

Wm J. Purcell.

The Copying Press Auxiliary.

116351

PATENTED JUN 27 1871

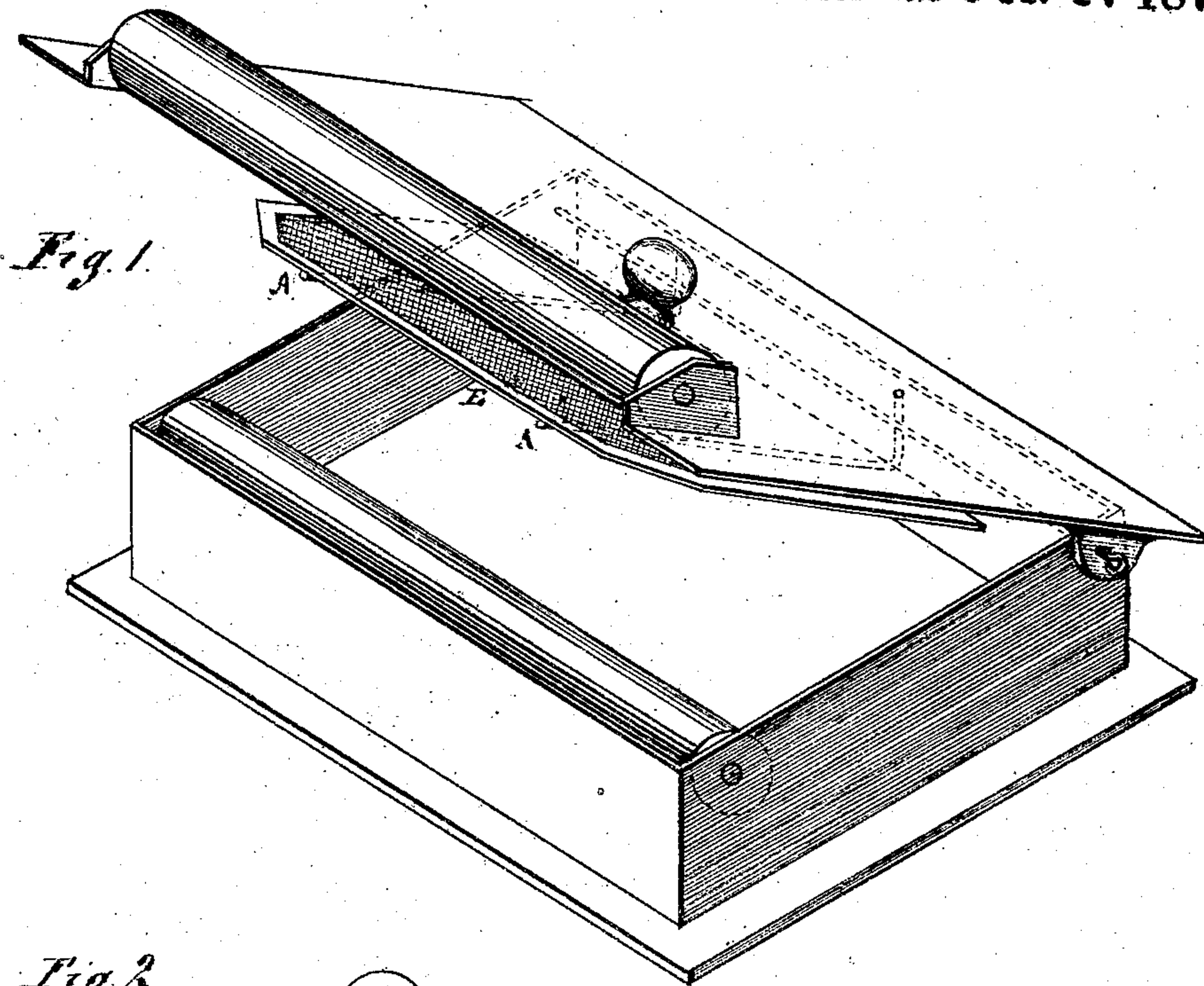


