

J. M. Leonard,

Show Case.

No. 99,920.

Patented Feb. 15. 1870.

Fig. 1.

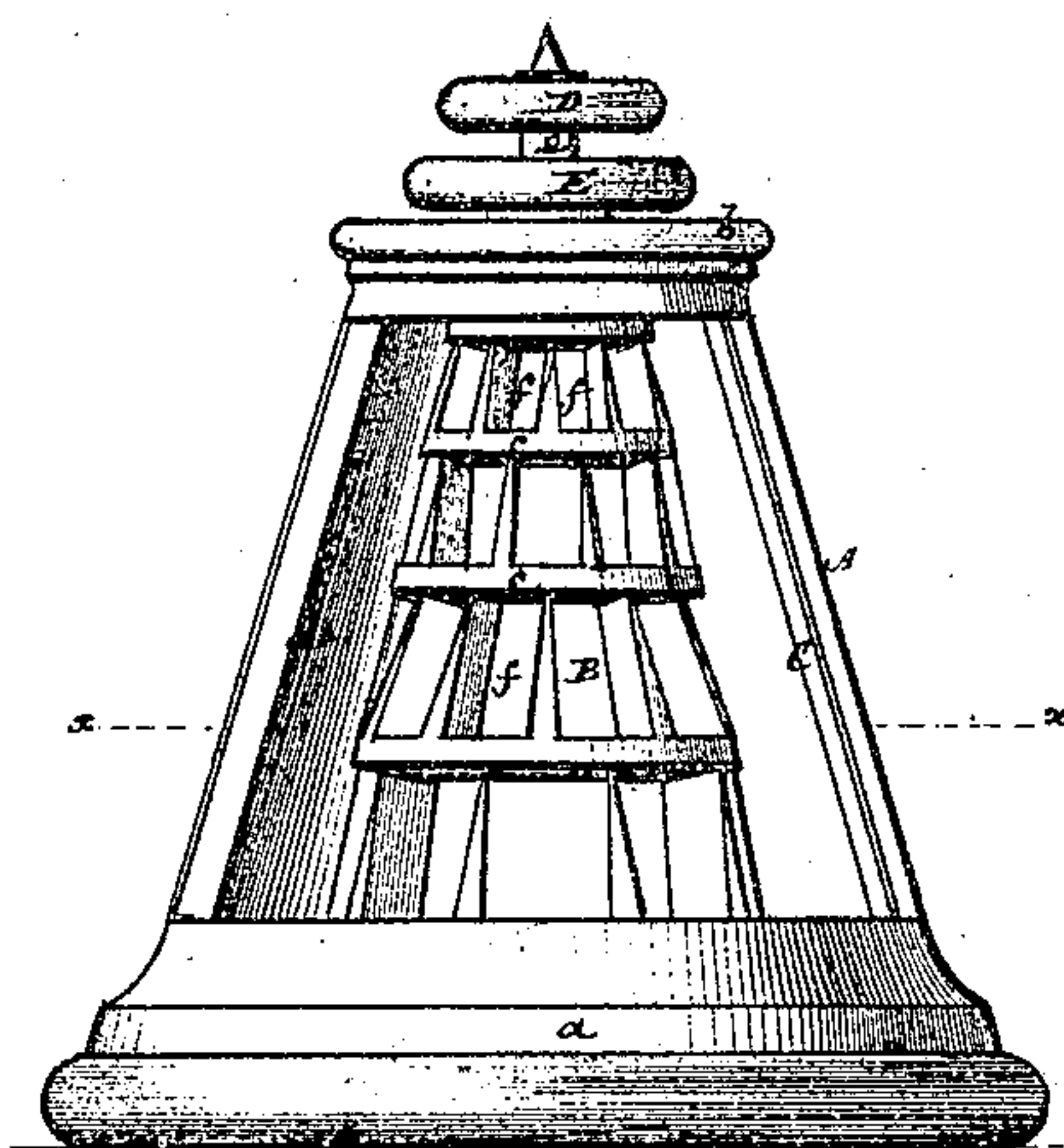


Fig. 2.

