

W. H. STAFFORD.
Methods of Putting Up Braid, &c.

No. 221,748.

Patented Nov. 18, 1879.

Fig. 1.

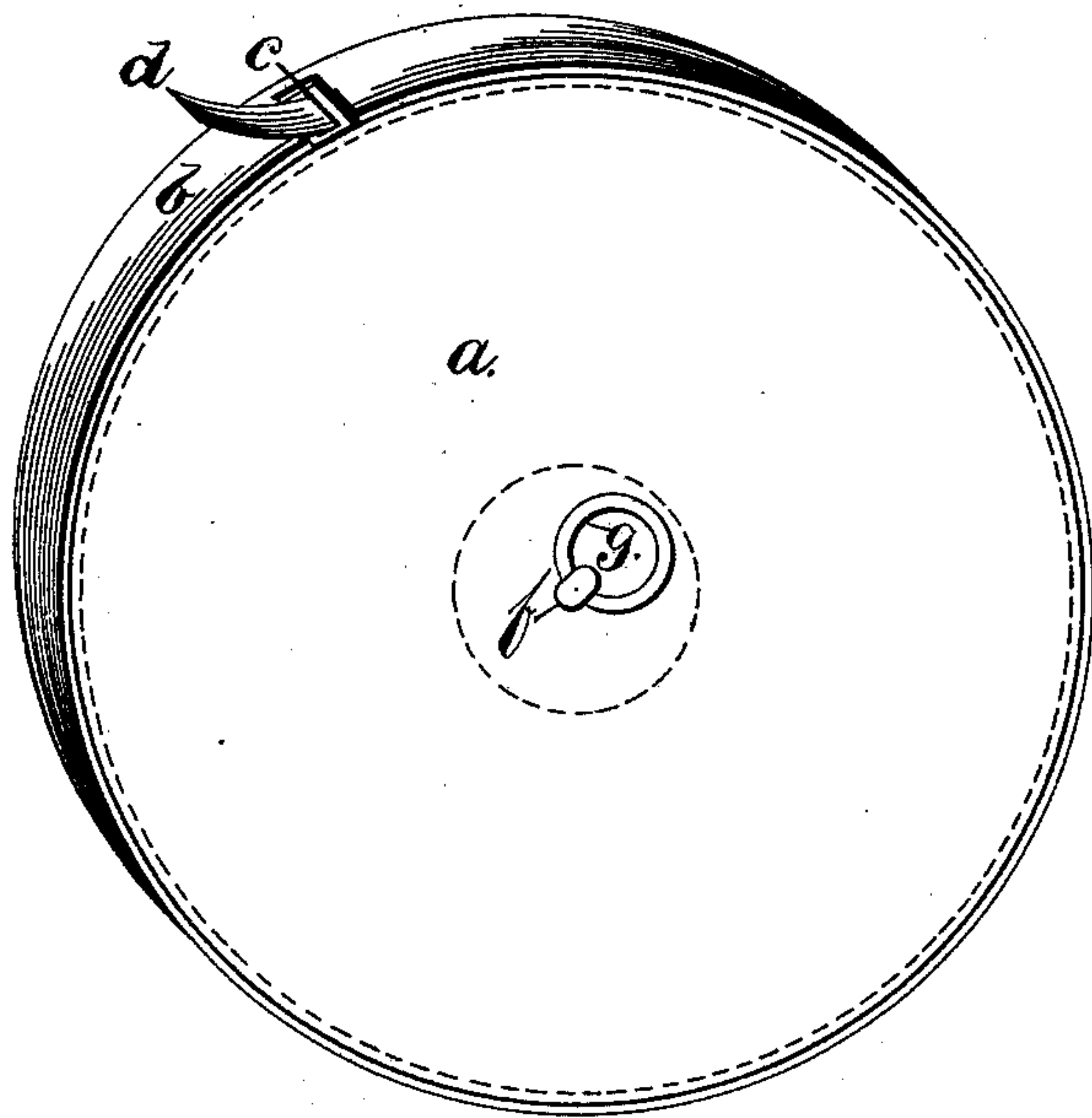


Fig. 2.

