

Specification of Edward O'Connell : feeding infants and invalids.

Contributors

O'Connell, Edward.

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A.D. 1853 N° 987.

S P E C I F I C A T I O N

OF

EDWARD O'CONNELL.

FEEDING INFANTS AND INVALIDS.

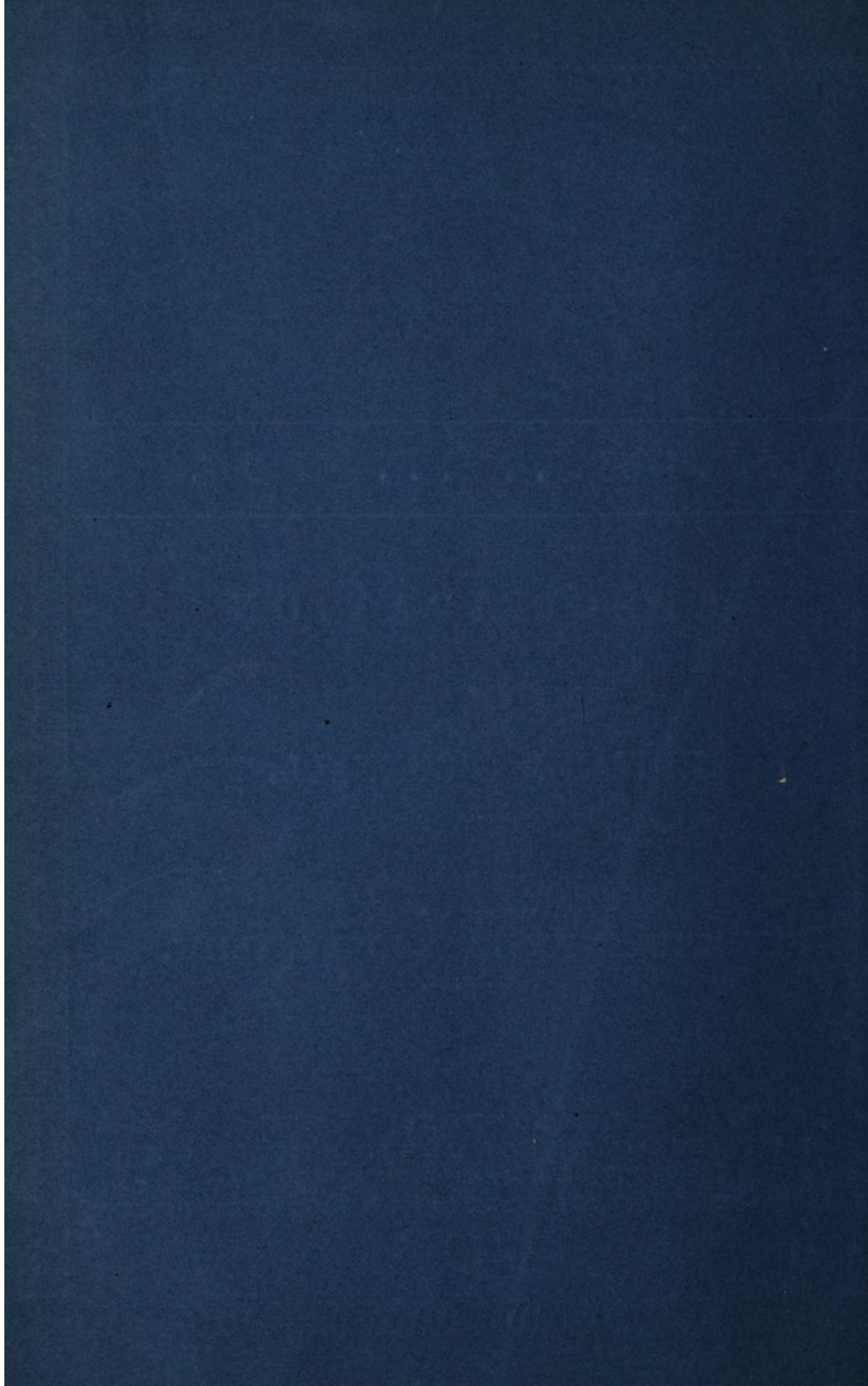
L O N D O N :

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A.D. 1853 N° 987.

