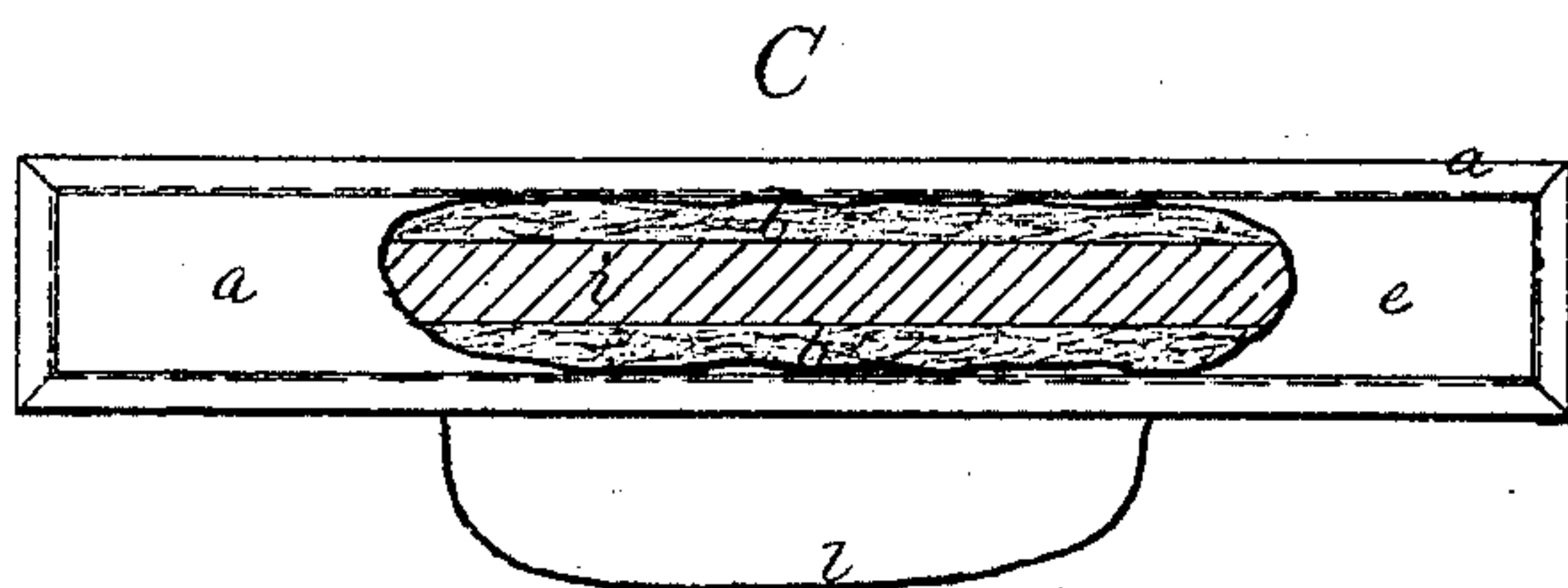
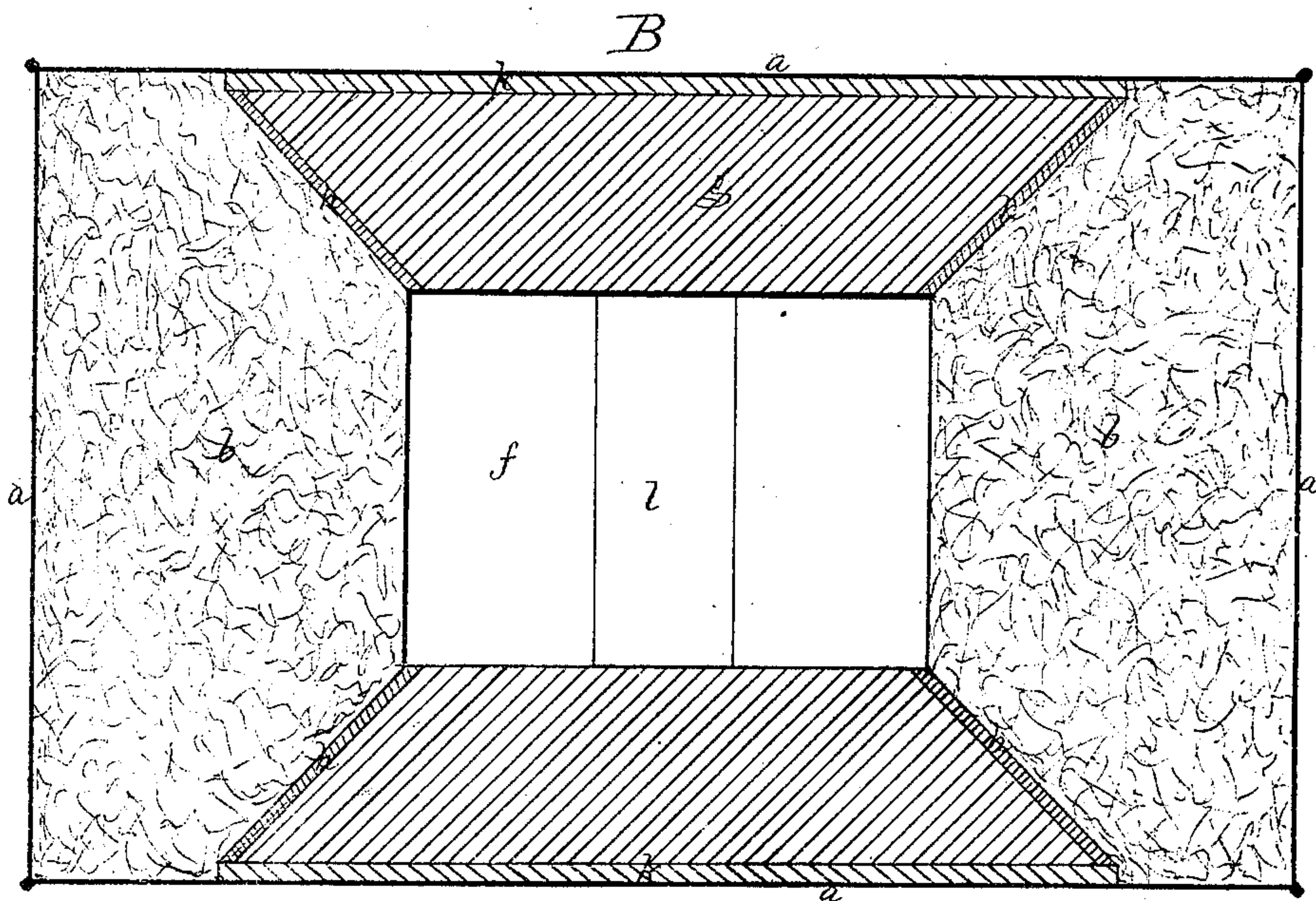
