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J. HODGKINS.

Improvement in Bracket Hooks for Show Windows.

No. 122,890.

Patented Jan. 23, 1872.

Fig. 1.

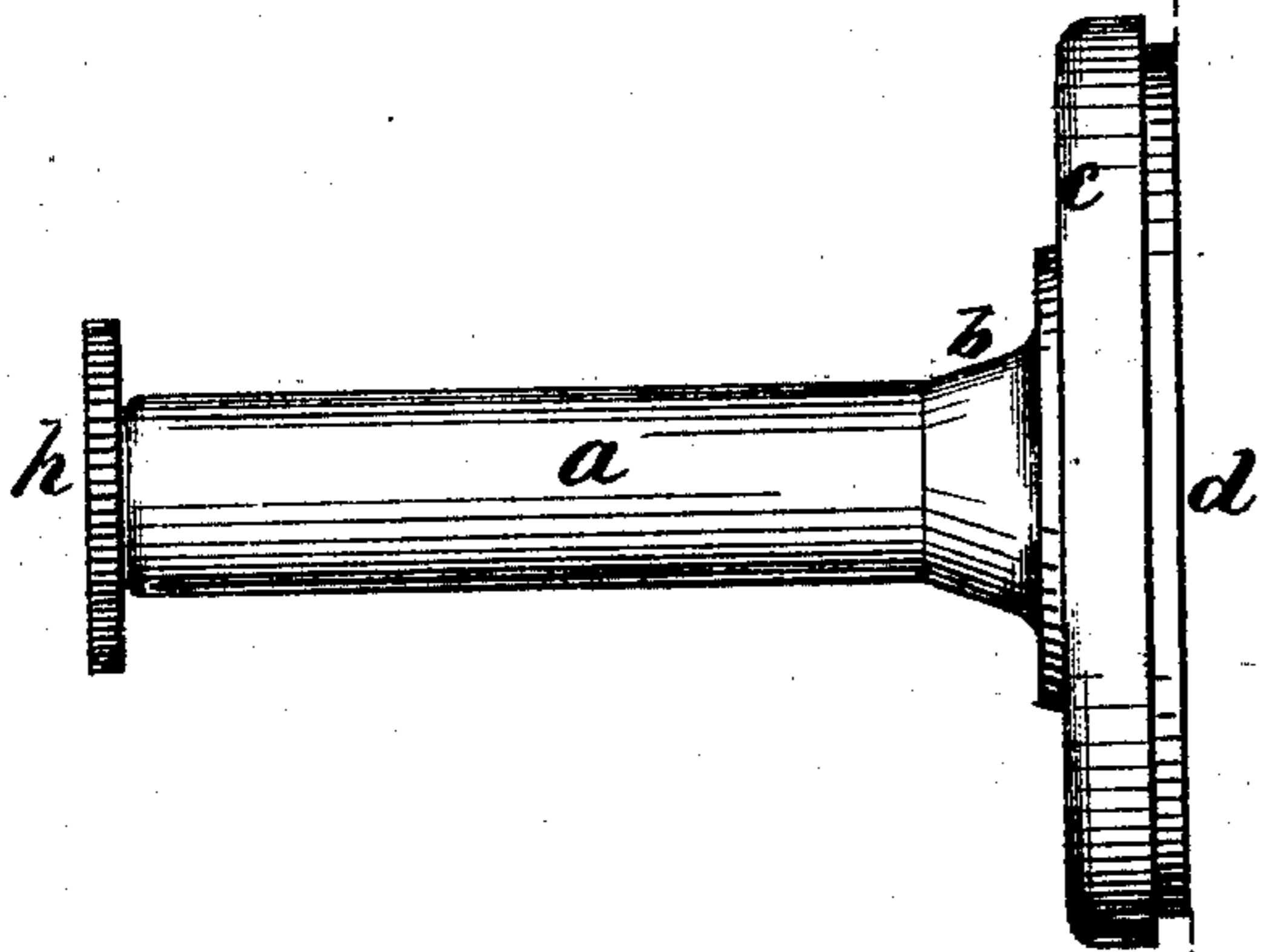


Fig. 2.

