

R. W. OWEN.
Leather Boxes.

No. 218,132.

Patented Aug. 5, 1879.

Fig. 1.

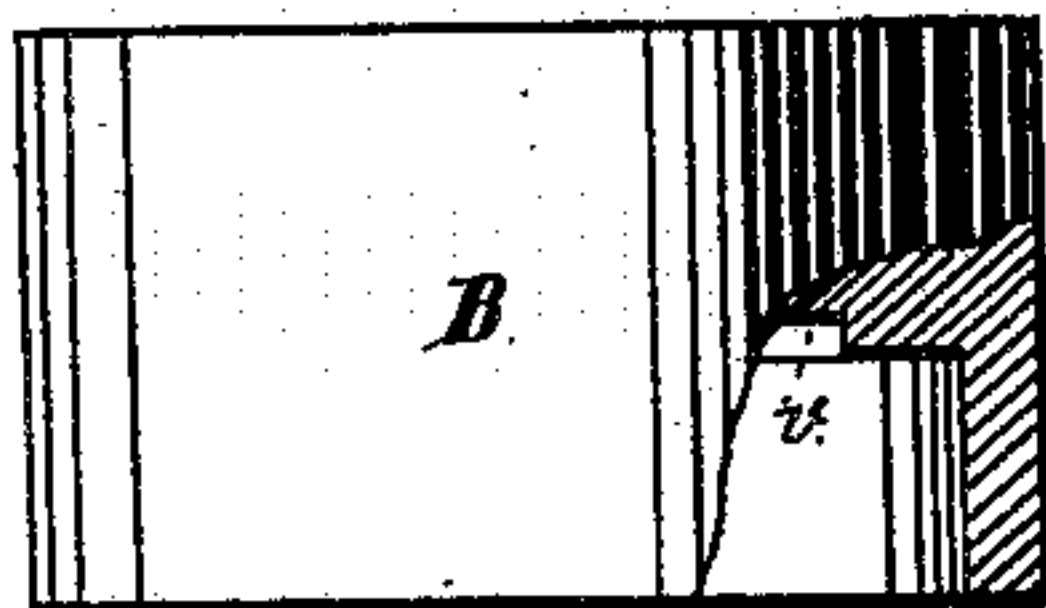


Fig. 6.

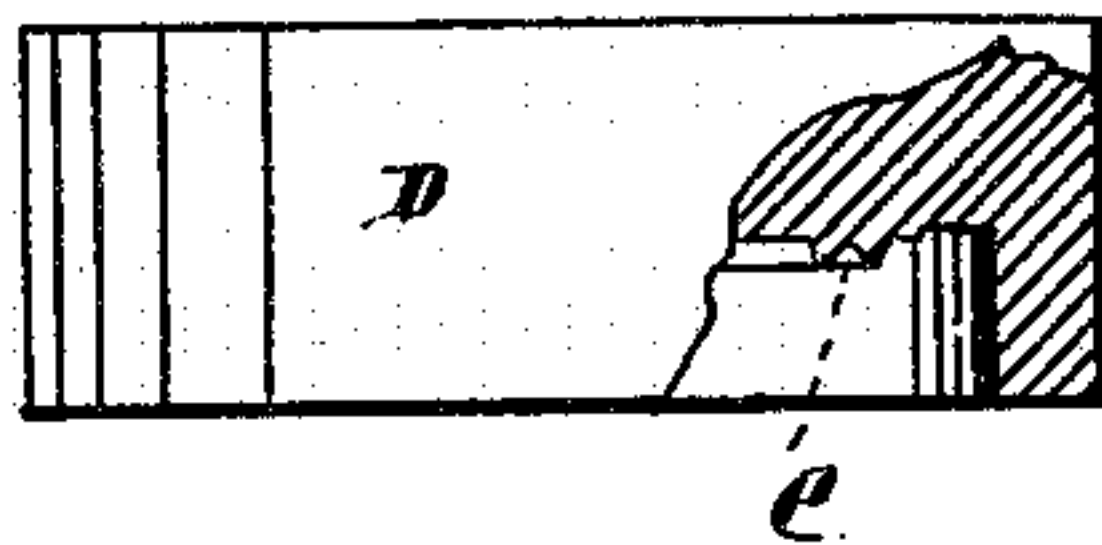


Fig. 2.

