

C. O. GILLETTE.

Improvement in Basket Braiding-Blocks.

No. 130,711.

Patented Aug. 20, 1872.

Fig. 1.

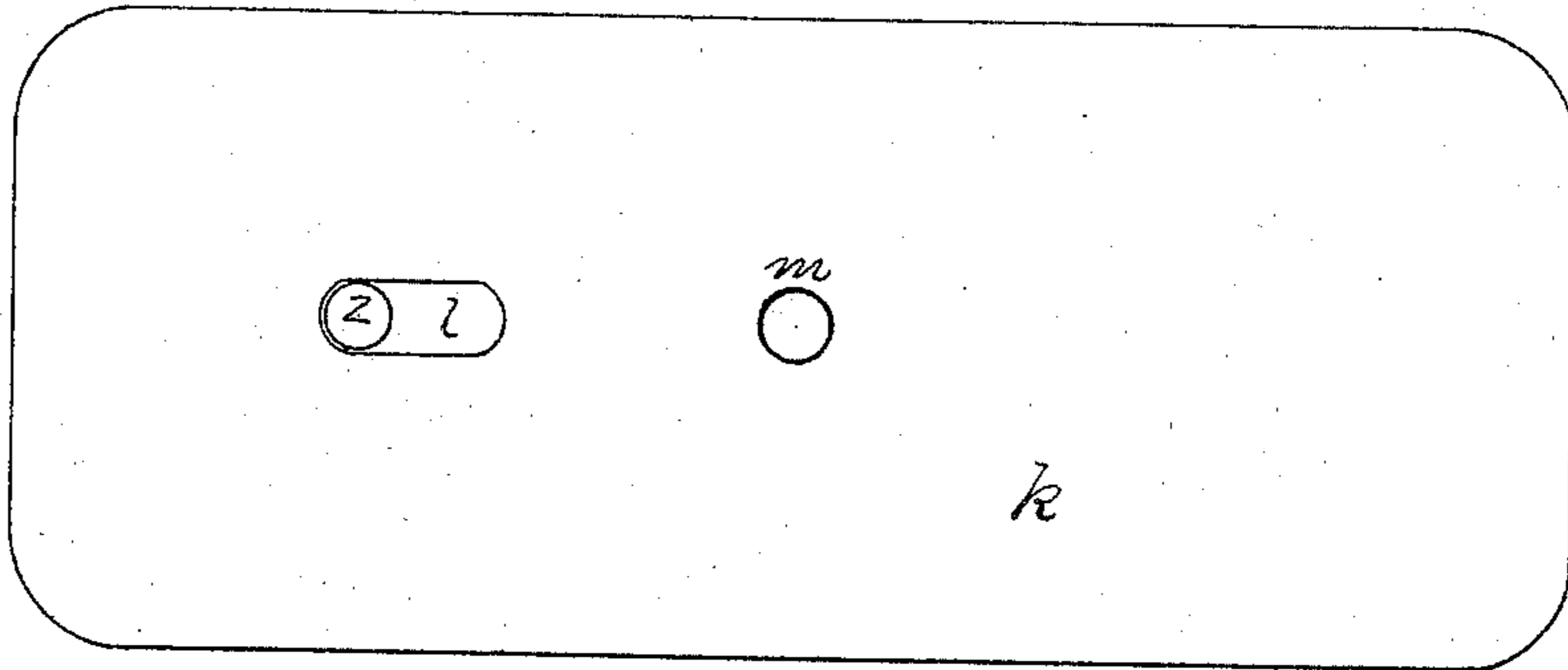


Fig. 2.

