

J. J. PESINGER.  
FOLDING-BASKETS.

No. 190,360.

Patented May 1, 1877.

Fig. 1.

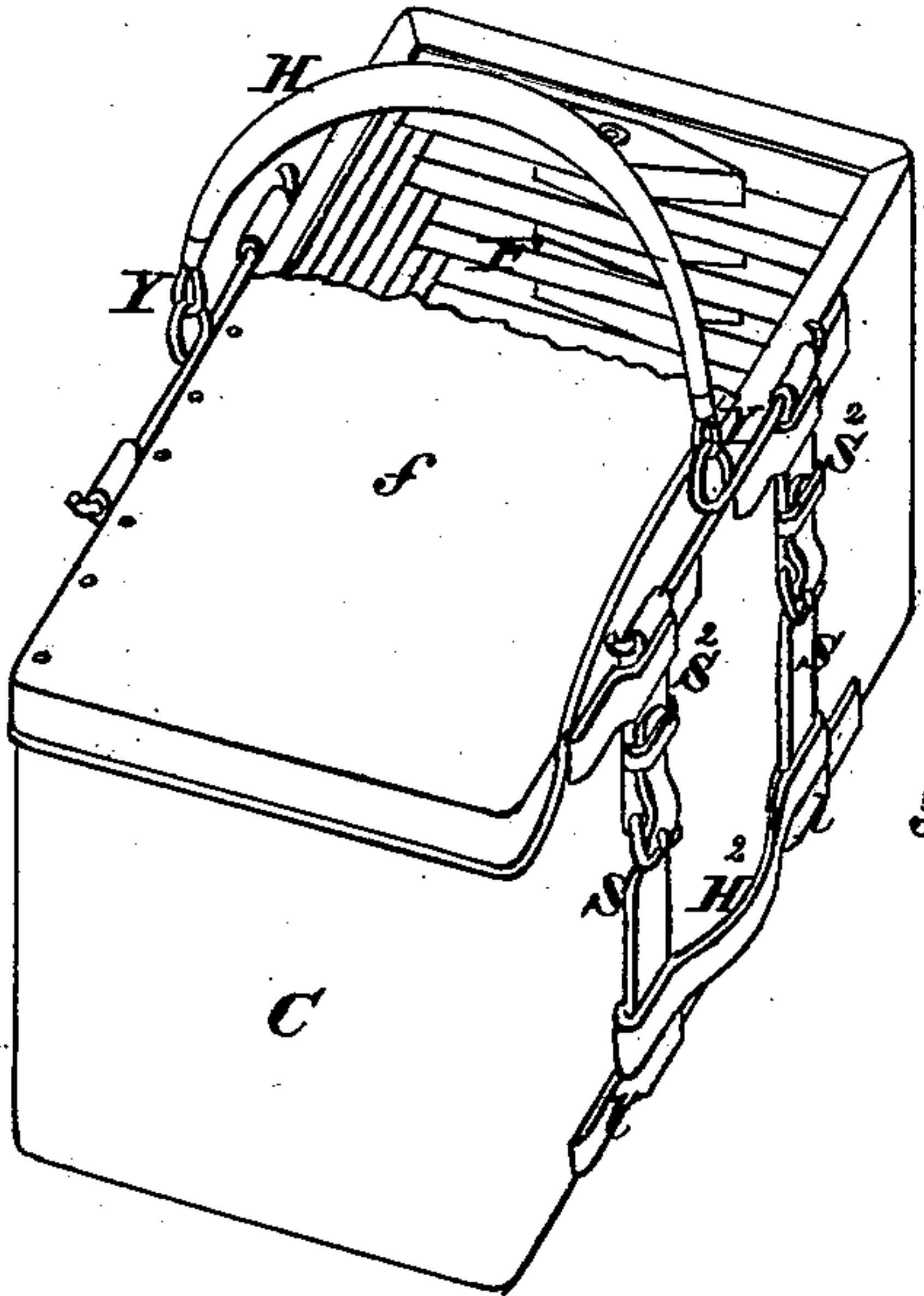


Fig. 2.