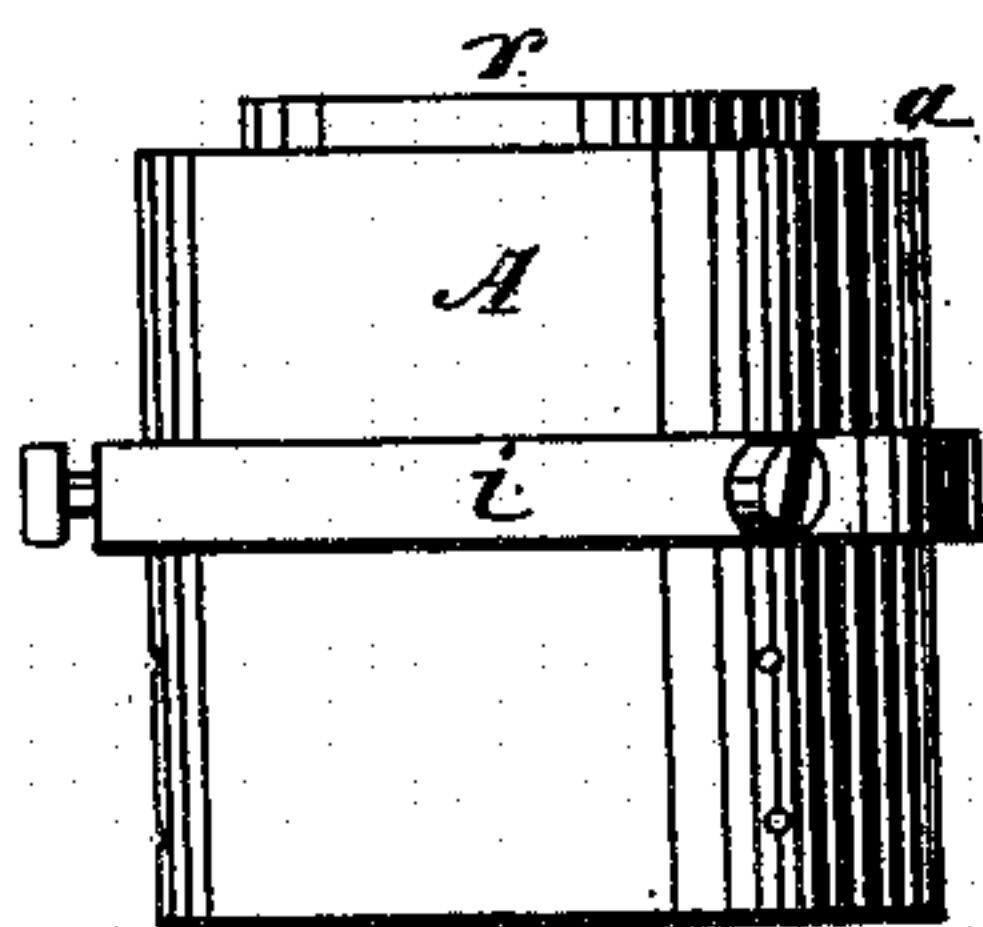


Fig. 7.

