

## **Specification of John Henry Johnson : apparatus for treating diseases.**

### **Contributors**

Johnson, John Henry.

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A.D. 1868, *4th DECEMBER.* N° 3691.

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

OF

JOHN HENRY JOHNSON.

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APPARATUS FOR TREATING DISEASES.

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1869.







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A.D. 1868, 4th DECEMBER. N° 3691.

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**Apparatus for Treating Diseases.**

**LETTERS PATENT** to John Henry Johnson, of 47, Lincoln's Inn Fields, in the County of Middlesex, Gentleman, for the Invention of "A NEW MODE OF AND APPARATUS FOR TREATING DISEASES."—A communication from abroad by Maurice Howell Utley, of the City of Montreal, in the Province of Quebec, Doctor of Medicine.

Sealed the 1st June 1869, and dated the 4th December 1868.

**PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION** left by the said John Henry Johnson at the Office of the Commissioners of Patents, with his Petition, on the 4th December 1868.

I, JOHN HENRY JOHNSON, of 47, Lincoln's Inn Fields, in the County  
5 of Middlesex, Gentleman, do hereby declare the nature of the said  
Invention for "A NEW MODE OF AND APPARATUS FOR TREATING DISEASES,"  
a communication from abroad by Maurice Howell Utley, of the City  
of Montreal, in the Province of Quebec, Doctor of Medicine, to be  
as follows :—

10 This Invention relates to a peculiar mode of treating diseases, and to  
apparatus employed therefor, and consists essentially in enclosing the



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patient in a main air-tight receiver provided with a close-fitting cover, and removeable front or shell, the joints being packed tight with india-rubber, the shell or front being further secured when adjusted in position by any convenient fastening. If desired glazed windows may be provided for enabling the progress of the treatment to be inspected by the medical 5 attendant. The neck of the patient passes thro' a ring packed with india-rubber and provided with an india-rubber cap or hood which encloses the head leaving the face only exposed. An air inlet valve is provided for admitting fresh air when required into the receiver which is furnished with a vacuum guage and flexible air tubes in connection with 10 an air pump, as also with electrical wires for the application of electricity to the patient when requisite. In conjunction with this main vacuum receiver are employed other auxiliary receivers for the reception of the limbs whilst the patient is still within the main receiver, such auxiliary receivers enabling an increased vacuum to be applied to any of the limbs 15 if requisite. It is also proposed to employ either with or without the use of the main receiver, minor auxiliary receivers, or vacuum cups, which are intended for local application to the parts immediately affected, each cup being provided with a flexible air tube in connection with an air pump, and with electric wires. These vacuum cups may be used 20 either with or without electricity when applied to the part affected within a partial vacuum, but when applied to the patient outside the receiver they should be used in combination with electric currents. Glass windows may be provided in the various vacuum cups or auxiliary receivers to enable the part to be inspected whilst under treatment. 25 Medicated vapour when required is introduced into the receiver or auxiliary receiver or cups through a tube provided for the purpose. The effect of the above mode of treatment is to cause the blood and nervo-vital fluids to fill the capillary vessels in any part of the body or in any particular part according as the treatment be general or local, thereby removing 30 internal congestion, conveying the nutraline fluids as equally as possible to every part of the system, and carrying the waste and dead matter from the various parts of the body, thereby restoring vitality and healthy action.

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**SPECIFICATION** in pursuance of the conditions of the Letters Patent, filed by the said John Henry Johnson in the Great Seal Patent Office on the 4th June 1869.

**TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, I, JOHN**  
5 **HENRY JOHNSON**, of 47, Lincoln's Inn Fields, in the County of Middlesex, Gentleman, send greeting.

