

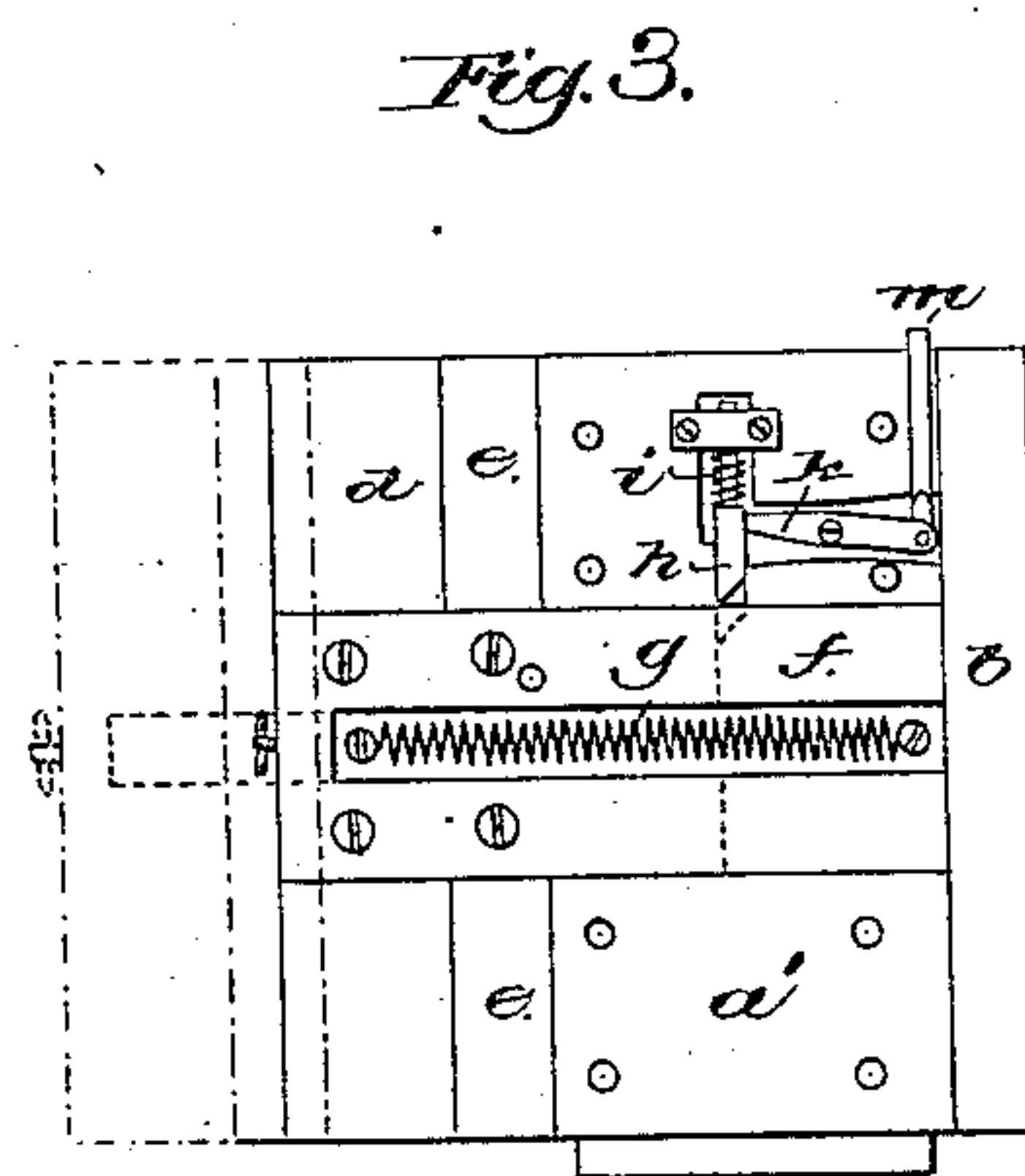