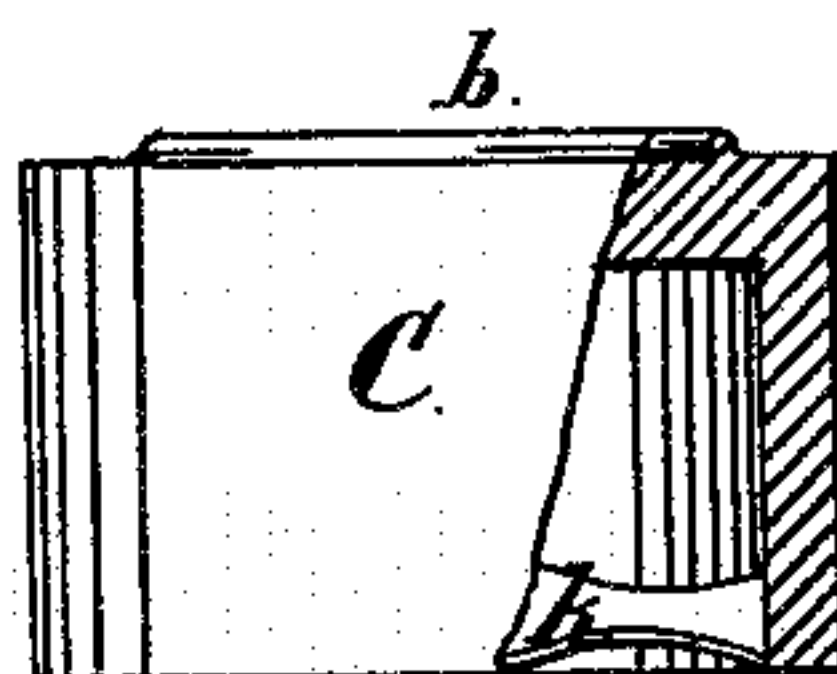


Fig. 3.

