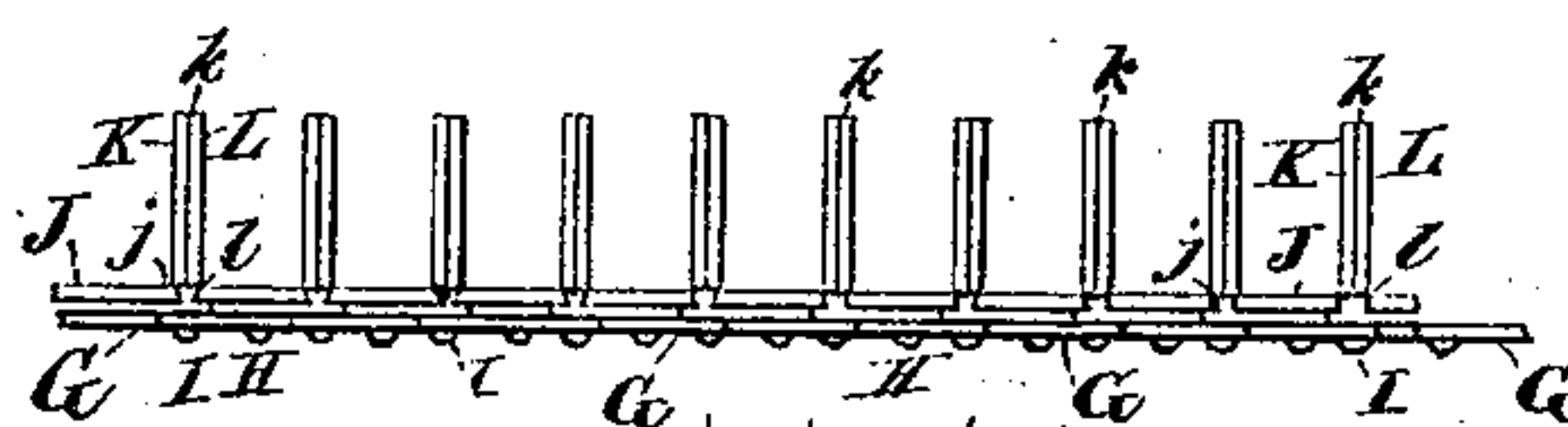
