

(Model.)

M. M. SMITH.
Manufacture of Alkali Balls.

No. 238,064.

Patented Feb. 22, 1881.

Fig. 2.

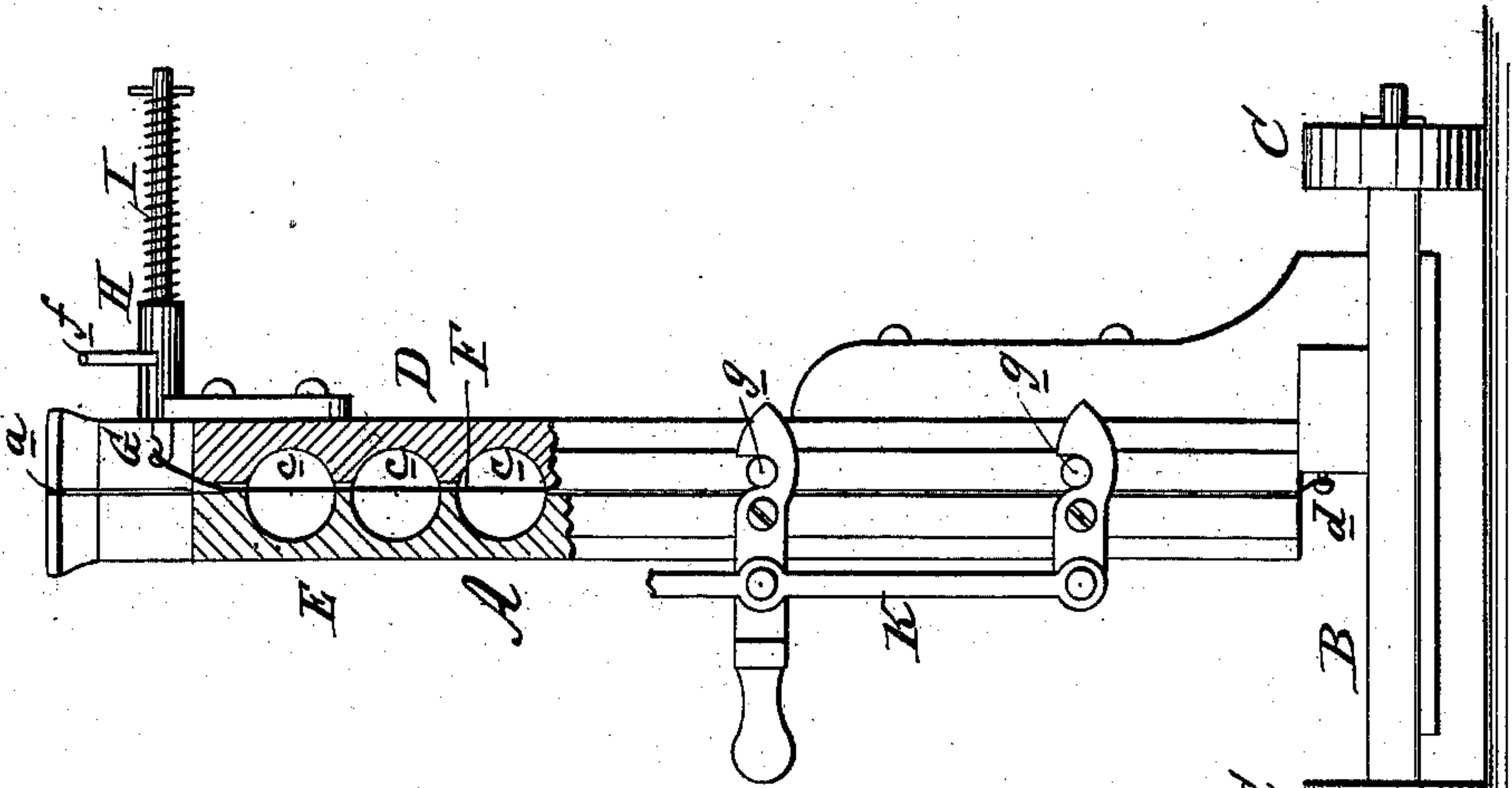


Fig. 3.