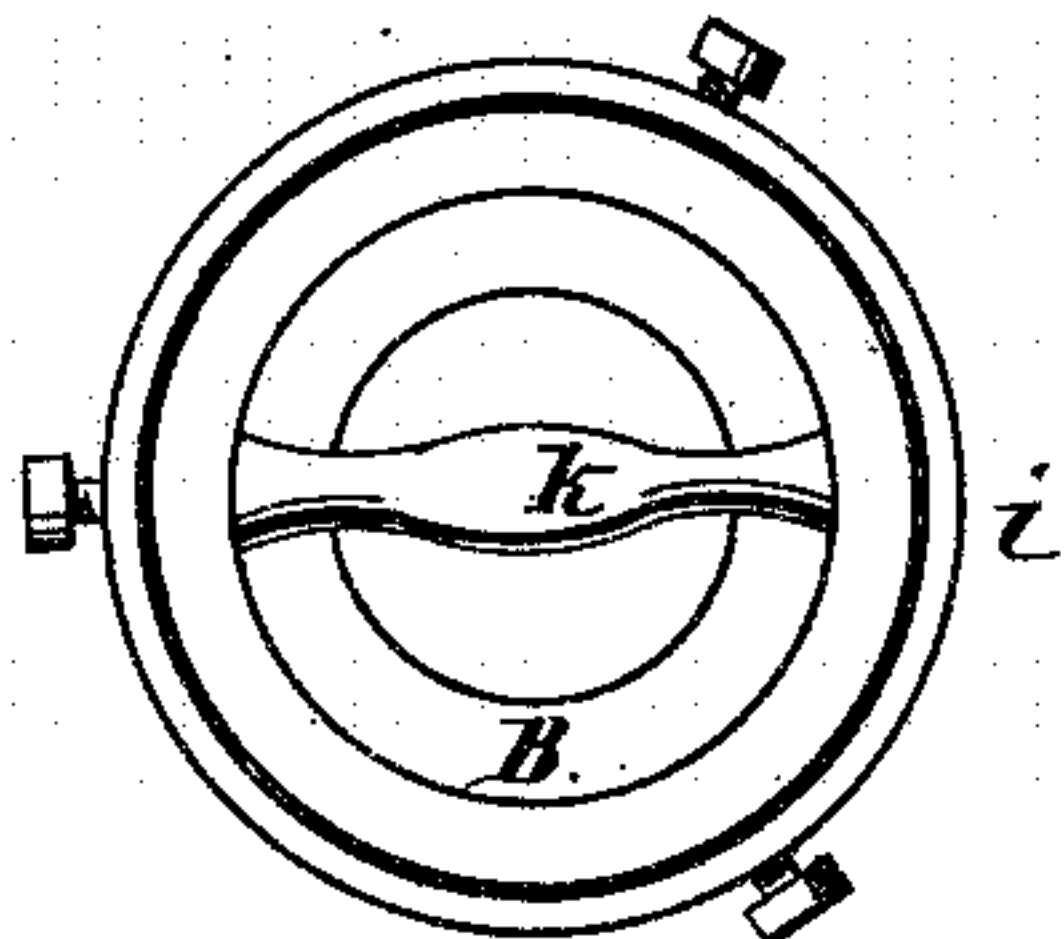


Fig. 8.

