

No. 815,158.

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G. GRAHAM & W. LOVELACE.

OIL FLASK.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 18, 1905.

Fig. 1.

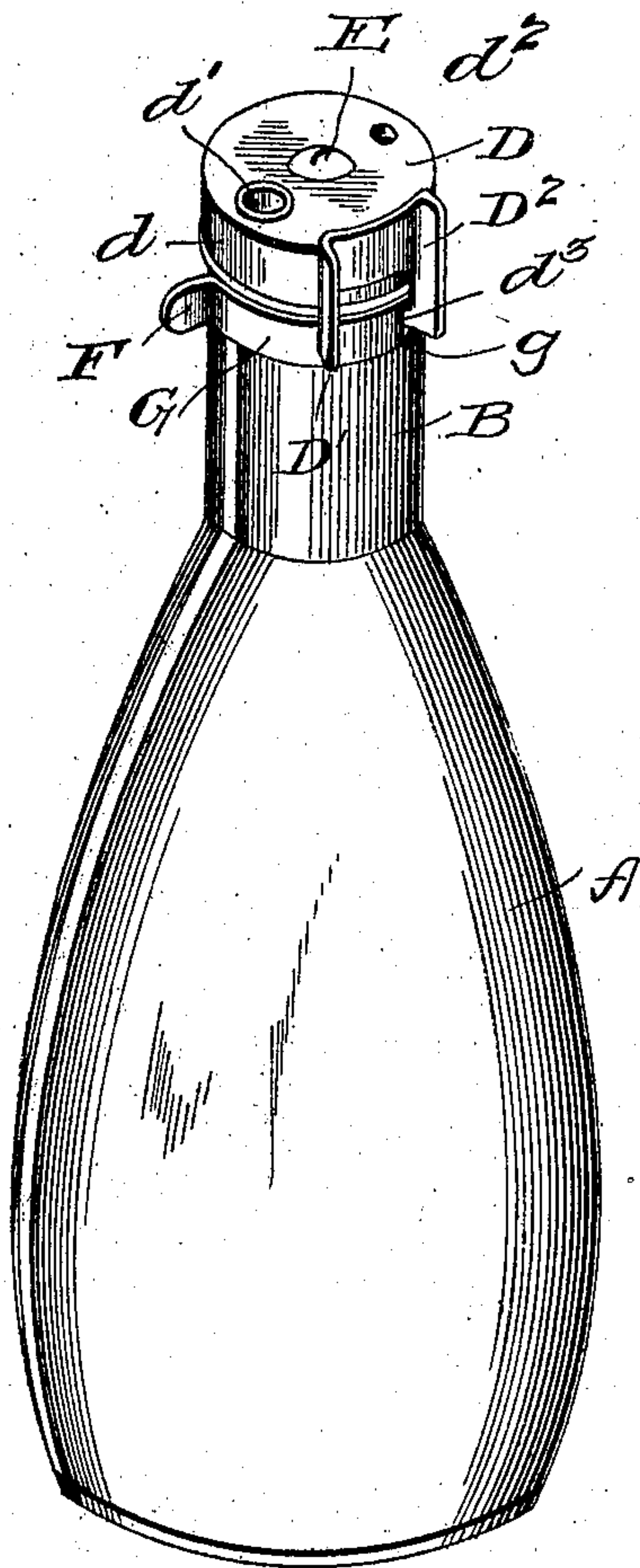


Fig. 2.

