

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

B. S. ATWOOD.

BOX FASTENER.

No. 254,900.

Patented Mar. 14, 1882.

Fig. 1.

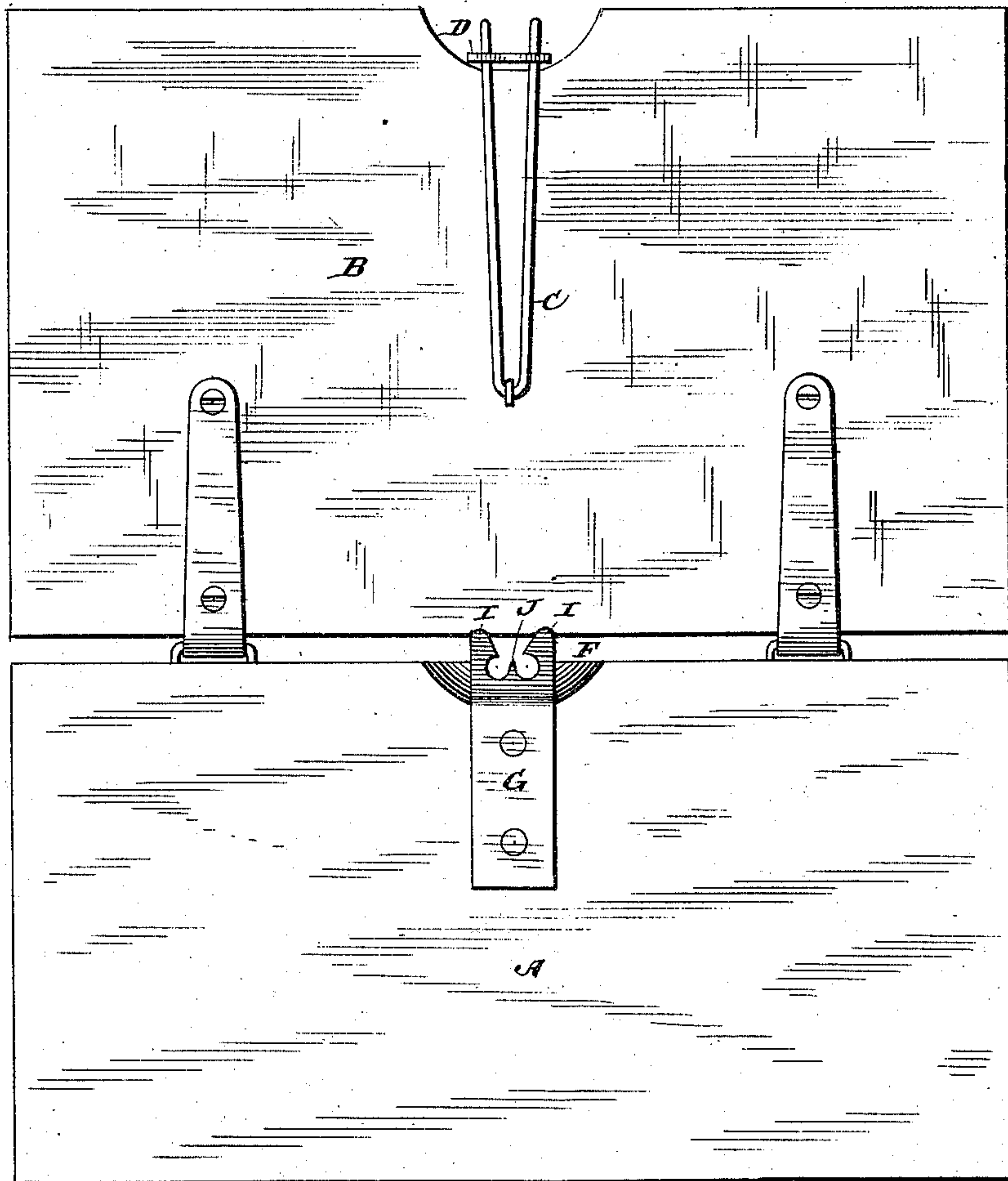
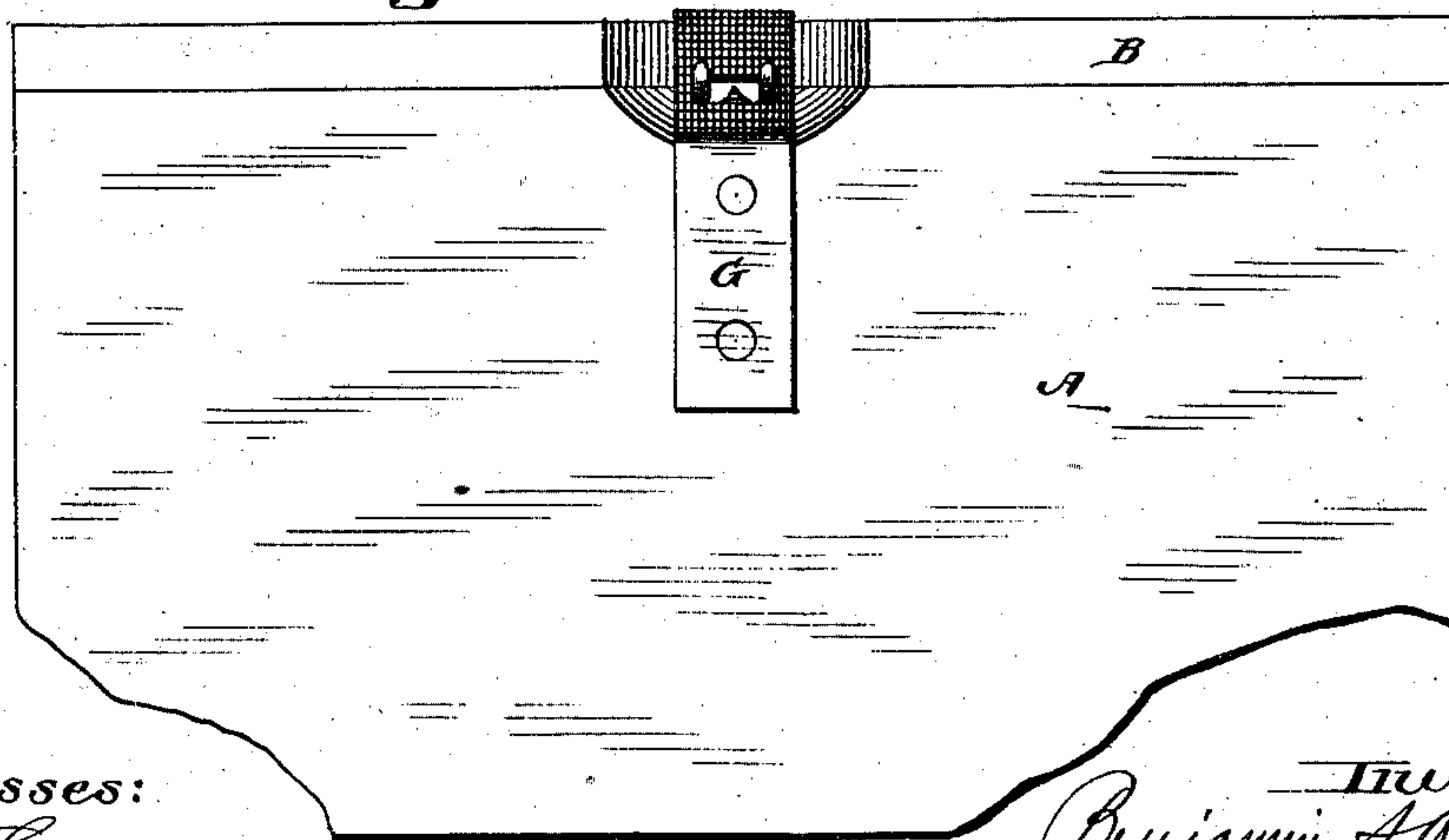