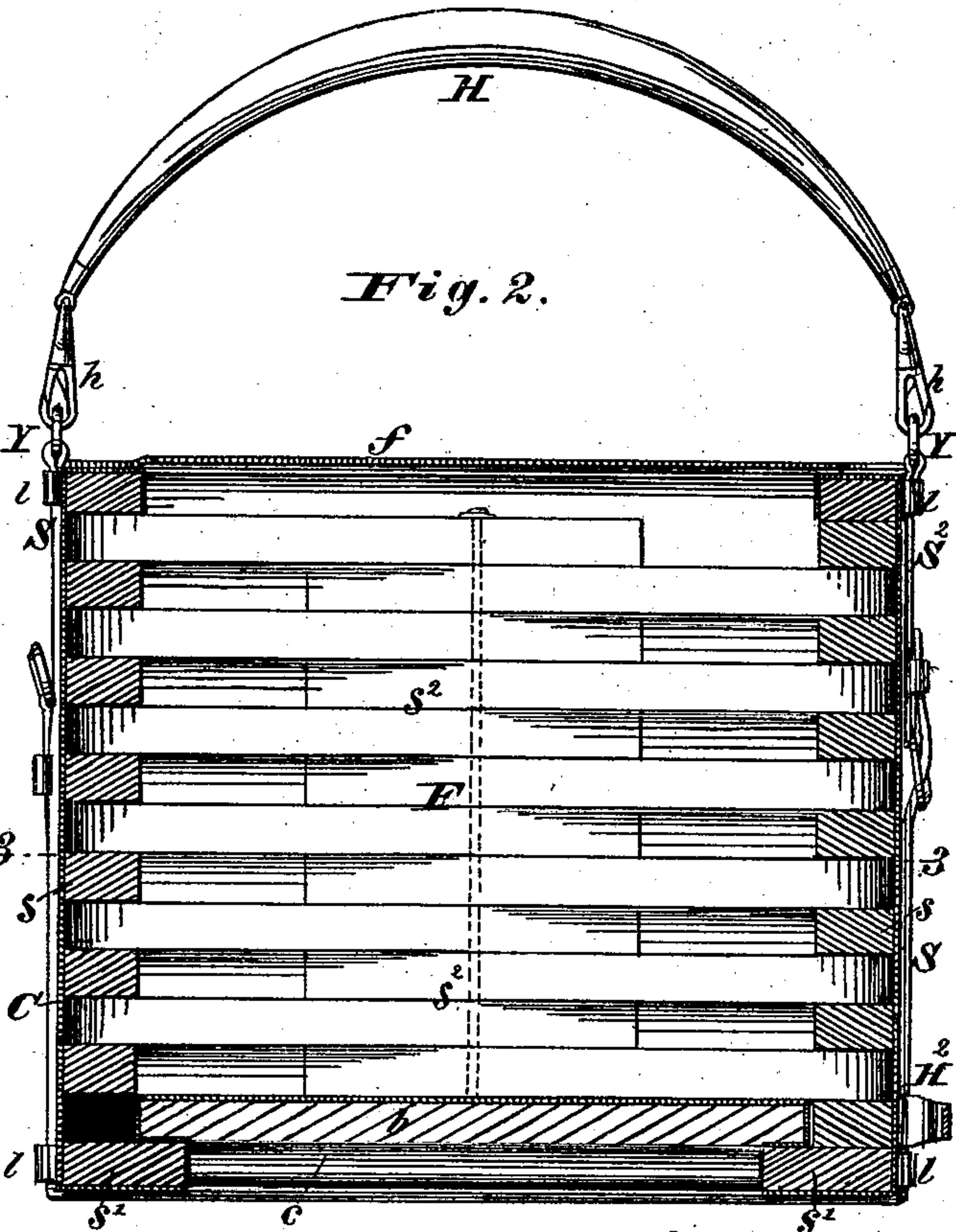
