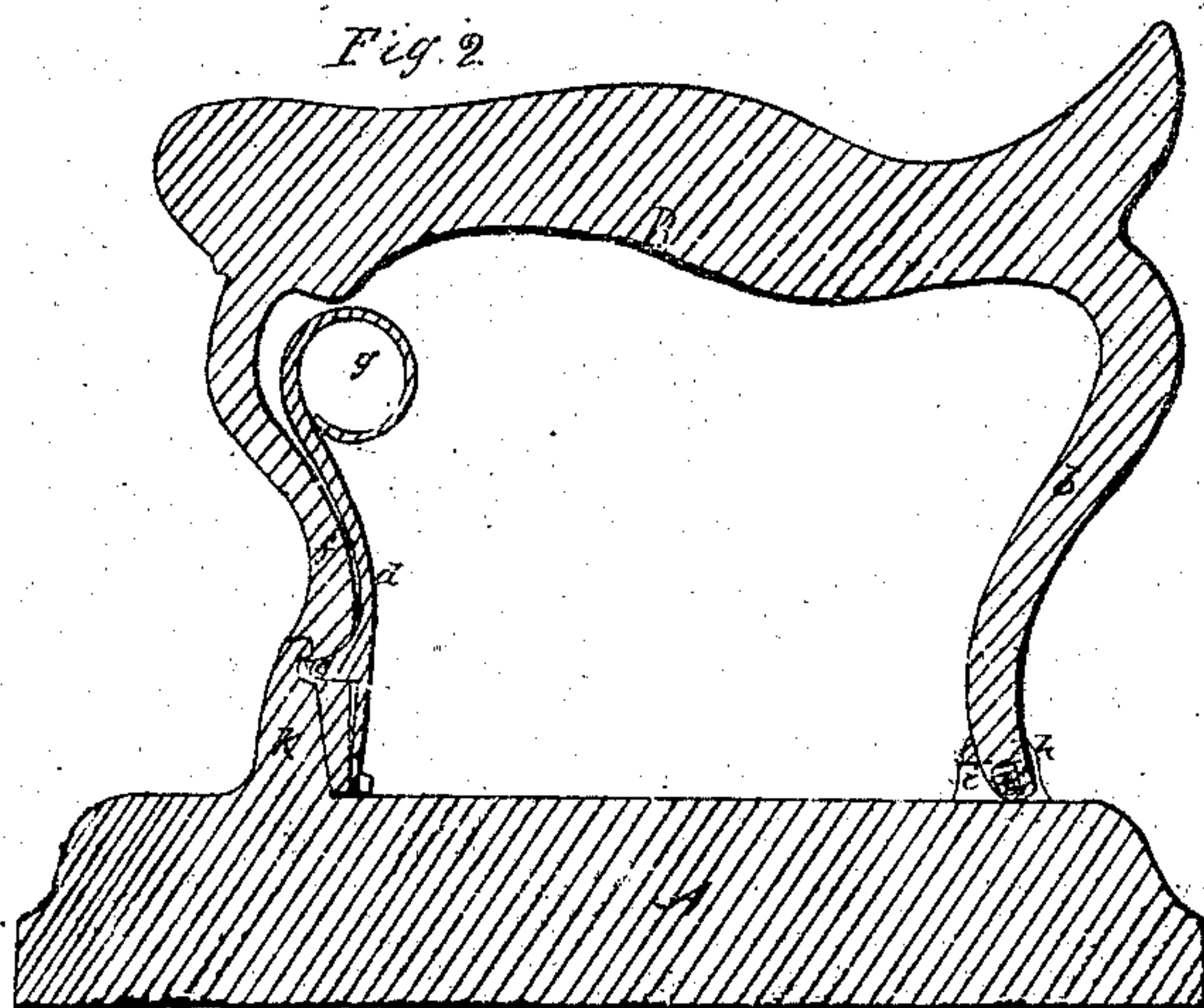
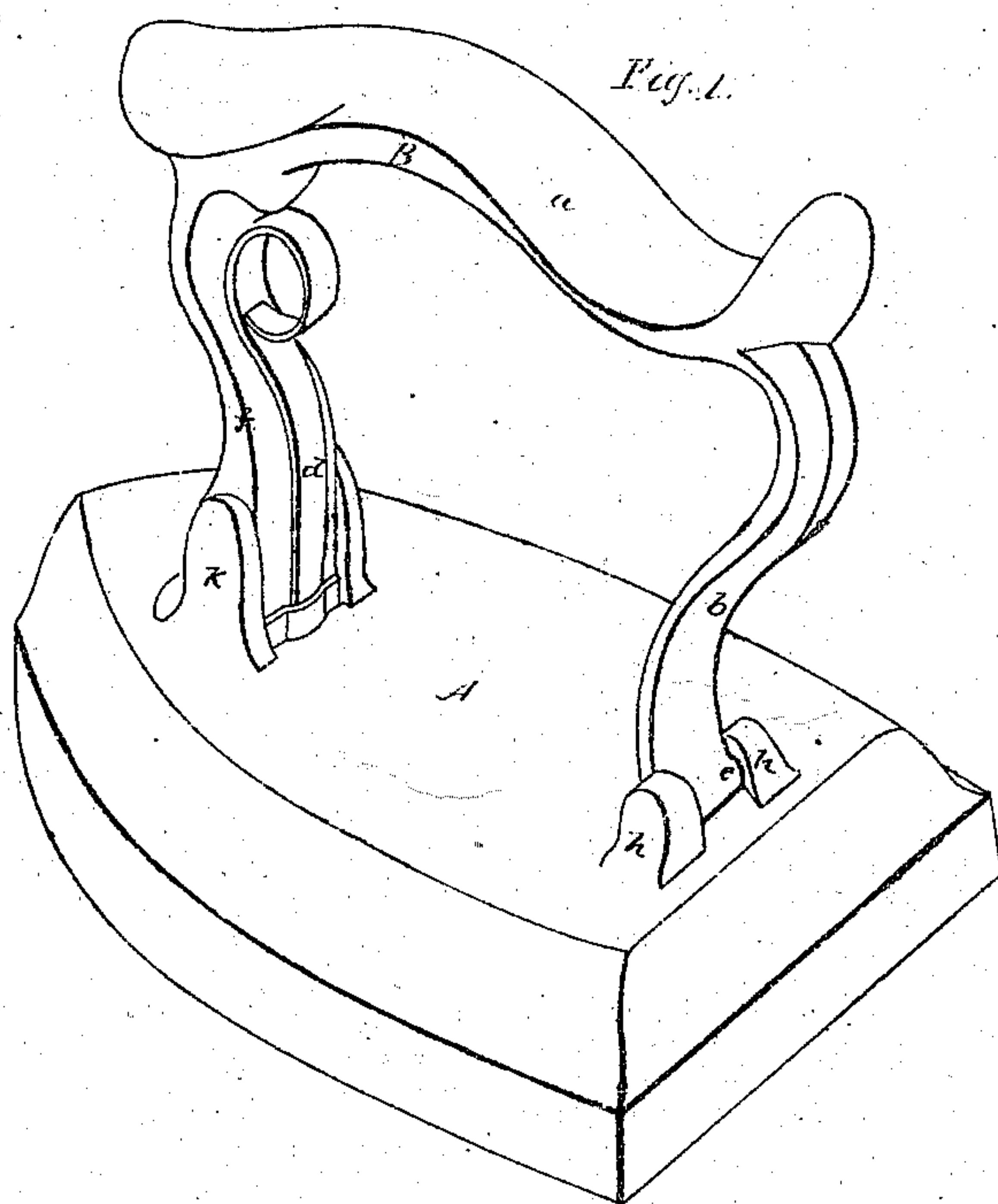