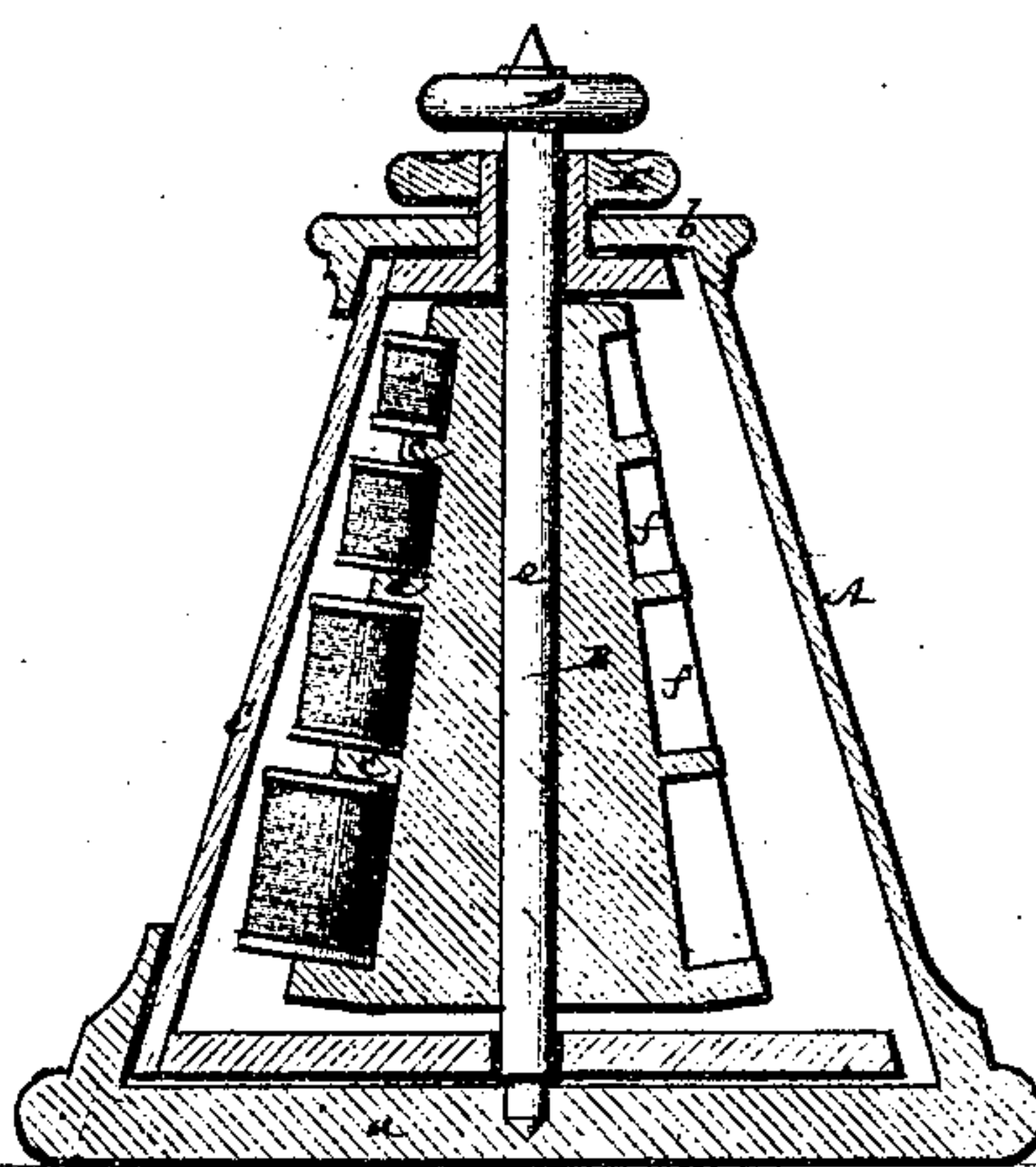