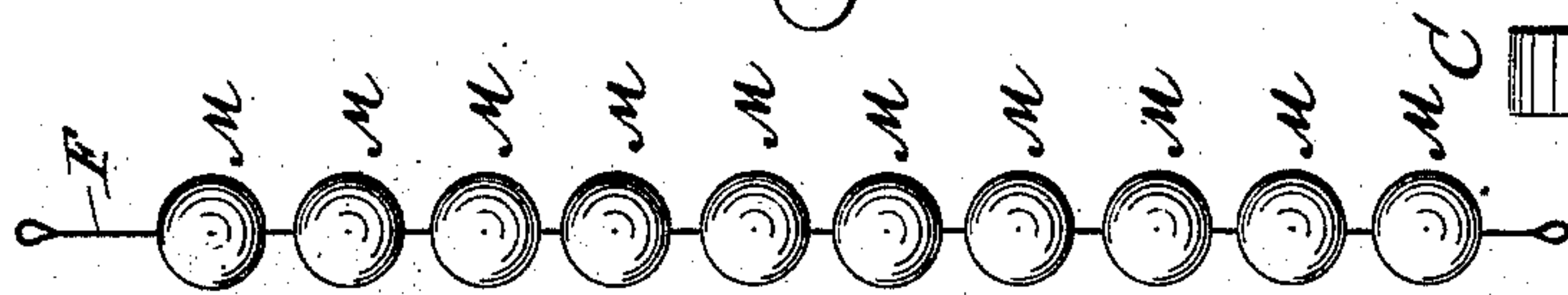


Fig. 1.

