

H. S. SPRAGUE.
Shipping-Case.

No. 213,140

Patented Mar. 11, 1879.

Fig. 1

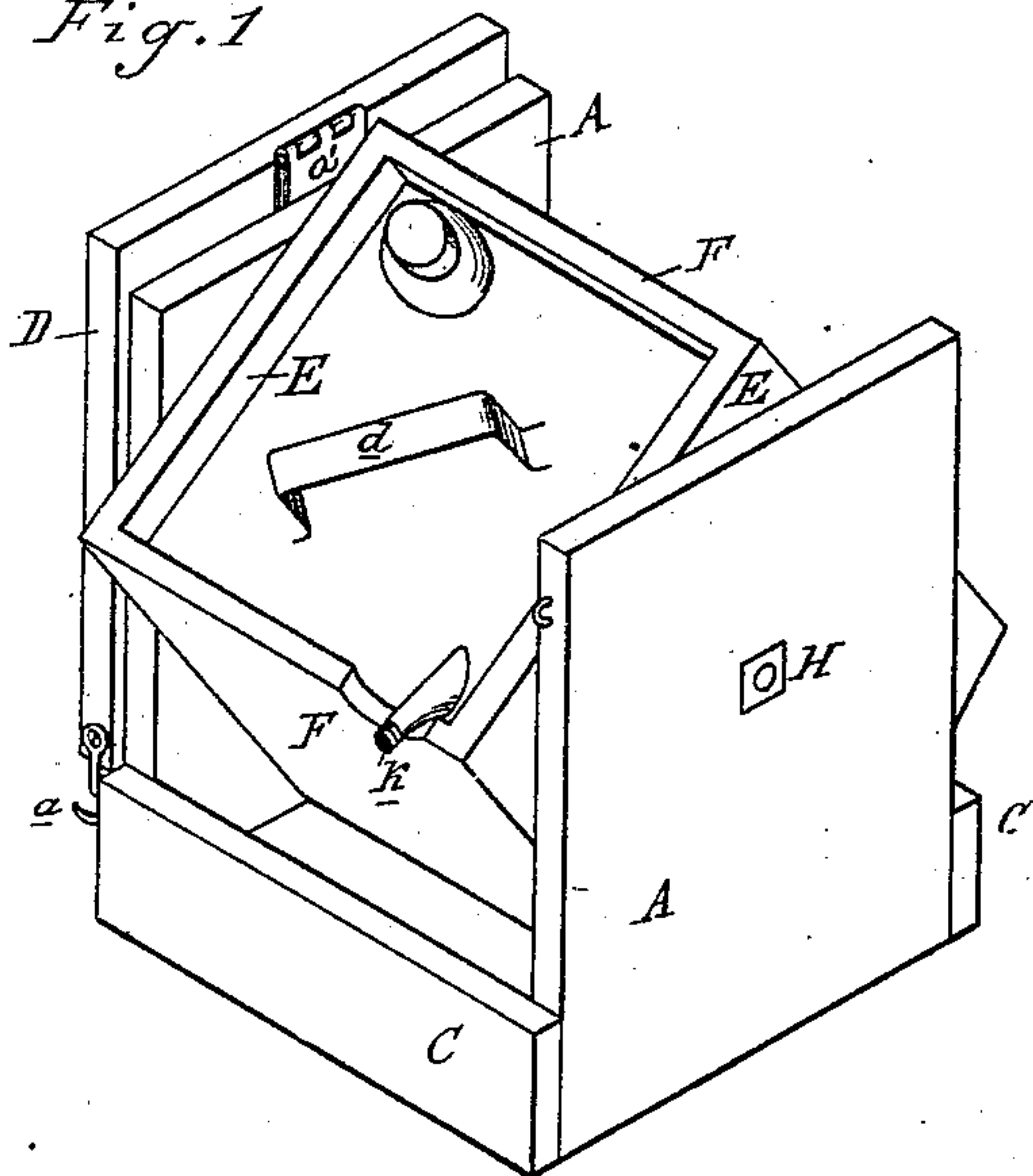


Fig. 2

