

(No Model.)

G. F. HOEFFER.  
FRUIT JAR.

No. 282,193.

Patented July 31, 1883.

Fig. 1.

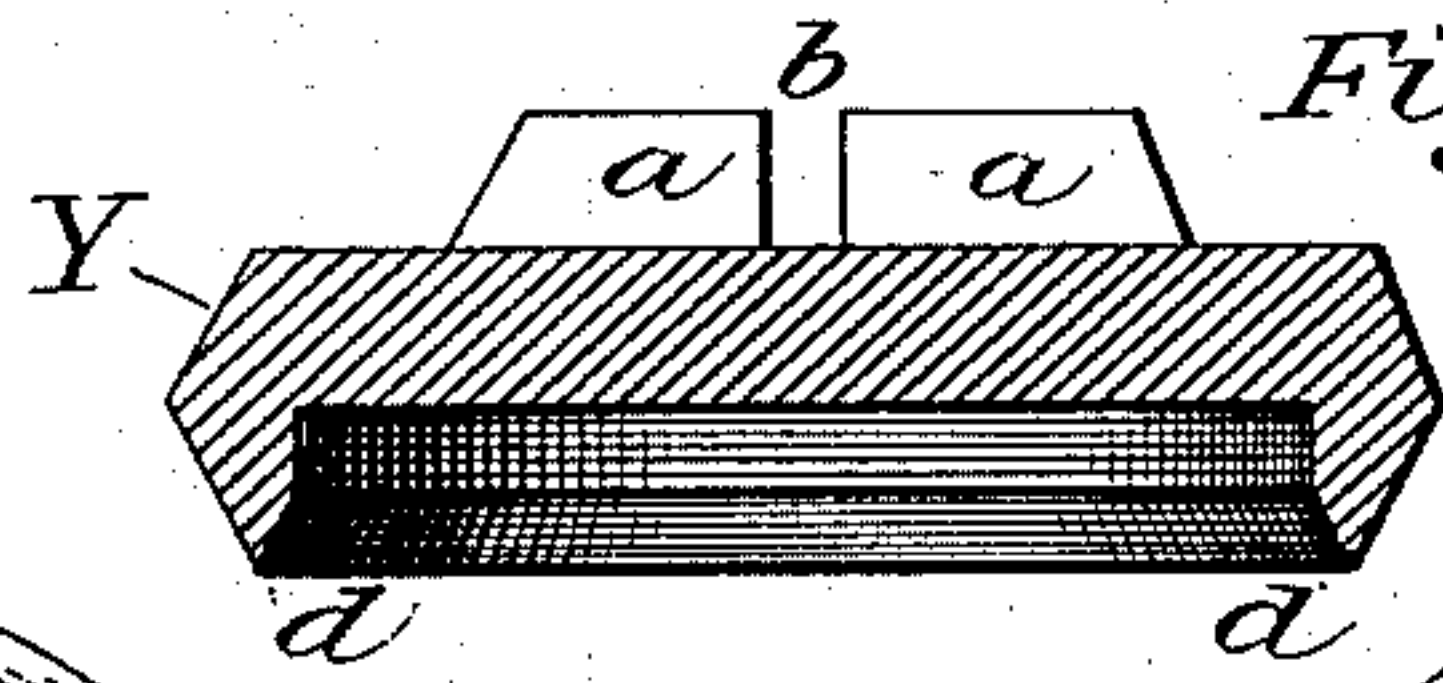
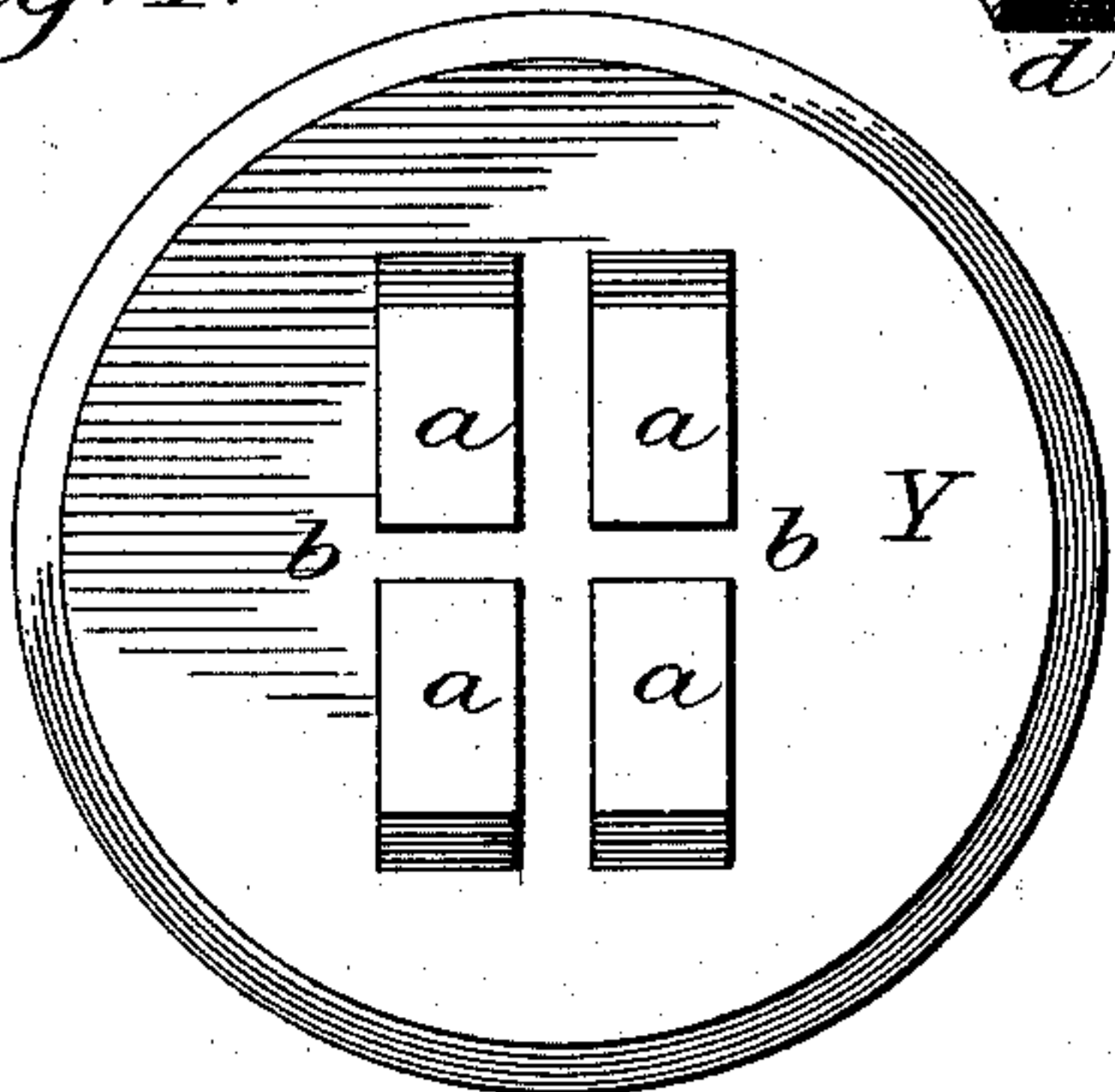