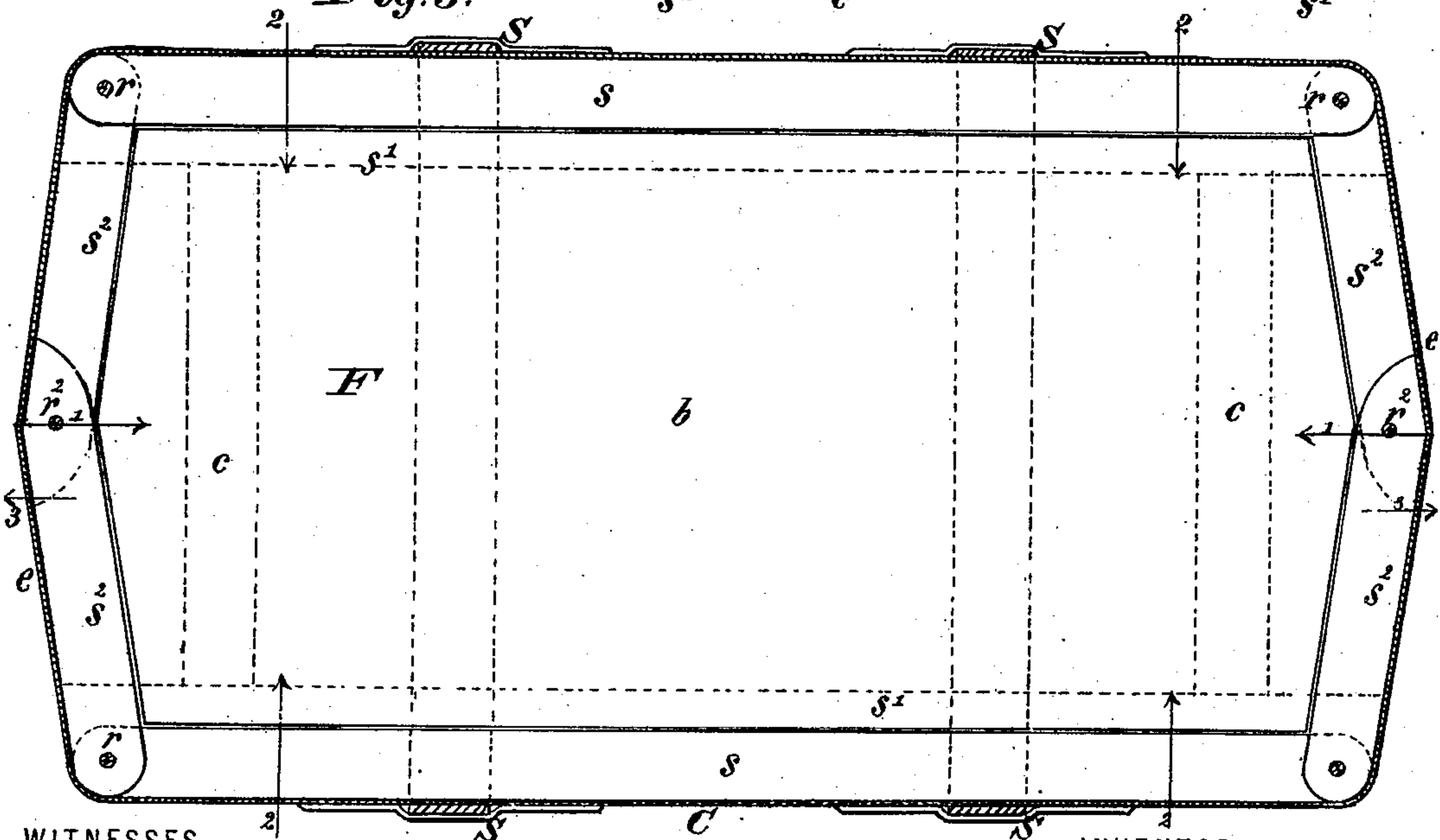