Feeding Infants and Invalids.

LETTERS PATENT to Edward O'Connell, of Bury, in the County of Lancaster, Surveyor, for the Invention of "**IMPROVEMENTS IN THE MODE OR METHOD OF FEEDING INFANTS AND INVALIDS, AND IN APPARATUS CONNECTED THEREWITH.**"

Sealed the 20th October 1853, and dated the 25th April 1853.

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION left by the said Edward O'Connell at the Office of the Commissioners of Patents, with his Petition, on the 25th April 1853.

I, EDWARD O'CONNELL, do hereby declare the nature of the said
5 Invention for "**IMPROVEMENTS IN THE MODE OR METHOD OF FEEDING INFANTS AND INVALIDES, AND IN APPARATUS CONNECTED THEREWITH,**" to be as follows :—

I make a vessel of any convenient shape and material (with a neck or contraction at the top) to hold the milk or other liquid ; and if it be
10 necessary to keep it warm, I place the vessel over a small night light, which may stand upon a table near the bed. I put a fitting or stopper into the neck of the vessel, with a small tube of glass or other material

O'Connell's Improvements in the Mode of Feeding Infants and Invalids.

projecting inwards nearly to the bottom of the vessel; this tube acts as a syphon through which the liquid is drawn, and by making it a little too short to touch the bottom of the vessel, will leave any sediment that may be in the liquid at the bottom of the vessel.

To the said fitting I attach a flexible tube, of any necessary length, 5 with a mouth-piece, so that the apparatus may be on the table, and by means of the flexible tube the infant or invalide will draw off the contents of the vessel without being disturbed in position. I also use the same apparatus (merely varying the shape of the vessel to draw the natural milk from the mother's breast, by means of a valve to produce 10 a partial vacuum.

SPECIFICATION in pursuance of the conditions of the Letters Patent, filed by the said Edward O'Connell, in the Great Seal Patent Office, on the 25th October 1853.

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, I, 15
EDWARD O'CONNELL, of Bury, in the County of Lancaster, Surveyor, send greeting.

WHEREAS Her most Excellent Majesty Queen Victoria, by Her Royal Letters Patent, bearing date the Twenty-fifth day of April, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and fifty-three, in the 20 sixteenth year of Her reign, did, for Herself, Her heirs and successors, give and grant unto me, the said Edward O'Connell, Her especial licence that I, the said Edward O'Connell, my executors, administrators, and assigns, or such others as I, the said Edward O'Connell, my executors, administrators, or assigns, should at any time agree with, and 25 no others, from time to time and at all times thereafter during the term therein expressed, should and lawfully might make, use, exercise, and vend, within the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Channel Islands, and Isle of Man, an Invention of "**IMPROVEMENTS IN THE MODE OR METHOD OF FEEDING INFANTS AND INVALIDS, AND IN APPARA- 30**
TUS CONNECTED THEREWITH," upon the condition (amongst others) that I, the said Edward O'Connell, should particularly describe and ascertain

O'Connell's Improvements in the Mode of Feeding Infants and Invalids.

the nature of my said Invention, and in what manner the same was to be performed, by an instrument in writing under my hand and seal, and cause the same to be filed in the Great Seal Patent Office within six calendar months next and immediately after the date of the said

5 Royal Letters Patent.

NOW KNOW YE, that I, the said Edward O'Connell, do hereby declare the nature of my said Invention, and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement (that is to say):