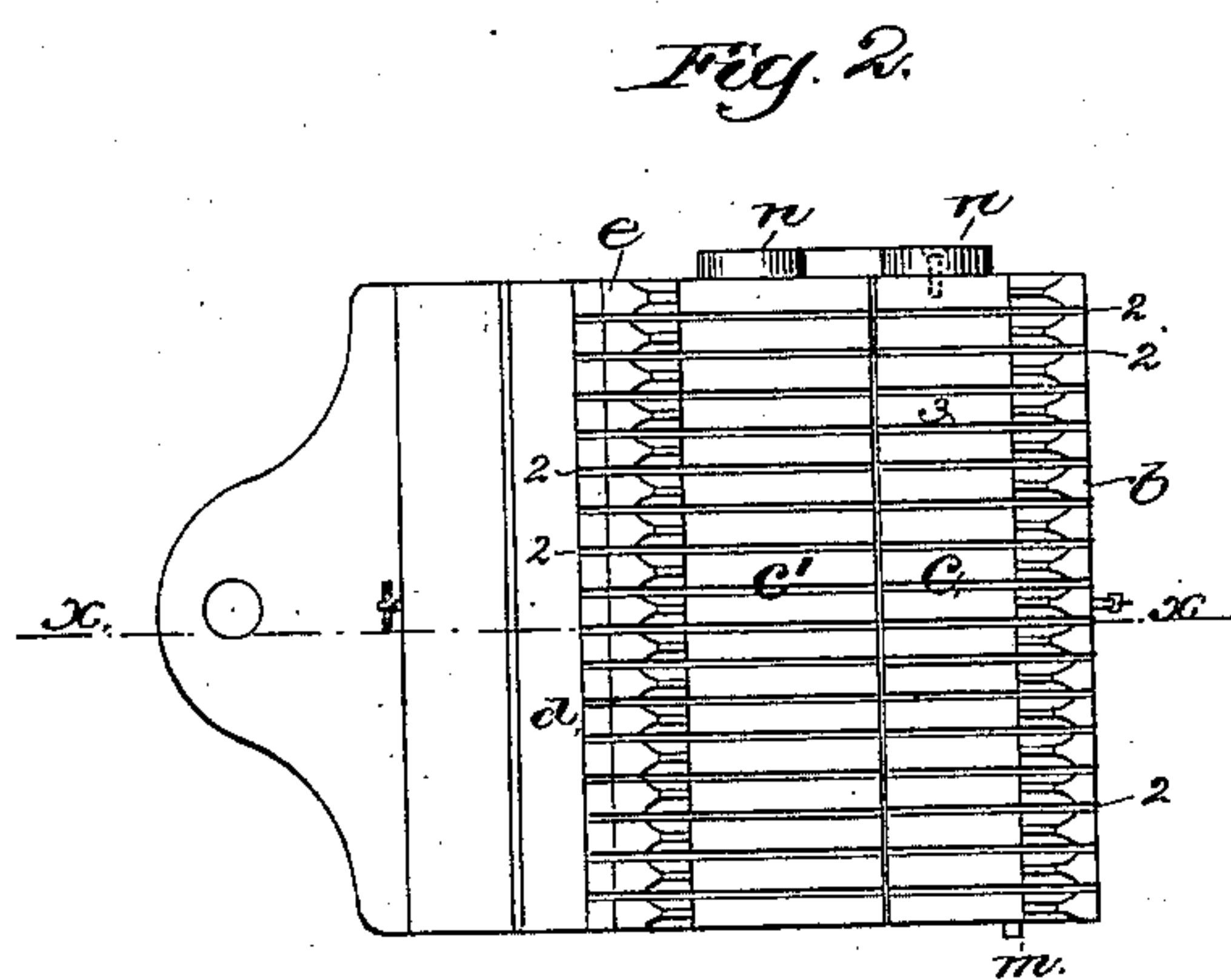
