

(No Model.)

B. F. KENLY.
DUCK SHOOTING BLIND.

No. 315,297.

Patented Apr. 7, 1885.

Fig. 1.

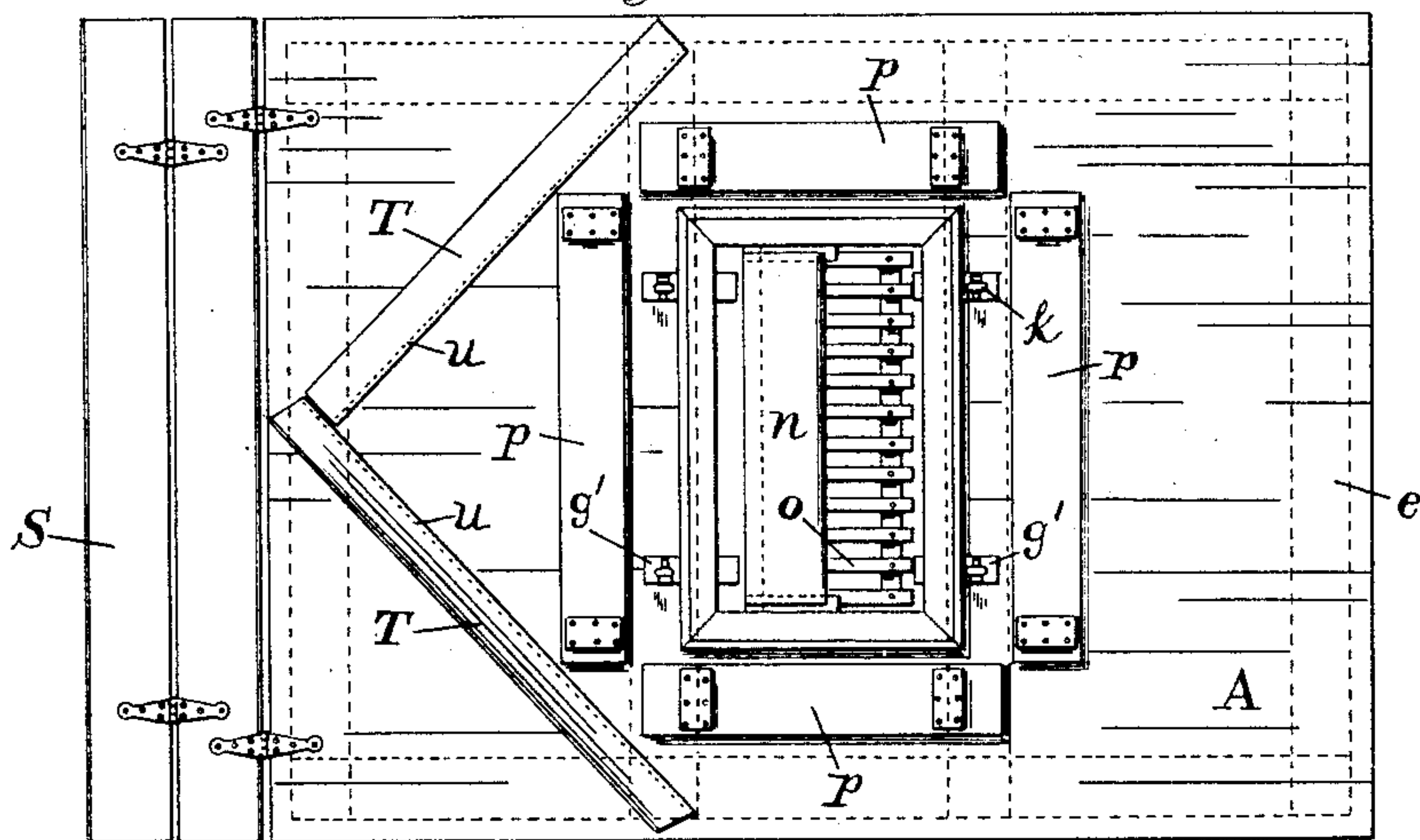


Fig. 2.

