

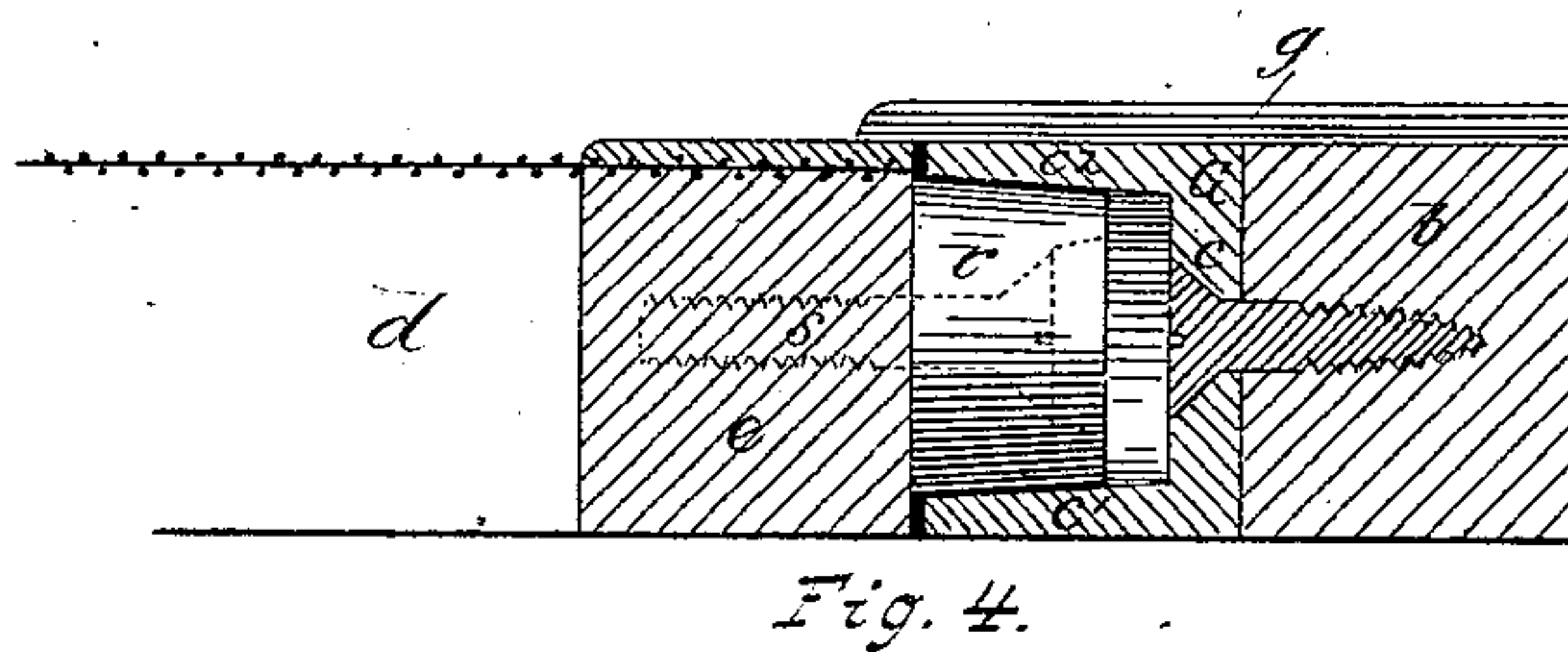
