

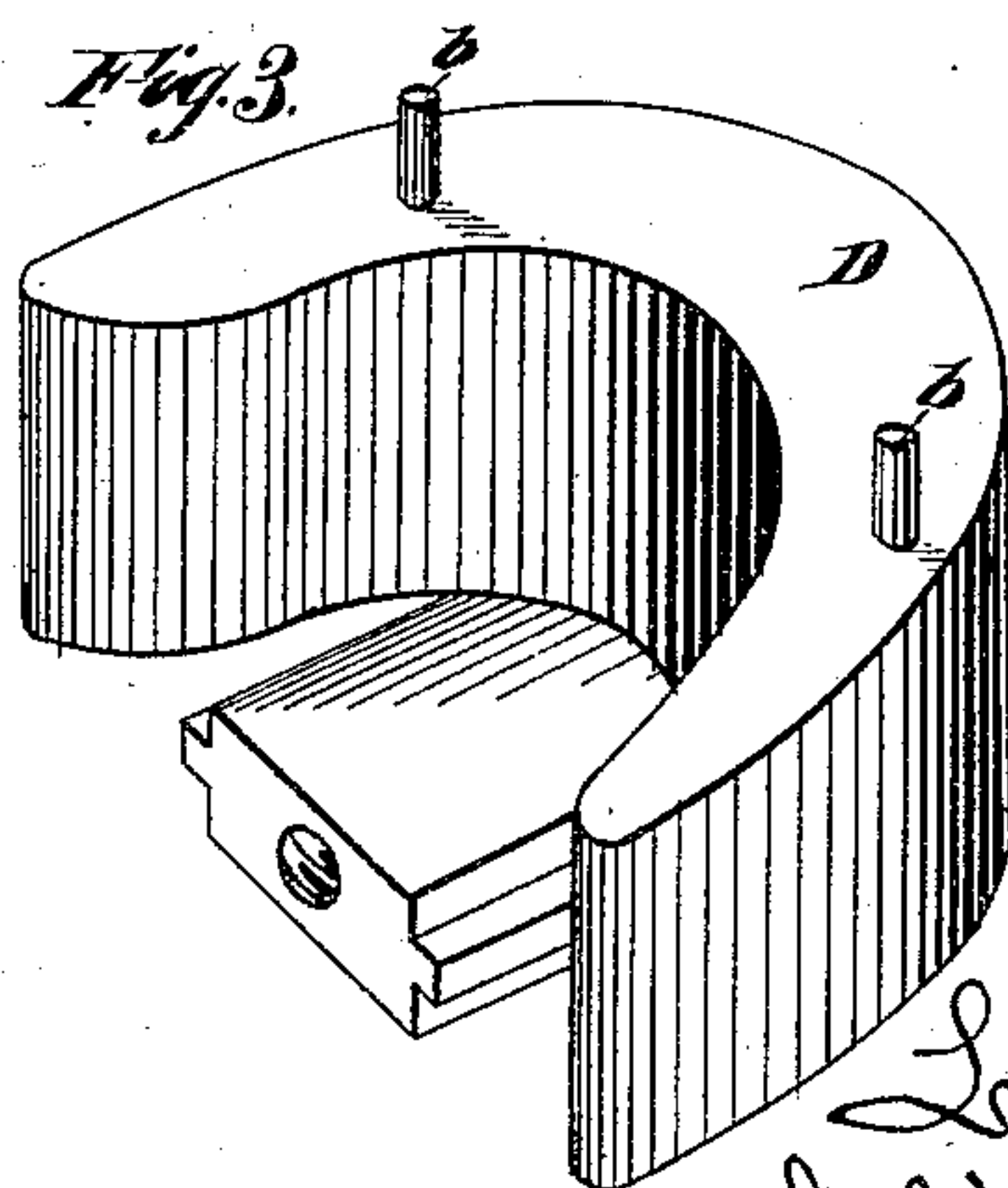
