

(No Model.)

F. RATCLIFF.
PINCUSHION.

No. 279,807.

Patented June 19, 1883.

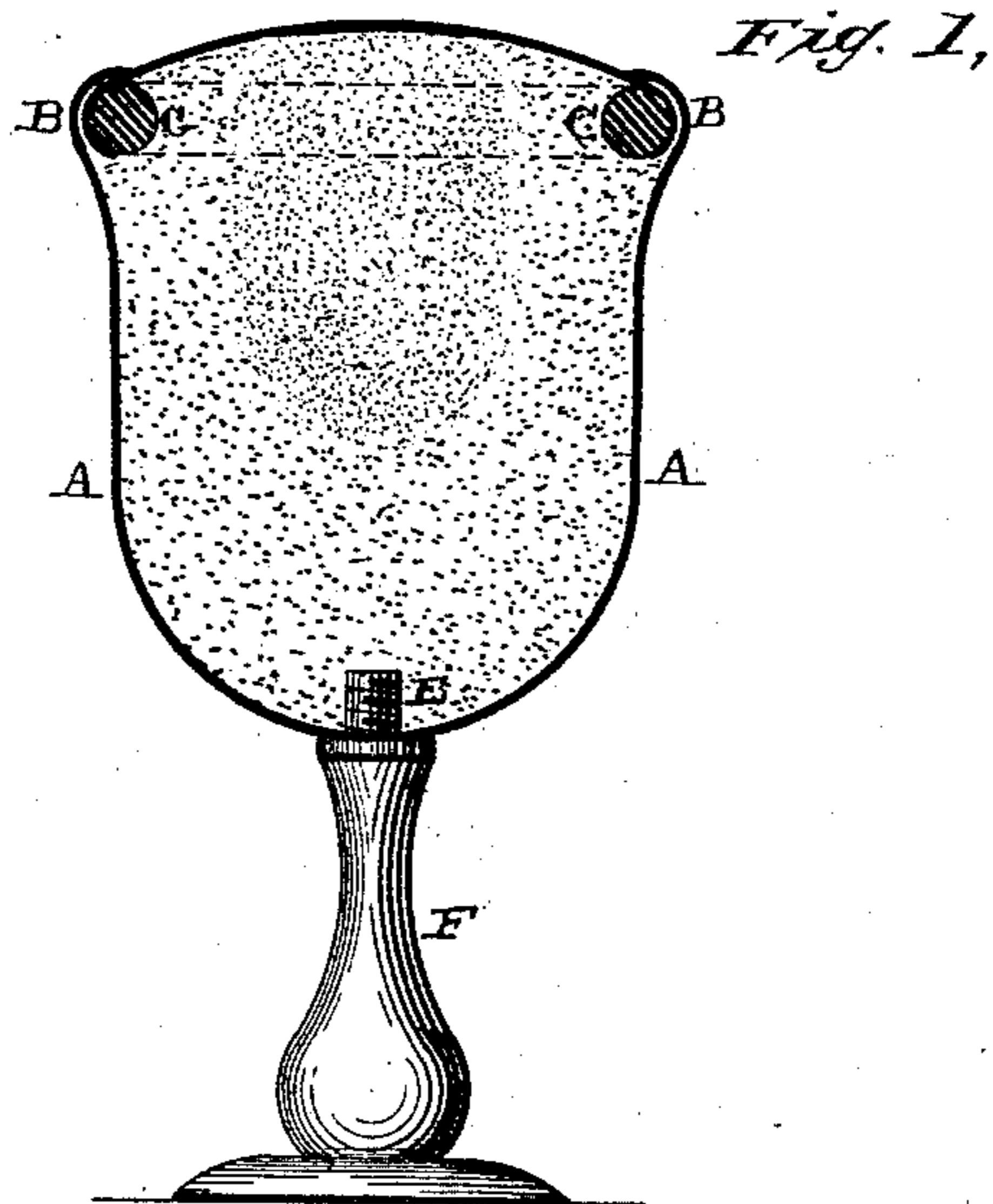


Fig. 2

