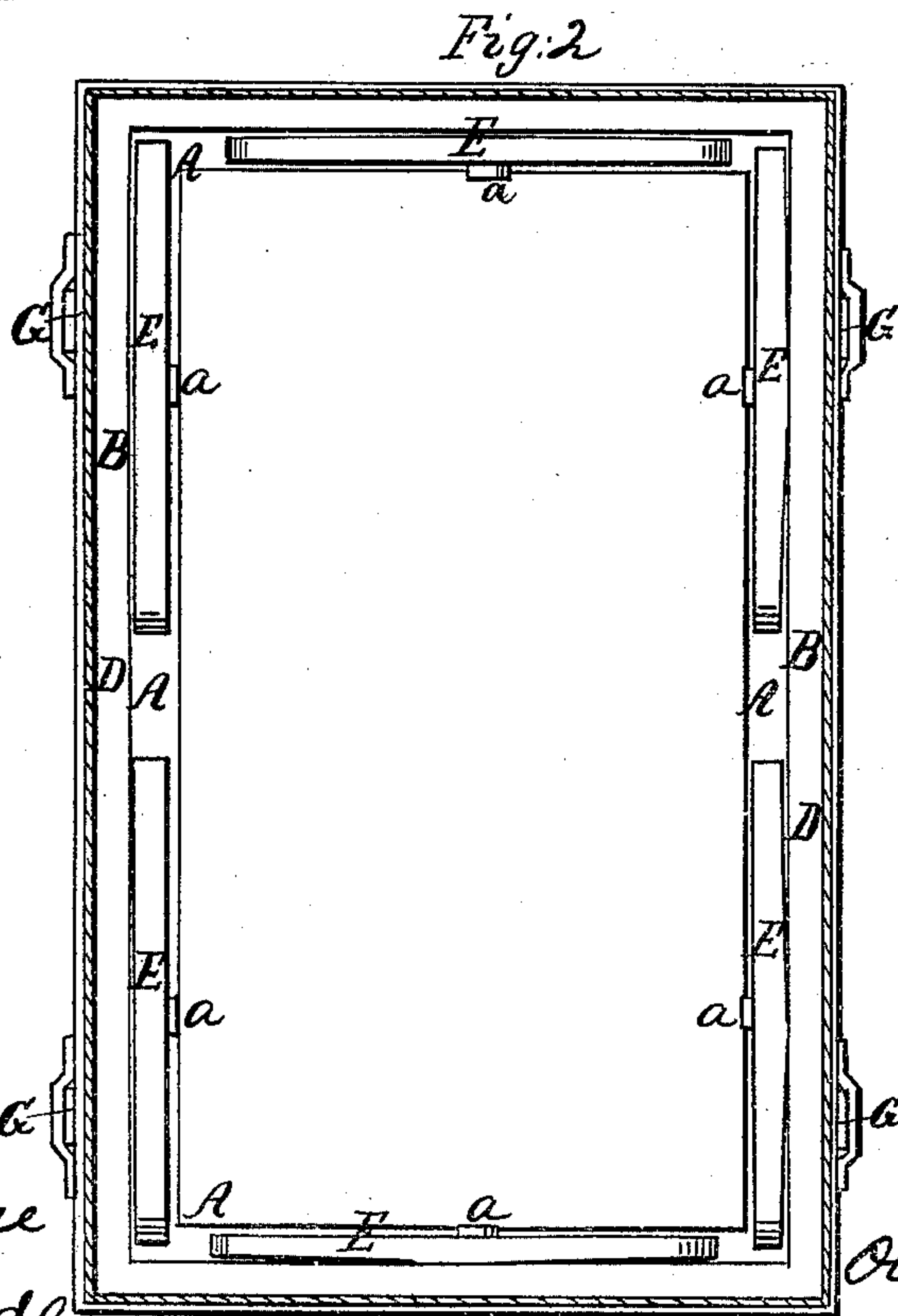
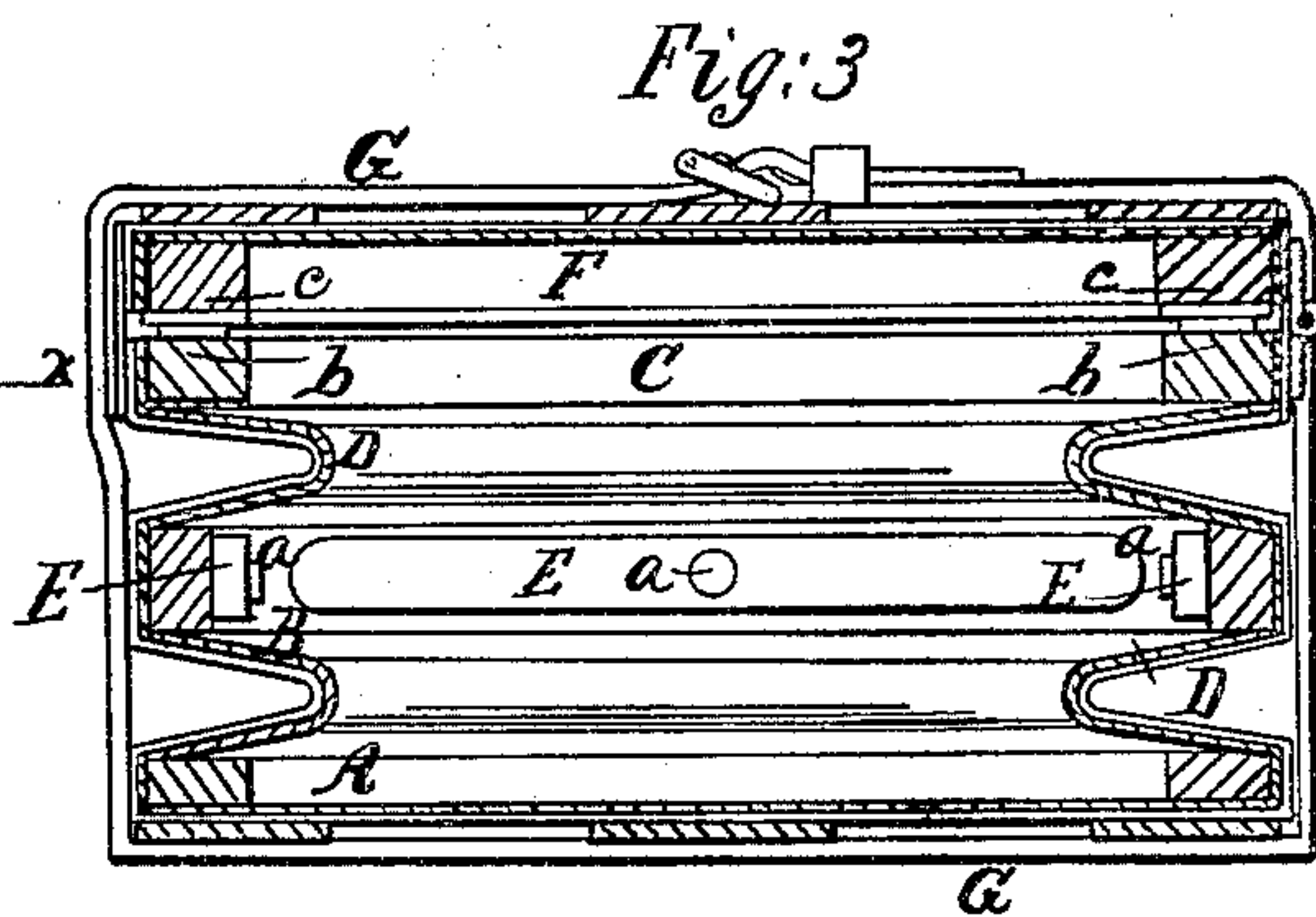