Fig. 2.



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Fig. 3.

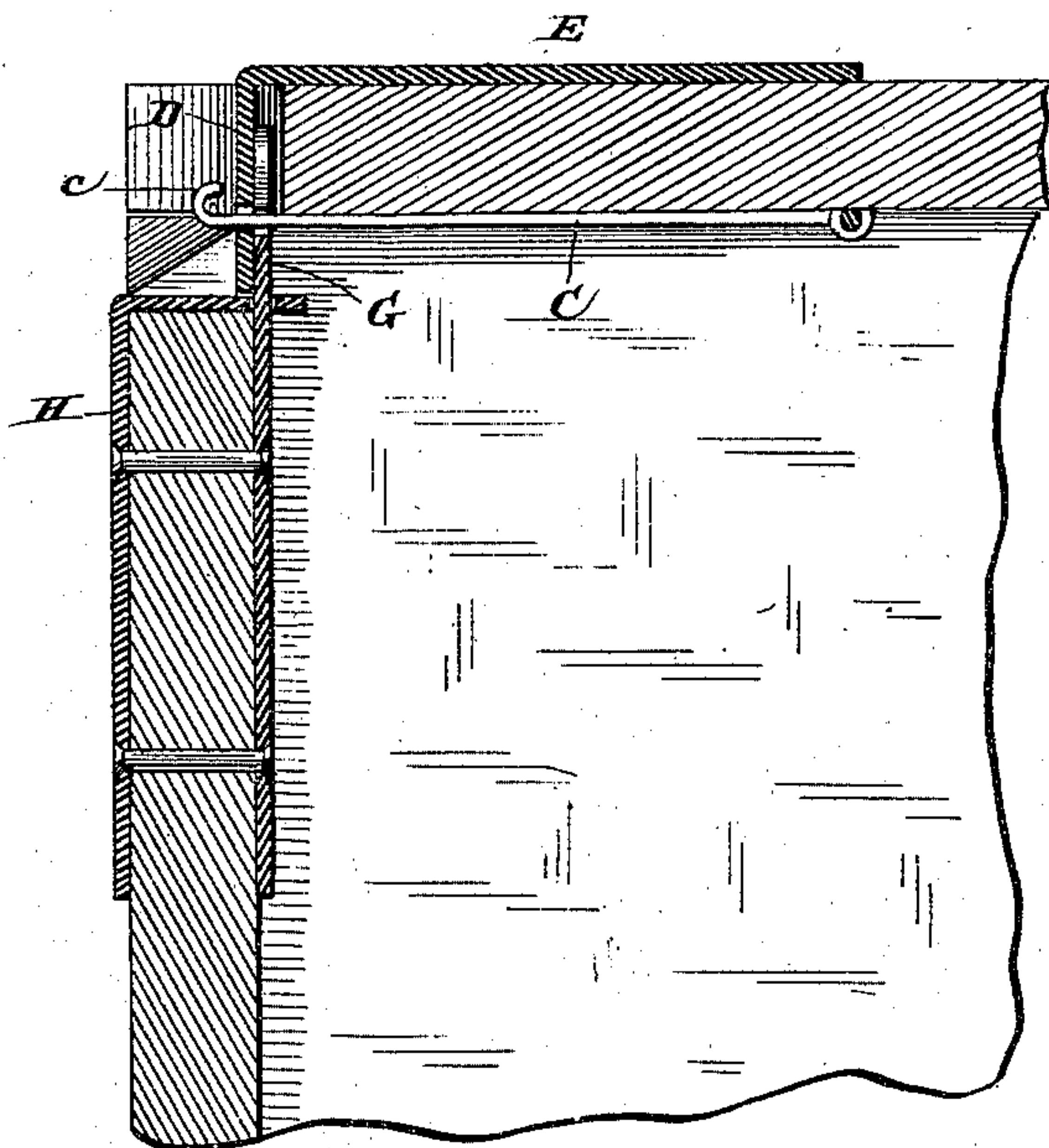
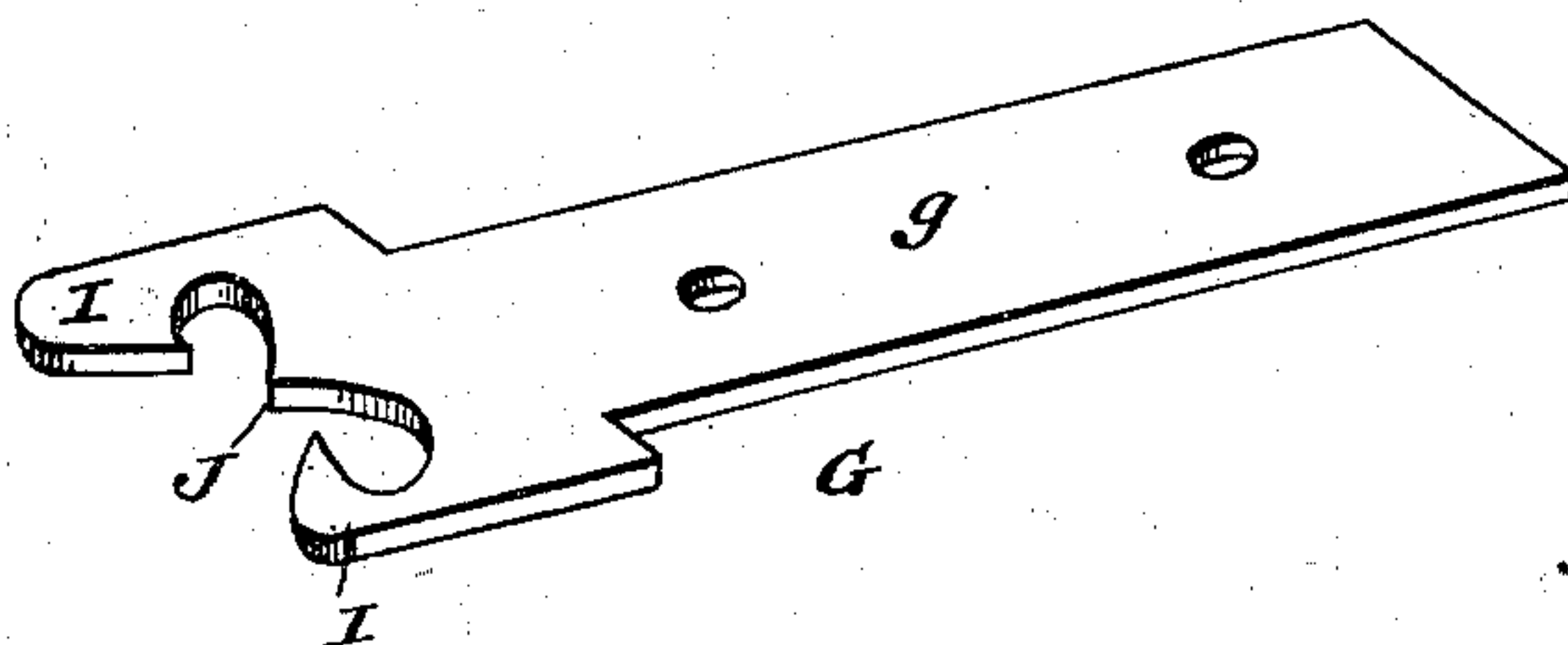