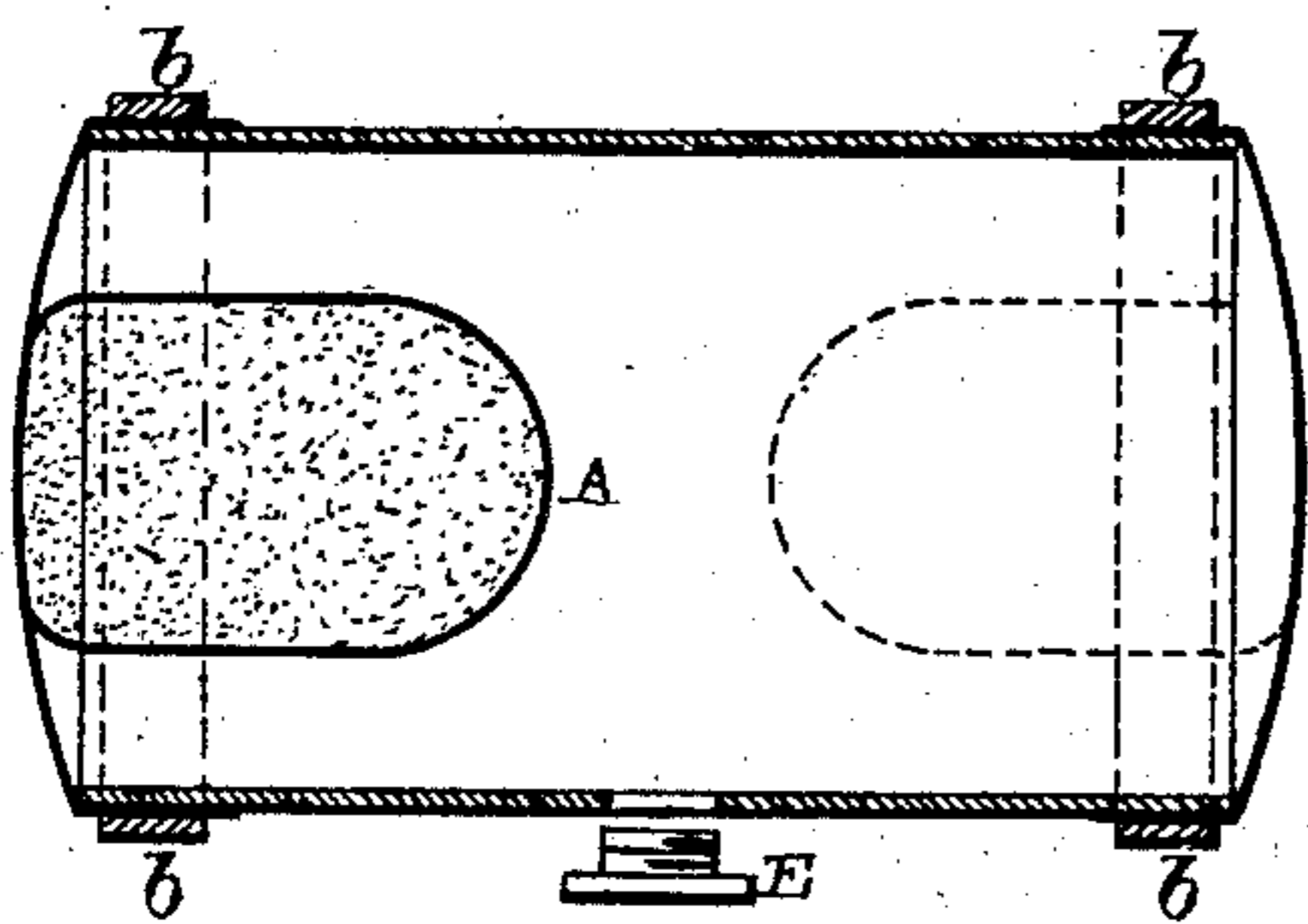


Fig. 3,