Fig. 2.

Fig. 6.

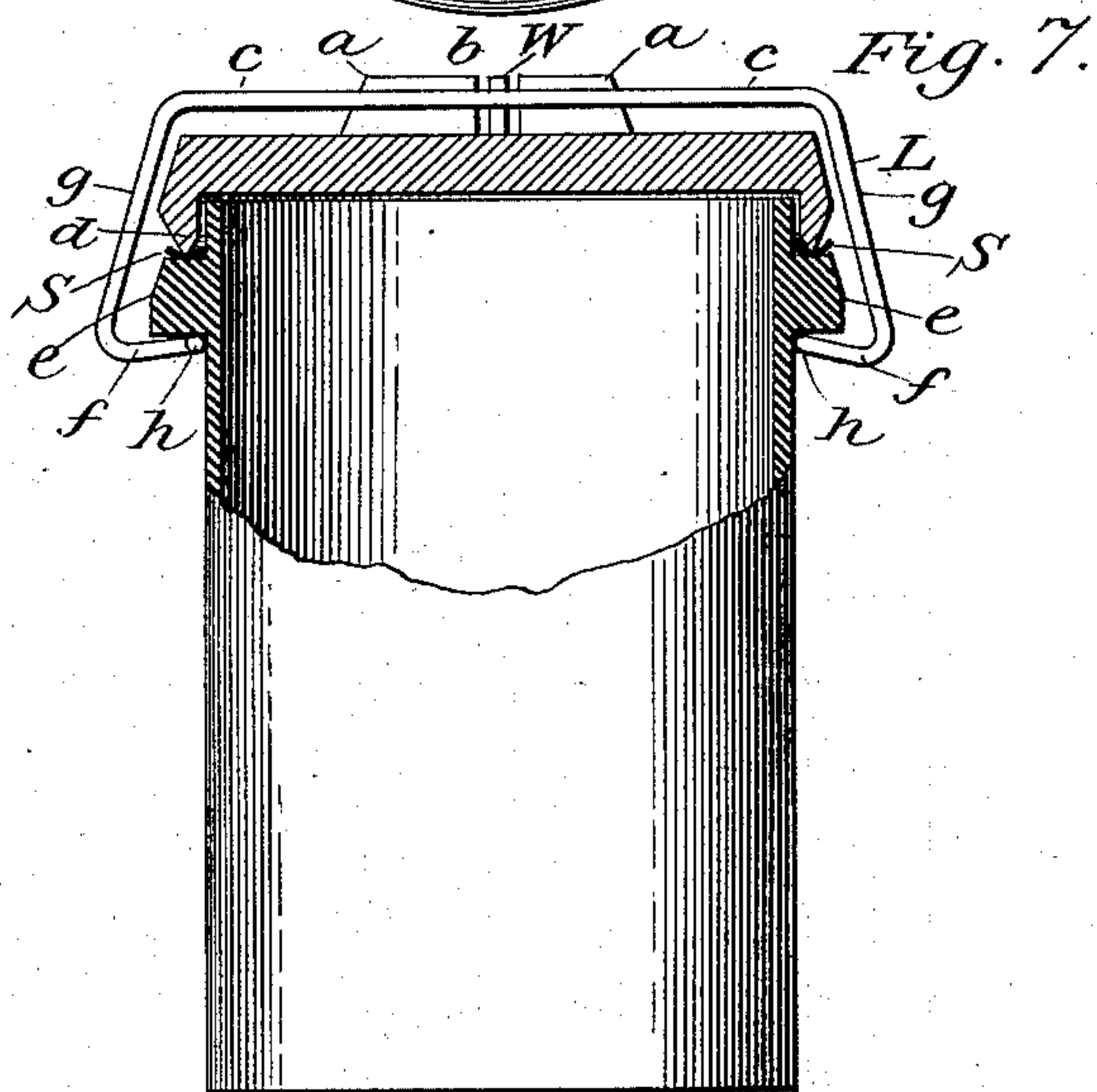
