

E. NICKERSON & J. K. BLANCHARD.

PLAITING MACHINE.

No. 187,299.

Patented Feb. 13, 1877.

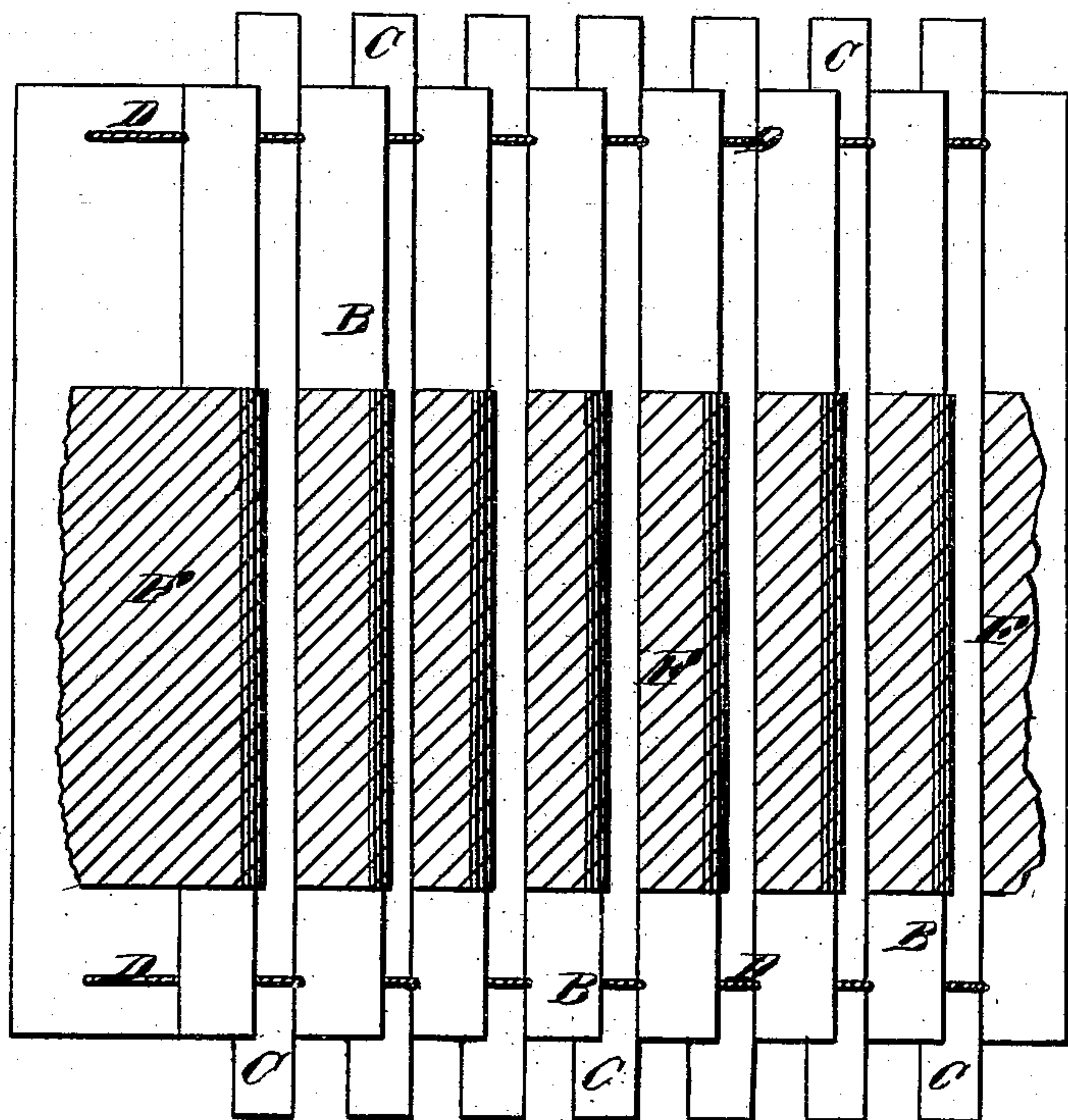
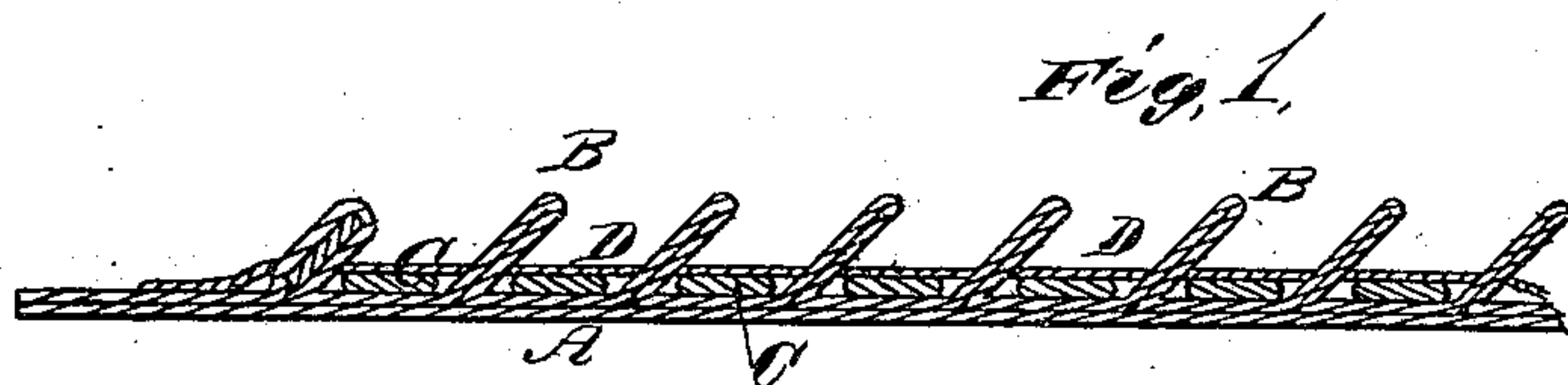


