

No. 683,421.

Patented Sept. 24, 1901.

R. R. COWLES.  
LID FOR CLOSET SEATS.

(Application filed Aug. 3, 1900.)

(No Model.)

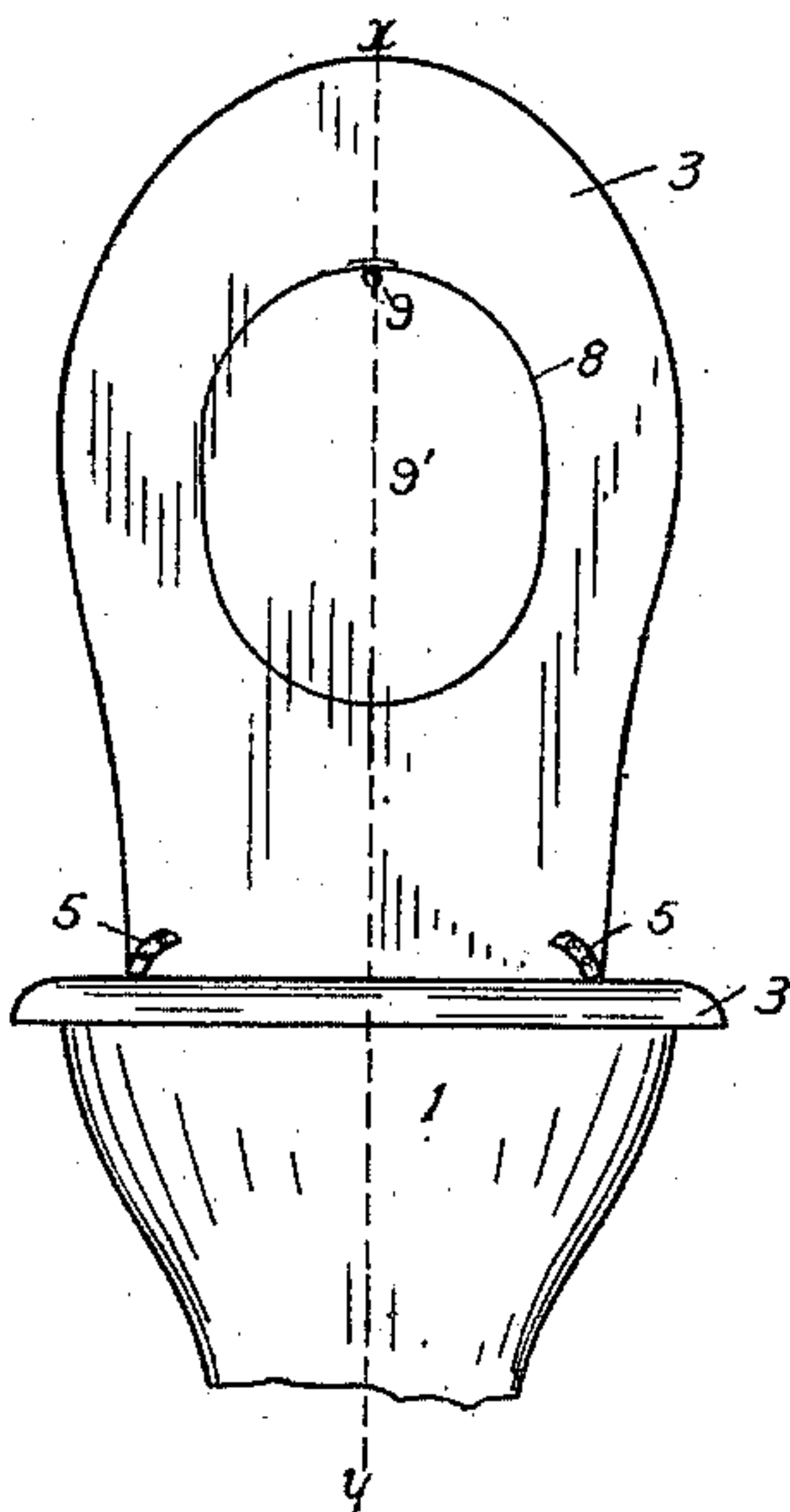


FIG. 1

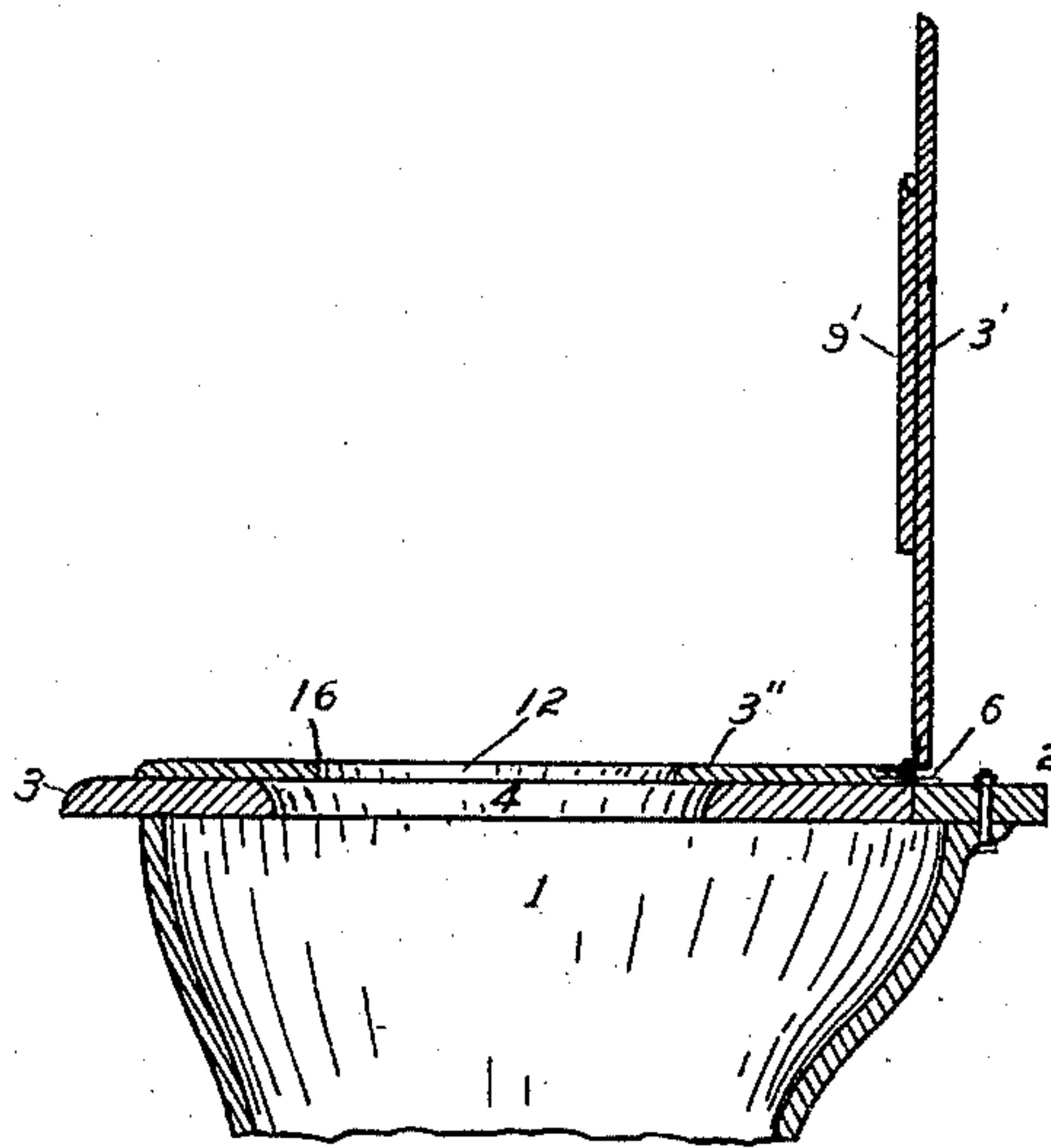


FIG. 2.