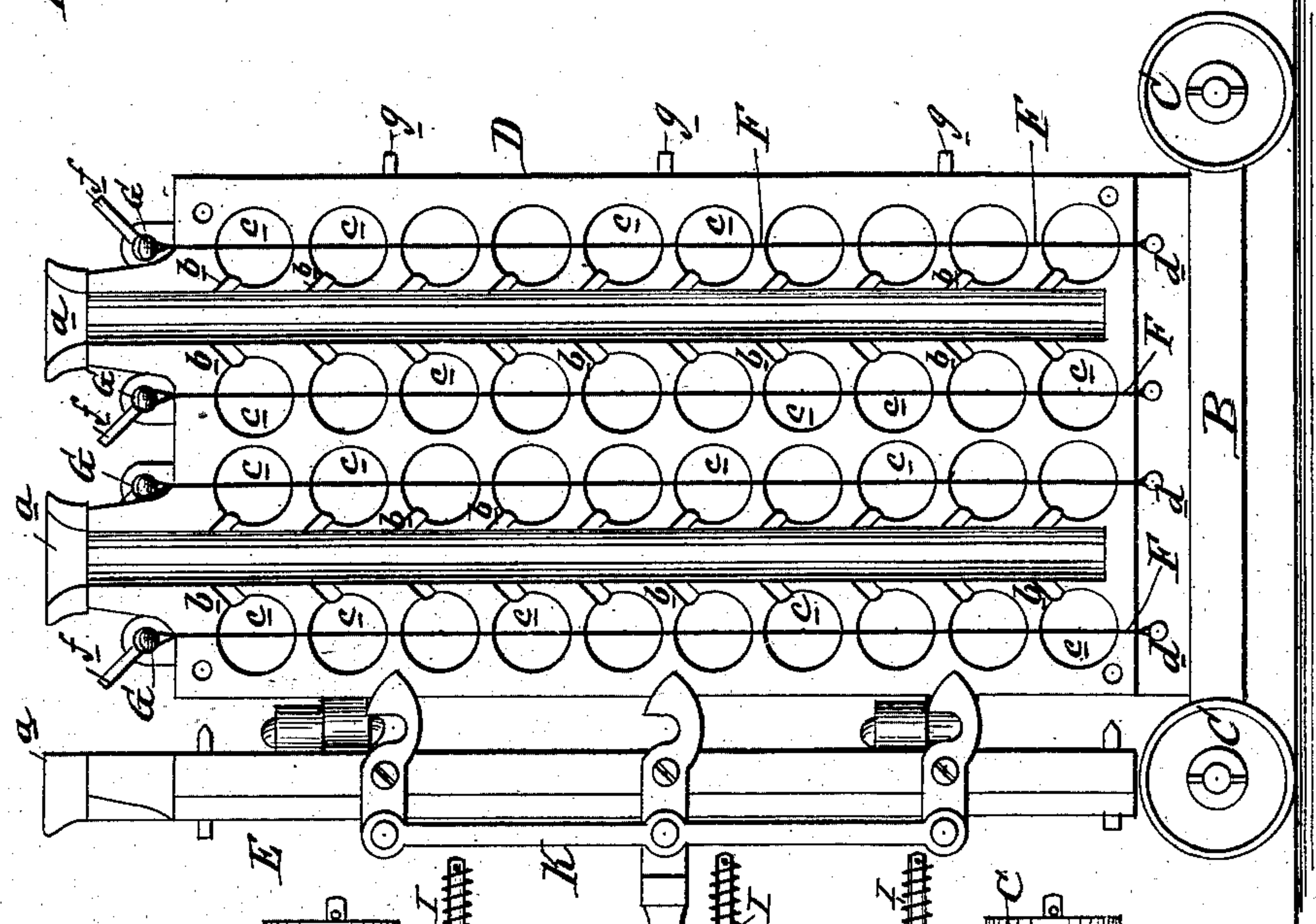
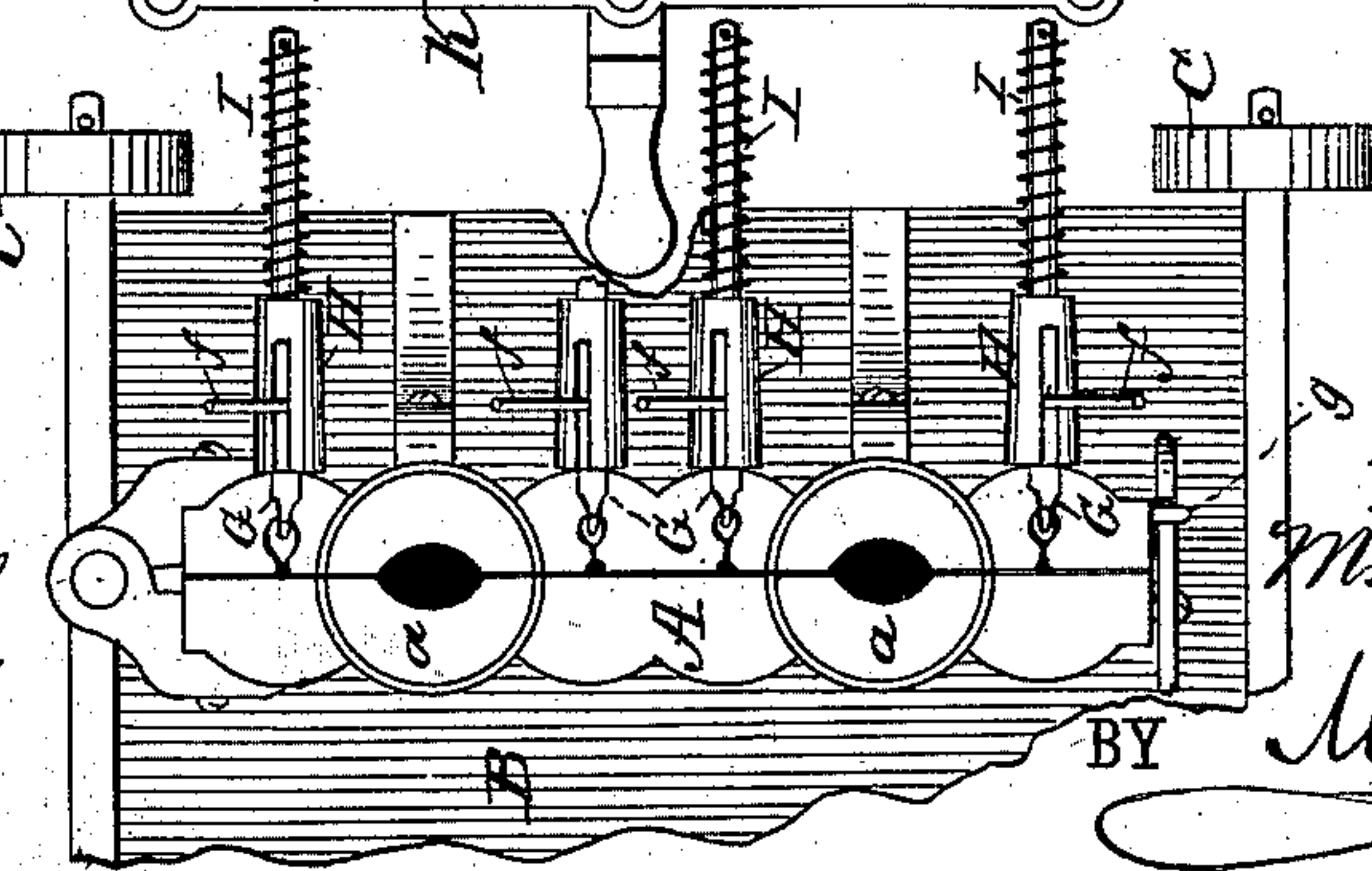