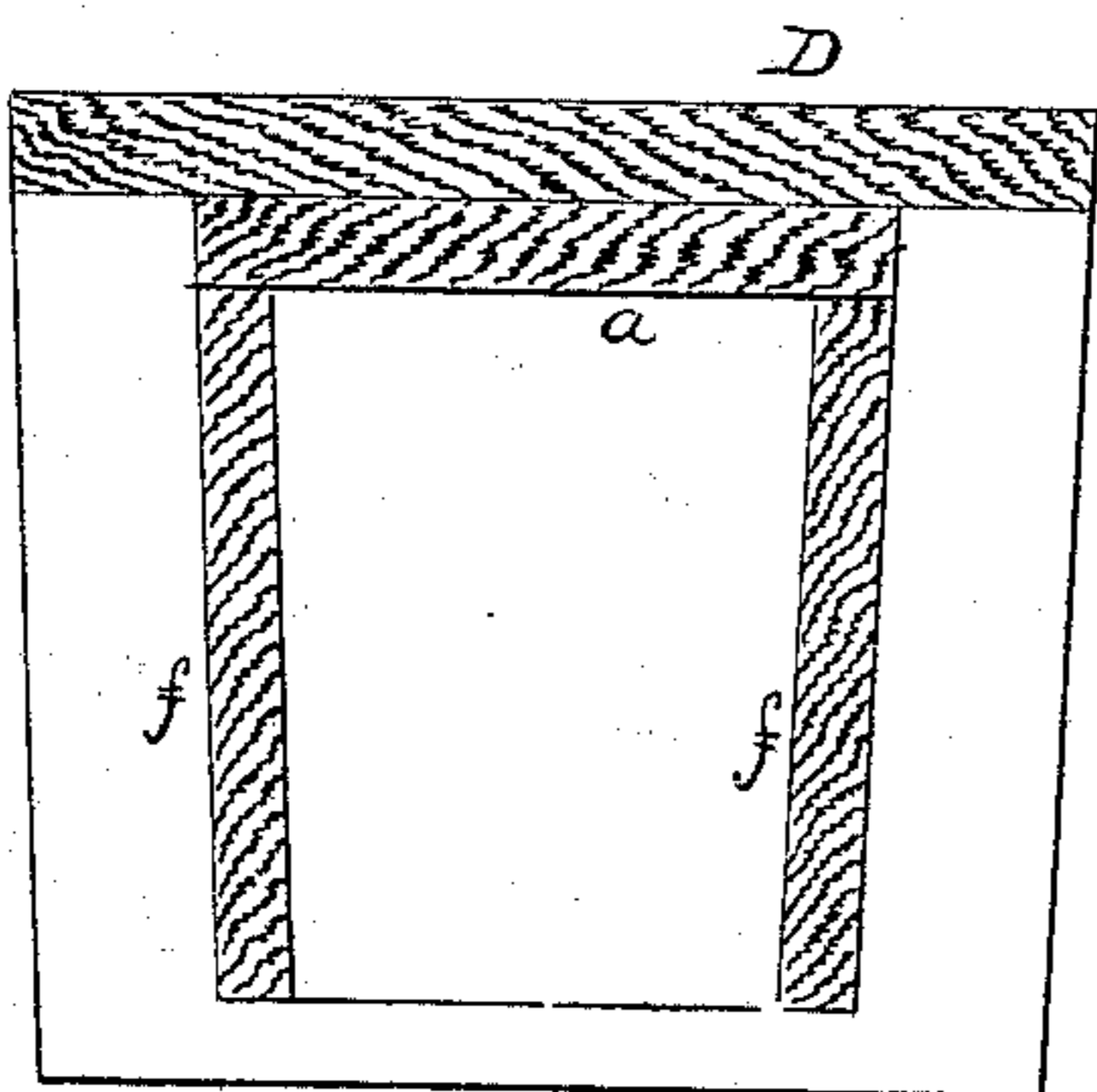


Fig. 3.