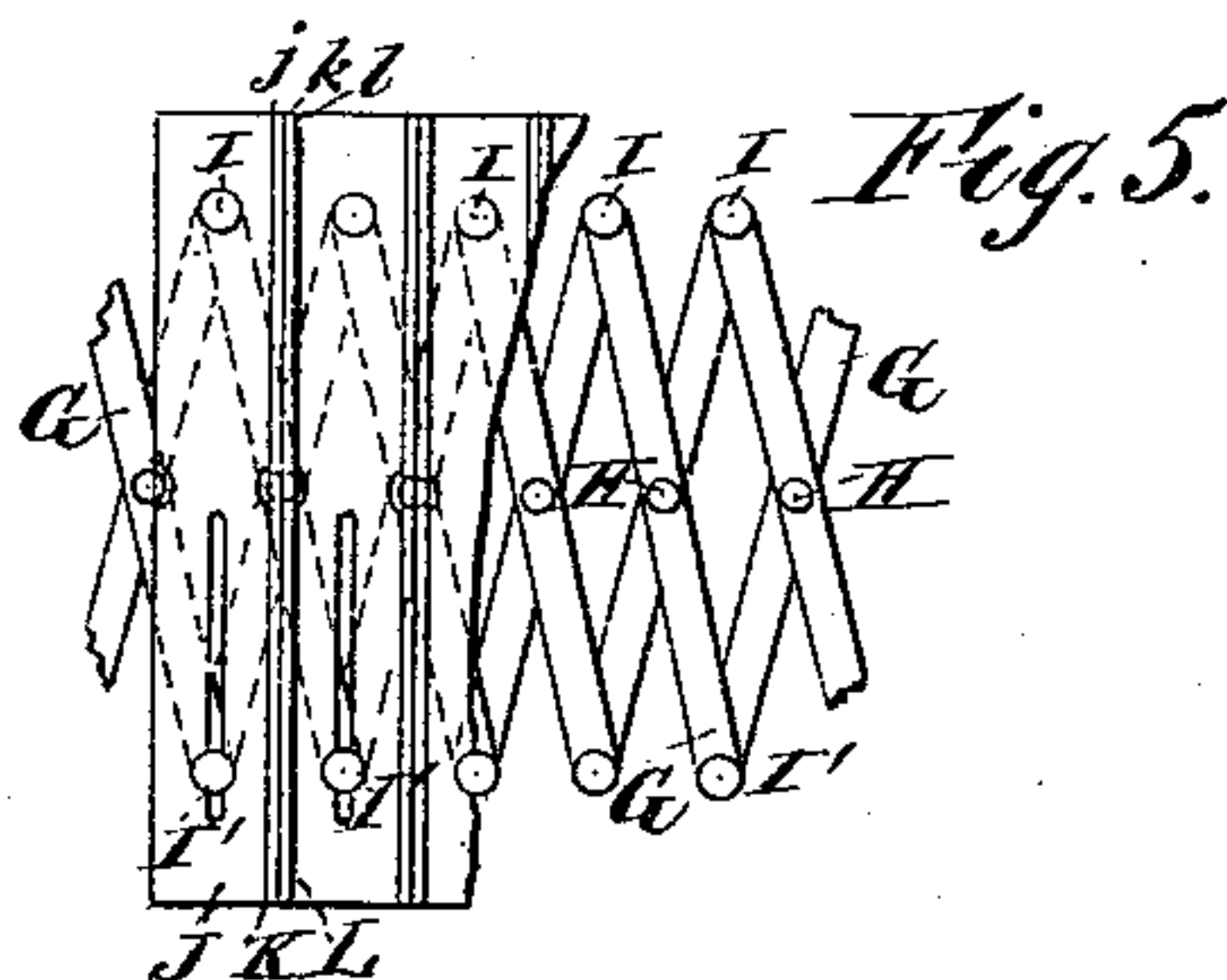