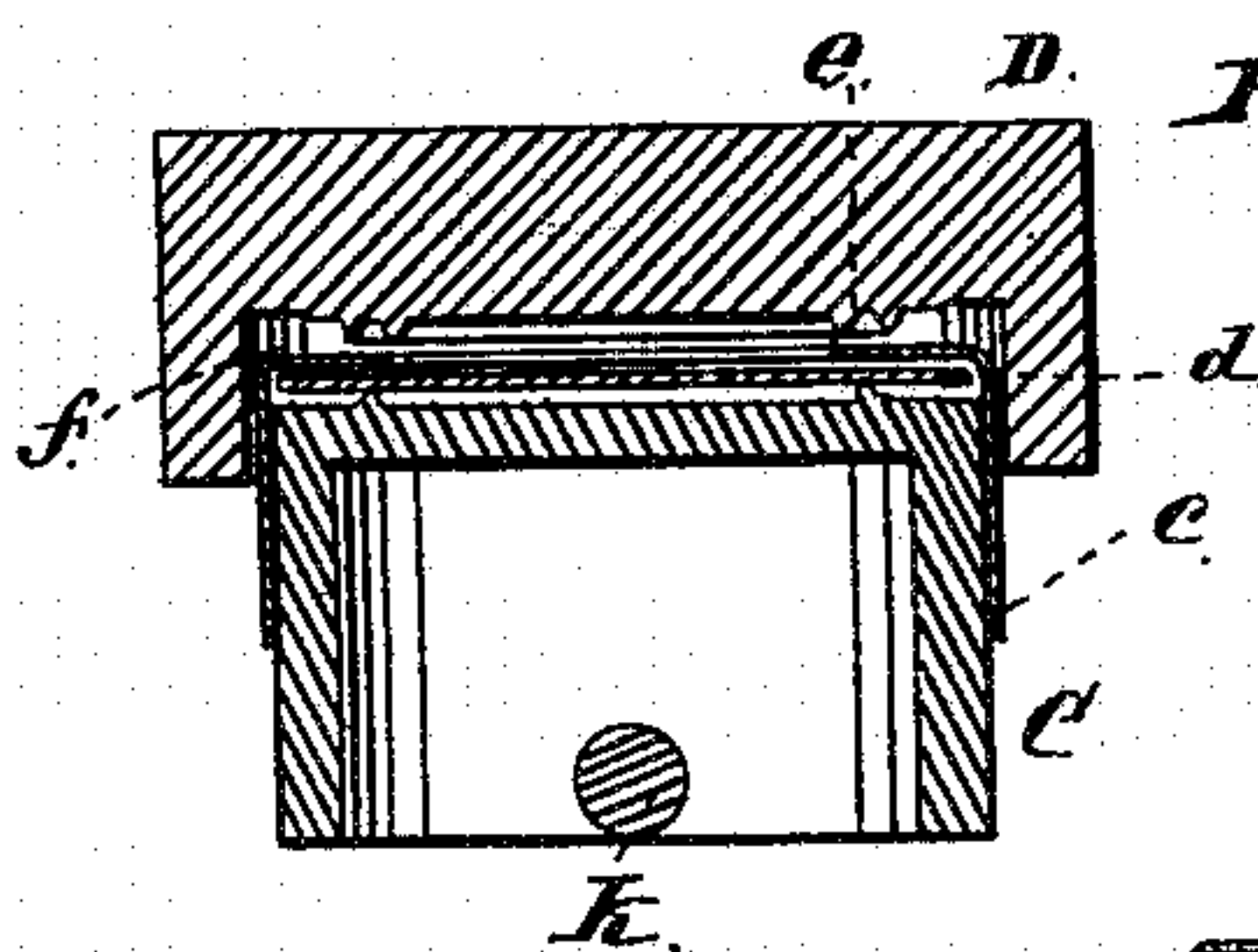


Fig. 4.

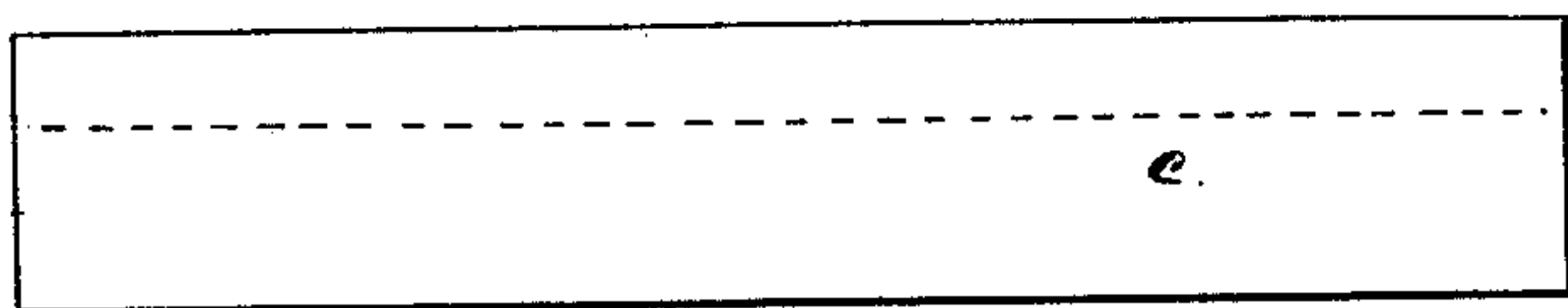


Fig. 10.