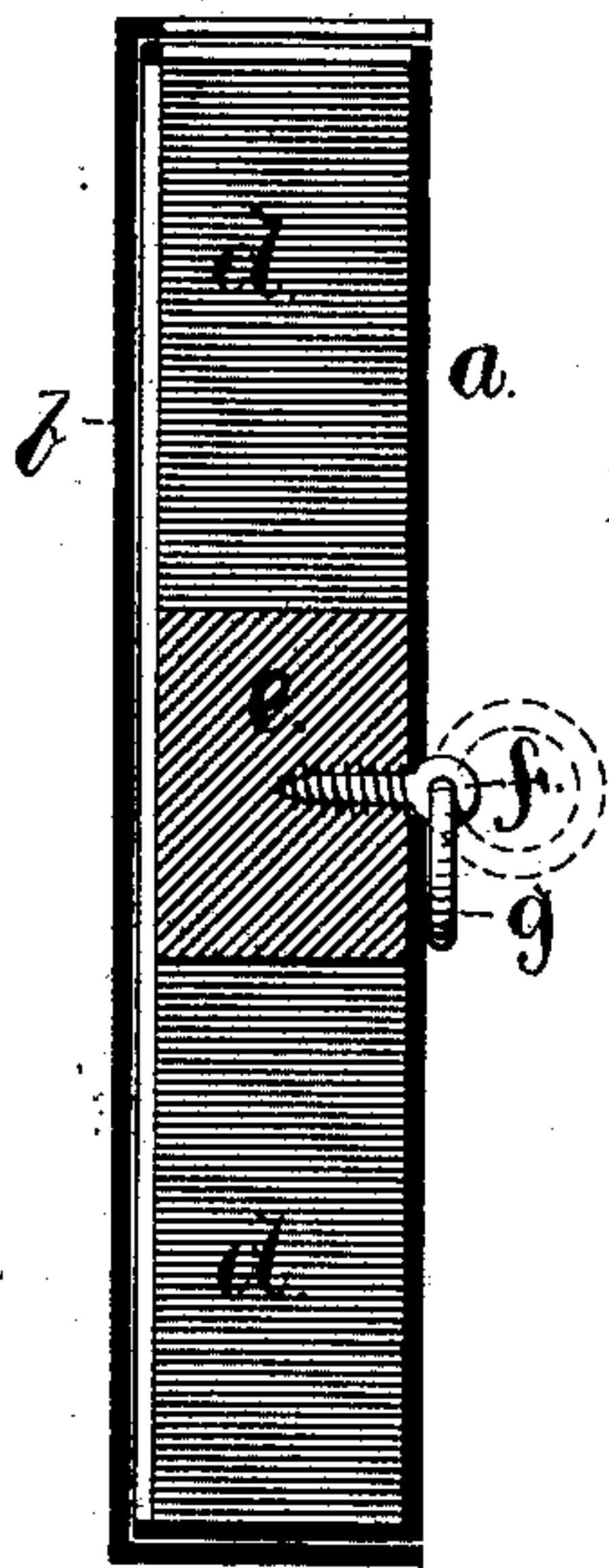


Fig. 3.