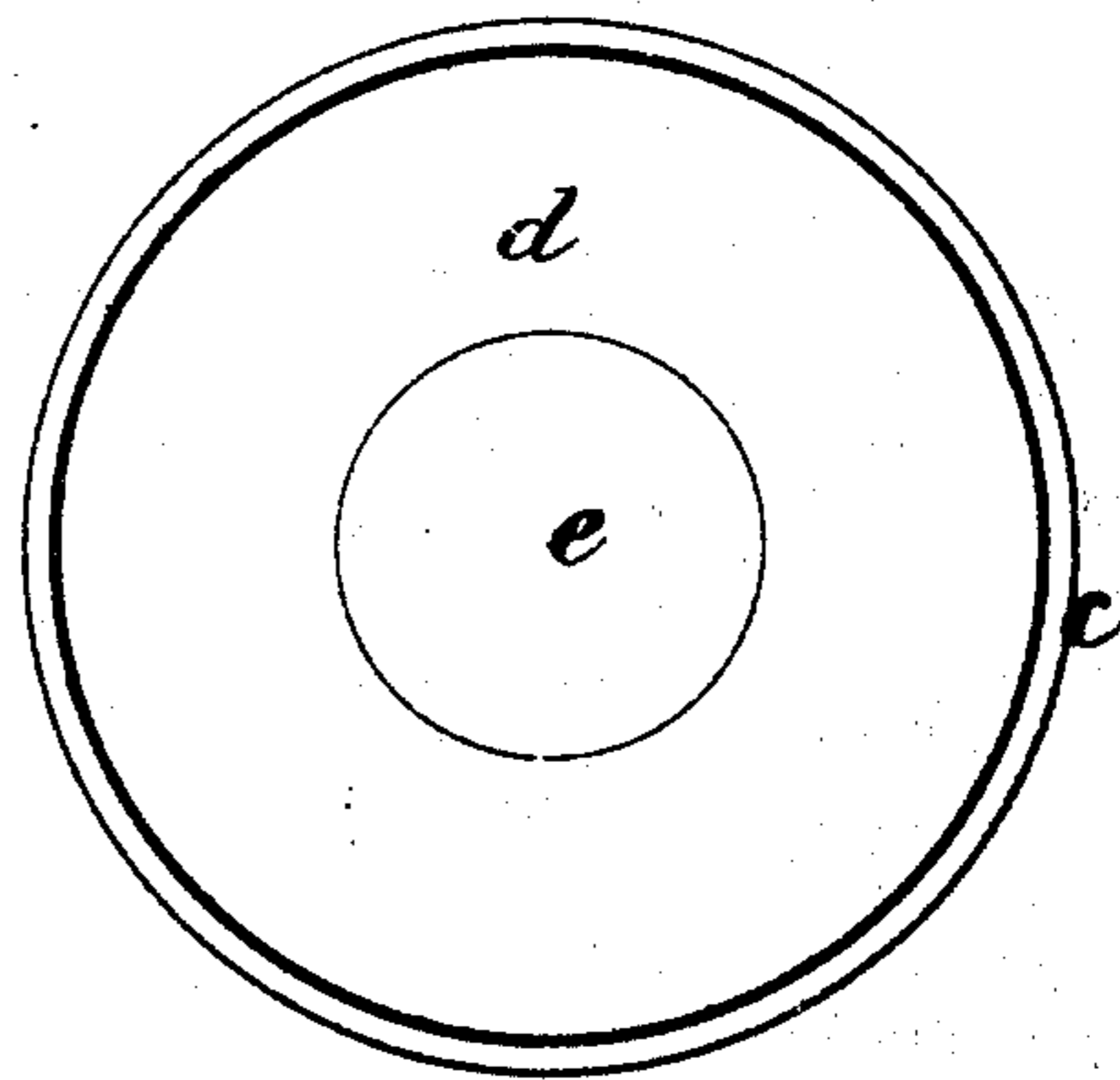