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

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Fig. 4.

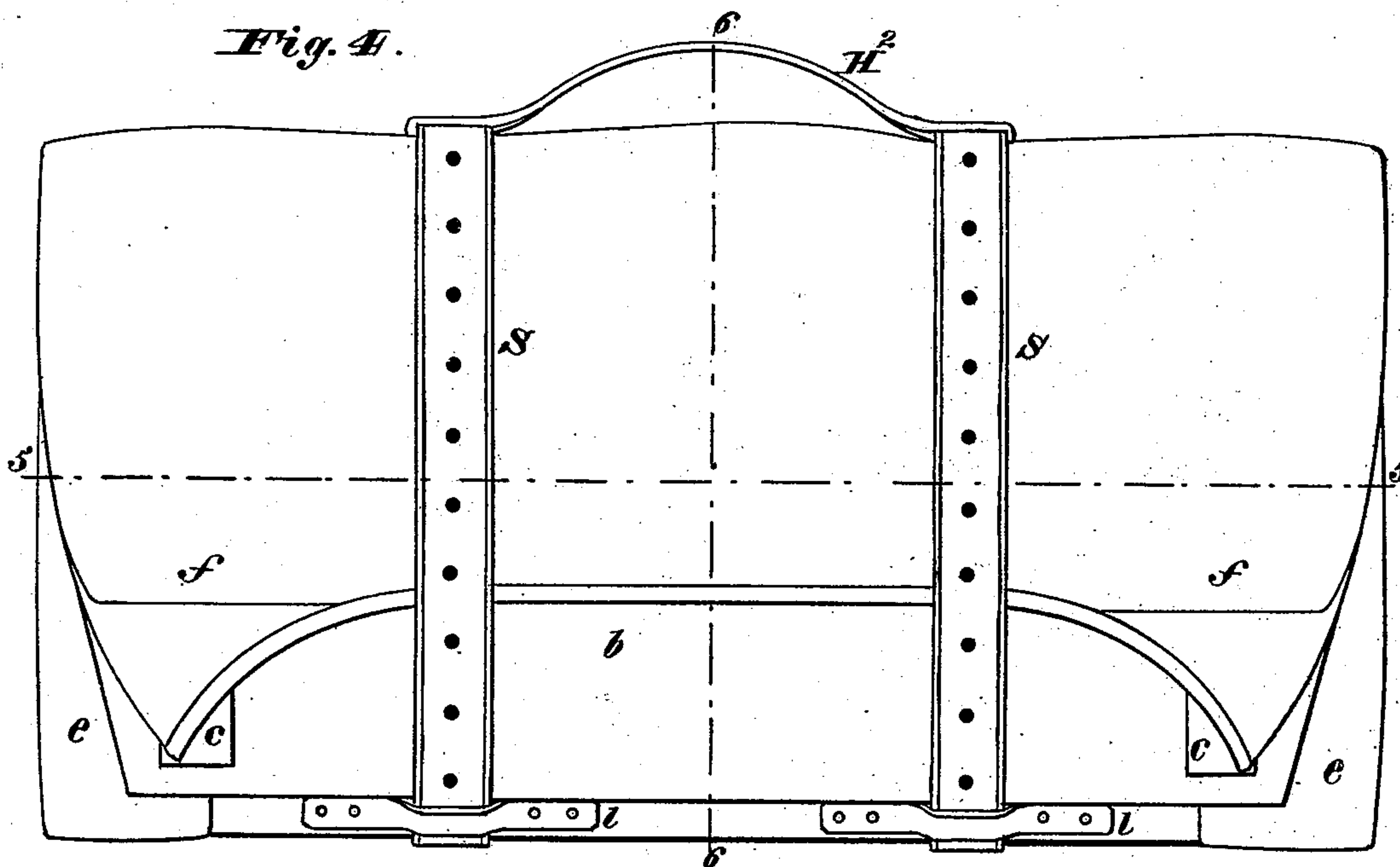


Fig. 5.