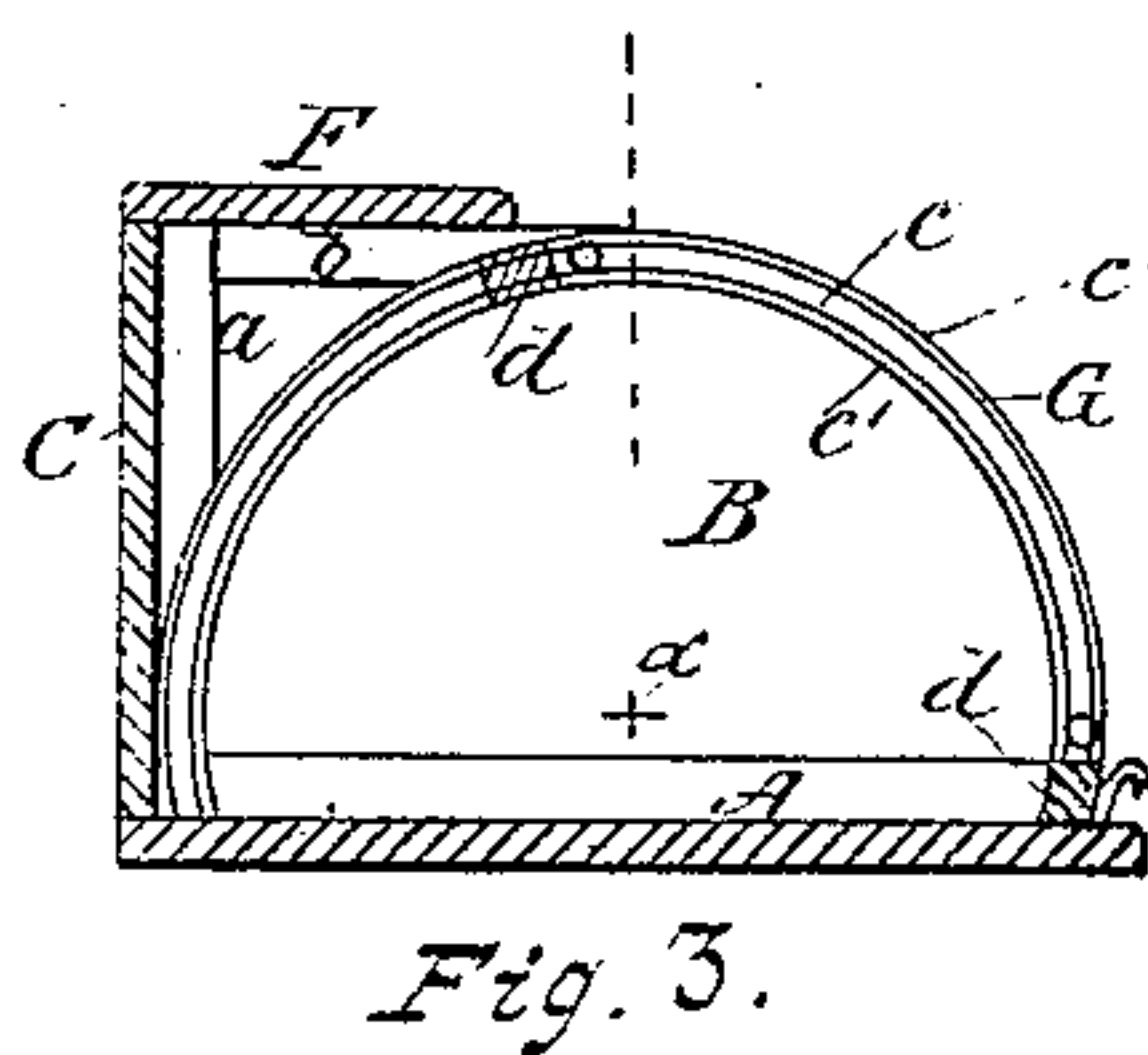
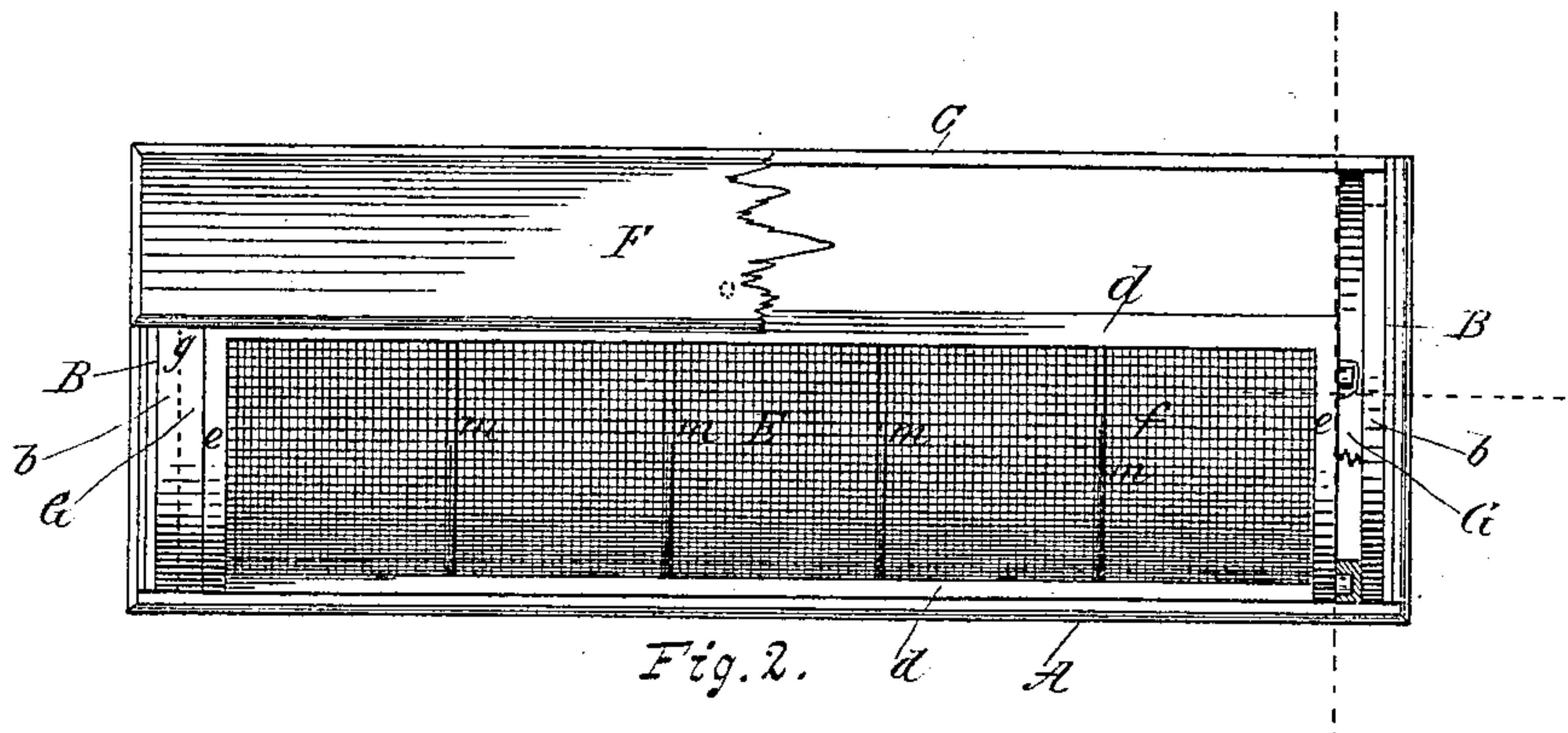