**WHEREAS** Her most Excellent Majesty Queen Victoria, by Her Letters Patent, bearing date the Fourth day of December, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight, in the thirty-  
10 second year of Her reign, did, for Herself, Her heirs and successors give and grant unto me, the said John Henry Johnson, Her special license that I, the said John Henry Johnson, my executors, administrators, and assigns, or such others as I, the said John Henry Johnson, my executors, administrators, or assigns, should at any  
15 time agree with, and no others, from time to time and 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 for "**A NEW MODE OF AND APPARATUS FOR TREATING DISEASES,**" a communica-  
20 tion from abroad by Maurice Howell Utley, of the City of Montreal, in the Province of Quebec, Doctor of Medicine, upon the condition (amongst others) that I, the said John Henry Johnson, my executors or administrators, by an instrument in writing under my hand and seal, should particularly describe and ascertain the nature of the said In-  
25 vention, and in what manner the same was to be performed, 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 Letters Patent.

**NOW KNOW YE**, that I, the said John Henry Johnson, do hereby  
30 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, reference being had to the accompanying Drawings, and to the letters and figures marked thereon, that is to say :—

35 The said Invention relates to a peculiar mode of treating diseases, and to apparatus employed therefor, and consists essentially in inclosing the patient in a main air-tight receiver, provided with a close fitting



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cover and removable front or shell, the joints being packed tight with india-rubber, the shell or front being further secured when adjusted in position by any convenient fastening. If desired glazed windows may be provided for enabling the progress of the treatment to be inspected by the medical attendant. The neck of the patient passes 5 through a ring packed with india-rubber and provided with an india-rubber cap or hood which encloses the head leaving the face only exposed. An air inlet valve is provided for admitting fresh air when required into the receiver, which is furnished with a vacuum guage and flexible air tubes in connection with an air pump, as also with 10 electrical wires for the application of electricity to the patient when requisite. In conjunction with this main vacuum receiver are employed other auxiliary receivers for the reception of the limbs whilst the patient is still within the main receiver, such auxiliary receivers enabling an increased vacuum to be applied to any of the limbs if requisite. It is 15 also proposed to employ either with or without the use of the main receiver minor auxiliary receivers or vacuum cups which are intended for local application to the parts immediately affected, each cup being provided with a flexible air tube in connection with an air pump and with electric wires. These vacuum cups may be used either with or 20 without electricity when applied to the part affected within a partial vacuum but when applied to the patient outside the receiver they should be used in combination with electric currents. Glass windows may be provided in the various vacuum cups or auxiliary receivers to enable the part to be inspected whilst under treatment. Medicated vapour 25 when required is introduced into the receiver or auxiliary receiver or cups through a tube provided for the purpose. The effect of the above mode of treatment is to cause the blood and nervo-vital fluids to fill the capillary vessels in every part of the body or in any particular part according as the treatment be general or local, thereby removing 30 internal congestion, conveying the nutritive fluids as equally as possible to every part of the system, and carrying the waste and dead matter from the various parts of the body, thereby restoring vitality and healthy action.

And in order that the said Invention may be fully understood I shall 35 now proceed more particularly to describe the same and for that purpose shall refer to the several Figures on the annexed Sheet of Drawings, the same letters of reference indicating corresponding parts in all the Figures.



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Figure 1 of the Drawings represents a side elevation of the main receiver; Figure 2 is a front elevation of the same; Figure 3 is a plan of the receiver; Figure 4 is a vertical section thereof; Figure 5 is a section of a leg auxiliary receiver; Figure 6 is a section of an arm auxiliary receiver; Figure 7 is an auxiliary vacuum cup for treating the liver; Figure 8 is a similar cup for general application to the body; Figure 9 represents an auxiliary vacuum cup for application to the vagina; Figure 10 is a similar cup for application to the breast; Figure 11 is a vacuum cup for the treatment of the male generative organs; Figure 12 is a vacuum cup for the treatment of the eye; Figure 13 is a section of a vacuum cup for the ear; and Figure 14 is a similar view of a vacuum cup for application to various parts of the body.