T. R. Timby,

Sad Iron,

N^o 7992.

Patented Mar. 18, 1851.



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Fig. 3.

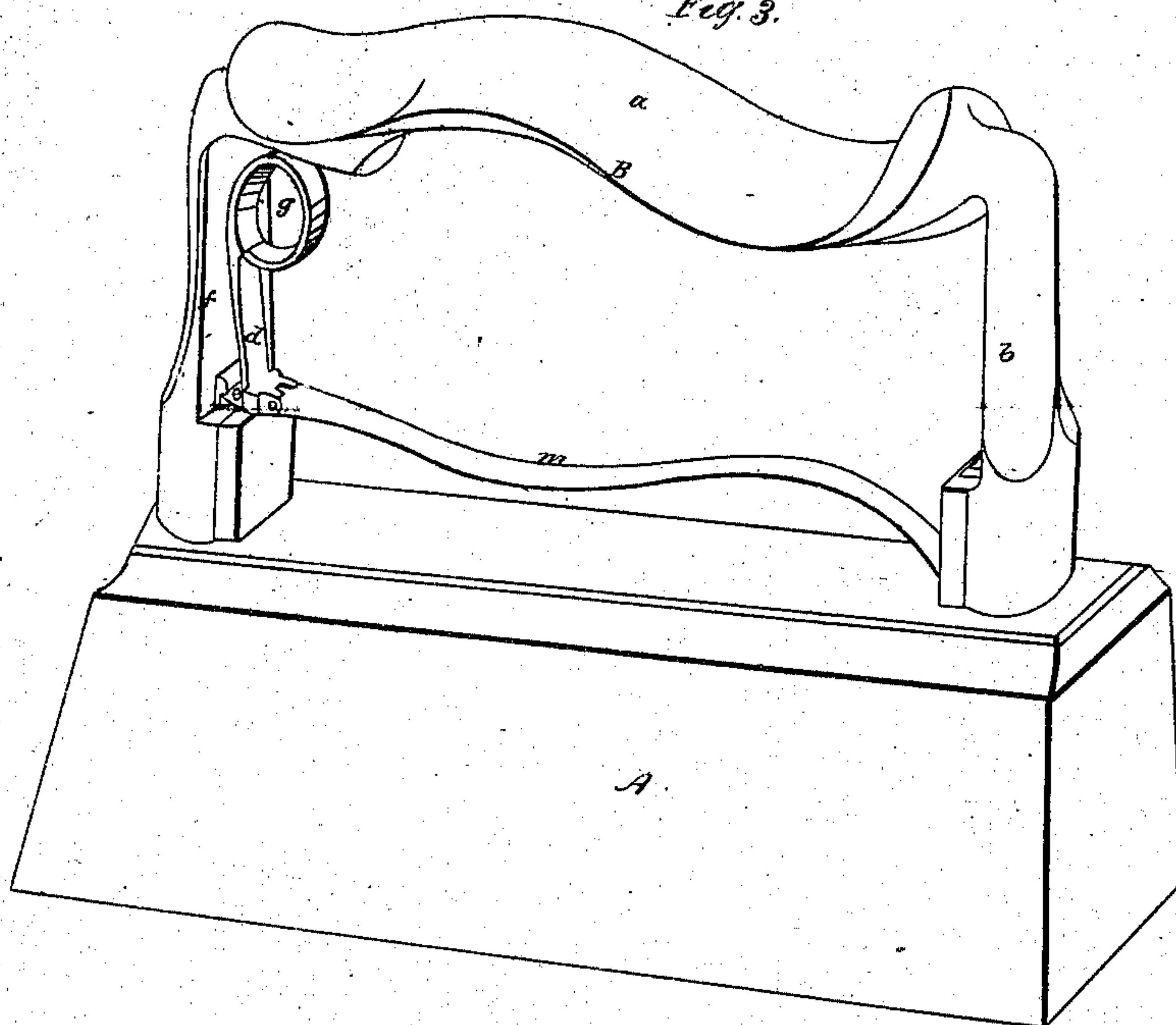
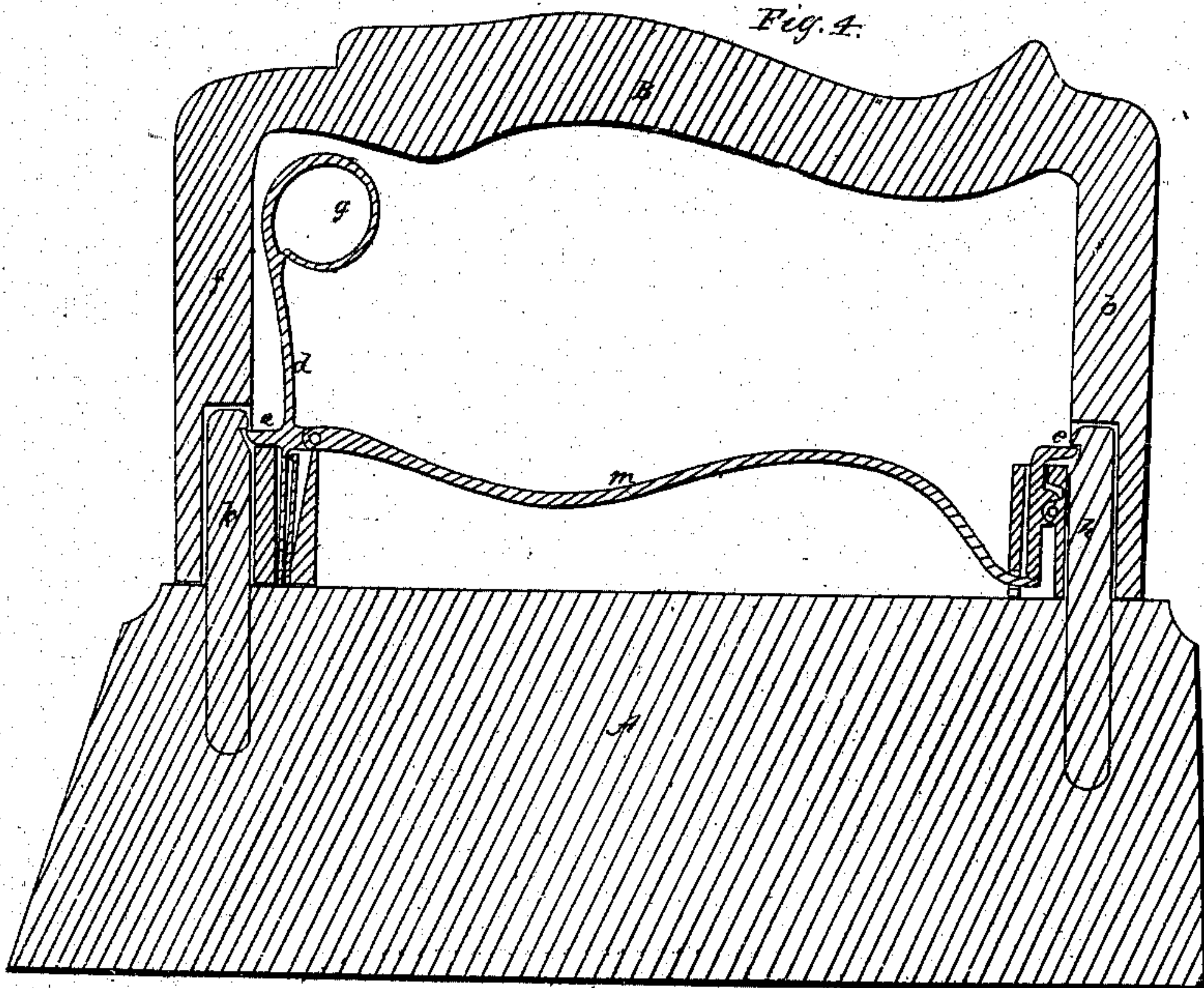