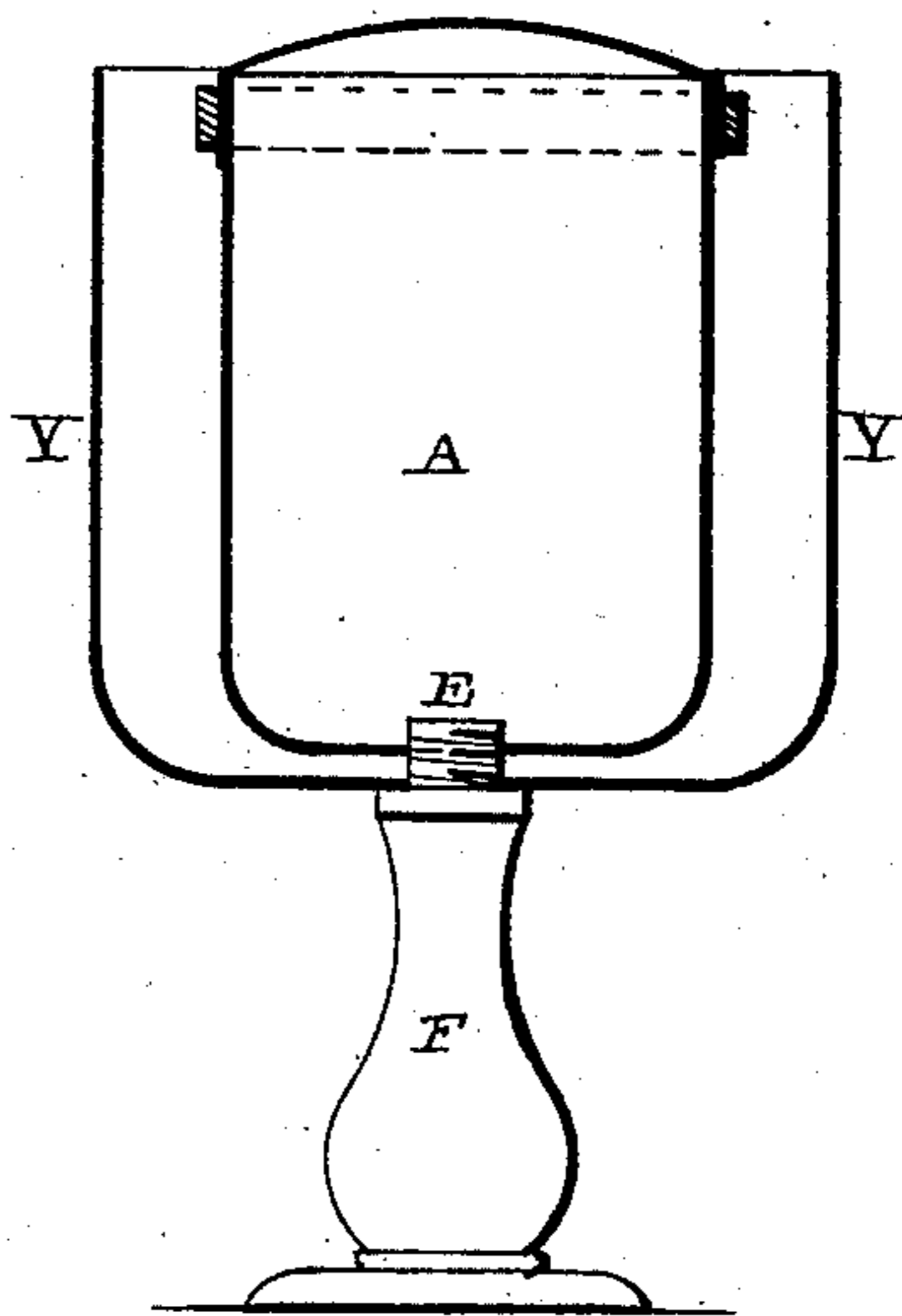
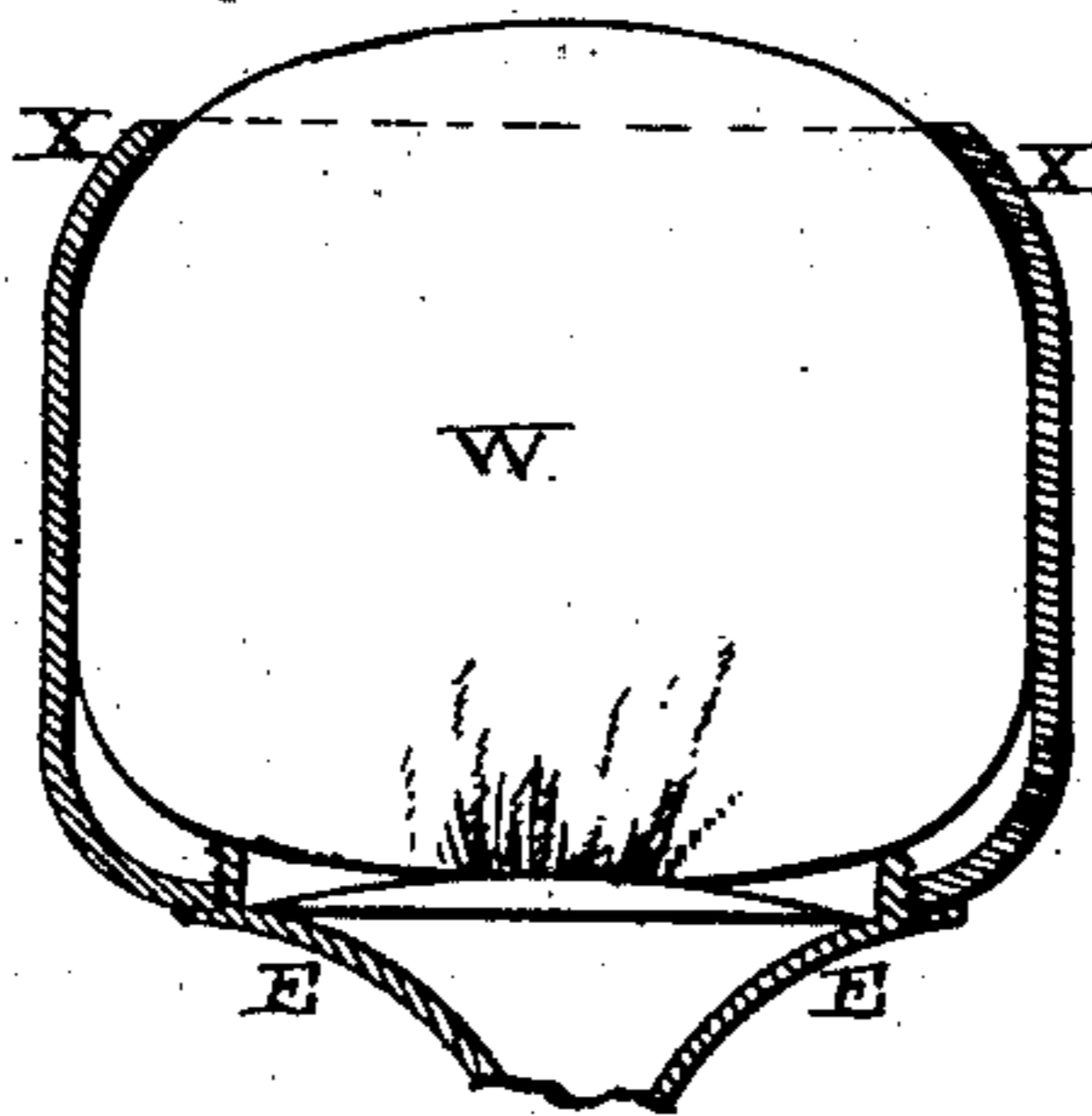


