

No. 848,069.

PATENTED MAR. 26, 1907.

J. M. THOMAS.

FONT.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 3, 1905

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

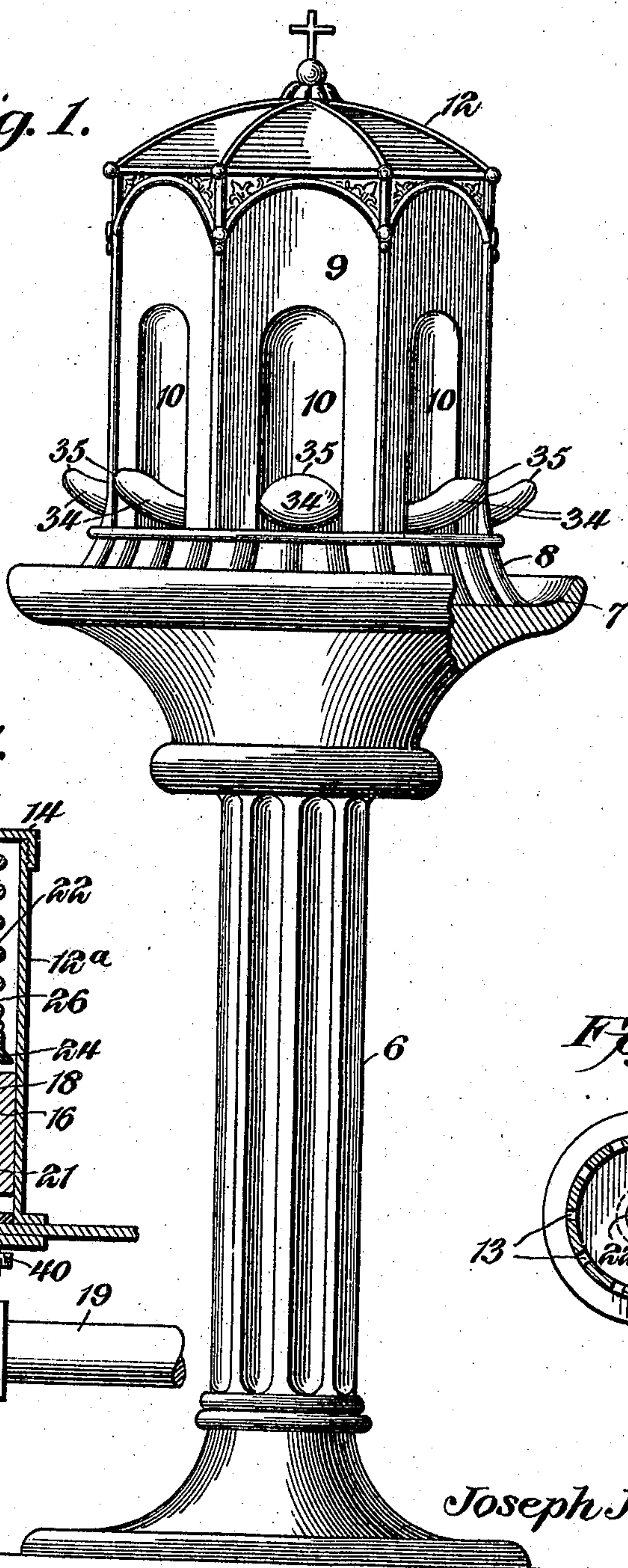


Fig. 4.