*a* is a large receiver into which the body of the patient is introduced with the exception of the head; it may be constructed of metal, wood, or glass, or of all combined, and made of the general form shewn in the Drawings, or in such modifications of the same as may be thought desirable. If constructed of metal or wood strong glass windows may be inserted in the sides for the purpose of permitting the medical man to see the action of the treatment on the patient's body. Such glass windows however are not absolutely necessary although they would no doubt be useful. The front portion *b* can be removed from the body of the receiver and when in place is firmly secured to it by means of catch levers *c, c*, or set screws. In order to make the junction of the two air-tight a groove packed with india-rubber or other analagous substance is arranged around the sides of the body of the receiver into which the semicircular packing on the corresponding portion of the cover fits; or semicircular grooves may be arranged in the front edge of the receiver and on the cover, into which an india-rubber tube is fitted. This tube is arranged in such a manner as to permit of its being inflated with air from an air pump when the cover is in place. The inflation causes the tube to swell, and in this manner fills all parts of the cavity and forms a tight joint. Other modes of forming air-tight joints now in use may be adopted and used for this part of the apparatus. *d* is a circular aperture in the top of the receiver for the reception of the patient's neck; around this circular aperture there is a brass ring *e* with an india-rubber packing between it and the top of the receiver for the purpose of making an air-tight junction. The outer circumference of this ring is grooved for the purpose of attaching an india-rubber cap which covers the patient's head



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fitting tightly to the same, but leaving the face and breathing organs exposed. The material of this cap should be thin, flexible, and air-tight. *g* is a vacuum air pump of any suitable description, but by preference I employ a double action one as shewn in the Drawings worked by a lever; this pump is connected to the receiver by the 5 india-rubber tube *h* for the purpose of exhausting the air from the same. This tube is connected with the lower portion of the receiver. The air pump or any suitable modification thereof may be placed on the inside of the receiver in the space underneath the seat, and the valve spindle carried through the side of the receiver 10 and worked by a lever on the outside. This arrangement will be a more compact one than that first described. *i, i,* are wires communicating with an electrical battery of ordinary description and convey the electrical current through the receiver either to the seat on which the patient is sitting or to the moveable cups or auxiliary 15 receivers to be presently described and moved or applied by the patient himself. These wires may exist in any number and be attached to whichever portion of the receiver may be thought advisable. *k* is a mercurial guage for measuring the tension of the vacuum; it is attached to the body of the receiver on the outside, but communicates 20 with the interior; a second mercurial guage may also be attached to the outside of the large receiver but communicating by means of a suitable india-rubber tube with either of the auxiliary receivers when used in the inside of the main receiver, and serves to indicate the tension of the vacuum in the auxiliary receiver, whilst the first guage is indicating 25 the tension of the vacuum existing in the large receiver. *l* is an air duct through the side of the large receiver for admitting air into the same when required; air may also be admitted into either of the auxiliary receivers when employed inside the large receiver by means of a flexible tube connecting with the outside of the large receiver. *m* is an auxiliary 30 receiver for the reception of the patient's leg, and of the general form shewn in the Drawings; it may be made of tin, zinc, or other suitable material, and glass may be let into the sides for the purpose of allowing the medical man to watch the progress of the treatment. This auxiliary receiver will be made air-tight at the bottom, and is provided on its top 35 with an india-rubber band, which will encircle the upper portion of the leg forming an air-tight joint; the air suction pipe from the vacuum pump is connected with it at *n*. This as well as all the other auxiliary receivers will be strongly constructed to enable them to resist the



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atmospheric pressure. *o* is an auxiliary receiver for the reception of the patient's arm when that portion of the body requires treatment. The vacuum pipe is attached to the outer end as shewn in the Drawing, and a handle is provided on the inner side for the patient to take hold of.

