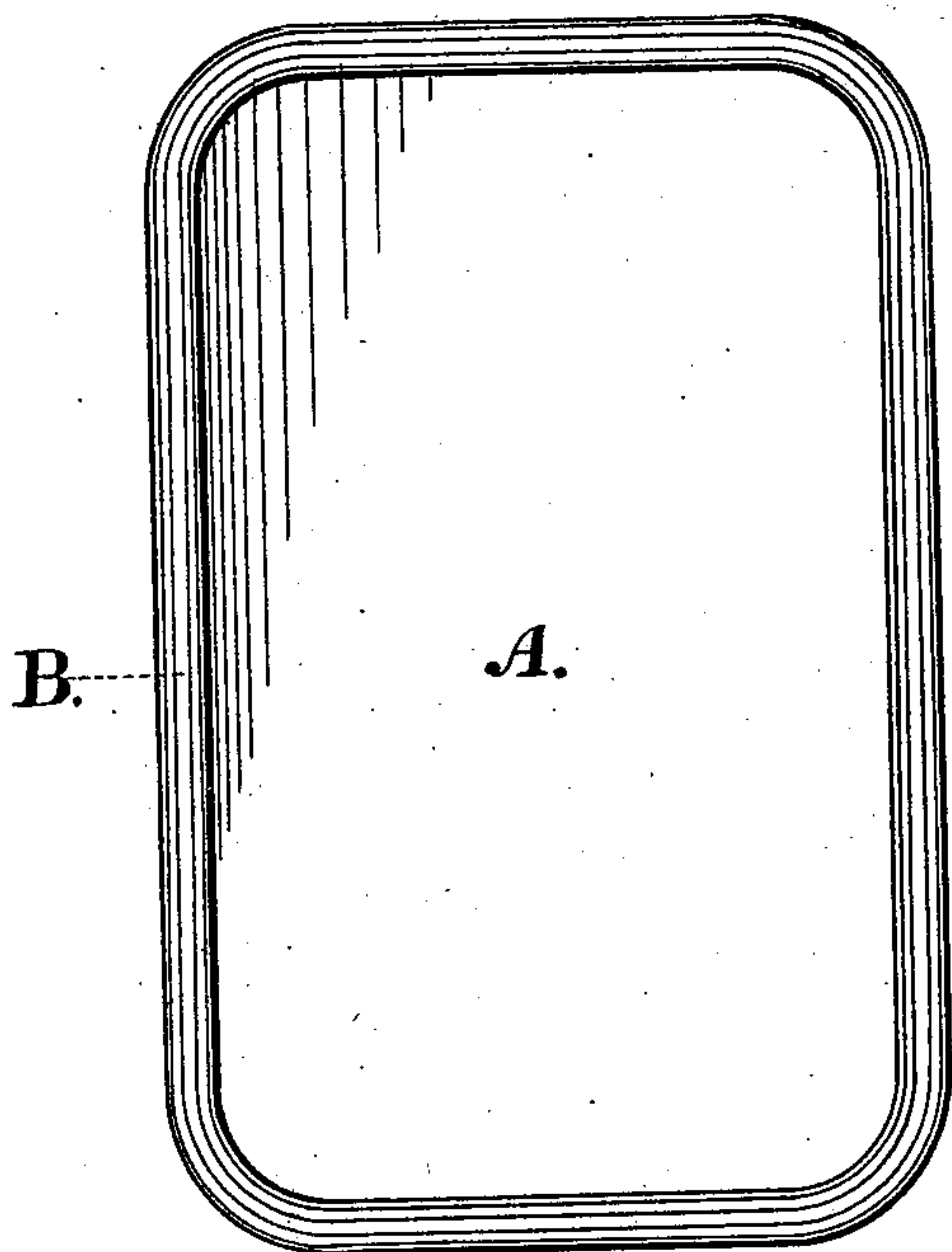


G. B. THOMPSON.  
Slate-Frame.

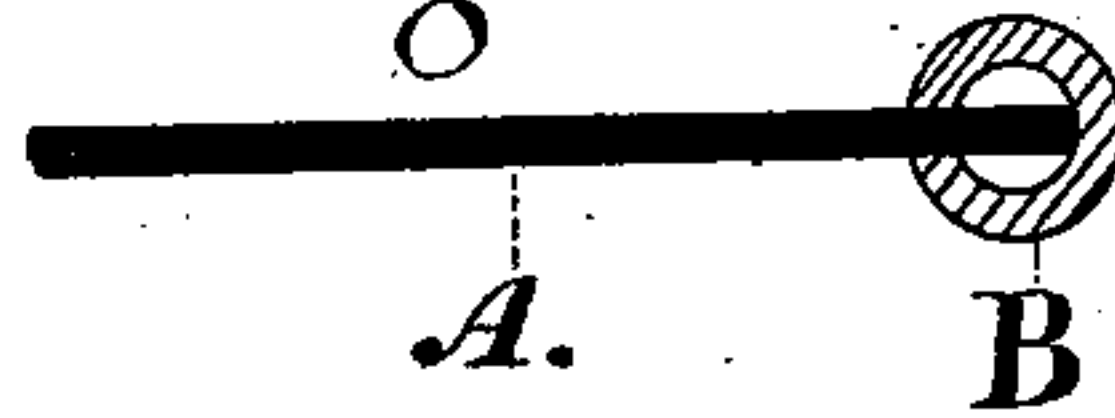
No. 227,662.