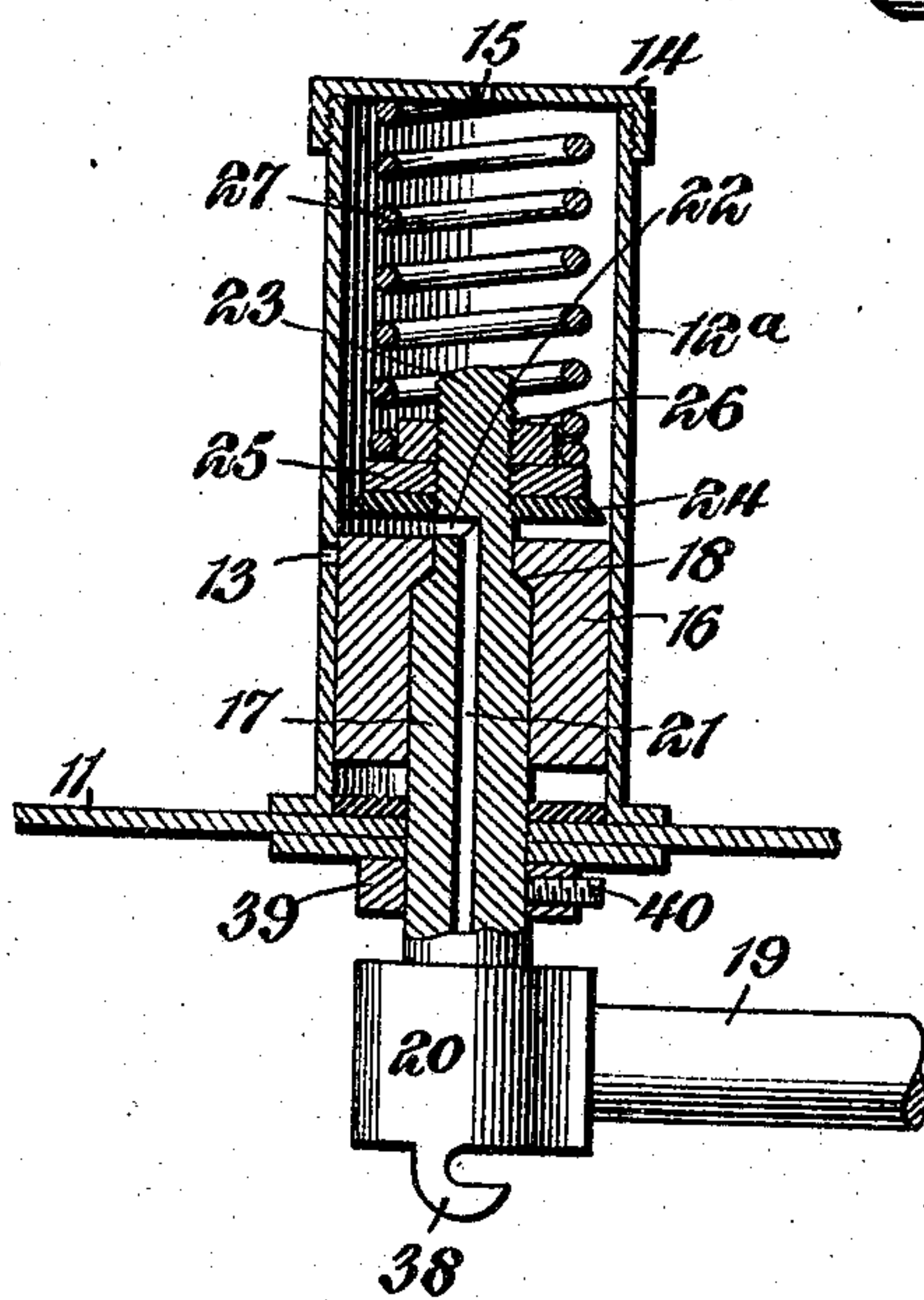
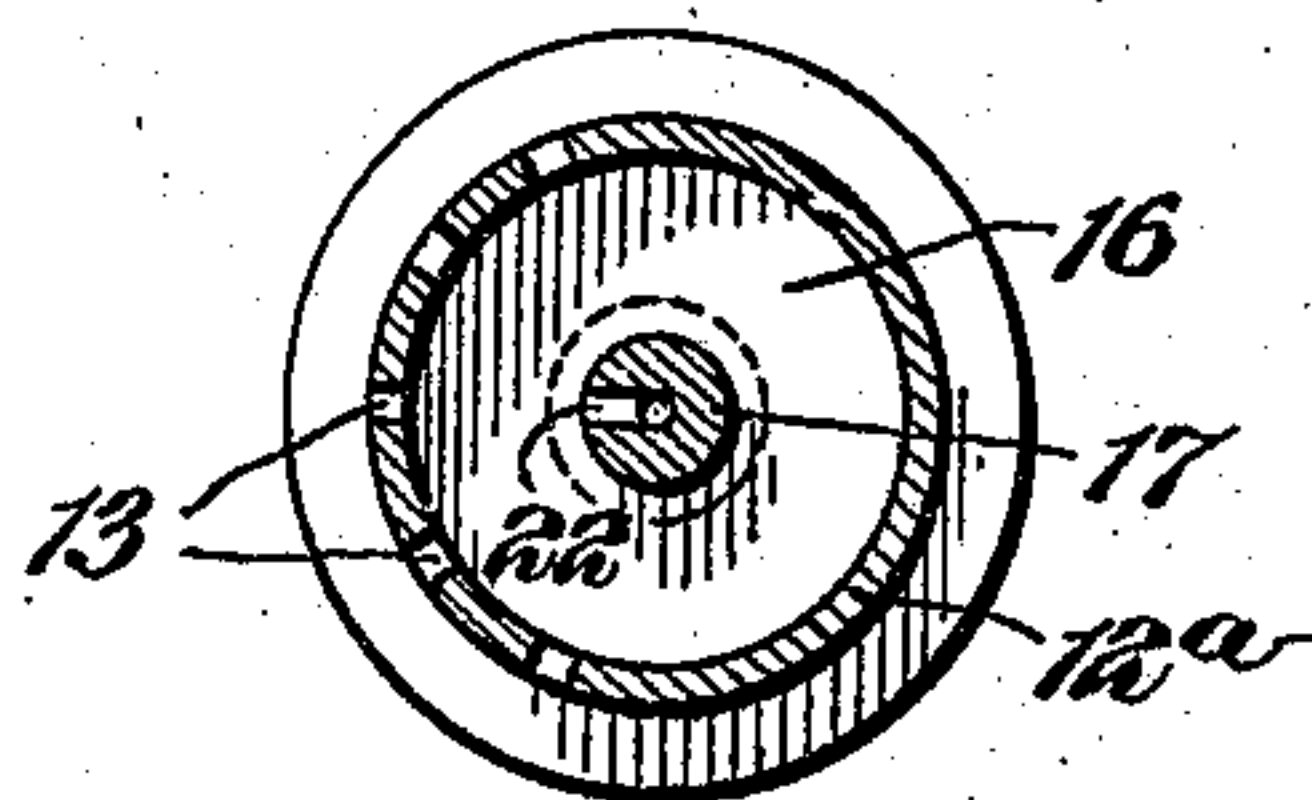


