

C.L. Alexander:
Type Case.

N^o 64269.

Patented Apr: 30. 1867.

Fig. 1

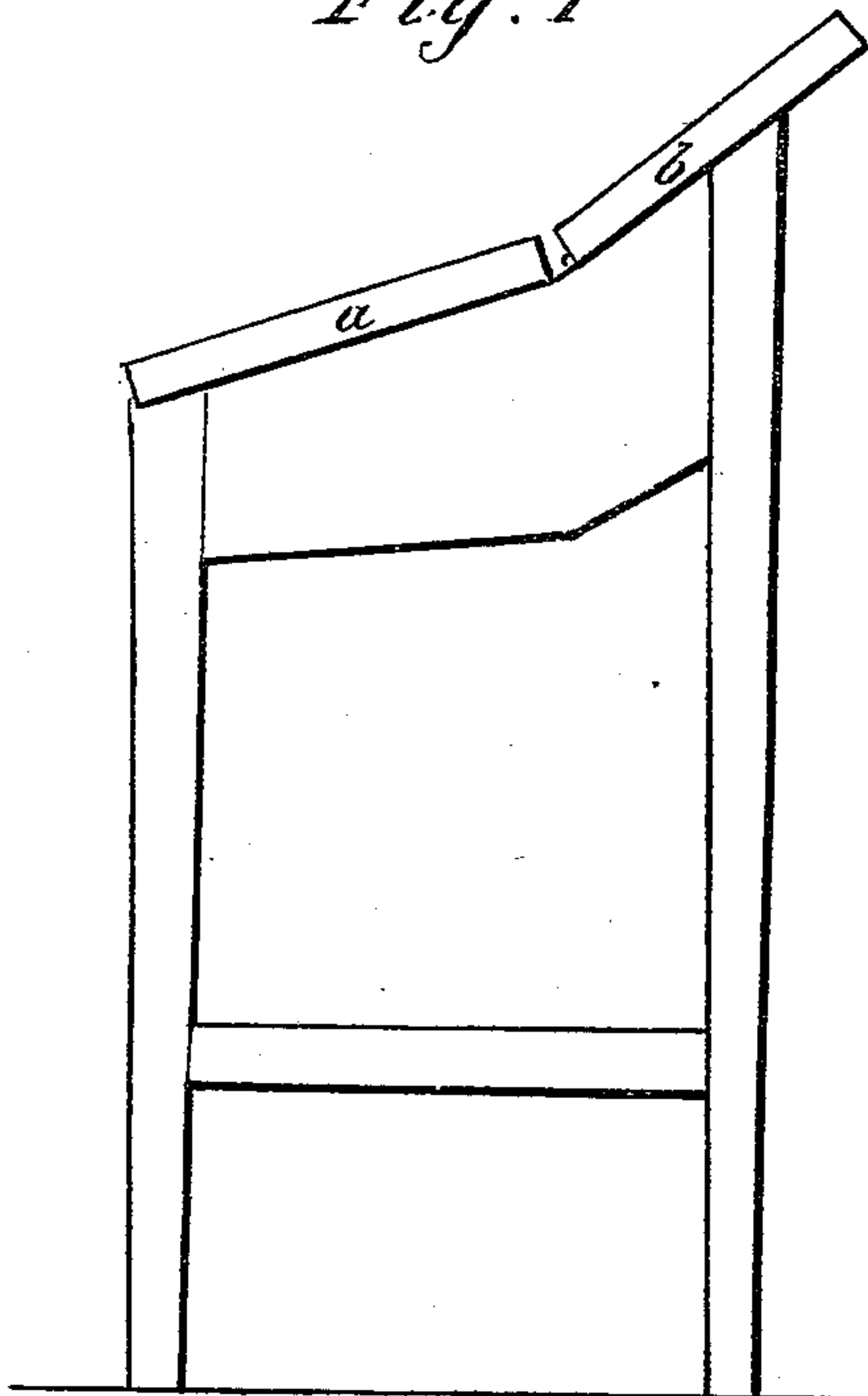


