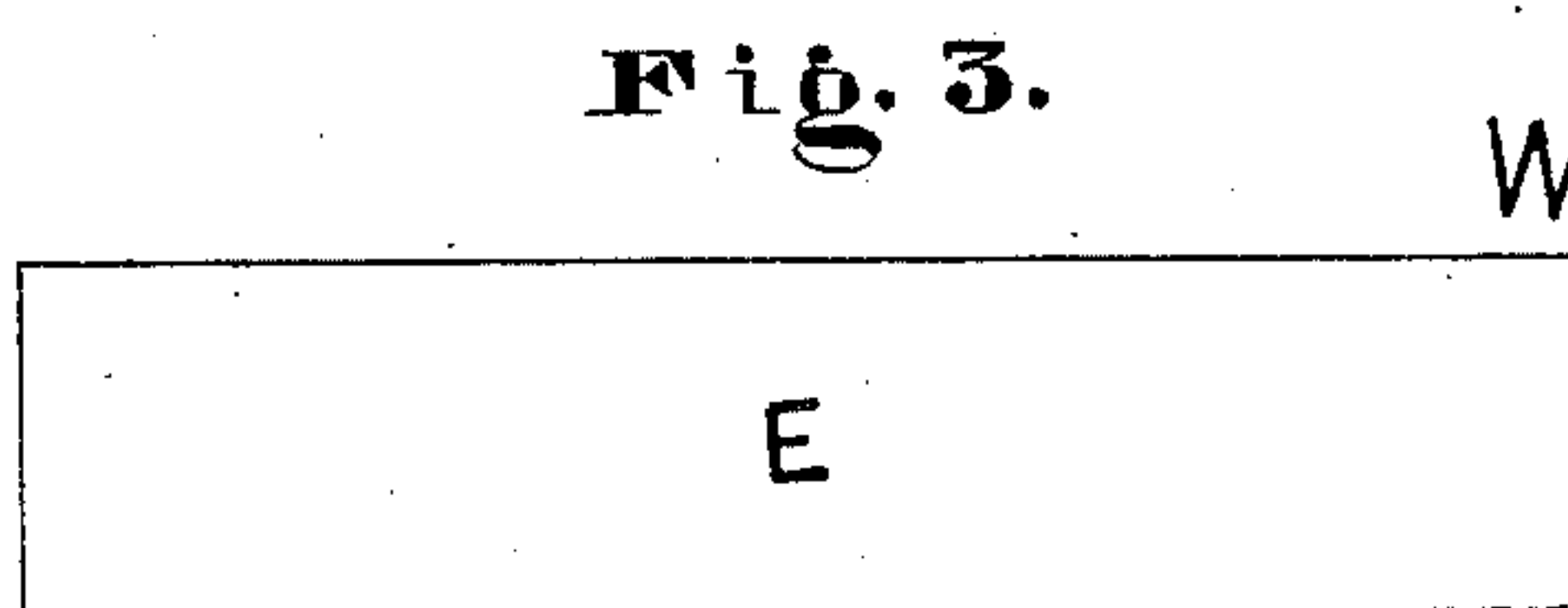