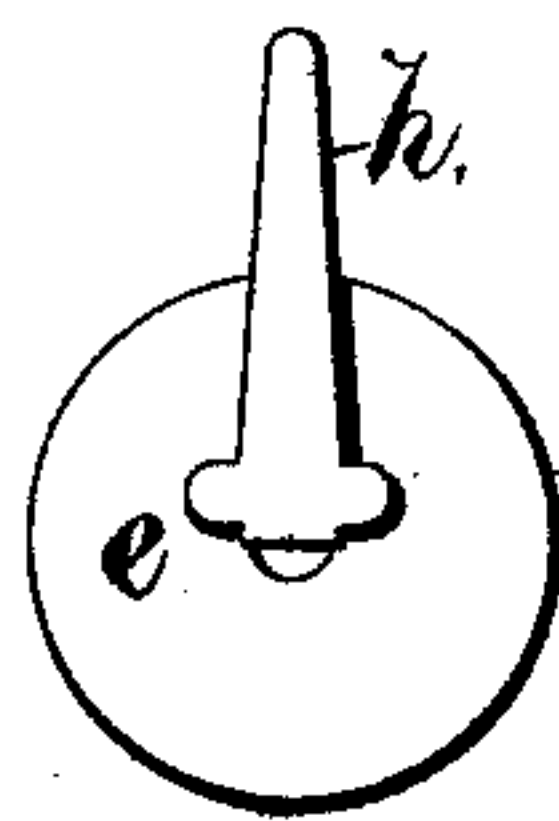
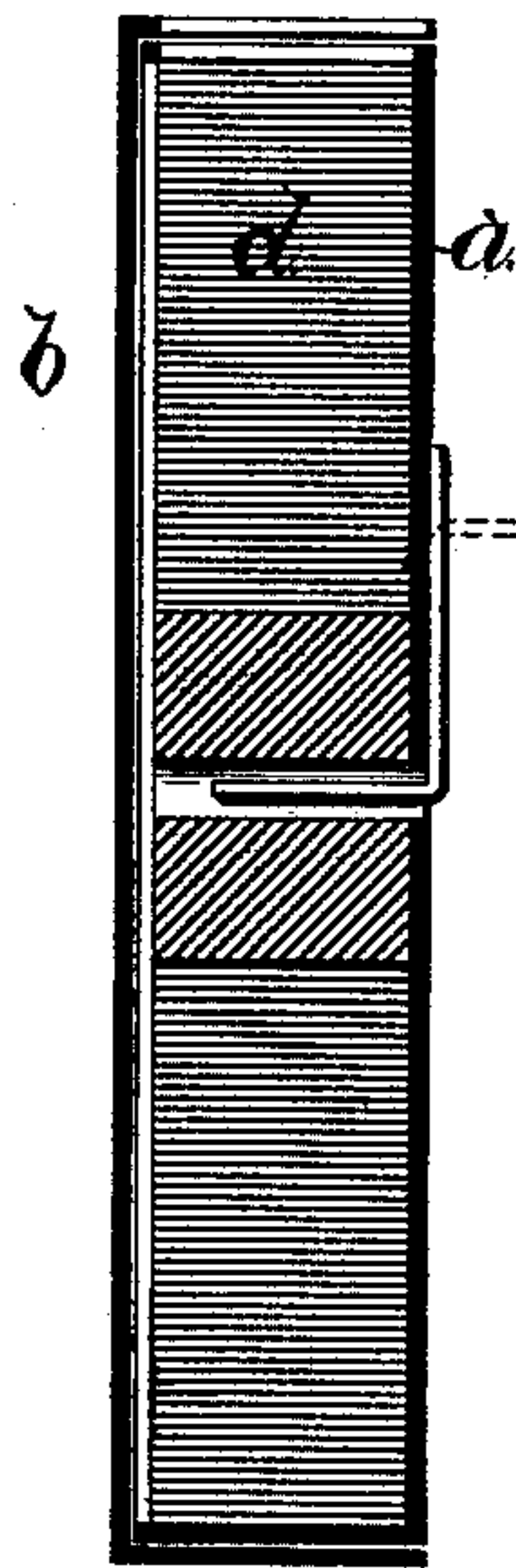


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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IMPROVEMENT IN METHODS OF PUTTING UP BRAID, &c.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **221,748**, dated November 18, 1879; application filed June 12, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. STAFFORD, of Woonsocket, in the county of Providence and State of Rhode Island, have invented a new and useful Improvement in the Methods of Putting up Braid, Tape, or other Narrow Fabrics; and I hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

The object of this invention is to put up braids, tape, or other similar fabrics in rolls, and protect the same against dust and injury.