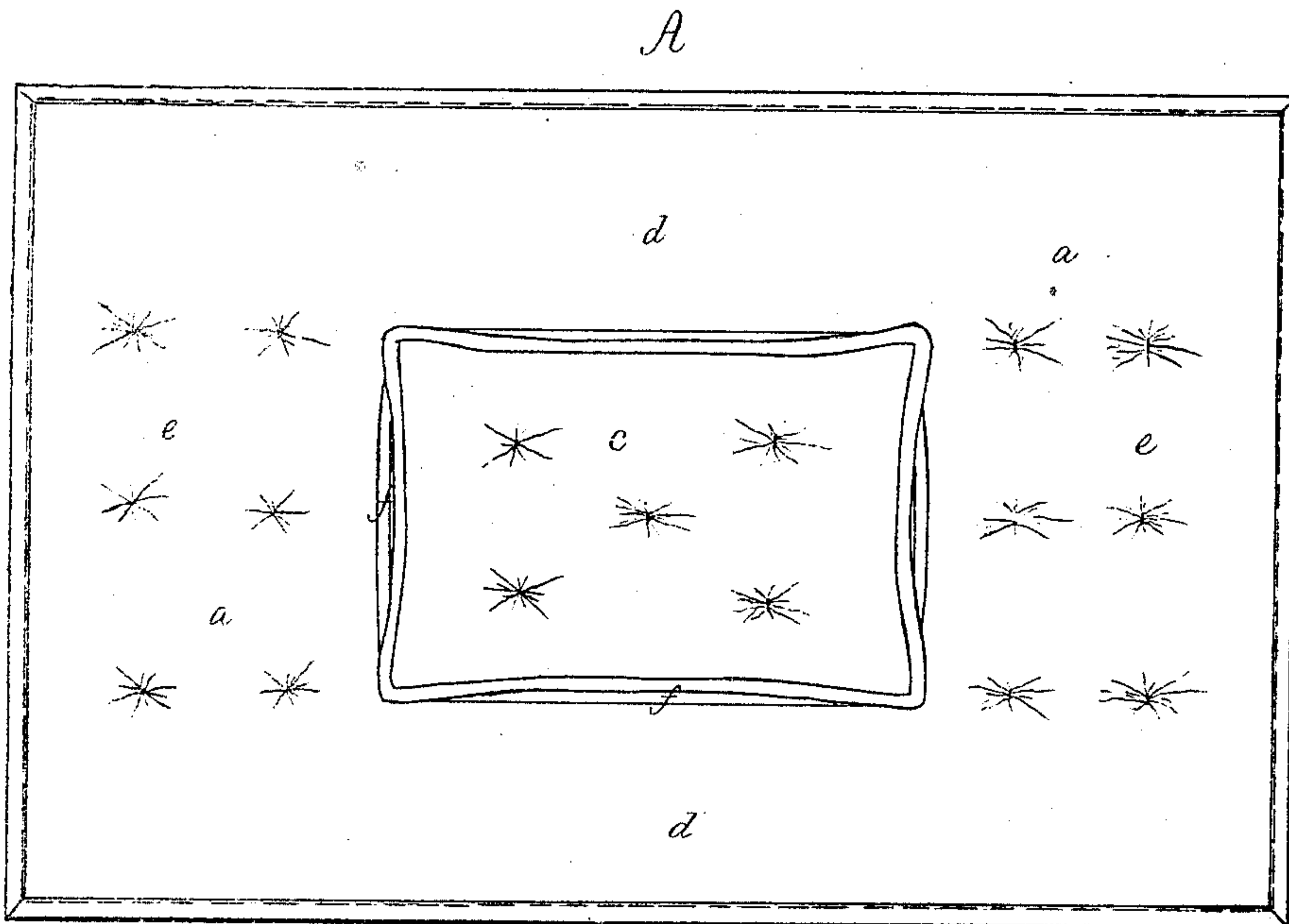


