

*H. Woodward,
Cutlery Scourer.*

N^o 69,601.

Patented Oct. 8, 1867.

Fig. 2

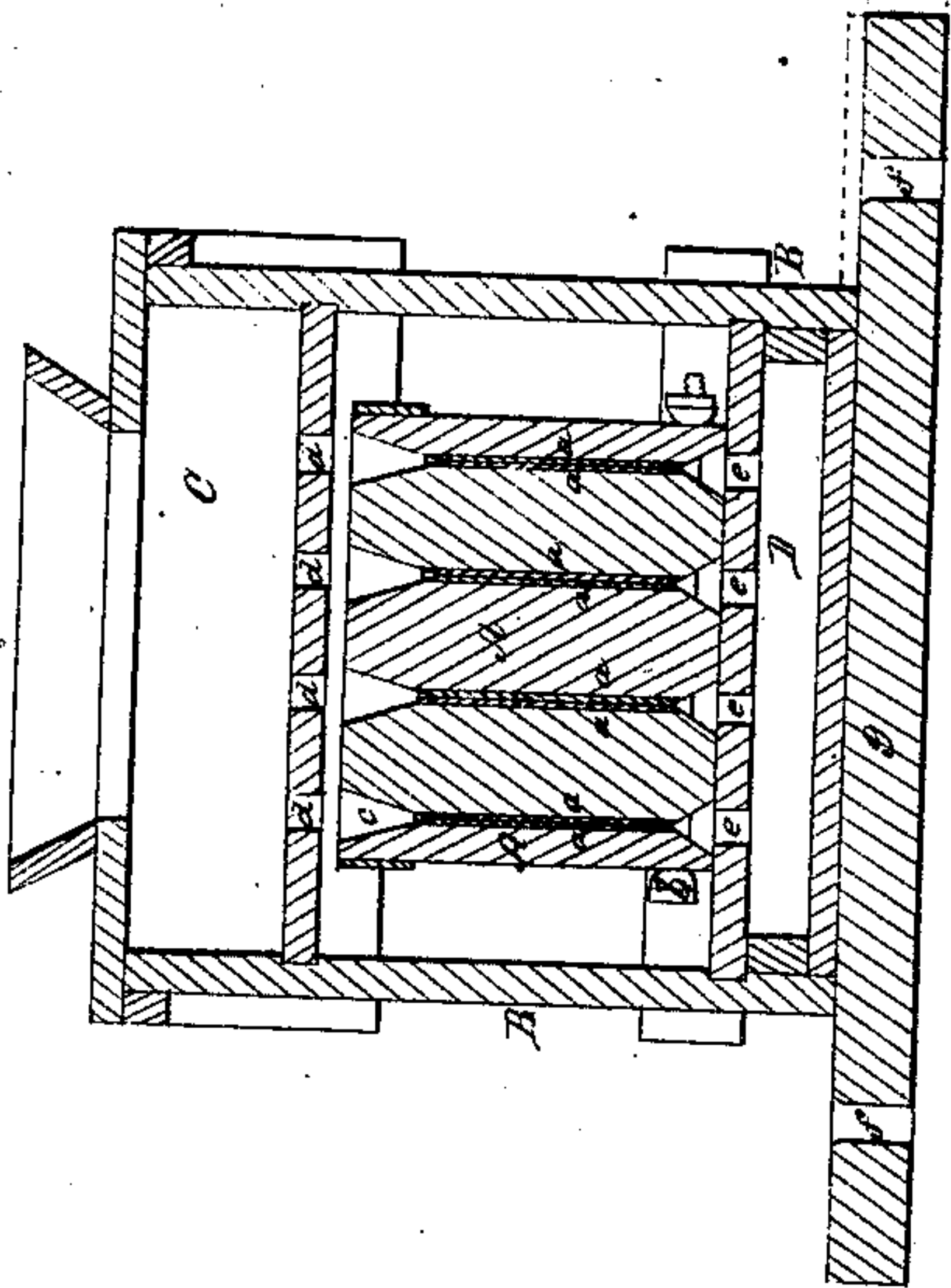