Fig. 2

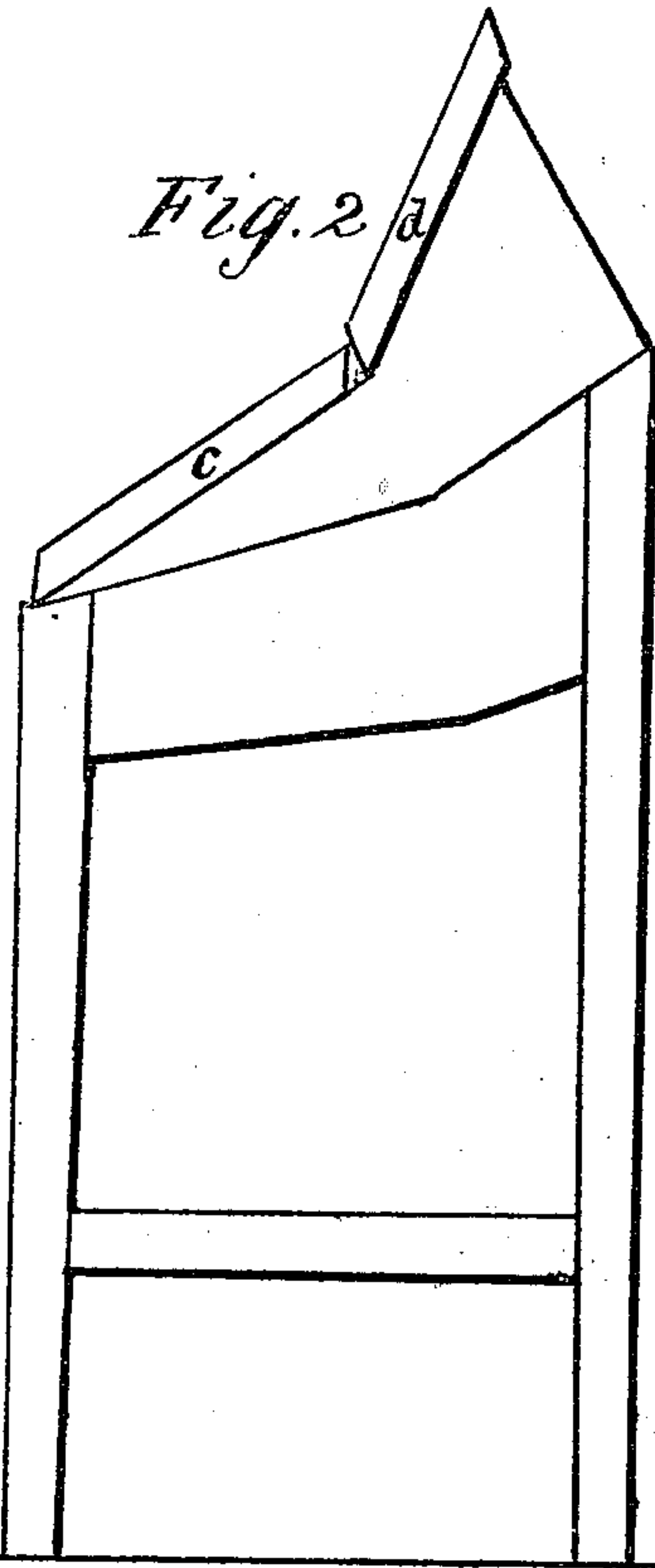
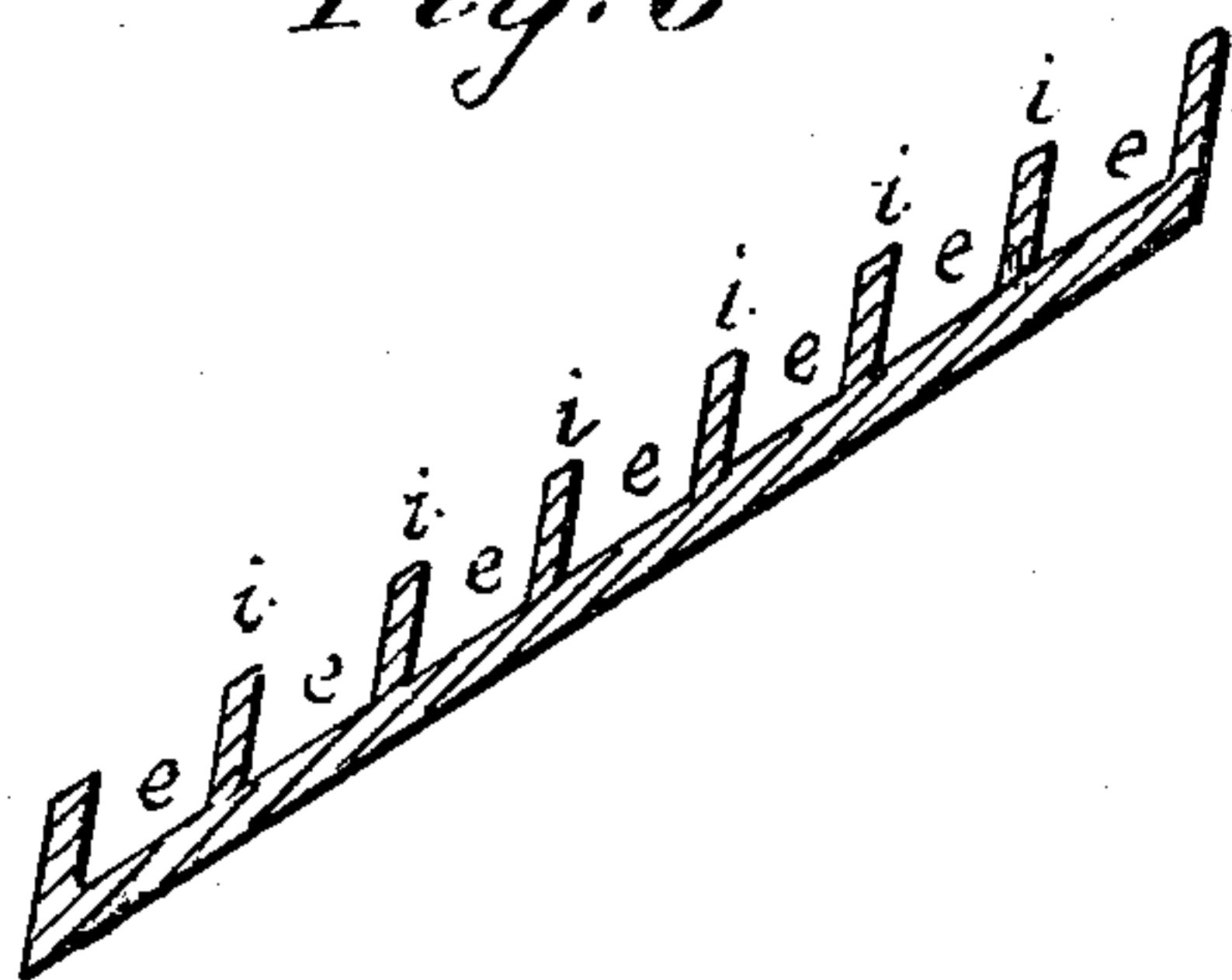


