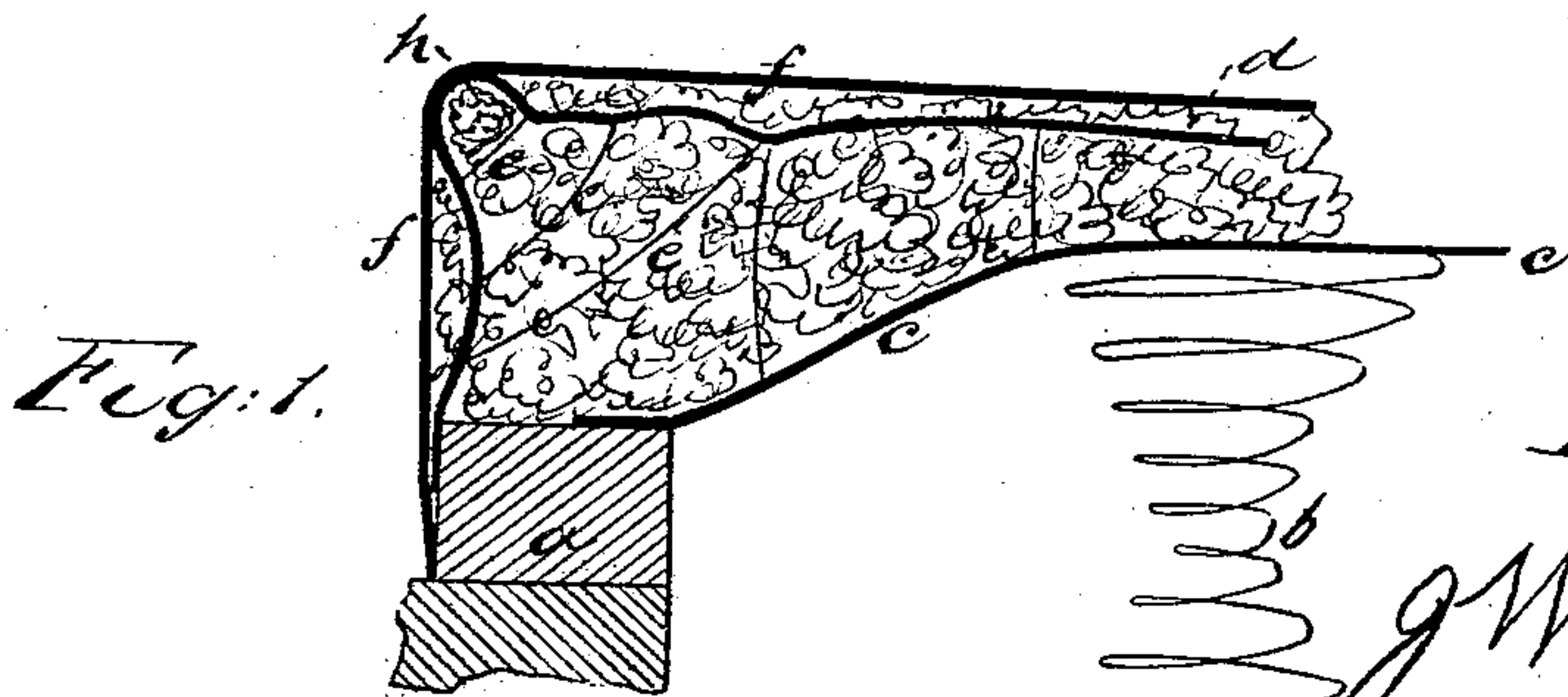
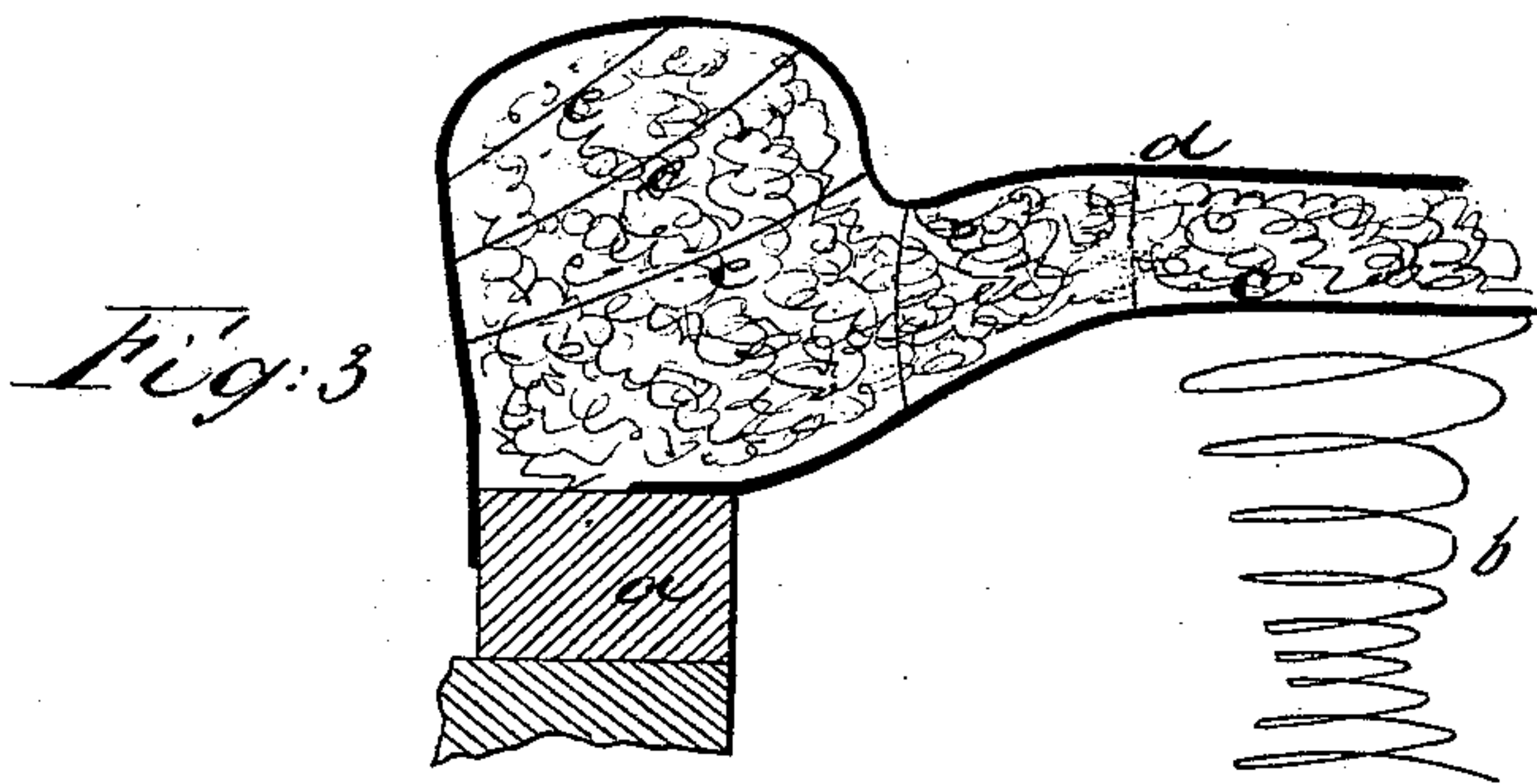
