

J. E. WALTER.

Self-Raising Seats for Water-Closets

No. 162,437.

Patented April 20, 1875.

Fig. 1.

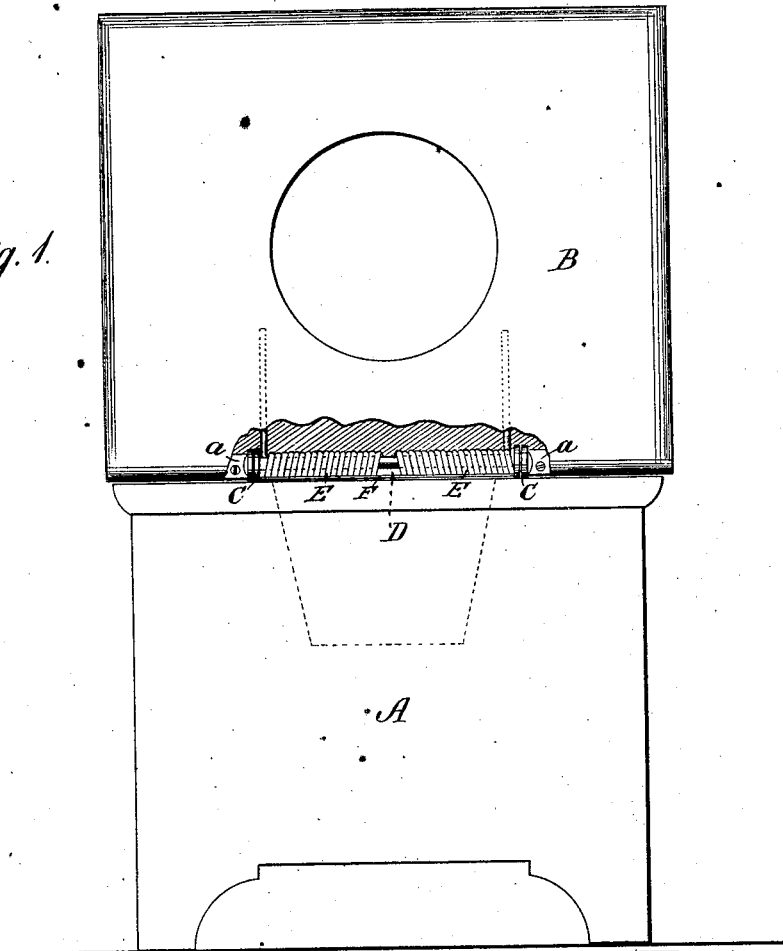
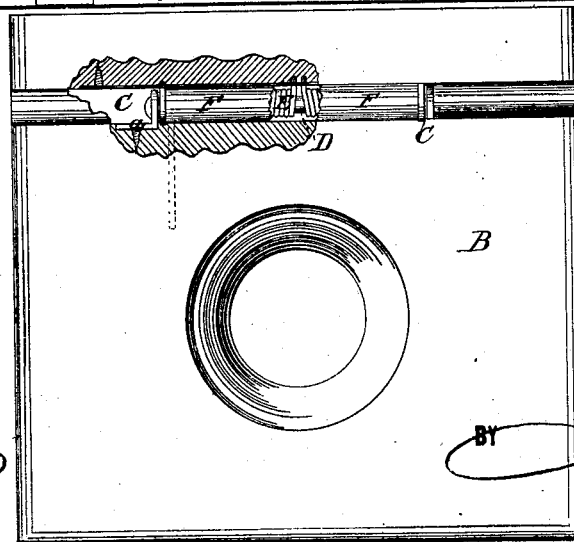


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES E. WALTER, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

## IMPROVEMENT IN SELF-RAISING SEATS FOR WATER-CLOSETS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **162,437**, dated April 20, 1875; application filed March 27, 1875.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES E. WALTER, of Baltimore city, State of Maryland, have invented a new and Improved Self-Raising Seat for Water-Closets; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a water-closet box, with parts broken away to show the devices for maintaining the seat in a vertical position. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same, with the seat down and parts broken away.

This invention relates to certain improvements in seats for water-closets; and it consists in two hinges having a common pintle, upon which, between the hinges, two parts of a spiral spring are wound in opposite directions from the middle, the central parts of the spring being secured to the frame-work of the basin or closet, and the two extreme ends of the spring being inserted in holes in the edges of the seat to elevate the same.

In the drawing, A represents the frame or box surrounding the basin of a water-closet, and B is the seat. C are hinges, which attach said seat to the frame A, having wings *a*, that are made curved in shape to adapt the seat to be attached to the frame by means of a table-joint edge, to secure a better finish. The said hinges C have a common pintle, D, which extends from one to the other of the hinges a distance sufficient to receive the sections of the spiral spring. Around the pintle are wound, in opposite direction from the middle, the two parts E E of the spring. These portions of the spring may be made of one and the same piece of metal, having a loop in the middle, by which they are screwed to the frame-work of the basin; or they may be separate springs, but wound in reverse directions, as shown, and have their separate ends attached to the frame of the basin in any desirable way. The extreme

ends of the two sections of the spring are extended up into holes bored in the edges of the seat, and are securely held therein to elevate the said seat. In constructing my improved seat, I may reverse the positions of the springs, so as to attach the central ends of the springs to the seat, and the extreme ends to the frame-work, if such change be found desirable. F is a cylindrical casing of sheet metal, which is attached to the seat in such a way as to encompass the spiral springs. Said casing moves with the seat, while it presents a better finish; also excludes all dirt and foreign matter, which would obstruct the automatic operation of the spring. By means of this arrangement and construction of parts the seat is always maintained in a vertical position when not in use, and is not liable to become dirty by persons standing thereon, or from slop-water thrown therein. The arrangement admits also of the basin being used as a urinal, in such a manner as to keep the seat always clean and free from water. In addition to its other advantages, also, the device is simple, cheap, and easily applied to any water-closet without alteration or injury.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is—

1. The combination of the hinges C, a common pintle, D, and the portions E E of the spiral spring, wound in opposite direction from the middle, and attached to the seat at the ends, and to the frame-work at the center, or vice versa, substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. The combination of the hinges C, a common pintle, D, the spiral springs E E, and the sheet-metal casing F, substantially as and for the purpose described.

The above specification of my invention signed by me this 24th day of March, 1875.

J. E. WALTER.

Witnesses:

CHAS. A. PETTIT,  
SOLON C. KEMON.