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES:

A. Seckel.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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MANUFACTURE OF ALKALI-BALLS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 238,064, dated February 22, 1881.

Application filed March 29, 1880. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, M. M. SMITH, of New York city and State, have invented an Improved Manufacture of Alkali-Balls, of which
5 the following is a specification.

It has been customary to cover alkali-balls with a coating of melted resin, each ball being cast on a separate piece of wire, whose extremity serves as a handle in dipping and means
10 of suspension on the drying-frame.

Now the object of my invention is to produce a series of these coated alkali-balls strung on the same wire, as hereinafter described.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents a vertical elevation, and Fig. 2 a side elevation, of the flask in which my article of manufacture is prepared. Fig. 3 represents the series of alkali-balls on a single wire which passes through them. Fig. 4 is a plan view of the apparatus.
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I will now describe the means by which I produce my article, but make no claim to them as forming any part of my invention.
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A represents a flask having the base B, on which are the wheels C. D is the fixed, and E the hinged, part of flask, each having the in-gates *a*, runners *b*, and molds *c*. The wires F are attached at the lower ends to pins *d*, and drawn centrally up over the molds *c* in the fixed part of the flask, and made fast to the rods G, that slide in sleeves H on the upper part of section D, and are retracted by springs I to hold the wires F at the proper tension. To
25 30 slacken or disengage the wires from the rods

the operator takes hold of the handle *f* and draws them forward. The latch K holds the sections together. 35

In casting the balls on the wires the flask is closed and the melted alkali poured in at the in-gates *a*, so as to flow into molds *c* through the runners *b* in the usual way. After the balls have hardened around the central wire each string or series of balls is removed, and can be dipped readily to receive its water-proof coating of resin or other substance, at a great saving of labor over the old plan of dipping each ball separately. The facility of removing from the frames, packing, and transporting my strings of alkali-balls traversed by a common wire so lessens the cost of production that they can be afforded to the consumer at a cheaper rate, while the support that each ball receives from the wire greatly lessens the usual damage or loss in handling and during transportation. 40 45 50

Having thus described all that is necessary to a full understanding of my invention, what I claim as new is— 55

The improved article of manufacture herein described, consisting in a series of coated alkali-balls attached together and traversed by a common wire passing through the entire series, substantially as set forth. 60

MINARD M. SMITH.

Witnesses:

I. I. STORER,
C. SEDGWICK.