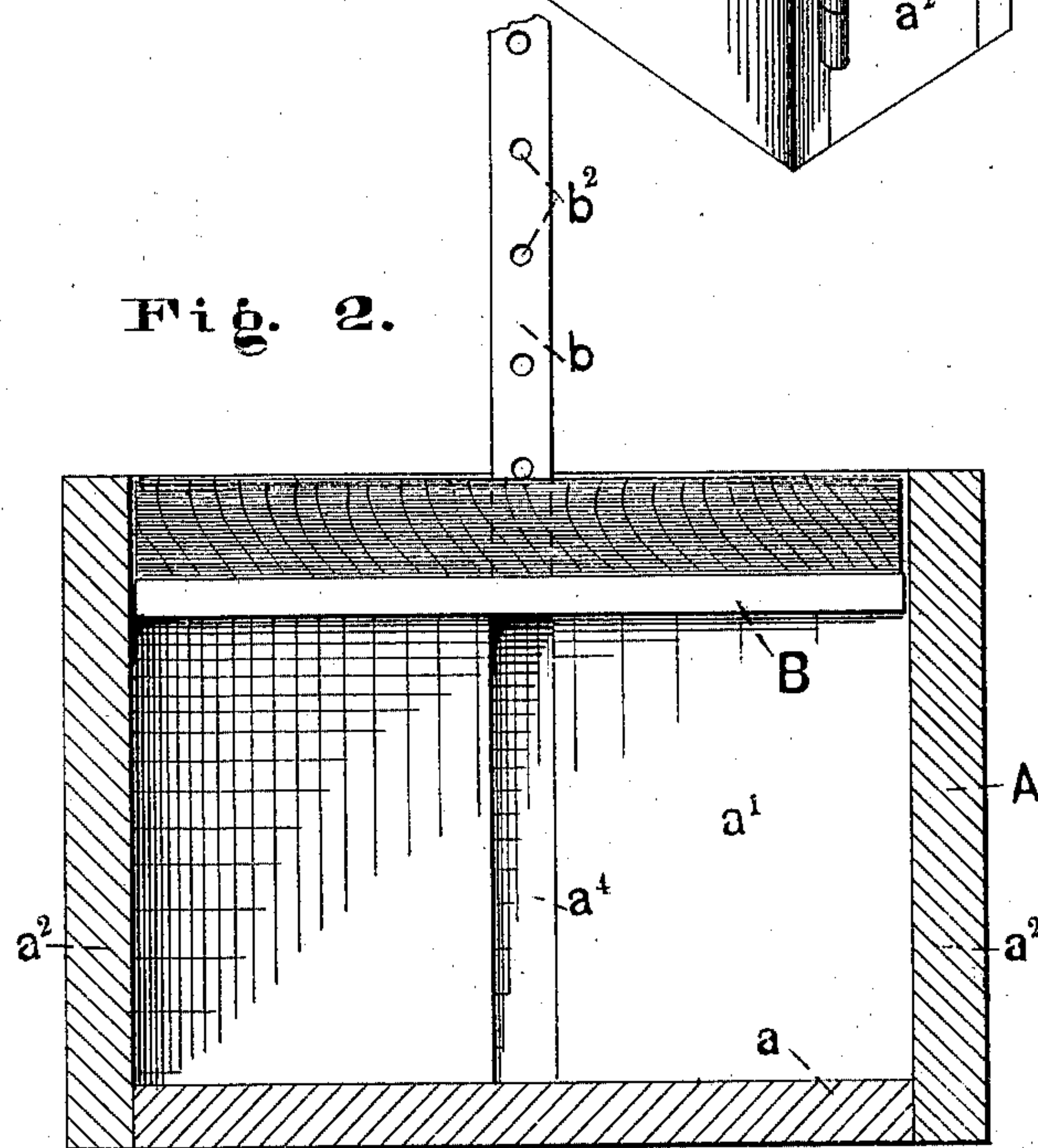