J. I. Greene,

Life Preserver.

No. 113,652.

Patented Apr. 11, 1871.



Witnesses { *Thomas Gould*
J. B. Hilder

J. I. Greene

United States Patent Office.

JAMES DURELL GREENE, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

Letters Patent No. 113,652, dated April 11, 1871.

IMPROVEMENT IN LIFE-PRESERVING MATTRESSES.

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, JAMES DURELL GREENE, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented an Improved Life-Preserving Mattress; and I do hereby declare that the following, taken in connection with the drawing which accompanies and forms part of this specification, is a description of my invention sufficient to enable those skilled in the art to practice it.

United States Letters Patent No. 93,819, were granted to me August 17, 1869, for an improved life-preserver mattress, made with buoyant sides, that serve to float it under the weight of a person, and with provision for enabling the person to be easily supported without danger of being thrown from it into the sea.

My present invention relates to a new construction of such a mattress.

In the patented mattress, in order to provide a central opening to receive the person, the two ends were made separable to a short distance from each other, the parts being united by the buoyant rails and flexible bands, the bands limiting the extent of separation of the two parts of the mattress.

This construction is in some respects objectionable, and in my present invention I make the buoyant part of the mattress as one piece, or with buoyant ends and sides, and in the center I place a removable quadrangular part, stuffed only with hair or other soft filling, which, being slipped out from the main body of the mattress, leaves a buoyant life-preserver, having no relatively movable parts other than the flexible band or strap for aiding in the support of the person.

It is in such a life-preserving mattress that my present invention consists; that is to say, in a mattress, the opposite ends and sides of which are made buoyant, and between which is a soft filled and removable center piece.

The drawing represents a mattress embodying the invention.

A shows a top view of it.

B, a sectional plan.

C, an end view, part of the tick being torn away to show the hair and cork-filling.

a denotes the mattress-tick, the upper and lower surfaces of which are to be lined throughout with hair *b*, and the center piece *c* is to be filled entirely with hair.

d d denote the two side parts, and

e e the two end parts of the mattress, these parts being made in one body, but with the central hole or space *f* to receive the removable part *c*.

The two side parts *d d* are to be stuffed with a cork-filling, *g*, and they are preferably separated from the end parts *e e* by wood partitions *h*.

The end parts *e e* have center layers of cork *i*, with a layer of hair on each upper and lower side.

To give rigidity to the float, each edge of the mattress may be made with a wood slat, *k*, of a width a little less than the thickness of the mattress, and of a length a little less than the length of the mattress.

l denotes the flexible band, extending across the opening *f*, and serving to aid in the support of a person floating upon the mattress.

This band is made sufficiently long to enable the center piece *c* to be readily inserted.

I claim—

1. A life-preserving mattress made with a rigid buoyant frame, having a stuffing of cork, surfaced in whole or in part with hair, such frame surrounding a removable center piece stuffed with hair, substantially as shown and described.

2. A life-preserving mattress having a rigid buoyant frame and a removable center piece, when the frame is provided with a flexible band extending across the central opening, and serving to support the person.

J. DURELL GREENE.

Witnesses:

FRANCIS GOULD,
M. W. FROTHINGHAM.