

73543

WILLIAM E. MICHAEL'S

Improved Elastic Seat.

PATENTED

JAN 21 1868

fig. 1

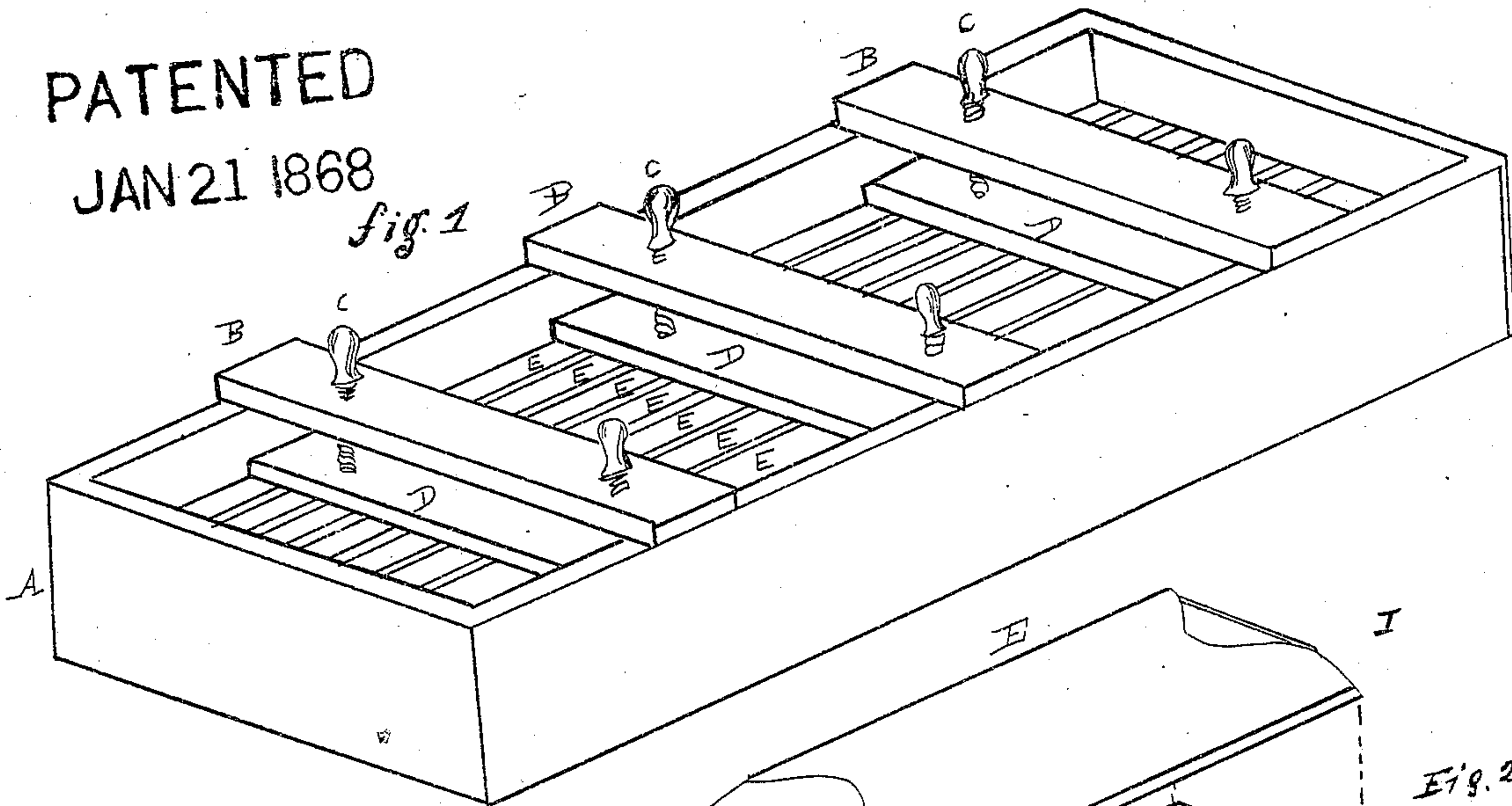
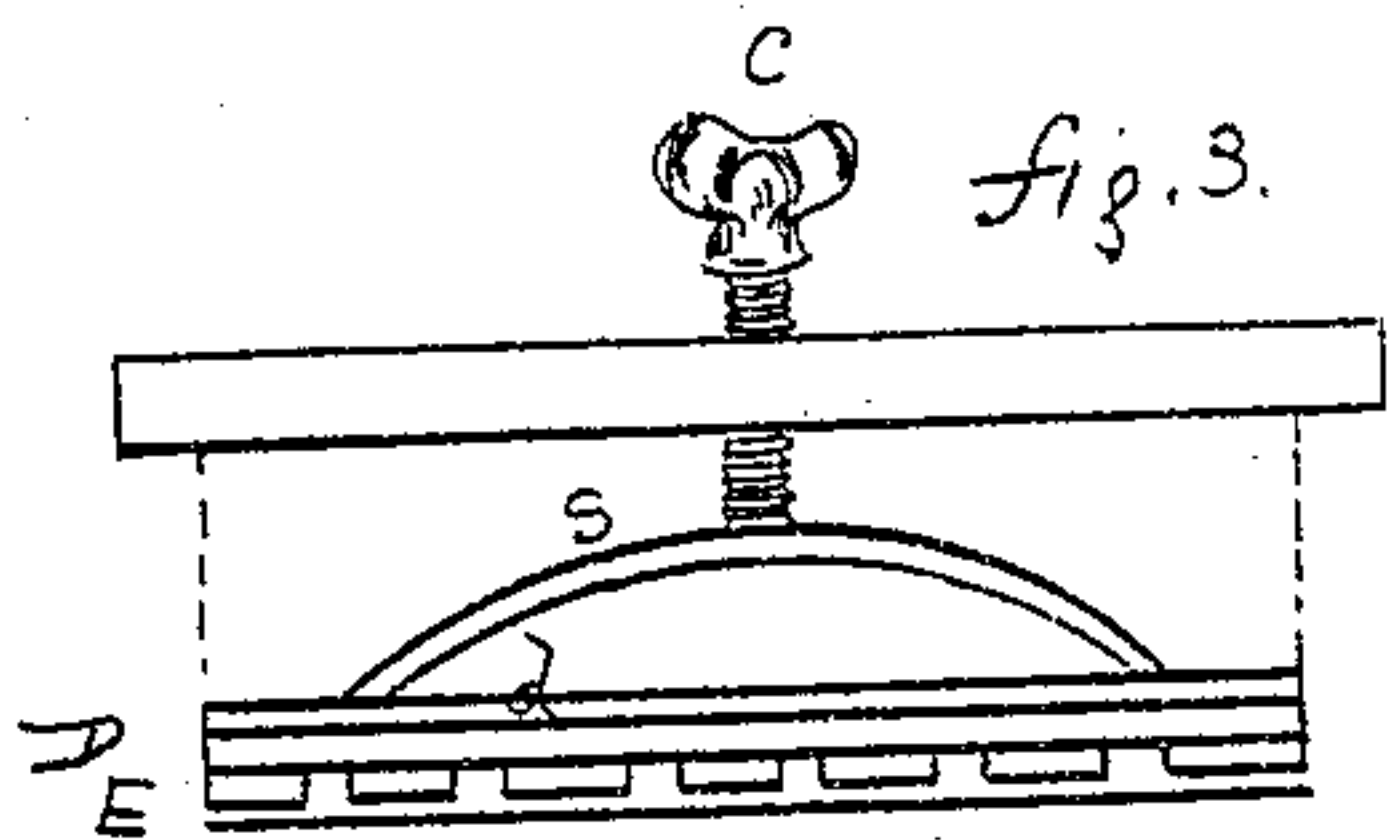


fig. 3.