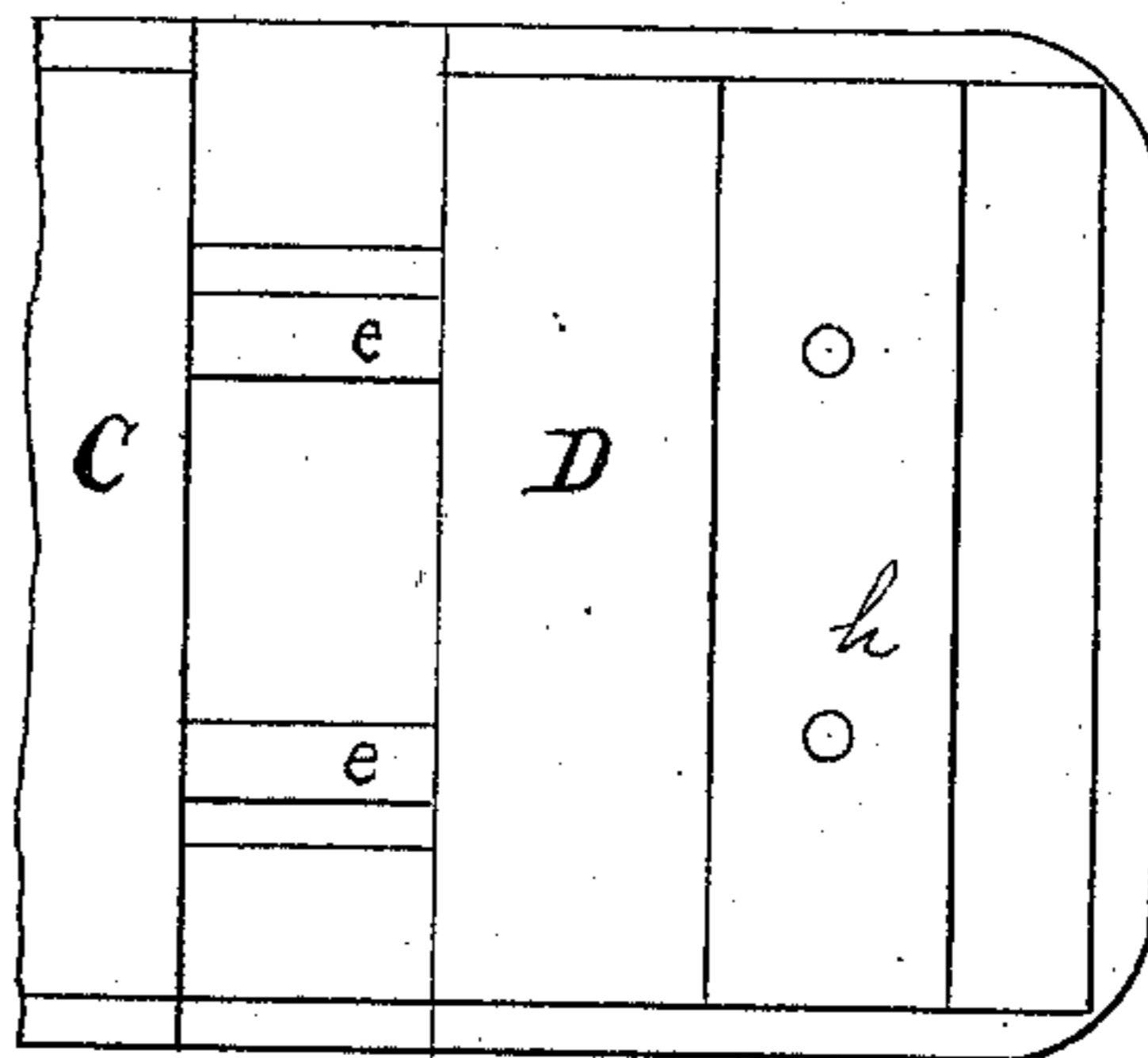
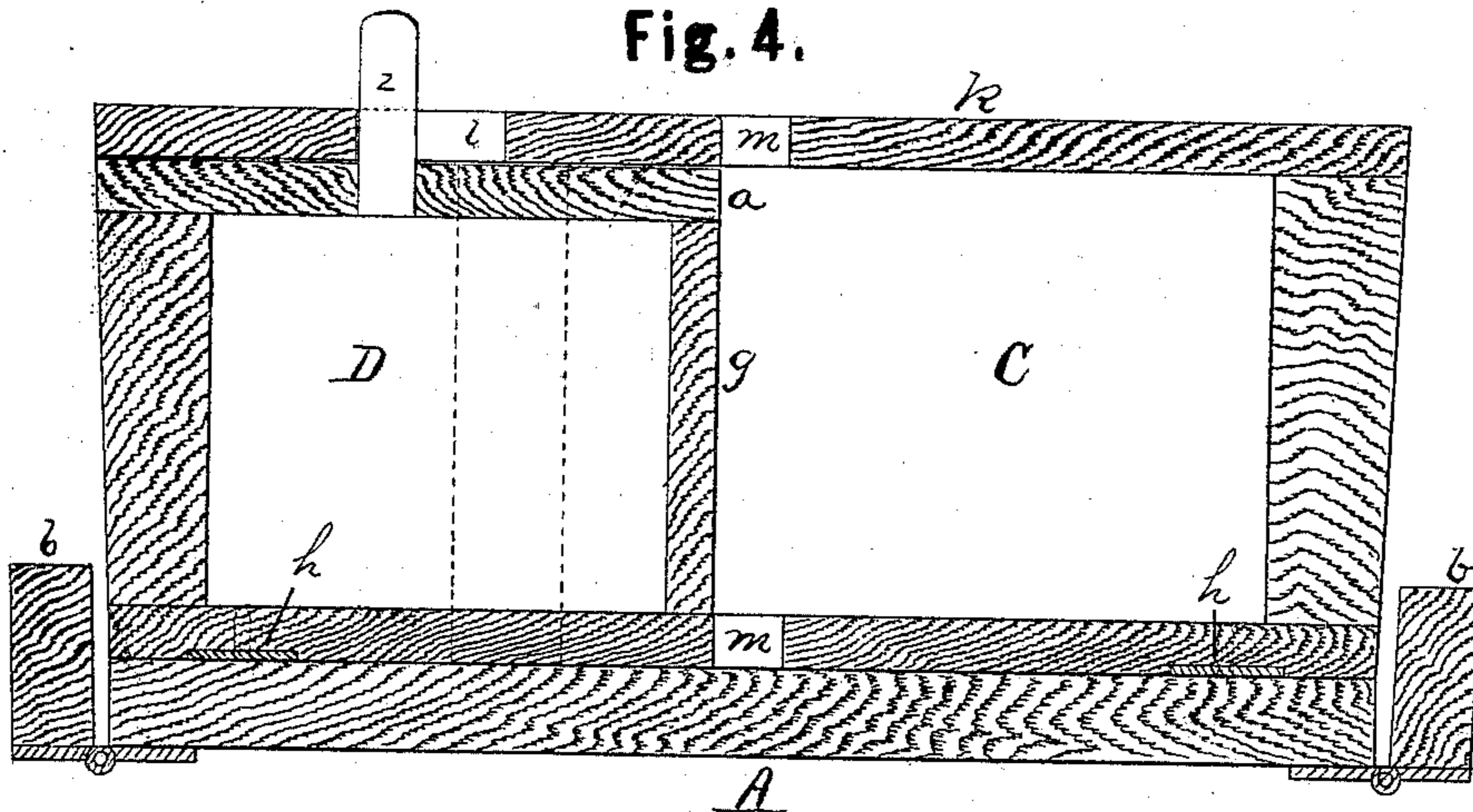