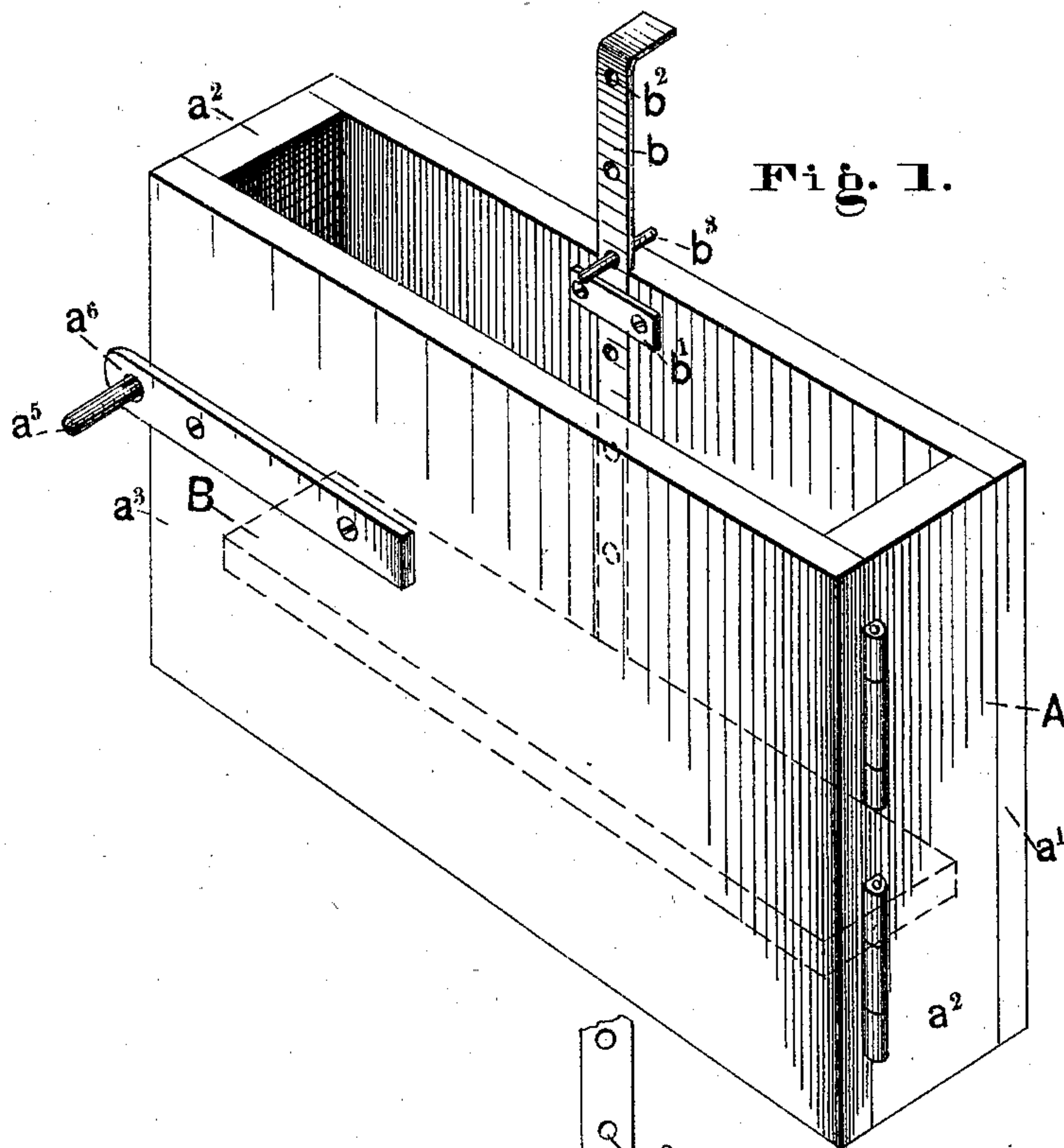