Fig. 5.



Joseph M. Thomas,
Inventor

Witnesses
Howard W. Orr.
B. H. Fretter

By *E. G. Siggers*
Attorney

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 2.

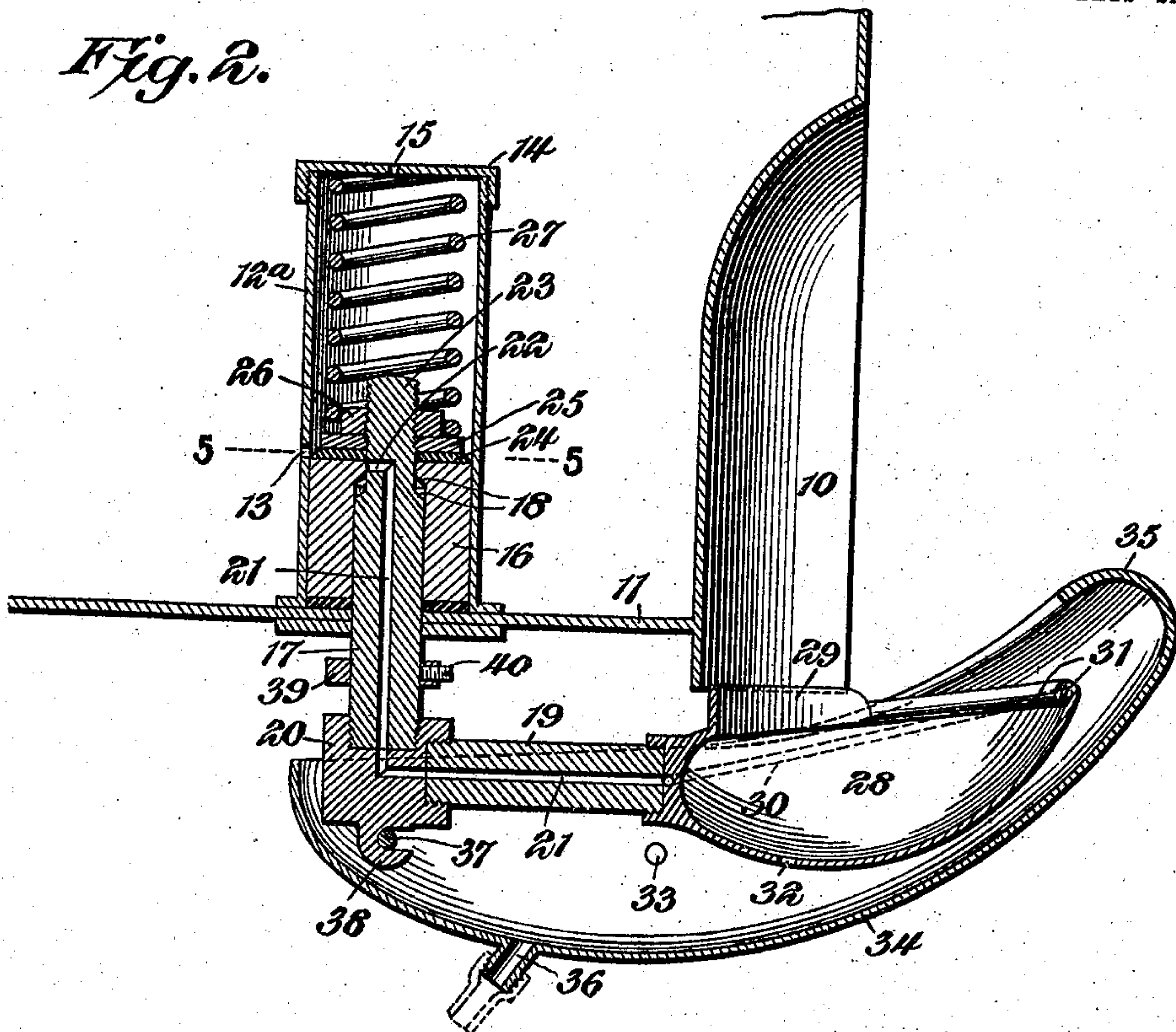
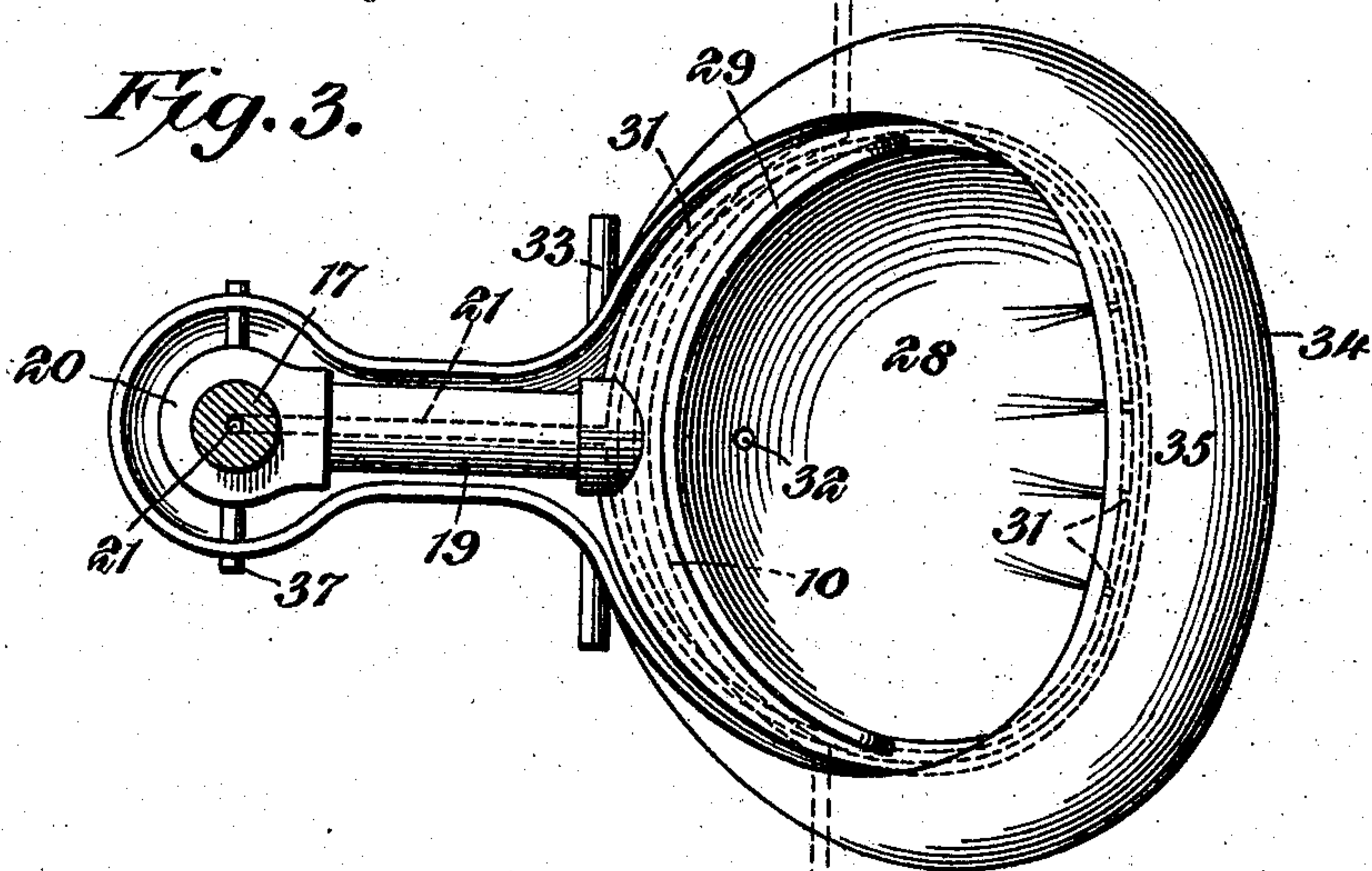


