

No. 706,869.

Patented Aug. 12, 1902.

E. WOODRUFF.

MECHANISM FOR TEMPORARILY LOCKING WATER CLOSET BOWLS OR WASHBASINS.

(Application filed May 8, 1902.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

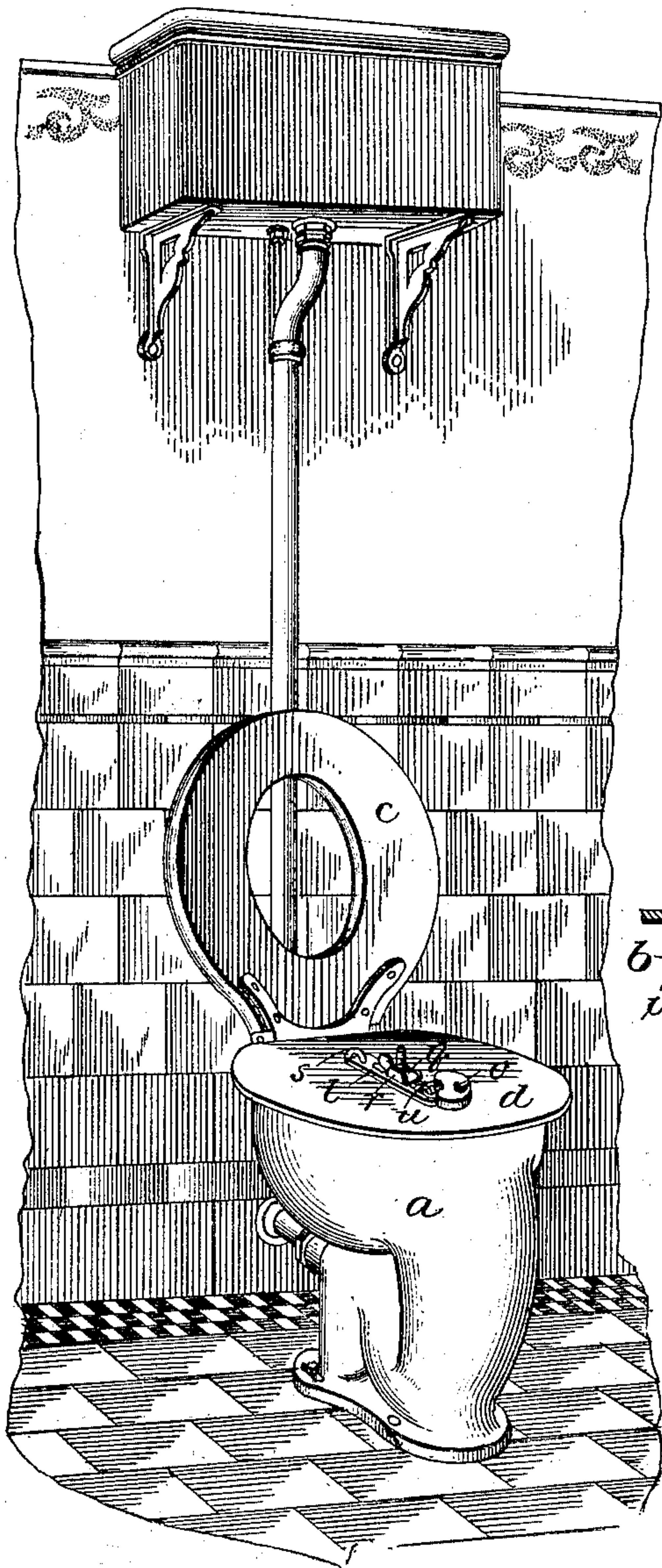
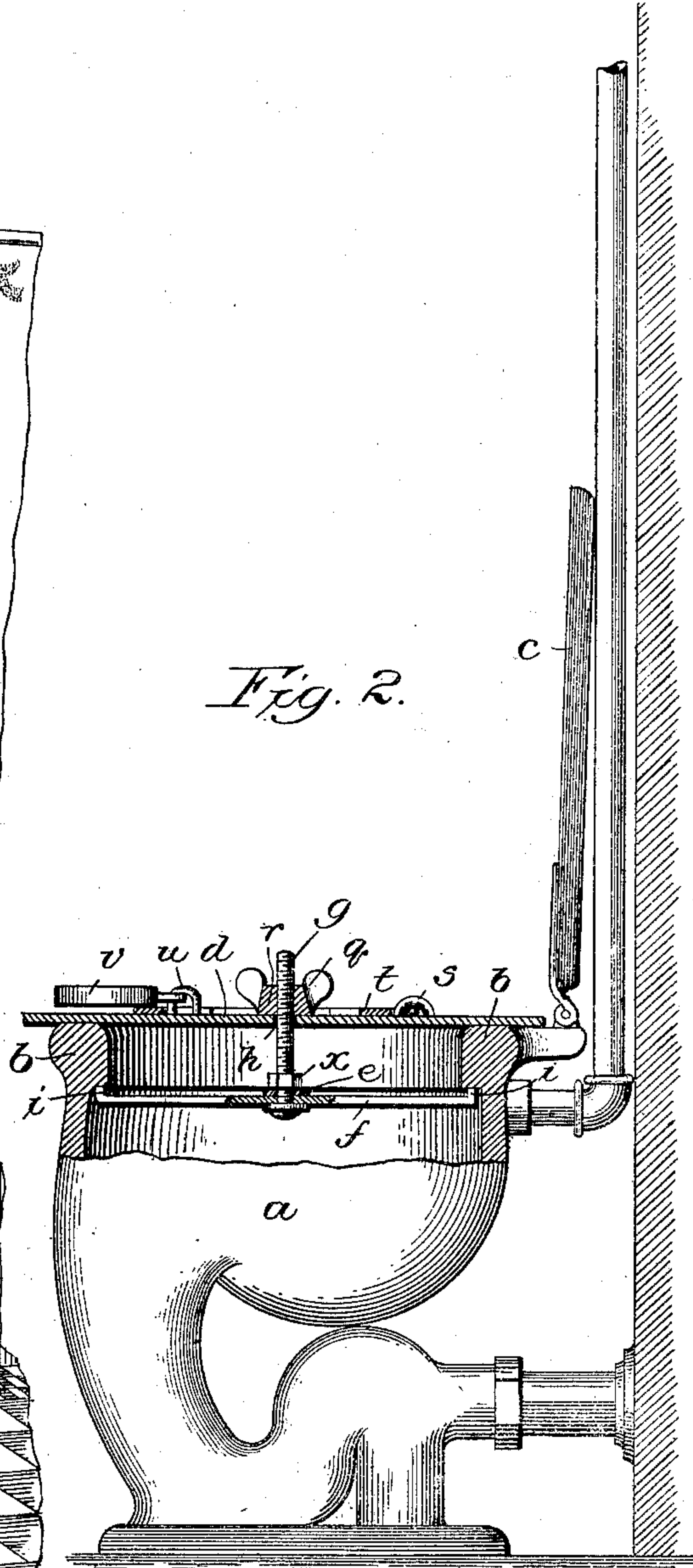