10 My Invention relates to the construction and arrangement of apparatus for the purpose of feeding infants with milk, or any liquid or composition of liquids in cases where artificial nutriment has to be given to supply the absence or deficiency of the mother's breast, and as a very effectual mode of affording a substitute in the place of the
15 parent's natural milk during the period of weaning; and which apparatus is also applicable to the supplying of invalids with liquid nourishment in cases of accident or extreme debility, when it is desirable that they shall not be disturbed from any particular position, and thereby preventing the pain or inconvenience of their being raised up to partake
20 of any fluid. This apparatus consists of a vessel made of any convenient shape or material, but with a neck or contraction at the top. To the inside of this neck or contraction, I fit a stopper made of cork, glass, or any other convenient substance, into which I insert a tube of glass, or other suitable material, which tube extends nearly to the
25 bottom of the vessel, and acts as a syphon, through which the liquid is drawn to the mouth by the aid of suction alone. To the outside of the said vessel, I fix an artificial teat or mouth-piece made of soft, durable, and elastic material, which in size and shape is calculated to guard against any injury or distortion to the infant's mouth, and having at
30 one end a small circular bone or ivory disc or shield to prevent the teat being drawn too far into the mouth; and I so connect the nipple and shield with the vessel, that, whilst it is held in the infant's mouth, freedom of motion is allowed without any danger of being hurt, this part connected with the mouth being completely flexible, yielding to
35 every motion. By means of this arrangement, the infant or invalid will

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exhaust the whole of the liquid with the greatest ease; and as the tube or syphon does not quite reach the bottom of the vessel, if there happens to be any sediment in the liquid, such being heavier than the pure fluid, will fall to the bottom below the end of the tube, and cannot be taken into the mouth. By this arrangement the usual 5 method of inverting the vessel to the mouth is entirely dispensed with. To make this apparatus equally useful for night and day, instead of having the teat and shield attached close to the neck of the vessel, I extend it to any convenient length or distance by means of a flexible tube, so that the vessel containing the liquid may be placed in any 10 convenient place in the room, and the infant or invalid may remain in any position in the bed or couch, and exhaust the fluid in the vessel through the connection of the flexible tube with it. Whenever it may be desirable or necessary that the milk or fluid shall be given to the infant or invalid in a warm state, I place an ordinary small night light 15 in a box, which box is made to the size or shape of the vessel containing the liquid; I then place the vessel over the night light in the box, and let the whole apparatus remain on the table, and continue there for a short time, when the required degree of heat will be communicated to the fluid, and by means of the flexible tube the liquid 20 may be drawn off at pleasure, as already described. The construction and action of this apparatus will be clearly understood by reference to the accompanying Sheet of Drawings, in which the same letters of reference are used to represent similar parts where different views or diagrams are shewn. 25

Fig. 1, is a representation of the apparatus, exhibiting a form or shape adapted for mothers and nurses. *a*, represents a tube or syphon connected with the stopper *b*, which stopper is to be taken out when the vessel has to be supplied with the requisite fluid. The stopper *b*, is made to fit tightly into the neck of the vessel, at the same time 30 allowing a sufficient quantity of air to press on the surface of the liquid to propel it to the mouth, when the infant or invalid exerts the power of suction at the mouth-piece. This aperture for the admission of air is made by flattening a part of the side of the stopper, thereby preventing too close a contact with the inside of the neck of the vessel. 35

O'Connell's Improvements in the Mode of Feeding Infants and Invalids.

c, c, are bone or ivory sockets attached to both ends of the flexible joint *d*, and which joint *d*, may be of any required length, as shewn at Fig. 4. *e*, is a flexible mouth-piece attached to a thin circular shield made of bone or ivory, shewn separately at Fig. 5; the mouth-piece 5 being so made that it may be taken off at pleasure and replaced, or a fresh one supplied, if necessary, on to the socket *c*. Fig. 2, is a side view of Fig. 1, showing the position that may be assumed by the joint *d*, when the mouth-piece or nipple *d*, is placed in the infant's mouth, and so as to prevent any stiffness or pressure being applied against the 10 mouth, and to allow perfect freedom of motion to the child, without affecting the position of the vessel whilst held in the hand. Fig. 3, represents a globular-shaped vessel placed in a small box or case *f*, having an aperture in the under side to hold the small glass mortar *g*, containing the night light. *h*, is a cylindrical rim of metal, perforated 15 in the side with small holes to allow the admission of air to the flame of the light which burns in the mortar *g*. The vessel *i*, containing the milk or other fluid, is placed on the top of the perforated rim, where it receives the heat from the light underneath. *k*, is the lid of the box or case, having a hole in the centre *l*, to correspond with the aperture 20 in the top of the stopper, in which may be inserted the socket-joint of the end of the flexible tube, Fig. 4. When not in use, the tube may be removed and placed within the case; the lid being shut down, the whole is rendered very compact and portable. The top side of the lid is furnished with a handle to allow of its being conveniently removed 25 or carried about. Fig. 5, shews the mouth-piece and shield detached from the flexible joint. Fig. 4, and Fig. 6, is a front view of Fig. 5. The tubes may be cleaned, when necessary, by means of a thin wire with a brush at one end to suit the size of the tubes.