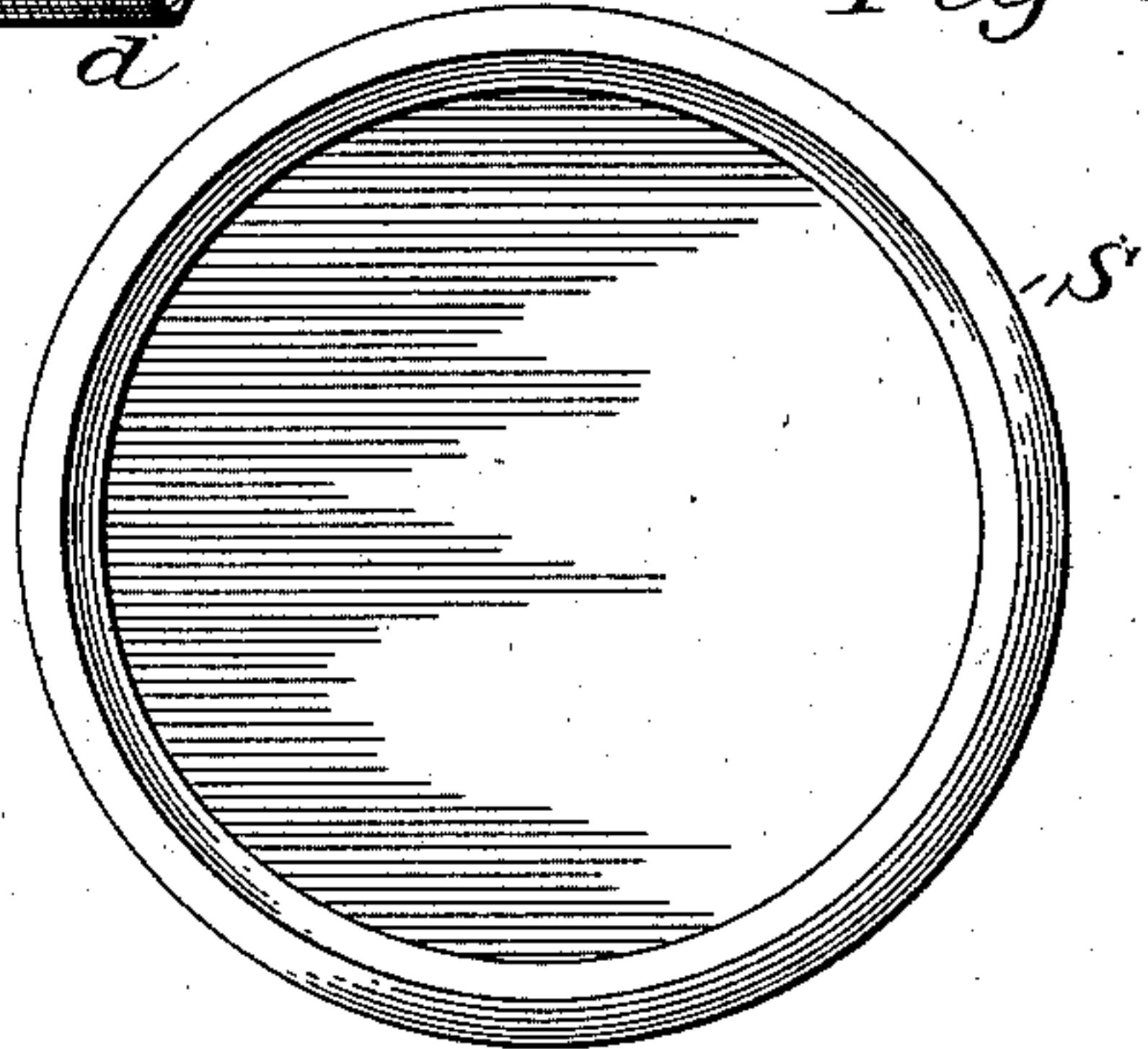