Fig. 2

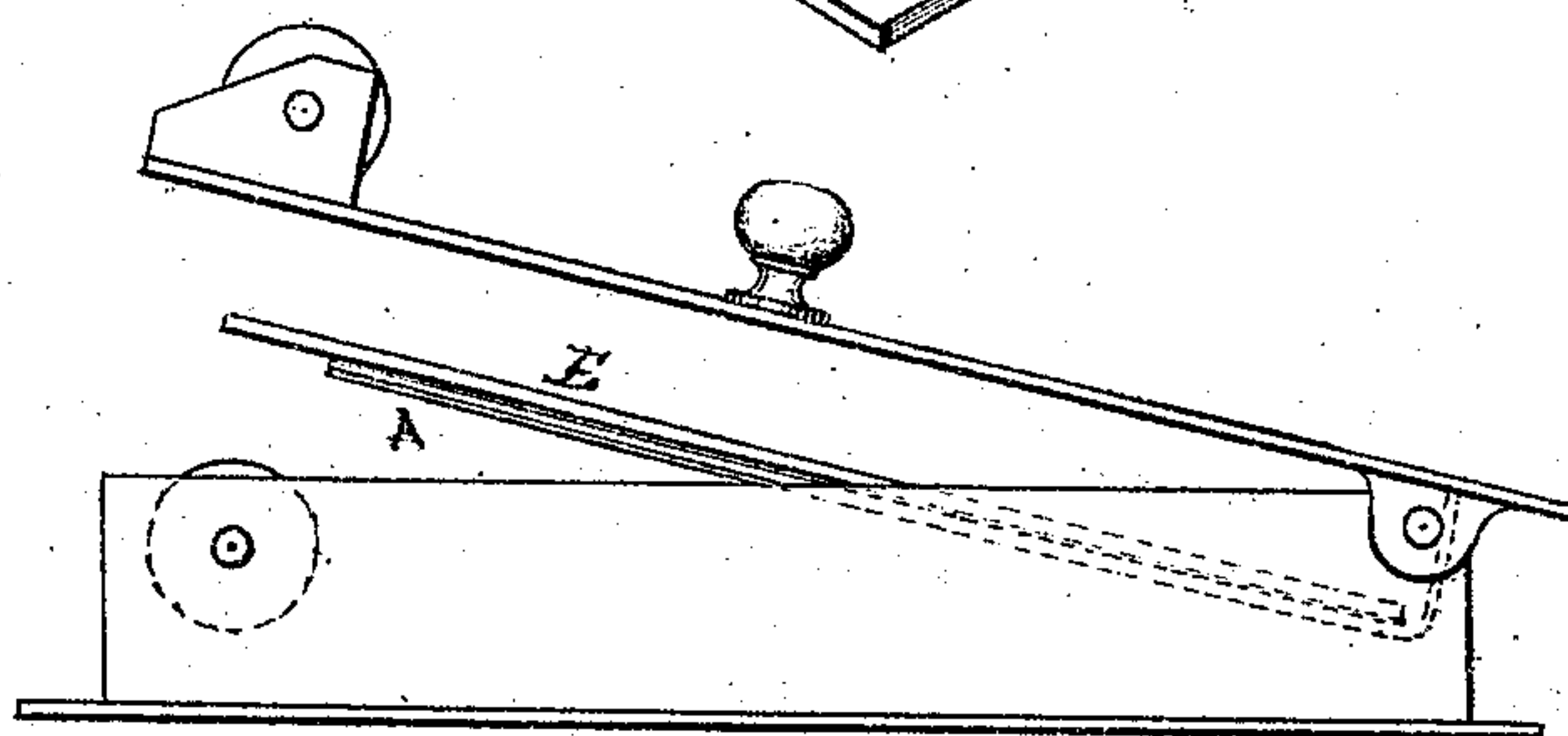
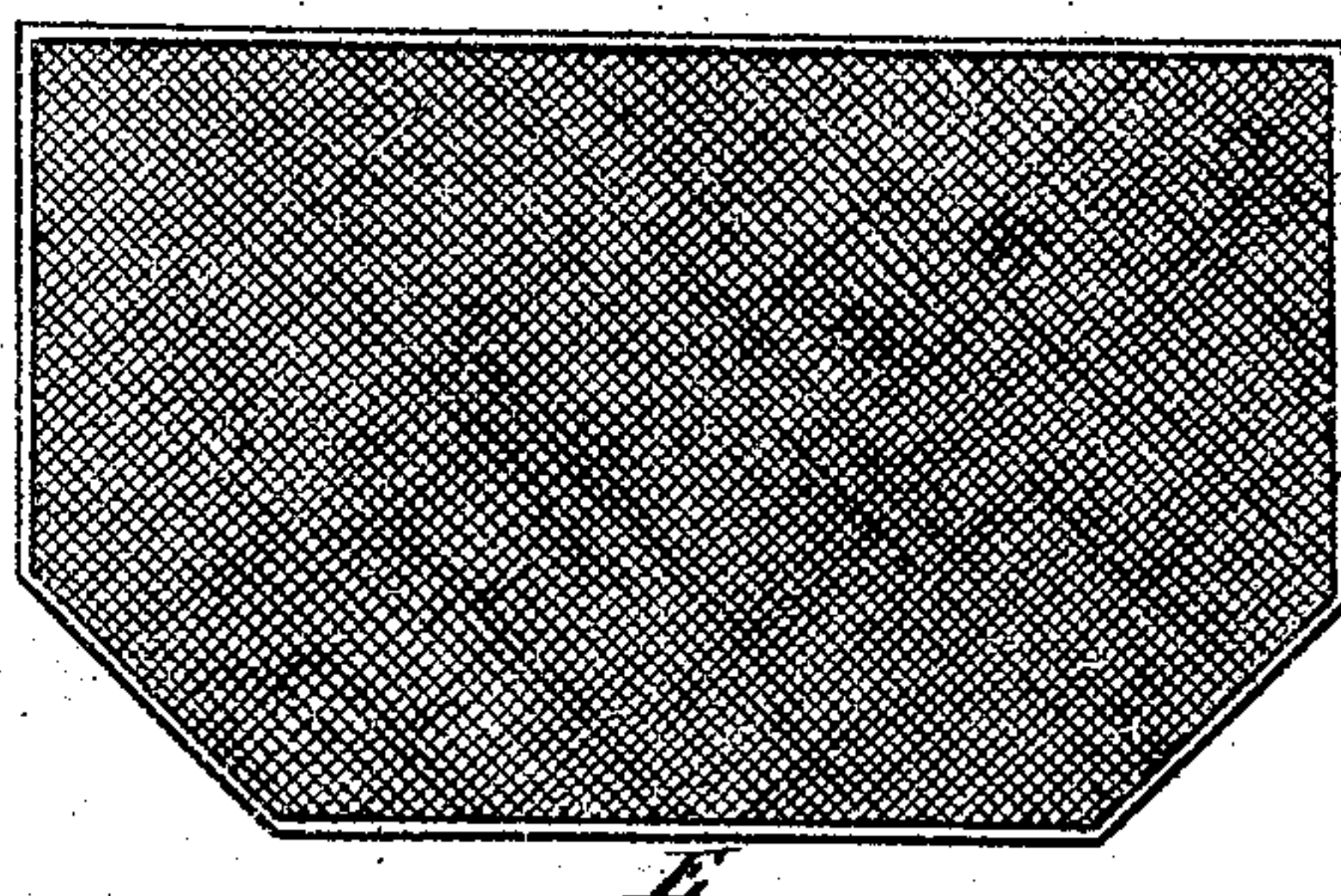