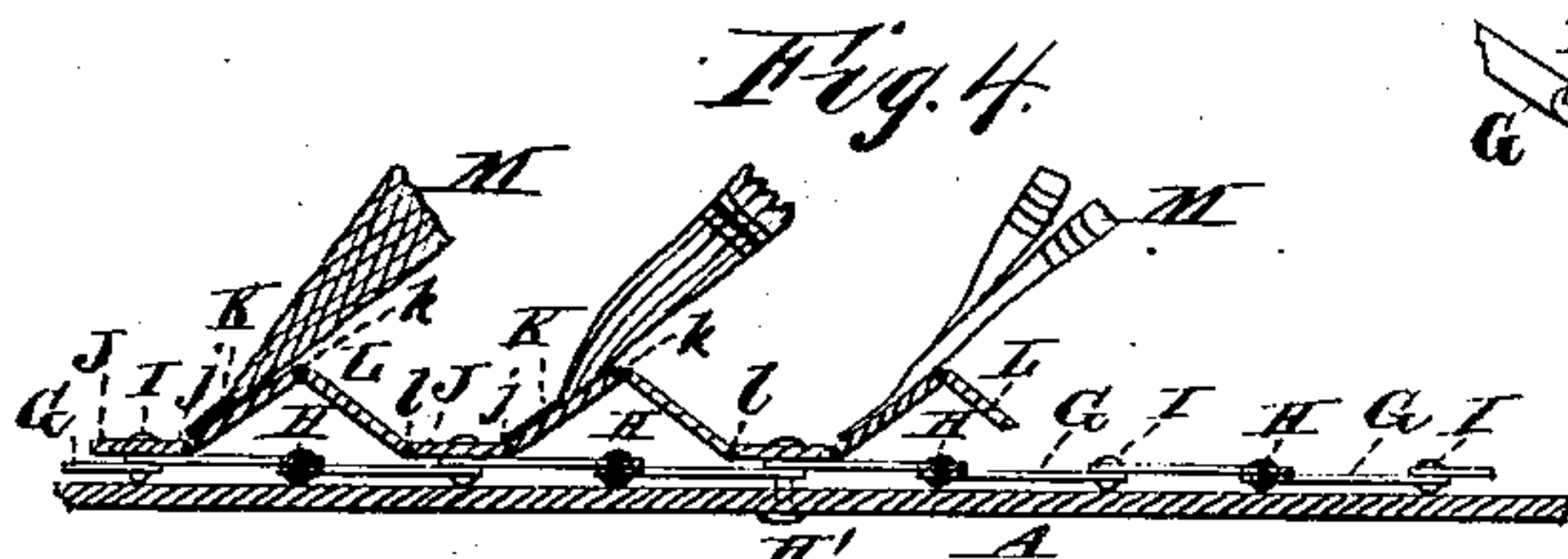
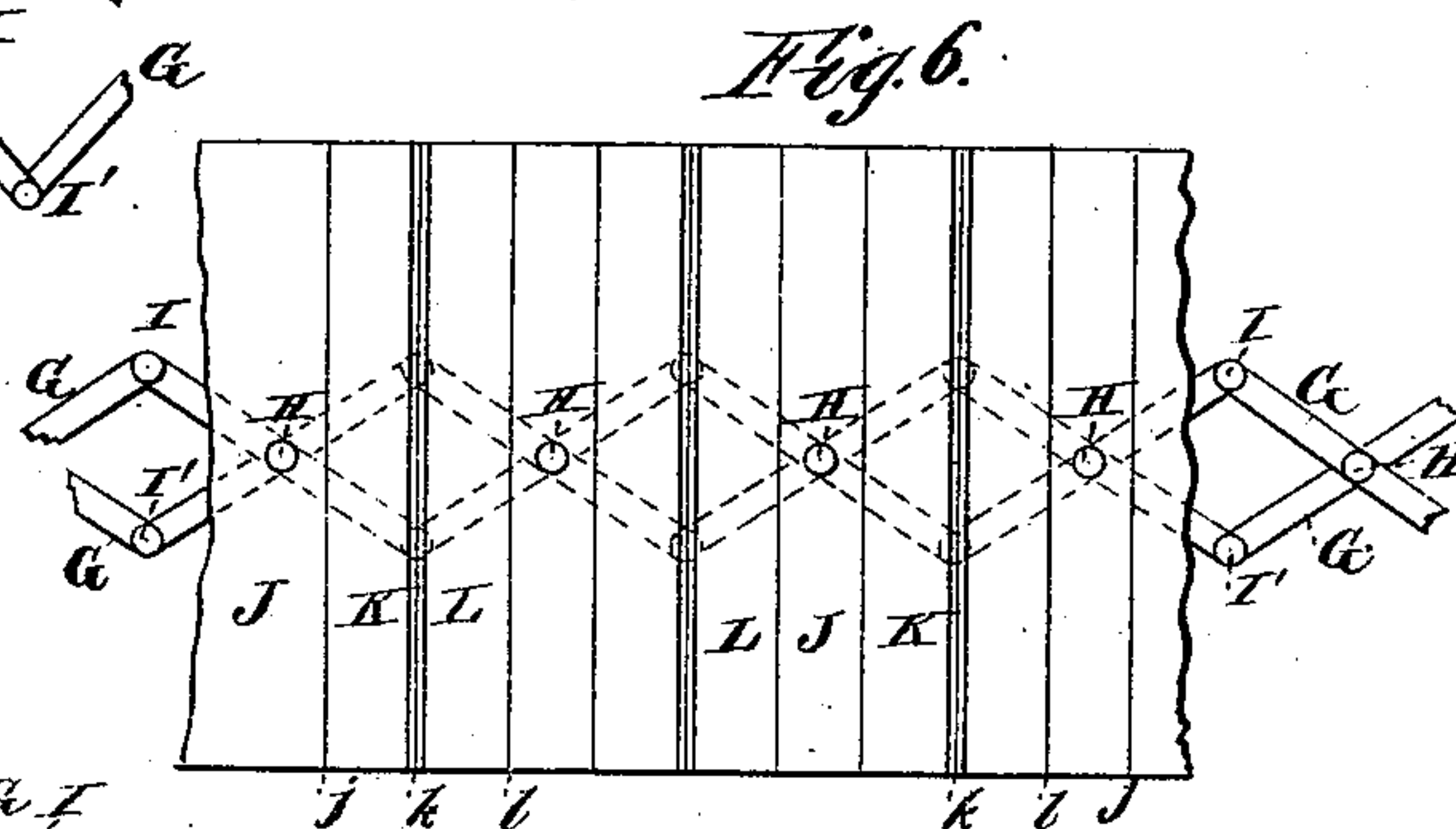