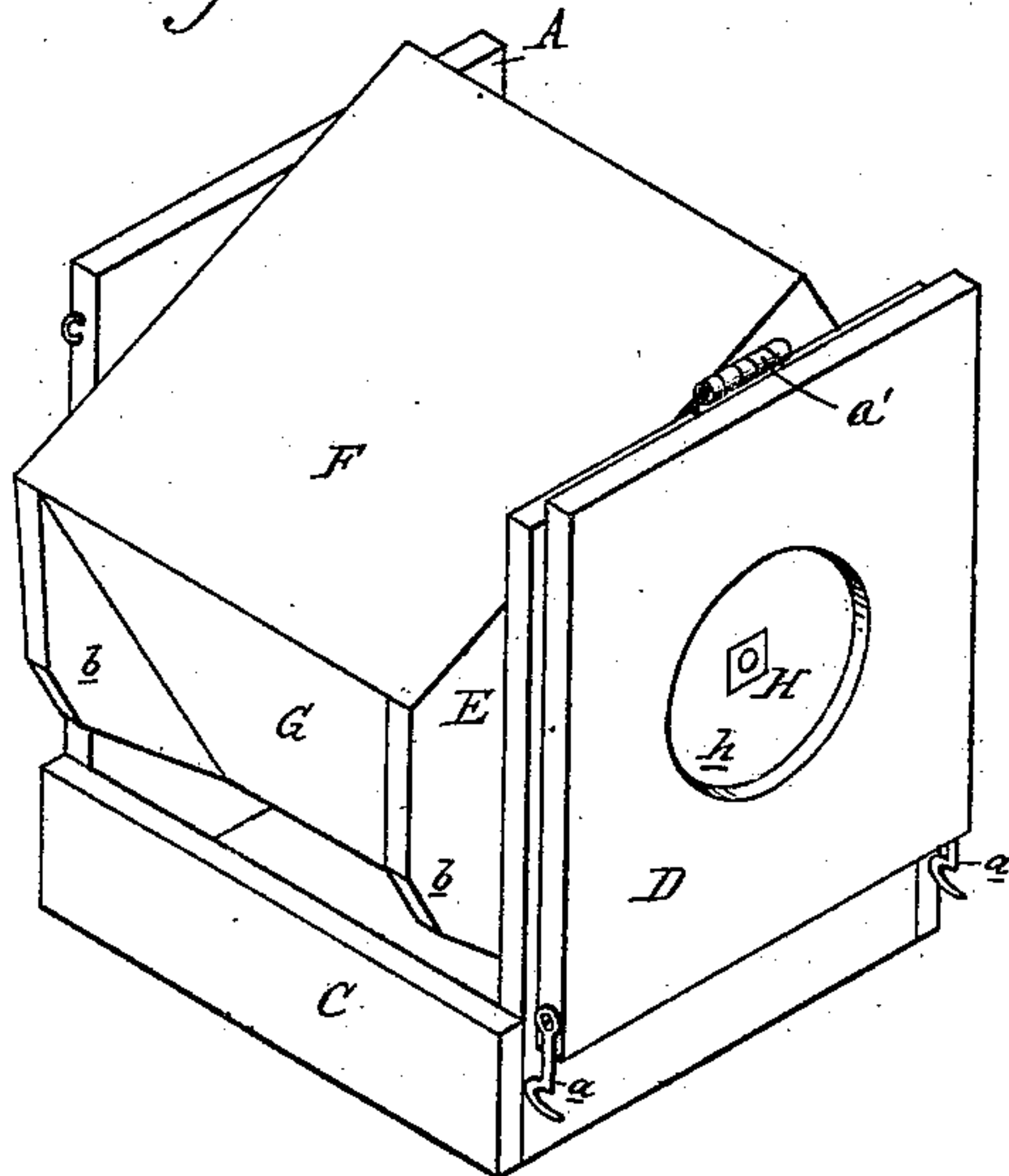


Fig. 3