Fig. 3



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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IMPROVEMENT IN COPYING APPARATUS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 116,351, dated June 27, 1871.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM JAMES PURCELL, of the city of New York and State of New York, have invented a Machine for Moistening Pages in Letter-Books and for Dampening Copying-Paper, to be known as the Copying-Press Auxiliary.

The following is a description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawing, in which—

Figure I is a perspective view of the box or reservoir with the lid partly open; Fig. II, an end view with the lid partly open; Fig. III, a plan of the moistening-sheet.

I make a box or reservoir of iron or any other material which the manufacturer may find most convenient, the inside of which (the box) must be made non-corrosive by enameling or coating, according to the metal used. The box is furnished with a cover or lid, upon the inside of which are fastened two pieces of wire, A, so shaped as to form a fork. (See Fig. I.) Upon the front side of the box or reservoir there are two rollers, the use of which I shall describe further on. The rollers are so placed that when the lid is closed one rests upon the other. The moistening-sheet (see Fig. III) consists of blotting-paper or felt, covered on one side with netting to preserve it without affecting its usefulness, and on the other side with metal (non-corrosive) or card-board back. Two of the corners are cut off the sheet, the object of which I shall describe further on.

Having now described the way in which I make it, I will now proceed to specify the mode of using my invention. Having filled the box or reservoir with water, it is ready for use. Now, if you wish to damp a number of pages in your copying-book, raise the lid, by doing which you lift the moistening-sheet as it rests upon the fork which is attached to the cover. Then draw it (the moistening-sheet) through the rollers, thus draining it to a certain extent, and place it in the book, with

the netting side next the pages you wish to moisten, and with an oil-sheet or piece of blotting-paper each side of the quantity damped to keep the moisture where you want it, and with the edge of the sheet marked E toward the front of the book. Then put the book in the copying-press and press it lightly, and, upon opening the book, you will find the pages damp, smooth, and even, ready to be copied on instantly, or after several hours have elapsed. The reason for the latter is that, the leaves being pressed close together by this process, the air cannot readily get at the leaves to make the water evaporate; consequently, in this manner, one may damp as many leaves in the book at once as he wishes to make copies on during the day.

The advantages are: First, in using a damping-sheet as described an immense amount of time and labor is saved. Instead of damping a sheet at a time by hand and taking off extra moisture with a damping-sheet, as described, one may moisten a score of pages, making the press assist in doing away with labor, with it having no extra moisture to be taken off. Second, the sheets are evenly and properly saturated, retaining their moisture for hours after they are damped, or until copied on. Third, the corners of the moistening-sheet being cut, as shown in Fig. III, the corners corresponding in the book are kept dry, thus permitting them to be turned over readily and without danger of tearing them.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. A box or reservoir, the inside being made non-corrosive, with wire fork attached to the lid, as described, and with rollers, one on edge of the lid and one on the edge of the box, for partly draining the moistening-sheet.

2. Making the moistening-sheet with two corners cut off, as shown in Fig. III.

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Witnesses:

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