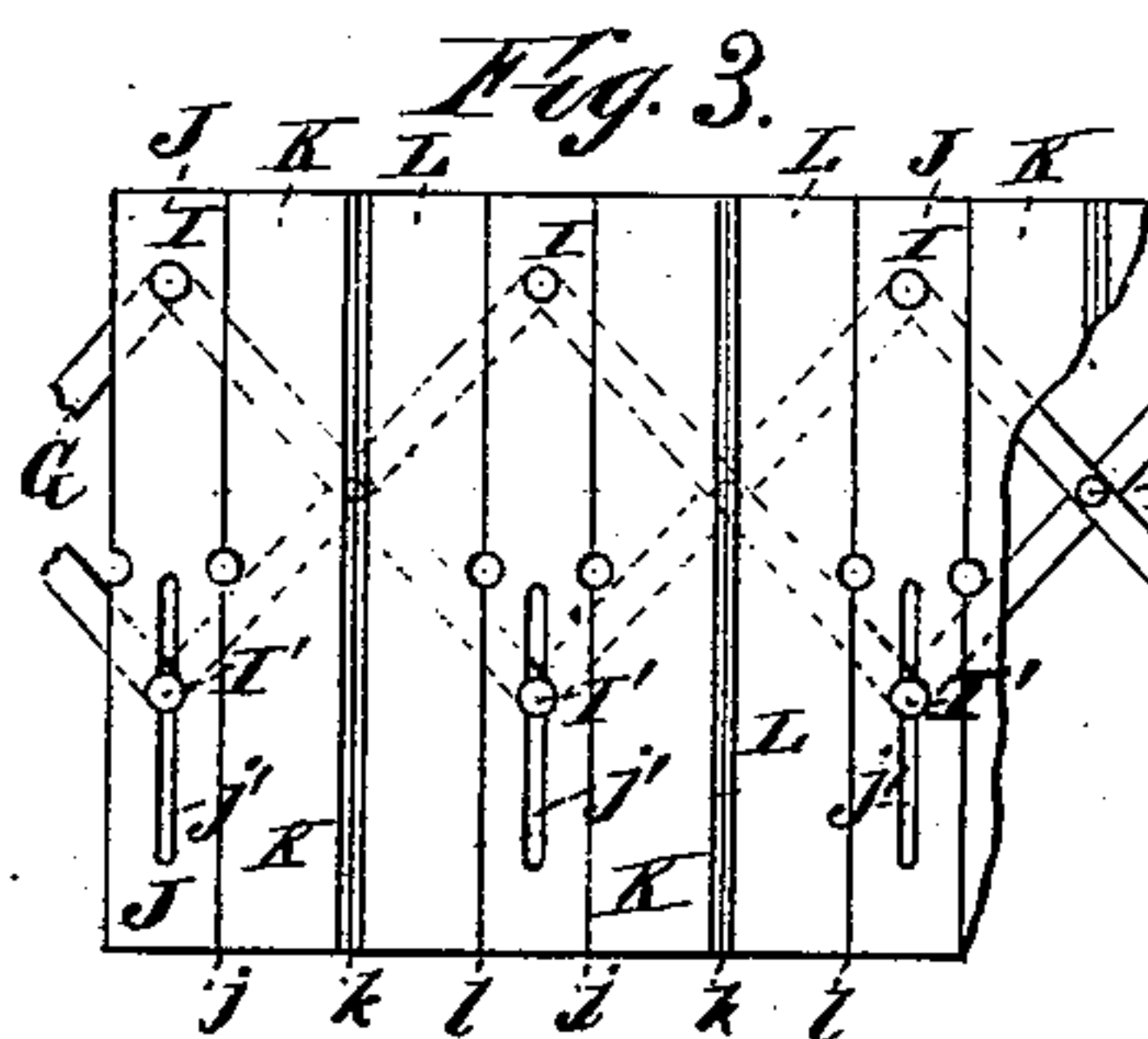