Fig. 4.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

T. R. TIMBY, OF MERIDIAN, NEW YORK.

REMOVABLE HANDLE TO SAD-IRONS.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 7,992, dated March 18, 1851.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, T. R. TIMBY, of Meridian, in the county of Cayuga and State of New York, have invented a new useful Improvement in Sad and other Irons for Smoothing and Pressing by Hand; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of my invention, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a view in perspective of a sad iron constructed on the plan invented by me. Fig. 2 is a section of the same, and Figs. 3 and 4 are views in perspective and section of a tailor's goose with my improvements applied thereto.

It has always been a source of great annoyance and inconvenience to those who use sad and other smoothing irons that the handles by which they are held and manipulated must be heated with the rest of the iron thus rendering it necessary to shield the hand from burning by interposing a thick pad, or holder, of cloth or other bad conductor between it and the handle. This holder, being both cumbrous and elastic, prevents the operator from grasping the handle of the iron with the requisite degree of firmness to produce the required effects without a sufficiently increased exertion of muscular force, over and above that required to manage the iron itself, to overcome the elasticity of the holder and compress it upon the handle. The additional force required for this purpose subjects the muscles of the hand to a greatly increased strain and corresponding increased fatigue.

Many methods have been essayed to obviate the disadvantages resulting from the heating of the handle most if not all of which have produced greater defects than those they were designed to cure; thus for example smoothing irons have been constructed with handles that could be removed while the iron was heating, but the method of attaching the handle to the heated iron was so insecure that unless the utmost care was used in manipulating it the iron would most likely fall off and burn the operator, crush his toes, or perhaps damage itself or other articles by its fall. On the other hand when the handle has been firmly secured by screwing it fast to the iron, so much time was consumed in connecting and disconnecting the handle as to preclude its adoption to any considerable extent.