Fig. 3.



Witnesses
Howard W. Orr
Ch. Inter

Inventor,
Joseph M. Thomas,
By
E. G. Siggers
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH M. THOMAS, OF BROOKLAND, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

FONT.

No. 848,069.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 26, 1907.

Application filed November 3, 1905. Serial No. 285,723.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH M. THOMAS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Brookland, in the District of Columbia, have invented a new and useful Font, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in fonts for holding holy water.

It is well known that medical authorities consider open receptacles of water unsanitary, particularly so when such water is used repeatedly by the public. Therefore in times of epidemic the authorities often require the abandonment of the usual holy-water font.

The principal object of the present invention is to provide a novel and practicable font wherein the body of holy water is inclosed and protected against contamination of all sorts and easily-operated convenient means are employed for delivering and applying predetermined amounts of such water to the hands or fingers of the worshippers, so that each person is given a fresh unused supply, thereby avoiding any danger of the transfer of disease, as well as preventing unnecessary waste of the water.

An embodiment of the invention that is at present considered preferable is illustrated in the accompanying drawings; but an inspection of the claims hereto appended will show that said invention is not limited to the particular structure disclosed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a view in elevation of the font. Fig. 2 is a detail vertical sectional view through one of the delivering means. Fig. 3 is a cross-sectional view therethrough. Fig. 4 is a vertical sectional view through the valve mechanism, showing the same opened. Fig. 5 is a detail sectional view on the line 5 5 of Fig. 2.

