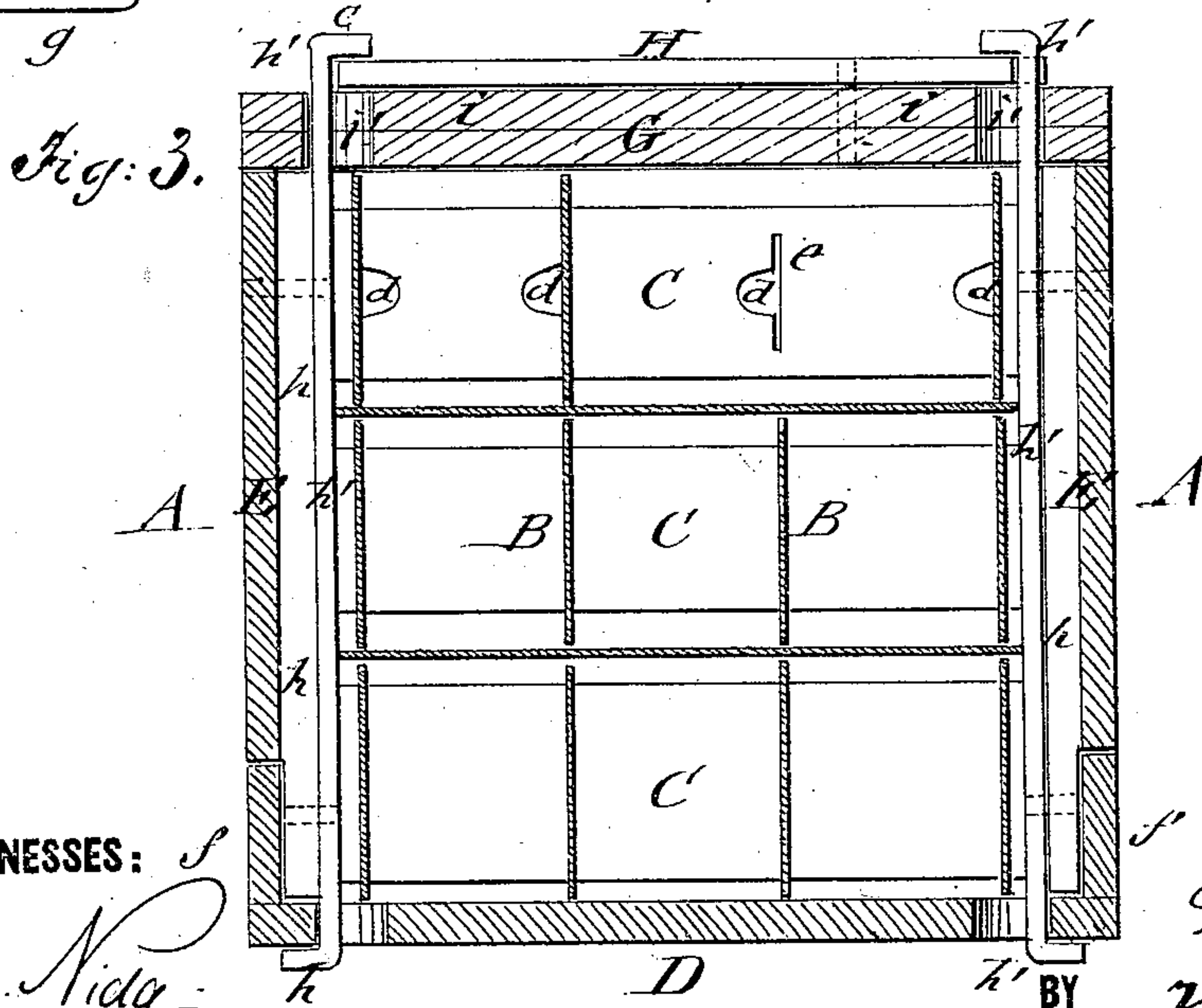
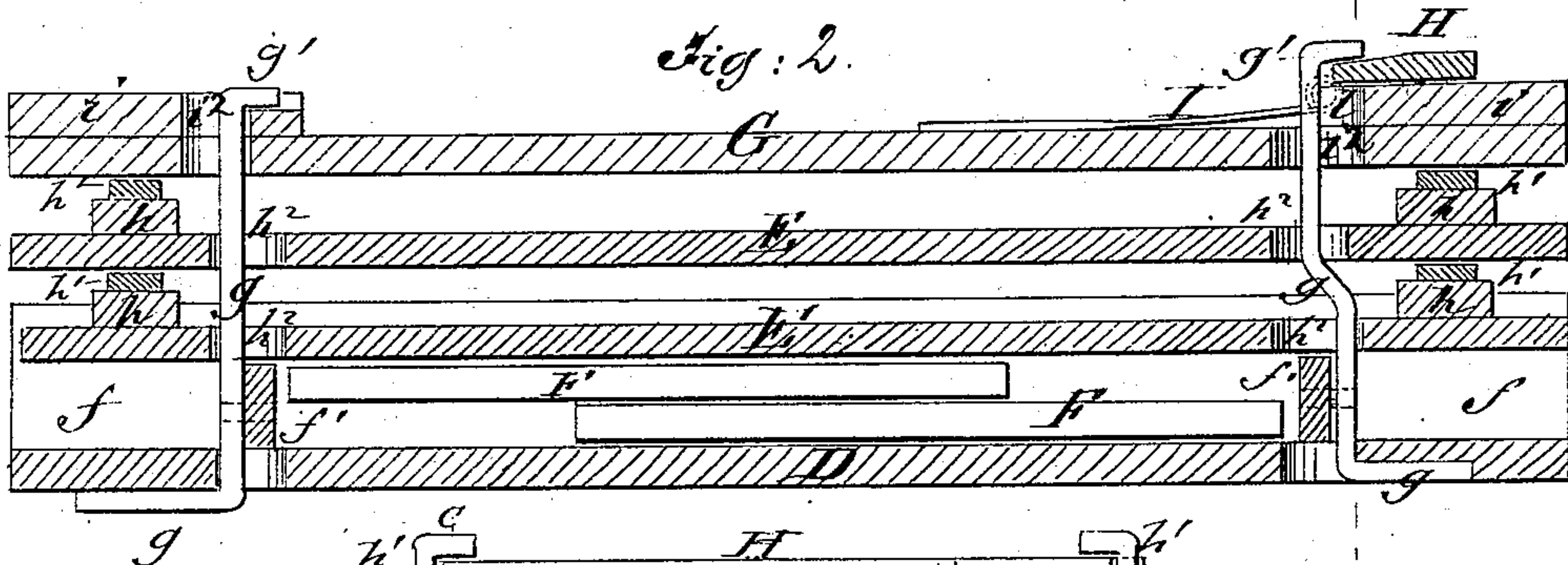