5 In order to make an air-tight junction of this auxiliary receiver with the arm an india-rubber flap *p* is firmly attached to the open end of the auxiliary receiver, and to the arm by an elastic cord or otherwise. *g* is an auxiliary receiver of metal, glass, or other substance of a funnel-shape and of any convenient size, adapted to any part of the body. This cup

10 is moveable at the patient's pleasure and is attached to an air-tight flexible tube, connected to the inner side to a metal tube in the shell of the large receiver. A second flexible tube connects the metal tube on the outside of the shell with a small hand air pump *r*. The object of this cup is to take a still greater pressure from a diseased part of the

15 body. *s* is an auxiliary cup or receiver, with the same object in view as described for *g* but of a different form, which adapts it to circular portions of the body. All these auxiliary receivers are connected with the electrical wires, vacuum guage, and air pumps, and as before stated may be provided with glass windows, through which the operator may

20 inspect the part being treated. The leg and arm auxiliary receivers, with the minor ones described, may be either used on the patient within the partial vacuum of the large receiver, with or without electricity, or they may be used without the partial vacuum of the large receiver, either with or without the electrical current, according to the judgment of the

25 medical attendant. *t* is an auxiliary vacuum for applying to the breasts of females and connected to the vacuum pump by a flexible tube; by preference it is circular in form. *u* is an auxiliary receiver for applying to the vagina, and also connected to the air pump by a flexible tube. *v* is a glass vacuum cup for the eye and used either with or without

30 electricity; it is attached to a small vacuum pump *w* by the flexible tube *x*. The shape of this cup is such as to admit of it being fitted closely to the eye and forming an air-tight junction. *y* is a vacuum cup for the ear, also made of glass and used either with or without electricity and connected to the vacuum pump by an india-rubber tube. *z, z,* are

35 vacuum cups of various sizes for application to the temples or other parts of the face, with or without electricity; they are attached to the vacuum pump in the ordinary manner.

A is an elongated glass vacuum tube, open at one end and closed at the other, as shewn in the Drawings; at the outer or closed end and



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attached to the same by a suitable air-tight tube is a small air pump; a second aperture at this end of the glass tube permits of the introduction of medicated vapour when required. The electrical wires are connected to this tube when required and run its entire length, connecting at the base or open end of the tube with a metallic ring placed round it. By 5 this means the current of electricity is carried to the required points. The object of this tube is for the treatment of the male generative organs. Medicated vapour of any required kind may be introduced into the auxiliary receivers or into the main receiver, as the medical attendant may deem proper. 10

I will now proceed to describe more particularly the mode of action of the improved apparatus. The main receiver being arranged as shewn in the Drawings in connection with a suitable vacuum pump, electrical battery and vacuum guages, the front portion is removed, and the patient enters the receiver and is seated on a chair as represented, with 15 his neck in the circular aperture in the top. In this position the front side of the receiver is put in place, and the cap drawn over and adjusted on the patient's head, leaving the face exposed. The cover is then securely fastened to the body of the receiver by means of the fastenings and made air-tight in any of the modes described. The air is then 20 partially exhausted from within the receiver by the air pump to an extent which will be indicated by the guage, and consequently removes a certain amount of atmospheric pressure equally from every part of the body producing an equal suction from all parts except the head, causing the blood and nervo vital fluids to fill the capilliary vessels in 25 every part of the body, thus removing internal congestion, conveying the nutritive fluids as equally as possible to every part of the system, and conveying the waste and dead matter from all parts of the body, thus restoring vitality. In treating paralysis of the lower limbs (paraplegia), chronic rheumatism of the limbs, weak ankles, knees, and 30 hips, dropsy of the limbs, varicose veins, sciatic affections, stiff joints, atrophied wasted limbs, and the like, in addition to the use of the large receiver for the whole body the whole or any part of the limbs affected is inserted in an air-tight auxiliary receiver adapted to that limb, or vacuum cups are fitted to any part of the body, to which an air pump 35 and guage are attached as described. A vacuum of as great an extent as the patient can bear comfortably is now produced, causing the blood and nevo vital fluid to flow more freely to the diseased part or parts of the body, while the whole body is also within the partial vacuum of



