

(No Model.)

T. MUELLER.

WATCH CASE.

No. 273,759.

Patented Mar. 13, 1883.

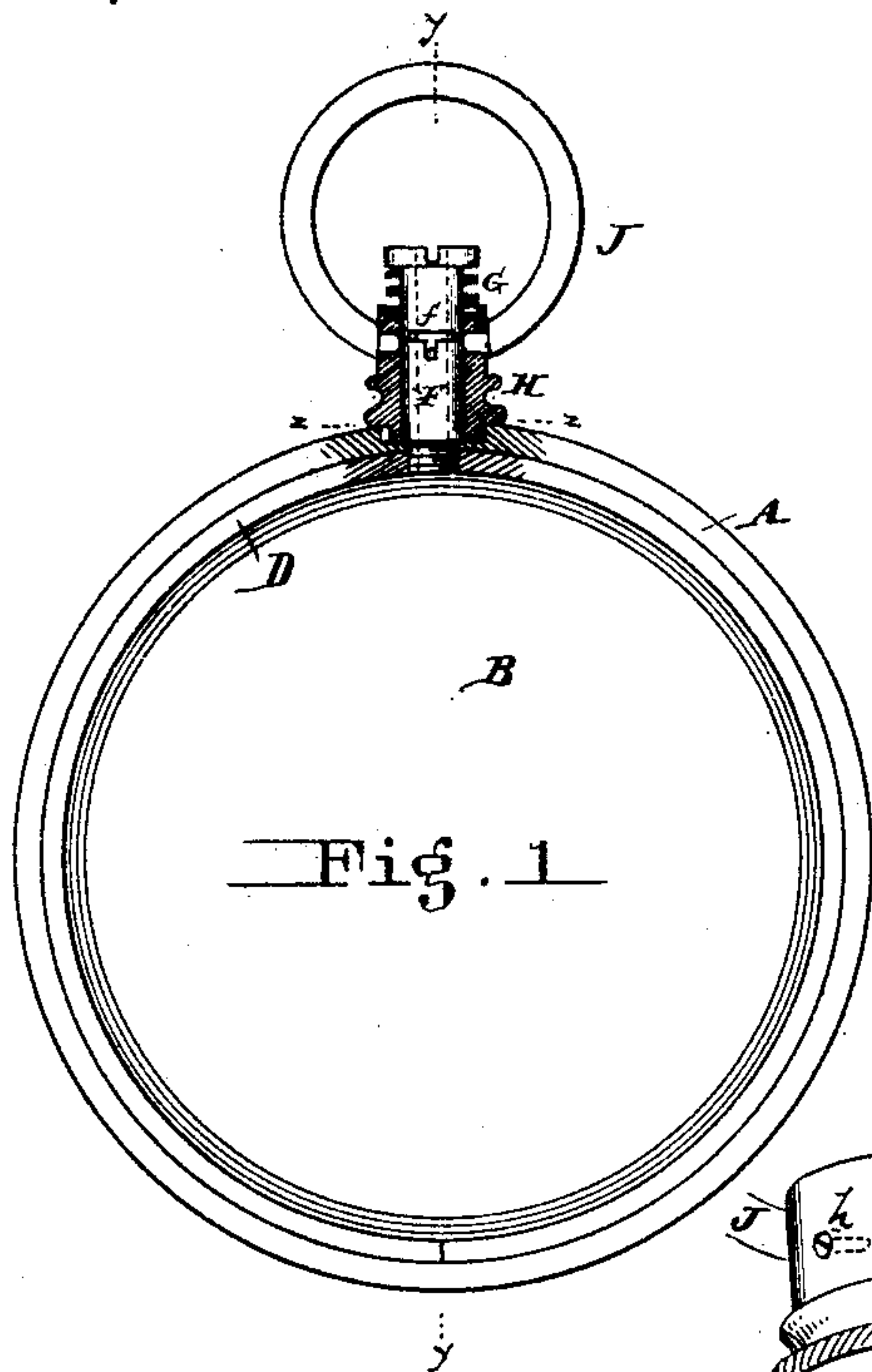


Fig. 1

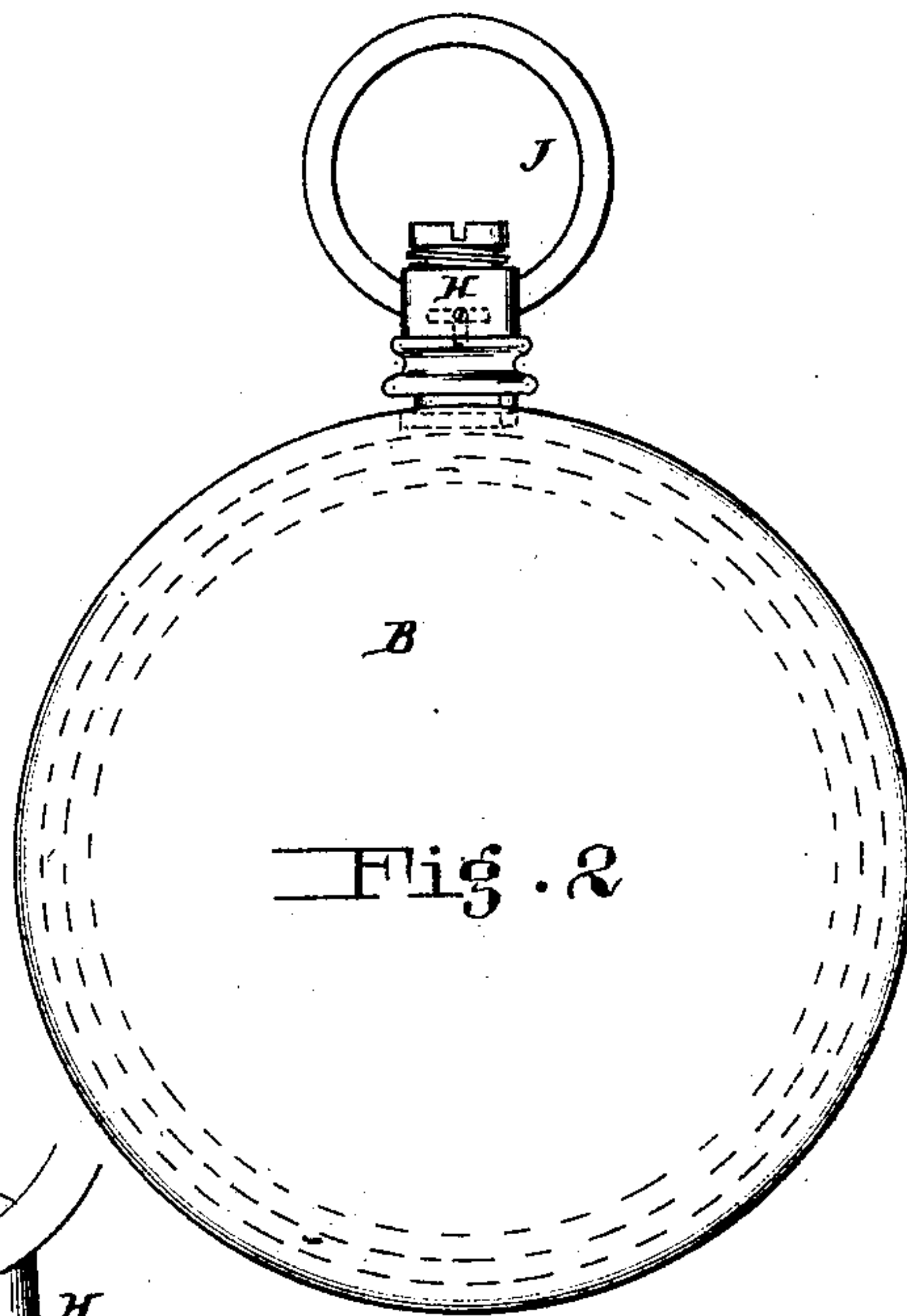


Fig. 2

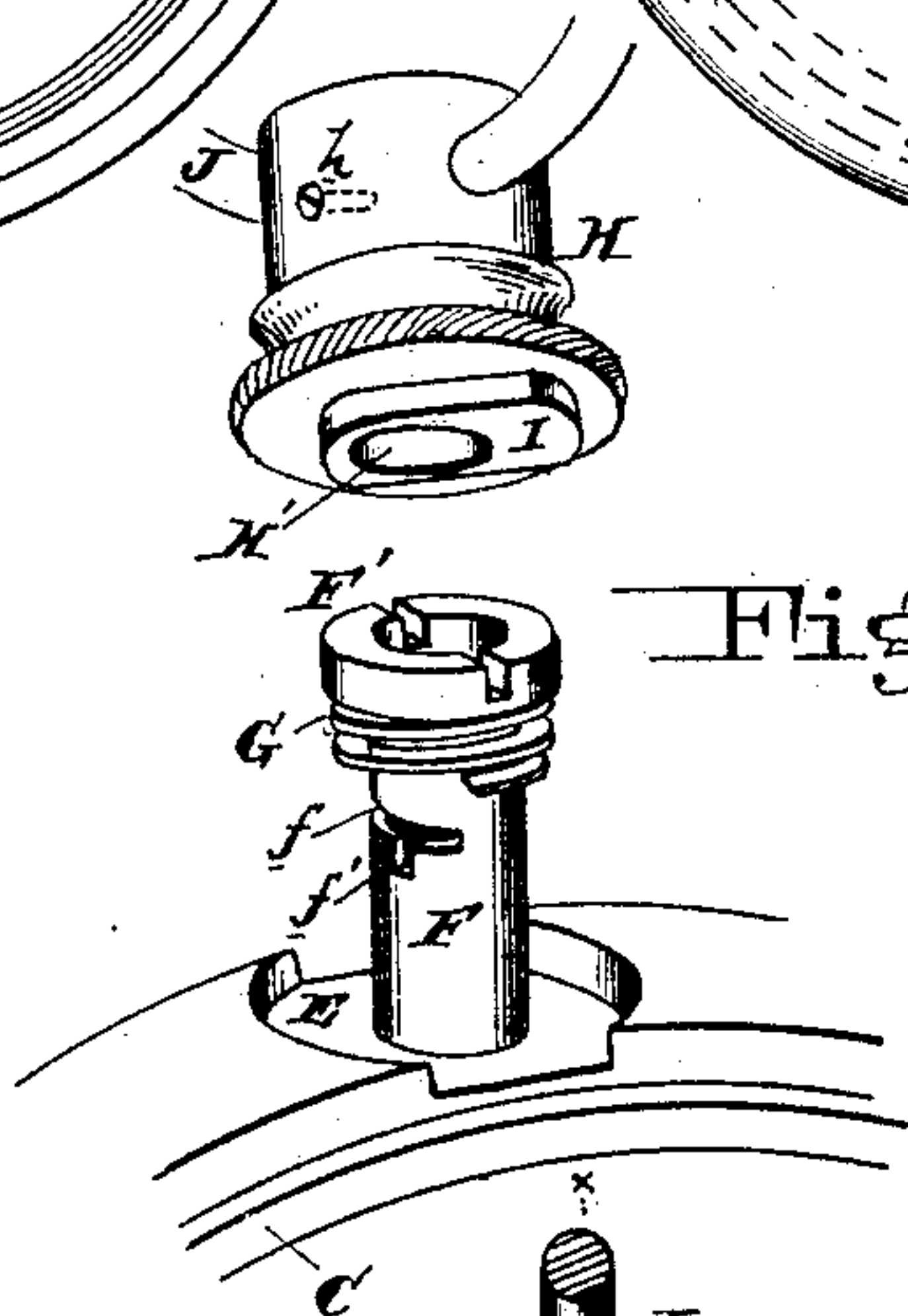


Fig. 3

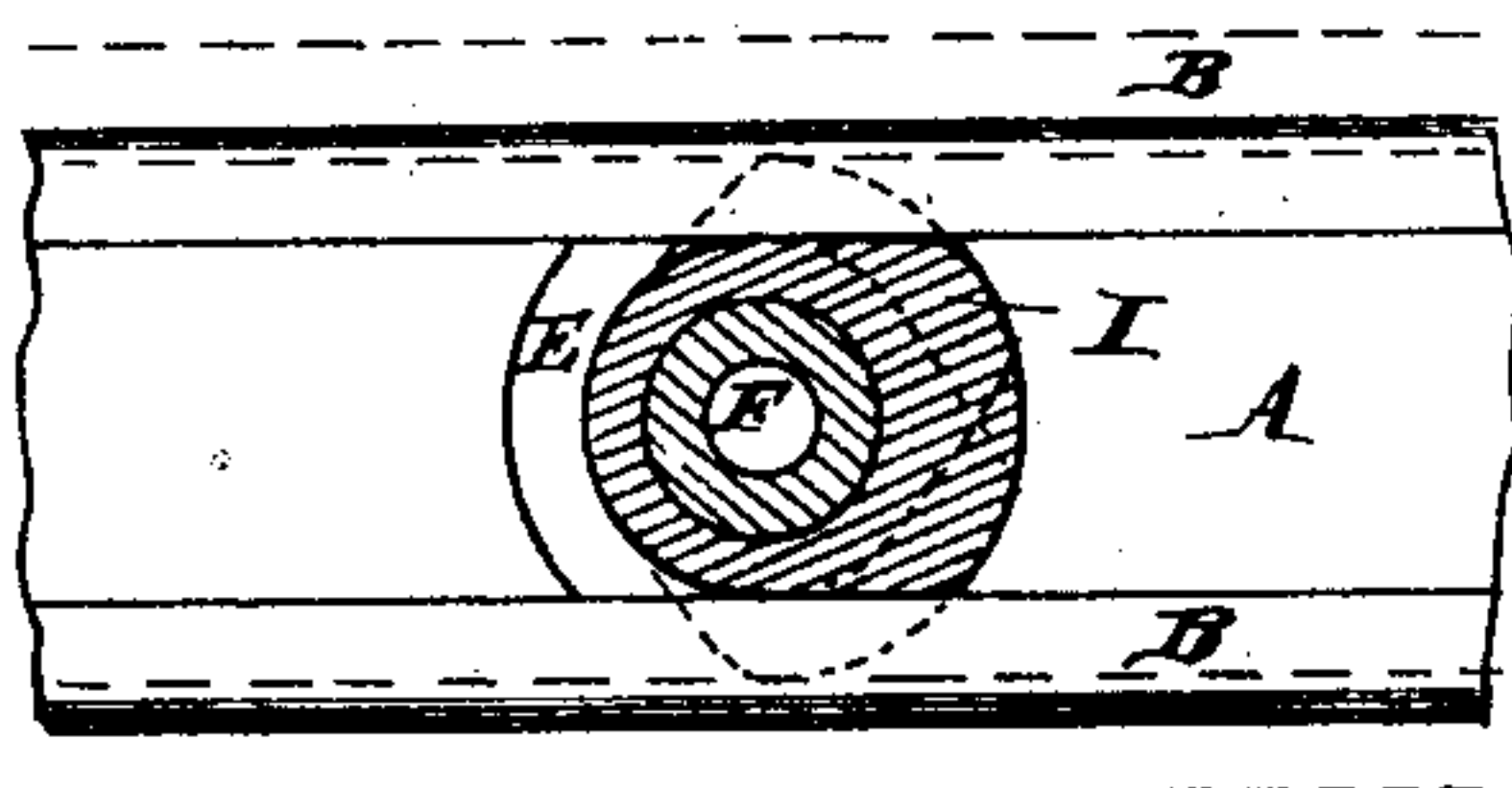


Fig. 4

Attest  
L. J. Matar  
W. McWade

Inventor  
Theodore Mueller  
By his atty.

*[Signature]*



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THEODORE MUELLER, OF PHILADELPHIA, PA., ASSIGNOR TO THOMAS B. HAGSTOZ AND CHARLES N. THORPE, BOTH OF SAME PLACE.

## WATCH-CASE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 273,759, dated March 13, 1883.

Application filed December 5, 1882. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, THEODORE MUELLER, of the city and county of Philadelphia, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented an Improvement in Watch-Cases, of which the following is a specification.

My invention has reference to the manufacture of watch-cases; and it consists in an improvement upon Letters Patent No. 251,399, dated December 27, 1881, but more specifically in providing the pendant, which is adapted to reciprocate and rotate, with means to lock the same in such a position that the bezels cannot be disconnected from the center without first pulling out the pendant and then turning it, all of which is more fully set forth in the following specification and shown in the accompanying drawings, which form part thereof.