Having thus fully described the nature and particulars of my said 30 Invention, I desire it to be distinctly understood that I do not confine myself to the exact details, as such may be varied or modified without departing from the principle thereof. But I claim as of my Invention, and which, to the best of my knowledge and belief, has not been hitherto used within this realm, a vessel for containing liquid,

O'Connell's Improvements in the Mode of Feeding Infants and Invalids.

with the tube or syphon, teat, shield, flexible tube, &c., as herein described and illustrated in the accompanying Sheet of Drawings.

In witness whereof, I, the said Edward O'Connell, have hereunto set my hand and seal, this Twenty-second day of October, One thousand eight hundred and fifty-three. 5

EDWARD O'CONNELL. (L.S.)

Signed, sealed, and delivered by }
the said Edward O'Connell in }
the presence of }

E. J. HUGHES,

Patent Agent,

Manchester. 10

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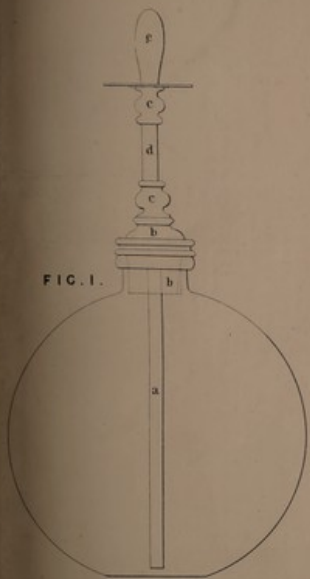


FIG. 1.



FIG. 2.

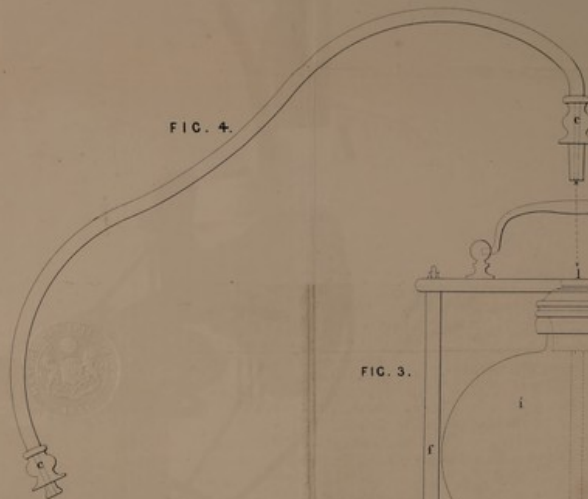


FIG. 4.



FIG. 5.



FIG. 6.

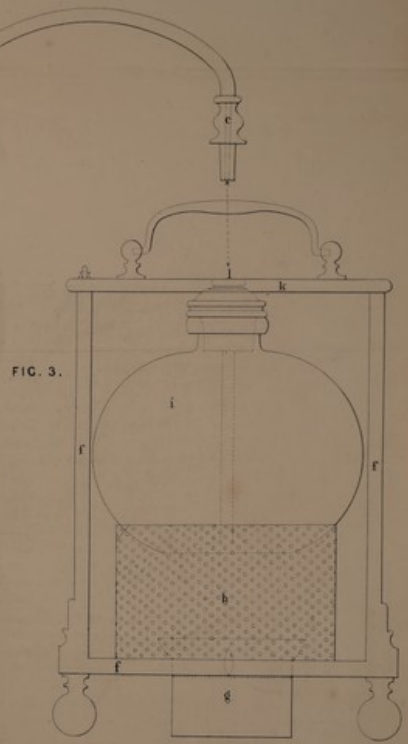


FIG. 3.