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN S. ATWOOD, OF SOUTH ABINGTON STATION, MASSACHUSETTS,

BOX-FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 254,900, dated March 14, 1882.

Application filed August 4, 1881. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN S. ATWOOD, a citizen of the United States, residing at South Abington Station, in the county of Plymouth and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fastenings for Box-Covers; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters or figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The object of the present invention is to provide a simple and efficient fastening device for securing the covers of packing-boxes and shipping-cases in general.

The invention consists in a double-spring latch arranged on the under side of the box-cover and projecting through a plate extending below the bottom edge of said cover, and furnished with a double-hooked plate rising from the top edge of the box, adapted to receive the spring-latch when the cover is closed for firmly retaining said latch. The ends of the spring-latch project beyond the catch-plate on the box, so that said ends can be pressed together by hand for permitting the cover to be raised, the projecting ends of the spring-latch serving as a handle for raising the cover.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of the box, showing the cover in a raised position. Fig. 2 is an elevation showing the cover closed. Fig. 3 is a transverse section taken through the fastening device and a portion of the cover and box, and Fig. 4 is a detail view of the catch-plate.

The letter A denotes a packing-box or transportation-case, and B is the lid or cover thereof, which is generally hinged at one side of the box, and is secured at the other side by a fastening device of the construction herein shown. A double-spring latch, C, secured to the under side of the cover extends along the latter and projects through a slot of a pendent guide-plate, D, extending below the under surface of the cover. Said guide-plate is provided with a horizontal top plate or arm, E, for attaching it to the upper side of the box-cover.

A recess or cut, F, made in the edge of the

box receives said guide-plate D, and a space is left between the latter and the edge of the cover for permitting a catch-plate, G, on the body of the box to enter said space when the cover is closed.

The catch-plate G extends above the upper edge of the box, and is secured to the inner side of the latter by screws or other devices passing through its attaching-arm *g*. A right-angled plate, H, having its horizontal portion seated in a notch cut in the top edge of the box, and its vertical portion secured to the front of the latter, extends slightly beyond the top edge of the box, and has a slot for the passage of the arm *g* of the catch-plate. The object of the right-angled plate is to stay the catch-plate or impart to the same the necessary degree of strength or rigidity, so as to cause it to be always in position for entering the space between the edge of the cover and the guide-plate D. The catch-plate proper, or that portion which rests upon the horizontal arm of the plate H, is provided with two hooks, I, and with an intermediate pointed projection, J, rising from the bottom of the opening left between said hooks. The hooks I face each other, so as to leave an opening between said hooks which is narrower at the bottom than at the top. Hence it will be apparent that when the cover is being closed the two arms of the spring-latch enter between the two hooks, so as to compress said latch, and as soon as the same has passed beyond the points of the hooks the elasticity of the spring-arms will expand the same or throw them under the hooks, as is shown in Fig. 2.

The points or extremities of the spring-latch project through the guide-plate of the cover, and are enlarged or otherwise shaped, so as to form handles *c*, which are used for compressing the spring-latch when the cover is to be raised, and as means for lifting the cover without releasing the hold on the handle ends of the spring-catch. The handle or projecting ends of the spring-latch do not extend beyond the side wall of the box, but terminate in the recess formed by cutting away the edges of the cover and side of the box.

I am aware that a double-spring latch extending vertically from the front edge of a box-cover has been used in connection with a

tapering mortise or socket in a cleat applied to the front of the box, so as to automatically fasten the cover after the ends of the spring-latch have passed through said mortise.

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

The combination of the recessed or notched cover, the pendent slotted plate projecting be-
10 low the same, the double-spring latch secured to the under side of the cover and extending

through the pendent plate, the box having a notch in its upper edge, the double-hooked plate extending above the bottom of said notch on the inner side of the box, and the stay- 15 plate, as and for the purpose herein set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

BENJAMIN S. ATWOOD.

Witnesses:

E. W. COBB,
A. R. PRATT.