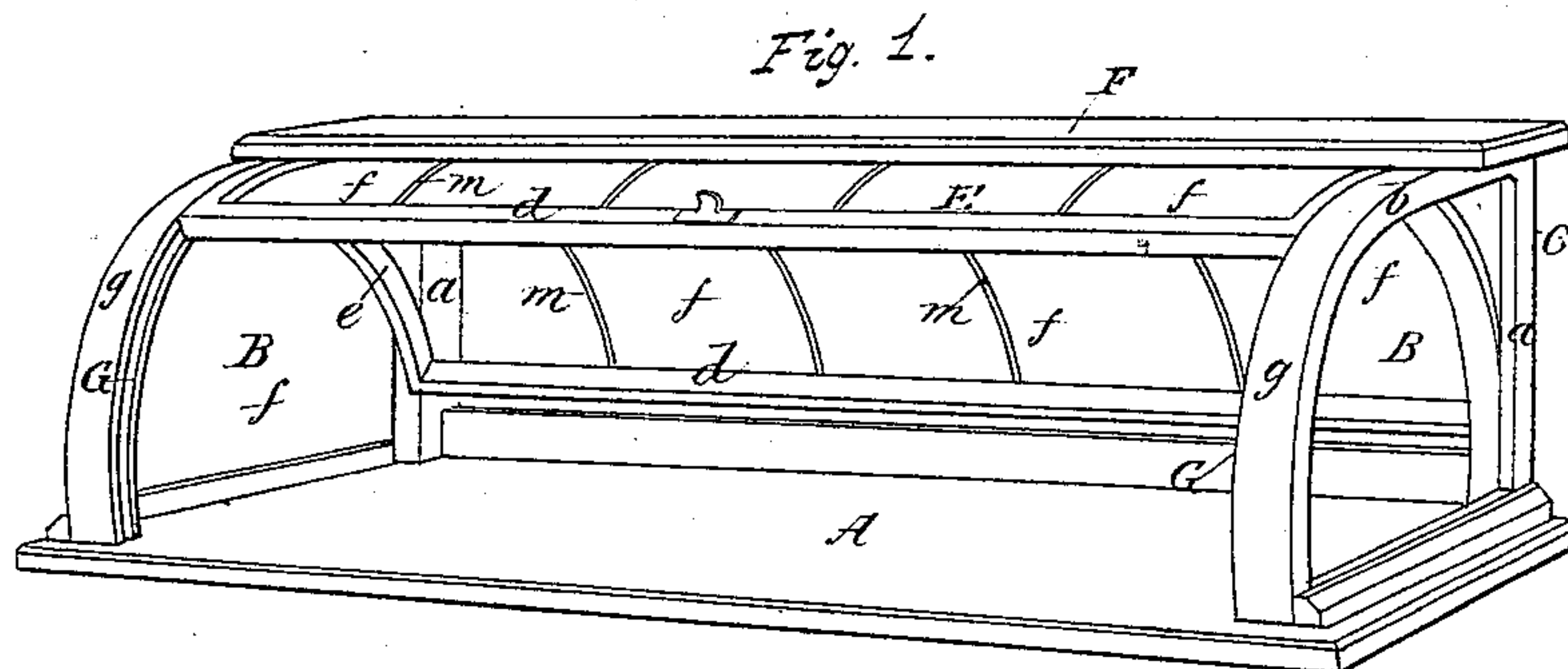
(No Model.)