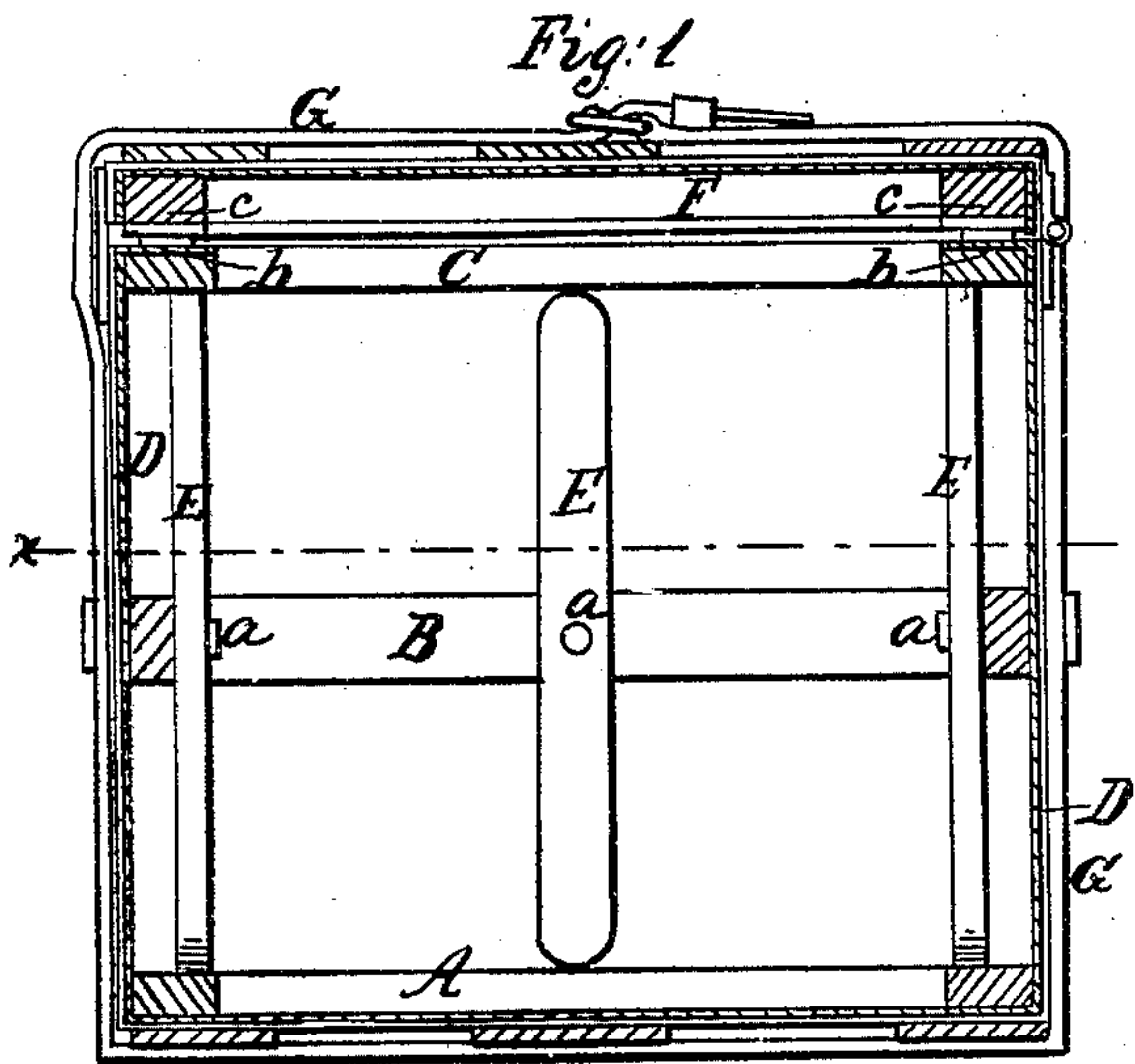