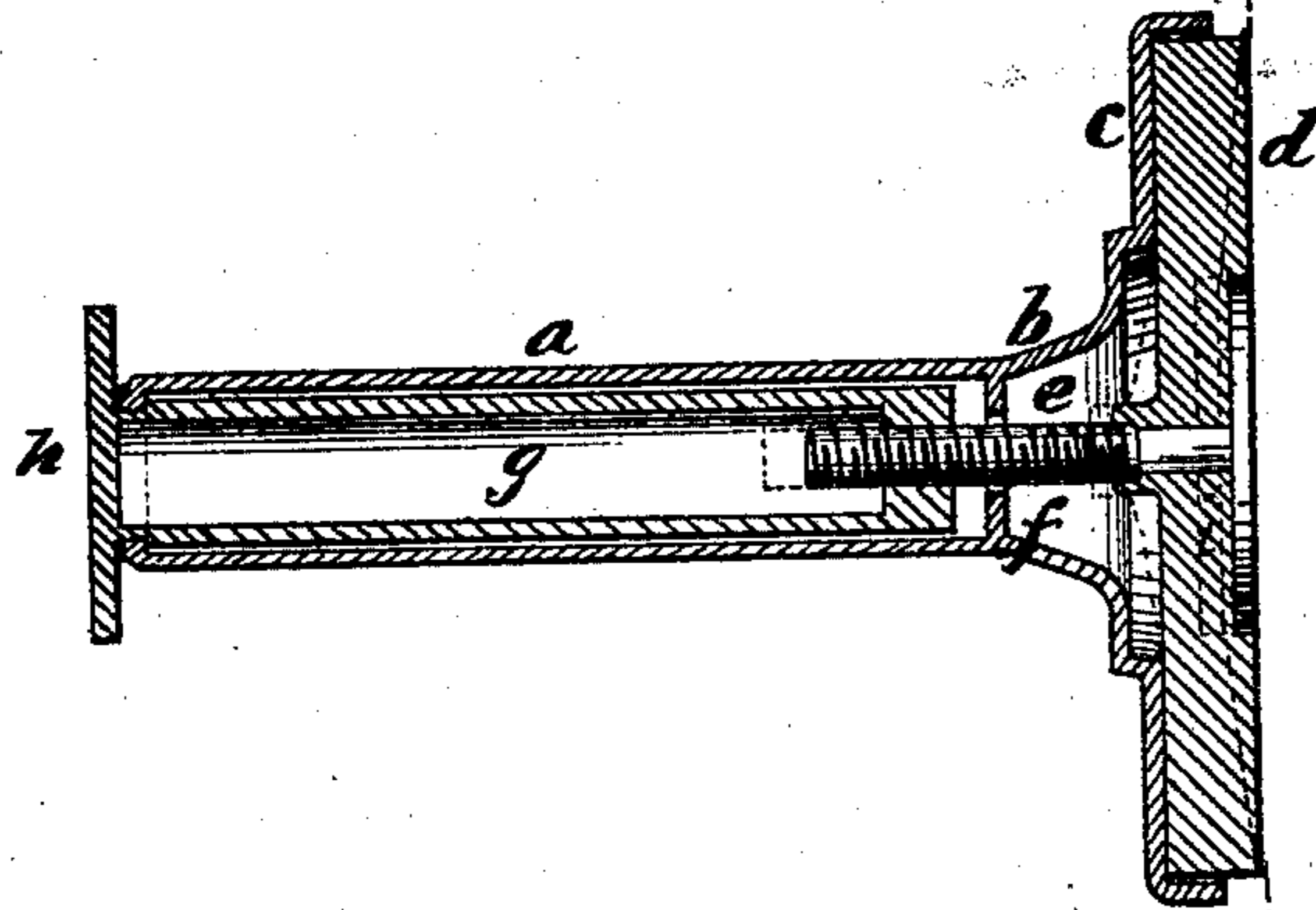


