crease of an accordion.

In speaking of the side pieces *c* as "annular" it is of course manifest that neither the outline nor the hole need necessarily be a circle, since other shapes have been made. An oblong as well as a circular bag is shown in the drawings, and rectilinear, polygonal, or other shapes besides a circular shape can be adopted. It may be noted, however, that a circular outline or a bag of disk or target like appearance is readily made and is capable of satisfactory use or application and is also considered by some to possess a neat or attractive appearance. Such details, however, do not affect the invention.

The faces *a b* are readily made flat or cut from a suitable sheet of material, and an opening or mouth *e* in one of the faces gives access to the interior, as for charging or emptying the bag. This opening is preferably in the center of the face or bag. The crease, as shown, is made to fold or extend inward, so that on emptying the bag and the faces approaching one another the edge *d* extends inward or into the periphery or outline of the bag. The latter is thus allowed to flatten when empty, and the sides can be pressed close to or into contact with one another.

A handle or projection or a number of handles can be provided. Two handles or tabs are shown. The handle is so arranged as not to interfere with the opening of the plait. By securing the handle to one side of the bag

only the other side or the crease *d* is left free to open or spread at the handle as well as at other points so that the bag can be thoroughly or satisfactorily charged or filled. The bag
 5 when used for ice allows the latter to be spread uniformly over the bottom or face *b*, so as to reach to its edge or circumference at the point of attachment of the handle as well as elsewhere, the crease being free to open
 10 equally all about the bag. The handle can be readily secured or cemented to the edge of the bottom *b* or to the edges of such bottom and of the lower plait-section or ring *c* by an ear or ears *f'*. The ear at the plait-section
 15 not being extended to or beyond crease *d* will not prevent the bag from flattening or collapsing when empty.

The bag can be applied to any desired part of a patient's or user's body or tied by a band
 20 or fastenings connected to the handles. Say the bag is applied to a certain part, as the head, the lower face is free to apply itself or conform to the curvature or shape of the contacting part, and the upper face *a* is free to
 25 spread or curve away from the bottom or assume such bulge or shape as required by the contents.

The bag is of the kind generally known in the trade as "ice-bag," but of course can be
 30 used for such contents as may be serviceable—say hot or cold water or the like. The handle is shown in form of a ring or eyelet, which is flat to avoid bulkiness and also forms a suitable attachment, as for a string or tape
 35 or for suspending the bag or reservoir.

In speaking of a fold or plait it is to be noted that a single crease *d* has been found serviceable and simple; but of course a number of creases or plaits can be applied. In
 40 Fig. 7 are shown a number of rings or side pieces.

By attaching the handle tab or ear only to the bottom of the bag or to the lower part of

the bag and the lower part of the plait, as shown in Fig. 3, and not securing it to the
 45 top or upper part of the bag all pressure by the contents of the bag against the body of the user of the bag is avoided when the bag is tied down or secured to the user's body by
 50 means of a tape or bandage secured or attached to the ears or tabs of the bag. The side pieces and faces can be cemented or secured or lapped directly to one another, as seen in Fig. 3, or connected by lapping or fastening strips, as seen in Fig. 7. The mouth
 55 can be closed by a screw-stopper or any suitable closure.

When the bag is applied to the head or other convex portion of the body, the bottom thereof will assume a concave shape through-
 60 out to conform to the shape of the part to which the bag is applied—that is to say, there will be no bulging or rising of the bottom of the bag at the edges thereof, but said bottom will lie in close contact with the portion of
 65 the body to which it is applied throughout its entire surface.

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

A flexible bag or reservoir comprising two
 70 flat faces of the same size and shape and united at their edges by a continuously-plaited and centrally and inwardly folding side wall extending entirely around the edge of the bag, one of said faces being provided at
 75 its center with a filling-orifice, and laterally-projecting tabs secured to said bag, all constructed and arranged substantially as and for the purposes specified.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set
 80 my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CHRISTIAN WILLIAM MEINECKE.

Witnesses:

DANIEL HOGAN,

E. F. KASTENHUBER.