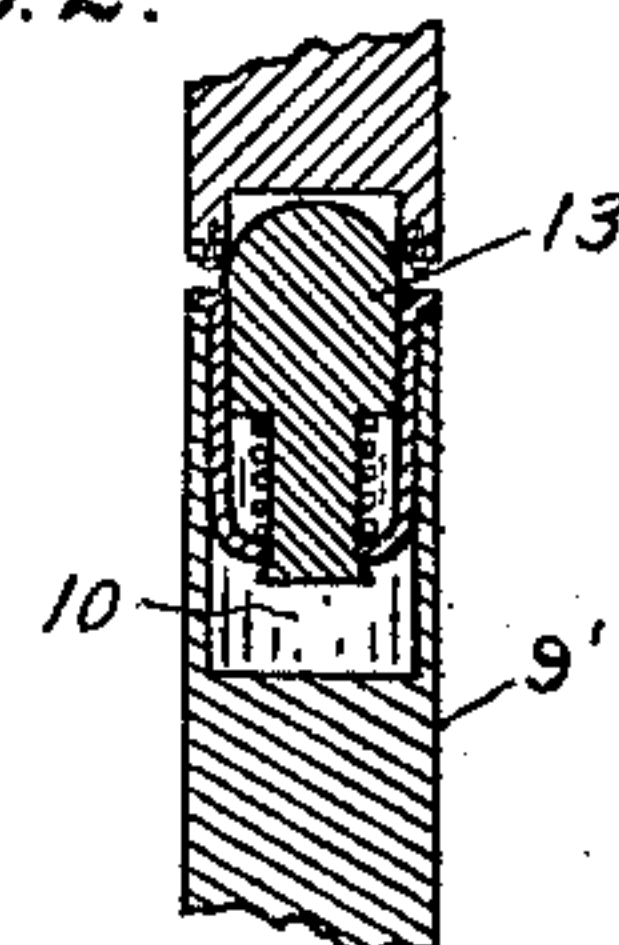


FIG. 3.

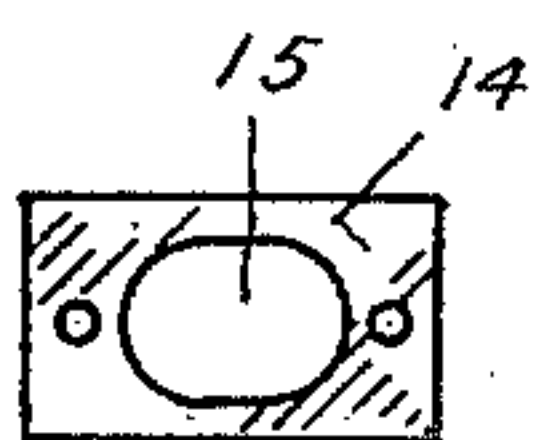


FIG. 4.

