

C. H. TOWNSEND, T. E. HUGHES, & A. A. KEITH.

Postal-Card Cases.

No. 144,423.

Patented Nov. 11, 1873.

Fig. 1

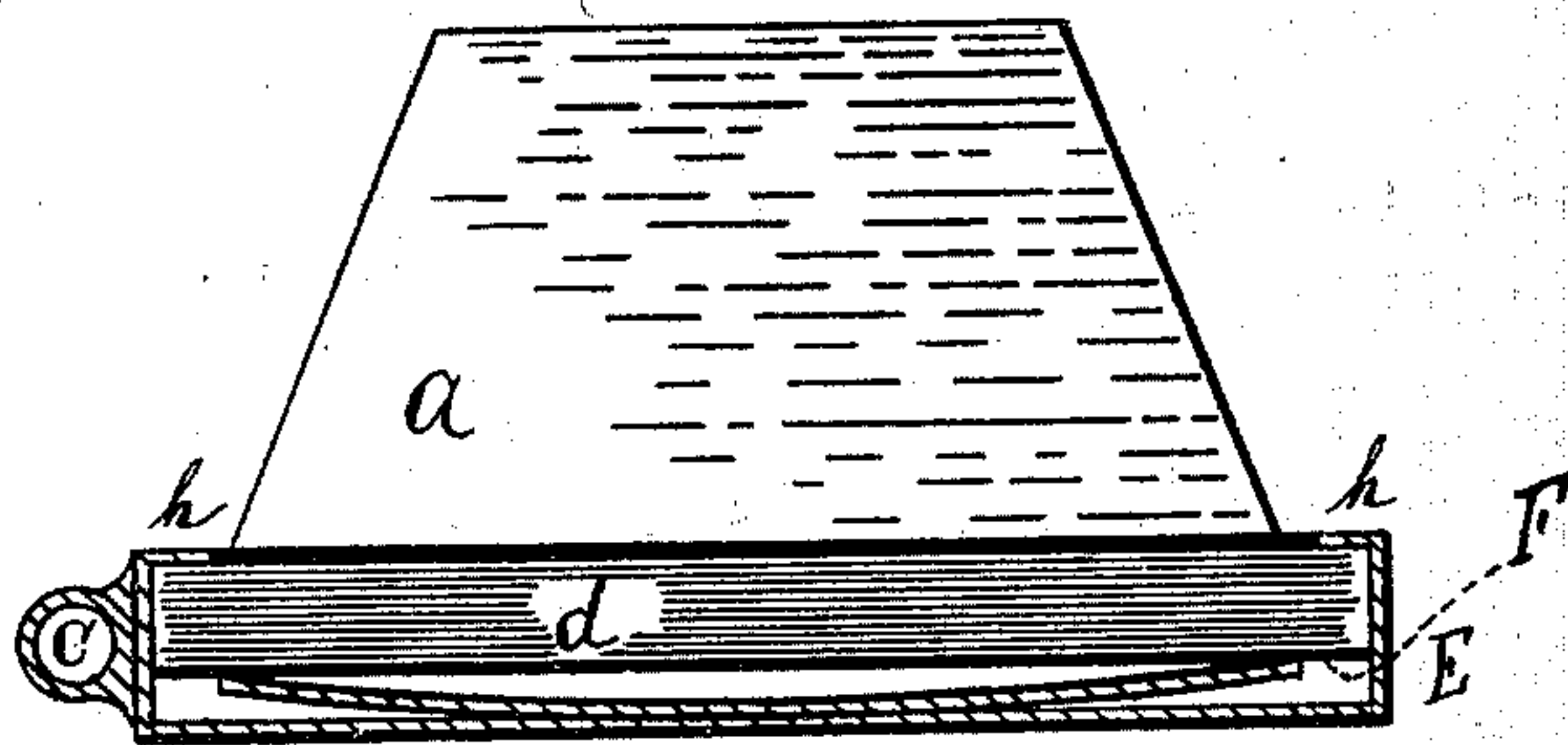


Fig. 2

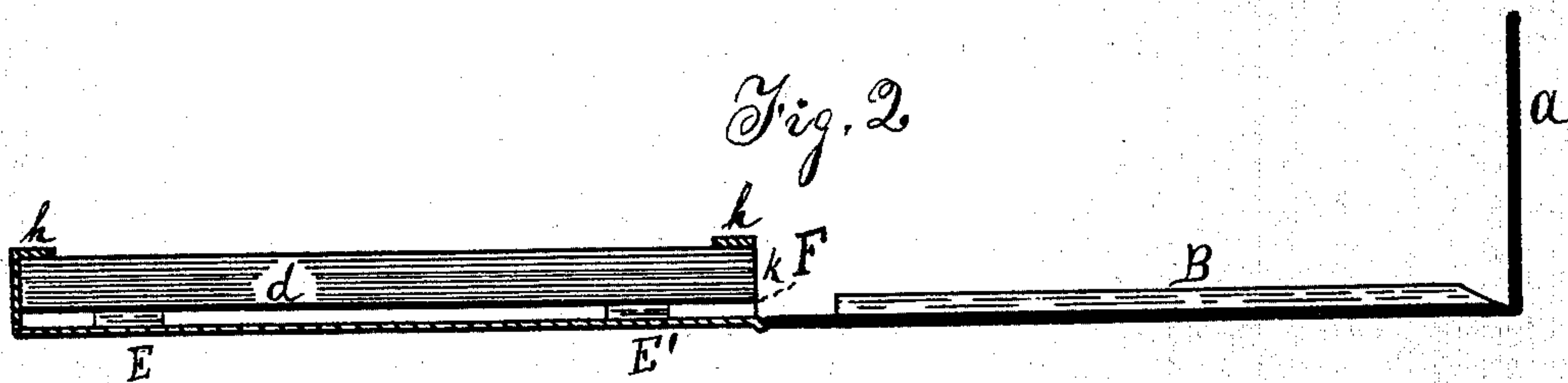
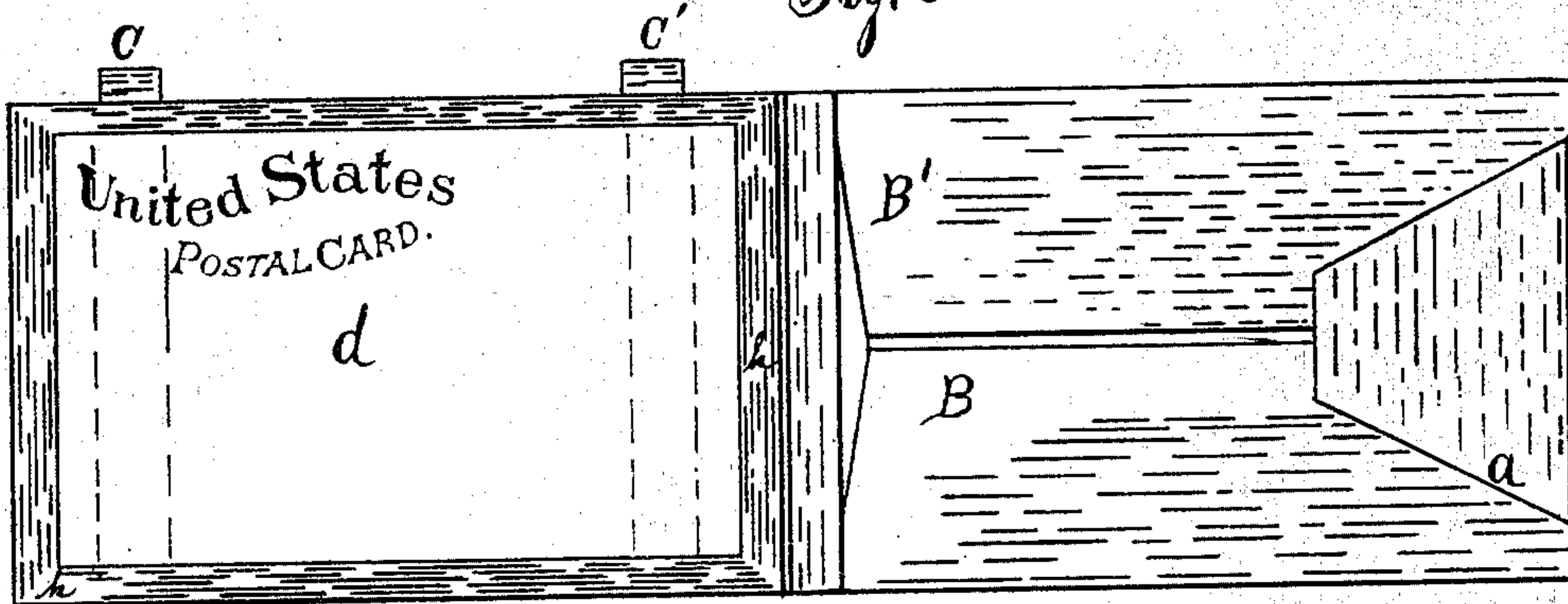


