

J. B. EGLESTON.

APPARATUS FOR SHAPING TROWERS.

No. 176,172.

Patented April 18, 1876.

Fig. 1.

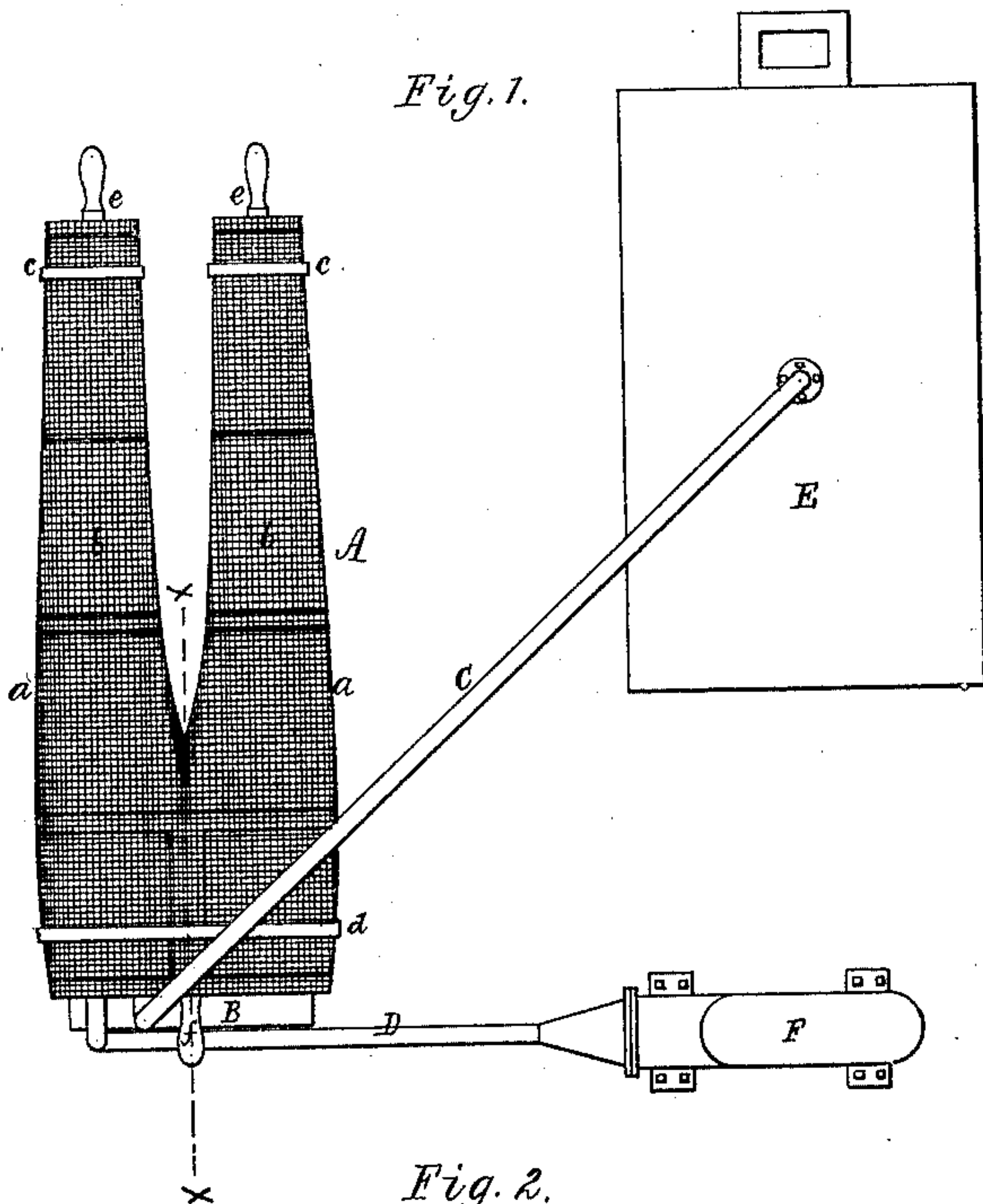


Fig. 2.