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

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Inventor:

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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

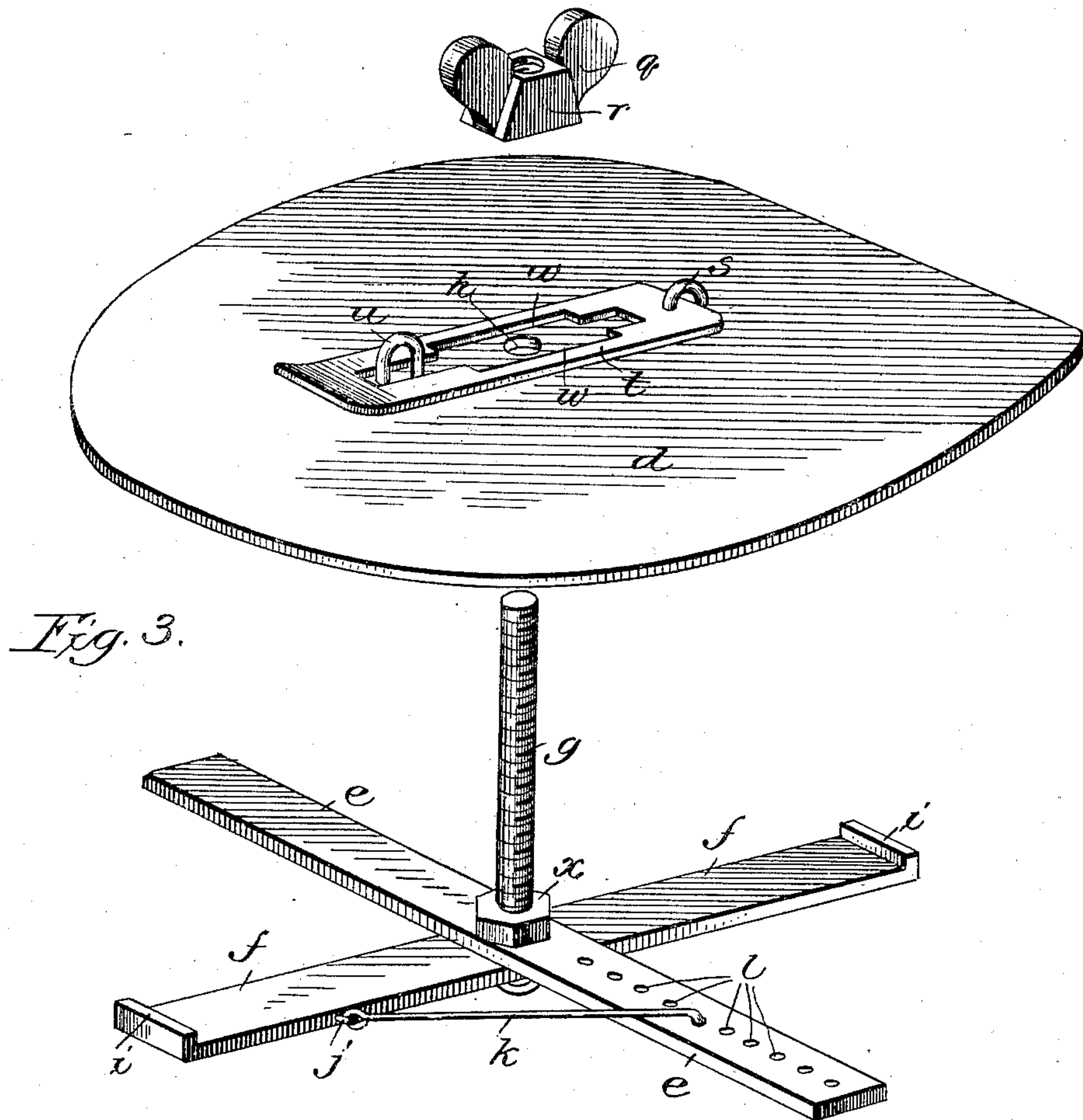


Fig. 3.

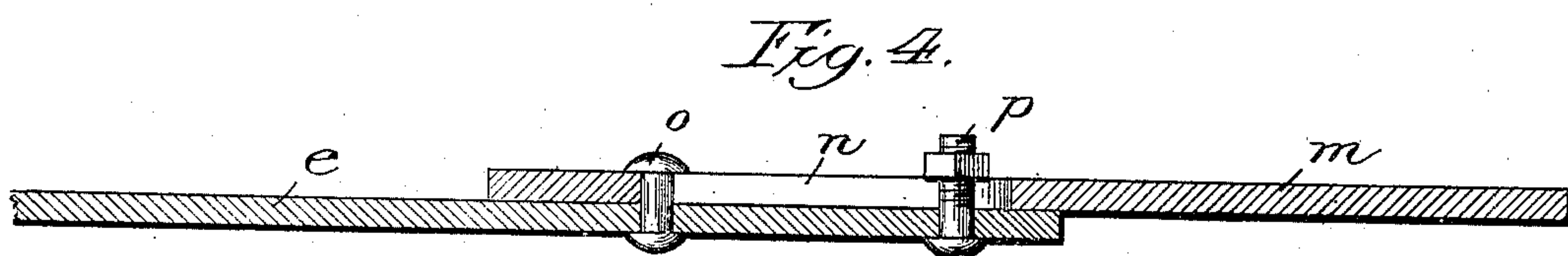


Fig. 4.

Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD WOODRUFF, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

MECHANISM FOR TEMPORARILY LOCKING WATER-CLOSET BOWLS OR WASHBASINS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 706,869, dated August 12, 1902.

Application filed May 8, 1902. Serial No. 106,475. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD WOODRUFF, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Mechanism for Temporarily Locking Water-Closet Bowls or Washstands, of which the following is a specification in its best form now known to me, reference being had to the accompanying
10 drawings, in which similar letters indicate the same parts throughout the several views.

Where a landlord has vacant houses or flats, and also in public places where plumbing is out of order, it is frequently desirable to have
15 means at hand for temporarily locking the tops of the bowls of water-closets and of washstands, so that they cannot be used.

The object of my invention is to provide mechanism for accomplishing this purpose
20 which can be easily and cheaply made and applied to openings of different sizes which are to be closed, which shall be adjustable to fit such different openings, and which shall not be liable to get out of order.

My invention also consists in means for locking the same in place and in details of construction hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective
30 view showing the bowl of a bath-room water-closet with the device embodying my invention applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a sectional view showing the same. Fig. 3 is a detail view showing the parts forming the apparatus
35 of my invention separated from each other, but in position to be put together. Fig. 4 is a detail view of a modification by means of which the arms of the cross-pieces may be made extensible.

Referring again to the drawings, *a* represents the bowl of an ordinary bath-room water-closet having around its upper edge the flange *b* and having hinged to it the usual seat *c*. In order to temporarily close and
45 lock the bowl, I provide a plate *d*, preferably of iron or steel, adapted to cover the top of the bowl *a*. Below this I provide two horizontal bars or arms *e* and *f*, pivotally mounted on the lower end of a threaded bolt *g*, which
50 is adapted to pass through a hole *h* in plate *d*. These bars *e* and *f* are of sufficient length

so they will when spread fit under and engage the flange *b*. The bar *f* has lugs *i* on its ends, so that the tops of the two lugs *i* and the upper surfaces of the bar *e* are in the same horizontal plane, thereby allowing the ends of both *e* and *f* to simultaneously bear against the under side of flange *b*. 55

Mounted in a staple *j* or bar *f* is a hook *k*, having its end adapted to enter one of the holes *l* on arm *e*, as shown in Fig. 3, from which it will appear that by inserting the end of the hook *k* in different ones of the holes *l*, thereby varying the angle of bars *e* and *f* to each other, the device may be applied to
65 closet-bowls of different sizes, for the shape of the bowls usually being in the form of an ellipse it is possible by varying the angle of the bars *e* and *f* to make their ends bear at some point on the narrow portion of a very large bowl and at the end portions of a very small bowl. Another advantage of having the arms *e* and *f* pivoted is that they may be closed for insertion through the circular opening in the top of a washbowl where a circular plate of the diameter of the arms *e* and *f* would not go through. They may then be separated and locked by the hook *k*. If further extensibility of the arms is desired, it may be procured by placing on the ends of
80 the arms or bars *e* and *f* extension portions *m*, as shown in Fig. 4, the extension member being provided with a slot *n*, adapted to fit around rivet *o* and bolt *p*, passing through the bar *e* or *f*, the adjustment being obtained
85 by loosening the bolt *p*, moving the parts *e* or *f* and *m* toward or from each other, and then tightening the bolt again.

I provide a thumb-screw nut *q*, adapted to fit and work on the threads of bolt *g*. The sides
90 of this nut are cut away in parallel flat portions *r*.

Secured to plate *d* by a staple *s* is a hasp *t*, adapted to fit over the staple *u* and be secured thereto by a padlock *y*. This hasp is
95 cut out in the straight lines *w*, so that when the hasp is locked down the edges of the opening *w* will bear against the sides *r* of the thumb-nut *q* and prevent its turning.

The bars *e* and *f* are preferably held on the lower end of bolt *g* by a check-nut *x*, which
100 does not, however, prevent one of the arms

moving with reference to the other. It may, however, be tightened down, if desired, to fasten the arms rigidly together.