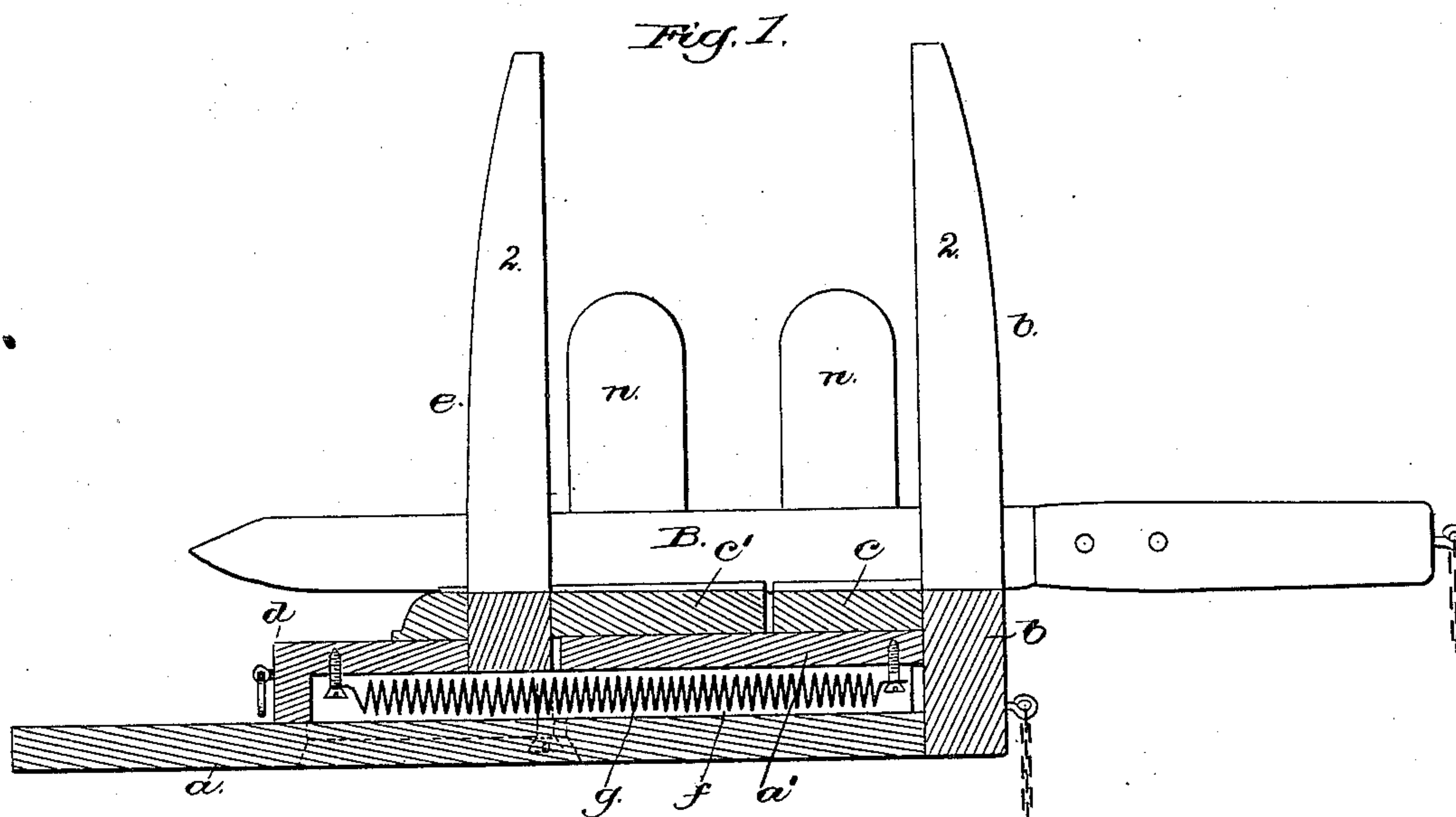
(Model.)