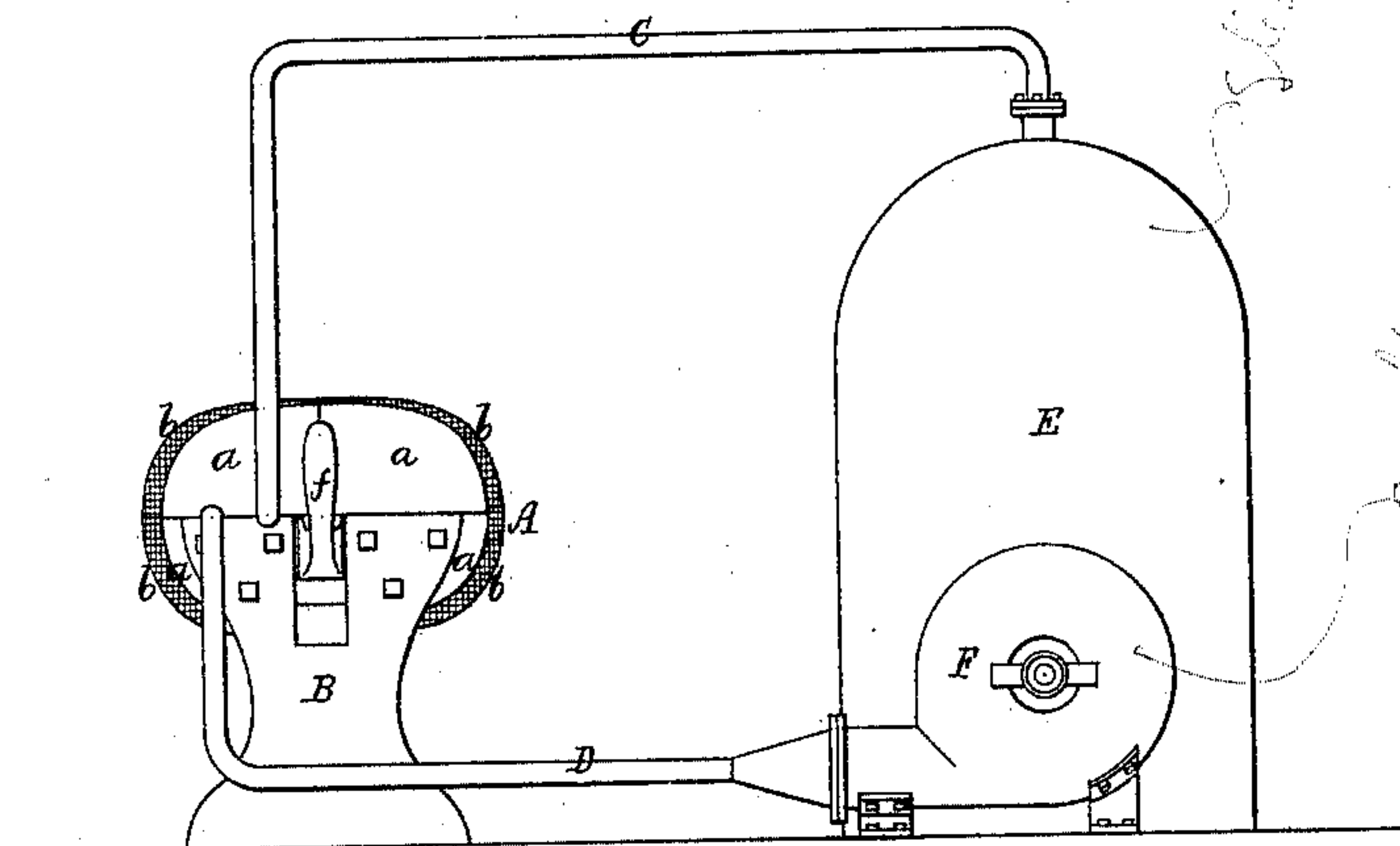


Fig. 3.