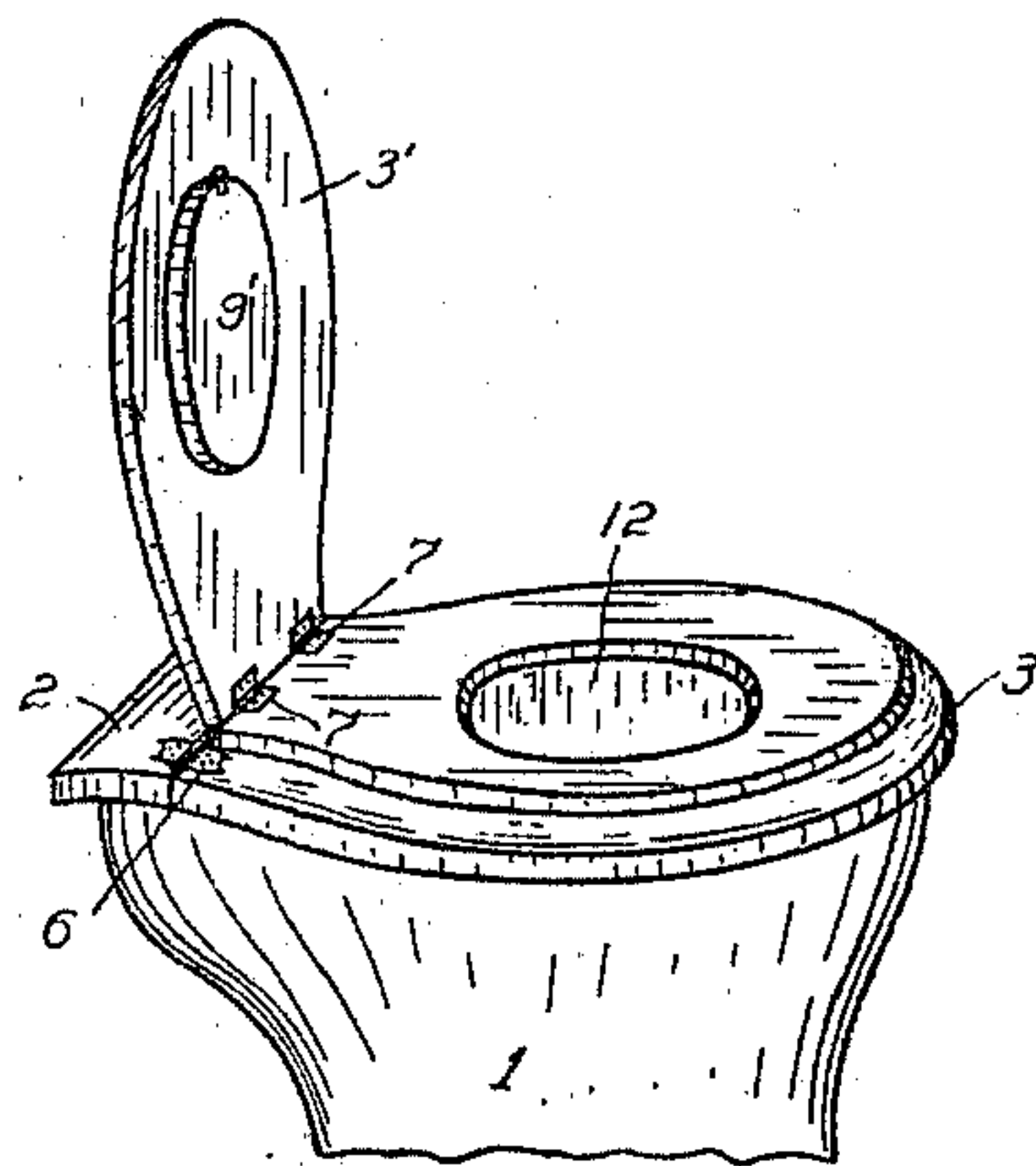


FIG. 6.

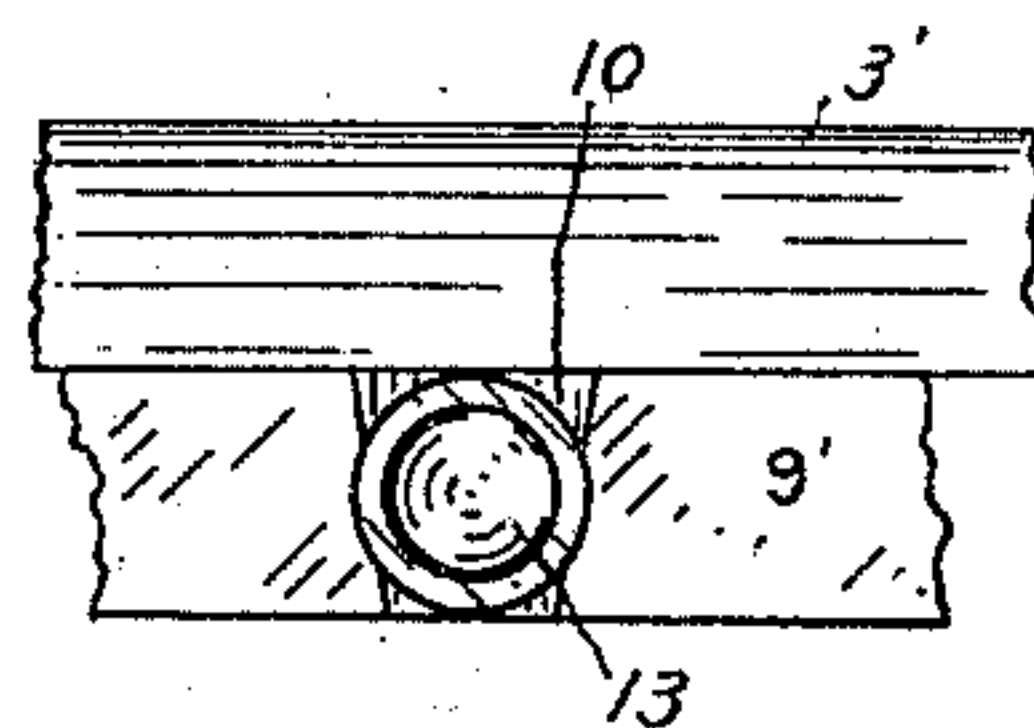


FIG. 5.

WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## LID FOR CLOSET-SEATS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 683,421, dated September 24, 1901.

Application filed August 3, 1900. Serial No. 25,776. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, RICHARD R. COWLES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Scranton, in the county of Lackawanna and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Lids for Closet-Seats, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

10 This invention relates to lids of commodes or hoppers for water-closets, and has for its objects to furnish a simplified means for varying the size of the opening within said lids and otherwise improving said lids.