Fig. 3

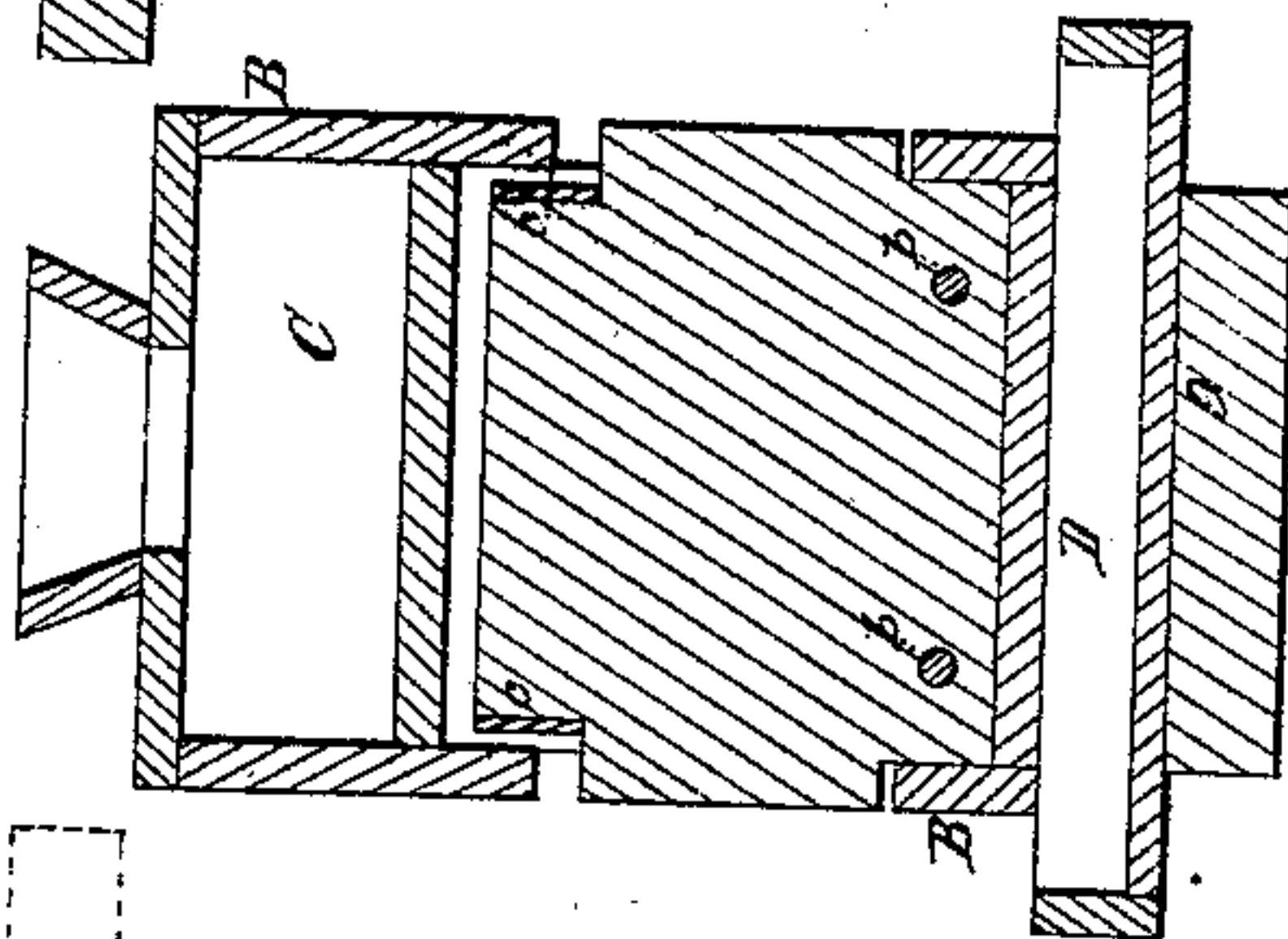
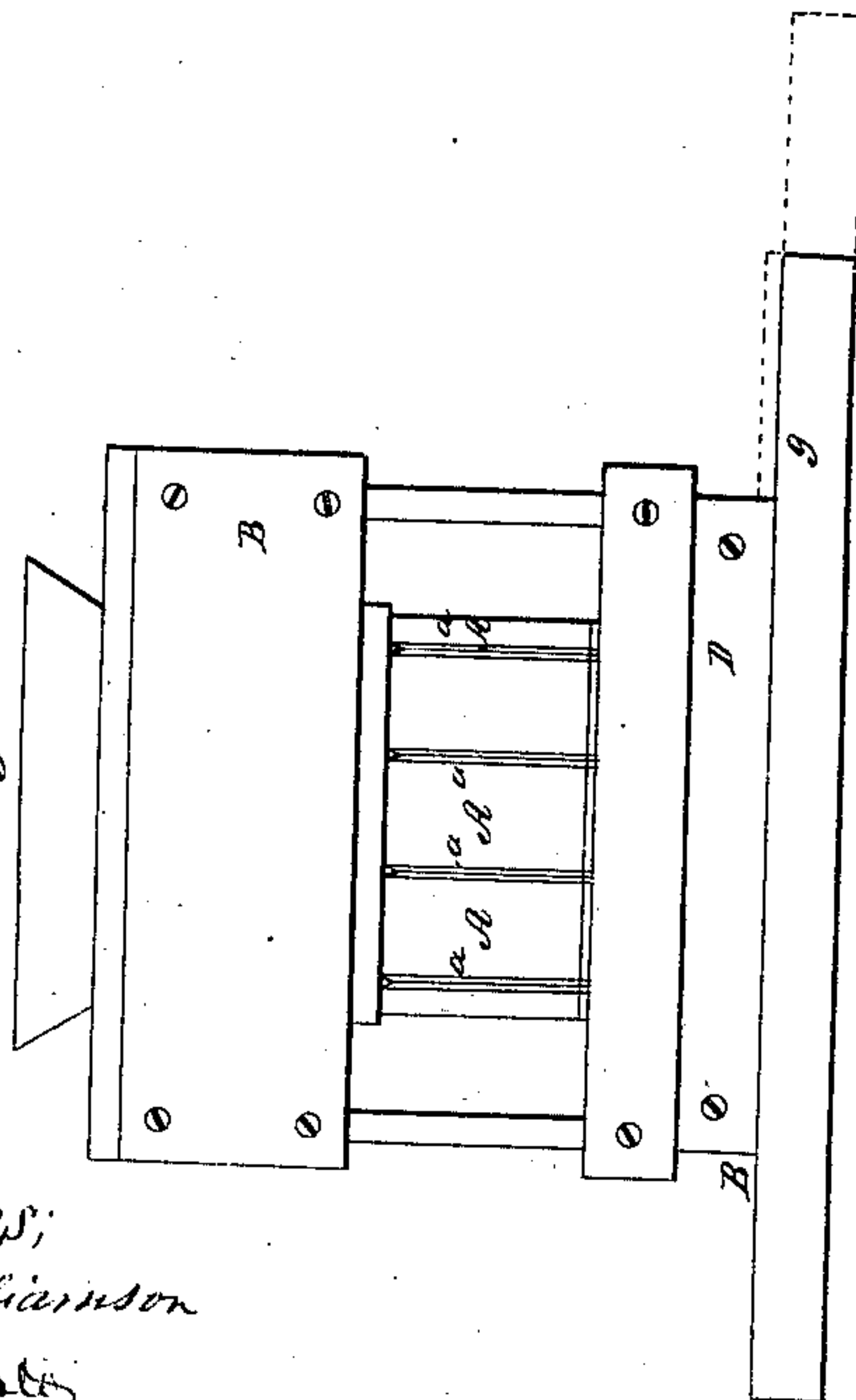


Fig. 1



*Witnesses:
M. V. B. Williamson
J. B. Visser*

*Inventor:
Henry Woodward
By H. James Weston
Attorney*

United States Patent Office.