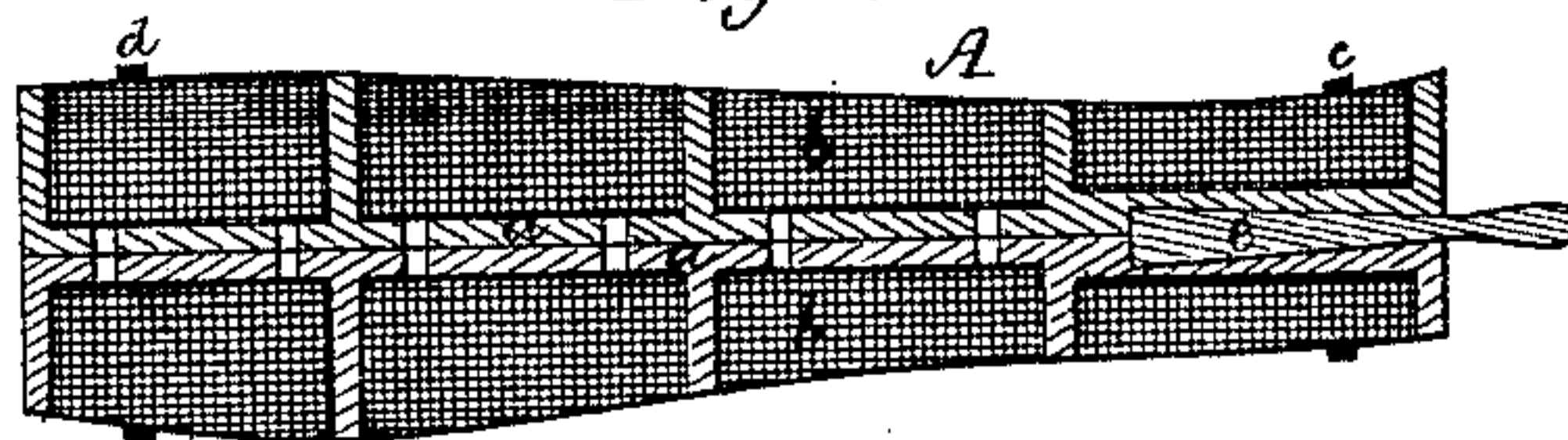


Fig. 4.

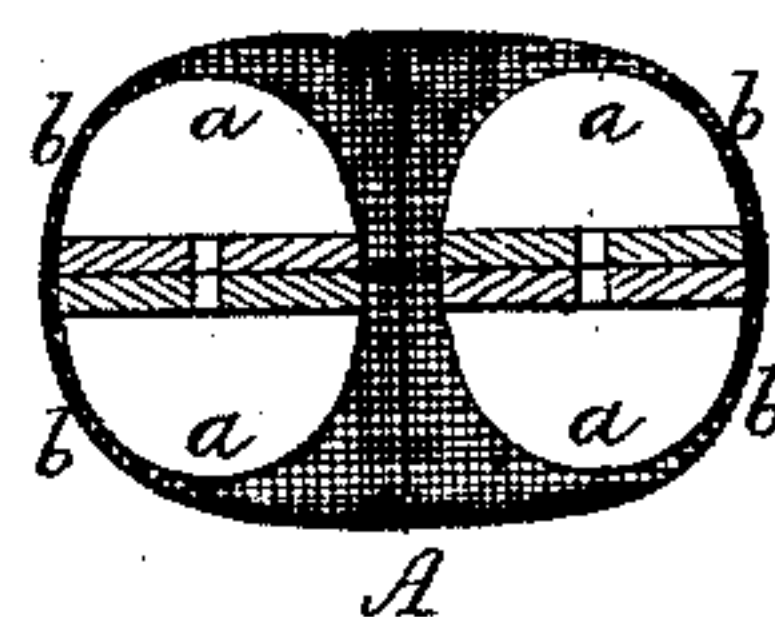
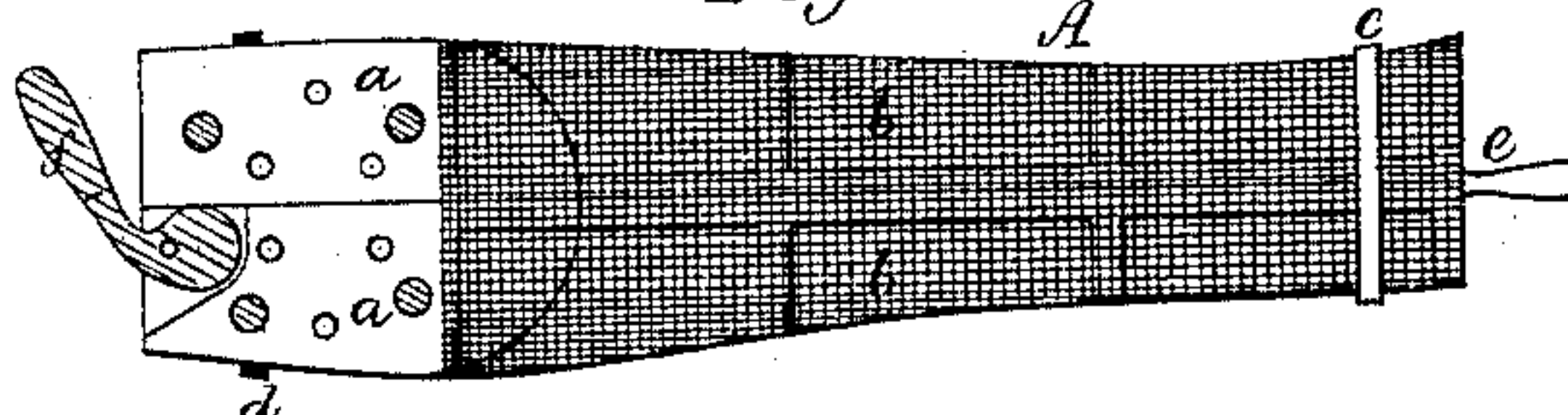