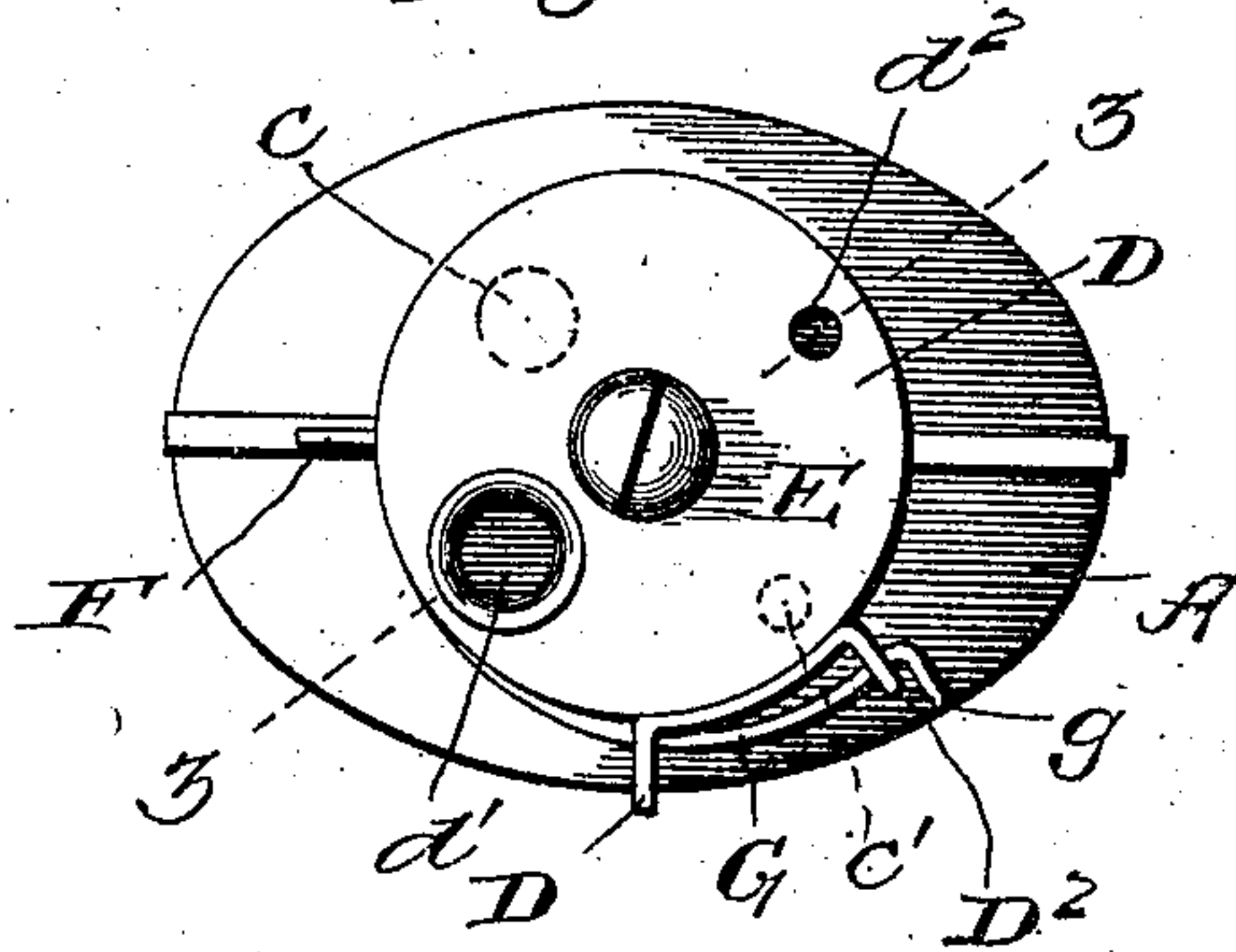


Fig. 3.