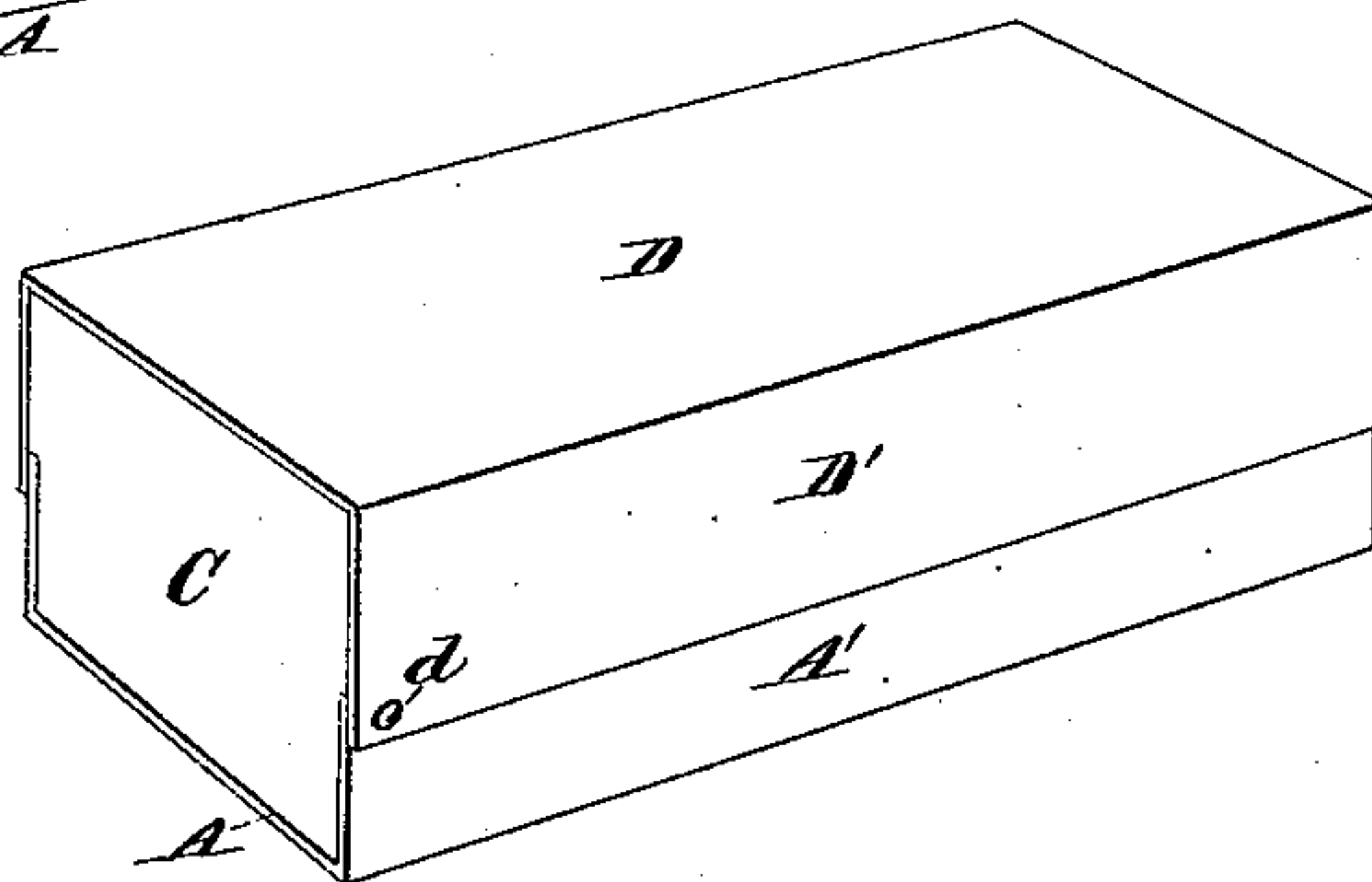