Fig. 5.



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN B. EGLESTON, OF CAMBRIDGE, ASSIGNOR TO HENRY LORD, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN APPARATUS FOR SHAPING TROUSERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 176,172, dated April 18, 1876; application filed September 2, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN B. EGLESTON, of Cambridge, of the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Apparatus or Means of Shaping Trousers; and do hereby declare the same to be fully described in the following specification and represented in the accompanying drawings, of which—

Figure 1 denotes a top view, and Fig. 2 a front-end elevation, of the said apparatus. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section, and Fig. 4 a transverse section of its trousers or garment shaper; Fig. 5, a sectional view on line *x x*, Fig. 1.

The said apparatus consists not only of the trousers or garment shaper, (composed of external coverings of woven wire and a series of chambered supporters therefor,) but of a steam-generator and conduit, and an air blast or forcing apparatus and conduit, the object of all being to force steam into the trousers or garment when on the shaper, and afterward to force air into the latter, and through the garment, whereby it shall be both steamed and aerated and dried.

In the drawings, A denotes the trousers supporter or shaper, its external form corresponding to, or approximately to, that of trousers to be applied to it. It is composed of a series of chambered sections, *a a a a*, arranged as represented, and a separate covering, *b*, to each, consisting of woven wire or wire-cloth having meshes between the warp and weft wires. Those sections are chambered and perforated, so as to allow steam to flow freely in various directions through each, and thence through the meshes of its covering. These covered sections, arranged as shown, are encompassed near their ends by elastic bands *c c d*, which serve to draw them together. Furthermore, there is to each pair of leg-sections an expander or wedge, *e*, and there is also to the sections a cammed lever, *f*, arranged as shown in Figs. 2 and 5. By turning down the arm of the cammed lever, the two upper sections will be simultaneously moved apart from those beneath them. The expanders and the cam-lever serve to crowd the shaper closely into a pair of trousers, or to stretch them after or be-

fore steaming them. Furthermore, the trousers-shaper A is supported by a standard, B, and has extended into it two pipes, C D, one leading from a steam-generator, E, and the other from an air-blast apparatus, F, the latter serving to drive air into and through the pipe D, and thence into and through the shaper.

After the shaper may have been inserted in a garment or pair of trousers, such shaper should be expanded, so as to fit closely thereto. Next, steam from the boiler should be caused to flow into and through the shaper and the garment thereon, in order to heat, moisten, and shrink the garment upon the shaper. Having shut off the steam, the air-blower should next be set to work to force air into the shaper, and through it and the garment, in order to quickly evaporate the water or moisture therein.

I do not claim a garment-supporter consisting simply of a hollow foraminous metallic core, provided with ducts for admitting steam into it, or provided with side pieces and springs, all as shown in the United States Patent No. 85,060, there being in such no chambered supporters, and no coverings of woven wire thereto, as in my invention; nor is there any means of generating steam and forcing air into the garment-supporter.

I claim as my invention as follows:

1. A trousers or garment shaper composed of the external coverings *b*, of woven wire, and the series of chambered supporters *a* thereof, all arranged as specified.

2. The combination of the garment-shaper A, a steam-generator, E, and air-blast apparatus F, whereby steam or air, or both, may be forced into said garment-supporter, as and for the purpose specified.

3. The garment-supporter composed of the external coverings of woven wire *b*, the series of chambered supporters *a* thereof, and means of lateral extension and contraction, all as set forth.

JOHN B. EGLESTON.

Witnesses:

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S. N. PIPER.