15 To this end my invention consists of the construction, arrangement, and combination of the several parts, as is herein specified, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

20 Figure 1 is a front elevation of a hopper having one of my improved lids attached, but not in a separate condition. Fig. 2 is a cross-section taken on the line *xy* of Fig. 1 after having separated the two parts of my improved lid. Fig. 3 is a detail view, in cross-section, of the locking device by means of which the two parts of my improved lid are held together. Fig. 4 is a detail view of the plate used in the locking device. Fig. 5 is a plan view of the fastening device shown in Fig. 3, illustrating the method of mortising the same into the lid. Fig. 6 is a general view in perspective of my device, showing it when ready for use.

35 Similar characters of reference denote like and corresponding parts throughout the several views.

40 In the drawings, 1 designates the usual hopper or body of the commode as at present in use, having bolted thereto a cross-piece 2 at one side, to which is hinged the usual seat 3, having the ordinary opening 4.

45 The improvement which I have made is constituted particularly in the lid, which is designed for part of its use to close the opening 4 and is hinged by means of the lugs 5, which swing on the bolts of the hinges 6 of the device.

50 My device is constructed by sawing or cutting the usual lid in a plane parallel to its

upper and lower sides, thus leaving its several parts of one-half the thickness which they were formerly. These two laminae are then hinged together by means of the hinges 7. An opening is cut out of the lower lamina 55 thus separated by sawing on the line 8, starting the cut in a bore-hole 9, which is afterward obliterated by cutting a mortise 10 having sloping sides. The portion 9' which is sawed out of this piece is afterward tacked 60 onto the upper piece 3' in such position that it will exactly fit into and close the hole 12 from which it has been cut. The two parts of the lid are held together by means of a blind catch or fastening device inserted by 65 cutting a recess or mortise 10 in the edge of the piece 9'. This mortise may be cut by sawing two cuts inclined toward one another on the surface which is outer when the piece 9' is tacked onto the piece 3', so that the wider 70 side of the opening is closed by tacking the piece 9' against the piece 3' after the catch 13, with its necessary equipment, is slid into its place, as is readily suggested by inspection of Fig. 5 in the drawings. The plate 14 is tacked 75 on the inner concave surface 16 of the part 3'' to engage with the sliding portion of the blind catch 13 when it is desired to lock the two parts together. The sliding portion of the blind catch is actuated by a helical spring 80 adapted to drive the catch forward endwise into the opening 15 of the plate 14, which plate is secured against the inner edge of the opening 12 in such relation as to engage with the sliding portion of the blind catch 13 when 85 the parts are pressed together.

In the use of this device the laminae 3' and 3'' are kept locked together ordinarily and used as covering-lid in the usual way. When children are to be accommodated, the parts 90 are separated, as shown in Fig. 2. This is accomplished by simply forcing the two laminae apart by pressing against the protruding central portion, the blind catch being self-adjusting and slipping backward when thus forced 95 so as to permit of the parts separating. It is also plainly evident that the catch will adjust itself backward when the parts are again pressed together, so as to permit of their locking.



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

1. In a device of the character described, a closet-seat, a hinged cover therefor comprising two laminæ of approximately the same size and hinged together, the outer edges of the lower lamina of the lid being entirely free from the upper lamina when the two are locked together, exposing the line of cleavage at the front and sides, a projection on the under side of the upper lamina adapted to fit within an opening of the lower lamina and lie flush with the underside of said lower lamina, and means for locking together the two laminæ, substantially as described.

2. In a device of the character described, a closet-seat, a hinged cover therefor comprising two laminæ of approximately the same size and hinged together, the outer edges of the lower lamina of the lid being entirely free from the upper lamina when the two are locked together, a projection on the under side of the upper lamina adapted to fit within an opening of the lower lamina, and means

on the projection for engaging the inner edge of the opening of the lower lamina, substantially as described.

3. In a device of the character described, a hinged closet-seat, a hinged cover therefor comprising two laminæ of approximately the same size and hinged together, and also hinged in common with said seat to the hinges thereof, the outer edges of the laminæ of the lid being entirely free exposing the line of cleavage on the front and sides when the two are locked together, a projection on the under side of the upper lamina adapted to fit within an opening of the lower lamina and lie flush with the under side of the said lower lamina, and a spring-catch on the said projection arranged to engage the inner edge of the opening of the lower lamina, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

RICHARD R. COWLES.

Witnesses:

D. G. MORAN,  
GEO. GELATT.