

## **Specification of John Jekyll : vapour baths.**

### **Contributors**

Jekyll, John, -1839.

### **Publication/Creation**

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A.D. 1822 . . . . . N° 4725.

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

OF

**JOHN JEKILL.**

—  
**VAPOUR BATHS.**  
—

**LONDON:**

**PRINTED BY GEORGE E. EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,**

**PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY:**

**PUBLISHED AT THE GREAT SEAL PATENT OFFICE,**

**25, SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HOLBORN.**

*Price 7.1.*

1857.



THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

PHYSICS 311

LECTURE 17





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A.D. 1822 . . . . . N<sup>o</sup> 4725.

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Vapour Baths.

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JEKYLL'S SPECIFICATION.

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, I, JOHN JEKYLL, of Noundhill House, in the Parish of Wincanton, in the County of Somerset, Captain in the Royal Navy, send greeting.

5 WHEREAS His most Excellent Majesty King George the Fourth did, by His Letters Patent under the Great Seal of that part of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland called England, bearing date at Westminster, the Ninth day of November, 1822, in the third year of His reign, give and grant unto me, the said John Jekyll, my eñors, adñiors, and assigns, His especial licence, full power, sole privilege and authority, that I, the said John Jekyll,  
10 my eñors, adñiors, and assigns, during the term of years therein mentioned, should and lawfully might make, use, exercise, and vend, within England, Wales, and the Town of Berwick-upon-Tweed, and also in all His Majesty's Colonies and Plantations abroad, my Invention of "CERTAIN IMPROVEMENTS IN STEAM OR VAPOUR BATHS, TO RENDER THE SAME MORE PORTABLE AND CONVENIENT  
15 THAN THOSE IN PRESENT USE;" in which said Letters Patent there is contained a proviso, that if I, the said John Jekyll, shall not particularly describe and ascertain the nature of my said Invention, and in what manner the same is to be performed, by an instrument in writing under my hand and seal, and cause the same to be inrolled in His Majesty's High Court of Chancery within two  
20 calendar months next and immediately after the date of the said Letters Patent, that then the said Letters Patent, and all liberties and advantages whatsoever thereby granted, shall utterly cease, determine, and become void, as in and by the same (relation being thereunto had) will more fully and at large appear.

25 NOW KNOW YE, that in compliance with the said proviso, I, the said John Jekyll, do hereby declare that the nature of my said Invention, and the manner in which the same is to be performed and carried into effect, are



*Jekyll's Improvements in Steam or Vapour Baths.*

particularly described and ascertained in and by the Drawing hereunto annexed, and the following description thereof (that is to say):—

Figs. 1 and 2 represent a plan and section of an improved steam box or chamber, into which steam or vapour is to be admitted from a boiler, and caused to distribute itself or issue from the aforesaid chamber in a manner 5 suitable for a steam or vapour bath, or so as to admit of a perfect regulation by the patient, according as he may feel desirous of having a considerable degree of heat to the shoulders and upper part of the body, or to the feet and extremities. The said improved steam chamber is also adapted to be used in producing a sulphur or medicated bath, being constructed so as to receive a 10 small bag or receptacle containing mineral substances or odoriferous drugs, through which the steam or vapour is permitted to pass, and thereby become impregnated with the qualities or essence of the said substances. A, A, shews the exterior vessel; it is of a cylindrical form, being open at top, into which the interior vessel B is adapted to fit and receive the bag containing the mineral or 15 other substance intended to be used. The vessel B is furnished with a projecting rim *a, a*, for the convenience of withdrawing it in order to clean or wipe the inside of the vessel A, A. The bottom *b, b*, of the vessel B is pierced with a number of small holes for the steam to pass through, and its upper surface *a, a*, is ground perfectly even to enable the lid or cover C to close 20 exactly upon and keep in the steam, or to regulate its flow at pleasure. The centre of the cover C is furnished with a screw *d*, projecting downwards, which enters a tube or nut *e, e*, rising from the bottom of the vessel B; at the same time the upper surface of the cover C is divided and numbered, as represented in the plan Fig. 1. These divisions are adapted to be read off against 25 a small stationary pin *h*, projecting from the rim *a, a*, so that when the cover C is turned round by its small stud or nob D, the division opposite to the pin *h* may be made to indicate to a certainty how much the under surface of the cover is raised above the surface of the rim *a, a*, to permit the steam to flow. E represents a pipe, through which the steam or vapour is conducted from any 30 suitable boiler placed over a fire or lamp. This pipe is furnished with a stop-cock at any convenient part to shut off the supply of steam or vapour from the steam chamber A, A; or instead of a cock, I occasionally employ a small circular disc of metal fixed in the pipe, which disc is adapted to be turned on its axis by a handle on the outside of the pipe, so that it can be placed edgewise 35 to allow the steam or vapour to pass by freely, but when it is placed across the pipe it closes up the orifice and obstructs the passage of the steam or vapour. The small circular disc is composed of two thin plates of metal, having an elastic substance (such as several folds of linen) placed between them, being



*Jekyll's Improvements in Steam or Vapour Baths.*

held together by rivits, thus the edges of the linen, by coming into contact with the inside of the pipe, make a sufficiently tight joint. This contrivance is shewn in the Drawing, Fig. 2, at F, where the passage of the pipe is represented as closed up; it is also shewn seperately at Fig. 3, in a position which allows the  
 5 steam or vapour to pass without obstruction. G represents a pipe proceeding from the steam chamber A, A; it is furnished with a cock to regulate the quantity of steam or vapour that may be required to escape in an horizontal direction at the lower part of the apparatus to warm the feet sufficiently, or instead of the cock a small turning disc may be employed, as above described.  
 10 The extreme end of the pipe G may be covered by a perforated cap, or a small linen bag may be secured upon its end, adapted to contain the mineral or odoriferous substances for the steam or vapour to pass through and become impregnated, as herein-before mentioned.