Fig. 3.

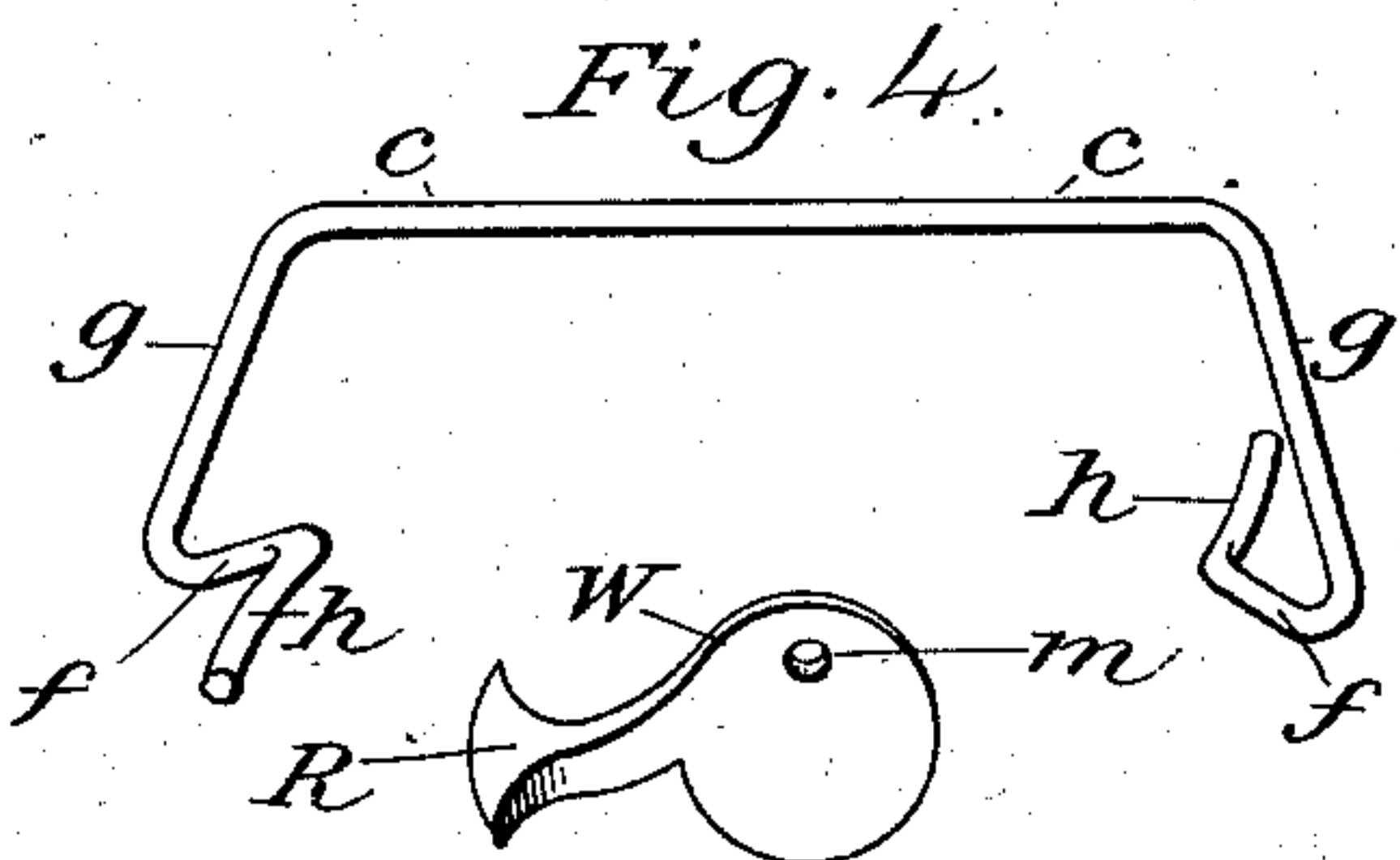