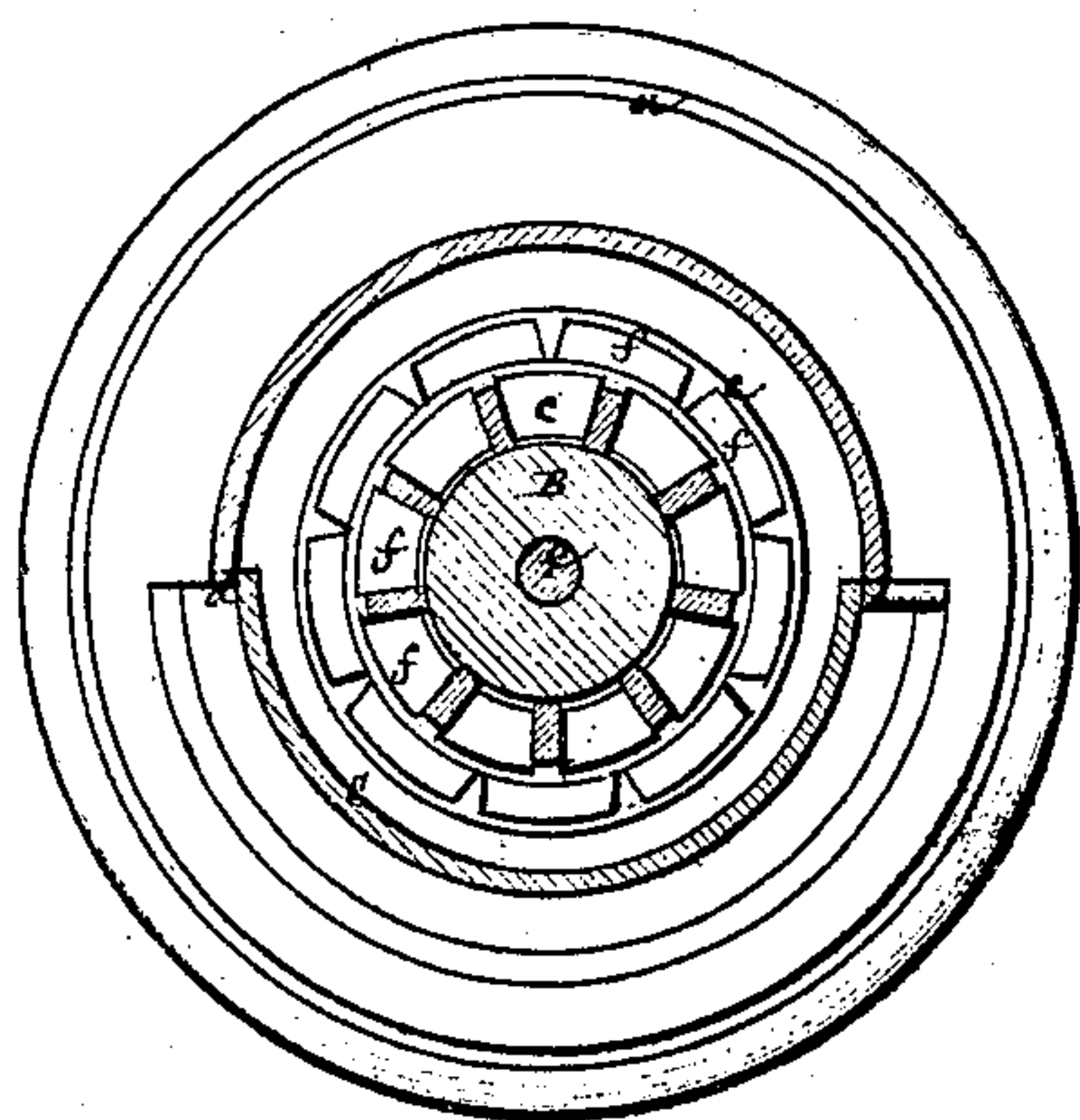