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the large receiver at the same time when it may be deemed advisable, the electrical wires are attached to the vacuum auxiliary receivers or cups as described, thus furnishing a very important vital fluid to the body, or to that particular locality under treatment. The blood vessels  
5 which penetrate to every part of the human body are the vehicles which convey the nutriment, every particle of bone, muscle, nerve, vein, artery, gland, and membrane must have a new supply of nutritive atoms every day, and there is no possible way of getting the supply of nutrition except through the arteries, veins, and capillary vessels. And when  
10 the blood vessels become congested or diseased, and thereby incapacitated and unable to convey the nutriment to an organ, that part becomes starved and consequently weakened and diseased and unable to perform its duties; but by applying this principle vitality is restored by equalizing the circulation of the blood and supplying the deficiency of  
15 electricity to the nerves. When the auxiliary receivers are made use of, they are adjusted before closing the receiver, and at the same time attaching the electrical wires when required and the vacuum tubes. When the minor auxiliary receivers or vacuum cups are employed in the large receiver they may be adjusted to the part of the body affected  
20 by the patient while in the partial vacuum of the large receiver. When in the opinion of the medical attendant the patient has been sufficiently long in the vacuum the partial vacuum is destroyed by the introduction of a supply of air and the cover is then removed. During the treatment the air in the receiver may be frequently changed by the introduction  
25 of fresh air through the air duct and the vitiated air is withdrawn by the pump. In cases requiring treatment without the aid of the large receiver the vacuum cup suited to the diseased part is applied as described either with or without the electrical wires as the medical attendant may direct. As regards the form and construction of the  
30 main receiver, auxiliary receivers, and vacuum cups, the first may be made either light and portable or heavy and stationary, and the form of the vacuum cups may be varied to suit different portions of the body.

Having now described and particularly ascertained the nature of the said Invention, and the manner in which the same is or may be used  
35 or carried into effect, I would observe in conclusion that what I consider to be novel and original and therefore claim as the Invention secured to me by the herein-before in part recited Letters Patent is,—

First. The peculiar construction, arrangement, and mode of using



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the main air-tight receiver, as and for the purpose herein-before described.

Second. The combination with an air-tight receiver of a moveable air-tight cover and shell, with or without windows, a circular ring for the neck with cap attached thereto, an air port for introducing fresh air, 5 flexible air tubes, fastenings, mercurial guages, electrical wires, and air pump, arranged and operating together substantially in the manner and for the purpose herein-before described.

Third. The construction and use of the auxiliary receivers for enclosing the limbs of a patient and applied in the partial vacuum of 10 the main receiver in connection with air tubes and a vacuum pump, and with an electric battery and guages, whereby a vacuum may be formed within a vacuum, and at the same time if required an electrical current may be conveyed to the part affected, substantially in the manner and for the purpose herein-before described. 15

Fourth. The construction and use of the minor or auxiliary receivers or vacuum cups in conjunction or not with electricity when applied to the part affected within a partial vacuum by the patient himself, substantially in the manner and for the purpose herein-before described.

Fifth. The employment of any of the herein-before described auxiliary 20 receivers and vacuum cups outside of the main receiver when used in conjunction with electrical currents for the purpose specified.

Sixth. The peculiar mode of and apparatus for using or applying medicated vapors in vacuo as and for the purpose herein-before 25 described.