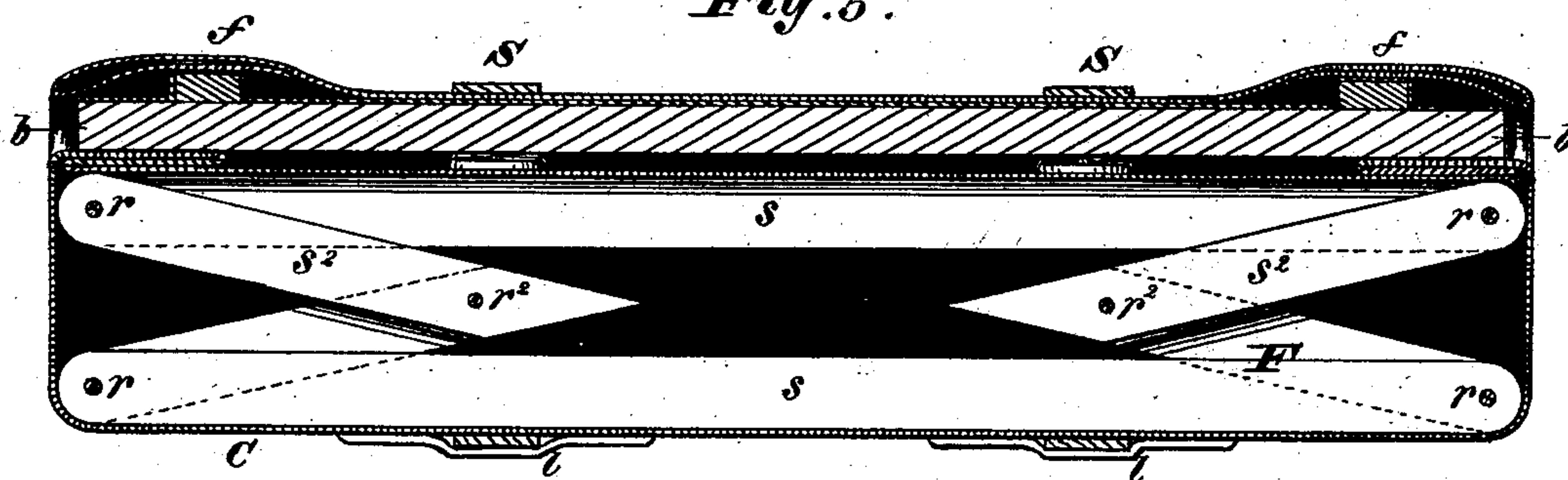
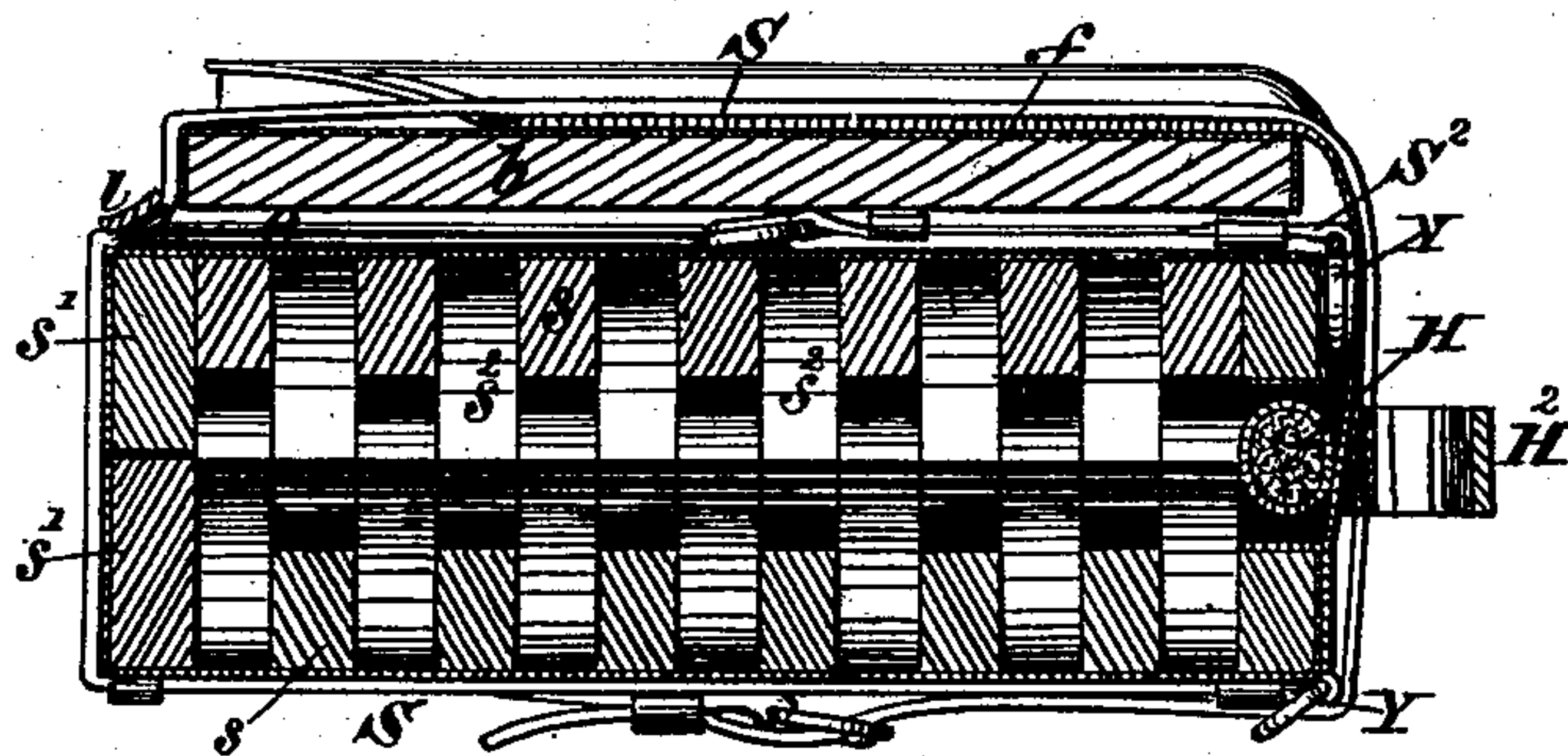