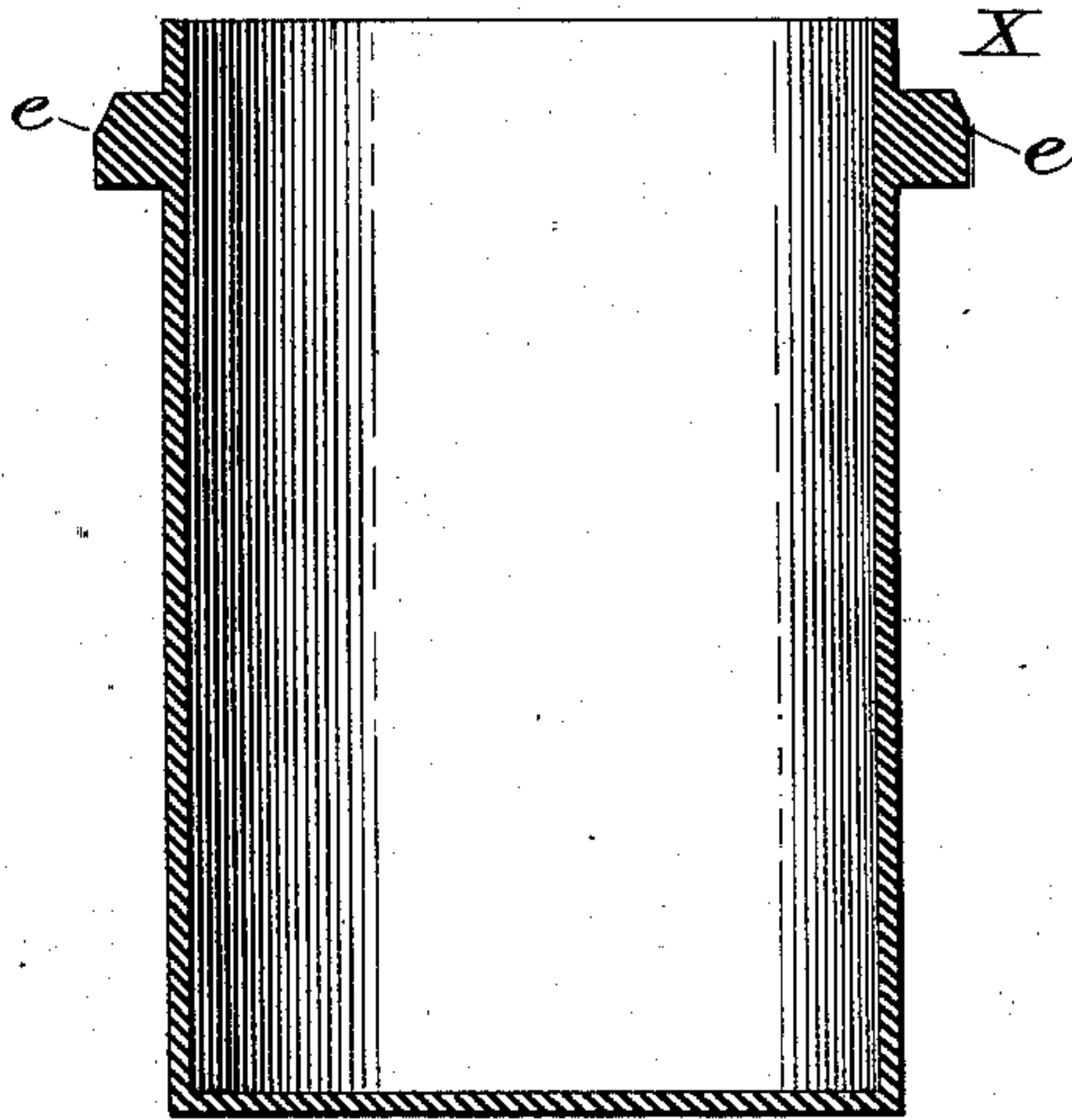