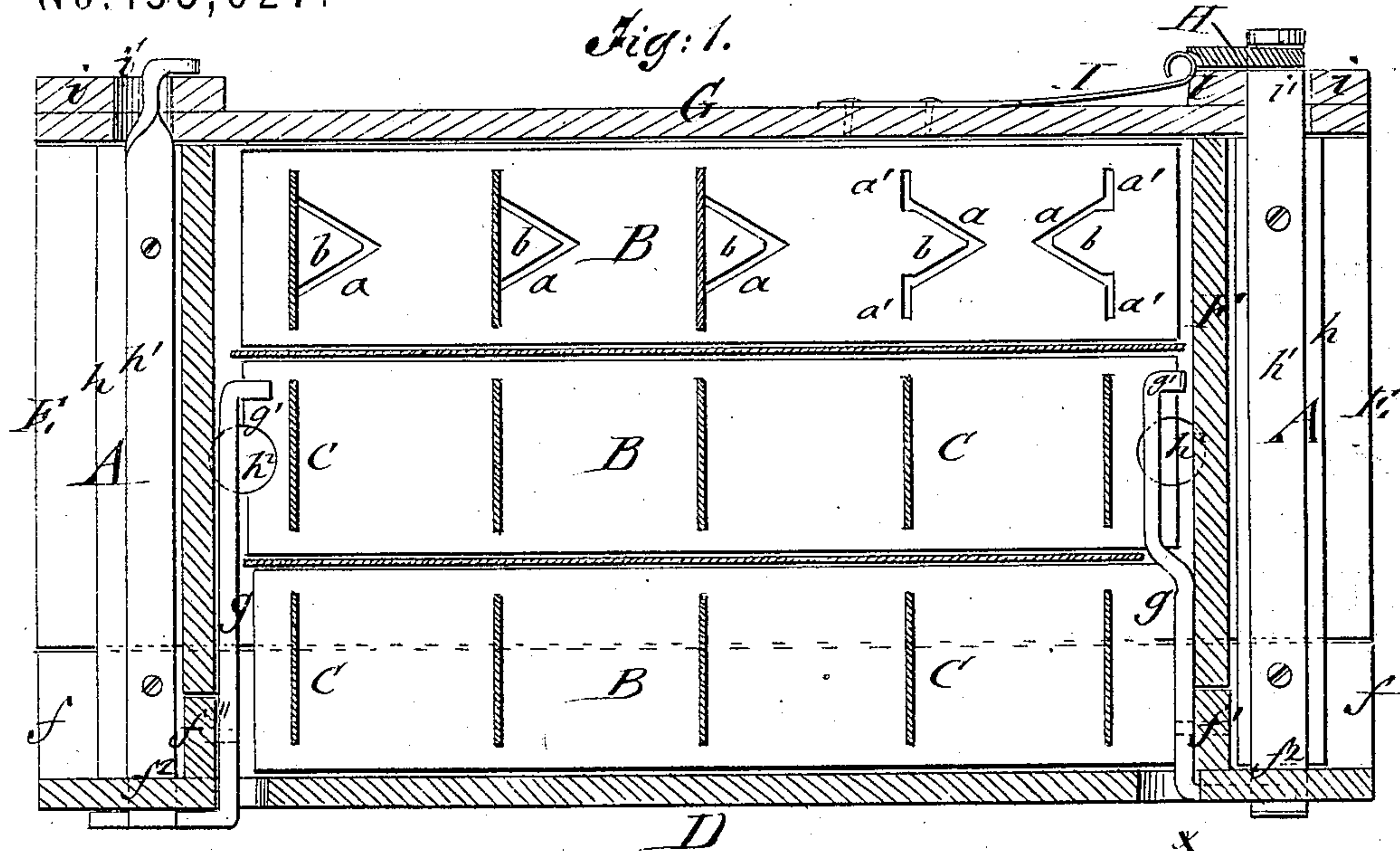