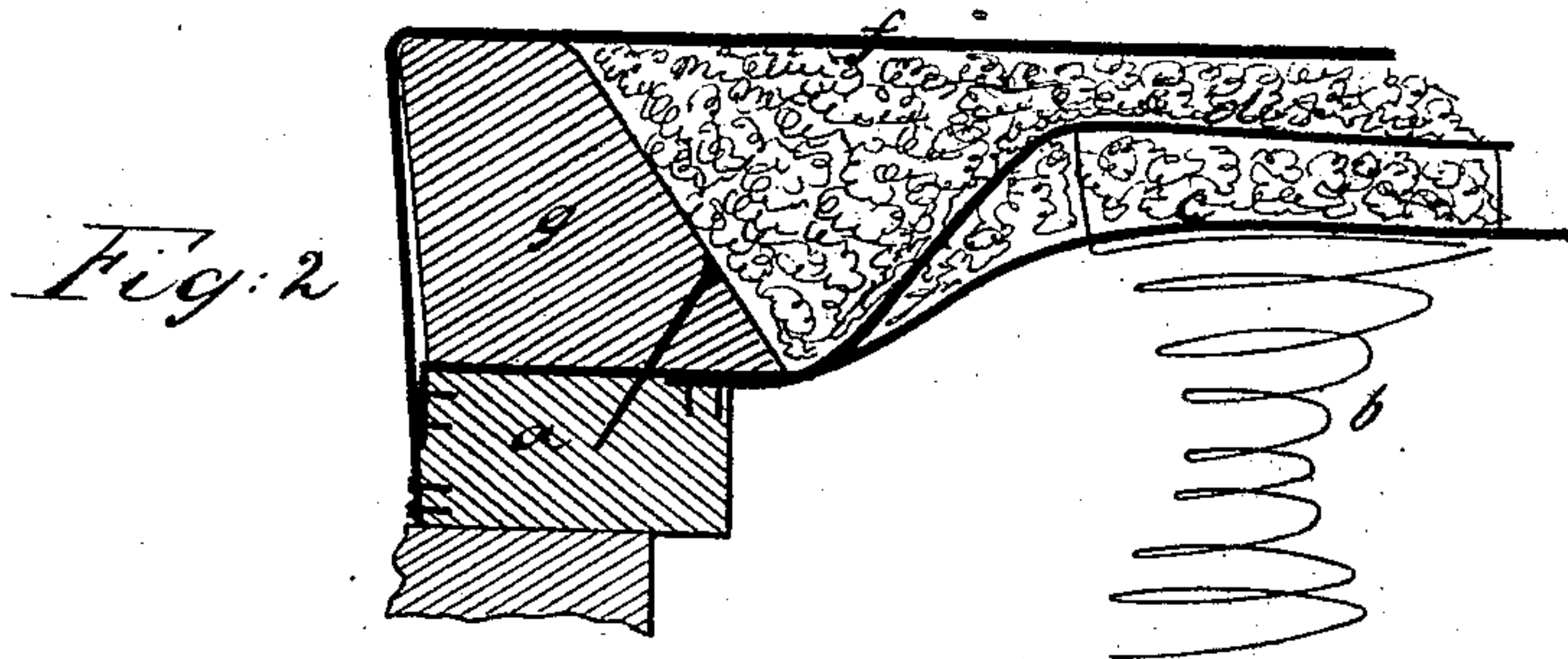