Inventor.

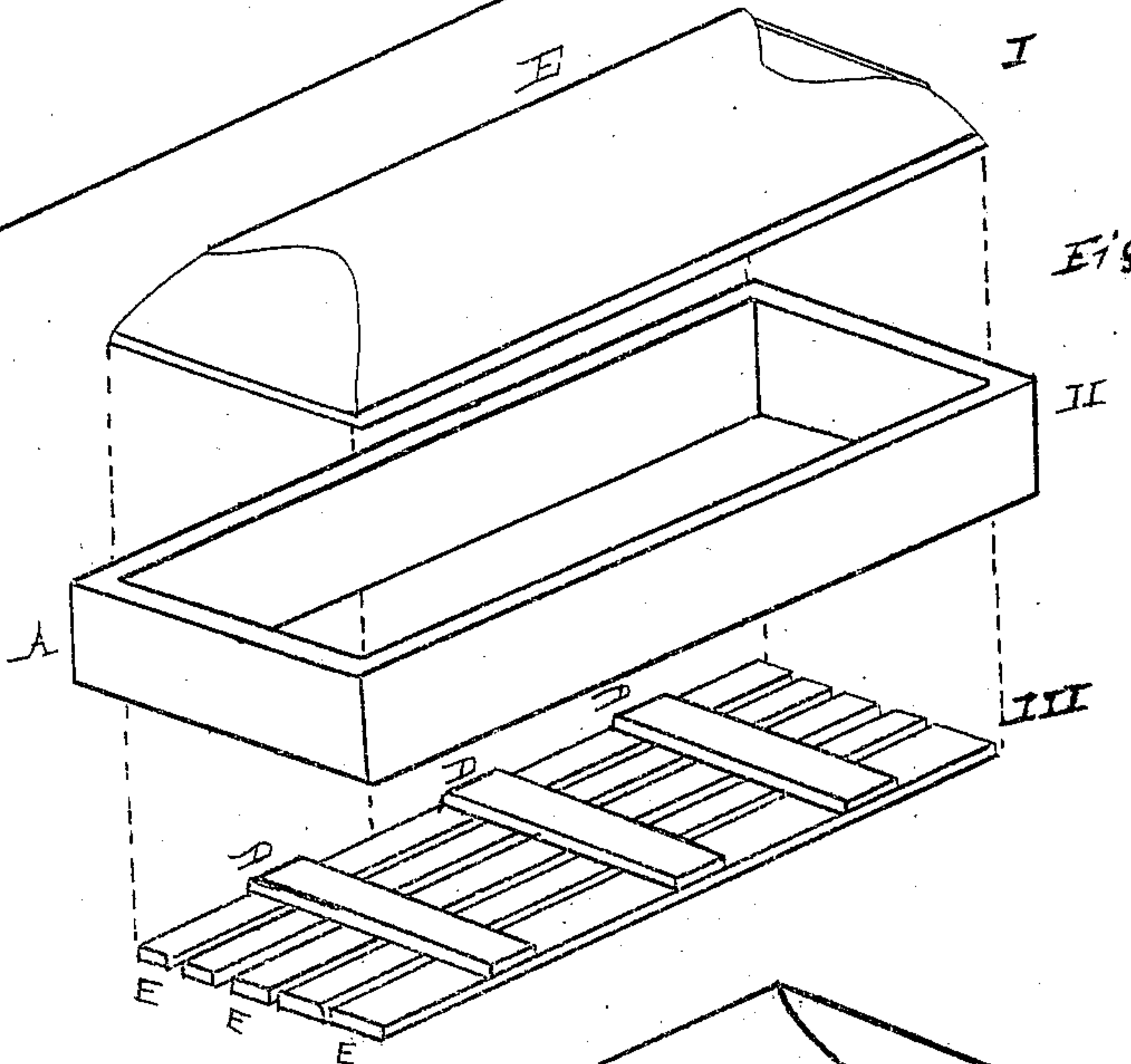
William E. Michael

Witnesses.