To these and other equally serious objections all the methods heretofore devised of applying detached handles to smoothing irons are liable.

The object of my invention is to construct smoothing irons of all descriptions with detachable handles in such manner that while none of the advantages of the fixed handle are sacrificed, all those which can be derived from the removable handle are fully secured without any of the objections to which those heretofore attempted were liable. These ends I have attained by making a single handle answer for an entire set of irons, its construction being such that while it is instantly and securely engaged with any one of the irons, it is readily and easily detached therefrom when the iron is being heated.

The accompanying drawings represent two varieties of my method of constructing smoothing irons with removable handles. That represented at Figs. 1 and 2 is a sad iron for the ordinary ironing of clothes, it consists of a body A, or iron proper, and a removable handle B. The latter in the present example is formed of brass, that part *a* to which the hand of the operator is applied being of such form as will enable the operator to grasp it easily and to hold it firmly. The hinder shank *b* of this handle has two ears *c*, projected from its sides, and the front shank is fitted at its inner side with a spring catch *d* whose bolt *e* projects through the shank; this spring catch is secured at its lower extremity to the lower part of the shank *f*, while its upper extremity is formed into a ring *g* in which the fore finger of the operator can be inserted without removing the hand from the handle. The body (A) of the sad iron is a block of cast iron whose face and edges are ground smooth in the usual manner; it is fitted at its upper side with lugs *h*, *h*, with which the shanks of the handle engage. The hinder pair of lugs *h* *h* are at a sufficient distance apart to admit the hinder shank of the handle between them and notches *i* are formed in their adjacent faces to receive the ears *c* on the shank *b*. The front lug *h* has a recess in its back to admit the front shank of the handle, and a notch is formed in it to receive the projecting extremity of the bolt of the spring catch.

When the handle is to be applied to the iron the ears on its hinder shank are en-

gaged in the notches in the hinder lugs *h*, the handle is then pressed downward until its front shank enters the recess in the front lug *k* and the spring catch engages in its appropriate notch, by which means the handle is securely locked to the iron. When the handle is to be disengaged, the forefinger of the hand on the handle is inserted in the ring *g* which being drawn inward detaches the bolt *e* from the notch in the lug and allows the handle to be turned upward and disengaged from the hinder lugs *h*. A single handle may therefore be used for manipulating a complete set of irons only one of which is in use while the others are being heated, and as the handle is not heated with the irons it does not become too hot to be handled with the naked hand and therefore permits the operator to dispense with the cloth or holder which is usually required. This method of attaching handles to smoothing irons admits of many modifications, one of which I have represented at Figs. 2 and 3. In this example the lugs on the iron are merely pins *h k* in which notches are made to receive the spring catches *s* of the removable handle *B*. Sockets are formed in the shanks of the handle to admit the pins *h, k*, of the iron and each shank is fitted with a spring catch *e e* to engage in the notch of its appropriate pin. This handle is applied to the iron by passing it directly downward upon the pins. The two catches are connected by a rod *m*, so that when the front one is disengaged by the forefinger of the operator the latter is simultaneously disengaged by the same operation and the handle can then be removed from the iron by simply lifting it.

Many other modifications of my invention might be represented but those above described are deemed sufficient to enable a constructor of smoothing irons to use my invention; thus for example in the smoothing iron represented at Figs. 2 and 3 the shanks of the handle might terminate in pins having spring catches within them while the lugs on the iron might have the form of sockets to receive the shanks of the handle. Such and similar devices are obviously mere modifications of my invention as they do not substantially differ from it either in principle or in their mode of operation. In those cases in which it is necessary that the irons must be heated to a high temperature and must be frequently changed the handle, if made entirely of metal may become unduly heated. I therefore intend to form the handle partly of metal and partly of some bad conductor of heat, as glass, ivory, or wood, which is sufficiently incombustible to withstand the heat and which will prevent it from being conducted to the hand of the operator.

What I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

The method herein described of constructing sad, tailor's, and other hand smoothing irons with handles which can be readily and securely attached to the iron and easily detached therefrom substantially as herein specified.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name.

T. R. TIMBY.

Witnesses:

L. C. DONN,
P. H. WATSON.