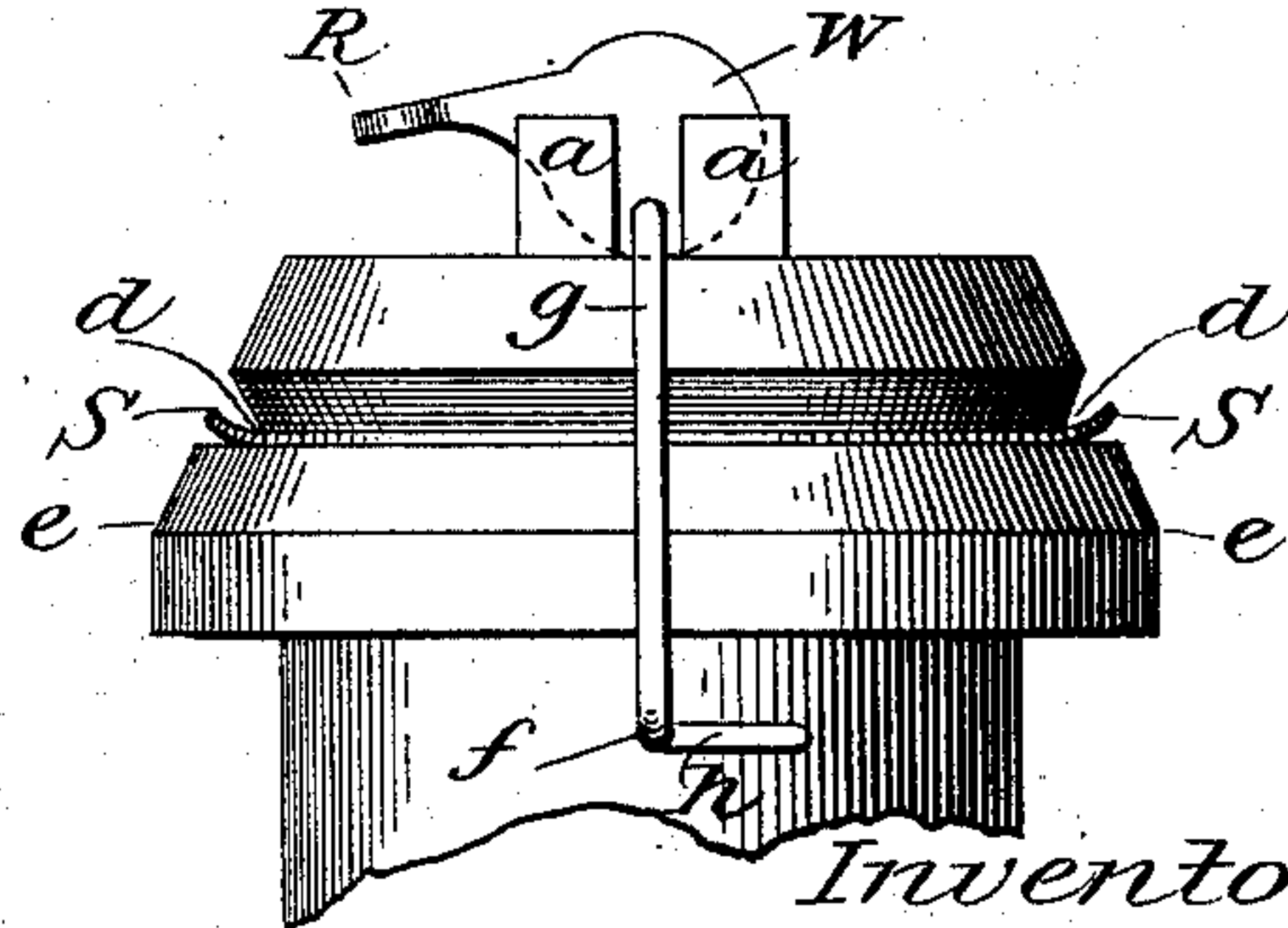


