N. L. RIGBY.
Lamp.

No. 203,374. Patented May 7, 1878.

Fig. 1.

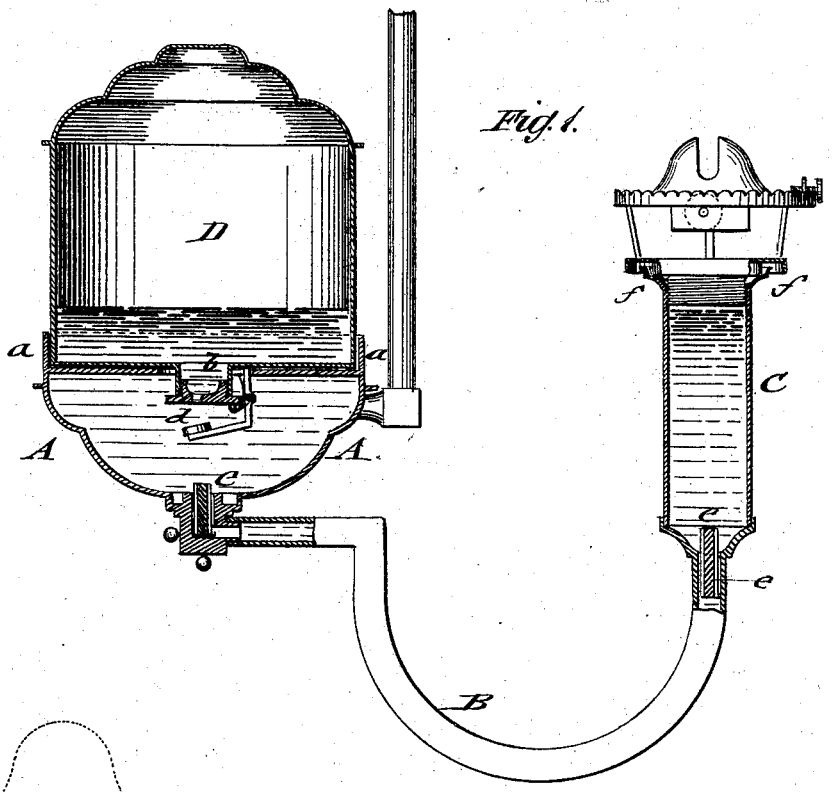


Fig. 2.

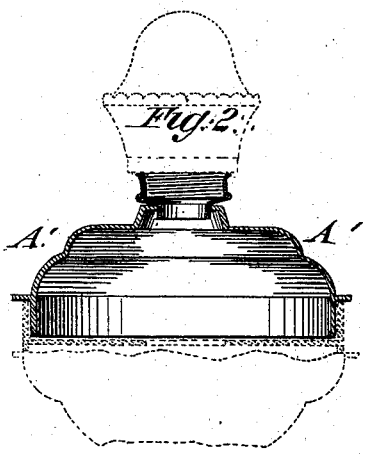


Fig. 3.

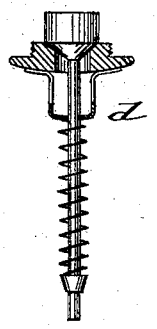
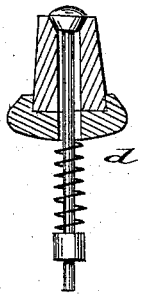


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

NICHOLAS L. RIGBY, OF WINFIELD, KANSAS, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND JOHN D. PRYOR, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN LAMPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **203,374**, dated May 7, 1878; application filed December 4, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, NICHOLAS L. RIGBY, of Winfield, in the county of Cowley and State of Kansas, have invented a new and Improved Lamp, of which the following is a specification:

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a vertical central section of my improved lamp; Fig. 2, a detachable burner-shell capable of being placed on the bowl; and Figs. 3 and 4 are detail sections of different valves for the detachable oil-fountain.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

This invention has reference to such improvements in lamps that a lamp on the common principle, or one in which the oil is consumed and lowered beneath the burner, may be combined with one or more lamps on the fountain principle, in which the oil does not get lower beneath the burners, being constantly fed, and as rapidly as consumed, from the fountain. By this arrangement a lamp having burners supplied with oil on both principles may be obtained, which is of great convenience, as it combines two or more lamps in a more compact space, and admits a greater or less degree of illumination, as required.

The invention consists of a bowl having one or more straight or curved arms, with burner-cups, the bowl being made with a horizontal top and circumferential flange, to form a seat for the detachable fountain, having a center valve that is automatically opened when the fountain is seated on the bowl.

Referring to the drawings, A represents a central bowl of suitable size, which is supported by any fixture, either from the ceiling, top of car, wall, or other point, or on a stand, as desired. From the bowl A are branching out one or more tubular arms, B, which support burner-cups C at their outer ends.

The bowl A is constructed with a horizontal top and with a circumferential flange, *a*, that extends to some height above the top of the bowl, and forms with the same the seat for a fountain, D. The flanged top admits the convenient filling, when the bowl is to be used as a common lamp, by pouring the oil on the top part, from which it runs into the bowl through the central opening *b* of the same.

When the bowl is used with the fountain, the latter is supported sufficiently above the oil in the bowl to prevent its coming in contact with the oil, and thereby the dripping, when lifted out of its place. The projecting flange catches all drip from the valve *d* of the fountain when the fountain is put in or taken out, and catches also any oil that may exude from the fountain.

In case the lamps are used in cars or other vehicles, the encircling flange prevents the oil from splashing over when they are in motion.

The valve *d* at the bottom of the fountain may be made of any suitable construction, either of a stopper and spring-stem, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4, or of a valve-seat and valve with angular spring-arm, that is engaged by the top of the bowl when inserted in the center opening of the same, as in Fig. 1, or of any other construction that opens the fountain automatically on being placed in position in the bowl.

The bottom exit-hole of the bowl A, as well as the bottom supply-holes of the cups C, are provided with channeled plugs or checks *e*, for the purpose of allowing the passage of the oil, but preventing the sudden flowing of the oil either from the bowl, in case the lamp be leaned or swung to either side, into the arm or arms lowered thereby, or from the arm or arms on the higher side to the arm or arms on the lower side, or into the cups.

The burner-cups C are also arranged with an encircling flange, *f*, at the upper end of each cup, to catch all oil that may be drawn up by capillary attraction or otherwise, and prevent it from running down the outside of the cup. The flange *f* has a slight upward curve, and an opening from it into the cup, to allow the oil to run back into the cup.

When the center bowl is to be used as a common lamp, the fountain is removed and a hollow shell or support, A′, having a common lamp-burner, as shown in Fig. 2, placed in position on the bowl, the wick being passed down through the center hole into the lower part of the bowl, and the same thus used to supply oil to the common lamp above, as well as to the burner-cups connected thereto. The burner may also be screwed into the center opening *b* directly, if desired, though the use of the

shell is preferable, as it has an ornamental effect.

In this manner a common lamp may be combined with one or more fountain-lamps, and thereby a superior and compact arrangement of several lamps that are supplied from a common bowl obtained.

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

1. As an improvement in lamps, the combination of a central bowl, having a horizontal top and circumferential flange, with a fountain fitted thereto, and having a valve that opens automatically when the fountain is placed in position on the bowl, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. As an improvement in lamps, the combination of a bowl, with flat top and circumferential flange, with a fountain fitting the flanged top of the bowl, to prevent any dripping or escape of oil, substantially as described.

NICHOLAS L. RIGBY.

Witnesses:
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