Fig. 6.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## IMPROVEMENT IN FOLDING BASKETS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 190,360, dated May 1, 1877; application filed March 19, 1877.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN J. PESINGER, of the city of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings, in the State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Baskets, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to "market-baskets," and the like, and in part to baskets and crates generally.

The invention consists, first, in a compressible basket-body or crate, adapted to be compacted into a symmetrical flat bundle, and when in use to present the required unobstructed open top, the same being held in shape for use by the insertion of a removable bottom, and provided with a flexible covering or jacket to mask the folding frame, and to render the body tight and neat; secondly, in a detachable handle, in combination with a pair of metallic yokes and a pair of flexible straps furnished with suitable buckles, the whole providing for carrying a compressible basket-body with ease and safety, while the straps serve also to secure the same after it is compacted; and, thirdly, in a supplemental handle, in combination with said straps for carrying the compacted basket with the main handle detached, as hereinafter more fully set forth.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a compressible market-basket illustrating this invention. Fig. 2 is a central transverse section of the same, on a larger scale. Fig. 3 is a horizontal section on the line 3 3, Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a side view of the same basket compacted. Fig. 5 is a longitudinal section on the line 5 5, Fig. 4. Fig. 6 is a transverse section on the line 6 6, Fig. 4.

Like letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures.

The frame F of this improved basket is oblong and rectangular, or nearly rectangular, when open, as shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3, and has hinge-joints at its four vertical corners and midway between the corners in each end, so as to adapt its ends to fold inward, as indicated by arrows 1 1, Fig. 3, and its sides to move simultaneously toward each other, as indicated by arrows 2, Fig. 3. The basket is thus adapted to be compacted into a flat bun-

dle, as shown in Figs. 4, 5, and 6, no longer than the length of either side, and no wider than the body of the basket is high. The frame F is composed of a sufficient number of parallel horizontal slats,  $s$   $s^2$ , with six vertical pintle-rods,  $r$   $r^2$ , forming sides and ends, and a removable bottom,  $b$ , which may be a simple board, as shown, with or without cleats  $c$ , or composed of slats like the sides, as preferred. The slats of the sides and of the respective halves of each end alternate, as shown in Figs. 2 and 6, and the rods  $r$   $r^2$  unite them, so as to form the said hinge-joints in the most simple and strong way known to me. Each rod extends from top to bottom, and is headed, or otherwise permanently secured, at each end. The ends of the slats are perforated to receive the rods, and are so shaped as to work freely. The slats are intended to be made of wood, but any preferred material may be employed, and the shape or proportions modified to correspond. Two lengths of slat are required in each frame for the side slats  $s$  and the end slats  $s^2$ , but all are of one and the same size and shape in cross-section except a pair of wider side slats,  $s^1$ , which are added at the bottom to form supports for the bottom  $b$ . The upper and lower edges of the sides are made even by duplicating the upper slat of one side and the lower regular slat of the other, as shown.