In the operation of my invention I first
5 separate the parts, as shown in Fig. 3, the hook *k* being loosened and the arms *e* and *f* swung close together. I now insert the arms *e* and *f* inside the opening to be closed and spread the arms *e* and *f* until they bear firmly
10 against the under side of the flange *b* or the under surface of the washstand, as the case may be. I now place the plate *d* so that the hole *h* permits it to pass down over bolt *g*. I now move hasp *t* out of the way and screw
15 down the nut *x*, thereby drawing the plate *d* down toward arms *e* and *f* and securing it to the top of the opening to be closed. I now replace the hasp *t*, as shown in Fig. 3, and lock it, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. To remove
20 the appliance, I unlock and remove the padlock and reverse the operations just described.

I do not wish to be understood as limiting myself to exact details of construction, which may be varied within reasonable limits without departing from my invention.

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

1. In mechanism of the class described, the
30 combination of a plate adapted to cover the opening in the receptacle to be closed, mechanism in a horizontal plane below said plate adjustable horizontally within said plane to fit inside of receptacles of different sizes and
35 engage the under sides of the flanges of said receptacles, a bolt passing through said last-mentioned mechanism and said plate, mechanism for tightening said bolt, and mechanism for locking the tightening mechanism for
40 the purposes set forth.

2. In mechanism of the class described, the combination of a plate adapted to cover the opening in the receptacle to be closed, a bolt
45 through said plate, two arms crossing each other on the bottom of said bolt, adapted to be moved to and from each other, and also adapted to have their ends bear against the inside of the rim of the receptacle to be closed, adjustable means for securing said
50 arms in different positions with reference to each other, mechanism for tightening said bolt, and mechanism for locking said bolt so that it cannot be loosened, for the purposes set forth.

3. In mechanism of the class described, the combination of a plate adapted to cover the opening in the receptacle to be closed, a bolt
55 through said plate, two arms crossing each other on the bottom of said bolt adapted to be moved to and from each other, and also adapted to have their ends bear against the inside of the rim of the receptacle to be closed, means for varying the lengths of said arms, adjustable means for securing said arms in

different positions with reference to each
65 other, mechanism for tightening said bolt, and mechanism for locking said bolt so that it cannot be loosened, for the purposes set forth.

4. In mechanism of the class described, the
70 combination of a plate adapted to cover the opening in the receptacle to be closed, a bolt through said plate, two arms crossing each other mounted on the bottom of said bolt adapted to be moved to and from each other
75 and also adapted to have their ends bear against the under side of the rim of the receptacle to be closed, a hook loosely secured to one arm having its end bent so as to engage
80 holes along one end of the other arm whereby said arms may be secured in different positions with reference to each other, mechanism for tightening said bolt, and mechanism for locking said bolt so that it cannot be loosened, for the purposes set forth.
85

5. In mechanism of the class described, the combination of a plate adapted to cover the opening in the receptacle to be closed, a bolt
90 through said plate, two arms crossing each other mounted on the bottom of said bolt adapted to be moved to and from each other and also adapted to have their ends bear against the under side of the rim of the receptacle to be closed, a hook loosely secured
95 to one arm having its end bent so as to engage holes along one end of the other arm whereby said arms may be secured in different positions with reference to each other, a thumb-nut on said bolt and a hasp secured to
100 said plate adapted to fit over said thumb-nut and secure the same against rotation, and means for locking said hasp, for the purposes set forth.

6. In mechanism of the class described, the combination of a plate adapted to cover the
105 opening in the receptacle to be closed, a bolt through said plate, two arms crossing each other mounted on the bottom of said bolt adapted to be moved to and from each other and also adapted to have their ends bear
110 against the under side of the rim of the receptacle to be closed, a hook loosely secured to one arm having its end bent so as to engage holes along one end of the other arm whereby said arms may be secured in differ-
115 ent positions with reference to each other, a thumb-nut on said bolt and a hasp secured to said plate adapted to fit over said thumb-nut and secure the same against rotation, and means for locking said hasp, all of the
120 parts being arranged and disposed substantially as shown and described, for the purposes set forth.

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Witnesses:

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