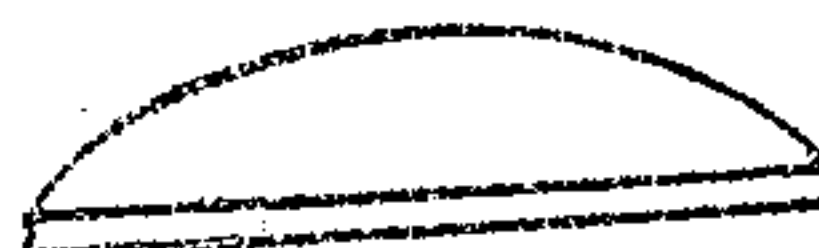
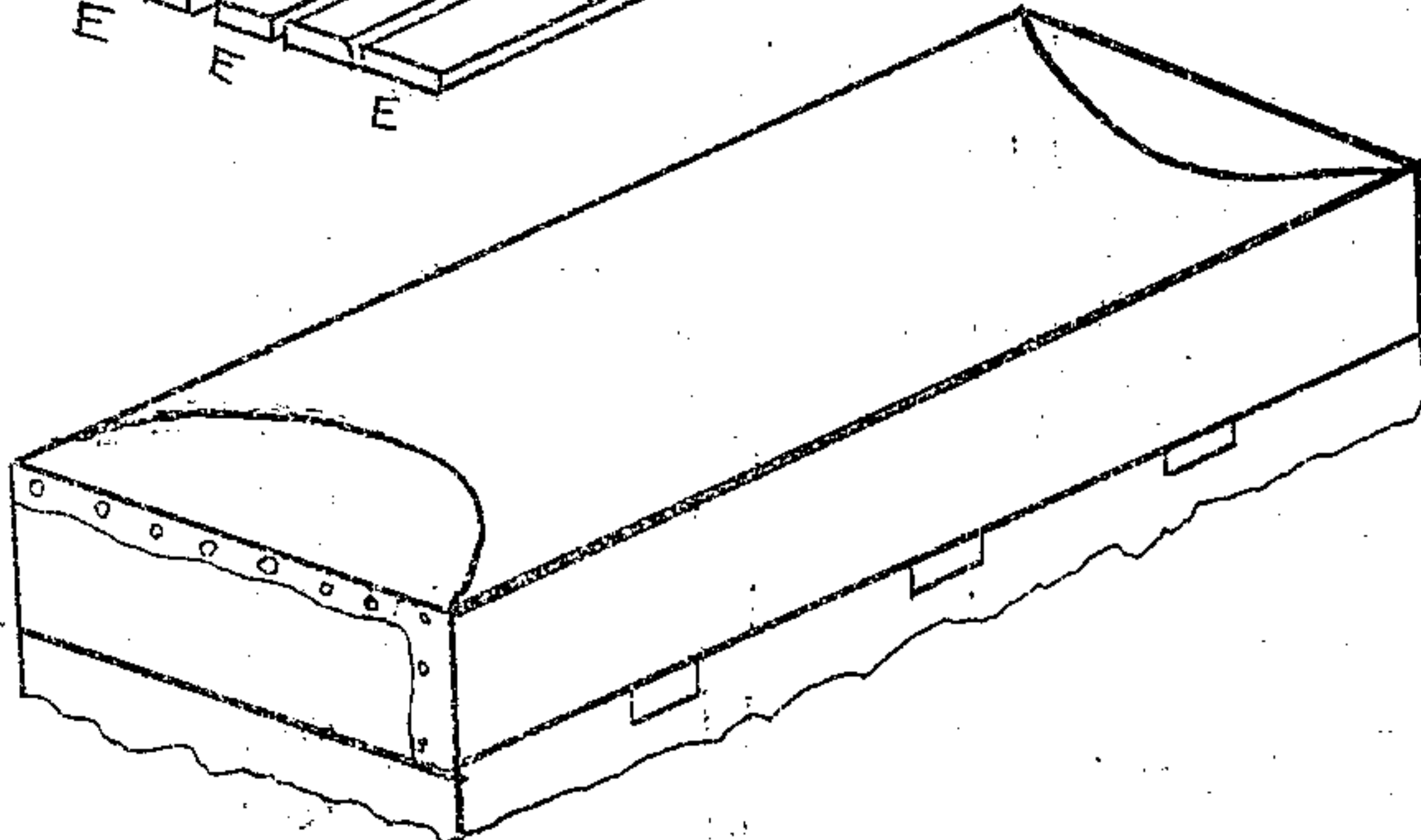
Isaac Holl