W. A. FORD.
Plug Tobacco Making Apparatus.

No. 216,265.

Patented June 10, 1879.



WITNESSES:
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Cornelius Cox

INVENTOR:
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Fig. 4.

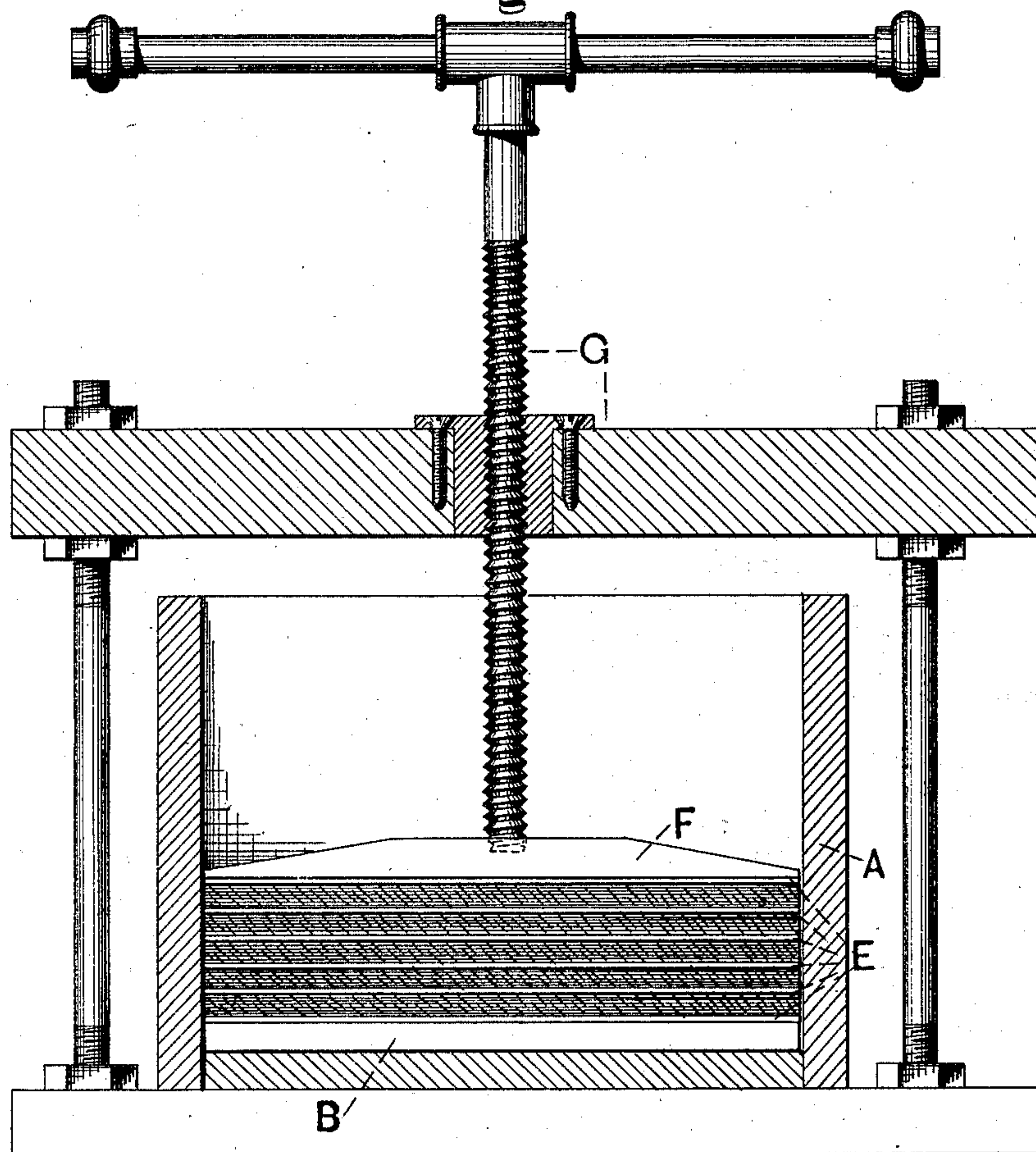


Fig. 5.