HENRY WOODWARD, OF LONDON, ENGLAND.

Letters Patent No. 69,601, dated October 8, 1867.

IMPROVED KNIFE-CLEANER.

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, HENRY WOODWARD, of London, England, have invented a certain new and improved Knife-Cleaner, which I believe may be employed to the advantage of the public; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

My invention consists of a series of jaws, two or more in number, hinged near their lower extremities, and held or drawn tightly together at the top by a spring or an elastic band which encircles their upper ends, said spring or band being capable of yielding to allow a knife to be introduced between the adjacent faces of the jaws, and the said adjacent faces being faced with leather or other suitable substance as a rubbing surface; also in the combination, with said series of jaws, of a frame for holding them securely in position while in use, and a hopper or chamber in the top of said frame for holding a supply of cleaning-powder, which is fed down through holes in the bottom of said hopper or chamber, between said jaws, when they are thrust apart by the insertion of a knife; also in the combination, with said jaws and said frame, of a drawer or receptacle for collecting and holding the cleaning-powder as it works out from between the jaws, which drawer may be made capable of being taken out of the frame for the purpose of emptying its contents back into the aforesaid chamber or hopper, to be used again. In the accompanying drawings—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of my improved knife-cleaning apparatus.

Figure 2 is a vertical section through the centre, parallel to the front.

Figure 3 is a vertical cross-section through the centre of the apparatus.

A A are the jaws; B, the frame; C, the receptacle or chamber for containing the cleaning-powder; and D, the drawer. The jaws A are faced on their adjacent sides by the leather facings *a a*, and are held together at their lower ends by the bolts *b*. An India-rubber band, *c*, encircles their tops, and holds them snugly together, permitting them, however, to recede from each other sufficiently to allow a knife to be introduced between each two adjacent faces. The lower corners of the jaws are chamfered off on the inner or adjacent corners, at the bottom, to permit a free rocking or swinging motion of the jaws, so that they may open sufficiently at the top. They are also in like manner chamfered off at the top, forming a V-shaped opening between them, which opening serves as a guide to conduct the cleaning-powder, from the chamber C to the cleaning surfaces, through the holes *d d*. After the cleaning-powder passes down and works out between the jaws it passes through the holes *e e* into the drawer D, whence it is emptied back again into the chamber C by means of the hopper or tunnel E. The facings *a a* may be readily replaced by new ones when they become so much worn as to be ineffective. Screw-holes *f f* are made in the base *g* of the frame, for convenience in fastening the cleaner to any article or in any position desired, and a piece of leather or other suitable substance may be fastened to said base *g*, to rub the backs of the knives upon. In the drawings such a piece of leather is indicated in red. Instead of the India-rubber band *c*, a spiral or other metallic spring may be used to hold the jaws A together at the top, and to make them press snugly against the knife when it is being operated upon, if desired, though I prefer to use the India-rubber band, as shown.

The knife-cleaner, constructed as described, is a neat, cheap, and effective implement for the purpose for which it is made. In using it the knife is inserted between the faces *a a* of two adjacent jaws, the edge toward the bolt *b*, and drawn backward and forward, thus scouring and cleaning it effectually from point to heel. The back is cleaned by rubbing it upon the leather or pad shown in red.

I claim as my invention—

1. In a knife-cleaner a series of jaws, pivoted at or near their lower ends, and held together at the top by a suitable spring fastening, substantially as set forth.
2. The combination, with the jaws A, bolt *b*, and spring-band *c*, of the facings *a a* of leather or other suitable substance, substantially as set forth.
3. The combination, with the jaws A of the frame B, chamber C, and holes *d d*, substantially as set forth.

H. WOODWARD.

Witnesses:

M. CASTEN,
JOHN WALTERS,