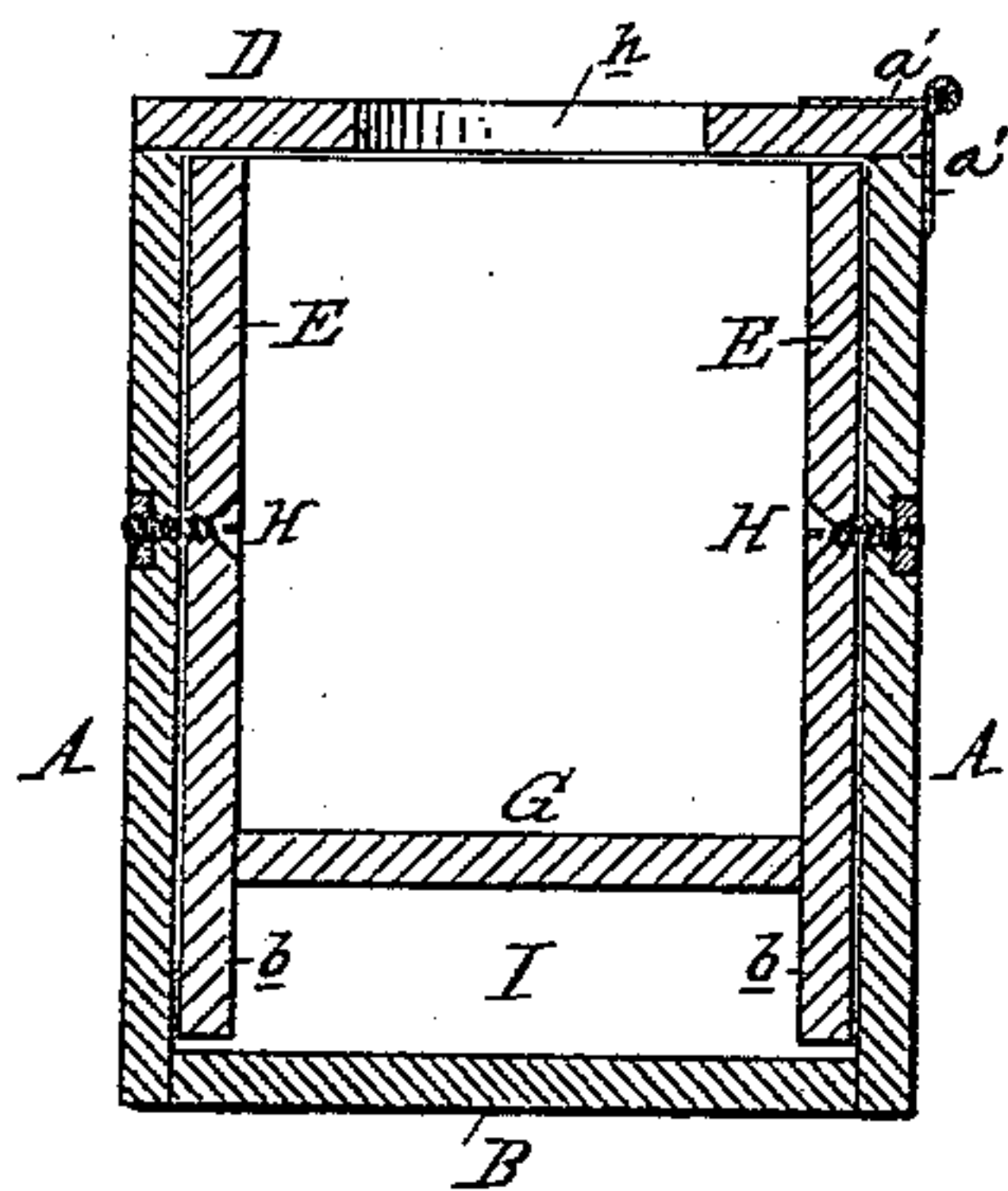
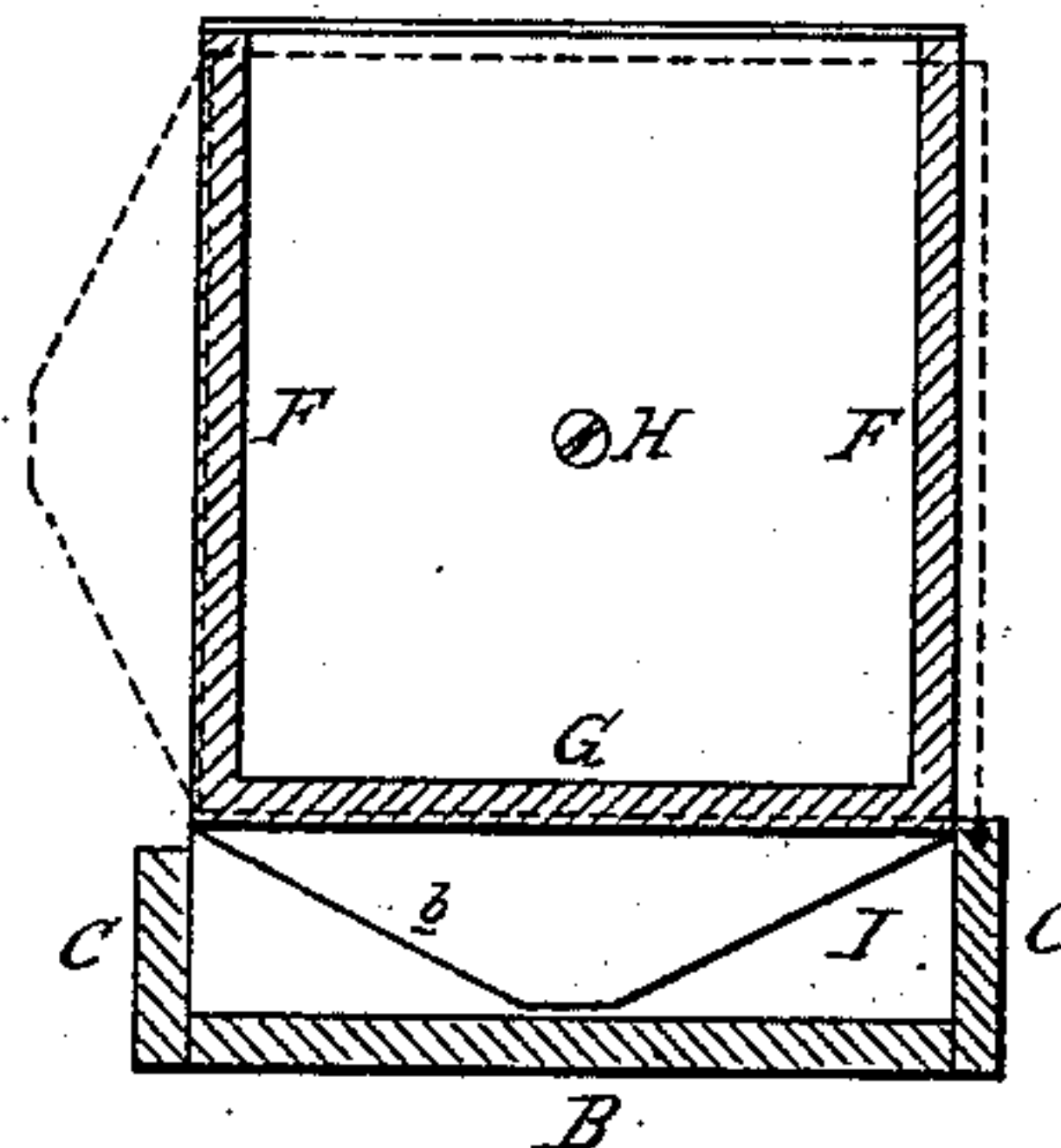