A flexible jacket or covering, C, of canvas, duck, thin oil-cloth, or the like, is secured by metallic tacks to the sides of the frame F, and is adapted to cover the sides and ends of the open frame, and to form a top flap,  $f$ , by which the mouth of the basket can be closed. The flap has at each end a downwardly-projecting rim to keep it close. Loops and buttons may be added or substituted, if preferred. The ends  $e$   $e$  of the cover are not attached to the ends of the frame, but are adapted to be drawn outward, as indicated by arrows 3 3, Fig. 3, when the ends are folded inward, and they are then drawn around the ends of the sides, and the whole is covered or nearly covered by the flap  $f$ . The bottom  $b$  of the frame is covered with the same material, so as to render it uniform with the rest of the compacted basket. Its ends are also made convex in the



illustration, so as to spread and tighten the ends of the frame within the ends *e* of the covering, as shown.

A detachable handle, *H*, provides a convenient means for carrying the open basket, and is attached by snap-hooks *h h* to central eyes on a pair of metallic yokes, *Y Y*, the ends of which are secured in loops at the upper extremities of the parts *S S*<sup>2</sup> of two straps, which pass under the bottom of the basket, and are securely attached to the sides of the frame by means of loops *l*, through which they pass. The handle *H* may be of leather, rope, or any other suitable material. The snap-hooks *h* and yokes *Y* may be of iron or brass, and the straps *S S*<sup>2</sup> and loops *l* of leather. The parts of the straps are each furnished with a buckle and keeper, and the main parts *S* are made of sufficient length to adapt them to wrap around the compacted bundle, as indicated in Figs. 4, 5, and 6, so as to secure the same without other means. The detached handle is accommodated within the bundle, as shown in Fig. 6.

A supplemental handle, *H*<sup>2</sup>, having a loop at each end, is threaded on the straps *S*, so as to remain attached at the front of the open basket, as shown in Fig. 1, without being in the way, and this serves, in connection with the straps, as means for carrying the compacted basket, as indicated in Fig. 4.

The basket can be opened or compacted in a few moments, and in the latter shape can be carried in the hand, under the arm, or elsewhere, with the utmost convenience, and with great economy of space.

When open, all the parts are in use or permanently attached, and when compacted the only detached parts are the bottom and main handle, which are securely inclosed, and are too large to be lost. Four buckles are the only loose fastenings, and there are no parts which cannot readily be made of sufficient strength, and at the same time as light as may be required.

In the construction of a cheaper basket,

having the described frame *F* with inwardly-folding ends, with or without the covering *C*, a pair of vertical rods or bolts, having eyes at their upper ends, and extending downward through all or any sufficient number of the slats *s* of each side, may serve in lieu of the yokes *Y* for attaching a handle, *H*, independently of the straps *S S*<sup>2</sup>, which in this case may be reduced to one strap, or replaced by a simple string, the supplemental handle *H*<sup>2</sup> to be omitted. This substitute handle attachment is simply described for optional use as aforesaid, and is not claimed as a part of the present invention.

The following is what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, namely—

1. A compressible basket-body or crate, consisting of a frame having inwardly-folding ends and a removable bottom, with a flexible jacket or covering for the frame, substantially as herein shown and described.

2. A detachable handle for a compressible basket, in combination with a pair of yokes to which the handle is attached in central position, and a pair of straps extending from the yokes beneath the bottom of the basket, said straps being adapted to serve as means for securing the compacted basket after the handle is detached.

3. A supplemental handle for a compressible basket, in combination with a pair of straps, each consisting of two parts, and each part provided with a buckle, said straps being threaded through loops at the ends of the said supplemental handle, and adapted to serve as means for securing the compacted basket, and attaching the supplemental handle thereto in convenient position, and also to serve in combination with a detachable main handle when the basket is opened or expanded.

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Witnesses:

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