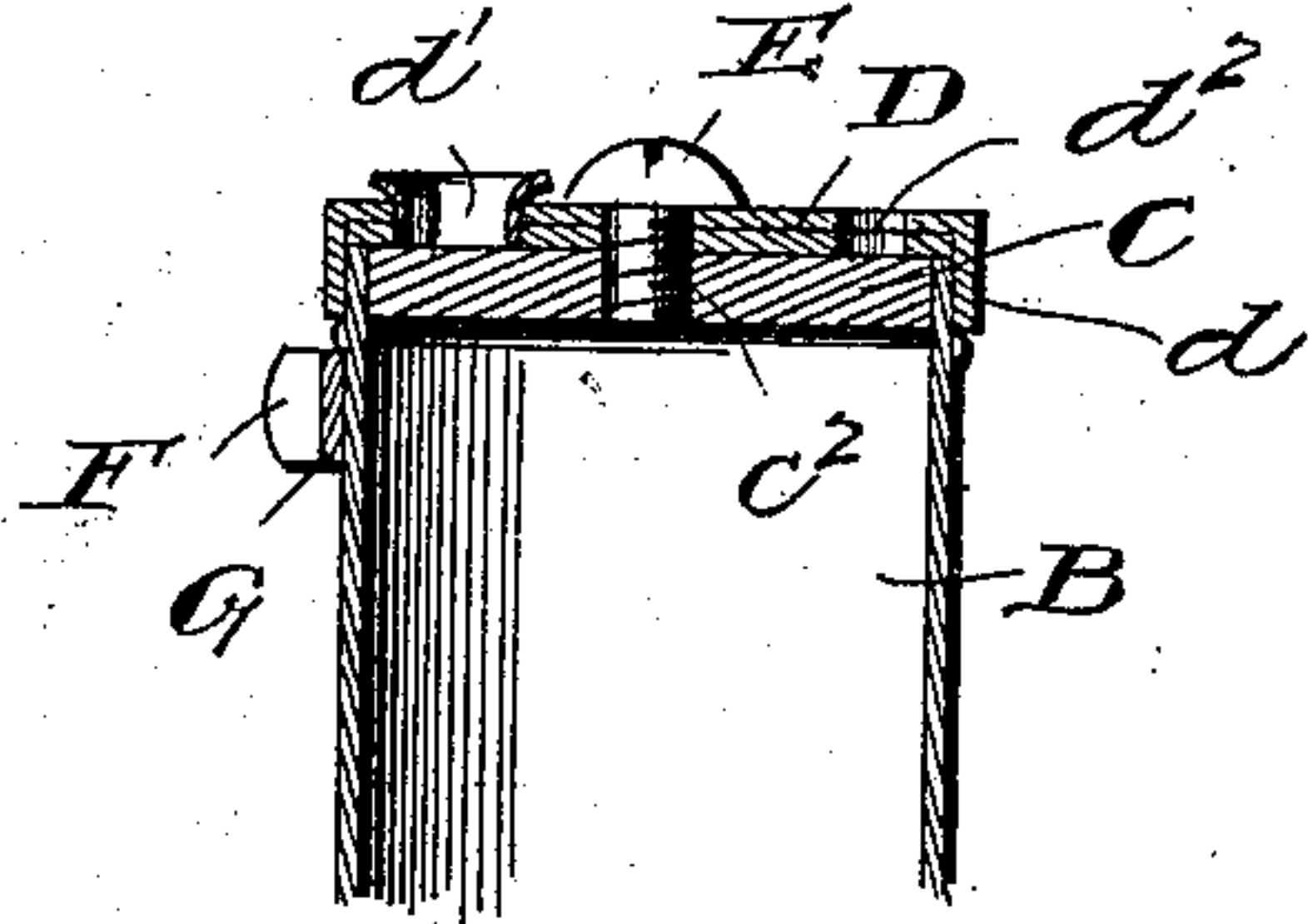
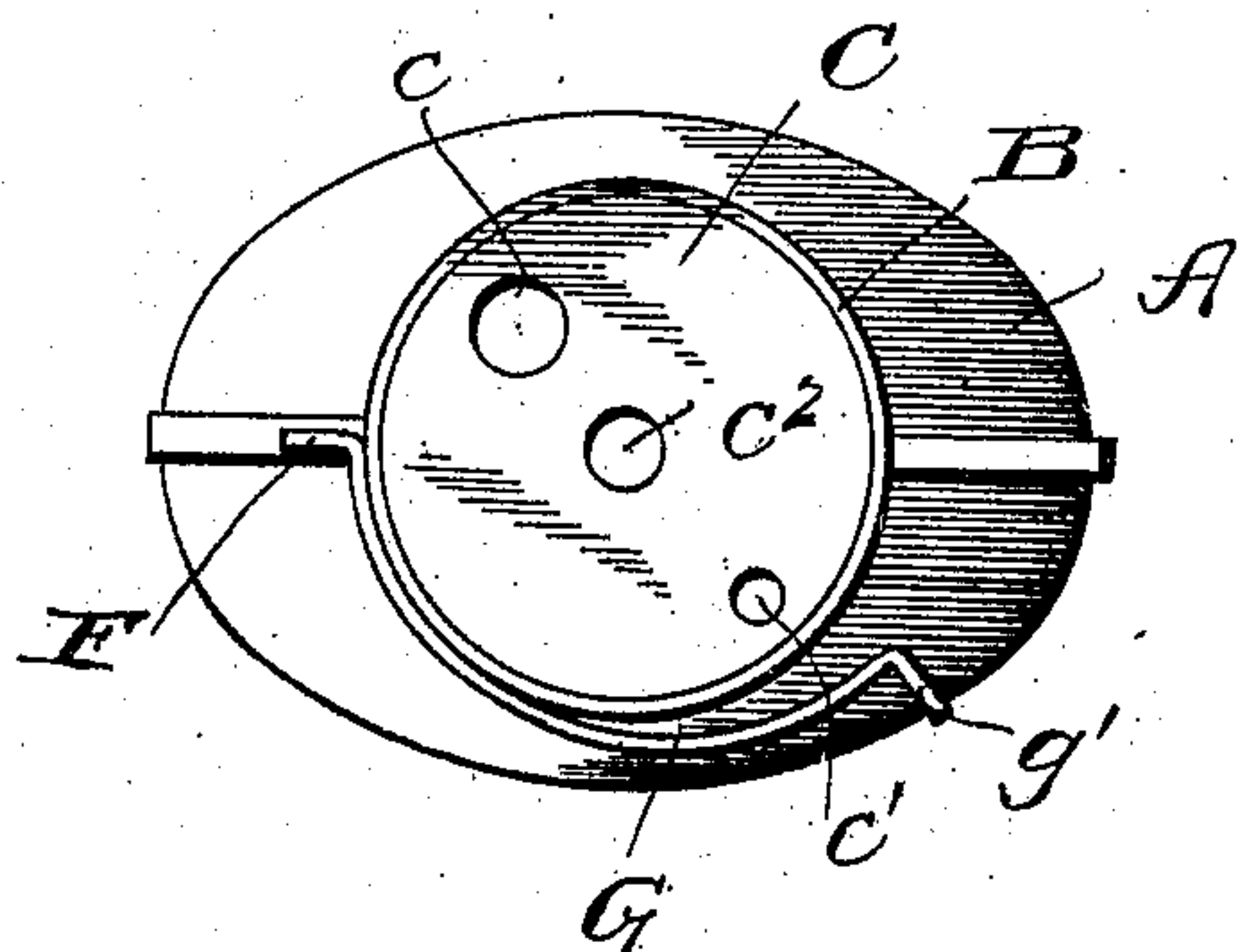