Fig. 3



Harry Coleman.  
L. P. Lowe

Chas. H. Townsend  
Timothy E. Hughes  
Albert A. Keith  
by A. H. & R. K. Evans  
their attorneys.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES H. TOWNSEND, TWIFORD E. HUGHES, AND ALBERT A. KEITH, OF  
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA.

## IMPROVEMENT IN POSTAL-CARD CASES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **144,423**, dated November 11, 1873; application filed  
July 1, 1873.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, CHARLES H. TOWNSEND, TWIFORD E. HUGHES, and ALBERT A. KEITH, all residents of the city of Minneapolis, county of Hennepin and State of Minnesota, have invented a certain new and useful Postal-Card Case, of which the following is a specification:

The nature of our invention consists in the arrangement and construction of a pocket-case that will contain one or more United States postal cards in such shape that they may be conveniently written upon and kept free from dirt, which will be generally explained in the ensuing description and specifically pointed out in the claim.

Figure 1 is an end view; Fig. 2, an open-side view, and Fig. 3 a plan view.

The same letters of reference are employed in the various figures in the designation of identical parts.

The case is constructed by forming, of tin or any other suitable material, a quadrilateral box, whose depth shall be in proportion to its other dimensions. One end of the box is left open (see letter *k*, Fig. 2) for the insertion of the cards, and an opening is made in the upper side as large as the writing-surface of the postal-card, the projecting rim *h*, which runs entirely around the inner edge of the box, keeping the cards therein. A thin piece of metal plate,

F, the size of the card, is pressed upward by means of the elliptical springs *E E'*. The springs acting on the under surface of the plate F, and being fastened to the bottom of the box, they keep the metal plate F firmly pressed against the under side of the cards, holding them firmly in place, that they may be conveniently written upon.

A box so constructed may be covered with any suitable material, and can have an attached lapel to protect the contents from contact with any foreign substance, as shown by the letters *a B*. Said lapel may be so constructed that money, valuable papers, or a memorandum-slate may be carried therein.

The letters *C C'* show two loops, in which a pencil or pen may be inserted.

Having thus described our invention, we claim and want to secure by Letters Patent—

The open postal-card case *d*, constructed with the inner rim *h*, and provided with the plate F and springs *E E'*, and having the open end *k*, loops *C C'*, and flap B, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

CHARLES H. TOWNSEND.  
TWIFORD E. HUGHES.  
ALBERT A. KEITH.

Witnesses:

JOHN D. BURR,  
NELSON C. PETERSEN.