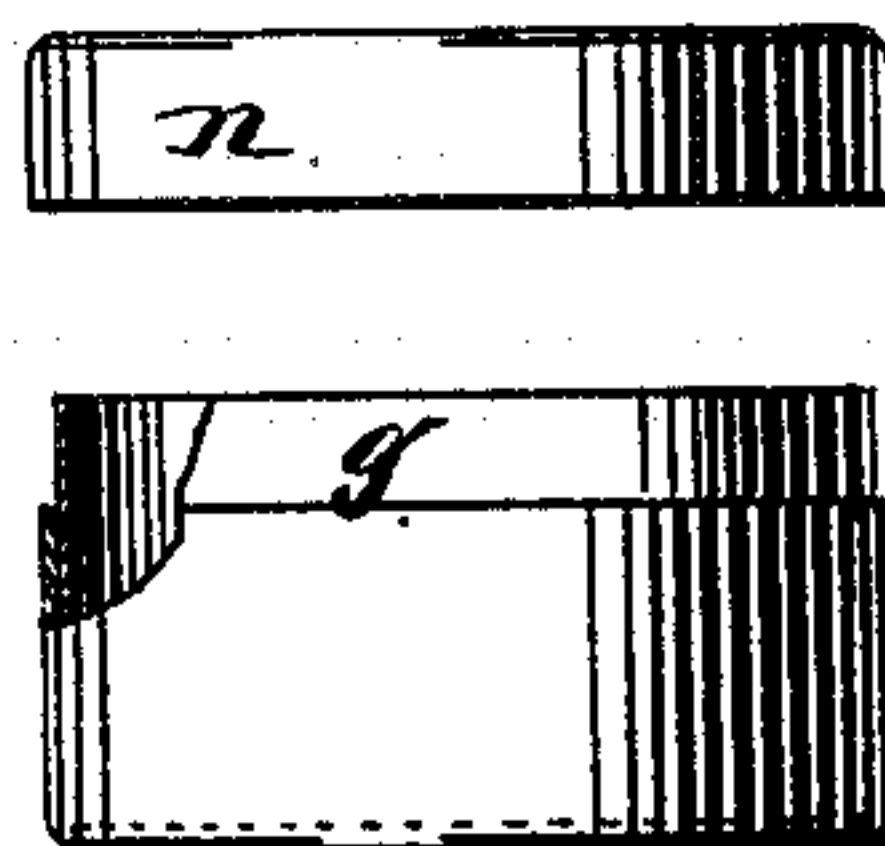


Fig. 5.