Similar reference-numerals designate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

In the embodiment illustrated a font is shown as comprising a suitable supporting-standard 6, having a bowl 7 at its upper end, in which exposed water may be placed, if desired. The particular style of support for the font is, however, not important. Arranged within the bowl 7 is a base 8, supporting a reservoir 9, having recesses 10 in its various sides and being provided with a bottom 11. (Shown in Figs. 2 and 4.) The

reservoir 9 is completely inclosed and may have a removable top 12 for the purpose of supplying water thereto.

Mounted in and around the reservoir is a plurality of delivering mechanisms. As these mechanisms are duplicates, a description of one is believed to be entirely sufficient. Located within the reservoir 9 and suitably supported upon the bottom 11 thereof is a tubular holder 12^a, having one or more inlet-orifices 13 in its side wall, and a removable cap 14, provided with a vent 15. Slidably mounted in this holder is a plunger 16, normally located below the inlet 13, but movable upwardly across the same. A stem 17 has a limited sliding movement in the plunger 16, said movement being determined by coaxing shoulders 18, carried, respectively, by the stem and plunger. The lower portion of the stem projects through the bottom 11 of the reservoir, and said lower portion includes an angular substantially horizontal extension 19, coupled to the upright portion, as shown at 20. The stem 17, extension 19, and coupling 20 are provided with a conduit or passage-way 21, terminating at one end in an offset inlet 22, closed by the upper end of the plunger when the stem is in its lowermost position, said inlets being exposed, however, when the stem moves upwardly in the plunger. This will be apparent by reference to Fig. 4. The upper end of the stem is in the form of a threaded shank 23, projecting above the plunger and having located thereon a valve-washer 24, a metallic washer 25, and a nut 26, the nut holding the washers 24 and 25 in place. A coiled spring 27, arranged in the upper portion of the tubular holder 12^a, bears at its upper end against the cap 14 and at its lower end against the washer 25, thus urging the parts to their lowermost positions.

Suitably connected to the front end of the horizontal portion 19 of the stem is a finger-receiver in the form of a bowl 28, that projects beyond the side wall of the reservoir and has an upstanding flange portion 29, that covers the joint between said bowl and the lower end of the recess-wall 10. The bowl is provided in its side walls with a passage-way 30, communicating with the conduit 21, said passage-way extending through the front rim of the bowl and having rearwardly-discharging orifices 31. An outlet 32 is pro-

vided in the bottom of the bowl. Pivotally mounted beneath the bowl 28, as shown at 33, is a waste-bowl 34, that surrounds the bowl 28 and extends in advance of and over the same, forming a hand-rest 35. This bowl 34 has a suitable outlet 36 in its lower portion, which may be connected to or in communication with any suitable waste-discharge. The rear end of the bowl has a pintle 37, which pivotally engages the coupling 20 of the stem, the pivotal connection being preferably obtained by means of a hook extension 38 on said coupling which embraces the pintle. The upward movement of the stem, and consequently the movements of the bowls, are preferably limited by an adjustable stop in the form of a collar 39, surrounding the stem 17 and secured in place thereon by a set-screw 40. This collar is adapted to abut against the bottom of the tank, and thus the movements of the parts can be predetermined.