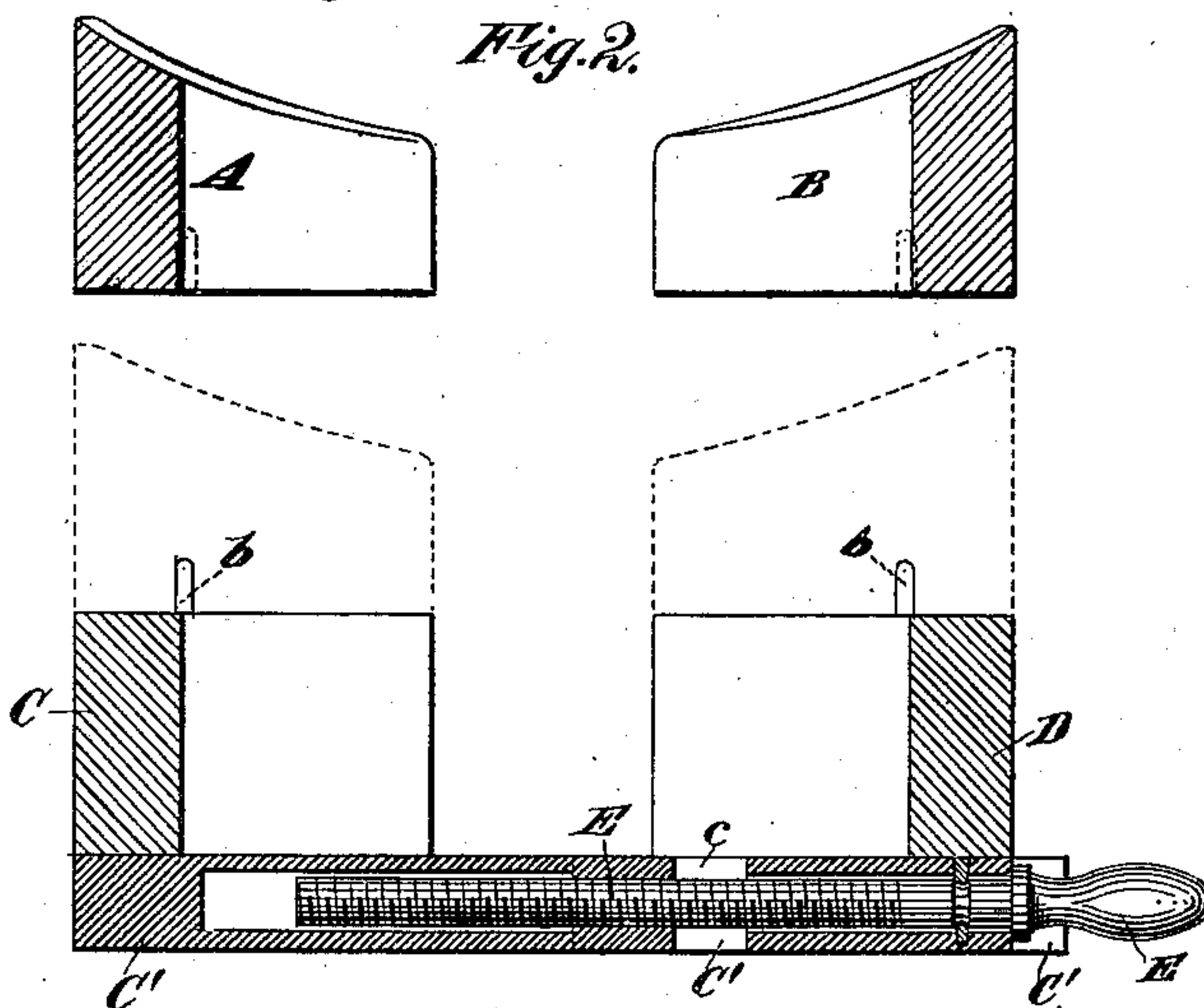
