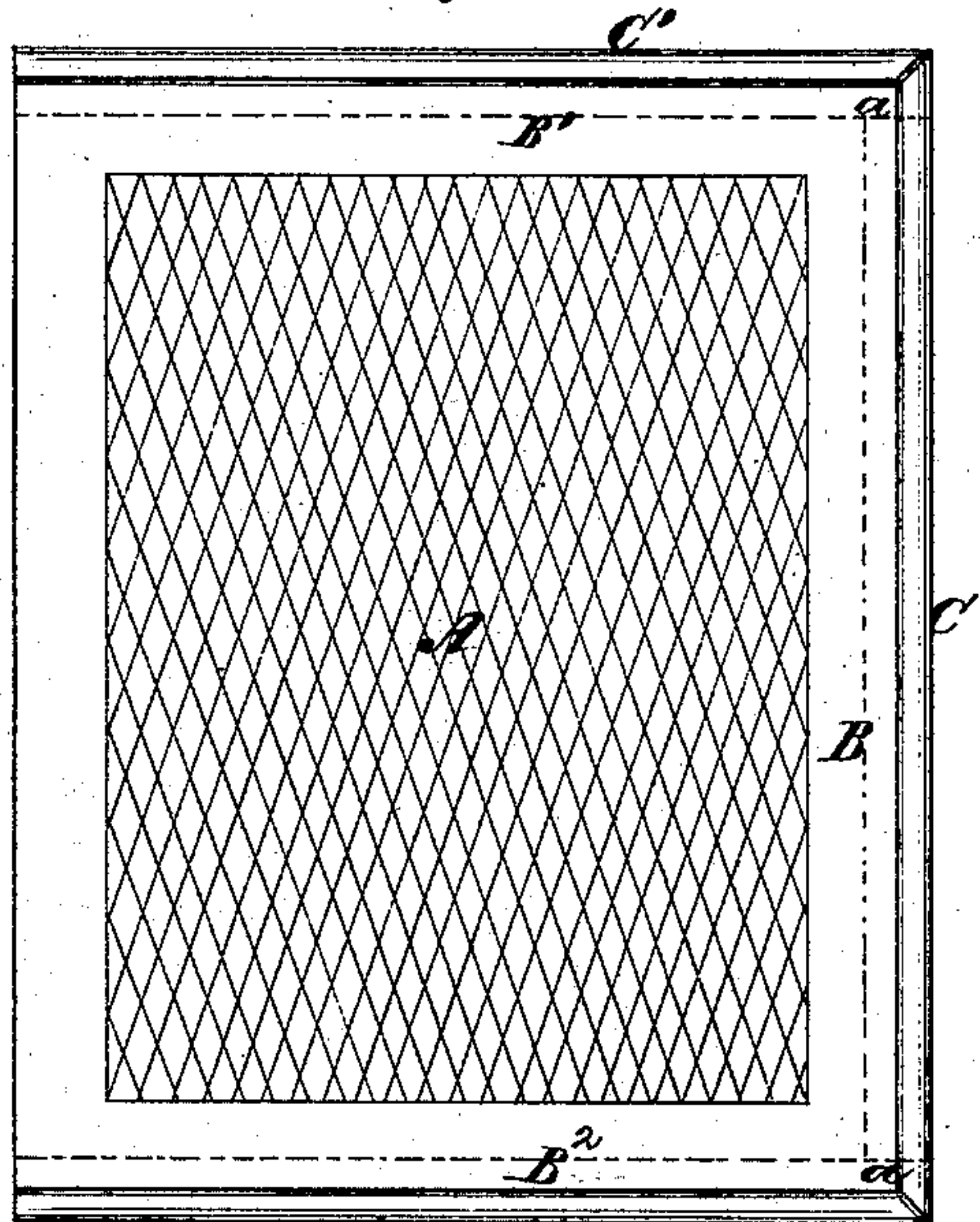


**J. D. METS.**  
**Book-Covers.