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE GRAHAM AND WILLIAM LOVELACE, OF DORCHESTER, VIRGINIA,
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OIL-FLASK.

No. 815,158.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 13, 1906.

Application filed September 16, 1905. Serial No. 278,728.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, GEORGE GRAHAM and WILLIAM LOVELACE, citizens of the United States, residing at Dorchester, in the county of Wise and State of Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Oil-Flasks, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact specification.

This invention relates to that class of miners' oil-flasks described in United States Letters Patent No. 795,606, dated July 25, 1905, and embodying a metal pocket-flask having its mouth closed by a plug provided with pouring and vent apertures adapted to be opened or closed simultaneously by a disk valve pivoted on the plug and having apertures designed to register in one position of adjustment with the pouring and vent apertures of the plug.

The object of the present invention is to cheapen the construction of such flasks, at the same time rendering the manipulation of the valve to open or close the apertures of the plug more simple and perfect.

In devices of this character the end sought is a closure that may be easily and quickly operated by one hand, so that in case of an explosion while a miner is filling his lamp the flask can be instantly closed by the thumb of the hand that holds the flask, thus preventing access of fire to its contents, it following, of course, that the act of opening the flask to fill a lamp is performed by the thumb of the hand that holds it, thus leaving the other hand of the miner free to hold the lamp to be filled.

With the objects above stated and others in view our invention consists in the construction and operation to be described in the following detailed description, and particularly set forth in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings, wherein similar letters of reference are used to indicate corresponding parts in each of the several views, Figure 1 is a perspective view of an oil-flask embodying our invention. Fig. 2 is a top plan view, the apertures of the mouth-plug being shown in dotted lines. Fig. 3 is a sectional view on the line 3 3 of Fig. 2, and Fig. 4 is a top plan view with the valve removed.

The flask is preferably constructed for economy of sheet metal and for utility of oval or flattened form, as shown, so that it may be

conveniently carried in the pocket of the miner, lying close to the person and not bulging the pocket unnecessarily. As shown, the body A is formed of two identical blanks stamped or pressed to proper shape and united by a lock-seam to each other and to the bottom. As the blanks from which the body is formed are identical in contour, they may be stamped or pressed in a single machine, thus cheapening construction.

To the top of the body A of the flask is secured acceptably by solder a cylindric neck B, within the upper or mouth end of which is secured a circular plug C, having in the instance shown at diametrically opposite points near the periphery apertures c and c' , the one, c , of the larger diameter being designed as the opening through which the flask shall be filled with oil and discharged of its contents and the other, c' , being designed as a vent to permit the escape of air during the inflow of oil and the admission of air to facilitate the outflow of oil when oil is being discharged from the flask to fill a lamp. The plug is further provided centrally with a tapped opening c^2 , the purpose of which will be presently stated.

