

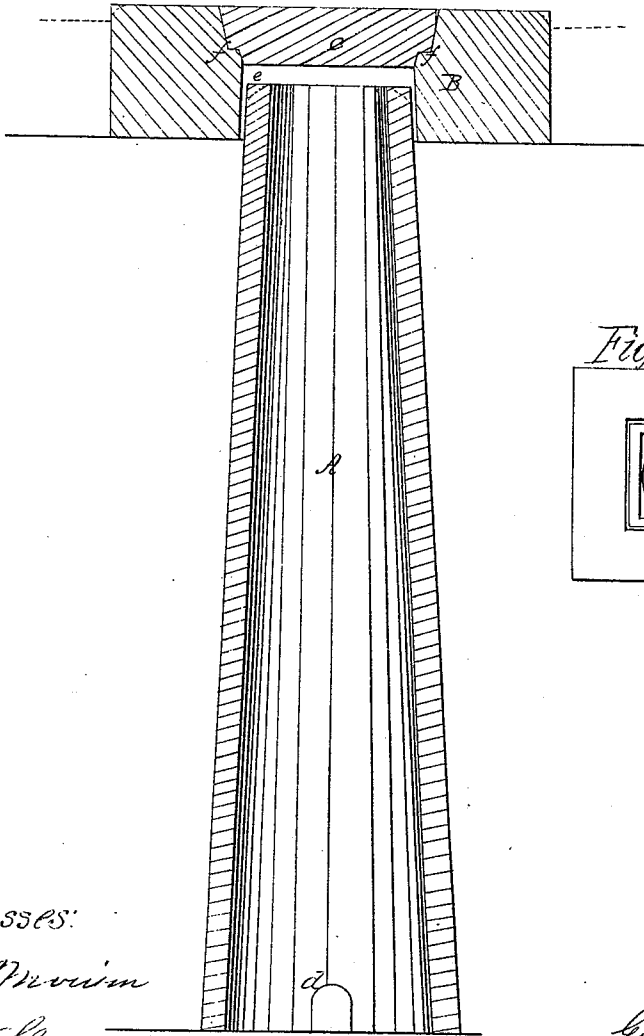
*G. Mc Ilwain,*

*Street Plug Case,*

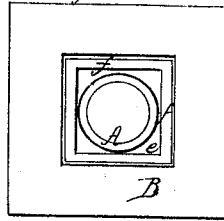
*N<sup>o</sup> 33,592.*

*Patented Oct. 29, 1861.*

*Fig. 1*



*Fig. 2.*



*Witnesses:*

*Andrew Provier*

*R. J. Shattuck*

*Inventor:*

*George Mc Ilwain.*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE McILWAIN, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

## IMPROVEMENT IN CASES FOR WATER AND GAS COCKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 33,592, dated October 29, 1861.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE McILWAIN, of the city of Philadelphia, in the State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and Improved Protective Case for Water and Gas Cocks in Foot-Pavements; and I 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, in which—

Figure 1 represents a central vertical section of the improved case, and Fig. 2 a reduced top view of the same without its lid, like letters indicating the same parts when in both figures.

The object of my invention is the production of a protective case for water and gas cocks in foot-pavements, which will not only be more durable in the ground, but will be better adapted to resist displacement from the action of frost and the entrance of dirt and water than the iron-capped wooden cases heretofore used.

It consists in constructing the case (of terra-cotta or baked clay) in the peculiar manner hereinafter described, and applying the same so that the cap shall be free to rise and fall with the pavement under the action of frost, while the tube which it covers remains stationary.

In the drawings, A represents the tube, B the cap, and C the lid of the said improved case.

The tube A is made of terra-cotta and in the form of a hollow conical frustum. It should be about two feet in length and of sufficient diameter to allow easy access to operate the plug of the cock by means of a lever-key, which is in common use for the purpose. It is made, also, with a recess *d* at two opposite sides of its larger or lower end, so that it may fit over the horizontal part of the cock or pipe in the ground in the usual manner. The cap B is also made of terra-cotta, and in the form of a parallelopiped about nine inches square and three inches thick. It has a square opening *e* made through its middle of sufficient capacity to admit the upper or smaller end of the tube A. The upper part of this opening is beveled outward and also enlarged, so as to afford a shoulder *f* around

it at about one inch below the upper side of the said cap, as seen in the drawings.

The lid C is made to rest upon the shoulder *f*, while it fits accurately against the beveled sides of the opening *e*, with its upper side flush with the upper side of the cap B, as seen in Fig. 1. The lid may be made of either terra-cotta or cast-iron.

In the application of one of these cases to a pavement the tube A must be vertically inserted over the cock in the ground, so that its smaller end shall project about one and a half inches above the gravel or sand upon which the paving-bricks rest. The cap B is then adjusted over it, so that the said projecting end of tube A shall enter the opening *e*, but at the same time not reach higher therein than the line of the bottom of the lid, that the latter may afterward be allowed to fit accurately and closely down in its seat, the said cap B resting firmly on the sand in the same manner as the pavement-bricks. The cap B being about half an inch thicker than the paving-bricks, and therefore projecting about that amount above the upper surface of the latter, its upper edges may advantageously be rounded off in the manner indicated by the dotted lines thereat in Fig. 1.

It will be perceived that in the operation of this guard-case, applied as described, the cap B is left free to rise and fall with the bricks of the pavement during freezing and thawing temperatures, it being adapted, as described, to fit loosely around the upper end of the tube A, while the latter, from its conical form and smooth exterior, remains permanently in position in the ground; that whatever water in rainy weather may leak through the joint between the lid C and the cap B will be conducted to the sand outside of the tube A instead of into the tube A or box, as heretofore, and that water flowing over the pavement will also be prevented from access to the lid C in consequence of the elevated surface of the cap.

The superior durability of terra-cotta in comparison with wood in the ground is well known, and the original cost of these improved guard-cases is but little, if any, more than the iron-capped wooden cases now in general use.

I do not wish to claim, broadly, the application to this purpose of terra-cotta or baked clay; but,

Having fully described the construction and mode of application of my improved cases and pointed out their superior utility, what I claim as new therein of my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The cap B, provided with the opening *e* and lid C, as described, when the said cap is applied and adjusted over the upper end of the tube A, so as to rest independently of the said

tube directly upon the gravel or sand which may be used to support the latter and the usual pavement, in the manner described and set forth, and for the purposes specified.

GEORGE McILWAIN.

Witnesses:

BENJ. MORRISON,  
B. F. SHATTUCK.