The invention consists in the peculiar arrangement of a box, similar in its arrangement and construction to the cases which have for a long time been used for containing tape which has to be wound and rewound, and which is usually marked into units of length to be used in measuring, and known as "tape-lines," by so arranging the case or box that one side can be readily removed, and the tape, braid, or similar fabric can be examined, all of which will be more fully set forth hereinafter.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a circular box or case made in two parts, and arranged to contain tape, braid, or other narrow fabric, so that the same can be readily unwound and rewound and the whole protected. Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the same, showing the central roll, on which the tape or other fabric is wound, and a ring and staple by which the roll is secured to one side of the box, and by which the same can be readily turned, and any tape or other fabric that has been withdrawn in excess of the quantity required may be rewound on the roll. Fig. 3 is a view of central roll provided with a single stamped-out strip of thin metal, one end of which is driven into the core and the other end lies flat against the side. Fig. 4 is a sectional view of the improved box or case, showing the strip of metal driven into the central core, by which the core is secured to one of the sides of the box, extending along the side until it is required for rewinding, when the end may be turned up, as shown in broken lines, so as to form a crank.

In the drawings, *a* is an open box, consist-

ing of a circular disk made of paper or pasteboard, surrounded by a rim of a width practically the width of the tape, braid, or other narrow fabric. *b* is another open box, consisting of a circular disk and rim, slightly larger than the box *a*, so that it will pass over the same, as shown in the drawings. Into each of these open boxes the slit *c* is cut, through which the narrow fabric *d* is passed, the coil of the fabric *d* being contained within the box when the two parts are placed one over the other, as shown. The narrow fabric is wound in coils on the roll *e*, and this roll is journaled or pivoted in the center of the box *a*, being secured by a simple device by which it can be easily turned. One of these devices is shown in Figs. 1 and 2, and consists of a screw or staple, *f*, and the ring *g*. Another device is shown in Figs. 3 and 4, and consists of a simple metal strip, *h*, stamped in any desired form, but preferably with two tapering ends, one of which is driven into the central spool and the other lies flat against the side of the case or box. Being made of light metal, it may be readily turned up at the end, as shown in broken lines, so as to form a crank, and by it the roll *e* is readily turned, and any excess of tape unwound can be quickly rewound.

As all the tape is contained in the box, the same is more effectually protected against dust, light, or accidental injury; and tape, braid, or other narrow fabrics may be put up in such boxes. They may be readily unwound and rewound, and thus form a superior and more desirable article of sale than when put up in the usual manner; and larger rolls of dress-binding, or other fabrics requiring considerable diameter when wound, are more securely held and protected if put up in these improved boxes.

I am aware that cylindrical boxes or cases have long been used for containing tape-lines, and also that such cases were provided with a slit from which the tape-line could be withdrawn, and a device by which they could be rewound.

I am also aware that such tape-lines were provided with a central core and a guide which controlled the free end of the tape coiled around said core and guided the tape in rewinding; that it afforded side supports, and, by

reason of its rigidity, served as a holder, whereby the tape-package could be securely held without interfering with the rotation of the coil. But my invention differs materially from such tape-line cases, in that it is made of two separate boxes, which can be quickly and readily opened, and the quantity as well as quality of the tape or braid ascertained. It also differs in that, both the rims being provided with a slit, the tension on the tape or other fabric can be readily regulated by turning one slit slightly over the other, and also in that the tape can be wound on the central core, and be readily and quickly placed within one of the two open boxes and secured by the devices shown.

The improved case is cheaply made out of paper or similar material, and does not materially increase the price of the fabric contained therein, while narrow fabric put up in this method is more desirable to the consumer.

Any device used to turn the central core should be arranged to lie flat against the side of the box, so as to allow the boxes to be packed close together, or one to lie on the

other, and also to prevent injury to other boxes or cases.

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

1. The combination, with a box formed of two readily-detachable sections, and provided with a slit or slits in its periphery, of a core and a device centrally attached thereto, which extends through one section of the box, and constitutes a journal and a handle for winding braid upon the core within the box, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination, with the two open boxes *a* and *b*, provided with the slits *c*, of the central core, *e*, secured to one of the two boxes only, provided with a device by which it can be turned, and the coil *d*, arranged to operate as described.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

WM. H. STAFFORD.

Witnesses:

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J. A. MILLER, Jr.