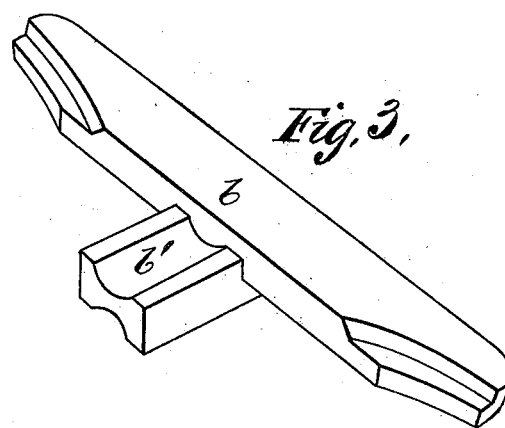
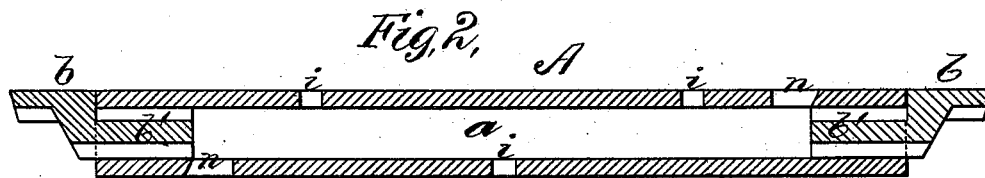
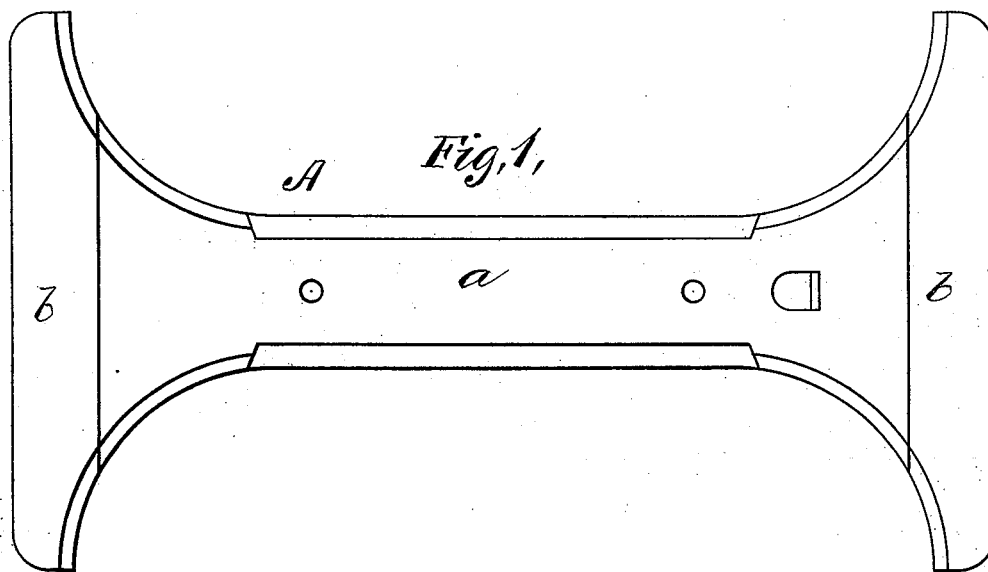


J. DUTOT & W. H. THRIFT.
 Reversible Center Piece for Stoves and Ranges.

No. 199,275.

Patented Jan. 15, 1878.



WITNESSES
Mary S. Utley.
Frank J. Elasi

INVENTORS
Janus Dutot.
W. H. Thrift.
 by *E. W. Anderson*
 ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES DUTOT AND WILLIAM H. THRIFT, OF NEWTON, IOWA.

IMPROVEMENT IN REVERSIBLE CENTER-PIECES FOR STOVES AND RANGES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **199,275**, dated January 15, 1878; application filed December 15, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JAMES DUTOT and WILLIAM HAMILTON THRIFT, both of Newton, in the county of Jasper and State of Iowa, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Reversible Center-Pieces for Stoves and Ranges; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a representation of a top view of this invention, showing the parts attached. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal central section of the same. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the end piece.

Our invention relates to improvements in center plates for stoves, ranges, and ships' galleys.

It is well known that the removable center plate of stoves, that divides the oblong opening in the top plate into two distinct seats for smaller culinary vessels, is, when heated and supporting weight, frequently bent down to such a degree as to destroy the draft and require replacement.

The object of our invention is, mainly, to render this plate reversible, so that when bent down, as above set forth, it may be turned over and reapplied in its place, thereby bending it until it is again straightened, thus rendering the plate effectively useful until burnt out.

The nature of the invention consists in a center plate composed of a body-piece and two detachable end pieces, which center-piece, being reversed and reapplied to the end pieces, allows the center plate to be put on the stove in a reversed position, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In the annexed drawings, the letter A designates our improved stove-plate, of the usual well-known form and dimensions, composed of a center-piece, *a*, and two end pieces, *b*. The center-piece *a* is cast hollow, and is open-ended. It is of precisely the same construc-

tion on both sides, and, being open-ended, has mortises at its ends, to receive the correspondingly-shaped tenons *b'* of the end pieces *b*. These latter are T-shaped in form, the short arm being the tenon. When this is inserted in the mortise of the center-piece, the upper surfaces of the end and center pieces are flush.

In practice, the center-piece will be provided, preferably, with perforations *i* on both sides, which, by admitting cold air into its hollow interior, will materially tend to keep the plate cool; but should it bend, the end pieces *b* are detached, and the center-piece reversed and reapplied to the end pieces *b*, which, being then put in place on the stove, will present the convex side of the center-piece *a* upward. By thus reversing the center-piece, the stove-plate may be used to advantage until burnt out.

The center-piece *a* has at one end and both sides an orifice, *n*, to receive a lifting device, by means of which it is safely handled.

What we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A center plate for stoves, consisting of a reversible center-piece, alike on both sides, and the detachable end pieces, substantially as specified.

2. The combination, in a center plate for stoves, of a center-piece, *a*, having a mortise at each end, and the detachable end pieces *b* tenoned into said mortises, substantially as specified.

3. The combination, with the hollow open-ended reversible center-piece *a*, of the detachable end pieces *b*, having tenons *b'*, adapted to be received in the ends of the center-piece, substantially as specified.

In testimony that we claim the above we have hereunto subscribed our names in the presence of two witnesses.

JAMES DUTOT.
WILLIAM HAMILTON THRIFT.

Witnesses:
A. H. FAILOR,
JOHN C. WILSON.