W. WEIS.
Egg and Fruit Carriers.

No. 153,027.

Patented July 14, 1874.



WITNESSES:

Chas. Nida
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WENDELIN WEIS, OF ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA.

IMPROVEMENT IN EGG AND FRUIT CARRIERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **153,027**, dated July 14, 1874; application filed May 9, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WENDELIN WEIS, of St. Paul, in the county of Ramsey and State of Minnesota, have invented a new and Improved Egg and Fruit Carrier, of which the following is a specification:

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 represents a vertical longitudinal section of my egg-carrier on the line *c c*, Fig. 3, showing construction of case and arrangement of cells; Fig. 2, a vertical longitudinal section of the egg-carrier, folded together for return shipment; and Fig. 3 a vertical transverse section of the carrier on the line *x x*, Fig. 2.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The invention will first be fully described, and then pointed out in the claim.

In the drawing, A represents the case or box of the egg or fruit carrier, in which are arranged in tiers, placed one above the other, the cells for the eggs or fruit, which are formed of wider parallel strips B, of one set, and narrower interlacing strips C, of the other series, vertical to them. The strips B are provided with central slits *a*, cut in V shape, with lateral end extensions *a'*, the width of whose extreme ends is equal to the width of the interlacing-strips C. The V-shaped slits *a* form tongues *b*, which enter with their pointed ends into small central extension recesses *d* of central slits *e* of the strips C. The width of slits *e* is equal to the width of the base of tongues *b*, so that simultaneously with the introduction and slipping in of the tongues into slits *e*, the narrower strips enter the extension-slits *a'*, and form thus a neat, simple, and secure interlocking of the strips. The case A consists of a bottom, D, with vertical side strips *f*, lateral stiffening-strips *f'*, and corner perforations *f''*, outside of strips *f'*. Vertical metal bands or straps *g* are fastened to the under side of the bottom D and pass through perforations of the same along the stiffening-strips *f'* to suitable height, being turned under a right angle at the top to form a lug or hook, *g'*, for binding over the top or cover when the different pieces are placed thereon, as shown in Fig. 2. The longitudinal side pieces E of the carrier fit on the side strips *f* of the bottom, and are provided with strengthening-pieces *h*, to which vertical bands *h'*, with top and bottom hook ends are fastened. The lower ends of bands *h'* pass through the bottom holes *f''* and hook over the under side

of the bottom D, binding in this position the plain shorter sides F firmly by the strips *h* onto the lateral strips *f'* and between the longer sides, E. The longer sides E are also provided with perforations, *h''*, by which they may be placed over the bottom bands when packed together for the return trip. The top or cover G of the case is also strengthened by lateral end strips *i* and provided with corner perforations *i'* for the passage of the bent hook ends of the bands *h'* of side pieces E. The top hooks of the bands *h'* at one side of the carrier are twisted to extend over the cover in longitudinal direction after the same is placed on the box, while the cover is firmly bound to the hook ends at the other side by a pivoted wedge-piece, H, carried under the same for securing thereby the rigid connection of all the detachable pieces when the carrier is filled with eggs. A band-spring, I, of the cover acts with its rounded end on a corresponding recess, *l*, of the wedge-piece H, as soon as the same is placed under the hook ends, so that piece H is secured in locked position without getting detached during transportation, and release thereby the cover. Central perforations *i''* of the cover G serve to place the same over the bands *g* for the return of the carrier, the pivoted wedge H securing, with the spring I, the cover G to the hook ends *g'*.

After the carrier has reached its destination, and the contents are taken out, the tiers of cells are folded together and placed with the shorter sides F suitably into the bottom D. The longer sides are then placed thereon by being slipped over bands *g'* and the cover on the top thereof, to connect by the wedge-piece the whole in a secure and compact manner, ready for return shipment, as shown clearly in Fig. 2. The carrier-case takes up less space and is more completely protected against injury, so as to last longer and furnish a very convenient device for the transportation of eggs, fruit, and similar articles.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The combination, with the described bottom, sides, and cover, of hook-pieces *g h*, pivoted wedge H, and spring I, as and for the purpose set forth.

Witnesses: WENDELIN WEIS.
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