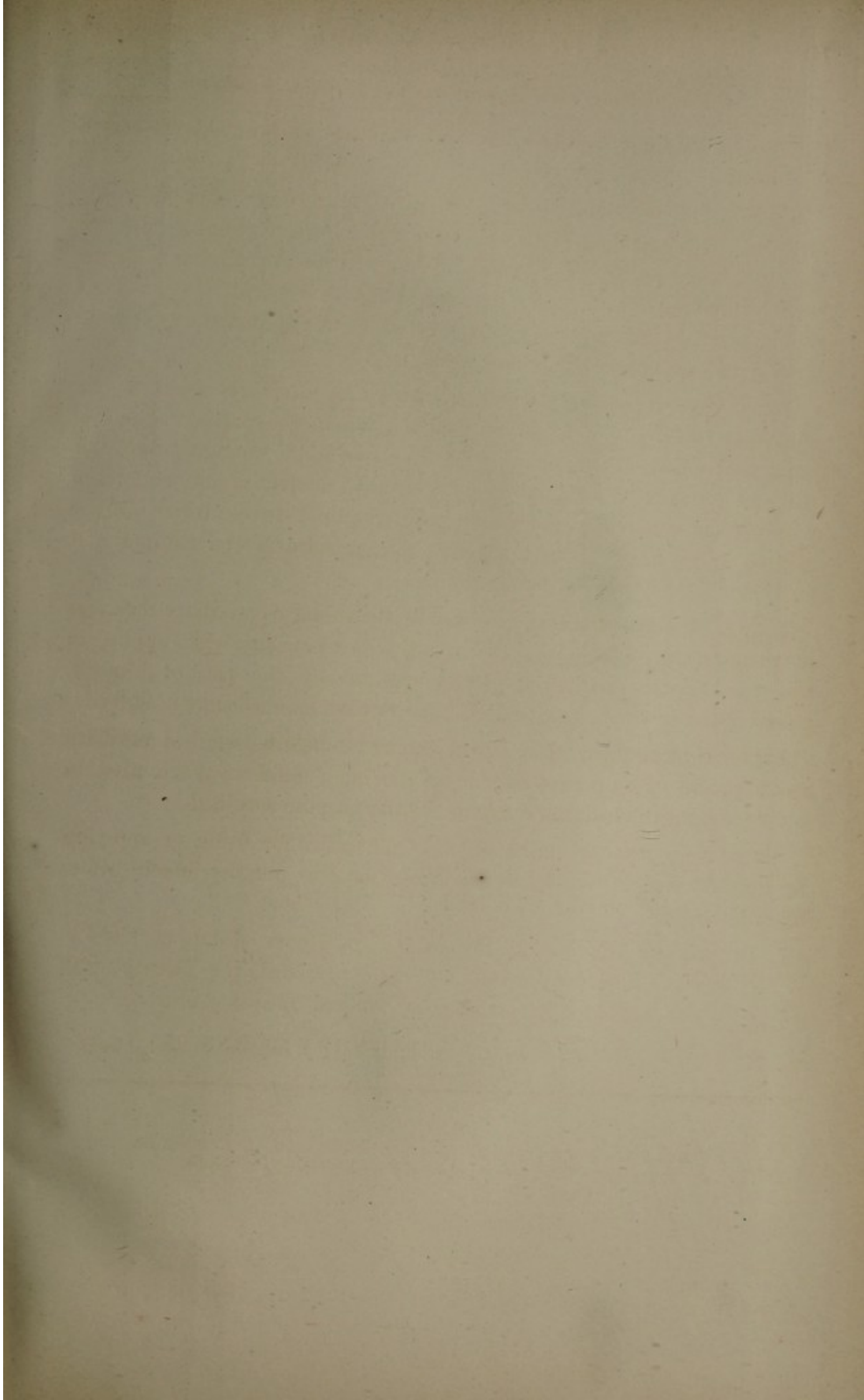
In witness whereof, I, the said John Henry Johnson, have to this my Specification set my hand and seal, the Twenty-ninth day of May, One thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine.