Kimball & Mahady

Chair Bottom.

N^o 42,858.

Patented May 24, 1864.



Inventors.

J. W. Kimball

John Mahady

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

J. W. KIMBALL, OF BOSTON, AND JOHN MAHADY, OF CAMBRIDGE,
MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN CHAIR-SEATS AND SOFA-BOTTOMS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 42,858, dated May 24, 1864.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, J. W. KIMBALL, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk, and JOHN MAHADY, of Cambridge, in the county of Middlesex, both in the State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Upholstering; and we do hereby declare that the following, taken in connection with the drawings which accompany and form part of this specification, is a description of our invention sufficient to enable those skilled in the art to practice it.

In upholstering or cushioning the seats of furniture—as, for instance, chairs, stools, sofas, lounges, &c.—it is of great advantage to have the edge—*i. e.*, the corner or angle formed at the angle or joining of the top surface and sides—uniform in its appearance, as well as soft and elastic. In cheap upholstering this edge is formed of wood and presents a uniform appearance, but from want of yielding qualities it is objectionable in use, inasmuch as while the body of the seat may be elastic, soft, and agreeable, the hard edge makes the seat as a whole disagreeable and uncomfortable. The soft yielding edge now made in connection with the best upholstering has the following deficiencies: First, its production requires a large amount of skilled labor; second, it is difficult even for the most skillful to so produce the edge that before use it will have the desired uniformity of appearance; third, even when tolerable uniformity of first appearance is attained, uniformity of elasticity is almost always wanting; and, fourth, immediately upon use the edge crushes out of shape consequent upon want of sufficient elasticity, and this trouble is aggravated by want of uniformity of construction in various parts of the edge of the said seat. The edge, when compressed and distorted by use, leaves the covering of the seat loose and unsightly.