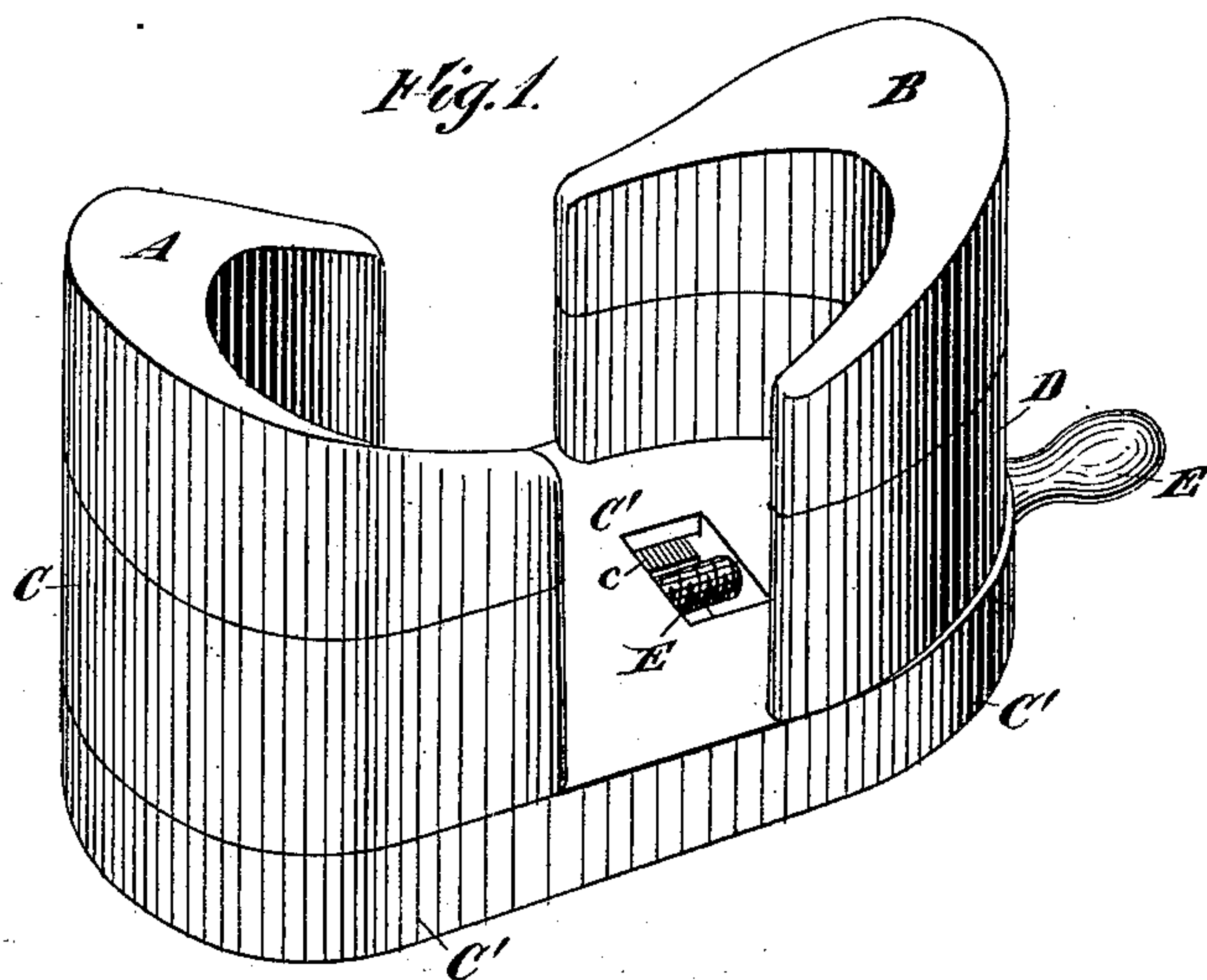
(No Model.)

