No. 886,478. PATENTED MAY 5, 1908.

E. J. CHERRINGTON.

SAFETY CAP FOR GAS KEYS.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 14, 1907.

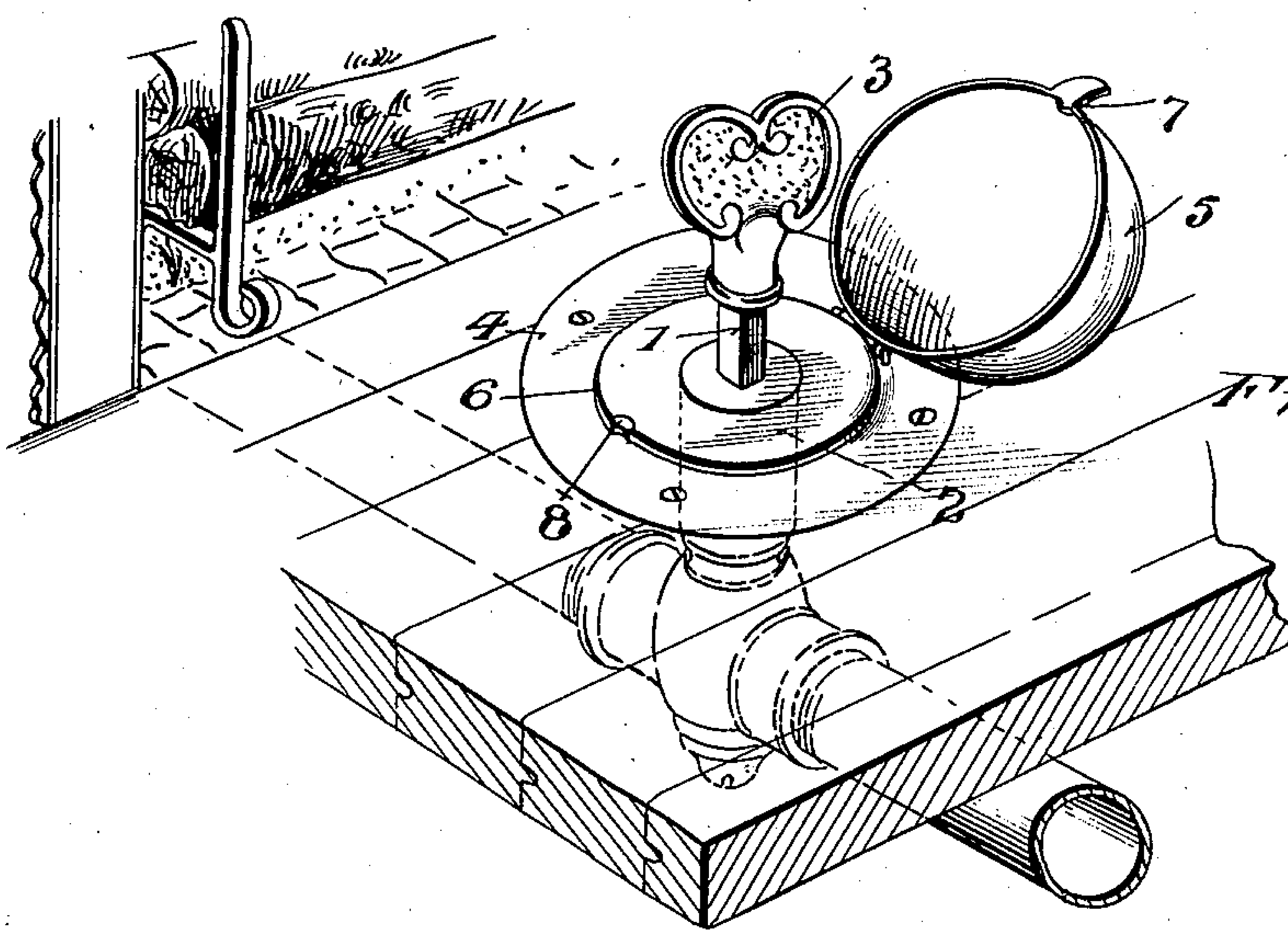


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