Patented May 18, 1880.

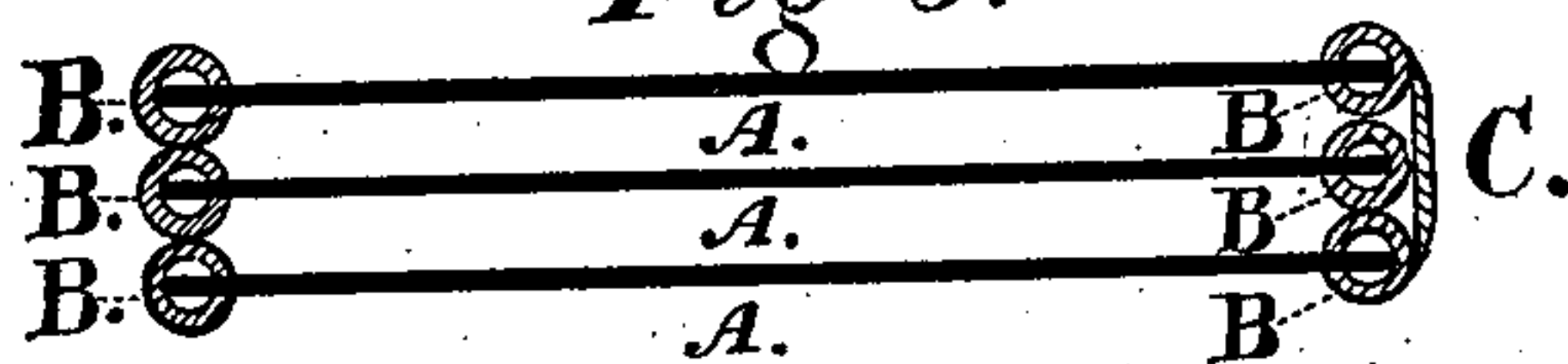
*Fig 1.*



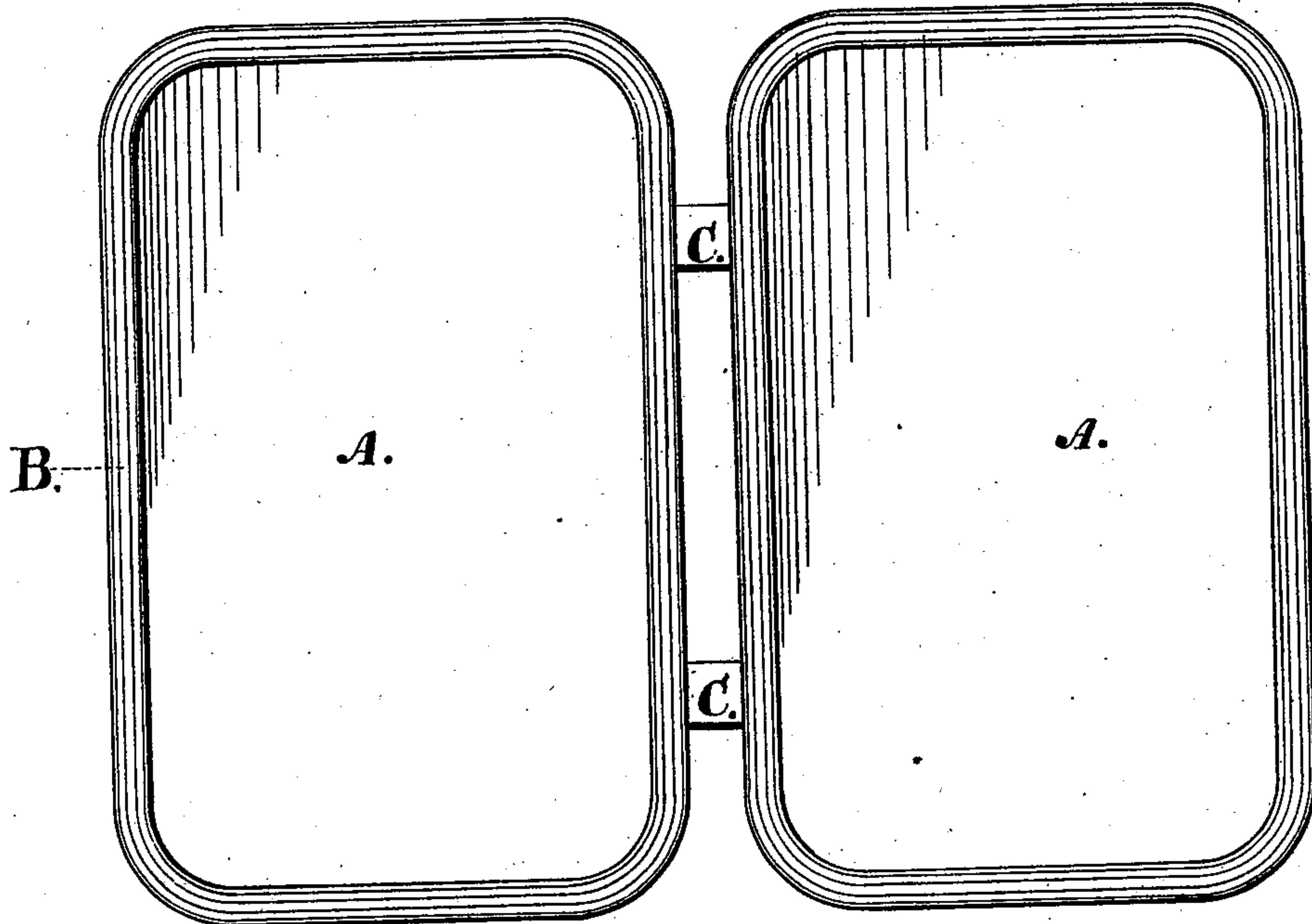
*Fig 2.*



*Fig 3.*



*Fig 4.*



Witnesses:

E. P. Dickey  
Robert Bryden

Inventor  
George B. Thompson

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE B. THOMPSON, OF PITSTON, PENNSYLVANIA.

## SLATE-FRAME.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 227,662, dated May 18, 1880.

Application filed November 14, 1879.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE B. THOMPSON, of Pittston, in the county of Luzerne and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Slate-Frames, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to framing or mounting slates for school and analogous purposes.

Heretofore provision has not been made for a repeated use of a frame in case of a breakage of the slate. The cost of the frame, especially in the class of slates termed "noiseless," is generally much more than the cost of the slate.

My invention contemplates the keeping by dealers of the various sizes of slates framed in accordance with my invention, and also a supply of the different sizes without frames, so that in case of breakage an unskilled person may, without tools, put the frame of the broken slate upon another slate of the same size, and thus save the cost of the frame.

The invention consists of a removable tubular elastic frame so formed and vulcanized as to be fitted and held upon the edge of the slate entirely or mainly by its own tension, and which derives a portion of its cushioning or elasticity from the form in which it is vulcanized and from the air that is somewhat confined therein.

In the accompanying drawings, in which similar letters of reference indicate like parts, A is the slate. B is the frame.

Figure 1 is a plan, showing the tubular frame B in place upon the edge of the slate A. Fig. 2 is a section. Figs. 3 and 4 represent the manner in which two or more slates may be connected by bands of rubber or other suitable materials, C C, to make a folding or book slate.

The frame may be made by cutting from unvulcanized rubber tubing, or tubing made from other elastic gum or suitable materials, pieces shorter than the perimeter of the slate, each of which may have its ends brought together and sealed, forming an endless tube. They should then be placed upon suitable forms corresponding with the shape of the slate, but smaller, upon which they should be vulcanized or otherwise cured. This opera-