D. H. MATHIAS.

LUNCH CASE.

No. 271,724.

Patented Feb. 6, 1883.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID H. MATHIAS, OF ALBANY, NEW YORK.

LUNCH-CASE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 271,724, dated February 6, 1883.

Application filed July 10, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID H. MATHIAS, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city of Albany, and county of Albany, in the State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Lunch-Cases, of which the following is a full and clear description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification.

My invention relates to lunch-cases in which the ends of the case are made with curved rails; having metallic ways in which work rollers attached to a segmental sliding door, and also in which a shelf, affixed to and supported by the side rails, forms the top of the case, under which the sliding door will be moved when the case is opened.

The objects of my invention are to provide in lunch-cases a segmental sliding door, which will be mounted on rollers and operate with segmental or curved ways made with the ends of the case, whereby the said door will be adapted to be easily moved in either direction for opening or closing the case, and also to so combine with the body of the lunch-case having a sliding door a shelf, which will form the top of the case, and at the same time stiffen the ends thereof against swaying, and also operate to permit the sliding door to be moved beneath the same when the door is opened. I attain these objects by means of the devices and arrangement of parts illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of the lunch-case containing my improvements. Fig. 2 represents a plan view of the same with parts broken away and exposing the means for supporting the sliding door. Fig. 3 is a sectional elevation of the case, taken in a cross direction at line No. 1 in Fig. 2; and Fig. 4 is a sectional detail view at full size at line No. 2 in Figs. 2 and 3, and illustrates the means for supporting and carrying the sliding door.

In the drawings, A represents the bottom of the case. B B are the ends thereof. C is the rear side. E is the segmental vertically-sliding door, and F is the top, forming a shelf.