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES O. GILLETTE, OF STREETSBOROUGH, OHIO.

## IMPROVEMENT IN BASKET BRAIDING-BLOCKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 130,711, dated August 20, 1872.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHAS. O. GILLETTE, of Streetsborough, in the county of Portage and State of Ohio, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Braiding-Blocks; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawing making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawing is a representation of a top view of my invention. Fig. 2 is an end view of one of the sections, and Fig. 3 is a bottom view of the same. Fig. 4 is a longitudinal vertical section of my block when rigged.

This invention has relation to the manufacture of baskets; and it consists in the construction and novel arrangement of devices constituting an adjustable inside mold or braiding-block, designed to be used while interweaving the "filler."

In the accompanying drawing, the letter A designates a bottom plate or "hood" provided with wings, and designed to hold the main strips in place during the first part of the operation of making the basket. After the main strips are woven together in this hood, forming the bottom of the basket, they are bent upward, and the wings *b* are turned up against them to hold them in position. B designates the braiding-block, consisting of two parts, C and D, usually made hollow to secure lightness, and adapted to slide the one within the other in the following manner: The main portion of the block C is recessed at its inner end to admit the tongue *e* of the end portion D of the block. This tongue is usually built up of two side boards, *f*, a top, *a*, and an end board, *g*, in order to give it strength and lightness. Plates *h h* are let into the bottom of the block,

and provided with apertures to receive the pins of the "hood." The top board *k* of the part C of the block extends the full length thereof, and is slotted at *l* to admit the handle *z* of the end portion D. Central journal openings *m m* are made in the top and bottom boards of the main part C of the block for the introduction of a rod or temporary axle, secured to a wall, bench, or other convenient support, so that the operator can turn the block to suit his convenience while weaving in the filler. At its base the block is rectangular in form. From this rectangular base the sides of the block slant upward and outward, with rounded corners, gradually increasing in curvature from the bottom to the top of said block. After the main strips are woven together the braiding-block is placed upon the hood and the strips turned up, being held in place by the wings of the hood. The filler is at the same time interwoven with the upright portions of the main strips, the parts C and D of the block being separated by sliding the tongue of the end portion as far out of its recess in the main portion of the block as may be necessary. After the basket is finished the block may be loosened by sliding its parts together by means of the handle *z*, and easily withdrawn.

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

The flaring braiding-block, consisting of the main section C having slotted top, and the sliding section D having handle *z*, for weaving the "filler" of a basket, substantially as specified.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

CHAS. O. GILLETTE.

Witnesses:

B. S. COGSWELL,  
I. F. WILCOX.