**

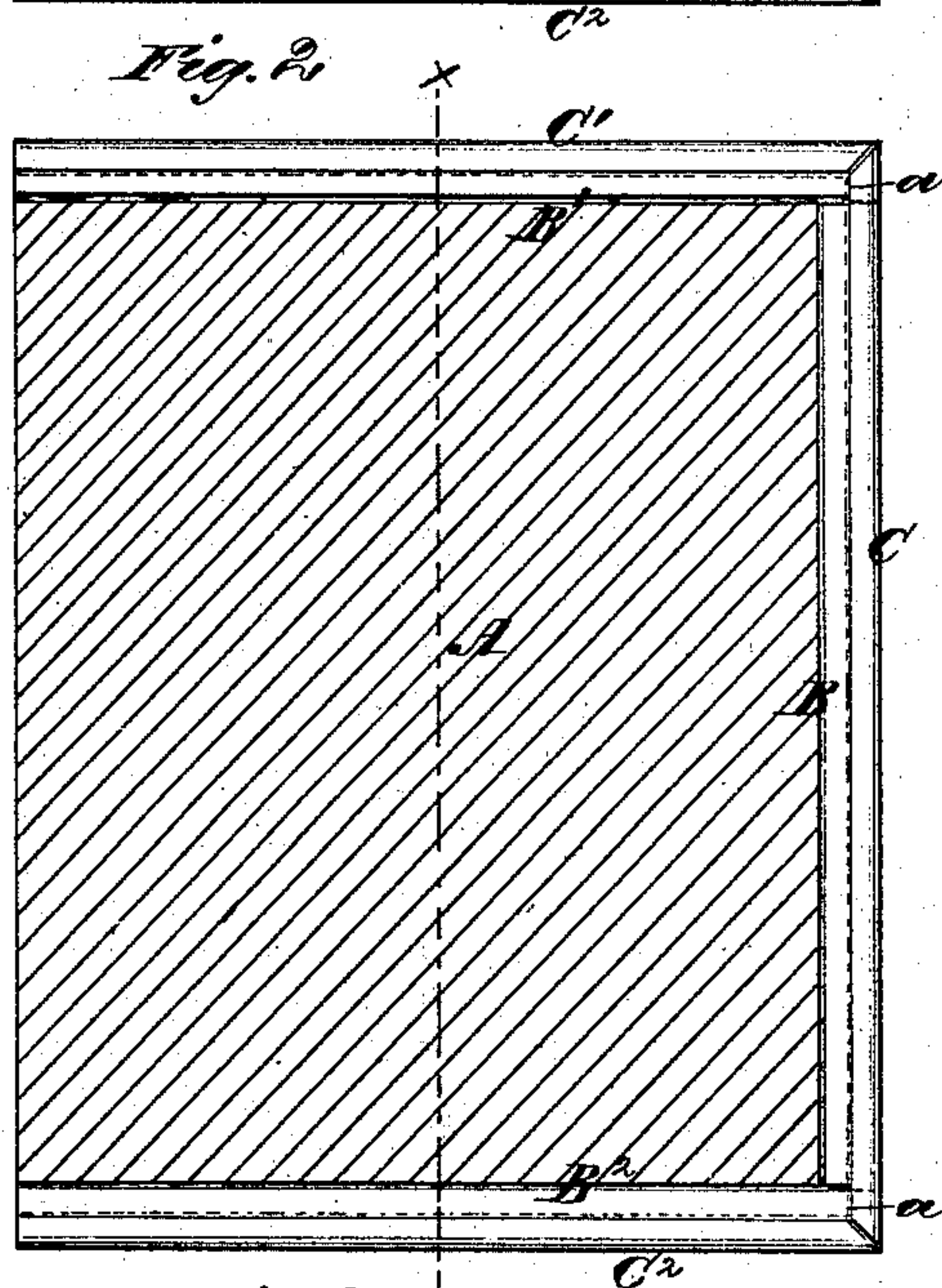
No. 156,588.

Patented Nov. 3, 1874.