Fig. 4



Attest:

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HENRY S. SPRAGUE, OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN.

IMPROVEMENT IN SHIPPING-CASES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **213,140**, dated March 11, 1879; application filed December 7, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY S. SPRAGUE, of Detroit, Wayne county, Michigan, have invented an Improvement in Shipping-Cases, of which the following is a specification:

The nature of this invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in shipping-cases, more especially designed to contain and protect from accidental injury tin cans in which liquids are shipped; and the invention consists, first, in a packing-case wherein are combined an outer case having two open sides, an inner can-containing case swinging on fixed pivots in the outer case, (as contradistinguished from vertically-sliding trunnions,) and a cover so hinged to the top of the outer case that it can be closed over the inner case, and when opened can be swung into a vertical position; in the means for supporting the inner case swinging on fixed pivots from the closed bottom of the outer case, so as to relieve the strain on the trunnions; in the combination and construction of parts to form a closed chamber in the bottom of the outer case, which is disclosed when the inner case is swung on its pivots; and, further, in the combination of the principal parts composing my packing-case, as more fully hereinafter explained.

Figure 1 is a perspective and front view of the outer and inner cases and inclosed can, the inner case being partially swung upon its trunnions, as required, to pour out the contents of the can, and disclosing the chamber below the inner case. Fig. 2 is a like view from the rear. Fig. 3 is a vertical central section of the outer and inner cases. Fig. 4 is an end elevation, partially in cross-section, of the inner and outer cases, showing the former in dotted lines swung upon its trunnions at right angles to the latter, such being the requisite position when it is desired to empty the inclosed can of its contents.

In the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, A A represent the ends of the outer case, secured at their lower ends to the bottom B. The sides are partially formed by the narrow pieces C C, which are secured to the lower ends of the ends A A and to the bottom B. A cover, D, is hinged to the top of one of the ends A, and when closed is secured by hooks *a* or other suitable devices to the top of the opposite end A.

The strap-hinge *a'*, which hinges the cover to the outer case, is attached to the outer surface of one of the ends A, and projects above such end, and is fastened to the top of the cover, so as to hold the same securely, and at the same time (by being extended above the end A) to allow the cover, when opened, to be swung into a vertical position against the end A.

The inner case is composed of sides E E, ends F F, and bottom G, secured together in rectangular form like a box, without a cover, except that the sides E E project below the bottom, as at *b*, beveled off, as shown, to form a support or feet, which, when the inner case is in place and in a vertical position, will rest upon the bottom B of the outer shell, and in part relieve the strain upon the trunnions which secure the two cases together.

H H are trunnions, which pass through the ends A A of the outer case and the sides E E of the inner case, in any desired manner which will allow the inner case to swing freely upon the trunnions, and that will hold the two cases together. The means which I prefer to employ is short bolts, as shown in Fig. 3, their nuts being upon the outside, and countersunk, as shown. By this construction a chamber, I, is formed below the bottom of the inner case, in which advertising-cards or other small articles can be packed with safety, as this chamber is not disclosed until the top is unhooked and thrown back, and the inner case partially swung, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

Packing-cans are usually rectangular in form, and provided with a handle, *d*, secured to their tops. In order to use this handle, when the cases are closed and fastened for shipment, this handle is allowed to partially protrude through an aperture, *h*, in the cover of the outer case, and through which the handle is grasped.

The cases being constructed substantially as described, the inclosed tin can is filled and placed within the inner case, which will cause the said case to settle a trifle until its feet rest upon the bottom of the outer case, thereby relieving the weight upon the trunnions. The cover is then secured and the whole is ready for shipment.

When it is desired to draw any portion of the

contents of the tin can, the cover is unhooked and thrown back, when the operator can swing the can and inner case upon its trunnions and draw through the spout *k* or other suitable device.

I do not claim the construction of the tin can, as such is in common use; but

What I claim as my invention is—

1. A packing-case wherein are combined an outer case having two open sides, an inner case swinging on fixed pivots in the outer case, and a cover hinged to the outer case, so that it can be closed over the inner case, and when opened can be swung into a vertical position, substantially as described and shown.

2. The combination, with the outer case, having two open sides and a closed bottom, of the inner case, swinging on fixed pivots in the outer case, and having downwardly-projecting beveled sides, which rest upon the bottom of the outer case, substantially as described and shown.

3. The combination of the outer case, hav-

ing two open sides and a closed bottom, with the inner case, pivoted in the outer case and having its bottom raised above the bottom of the outer case, and the pieces *C*, closing the lower ends of the open sides, and forming a chamber, *I*, in the bottom of the outer case, which is disclosed when the inner case is swung upon its pivots, substantially as described and shown.

4. The packing-case described, consisting of the outer case, having two open sides closed at the bottom by pieces *C*, two closed sides, *A*, and a closed bottom, *B*, and provided with hinged cover *D*, adapted when opened to be swung into a vertical position, and the inner case, pivoted in the outer case and having open top and downwardly-projecting beveled sides *b*, constructed, arranged, and combined substantially as described and shown.

HENRY S. SPRAGUE.

Witnesses:

CHAS. THURMAN,
CHAS. J. HUNT.