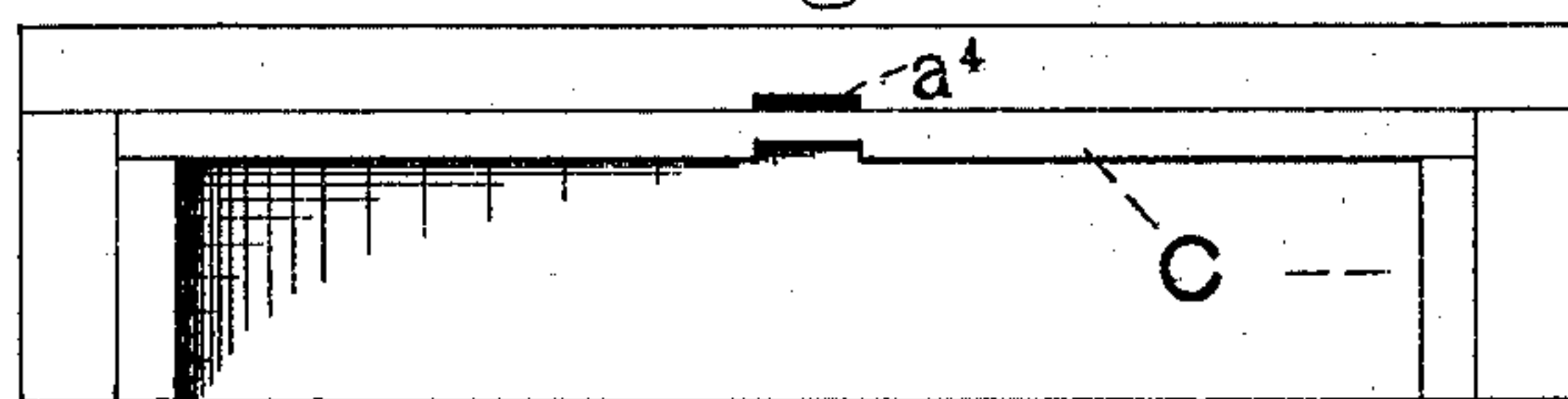
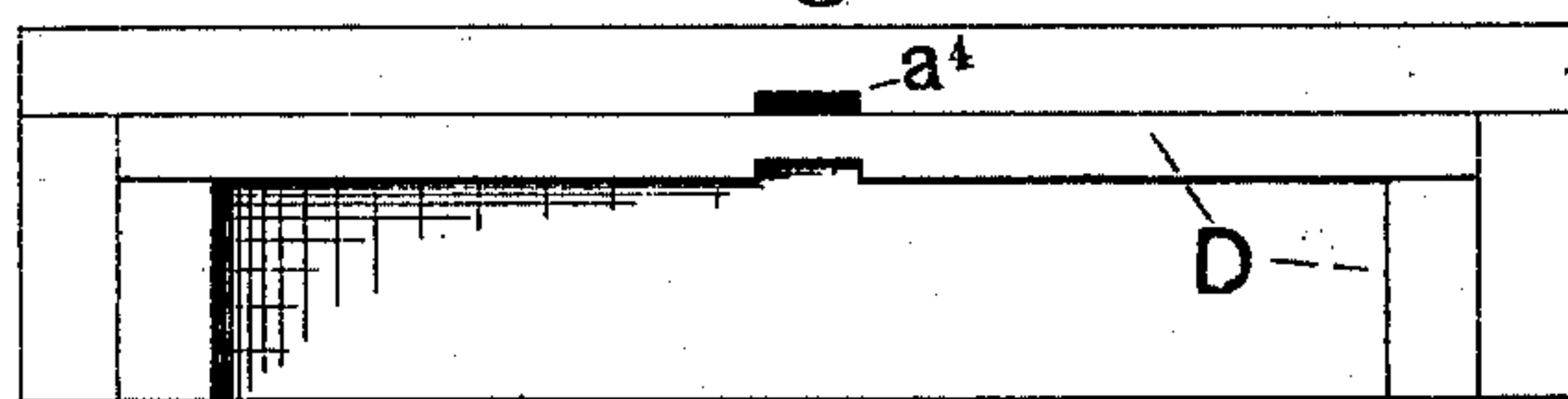