By this invention an upholsterer's edge is obtained for seats, &c., which possesses the requisite degree of softness, elasticity, uniformity, and cheapness, the latter quality being attained because of ease of application, though the cost of material is increased.

Said invention consists in the employment of ready-formed strips, of any desired shape of cross-section, of suitable soft elastic material, felt being preferred. This may be of

very coarse quality, and may be covered with paint or a coating of rubber, or it may be permeated with camphor or other material obnoxious or poisonous to moths or other vermin, the exclusion of which is the object of the paint or rubber coating mentioned. Rubber, for example, may be the material of the strip; or the strip may be made of other materials or compounds which will give the requisite degree of uniformity, softness, and elasticity.

In the drawings, Figure 1 shows in cross-section the soft edge heretofore made by upholsterers. Fig. 2 shows in cross section our improved edge as applied in the formation of an ordinary seat.

a shows part of the wooden frame-work of a seat; *b*, an ordinary spring used in upholstery; *c*, a stout sacking or cloth drawn over the spring and tacked to the frame. *d* represents another cloth or sacking, between which and the sacking *c* hair or other suitable filling is placed, the two sackings being stitched or quilted together.

In the ordinary mode of upholstering the quantity of filling near the edge is greater than it is just over the springs, and the sacking *d* is drawn over the filling and secured to the part of the frame, and by stitches *e e e* the top and front of the sacking *d* and the filling at the edge or corner are quilted or drawn together so as to give the form seen at *h*, Fig. 1.

The form of the upholstering, before the stitches *e e e* are drawn up tightly, is shown in Fig. 3.

When the seat or other article has been thus prepared, the covering *f*, of leather, hair, or other cloth, is then drawn over the whole, secured to the frame, and quilted or not, as may be desired, and between this outer covering and the sacking *d* a layer of filling may be interposed, if desired.

In Fig. 2 the edge is formed by securing to the frame our soft elastic strip, (shown by *g*,) over which the outer covering is drawn and secured to the frame. This strip we prefer to have formed of felt, and it may be bent to all curves of the furniture, and may be made to form angles by removing portions from the inside, even without cutting entirely through the material. This strip may be butted to-

gether or scarfed when necessary to unite the ends of two pieces, and glue or other cement or stitches may be made to unite and hold the ends together.

The strip may be secured to the foundation, when this is of wood, by glue, nails, or screws, and where part of the strip rests upon webbing stitches may be there used to secure the strip. A stout piece of canvas may be glued or cemented to the bottom of the strip, and projecting beyond it on both sides or on the front side alone, when it may be tacked in the rabbet usually cut in the front edge of furniture-frames at their top for reception of upholstering-cloths.

Holes for the reception of the nails or screws which secure the strip to the frame may be formed in the process of the manufacture of the piece *g*, or these holes may be afterward made by boring or punching. When the edge is properly secured in place, the finished cover may be drawn over it and the sacking *d*, fill-

ing being interposed between these to any necessary or desired amount. The edge *g*, being made uniform in size and density, requires no attention from the upholsterer in applying it, and hence the increased cost of material is more than counterbalanced by the saving of labor, and at the same time the new edge, while being on the whole the cheapest edge, is a better one in durability and uniformity, and goods prepared with it will bring a higher price in the market.

We claim—

The employment of the edge piece or strip for an upholstered article, substantially as described.

In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands this 20th day of April, A. D. 1864.

J. W. KIMBALL.

JOHN MAHADY.

Witnesses:

J. B. CROSBY,

F. GOULD.