The operation of the structure may be briefly outlined as follows: Under normal conditions the spring 27 will hold the stem and the plunger in their lowermost positions, and consequently if the reservoir is filled with water such water will freely enter the orifices 13, filling the holder 12^a. At the same time the conduit 21 is cut off from the water-supply. In order to obtain a supply of the water, a person has only to place his hand upon the rest portion 35 of the waste-bowl and the tips of the fingers in rear of the discharge-orifices 31, at the same time pressing downwardly upon the portion 35. It will be apparent that this will raise the finger-receiving bowl 28 and the stem 17. The initial movement of said stem will carry the inlet 22 of the conduit above the plunger and at the same time move the valve-washer 24 away from said plunger. The continued movement will cause the plunger to be elevated, thus cutting off the inlets 13. This will be evident by reference to Fig. 4. It will therefore be seen that the conduit is brought into communication with the interior of the holder and the water contained therein will pass through said conduit and out of the orifices against the fingers. Moreover, the plunger can be made to move sufficiently to forcibly expel a portion of the water in the holder, the movement being limited by the adjustable stop 39, as already described. Any excess of water flowing from the orifices 31 of the finger-receiving bowl will escape through the outlet 32 into the bowl 34 and thence will finally escape through the opening 36 of said bowl. As soon as the pressure upon the hand-rest 35 has been relieved the spring 27 will react to return the parts to their normal positions. By this means, therefore, it will be seen that a practicable font is secured wherein the body of water is completely inclosed and

protected and wherein each user is supplied with a predetermined amount that is thus entirely free from any unsanitary conditions.

From the foregoing it is thought that the construction, operation, and many advantages of the herein-described invention will be apparent without further description, and it will be understood that various changes in the size, shape, proportion, and minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

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

1. In a structure of the class described, the combination with a finger-receiver, of a conduit connected thereto, a valve controlling the conduit, and a movable hand-rest connected to the valve and located adjacent to the finger-receiver.

2. In a structure of the class described, the combination with a finger-receiver, of a conduit connected thereto, a valve controlling the conduit, and a movable hand-rest connected to the finger-receiver and located adjacent to and exteriorly of the finger-receiver.

3. In a structure of the class described, the combination with a reservoir, of a conduit communicating therewith and having a rearwardly-discharging outlet, a valve controlling the conduit, and a movable hand-rest located adjacent to the rearwardly-discharging outlet and constituting operating means for the valve.

4. In a structure of the class described, the combination with a reservoir, of a finger-receiver, a conduit communicating with the reservoir and having a rearwardly-discharging outlet in the finger-receiver, a valve controlling the conduit, and a movable hand-rest located outside and in advance of the finger-receiver, said hand-rest constituting operating means for the valve.

5. In a structure of the class described, the combination with a movable finger-receiver, of a conduit discharging therein, a valve controlling said conduit, and a hand-rest for moving the finger-receiver and the valve, said rest being located adjacent to the finger-receiver.

6. In a structure of the class described, the combination with a movable finger-receiver, of a conduit discharging therein, a valve controlling said conduit, and a movable hand-rest for moving both the receiver and the valve, said rest being located adjacent to the finger-receiver, said receiver and hand-rest moving in opposite directions.

7. In a structure of the class described, the combination with a reciprocatory movable finger-receiver, of a conduit discharging therein, a valve controlling said conduit,

and swinging operating means for reciprocating the receiver and operating the valve, said means being located adjacent to the finger-receiver.

5 8. In a structure of the class described, the combination with a reciprocatory bowl, of a conduit discharging therein, a valve carried by and movable with the bowl, said valve controlling the conduit, and a movable
15 hand-rest located adjacent to the bowl and connected thereto for reciprocating the same and thereby operating the valve.

9. In a structure of the class described, the combination with a reciprocatory finger-receiving bowl, of a conduit-stem connected thereto, the conduit of said stem discharging rearwardly into the front end of the bowl, a valve for the conduit mounted on the stem, and a swinging device surrounding the bowl
20 for reciprocating the same.

10. In a structure of the class described, the combination with a pivotally-mounted bowl, of a conduit-stem pivotally connected thereto and constituting means for delivering
25 liquid to the bowl, and a valve carried by the stem and controlling the conduit.

11. In a structure of the class described, the combination with a finger-receiving bowl, of a conduit discharging therein, a valve
30 controlling the conduit, and a movable hand-rest surrounding the upper portion of the bowl and constituting actuating means for the valve.