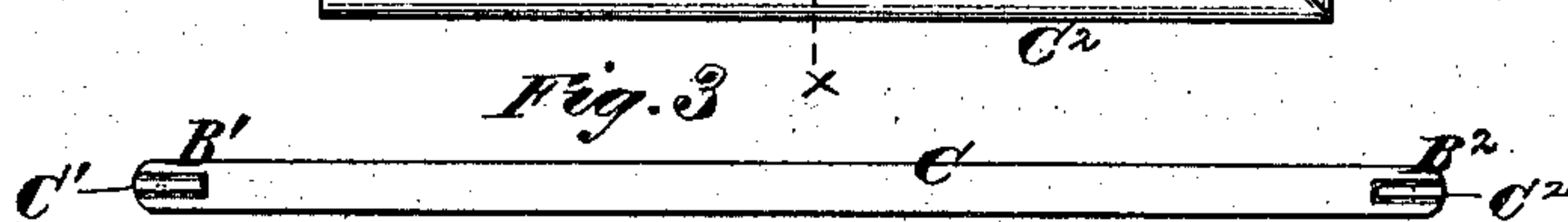
*Fig. 1*



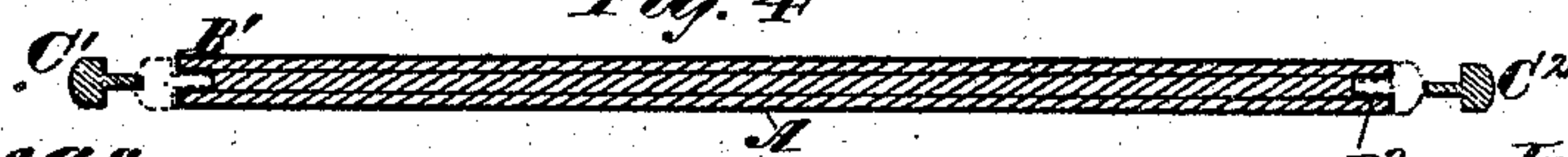
*Fig. 2*



*Fig. 3*



*Fig. 4*



*Witnesses:*  
*James Martin Jr.*  
*L. N. Campbell*

*Inventor:*  
*John D. Mets*  
*by*  
*Mason Foxworth Lawrence*



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

JOHN D. METS, OF DUBUQUE, IOWA.

## IMPROVEMENT IN BOOK-COVERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 156,588, dated November 3, 1874; application filed October 6, 1874.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN D. METS, of Dubuque, county of Dubuque and State of Iowa, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Book-Covers; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a face view of one side of the cover finished. Fig. 2 is a section of the same from front to rear. Fig. 3 is an edge view, looking at the front; Fig. 4, a section in the line *x x* of Fig. 2, the protecting-strips being shown out of their grooves in full lines, and in the grooves in dotted lines.

The nature of my invention consists, first, in making book-cover boards with a groove in their edges extending along the front and ends of each of the book-cover boards, and finishing such boards with edge-protecting bands or strips of ebony or other hard smooth substance, such as ivory, hard rubber, or like analogous material, by forming their inner portions on these bands, and letting these thin portions into the grooves of the boards, and uniting the ends of the pieces forming the edge-protecting bands by interlocking miter-joints, as will be presently described.

A represents the cover or board for one side of a book. This is made of pasteboard or other similar material.  $B B^1 B^2$  is a groove formed in the edge of the board at front and both ends. This groove is made by having the cover or board made of three pieces, the intermediate one of the three pieces being that much smaller than the outside pieces as is the depth of the groove desired to be formed at the ends and front edges of the board or cover proper. These pieces are united firmly together by paste, as usual, in making up book boards or covers. The rear edges of all the pieces terminate at the same point, and there is no groove formed at that edge of the board or cover.  $C C^1 C^2$  is a protecting band or strip, which is fitted upon the edge and ends of the board or cover. This band is preferably formed of ebony, and in cross-section it is similar to the letter T in form. The thicker or outer portion of the T-shaped pieces is as thick as the board or

cover of the book, while the thinner or inner portion is just about as thick as the width of the groove B. The thicker portions of the end pieces  $C^1 C^2$  are cut away, so as to form miter-joint shoulders at their front corners, and the front piece is mitered off at each end of its thicker portion, and cut away at right angles at each end of its thinner portion, as represented.

By this construction, when the pieces are inserted into the groove  $B B^1 B^2$ , the end pieces interlock with the front pieces, and a miter abutting-joint is also formed, all as shown in the drawings.

The invention herein described is an improvement on my cover board, band, or strip filed in the Patent Office in 1874, and is preferred to the same, because it can be put on the book in very much less time; looks neater when on the book; can be manufactured in quantities and kept on hand without danger of drawing or warping to such an extent as to make them inconvenient for use, and is very much stronger when on the book, there being no danger of splitting or cracking the wood in putting the band on the book; and withal, can be manufactured at less cost, and will be more generally preferred by the trade than my above-mentioned first plan of board or book cover, band, or strip.

The pieces forming edge-protecting strips C are glued at their mitered corners, and pressed into their places, and if desired, rivets may be used at the mitered corners, inserted at the points *a a*, or any other suitable material for attaching the bands or strips to the book-covers or boards of the book may be adopted.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. As a new article of manufacture, the three-sided protecting-border for book-cover boards, formed of pieces which are of T-form, in transverse section, and which are united at their corners, as specified.

2. Cover-boards A for books, formed of separate pieces united together, the intermediate piece thereof being formed to terminate short of the front edges and ends of the outside or upper and under pieces, for the purpose of forming a groove,  $B B^1 B^2$ , for the reception of the tongue of the protecting band or strip

C C<sup>1</sup> C<sup>2</sup> in the cover-board, substantially as described.

3. The book-cover board, constructed with a groove in its front edge and its ends, in combination with the edge-protecting strip, having its thinner portion let into the grooved edge of the book-cover board, and its thicker

portion abutting against the front edge and ends of the board, substantially in the manner shown and described.

JNO. D. METS.

Witnesses:

M. H. BEACH,  
W. B. RICE.