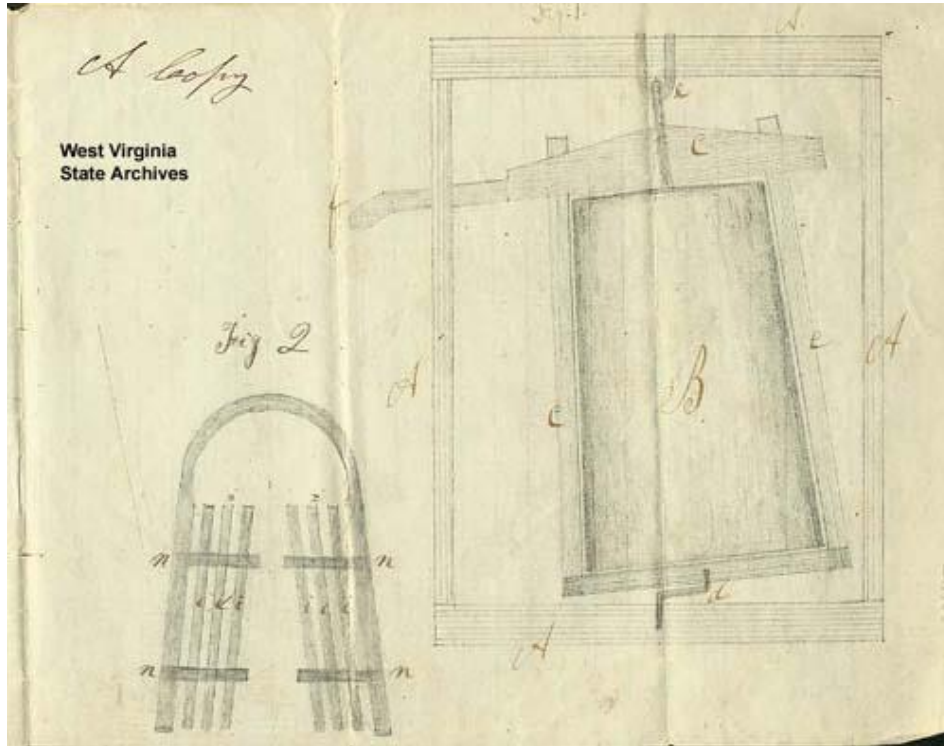


### ON THIS DAY IN WEST VIRGINIA HISTORY AUGUST 24



Sketch of Rufus Maxwell Improvement in Churns (Maxwell-Bonnifield Collection)

**On August 24, 1852, Rufus Maxwell of Lewis County was issued a patent for his improvement in churns.**

#### CSO: SS.8.22

**Investigate the Document:** (Maxwell-Bonnifield Papers, Ms79-11)

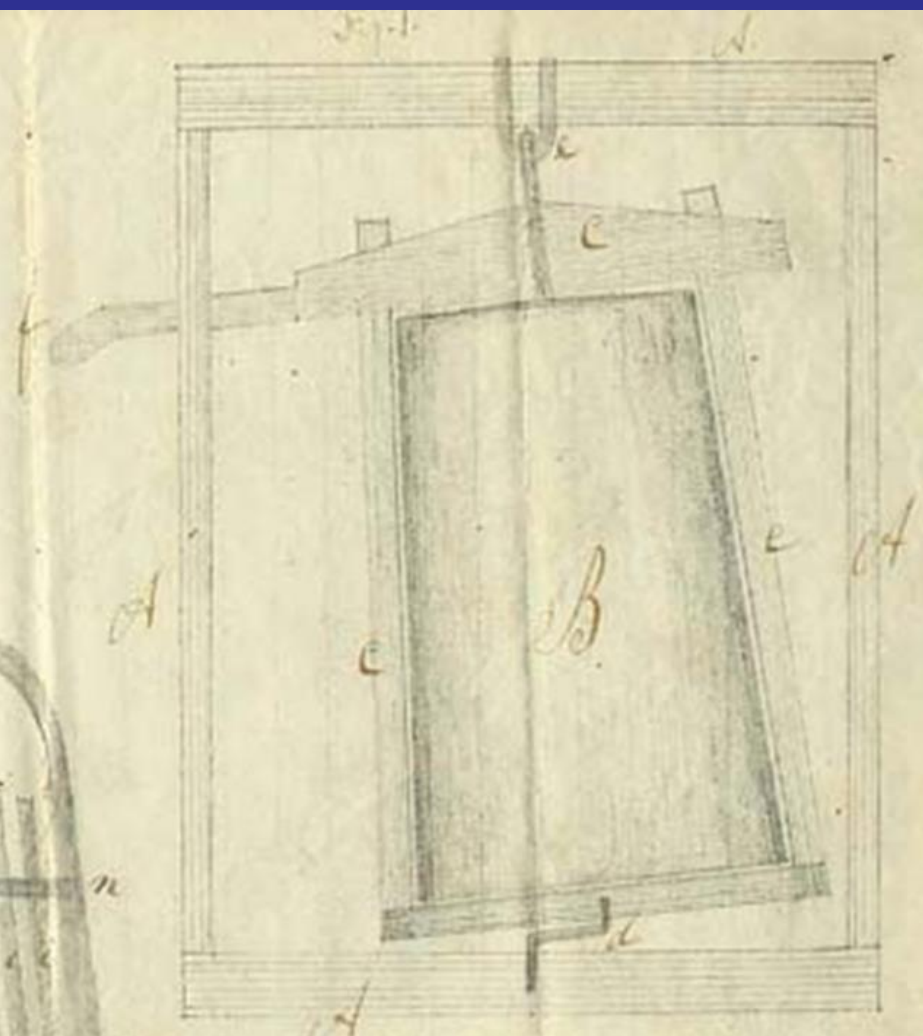
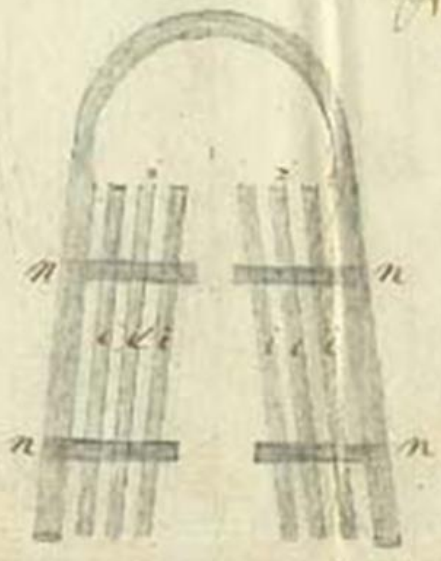
1. To whom did Rufus Maxwell write in order to legitimize his improvements of the churn?
2. Why does the document dated May 18, 1852 state that Rufus Maxwell was living in Weston, Virginia?
3. The document is signed, "Rufus Maxwell, Esq." What does Esq. represent?

**Think Critically:** What does a churn do? What does Maxwell's sketch show us?

*A copy*

West Virginia  
State Archives

*Fig 2*



19107

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

May 18<sup>th</sup> 1852.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your model for alleged  
Impt in Churns

The application being now completed, will be examined in its order, and  
of the result due advice be given.

I am, Sir, respectfully,

THOS. EW BANK,

Commissioner.

Rufus Maxwell Esq  
Weston Pa