Framed firmly with bottom A, at the rear corners of the same, are rear standards, *a*, and framed with said rear standards and bottom

(at the front corners thereof) are the curved rails *b b*, the curved portions of which are made on a curve of a perfect circle, equal to the curvature of the segmental sliding door. Firmly secured to each of said curved rails are the segmental curved ways G, which ways are each made on a radius of about ten inches (more or less) and from center *x* about two inches above the bottom of the case. These ways are made of cast-iron and with web *c* and flanges *c'* *c''*, which together form a recessed way, as shown in Figs. 2, 3, and 4, and they are set facing to each other, being firmly secured to the curved side rails, *b*, at their inner sides, with their ends terminating at bottom A, as shown in Fig. 3. A shelf, F, is firmly secured at its ends to the upper sides of curved rails *b b*, and stays the same and their attached curved ways from being swayed out of a vertical position, and at the same time forms the top of the case, beneath which the sliding door will pass when it is moved open. The ends of the case are made of wire-cloth, and the back of the case may be made solid and fixed, or be made to consist of a hinged panel drop-door, or a door composed of a frame and covered with wire-cloth.

The door E is made to consist of a wire-covered frame made curved in direction of its length, and is composed of top and bottom rails, *d d*, and curved end rails, *e e*, secured firmly together, and the wire-cloth covering *f*. The curvature of this door is the same as that of ways G G, and it is made with a length slightly shorter than the length of distance between said ways, and with a width a little greater than the length of the arch between bottom A and shelf F.

Secured at each end of the sliding door E and near each corner thereof are rollers *r*—one at each corner—which rollers are mounted on pintles *s*, (shown by dotted lines in Fig. 4,) secured to the curved end rails, *e*. These rollers—two at each end—work in their respective recessed ways G, and have bearing on the inner or lower flange, *c'*, of each way, as shown in Figs. 2, 3, and 4, while they are held in place by the outer or upper flange, *c''*. The rollers *r r*, being secured to the ends of the curved sliding door, support and carry the door

in all its movements, and, working in the recesses of the ways, cause the door to be securely held in place between the same in its horizontal direction, and between the shelf F and bottom A in its vertical direction of extension, and also to have freedom for being readily moved upward from bottom A toward and beneath shelf F and to the rearward side of the case, so that access will be had to the chamber-room within, and be as readily moved in the reverse direction for closing the case. A closing-strip, *g*, made of thin wood strip secured to the curved rails *b b*, is made to cover over the upper side of ways G and lap over the marginal edge of end rails, *e*, of the door, as shown in Fig. 4.

Arranged with the door-frame at intervals of ten inches (more or less) apart are the elastic bow-strips *m*, which bow-strips are made of spring-steel about one-quarter of one inch in width and scant one-sixteenth of one inch in thickness, and bowed on a curve equal to the curvature of the inner sides of the end rails, *e*, of the door, and are secured to the top and bottom rails, *d d*. These elastic bow-strips operate as supports to the wire-cloth covering *f*, and will admit of being pressed upon without being permanently bent from their original curvature.

By my improvements the body of the lunch-case is made to support shelf F in a convenient situation for receiving and temporarily holding articles which it may be desirable to transfer to chamber-room of the case, or which may be removed from the same, as circumstances may require, and the shelf itself is made to operate as a staying-piece to the ways G, to hold them in the same vertical position without the least liability of their rocking inward to pinch on the sliding door or being moved outward from the same; and the door is made to have its support from the ways, without the employment of any arms pivoted to the ends of the case and working within the same with liability of their striking dishes or

other articles within when the door is swung back and forth, as heretofore made in this class of lunch-cases.

If selected, one or more shelves may be supported within the case from bars cast with the segmental ways G or from other pieces attached to or suspended within the case.

I am aware that lunch-cases covered at their ends and upper and front sides with wire-cloth are old, and also that lunch-cases having segmental or curved doors, carried by arms pivoted to the ends of the case inside, are old. Such cases I do not claim as being my invention, as the arms carrying the covers or doors were calculated to strike plates or dishes set against the ends of the case, past which the arms will move when the door or cover is being opened. By my improvements the door or cover is freed from all adjunctive parts which work and move within the chamber-room of the case when the door is moved.

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

1. In a lunch-case, the combination, with the body of the case provided at its ends with segmental recessed ways G, of segmental door or cover E, provided at its ends with rollers *r*, adapted to work in the recesses of said ways and carry said door when moved, all substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a lunch-case, the combination, with end rails, *b b*, having vertically-standing segmental recessed curved ways G, secured thereto, in which rollers working therein carry a sliding curved door, of the top piece, F, secured at its ends to said rails *b b*, and arranged above said segmental ways, all substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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Witnesses:

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