O. E. Woods.

Life Preserving Valise.

N<sup>o</sup> 22,467.

Patented Dec. 28, 1858.



Witnesses:  
Lewis Goulbore  
Wm. H. Abberde

Inventor  
Oliver Evans Woods

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

OLIVER EVANS WOODS, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

## IMPROVED LIFE-PRESERVING TRUNK.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **22,467**, dated December 28, 1858.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, OLIVER EVANS WOODS, of the city and county of Philadelphia, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Life-Preserving Valise; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a vertical transverse section of a valise constructed according to my improvements in an expanded state. Fig. 2 is a horizontal section of the same, the line *x x*, Fig. 1, indicating the plane of section; and Fig. 3 is a vertical transverse section of the same when compressed.

Similar letters of reference in the three figures indicate corresponding parts.

To enable others skilled in the art to use and construct my improved valise, I will proceed to describe the same.

A, B, and C are three separate frames, made of wood and as light as the occasion may permit, and they are united by a flexible water-proof covering D, which may be covered over by leather, so as to give the article the appearance of a common valise. The middle frame B is somewhat narrower than the other two, and stays E are fastened to the same by pivots *a*, so that they may be brought in an upright position, as represented in Fig. 1, or in a horizontal position, as represented in Figs. 2 and 3.

The lid or cover F is hinged to the upper frame C, and a narrow strip of india-rubber *b* is attached to the upper face of this frame, and another wider strip of india-rubber *c* is fastened to the lower edge of the lid, both of these strips forming gaskets, which are in such relative position that when the lid is

closed down the strip *c* overlaps the other strip *b* on both sides and a water-tight joint is formed between the lid and the box. If the stays E are turned down, as represented in Figs. 2 and 3, the three frames A, B, and C may be brought as close together as the covering will permit, (see Fig. 2,) so that the valise takes up but little room and that it is but a small incumbrance to the person carrying the same, while at the same time sufficient space is left in the same for such clothes as travelers usually carry for short journeys; but if the stays E are turned up, as represented in Fig. 1, they strike the frame A below and the frame C above and the valise is expanded. In this state, and if it is empty, it serves as a life-preserver, and straps G, which are fastened to the lower frame A and which are long enough to reach round the box under all circumstances, serve the double purpose to secure the lid if the box is used as a valise, or to fasten the box to the body of a person if in case of danger it is to be used as a life-preserver.

I do not confine myself to the precise form of valise represented in my drawings; but the same construction may be applied with equal advantage to all kinds of trunks.

The stays may be placed upon the inside or the exterior of the valise or trunk, as may be found most desirable.

Having described my invention, I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent as an improved article of manufacture—

A valise or trunk made substantially as herein shown and described.

OLIVER EVANS WOODS.

Witnesses:

WM. P. HIBBERD,  
LEWIS GODBON.