Fig. 3.



Witnesses.
W. L. Perin.
W. H. Finckel.

Inventor.
Joseph Hodgkins,
by Geo. Rothwell,
Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH HODGKINS, OF HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN BRACKET-HOOKS FOR SHOW-WINDOWS

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 122,890, dated January 23, 1872.

Specification describing an Improvement in Brackets and Hooks for Show-Windows, &c., invented by JOSEPH HODGKINS, of Harrisburg, in the county of Dauphin and State of Pennsylvania.

This invention is an improvement in brackets and hooks for show-windows of stores, &c. The brackets and hooks are intended for application to glass or any other surface sufficiently smooth, and are held in position by the external pressure of the atmosphere on an elastic disk, which, by means of operating devices, is drawn into such a form as to produce a vacuum or partial vacuum when the disk is in contact with the glass or other smooth surface. By the application of this principle brackets and hooks for the display of small articles, as in dry-goods and fancy stores for instance, may be attached without drilling the glass or the use of cement, and, as many stores are provided with windows composed of a single plate of glass, which is very costly, which would be injured were the hooks attached by drilling the glass, my invention will be found especially useful, for thus the entire inner surface of the glass can be utilized for the exhibition of various articles. The invention consists in the construction, arrangement, and combination of parts, as hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 represents a side elevation of a hook in position, the surface to which it is applied being represented by a broken line. Fig. 2 is a face view of the contact surface of the disk, and Fig. 3 is a longitudinal central section of the hook.

Referring to the drawing, in which similar letters indicate like parts in the several figures, *a* represents a hollow cylinder, formed with an enlargement at *b* and a flanged plate, *c*. This forms the outer casing, which receives the disk and its operating devices, as will be presently described. The casing may be made in one or more pieces, and may be cast or otherwise formed, as desired. Metal will probably be used in the construction of this casing. The cylinder or barrel *a* constitutes the hook for the support of articles to be displayed. Fitted in the recess of the flanged plate *c* is a flat disk, *d*, of rubber or other suitable material, which projects slightly beyond the rim or flange,

as represented. Passing through the center of this disk is a screw, *e*, formed with a head having an extended bearing-surface, which fits into a cavity in the contact-surface of the disk *d*, as clearly shown in Fig. 3. To guide the screw *e* the casing is preferably formed with a web, *f*, having a central opening, through which the screw passes loosely. Within the part *a* of the casing is loosely fitted a barrel, *g*, which, at its inner end, is formed to receive the screw *e*. (See Fig. 3.) This barrel is swiveled by bending down the outer end of the part *a* of the casing into an annular groove formed in the part *g*. On the outer extremity of this barrel is formed or attached a flat milled head, *h*. It will be observed, by reference to Fig. 3, that there is a space, *i*, under the center of the rubber disk.

I will now proceed to describe the method of applying hooks and brackets constructed according to my invention. The elastic disk is placed in contact with the glass or other surface, which is represented in Figs. 1 and 3 by a broken line, the whole surface of the disk coming in contact with the glass, as shown. Now, while the hook or bracket is held firmly in position the swiveled barrel is turned by means of its milled head, thus drawing in the screw and bringing the disk into a concave form, as represented in Fig. 3, the central portion of the disk being received into the recess of the casing. It will be seen that, by this operation, a partial vacuum is formed, and the pressure of the external atmosphere holds the hook or bracket securely in place. I find it well to moisten the disk before its application to the glass or other surface.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

The combination of a disk, *d*, screw *e*, and swiveled barrel *g h* with a casing, *a b c*, substantially as and for the purpose described.

To the above specification of my invention I have signed my name this 18th day of December, 1871.

JOSEPH HODGKINS.

Witnesses:

W. K. VERBEKE,
THOS. HAMMERSLEY.