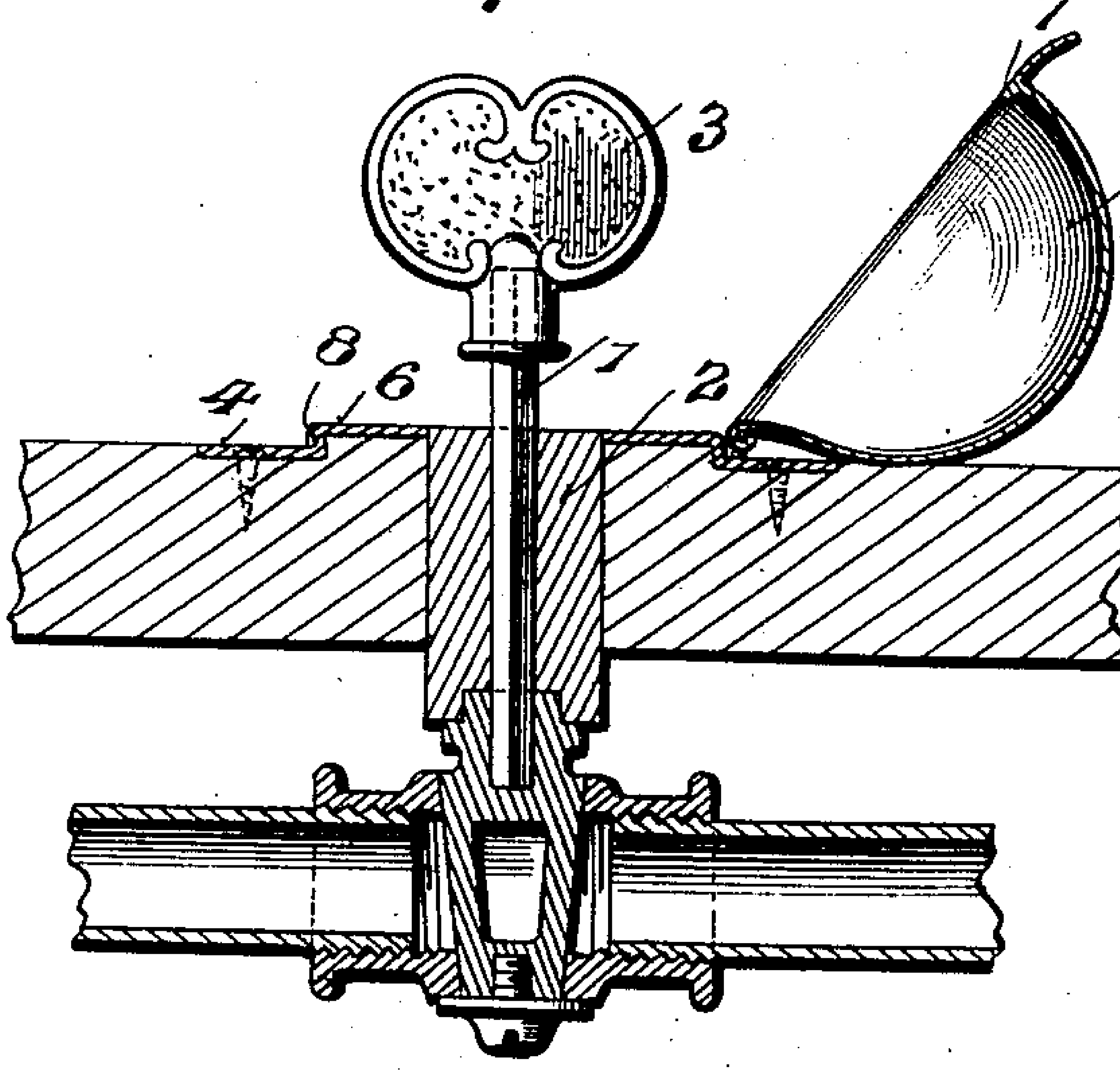
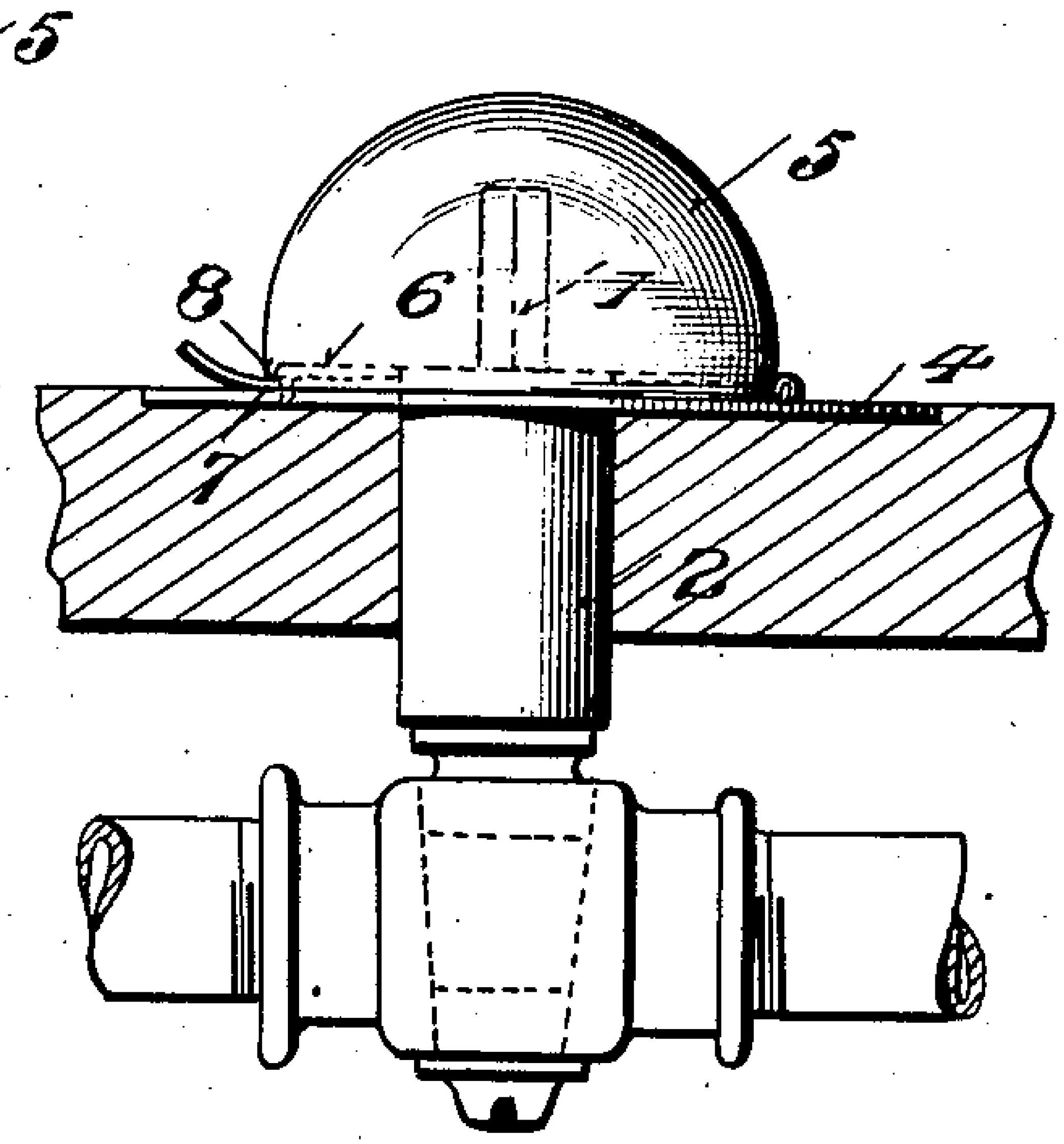


Fig. 3.