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM A. FORD, OF LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN PLUG-TOBACCO-MAKING APPARATUS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **216,265**, dated June 10, 1879; application filed August 14, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM A. FORD, of Lynchburg, county of Campbell, and State of Virginia, have invented a new and useful Apparatus for Making Plug-Tobacco; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

This invention consists mainly, first, in the combination, with a box or case for receiving the tobacco from which the plugs are formed, of an adjustable false bottom for successively holding the tobacco for each plug at the top of the case, where it can be conveniently manipulated; and, secondly, in the combination, with an outer box or case, of an interior case for reducing the space within the box, for the purpose of adapting the same to make plugs of a smaller size.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of the outer case; Fig. 2, a vertical sectional elevation representing the tobacco for the first plug arranged upon the false bottom B; Fig. 3, a plan view of one of the division-plates; Fig. 4, a sectional elevation representing the case in the press; and Figs. 5 and 6, views of the outer case, with an auxiliary case employed for reducing the size of the plug.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my improved apparatus, I will proceed to describe the same fully and the manner of using the same.

A, Figs. 1 and 2, represents a box or case consisting of the permanent bottom piece, *a*, Fig. 2, permanent back piece, *a*¹, Figs. 1 and 2, permanent side pieces, *a*² *a*², and the hinged front piece or door, *a*³, Fig. 1, as shown.

*a*⁴, Figs. 2, 5, and 6, represents a vertical groove or recess formed in the inner face of the back piece, the purpose of which will be described hereinafter.

*a*⁵ *a*⁶, Fig. 1, represent fastening devices of any proper kind, by means of which the door is properly secured when desired.

B, Figs. 1, 2, and 4, represents a board or plate of proper length and width to form a

false bottom, as shown, which is provided with any proper lifting bar or rod, *b*, Figs. 1 and 2, adapted to lie in the recess *a*⁴ and move therein in a vertical direction.

*b*¹, Fig. 1, represents any proper guide-piece, by means of which the bar *b* is properly held in the groove without interfering with its vertical movement. *b*² represents a series of holes in the bar *b*, by means of which and a pin, *b*³, it may be secured in any desired position.

C, Fig. 5, represents an auxiliary case or box, constructed in all essential particulars like the outer case, with the exception that the door is wanting, which is adapted to fit within the latter, for the purpose of making smaller the interior space.

D, Fig. 6, also represents an auxiliary case, precisely like the case C, with the exception that its walls are made thicker, for the purpose of reducing still more the interior space. A series of these auxiliary cases of graduated size is provided for the purpose of adapting the apparatus to make plugs of any desired size.

E E, Figs. 3 and 4, represent division-plates, and F, Fig. 4, a follower-plate, the purpose of both of which will be described hereinafter.

G, Fig. 4, represents a press of any proper construction adapted to receive the box A, as shown.

The manner of using this apparatus is substantially as follows: The box A having been suitably prepared—that is, with its door closed and fastened, as shown in Fig. 1, and its false bottom raised, as shown in Fig. 2, so as to form a tray or chamber of sufficient depth to receive the proper quantity of tobacco to make a single plug—the previously-prepared tobacco is laid therein and properly adjusted to its place. A division-plate, E, being then laid upon the tobacco the false bottom is lowered until a sufficient space is obtained above the plate to receive the tobacco for another plug. This being properly laid in place, and another division-plate being laid thereon, the false bottom is lowered another step, this operation being continued until the box is filled, when it is then placed under the press and subjected to its treatment, as shown in Fig. 4.

By simply removing the box from the press and taking out the plugs it is ready again for use.

By means of auxiliary boxes a plug of any desired size may be made.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The plug-tobacco-forming box A, having the false bottom B and adjustable holding-

strip, by means of which the bottom is held in its proper position, substantially as described.

2. The outer box, A, adapted for the manufacture of plug-tobacco, having the interchangeable cases C D, of different capacity, substantially as described.

WM. A. FORD.

Witnesses:

JOHN T. MOFFETT,
CORNELIUS COX.