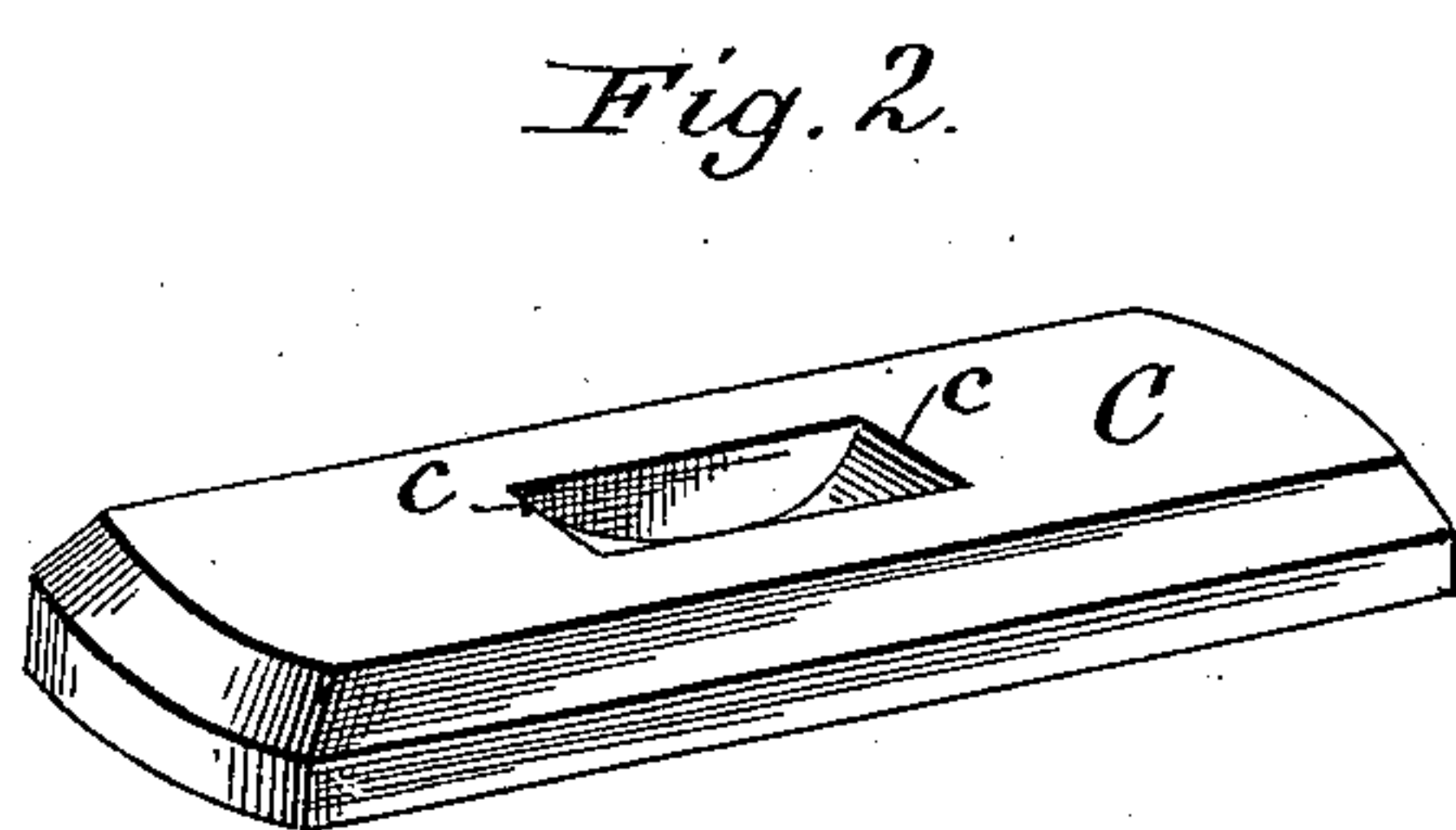
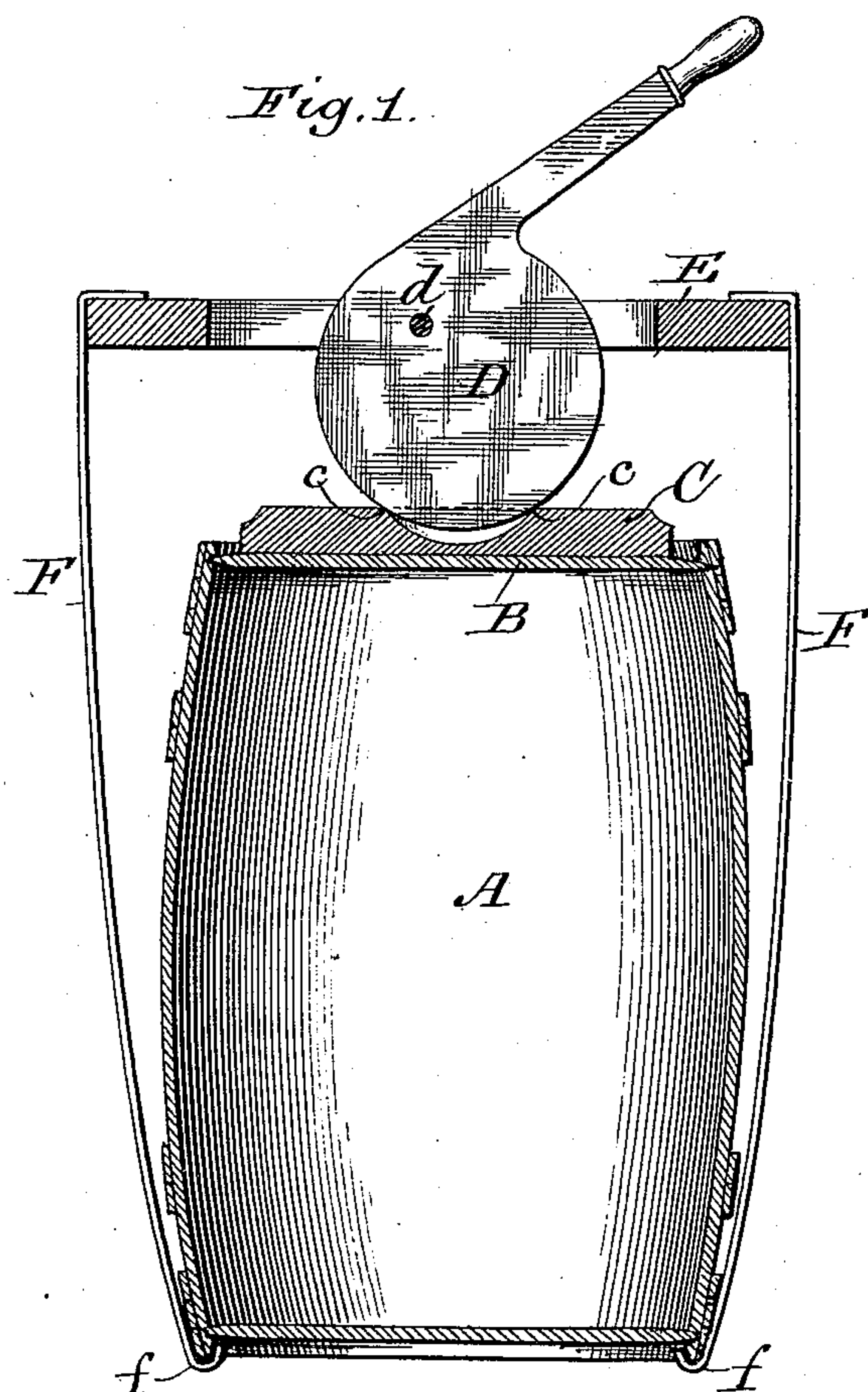