To normally close the apertures c and c' of the plug C or to open them for filling of the flask or for the filling of a lamp, we provide a disk valve D, which is to be snugly seated on the plug C at the flask-mouth, as shown. This disk valve D may be made of unyielding metal, so that packing between it and the plug C will not be required; but for economy of manufacture we prefer to stamp it from light sheet metal, such as used in the construction of the body A and neck B of the flask, and to use a packing between it and the plug.

As shown, the valve D comprises a stamped metal disk having a depending flange d snugly fitting the flask-mouth and provided with apertures d' and d^2 , corresponding to those of the plug C, the valve being secured to the flask-mouth upon the plug C by a screw-bolt E passing through a central opening of the valve and engaging the tapped opening c^2 at the center of the plug C, as shown.

It is not essential that the pouring and vent openings of the plug and valve be at diametrically opposite points, though such construction is preferred, but only that the openings be sufficiently distanced apart to permit

the pouring of oil from one aperture while the other is open to admit air and facilitate the discharge of oil from the flask.

To cause the openings of the valve D to accurately register with those of the plug C, we provide a stop F, secured to the flask-mouth, and a lug D' on the valve to engage therewith at the point of rotation of the valve when its apertures are in register or opposite the corresponding apertures of the plug C. As shown, the cylindric neck B of the flask is provided at top or at the flask-mouth with a spring-keeper G, following the circular contour of the flask-mouth, terminating at its fixed end with an outturned or outwardly-bent stop F, its free end being provided with a slot *g* and preferably terminating beyond the slot in a crimped or outturned tongue or ledge *g'*, as shown, to prevent disengagement of the lugs with the keeper through careless handling. In the instance shown the lug D' constitutes one end of a thumb-manipulator comprising said lug and a lug D², distanced from it conveniently to admit the thumb of an operator between them. The lug D² is provided on its vertical edge facing the flask-mouth and keeper with a spur *d*³, designed to engage the slot *g'* at the free end of the spring-keeper G, thus locking the valve in position to prevent escape of oil from the flask.

As so constructed it will be seen that normally the valve is locked by the spur *d*³, engaging the slot *g'* of the spring-keeper G in a position to prevent the flow of oil therefrom or the access of fire to the contents of the flask. The operator by grasping the neck of the flask and placing his thumb or finger between the lugs D' and D² of the valve may depress the free end of the spring-keeper G, thus disengaging the valve from the keeper, when the valve may be freely turned by the thumb or finger of the operator to bring the apertures of the plug and valve into register, so that oil may flow from the flask. Of course a reverse movement of the thumb or finger of the operator to the limit will serve to cause the engagement of the spur *d*³ of the lug D² with the slot *g'* at the free end of the

spring-keeper G, thus again locking the valve to prevent access of fire to the contents of the flask or escape of its contents.

Having thus fully described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. A flask comprising a body terminating in a mouth provided with a plug having vent and pouring apertures, a disk valve seated on said plug and having corresponding apertures, a spring-keeper at the flask-mouth having stops at both its fixed and free ends, and lugs carried by the disk valve to engage the stops of the keeper.

2. A flask comprising a body terminating in a mouth provided with a plug having vent and pouring apertures, a disk valve seated on said plug and having corresponding apertures, a spring-keeper at the flask-mouth having a stop at its fixed end and a slot at its free end, and lugs carried by the disk valve to engage the stop and slot of the keeper.

3. A flask comprising a body terminating in a mouth provided with a plug having vent and pouring apertures, a disk valve seated on said plug and having corresponding apertures, a spring-keeper at the flask-mouth having a stop at its fixed end and a slot at its free end, and lugs carried by the disk valve, one of which is provided with a spur to engage the slot of the keeper.

4. A flask comprising a body terminating in a mouth provided with a plug having vent and pouring apertures, a disk valve seated on said plug and having corresponding apertures, a spring-keeper at the flask-mouth having a stop at its fixed end, a slot at its free end, a ledge formed on the free end beyond the slot, and lugs carried by the disk valve to engage the stop and slot of the keeper.

In testimony whereof we have signed our names to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

GEORGE GRAHAM.
WILLIAM LOVELACE.

Witnesses:

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GRANT ROSE.