Fig. 4,



Witnesses:
Lewis F. Gardner
E. D. York

Inventor:
Fred. Ratcliff,
per
J. A. Lehmann, atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDERICK RATCLIFF, OF NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS.

PINCUSHION.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 279,807, dated June 19, 1883.

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

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRED. RATCLIFF, of New Bedford, in the county of Bristol and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Pincushions; 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 pertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in pincushions; and it consists in a holder for the sand, emery, and other material, and which has a grooved rim, in combination with a spring or other suitable ring around which the edges of the fabric are to be wrapped or held, and which is then snapped into the grooved rim of the holder for the purpose of holding the fabric in place.

It still further consists in the holder having an opening which may be threaded through it for the purpose of receiving a plug, whereby the filling material can be made to expand the fabric to any desired extent, and the filling can be removed at any time or replaced.

Figures 1 and 4 are vertical sections of a pincushion embodying my invention in slightly-different forms. Figs. 2 and 3 are vertical sections of modifications of the same.

A represents a suitable holder, which may be of any desired shape, size, or construction, and be made of glass, wood, metal, or any material which is adapted for the purpose. The top of this holder is formed into a grooved rim, B, either of the shape here shown or any other that may be preferred.

The fabric which is to be stretched over the end of the holder for the purpose of having the needles and pins stuck into it has its edges stretched under or over a suitable ring, C, and then the ring is snapped into the grooved rim, as shown, so as to held the ends of the fabric tightly in place. This ring may be formed of a spiral spring or a spring-wire, which is either made in one continuous piece or which has its ends separated, or of a rubber ring, or be of any construction that is adapted for the purpose. The fabric, being clamped between the edges of this ring and the inside edge of the grooved rim, is held so securely in position

that it can be given any desired amount of bulge without becoming loosened.

Through the holder is made an opening which is designed to receive the plug E, which plug will be made of greater length than is absolutely necessary than to merely close the opening. If the pin cushion or holder is intended to be placed upon a stand, F, the hole will be made through its bottom; but if the holder is to be double-ended, then the opening will be made through the side instead of the lower end, as shown in Fig. 1. Whether made through the side or the end the plug can be used for the purpose of expanding the filling material, so as to give a suitable tension or bulge to the fabric, which is stretched across one or both ends of the holder, as well as to secure the contents and permit their removal or refilling.

Instead of the holder having a groove formed in its top, the edge may be turned over, as shown at X in Fig. 4, and this inwardly-turned edge serves to keep the bag W filled with any suitable material in place in the top of the holder. The bottom of the holder will then be made in the shape of a screw-plug, E, which will force the bag tightly up into place. This plug may either be provided with a foot of its own, or be so shaped that it can be attached to a foot.

The holder is first filled with any suitable material, and then the plug is inserted and forced or screwed in far enough to make the filling material stretch the fabric to any desired extent. Should the fabric become worn out, or should it be desired at any time to replace the filling material, it is only necessary to remove the plug, and then the filling can be readily shaken out and replaced.

A needle-cleaner, a, of any suitable construction, is placed just under the center of the fabric, and then the balance of the holder is filled with sawdust, sand, or any other suitable material. In this manner a pincushion and needle-cleaner are combined in a single implement.

Where I insert a needle-cleaner, I construct the emery-holder as shown in Fig. 2. A suitable sized and shaped cylinder is used, and the fabric is then secured upon each end by means of clamping-rings b. The filling material is then inserted through an aperture in the body, and expanded by means of a plug, as before

described. If desired, a second shell, Y, may inclose the cylinder and the two parts be secured together by means of the plug, as shown in Fig. 3, and the space between the two parts
5 filled and covered in any suitable manner.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. A pin-holder composed of a holder having a grooved rim, in combination with a ring,
10 the fabric which is stretched over the ring, and a suitable filling material, substantially as shown.

2. A pin cushion having an opening through its side or end, in combination with a plug for
15 expanding the filling material, substantially as described.

3. A pin-holder composed of a holder having its upper edge so formed as to retain the filling material in place, in combination with a plug for tightening the material in place, 20 substantially as set forth.

4. The combination of the holder, a suitable clamping-ring, the fabric, and a plug for tightening the material, substantially as specified.

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

FREDERICK RATCLIFF.

Witnesses:

G. T. SANFORD,
GEO. N. ALDEN.