Fig. 2.

WITNESSES
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD NICKERSON AND JAMES K. BLANCHARD, OF LYNN, MASS., SAID
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IMPROVEMENT IN PLAITING-MACHINES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **187,299**, dated February 13, 1877; application filed
July 22, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, EDWARD NICKERSON and JAS. K. BLANCHARD, of Lynn, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Dress-Plait Apparatus; and we 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 drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a representation of a plan view of our dress-plait apparatus, and Fig. 2 is a transverse vertical sectional view of the same.

This invention consists in a device for folding plaits in dresses and other articles of apparel, and is constructed and operated as hereinafter fully set forth.

In the annexed drawing, A designates a sheet of paste-board, or similar flexible material, forming the bottom piece of the device. B B are transverse inclined ribs, of the same material, arranged on the surface of said sheet and secured thereto, but capable of folding down flat thereon, when pressure is applied or said sheet is rolled from the bottom upward. C C are wooden slats, which lie flat on the surface of sheet A, filling the spaces between ribs B B. D D are longitudinal cords, which pass through the ends of ribs B B and over the ends of slats C C. F is the fabric to be folded into plaits.

The slats C C are removed longitudinally or raised sufficiently to allow fabric F to be laid upon the sheet A and ribs B. Then slats C C are replaced in their former position, and

the fabric F is drawn taut over said ribs and under said slats. Said ribs are then pressed down upon said slats, and their coinciding edges make the plaits required, each plait exactly corresponding to one of the ribs B. As these ribs are equal and regular, the plaits will be equal and regular also.

When the sheet A is made, as above described, of flexible material, the plaiting may be effected by simply rolling the device from the bottom upward; but it may be made of sheet metal or other inflexible material, in which case external pressure must be applied to the ribs while the sheet lies flat.

We may use for the sheet or ribs, or both, paper, india-rubber, or any other material suitable to the purpose of the device; also, wires or any equivalent contrivance may be substituted for cords D D. The ribs and sheet may be made in one piece or separate, as may be preferred; but the ribs must be attached to the sheet, so as to be capable of standing upright or being folded down at will.

What we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A plaiting device consisting of the combination of sheet A, ribs B, slats C, and cords D, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that we claim the above we have hereunto subscribed our names in the presence of two witnesses.

EDWARD NICKERSON.
JAMES K. BLANCHARD.

Witnesses:

N. M. HAWKES,
HENRY C. OLIVER.