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:

*McCombs
Fred. Haynes*

*J. M. Leonard
per Brown Combs & Co.
Attys.*

United States Patent Office.

J. N. LEONARD, OF ROCKVILLE, CONNECTICUT.

Letters Patent No. 99,920, dated February 15, 1870; antedated February 14, 1870.

IMPROVED SHOW-CASE FOR SPOOLS AND OTHER ARTICLES.

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, J. N. LEONARD, of Rockville, in the county of Tolland, and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Apparatus for Displaying Silks, Cottons, and other Articles, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 represents a front view or elevation of an apparatus constructed in accordance with my improvement, with its shutter thrown back or open;

Figure 2, a vertical section of the same at right angles to fig. 1, showing the shutter closed; and

Figure 3, a sectional plan taken as denoted by the line *xx* in fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

While applicable to displaying various articles, it will suffice here to describe my improved apparatus as used for the display of silk or thread put up on spools. Said apparatus, which is mainly designed to stand on a counter or table, is made up for the most part of a stand of shelves, arranged to rotate around a vertical axis within a box or case that is provided with an opening in its side, which, when not required to effect display of the articles on the shelves, is closed by a revolving or partially revolving shutter to exclude dust and light; and the invention comprises various peculiarities of construction which add to the efficiency and utility of the apparatus.

Referring to the accompanying drawing—

A represents the outer box or case, preferably made of truncated cone form, and comprising a ring-shaped base, *a*, and top *b*, with an opening, *d*, of any desired width in the side of the case, extending from top to bottom of the latter, or thereabouts.

Within this case A, and secured to a central vertical shaft, *e*, which runs up through the case, and carries an operating nut or button, D, on top, is a stand or body, B, also preferably of conical form, and having shelves *c* arranged to encircle it, and set or disposed one above the other. These shelves it is preferred to construct so that their upper surfaces, on which the spools or articles to be displayed rest, incline downwardly toward the axis of the stand, whereby, on rapidly rotating the latter to effect display through the opening *d* in the case, the spools are restrained by their

gravity from being thrown off the shelves and out of the case by centrifugal force. Such sloping disposition of the shelves, too, secures a better exposure of the silk on the spools, and this is materially aided by making the stand of shelves of conical configuration, in preference to giving it a straight cylindrical form.

Said shelves may, if desired, be divided by partitions, to establish compartments *f*, for the better and separate retention of the spools.

C is a revolving or partially revolving shutter, of sloping character, in conformity with the general configuration of the case, and serving to uncover or close the opening *d*, accordingly as it is required to secure display of or shut up from dust and light the articles on the shelves.

This shutter is shown as rotating about the same axis as the stand B, and as operated by a secondary nut, E, arranged immediately below the stand-operating nut D, which forms a very convenient arrangement, as by the juxtaposition of the two nuts, the fingers of the operator can readily and rapidly be transferred from the one to the other to open the case and rotate the stand, or close the case again as required. Such shutter should be of the same, or a little greater width than that of the opening *d*, and when thrown back or open, may be within the case. Its stroke is limited by suitable stops coming in contact with the case.

An apparatus thus constructed and operating will be found a very useful device for displaying silks, cottons, or threads of different grades, numbers, and qualities, and greatly facilitate selection of any particular kind.

What is here claimed, and desired to be secured by Letters Patent, is—

1. The arrangement, relatively to the outer case A, of the nuts or buttons D E, for operating the vertically revolving stand B of shelves, and similarly hung or moving shutter C, essentially as shown and described.

2. The revolving stand B, having shelves *c* arranged to encircle it, so that their upper or carrying surfaces incline downwardly towards the axis of the stand, substantially as specified.

J. N. LEONARD.

Witnesses:

FRED. HAYNES,
M. J. SHANLYS.