tion is for the purpose of improving the fit of the frame at the corners of the slate; but a fair fit will be obtained by vulcanizing the endless tube in the circular form that it will assume without the use of the forms. After vulcanizing the frame may be ripped open and sprung over the edge of the slate.

A good frame may be made by taking a piece of vulcanized-rubber tubing and cementing, sewing, or connecting the ends by clips or otherwise, and slitting it to receive the edge of the slate.

The corners of the slate should be made circular, its entire edge smooth, and the slate should be so ground or otherwise prepared as to leave it as thick or thicker at the edges than elsewhere, in order to prevent the edge and corners from cutting the frame.

The corners of the frame may be re-enforced by increasing the thickness of material, or by insertions of cloth, metal, or other suitable material, which should be done before the frame is vulcanized.

To make the frames for the folding or book slates shown in Figs. 3 and 4, two or more frames that have been made as previously described may be connected together by cementing thereto the strips or bands C C, which should be done before vulcanizing, but may be done afterward.

There will be no necessity for fastening the frame to the slate, unless it be to prevent its removal, as it will, by its own elasticity and the form in which it is vulcanized, firmly embrace the edge of the slate and make a snug fit; but if it is desired to secure the frame to the slate, it may be glued or cemented directly thereto, or to one or more pieces of rubber placed in holes made through the slate where the opposite edges of the frame come in contact with the same; or it may be secured by stitches, clips, or otherwise; but in each case the fastening used should allow of the removal of the frame without injuring it, so that it may be used upon other slates without being fastened.

I do not limit myself to the means herein described for manufacturing my improved slate, as other means and devices will readily suggest themselves.



I do not claim a rubber or elastic slate-frame, broadly, as such frames are old; but

What I do claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

- 5 1. As a new article of manufacture, an elastic slate-frame consisting of an endless tube of vulcanized rubber and slitted on its inner side, substantially as described.

2. The combination of the slate A and the slitted tubular elastic frame B, forming an air-cushion, substantially as described and for the purpose set forth. 10

GEORGE B. THOMPSON.

Witnesses:

W. L. WATSON,  
C. S. CRANE.