(No Model.)

W. HOFFMAN.  
BARREL HEADER.

No. 308,072.

Patented Nov. 18, 1884.



Witnesses:  
*L. C. Hill*  
*W. B. Masson*

Inventor:  
*William Hoffman*  
by *E. E. Masson*  
att'y.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM HOFFMAN, OF NEWARK, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO WILLIAM  
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## BARREL-HEADER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 308,072, dated November 18, 1884.

Application filed April 12, 1884. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM HOFFMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Newark, in the county of Wayne and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Barrel Headers or Packers, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a central vertical section of a barrel header or packer constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a perspective of a follower-block provided with my improvement and adapted to be used in connection with or as a part of my improved packer.

Like letters refer to like parts in all the figures.

Heretofore in presses of various constructions it has been customary to employ either a screw or an eccentric or cam lever mounted in a cross-bar, which, by suitable means, has been connected with the lower end of a press-frame, box, or other receptacle into which material is to be compressed, and the cover or head of which is to be secured in place or suitably connected to a foundation upon which said box or receptacle is placed in order that by turning the eccentric or cam lever the cover of the receptacle might be depressed into place and held until suitably secured therein.

The object of my invention is to provide means which shall prevent the cam or eccentric lever from returning to an inoperative position after once being operated, as has heretofore been the case, thus requiring the use of at least one hand of the operator or additional fastening devices to retain the handle in a desired position.

To secure the object in view I have devised a novel follower-block, which not only serves to distribute the force of the cam over a larger surface upon a head or cover of a barrel, but also to automatically lock the cam or lever at any desired position, so that both hands of the operator are at liberty to complete the operation of securing the head in the barrel or package.

Referring to the drawings, A represents a barrel into which flour or other material is designed to be packed, and in the packing of which, as usually practiced, the head B is forced upon the material and into the chine of the barrel by means of a follower-block, C, upon which a cam or eccentric lever, D, is oper-

ated, the lever being pivoted at *d* in a slotted cross-bar, E, provided with suitable connecting rods or straps, F, which may be secured to a foundation upon which the barrel rests, or provided with hooked ends *f*, adapted to take firm hold upon the chimes at the opposite end of the barrel.

Heretofore a cam has been operated against the face or plain upper surface of a follower-block. Experience has shown that in time the bearing-surface of the follower becomes so smooth that when once the follower is depressed by the cam and force is removed from the cam-lever the resistance of the material causes the lever to return upwardly and the cam becomes ineffective.

My improvement consists in providing a groove in the follower-block the bottom of which is curved to disagree with the curve of the operating-face of the cam, whereby I secure two angular points, *c c*, in the groove, which impinge against the face of the cam and hold it from rotation in either direction when the force applied to its lever is removed.

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

1. In a barrel header or packer of the class described, a follower-block adapted to be operated by a cam and provided with a cam-receiving groove having a curvature of less radius than that of the cam, substantially as shown and described.

2. In a packer of the class described, the combination, with a cross-bar and an eccentric or cam lever mounted therein, of a follower-block having a segmental groove the bottom of which is disposed with a radius shorter than the working-face of the cam or eccentric, and with means for holding the cross-bar against the action of the cam, substantially as specified.

3. The combination of the cross-bar E, tie-bars F, having hook *f*, the cam D, and the follower-block C, having the projecting points *c c* in its cam-receiving groove, substantially as shown and described.

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

WILLIAM HOFFMAN.

Witnesses:

B. F. HADLEY,  
J. C. WILLIER.