N. CHAPMAN.

BREAD CUTTER.

No. 280,796.

Patented July 10, 1883.



Witnesses,
John F. C. Pundert
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

NATHAN CHAPMAN, OF NANTUCKET, MASSACHUSETTS.

BREAD-CUTTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 280,796, dated July 10, 1883.

Application filed April 13, 1883. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, NATHAN CHAPMAN, of the town and county of Nantucket, State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Bread-Cutting Apparatus, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like letters on the drawings representing like parts.

My invention, relating to a bread-cutting apparatus, has for its object to produce a simple and convenient device for cutting a loaf into slices of uniform thickness.

The apparatus consists, essentially, of a base and cutting-bed having loaf-holding and knife-guiding uprights, one of which is movable with relation to the other, to enable loaves of different size to be held and cut, the said movable upright being drawn toward the other by a spring to enable it to automatically hold a loaf of any given size.

The invention also consists in the combination, with the fixed and movable loaf-holding and knife-guiding devices and spring to draw them together, of a latch to retain the said parts in their most widely separated position while the loaf is being inserted. After the loaf is in place the said latch is released and the parts drawn together by the spring to embrace the loaf between them.

Figure 1 is a longitudinal section on line *x*, Fig. 2, of bread-cutting apparatus embodying this invention; Fig. 2, a plan view thereof on a smaller scale, and Fig. 3 an underside view with the base-piece removed.

The base *a* has fixed at one end thereof an upright, *b*, adapted to engage one side of a loaf, the portion *a'* of the said base also having a portion, *c*, of the cutting-bed fixed thereon adjacent to the said upright *b*. The bed *a* supports near its other end a sliding follower, *d*, provided with an upright, *e*, and having a tongue, *f*, entering a guide in the portion *a'* of the base of the apparatus, the said follower also having connected with it a portion, *c'*, of the cutting-bed adjacent to the said upright *e*, and forming a continuation of the portion *c*, adjacent to the upright *b*, the rigid portion *c'* sliding on the top of the portion *a'* of the base. The uprights *b* *e* are slotted at uniform distances, as shown at 2, to guide the blade *B* of a suitable knife, as shown in Fig. 1, the bed *c*

c' being also grooved, as shown at 3, in line with the said slots 2, to enable the knife-blade to pass wholly through the loaf supported on the said bed and held between the said uprights *b* and *e*, which constitute the loaf-holding and knife-guiding devices. The slots 2 are widened at their ends, to enable the knife to be more easily inserted.

The follower *d* is made movable on the bed *a*, in order to enable loaves of different size to be held between the uprights *b* *e*, and the said follower, with upright *e* thereon, is drawn toward the upright *b* by a spring, *g*, to cause the said uprights to be drawn together to hold a loaf firmly between them while being cut.

In order to enable a loaf to be easily inserted, the main portion of the apparatus, having the fixed upright *b*, is provided with a latch, shown as a bolt, *h*, acted upon by a spring, *i*, tending to throw it behind the tongue *f* when the follower *d* is drawn out and the uprights *b* *e* separated sufficiently to receive between them the largest sized loaf to be cut. The loaf is then placed on the bed *c* *c'*, between the said upright, and the latch *h* released, permitting the follower *d*, with the upright *e*, to be drawn toward the upright *b* by the spring *g*, in order to hold the loaf securely between the said uprights. The latch *h* is operated by a lever, *k*, and press-knob *m*, extending out at the side of the base *a*.

An upright or gage, *n*, for the end of a loaf is attached to one side of the base *a*, the said upright being divided or made in two parts, as shown, to enable the blade of the knife to pass through the loaf longitudinally when desired to divide the slices.

I claim—

1. In a bread-cutting apparatus, the combination of the base, provided with an upright at one end, with a movable follower provided with a corresponding upright, and a spring tending to draw it toward the fixed upright, the said uprights being adapted to receive and hold a loaf firmly between them, and being slotted to guide a knife-blade, substantially as described.

2. The base provided at one end with a loaf-holding and knife-guiding upright, and a movable follower having a co-operating upright, combined with a spring to draw the said up-

rights together, and the latch for holding the said follower with the uprights separated the maximum distance, substantially as described.

3. The bed provided with a slotted knife-guiding and loaf-holding upright at one end, and a divided upright or gage, *n*, for the end of the loaf at one side, combined with a movable follower and its slotted knife-guiding and loaf-holding upright, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

NATHAN CHAPMAN.

Witnesses:

JOS. P. LIVERMORE,
W. H. SIGSTON.