J. HENRY JOHNSON. (L.S.)

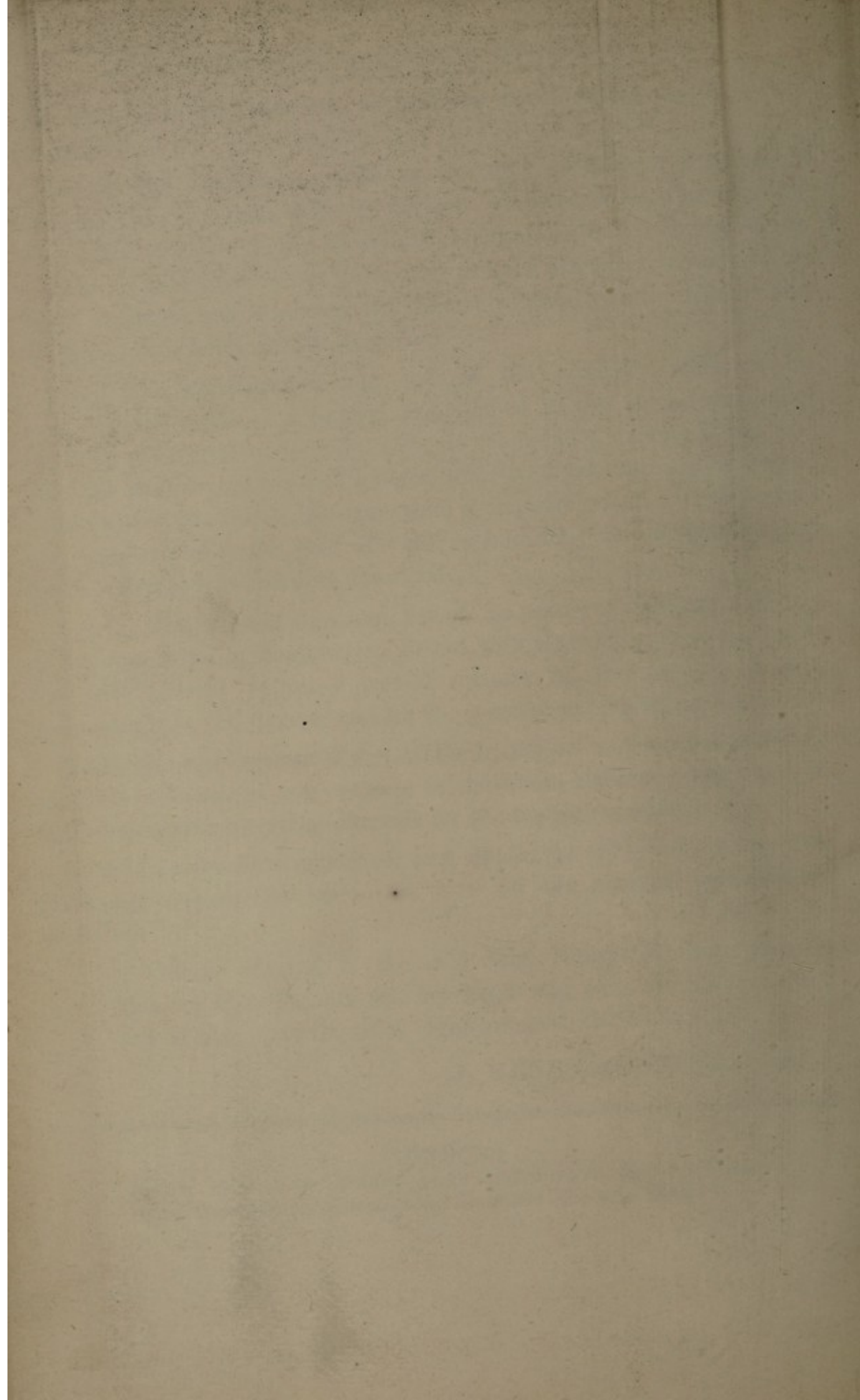
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