Fig. 5.

Witnesses:

W. D. Smith  
Frank E. Brown

Fig. 8.



Inventor  
George F. Hoefler.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE F. HOFFER, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

## FRUIT-JAR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 282,193, dated July 31, 1883.

Application filed March 20, 1883. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE F. HOFFER, of the city and county of San Francisco, and State of California, have invented a new and useful Fruit-Jar, (which has not been patented to myself or to others with my consent or knowledge in any foreign country;) and I do hereby declare the following to be a clear, full, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

Like figures and letters refer to like parts wherever they occur.

My invention relates to an improvement in fruit-jars, embodying a device for closing the same in a quick and secure manner; and its object is to obtain such a construction and combination of the jar, the lid, bail-wire, lever, and the perforated piece of sheet-rubber that the edge of the rim of the lid may embed itself in the rubber which rests upon the flange of the jar, so as to hermetically close the same; to which end it consists in the combination of a jar having an outer flange or ring near its mouth with a flat lid having upon its upper surface two centrally cross-cut or slotted projections extending parallel on either side of a line passing through the center of said lid, and on its under surface a rim running to an edge, which is forced down upon and embedded in the annular piece of sheet-rubber resting upon the flange of the jar by a one-armed circular lever moving in the cross-cuts of the projections of the lid and operating a bail-wire lying between said projections, and having at the end of its outward-bent arms inwardly and upwardly bent hooks with horizontal ends turned in opposite directions to each other and conforming to the shape of the body of the jar, that catch upon the under side of the flange and press against the body of the jar.

My invention is applicable to square and other irregularly shaped as well as to round jars.