12. In a structure of the class described, the combination with a finger-receiving bowl, of a conduit discharging therein, a valve controlling the conduit, and a waste-bowl surrounding the finger-receiving bowl and constituting actuating means for the valve.
35

13. In a structure of the class described, the combination with a movable finger-receiving bowl, of a conduit movable therewith and discharging therein, a valve controlling the conduit, and a waste-bowl surrounding the finger-receiving bowl and constituting actuating means for the valve.
40 45

14. In a structure of the class described, the combination with a reciprocatory finger-receiving bowl, of a stem carried thereby and having a conduit discharging into the bowl, a valve controlling the conduit, and a pivotally-mounted waste-bowl surrounding the finger-receiving bowl and having a pivotal connection with the stem.
50

15. In a structure of the class described, the combination with a liquid-holder, of a liquid-expelling plunger operating therein, means for admitting liquid into the holder, a conduit-stem movable in the plunger and having an inlet that is movable into and out of the plunger and is closed by the latter, said stem constituting actuating means for the plunger, and means for effecting the movement of the stem in the plunger and the combined movement of said plunger and stem.
55 60 65

16. In a structure of the class described, the combination with a liquid-holder, of a liquid-expelling plunger operating therein, means for admitting liquid into the holder, a stem having a limited sliding movement in the plunger and having a conduit provided with an inlet that is movable into and out of the plunger, said plunger constituting a closure for the inlet, said stem constituting actuating means for the plunger, a receiver into which the conduit discharges, and actuating means for the stem associated with the reservoir.
70 75

17. In a structure of the class described, the combination with a tubular liquid-holder having an inlet, of a plunger sliding in the holder and movable across the inlet, a stem having a limited movement in the plunger and having a conduit provided with an inlet that is exposed on said movement, a valve carried by the stem, a liquid-receiver connected to the stem, and actuating means also connected to the stem and disposed adjacent to the receiver.
80 85

18. In a structure of the class described, the combination with a reservoir, of a tubular holder having an inlet in said reservoir, a plunger operating in the holder and movable across the inlet, a stem having a limited movement in the plunger and having a conduit provided with an inlet that communicates with the holder upon said limited movement, a finger-receiving bowl connected to the stem and having rearwardly-discharging orifices in communication with the conduit, and a movable waste-bowl surrounding the finger-receiving bowl and connected to the stem, said waste-bowl constituting actuating means for the stem.
90 95 100

19. In a structure of the class described, the combination with a liquid-reservoir, of a pivotally-mounted bowl swinging in a substantially upright path, means for conveying liquid from the reservoir to the bowl, said means including a conduit pivoted to the bowl and movable with it, and a valve for controlling the passage of liquid through the conduit, said conduit constituting actuating means for the valve.
105 110

20. In a structure of the class described, the combination with a reservoir, of a movable finger-moistening device, a cylinder having an orifice communicating with the reservoir, a conduit connected to the finger-moistening device and having an inlet communicating with the cylinder, and an expelling-plunger movably mounted on the conduit and movably located in the cylinder, said plunger constituting a closure for the orifice of the cylinder and for the inlet of the conduit.
115 120

21. In a structure of the class described, the combination with a liquid-holder having an inlet-orifice, of a liquid-expelling plunger operating in the holder and movable across the orifice, a conduit having a limited movement in the plunger and having an inlet ex-
125 130

posed on said limited movement, said conduit
constituting means for operating the plunger,
and a finger-moistening device connected to
the conduit and having a discharge-orifice
5 communicating therewith.

22. In a structure of the class described,
the combination with a reservoir, of a liquid-
holder having an inlet-orifice communicating
with the reservoir, a liquid-expelling plunger
10 operating in the holder and movable across
the orifice, a conduit having a limited move-
ment in the plunger and having an inlet ex-
posed on said limited movement, said conduit
constituting means for operating the plunger,

and a finger-moistening device connected at 15
its rear end to the conduit and having a chan-
nel communicating at its rear end with the
conduit, said conduit having a discharge-
opening in the front portion of the device and
directing the liquid rearwardly thereinto. 20

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as
my own I have hereto affixed my signature
in the presence of two witnesses.

JOSEPH M. THOMAS.

Witnesses:

JOHN H. SIGGERS,
B. G. FOSTER.