Jacob H. Tennyson

Fig. 2.



IV



United States Patent Office.

WILLIAM E. MICHAEL, OF NEW HOLLAND, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR
TO HIMSELF AND ABRAM SETLEY, OF SAME PLACE.

Letters Patent No. 73,543, dated January 21, 1868.

IMPROVED MEANS FOR STUFFING SEATS.

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, WILLIAM E. MICHAEL, of New Holland, in the county of Lancaster, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and improved Mode of Stuffing or Producing an Elastic Seat without the use of springs; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective of the under side of a sofa with my appliances in place.

Figure 2, I, the stretching-block or mould; II, the sofa or seat-box or open frame; III, the united covering-slats; IV shows the top of the seat when stuffed; V, a cross-section of the block E or I.

Figure 3 shows a modification, by the use of but one central screw instead of two, as shown in fig. 1, used with a spring, S, and two bearings in a groove, *d*, of strip D.

The nature of my invention consists in the means employed to produce an elastic seat without the use of spiral springs, now universally employed for that purpose.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, it is only necessary to say that an open frame, A, is made in the usual manner, to form the seat of the desired size. I also form a model-block, E, of the size to fit in the top of the frame A, so as to allow the rounded top, which is to give shape to the seat, on top IV, to project above the frame. This I prop temporarily from below, so that I can firmly and smoothly stretch over and tack down to the sides of the frame the hair, oil-cloth, leather, or other covering to form the seat. This gives to the covering the desired shape of the seat. I now remove my mould-block E by drawing it out of the open frame by turning the box up. I then fill the frame with hair or any elastic and soft material. I have at hand a series of slats, E, parallel to each other, with intervening spaces. These are tacked upon cross-pieces D, so that, unitedly, they fit closely into the box. To prevent the hair or stuffing from falling out through the spaces between the slats, a strip of cloth or muslin is tacked or fastened on the inside of the strips the full size. These united slats E D (III) are now laid upon the stuffing, which is simply levelled up and pressed in. I have at hand the outer cross-strips B, with a screw-thread on each side or centrally, where one screw answers the purpose. These cross-strips B are affixed on the edge of the box, or let into the wood, directly over the cross-strips D which unite the slats. I now introduce the screws C, and by their means press the slats up, so that the filling or stuffing fills up the shaped covering, as formed by the mould-block, of any desired elevation or shape. I find that the united slats and covered box operate somewhat like a bellows; the elastic material being permeable to the air, expels and draws in the air, apparently, forming an air-spring cushion. In short, I avoid the vexatious labor of fixing the spiral springs on webbing, and tedious labor of stuffing out to shape the seat, and then produce an elastic seat through which springs are not felt, in repose; and besides, I can readily tighten up the seat, or add fresh material, and otherwise improve the seat, which is applicable for any kind of chair, lounge, sofa, or the like, by providing a mould-block for each special kind.

These mould-blocks, when of large size, need not be made out of solid timber; cross-arches and strips will answer, when made the desired shape for stretching over.

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

The combination, with the slats E, of cross-strips D and B, screws C, and rounded cover, when constructed and applied substantially in the manner shown, for the purpose specified.

WILLIAM E. MICHAEL.

Witnesses:

ISAAC THOLL,

JACOB H. TOWNSLEY.