C. D. WILLIAMS.  
Sample Card and Box.

**Patented June 28, 1881.**



# ITNESSEE

Charles F. Searle.  
20. Colburn Brooks

INVENTOR

Charles D. Williams,  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES D. WILLIAMS, OF ARLINGTON, NEW JERSEY.

## SAMPLE CARD AND BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 243,668, dated June 28, 1881.

Application filed February 3, 1881. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES D. WILLIAMS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Arlington, Hudson county, in the State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements relating to Sample-Cards, of which the following is a specification.

My improvement is adapted for the exhibition of a variety of kinds or grades of ruffles, dry-goods, trimmings, combs, cutlery, fancy goods generally, or any articles which are capable of being confined and exhibited on narrow cards. It allows the samples to be compactly applied together, inclosed within a small case for transportation in the pocket or otherwise, with a capacity for extending the card and separating the samples to a sufficient distance for convenient examination, without labor or loss of time. In what I esteem the most complete development of the invention, the samples are not only moved apart, but also turned somewhat so as to lie each in a different position when the card is extended for exhibition to that assumed when it is closed for storage or transportation.

The following is a description of what I consider the best means of carrying out the invention. I will refer to the goods exhibited as "ruffings;" but it will be understood that other articles may be substituted.

The accompanying drawings form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a perspective view, showing the box or case open, but with the samples not yet moved apart. Fig. 2 is a perspective view, showing the box closed. Figs. 3 and 4 represent a portion of the extensible parts on a larger scale. Fig. 3 is a plan view. It represents the extensible work without the samples attached; and Fig. 4 is a vertical section with the samples attached. Fig. 5 is a plan view corresponding to Fig. 3, but with the extensible parts closed together. The remaining figures represent a modification. Fig. 6 is a plan view, and Fig. 7 an elevation.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

A is the central portion of the body or case, having a plane bottom and plane upright side A'. B is an end portion correspondingly formed,

and connected to A by flexible joints *a*. C is a plane end attached to the part B. B' are upright sides. D is an opposite end portion, connected to A by turning joints *d*. E is a plane end attached. The parts D E are larger, and when the box is closed inclose the other parts. The raised sides of B and A are tongued and grooved, and rest on and support each other when the box is closed. The whole may be of stout pasteboard, leather, wood, papier-maché, or other strong material. It should be tastily surfaced, either by finishing its own material or by covering with muslin, morocco, Russia leather, or other suitable material, plain or decorated. Any suitable locks, clasps, or other fastenings may be employed.

To close the device the interior plates are gently moved together, and then the end piece B C is first folded over upon A, and afterward the end piece D E is similarly folded over. The reverse movement opens the case.

G G are a series of narrow plates of metal, loosely riveted together to constitute an arrangement, sometimes designated "lazy-tongs." I make these of sheet metal. Tinned sheet-iron may serve successfully; but iron or steel nickel-plated, or other material of proper strength and rigidity, showing a neat and brilliant surface, may be preferable. The rivets H connect the plates at their centers. The rivets I connect them at their ends. The latter rivets extend up through the material of the several cards J. The rivets I along one side of the series set easily in corresponding round holes in the several cards J. The opposite rivets, I', along the other side of the series are received in slots *j'*, which allow them to move freely outward and inward. The rivets thus serve to keep the narrow strips of cardboard J in positions parallel to each other, but allow the system to be extended and the bars G to change their angular position in regard to each other within wide limits, the several rivets I' moving inward toward the center of the series in the several slots *j'* as the device is extended, and moving outward in the slots *j'* as the device is contracted or closed together.

To each narrow card J is connected another narrow strip, K, of the same or other suitable



material, on which latter are mounted the ruffles or other goods to be exhibited. Each card J should show a different style, size, grade, or quality.

5 L L, &c., are a series of pieces of card or other suitable material joined by flexible connections each to one edge of a horizontal card, J, and to the upper edge of the adjacent upright card K. The several strips of card J K  
10 L are connected by flexible joints *j k l*, so that they are capable of turning with tolerable freedom as the device is opened and closed.