Heretofore the bezels were forced from the center by simply turning the pendant, and there was liability at any time of the bezels being forced off the center when, in the ordinary use of the watch, the said pendant is turned by the ring being caught or otherwise. If the pendant were turned when in the pocket, the watch would be drawn out in pieces and would be liable to injury.

The object of my invention is to overcome the above objectionable features by providing the pendant with a suitable locking device to prevent any turning of the pendant except when desired.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a sectional elevation of my improved watch-case on line *xx*, and shows the pendant locked. Fig. 2 is a front elevation of same, and shows the pendant unlocked and in position to be turned. Fig. 3 is a section of same on line *yy*. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the pendant and its locking mechanism, and Fig. 5 is a cross-section through the pendant and its supporting-sleeve on line *zz*.

A is the center, and B B the front and back bezels. There is no finish required to these parts after they leave the lathe, as hinges and thumb-pieces are dispensed with, and the bezels are held to the center by friction alone. The center is recessed, as at E, and through the center of this recess a sleeve or perforated stud, F, is secured, the same acting as a guide and support for the rotary reciprocating pend-

ant. This stud may be either riveted into the center or may be screwed into same or into a steel ring, D, arranged in the annular groove in the said center. The pendant H works loosely on said stud, and is provided on the bottom with a lug or extension, I, which just fits the recess E in the center as it swings around; but when turned sidewise the said lug projects from the sides of the center, as shown in Fig. 5, and forces off the bezels. The stud F is provided with a T-slot in its body, the part *f'* locking the pendant and the part *f* allowing the same to be turned to force off the bezels. A stud or pin, *h*, in the pendant works in said slot. A spring, G, encircles the stud F, and is compressed between the stud-head F' and the top of the pendant H, and tends at all times to press said pendant down into locking position.

J is the usual ring by which the watch is suspended, and is pivoted in the usual manner to the pendant.

It is evident that the recess E need not extend all around as wide as shown; but it is cheaper to make it so.

The operation is as follows: The watch-pendant being in the position shown in Fig. 1, the pendant is pulled out, as shown in Fig. 2, and then turned, as indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 5, which action forces off the bezels through the agency of the lug I.

I do not limit myself to the particular locking mechanism shown, as my invention comprehends broadly the movable pendant provided with means to force off the bezels when arranged with suitable means to lock said pendant in position, except when it is desired to open the case. The pin attached to the crown, and by which the watch is wound, is passed through the hole in the stud or sleeve F.

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

1. In a watch-case, the center and a fixed stud secured thereto, in combination with a movable pendant and means to lock said pendant and make it immovable on said center, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

2. In a watch-case, the center and a fixed stud secured thereto, in combination with the bezels or lids, a loose pendant provided with



means to open said lids, and means to lock said pendant and make it immovable on said center to prevent accidental opening of said lids, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

3. In a watch-case having its lids fastened to the center by the snap only, the combination of a pendant pivotally held in a bearing formed on a stud or sleeve secured firmly to the center or a ring in the center, and provided with a cam or lug arranged for the purpose of opening the lids, and means to lock said pendant and its lug in a position that shall prevent the latter from acting upon the lids under the ordinary handling of the watch, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

4. In a watch-case in which the lids are fitted to the center without hinges and held thereon by the snap only, the combination of a pendant pivotally held in a bearing formed on a sleeve or stud secured to the center, and provided with a lug or cam-projection on one side of it to open the lids, the said lug fitting into a recess made in the center between the

lid, and means to prevent said pendant and its lug from turning except when it is pulled out, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

5. The combination of center A, having recess E, stud F, having T-shaped slot, pendant H, having a lug, I, and pin h, and spring G, with the lids or bezels B, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

6. In a watch-case, a rotary reciprocating pendant, in combination with means to prevent said pendant from turning, and a lug or projection actuated by the rotation of said pendant to force open the lids or bezels, substantially as set forth.

7. A watch-case provided with a rotary reciprocating pendant, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

In testimony of which invention I hereunto set my hand.

THEODORE MUELLER.

Witnesses:

H. L. ROBERTS,

HENRY F. WALTON.