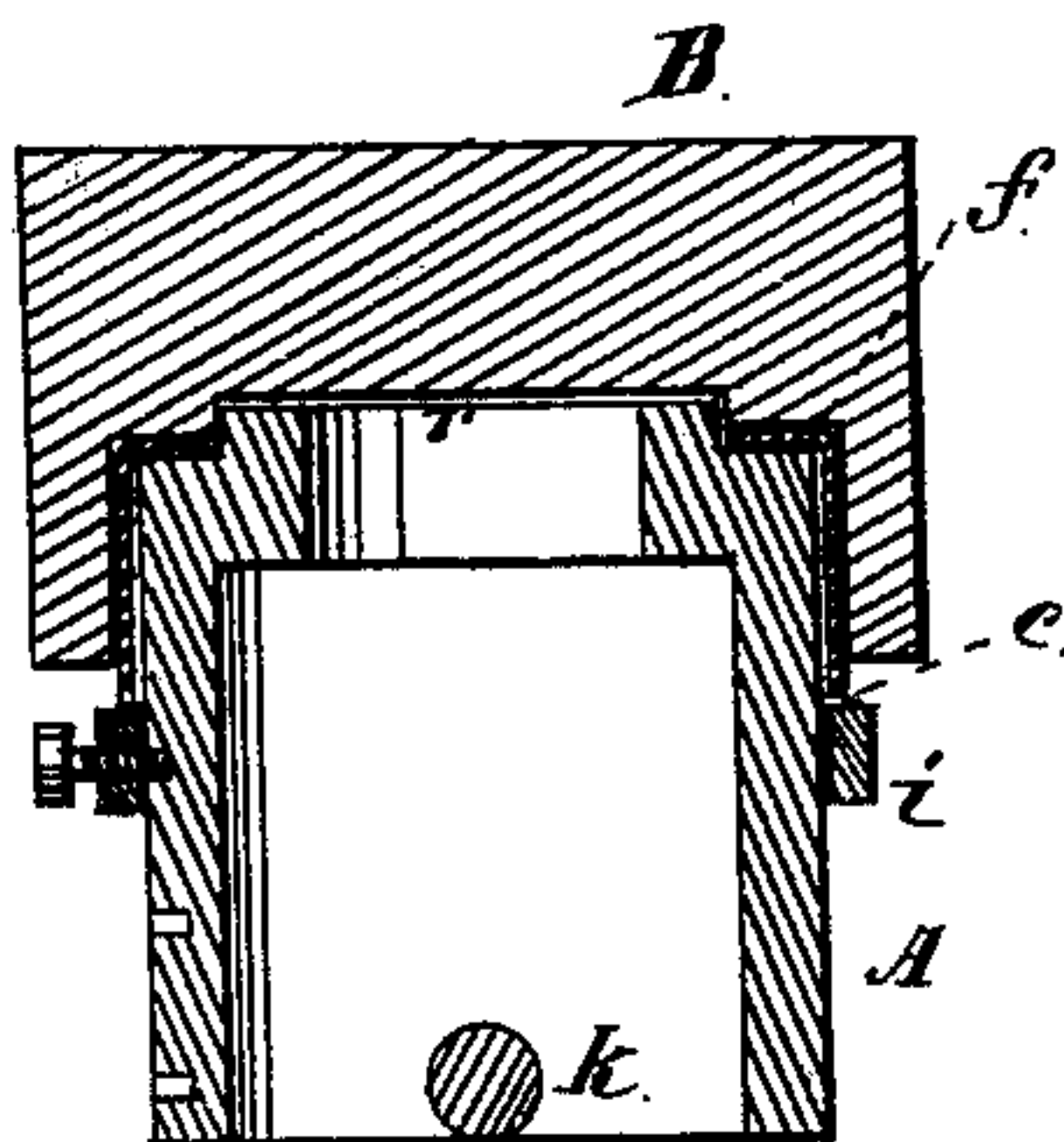
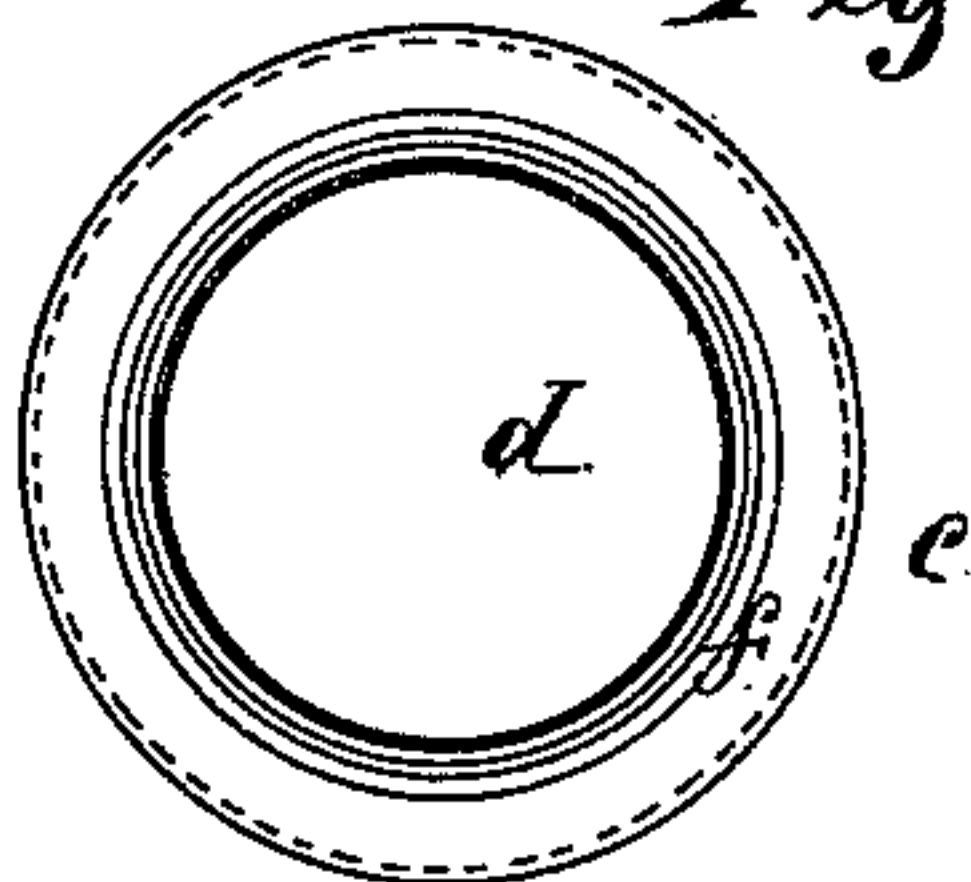