Witnesses

[illegible]

[illegible]

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SAFETY-CAP FOR GAS-KEYS.

No. 886,478. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented May 5, 1908.

Application filed March 14, 1907. Serial No. 362,357.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EFFIE J. CHERRINGTON, citizen of the United States, residing at Gallipolis, in the county of Gallia and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Safety-Caps for Gas-Keys, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has for its object an improved construction of safety cap for the keys of gas burners and it is particularly designed for use in connection with open grate gas logs or fires, where the key for turning the gas on or off is located close to the floor and is in a position where it will be liable to be bumped against or kicked accidentally with the result that the gas is either turned off or turned too high. When a fire is turned off, it is obvious that great danger lies in the gas key or post being exposed to any force that might accidentally come against it, thus allowing the escape of gas from which the occupants of the house are liable to be asphyxiated, but which this device completely prevents.

The invention consists in certain constructions and arrangements of the parts which I shall hereinafter fully describe and then point out the novel features in the appended claims.

For a full description of the invention and the merits thereof and also to acquire a knowledge of the details of construction of the means for effecting the result, reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view, showing the application of my invention. Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the device with the cover thrown back. Fig. 3 is a side view with the cover locked.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the drawings by the same reference characters.

Referring to the drawing the numeral 1 designates the post or stem of the valve adapted to regulate the amount of gas flowing to an open grate heating apparatus, 2 designates the hollow casing which is mounted, for instance, in the floor and through which the valve stem 1 projects and 3 designates the key which is adapted to fit on the opposite end of the valve stem 1 so as to form convenient means for manually turning said stem. These keys are usually made as a separate element so that the valve may be left in a substantially secure condition as against being tampered with when the key is removed, but this advantage has its commensurate or excessive disadvantage in that the key may be misplaced, which puts one to the troublesome necessity of searching for it or supplying another.

In order that the key 3 may be left on the upper end of the valve stem, my invention constitutes a housing for the key in the upper end of the valve stem, and I shall now describe the preferred embodiment.

4 designates a base plate which is substantially flat as shown and annular and which is formed with screw holes to receive screws or other fastening devices by which it may be secured to the floor and surround the casing 2 and valve stem. A cover 5, which is preferably imperforate and cup shaped, is hinged to the base plate 4 and adapted when closed to fit around an annular shoulder 6 with which said base plate is provided, said shoulder being formed by pressing the middle of the base plate upwardly slightly, concentric to its margin, as clearly illustrated in Fig. 2. The cover may be provided at one point with a latch 7 adapted to spring down over a keeper 8 formed in the annular shoulder 6 of the base plate, so as to lock the lid in closed position where it will extend over a key 3 and protect the same from being accidentally turned.

From the foregoing description in connection with the accompanying drawings, it will be seen that I have provided a very cheap, simple and efficient construction of safety cap for gas burners of the character set forth, which will insure when the cover 5 of the device is closed that the key will be protected as against accidental displacement or as against being accidentally turned.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

The combination with the stem of a gas valve for an open grate and its key projecting up through the floor, near the grate, of a flat base plate adapted to be secured to the floor and extend around the stem and key, said base plate being formed with an upwardly pressed central portion extending only slightly above the rim portion of the plate, the outer edge of said central portion producing an annular shoulder and the base

plate being formed in said shoulder with a keeper, and an imperforate cup-shaped cover 5 hinged to said base plate at one side of said shoulder and adapted when closed to fit closely around said shoulder, said cover being formed with a latch 7 adapted to engage the keeper formed in the shoulder.

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

EFFIE J. CHERRINGTON. [L. S.]

Witnesses:
J. H. CHERRINGTON,
RACHEL CHERRINGTON.