In the drawings, Figure 1 indicates the upper surface of the lid or cover Y, made of glass or other suitable substance, having two projections, *a a*, extending parallel on either side of a line passing through the center of said lid, and which projections have cross-cuts or slots *b b* on a line horizontally perpendicular to

said projections and passing through the center aforesaid. Fig. 2 indicates a central vertical section of the lid Y, showing one of the slotted or cross-cut projections *a a*, as also a section of the rim projecting from the under surface of the lid and running to an edge, *d d*. Fig. 3 indicates a central vertical section of the jar X, made of glass or other suitable substance, having a flange, *e e*, encircling the jar near its mouth. Fig. 4 indicates the bail-wire L, made of wire or other suitable material, having its upper portion, *c c*, straight, and at the end of its outward-bent arms *g g* inwardly and upwardly bent hooks *f f*, with horizontal ends *h h* turned in opposite directions to each other, conforming to the shape of the body of the jar, whether curved or flat-sided. When it is proposed to apply the bail-wire to a square or flat-sided instead of to a round jar, the ends *h h* are not curved, but left straight. Fig. 5 indicates the one-armed lever W, made of malleable iron or other suitable metal, the perforations *m* near the circumference of the circle being at such a distance from the arm R of said lever that when said arm is forced down and rests upon the lid the pivot of the bail-wire is on the center, and when the arm is forced upward said pivot is thrown off the center. Fig. 6 indicates the annular gasket S, made of rubber or other elastic substance. Fig. 7 indicates a central vertical section of the jar X, lid Y, bail-wire L, lever W, and rubber gasket S, showing all the parts as they appear together in position when the jar is closed. Fig. 8 indicates a jar, X, lid Y, and rubber gasket S, rectangular in shape, and the bail-wire L, with straight ends *h h*, and lever W, as they appear together in position when the jar is unlocked.

If the lid and jar are made of glass, both—the lid with its cross-cut projections and its downward-projecting rim, and the jar with its flange—are molded, each in one piece, by molds made for the purpose. The bail-wire may be inserted into the eye or perforation *m* of the lever before it is bent into shape; or the perforation *m* of the lever may be made large enough to permit the lever to be slipped upon the bail-wire after the same is bent into shape.

To close the jar, place the gasket upon the upper surface of the flange of the jar, and, hav-



ing inserted the straight portion of the bail-wire and the mounted lever into the lid, the one between the parallel projections of the lid and the other in the cross-cuts or slots of said projections, so that said upper portion of the bail-wire lies flat upon the lid with its arms hanging down perpendicularly, place the lid upon the jar and force down the arm of the lever upon the lid.

10 To open the jar, release the lever by forcing its arm upward; then remove the lid with the bail-wire and lever.

The advantages of my invention are, first, that the jar is quickly closed and opened; second, that by embedding the edge of the rim of the lid into the rubber gasket the jar becomes hermetically sealed; third, that if the mouth of the jar is equal in diameter to the body of the jar no difficulty is experienced in filling or emptying the jar, nor is the fruit broken or bruised either in putting the same into or in taking it out of the jar; fourth, the jar is not liable to be accidentally opened in transportation.

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

1. The lid or cover Y, composed of a flat piece of glass, having upon its upper surface two centrally cross-cut or slotted projections, *a a*, extending parallel on either side of a line passing through the center of said lid, and on its under surface a rim running to an edge, *d d*, and all constructed of one piece, substantially as shown, and for the purpose set forth. 30 35

2. The combination of the lid or cover Y, having parallel projections *a a*, with central cross-cuts or slots, *b b*, on its upper surface, and a rim running to an edge, *d d*, on its under surface, and constructed of one piece, with the jar X, having an outer sloping flange, *e e*, the rubber gasket S, the bail-wire L, with straight top *c c*, outwardly-bent arms *g g*, having inwardly and upwardly bent hooks *f f*, with horizontal ends *h h* turned in opposite directions to each other, and the one-armed perforated circular lever W, substantially as and for the purpose stated. 40 45

GEORGE F. HOEFFER.

Witnesses:

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AUGST. FAHRBACH.