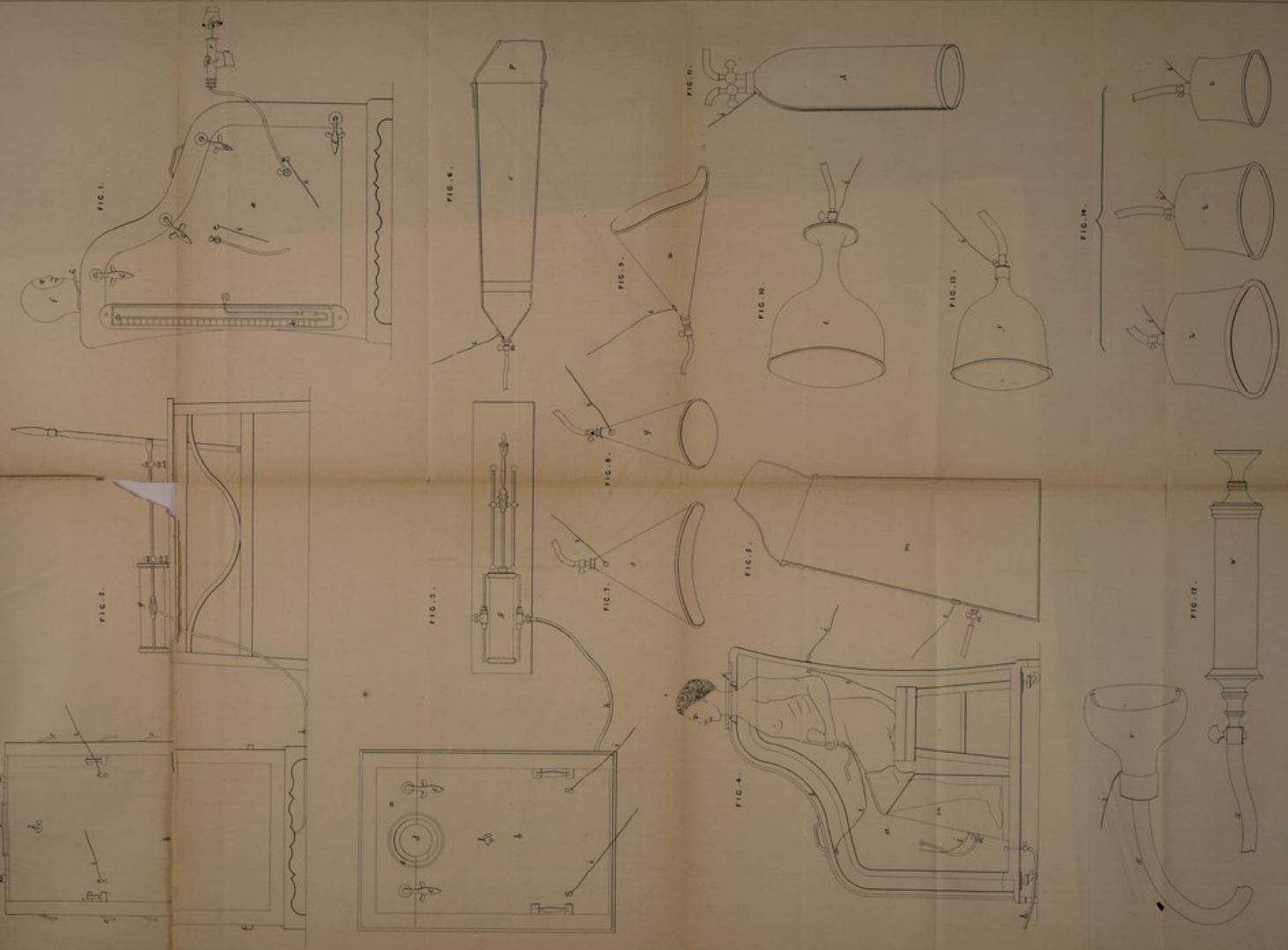












The fluid drawing is partly colored

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