Fig. 3



Witnesses:

Bing. Lippincott
W. H. Sullivan

Inventor:

Chas. L. Alexander

United States Patent Office.

CHARLES L. ALEXANDER, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Letters Patent No. 64,269, dated April 30, 1867.

IMPROVEMENT IN PRINTERS' TYPE-CASES.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, CHARLES L. ALEXANDER, of Washington, in the county of Washington, and District of Columbia, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Type-Cases; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is an end view of a pair of ordinary cases in position upon their stand.

Figure 2 is an end view of a pair of my improved cases in position upon their stand.

Figure 3 is a sectional view of an upper case constructed according to my plan.

The present invention consists in changing the angle of all the horizontal partitions of each case, in relation to the bottom thereof, from a right angle to the plane of the bottom, to an acute angle thereto, the inclination being toward the farther or upper end of the case, the degree of inclination being determinable by the particular kind or size and use of the type to be laid in such case, the larger sizes of types, and those in comparatively little use, not so much requiring this improvement, which, it will be observed, is more especially designed for and adapted to use where rapid execution with small types is the essential requisite.

The lower and upper cases, marked *a b*, in fig. 1, are made according to the old plan, and so level as to require the compositor to lean forward at his work, and to extend his right arm forward for each type, it being difficult for the left hand to follow with the composing-stick. These cases are not always placed at this precise angle; but when the higher sides are more elevated inconvenience arises from the tendency of the types to overflow the front sides of the boxes. In fig. 2 the lower and upper cases, marked *c d*, are set in position as they may be when constructed according to my plan, which is partially indicated by the bevelled edges of the cases, more fully shown in fig. 3, in which the upper case *d* is assumed to be cut away, so as to give an inside view thereof, the spaces *e e e e e e*, representing the type-boxes, and the lines *i i i i i i* the inclined divisions between them. It is obvious, also, that the transverse partitions may be made adjustable in their inclination by being provided with grooves to slide in, or a rocking movement, or other simple device. This construction of case, so far from being objectionable on account of its V-shaped bottom, derives advantage therefrom, as when the boxes are nearly empty, the types lie close together in the front angle, to which they tend in the desired horizontal position more certainly than in the ordinary cases. The boxes, however, are seldom wholly emptied. Both in distributing and in setting, the same area presents itself as in the old cases. An important advantage consists in the nearer approach of all parts of the cases and the copy thereon to a focus of vision; a benefit appreciable to many who depend upon the natural power of vision, but of still greater importance to compositors who wear glasses, and who are hence obliged, under the present arrangement, to draw backward and to lean forward to adapt their sight to the various distances of the objects they must see. The superiority of this form of box, at whatever inclination the case is to be disposed, is as obvious as would be the disadvantage of sloping the transverse partitions in the opposite direction; and both may be illustrated by a simple experiment with beads, or shot, or pins, within a shallow paper box, held in a slanting position, in which experiment the necessity of pressing the lower side or flange upward will be found to increase or diminish just as the inclination of the box is increased or diminished.

I do not wish to be understood as limiting my invention to cases of any particular material, form, or mode of construction, for it is of universal application to type-cases. It is therefore not necessary, in order to a proper understanding of the subject, that I should describe any mode of manufacture, any and all modes known in the arts being optional for the purpose. Nor is it requisite that the parts of mechanism so simple and familiar should be described or designated with any further minuteness; the setting the transverse or horizontal partition pieces at an inclination, instead of perpendicular, to the bottom of the case being the only change proposed from the old mode of construction. It is obvious that the bottom front angle of each box may be rounded in gutter-form, or the reverse thereof, that is, rendered convex, without deviating from the principle of this invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, is—

A type-case, having the lower or front sides of the boxes inclined toward the upper or rear part of the case, substantially as described.

CHAS. L. ALEXANDER.

Witnesses:

JAMES LAURENSEN,
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