Fig. 9.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RICHARD W. OWEN, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN LEATHER BOXES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **218,132**, dated August 5, 1879; application filed April 28, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RICHARD W. OWEN, of Chicago, Cook county, State of Illinois, have invented new and useful Improvements in Leather Boxes and their Manufacture, of which the following is a full description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is an elevation, showing a former part being cut away. Fig. 2 is an elevation of a female former, to be used with that shown in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a bottom view of the former shown in Fig. 2. Fig. 4 represents a strip of leather. Fig. 5 shows the two formers represented in Figs. 1 and 2 brought together with the body of the cover of a box. Figs. 6 and 7 represent two other formers used in manufacturing boxes. Fig. 8 represents the two formers shown in Figs. 6 and 7 brought together and the partly-completed body of a box with a head or bottom. Fig. 9 represents either the top of a cover or the bottom of the box; Fig. 10, a completed box, the cover being separated from the body.

The object of my invention is to make an improved leather box, primarily designed to be used as a cuff and collar box; and the invention relates, first, to suitable formers with which to shape the main parts of the box; second, to the process of manufacturing the box; third, to the completed box.

The main portion of the cover and also of the body of the box are each made from a single straight piece of leather and in the following manner: The two ends of a straight strip of leather, *c*, of suitable length and width, are to be joined together by stitching or otherwise. The leather having been moistened is then placed over the former A, which has a shoulder, *a*, and is to be bent and partially crimped over the edge at first by hand; then the die or former B is to be placed over the leather on A, and the two parts A B are to be subjected to considerable pressure in any suitable press which will give to this piece of leather the form shown in Fig. 5. It is then to be removed from A, and within it is to be placed a circular piece, *d*, which, when secured in place, completes the top of a cover

or the bottom of the box, as the case may be. This piece *c*, with the part *d* inside thereof, is then placed upon the former C, which has a raised circular rib, *b*, on its top, and over it the die or former D is to be placed, as shown in Fig. 8. D has a groove, *e*, on its inside, corresponding with the rib *b* on C. By submitting the several parts shown in Fig. 8 to pressure, a rib or projection will be formed on the outside of the turned-over portion *f* of the piece *c*, which serves the purpose of a guide when stitching in the end piece, *d*, and also forms a finish. The piece *d* can be best secured to *f* by stitching with a machine. After this has been done, if any portion of *f* projects beyond the bead it can be cut away.

Within the body of the box I secure an interior part, *g*, which projects above the body, over which the cover passes, as is usual. This interior may be made of pasteboard covered with thin leather. With the exception of this interior *g* the body and cover are made in the same manner. I use leather of considerable thickness, so that the boxes may be strong and not easily crushed.

i is a ring which encircles A, and can be adjusted up and down. It is secured in place by means of screws, or in other suitable manner. The position of the ring determines the depth of the body of the box and of the cover, and it secures uniformity in this respect.

I make the formers A C hollow, and provide a handle, *k*, across the lower end, which facilitates handling. If necessary, the handle can be placed in a vise while removing the leather.

I am aware that leather boxes are in use the covers of which are each made from a single straight piece having the ends secured together, and a head or top stitched directly to the upper edge, which makes a bungling seam. The bodies of such boxes are made in a similar manner. I do not claim such construction.

The die or former B has a depression, *v*, on the inside of the head thereof, which fits over *r* on the top of A.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is as follows:

1. The herein-described process of making leather boxes, by taking a straight piece of

leather, securing the two ends together, then turning over one edge, so as to form a part of the top or bottom, as the case may be, and stitching in an end piece, all substantially as specified.

2. In a leather box, a body, *c*, made from a straight piece of leather, having the ends secured together, and one edge turned over, as shown at *f*, and provided with an end piece,

d, stitched to *f*, and a cover, *n*, made in the same manner, all substantially as and for the purposes specified.

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