When the case previously described is first opened the samples M and the extensible system of devices on which they are supported  
15 are exposed to view standing between the sides A', but in a too closely compacted condition to allow their being properly inspected. By taking hold of the two ends of the system of  
20 cards and pulling them gently apart the system instantly expands. The several cards J move apart, maintaining each its original horizontal position, and also maintaining their strictly parallel position each to the other;  
25 but the distance of each from the other is increased, the system of bars G narrowing and the rivets I' moving inward, each traversing in its respective slot *j'* and maintaining the parallel position of the corresponding card J.  
30 The rivets I I have no such inward motion. They move apart and together, but do not move inward toward the center of the system. They are set in round holes, and serve to maintain each card in its proper position laterally. The  
35 construction allows the lot of samples to be extended some three or more times its original length. In this extended condition the ruffles or other goods M are sufficiently separated to allow the proper examination of each  
40 unobstructed by the adjacent ruffles. A reversion of the movement closes the system together again. As the cards J are moved apart in extending the system the flexibly-connected cards K L flatten down or assume positions  
45 approximating the plane of the several cards J. The ruffles or other goods M should be attached in such position to the cards K that when the apparatus is thus extended they will be exposed in the most favorable condition for  
50 examination. As the cards J are moved together in closing the system the connected cards K L are caused to assume more nearly upright positions, and when the device is fully closed they may be brought into absolutely  
55 parallel planes. This last condition is not absolutely essential, but it depends on the proportion of the parts; but it is important that the goods M be attached in such positions that when the device is closed they shall be  
60 held in upright, or nearly upright, positions, so as to allow of being stowed compactly together.

Modifications may be made in the proportions and details without departing from the  
65 principle of the invention.

I have represented a notch or recess in one

edge of each card J, which allows the upper end of the rivet H to be received. I have shown the cards J K L as each a separate  
70 piece of material, as card-board or wood, connected each to the other by a strip of flexible material, as muslin; but I can realize a good portion of the advantages of the invention by making two or more of the cards in a continuous piece of card-board or other tough material and cutting it partly through where the  
75 joints *j k l* are required.

The several rigid parts A B C D E and the side pieces, A' B', may be of the same material or of different material. A part or the  
80 whole may be metal. I propose in some instances to make the main body of pasteboard or other material of ordinary strength, with the edges fortified by metal. It will be understood that the size of the whole and its proportions may be varied within wide limits to  
85 accommodate various kinds or styles of goods.

I can make the device sufficiently wide to carry two or more samples of different ruffling or other goods on each card K. The width of  
90 the cards J may be considerably increased and still allow a considerable contraction of the length for packing.

The sides A' of the main body of the box may be higher or lower than shown, the side  
95 pieces, B', being in such case made correspondingly higher or lower. I can make the side pieces A' of the full height of the ends C and E and omit entirely the side pieces B' D'.

Some parts of this invention may be used  
100 without the others. I can use the other parts successfully by employing the several cards J K, connected together rigidly or flexibly, without the other cards, L.

In Figs. 6 and 7 the lazy-tongs are connected  
105 to the strip of cards J by the central rivet, H', and the rivets I I' are not connected, but play freely out and in as the expansible system is drawn out and placed together.

The matching of the edges of A' and B' together by tonguing and grooving or the like  
110 may be omitted when the outer cover, D D', is sufficiently rigid to hold the parts firmly in position. The rivet H', connecting the extensible parts to the casing A, may be omitted  
115 and the parts left free to be removed, if required. Such may for some purposes be preferable.

The samples M may be attached to either of the other cards, J or L, instead of being attached to K, if preferred in any case. For  
120 wide or curved articles, as spoons and certain kinds of combs, the samples may be mounted on the horizontal cards J of the required width, and be each held up thereon by a suitable support, so as to allow the corresponding  
125 rivets I freedom to move under it.

I claim as my invention—

1. In a sample-holder, the combination of the series of cards J K L with flexible connecting-joints *j k l*, and with the samples M attached to one of the cards J K L, so as to not  
130



only change their distances but also to change their inclination with the expansion and contraction of the series, as herein specified.

2. In a sample-holder, the case described, 5 having the parts A A' B B' C D E, formed substantially as shown, and connected by flexible joints *a d*, in combination with the series of cards J K L, connected by flexible joints *j k l*, all arranged for joint operation as here- 10 in specified.

3. In a sample-holder, the series of cards J K L, flexibly hinged together, as shown, in combination with the lazy-tongs G H, so as to insure a uniformity of expansion and contrac- 15 tion, as herein specified.

4. The sample-holder described, having the

cards J K L, hinged together at *j k l*, and provided with the slots *j'*, in combination with the series of plates G, center rivets, H', and end rivets, I I', the latter moving in the slots *j'*, all connected by a rivet, H', to an inclosing and protecting case, and adapted to serve as herein specified. 20

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand, at New York city, this 1st day of Jan- 25 uary, 1881, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CHAS. D. WILLIAMS.

Witnesses:

WM. C. DEY,

CHARLES R. SEARLE.