L. H. HOYT.

APPARATUS FOR SHAPING HAT BRIMS.

No. 253,818.

Patented Feb. 14, 1882.



WITNESSES

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LUCIUS H. HOYT, OF DANBURY, CONNECTICUT.

APPARATUS FOR SHAPING HAT-BRIMS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 253,818, dated February 14, 1882.

Application filed January 6, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LUCIUS H. HOYT, of Danbury, Fairfield county, in the State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful
5 Improvements in Apparatus for Shaping Hat-Brims; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof.

The invention is adapted more particularly for the shaping of the fronts and backs of the
10 brims. The sides may be previously shaped by other means.

The shaping or "setting" of the brims of stiff hats is usually done by hand by skilled operators, who shape the previously heated and
15 softened brims with their fingers only, giving the brims the curves which their judgments dictate.

There are many sizes of hats, and it is obvious that there may be an infinite variety of
20 shapes. The fashion must be conformed to with great rapidity, so that a manufactory employing a large number of men must have shaping apparatuses containing some means of conforming to the required droop and breadth
25 not only for one size but for many sizes, and not only for one workman but for many workmen. My invention attains the end with great facility and at small cost. I provide a bisecti-
30 onal block, the two acting parts of which are capable of approaching and receding, provided with means for adjusting the extent of such motion. Upon these I mount by easily provided means false blocks which have sufficient
35 thickness to give a proper amount of stability, and to allow all the required variety of shapes. The false blocks, being capable of shaping by sawing from a suitable wood, and being rapidly
40 smoothed by ordinary tools, may be provided in any required numbers with economy and dispatch, and, being of little bulk, can be stored in a small space, ready for future use. By this
45 means a large manufactory can set a number of men at work instantly on any style of hat-brim which has been made before, or can in a few hours commence shaping a new style, and each man can for himself instantly adapt his
50 apparatus to treating any size or shape.

The following is a description of what I consider the best means of carrying out the in-
50 vention.

The accompanying drawings form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a perspective view, showing the device adjusted for work. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal vertical section, showing the device in
55 the act of being changed to adapt it for brims of a different width or form. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the movable part detached, and on a larger scale.

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

A and B are the two false blocks, having their upper surfaces carefully and accurately shaped, against which the operator presses
60 and dexterously rubs the heated brim to give it the proper shape. Each is plane on its under surface, except where it is bored with two plain holes, adapted to engage on dowels or pins extending up from below. These dowels
65 are marked *b b*, and are set one pair in a support, C, fixed immovably on a bed, C', which is formed with a guideway, *c*, and the other pair in a movable support, D, guided by the way *c*, and capable of being adjusted nicely
70 thereon by a screw, E, extending through the correspondingly-tongued lower portion of the part D and engaging in the bed C'. The false blocks A B are moved together by turning the
75 screw E in one direction, and apart by turning the same in the opposite direction, the changes being induced by the traversing of the movable support D in one direction and the other in the guideway *c*, carrying one of the false blocks, while the other false block remains
80 fixed on the bed C'. The false blocks are changed at will by simply lifting forcibly on each, so as to detach them from the pins or dowels *b b*, and substituting the required new or different false blocks. The holes bored in
85 the false blocks should be of such size as to fit tightly upon the dowels. The dowels should be glued or otherwise permanently set in the supports C and D. The movable support D should engage in the grooves in the sides of
90 the guideway *c*, so as to keep its position properly while the false blocks are changed. The bed C' should be portable or capable of being easily turned around to accommodate the work-
95 man as he manipulates the brims at the front and back successively, so that after treating
100

one part he can with great facility slide the apparatus until it is in the position he desires for treatment of another part.

Brims tend to change a little after shaping, and allowance is made for that in determining the shape of the parts A and B. To treat a style of stiff hats in which the side curl of the brim almost touches the bowl or hat-body, or when desired for any other purpose, I propose to attach by screws to the sides of the blocks A and B thin metal extensions which shall reach nearly or quite across the openings at the sides between these blocks, supporting the hat very efficiently against any liability to sag at the sides.

The inner surfaces of the parts A, B, C, and D guide the bowl or body of the hat when it is placed for treatment in my apparatus and insure that the brim is presented to the shaping-surfaces properly.

Modifications may be made without departing from the principle or sacrificing the advantages of the invention.

The support C and bed C' may be in a single piece of wood or other suitable material. I have shown them as separate pieces of wood secured together by screws.

The grooved sides of the guideway *c* may be greatly modified or dispensed with altogether, and any other convenient means adopted for properly guiding the movable support D.

I claim as my invention—

1. The within-described device for shaping fronts and backs of hat-brims, having two blocks or shaping-surfaces, A B, with means E for conveniently adjusting their distances apart, as herein specified.

2. The combination of the bed C', having guiding means *c*, with the fixed support C, movable support D, dowels *b b*, and false blocks A B, adapted to serve relatively to each other and to hats of different sizes, substantially as herein specified.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand, at Danbury, State of Connecticut, this 29th day of December, 1881, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

LUCIUS H. HOYT.

Witnesses:

EDWARD ALLEN,

F. L. WILSON.