In the plan, Fig. 1, two other projections for pipes are represented at H and I;  
 15 they serve to convey the steam or vapour into the chamber A, A, at either side, as may be found most convenient, and when not used may be closed by a plug or common cock; they are intended to be used also for connecting a small flexible pipe or tube with the steam chamber that may be carried up, in order to apply a current of steam or vapour upon any part of the body. The upper  
 20 part of the flexible tube should be furnished with a wooden handle to hold it by, and a stop-cock to regulate the flow of steam or vapour. The extreme end of the flexible tube may also be covered by a small perforated cap or bag containing mineral or other substances, as above described.

Figs. 4, 5, and 6, upon the Drawing, shew an improved method of con-  
 25 structing and securing the cover of the boiler to be used for a portable steam or vapour bath. K, K, represents a ring of metal, which is intended to be soldered into the top of the boiler; its upper edge *k, k*, is turned flat, and is ground so as to fit exactly against the under edge *n, n*, of the cover L, which has also a projecting ring *o, o*, formed on it to enter the cavity of the ring  
 30 K, K. The cover L, and ring K, K, are shewn detached in Figs. 5 and 6, but they are represented as united in Fig. 4. The cover L is secured in its place upon the ring K, K, and is held down sufficiently to render it steam-tight by three metal clamps P, P, P, which are adapted to bear upon its upper edge, being forced down by thumb screws S, S, S, passing through the said  
 35 clamps, and working into tappet holes formed in projecting pieces of the ring K, K, as shewn in Fig. 6. When it is desired to remove the cover of the boiler, to clean it or to introduce water, the screws S, S, S, are to be slackened, and the metal clamps turned aside into the position shewn by the dotted lines in Fig. 4, in which case the cover L may be taken off without obstruction;



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FIG. 1.

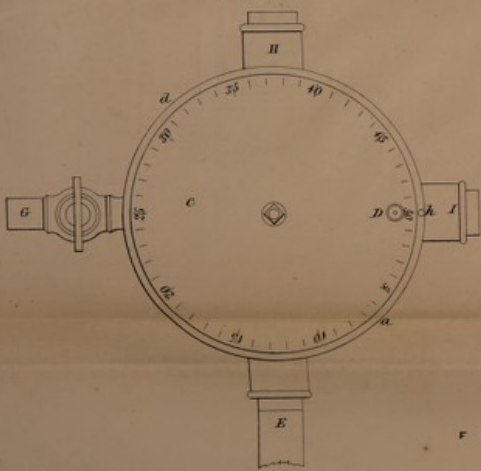


FIG. 4.

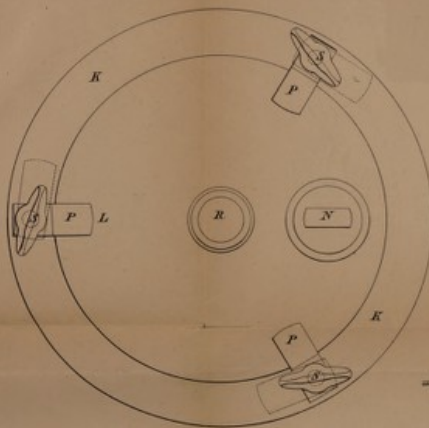


FIG. 5.

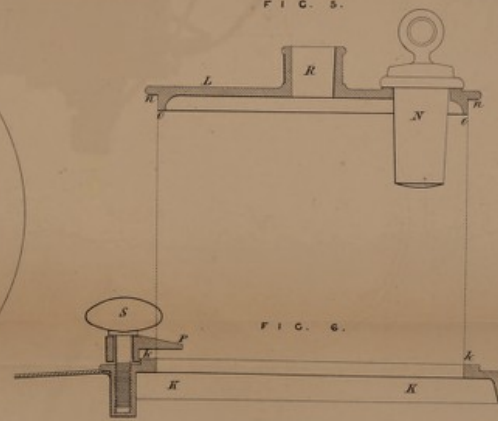


FIG. 3.

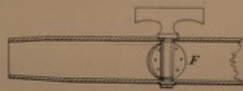


FIG. 2.

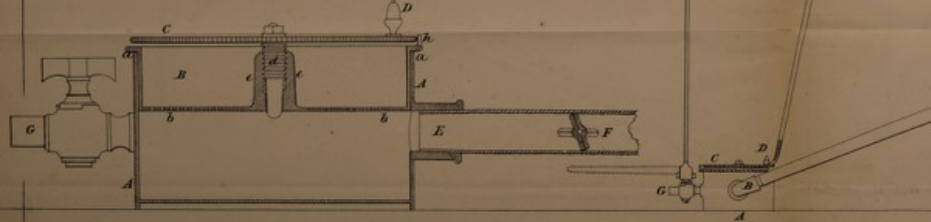
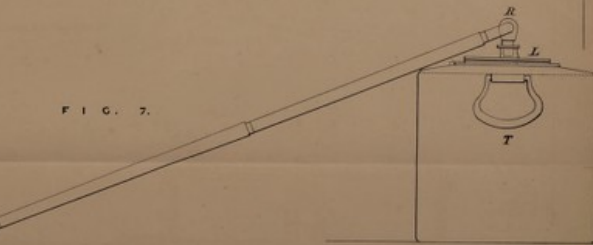


FIG. 7.



The enrolled drawing is not colored.

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