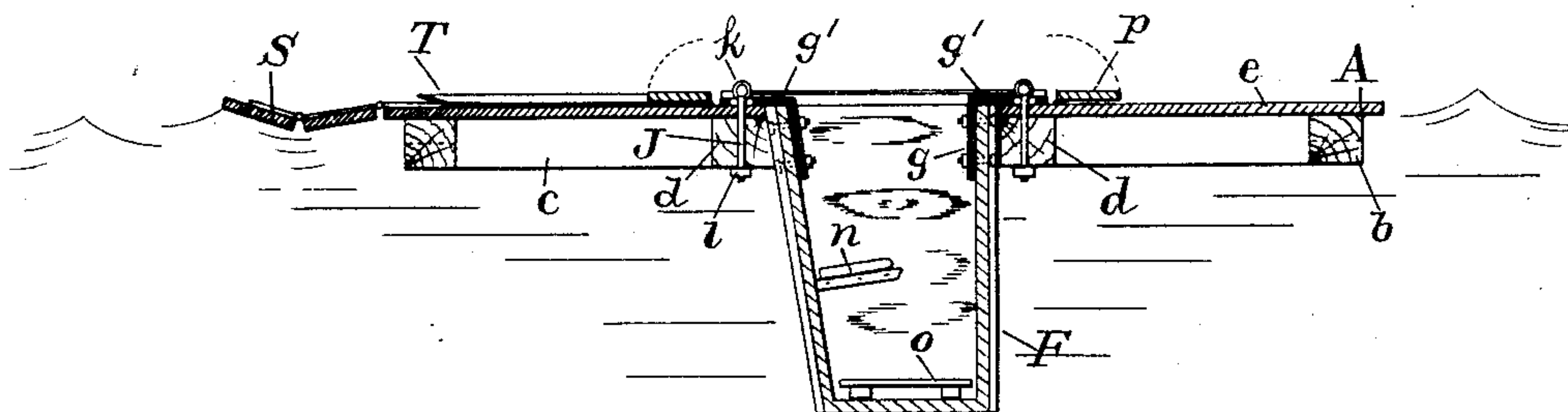


Fig. 3.

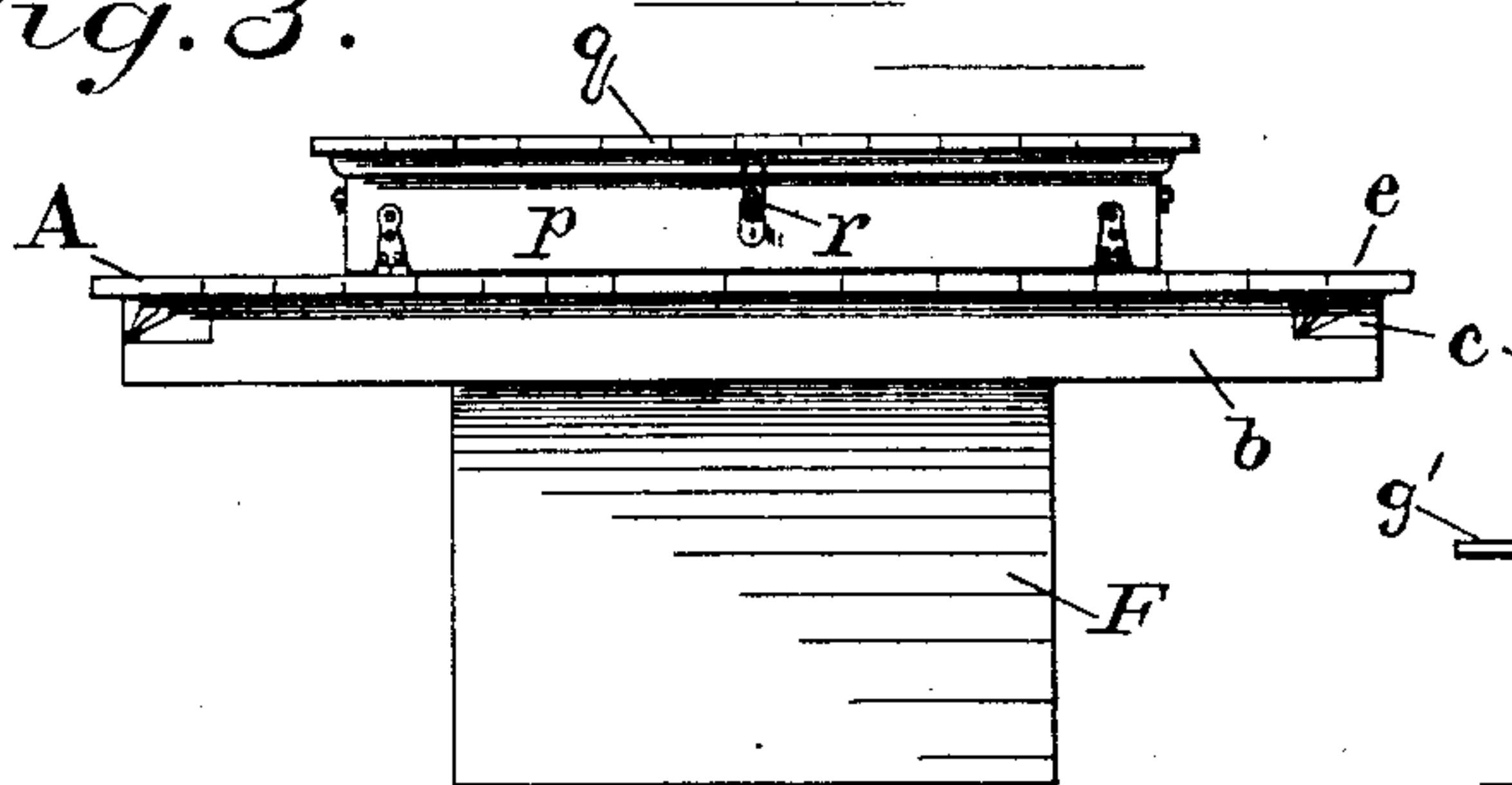


Fig. 5.

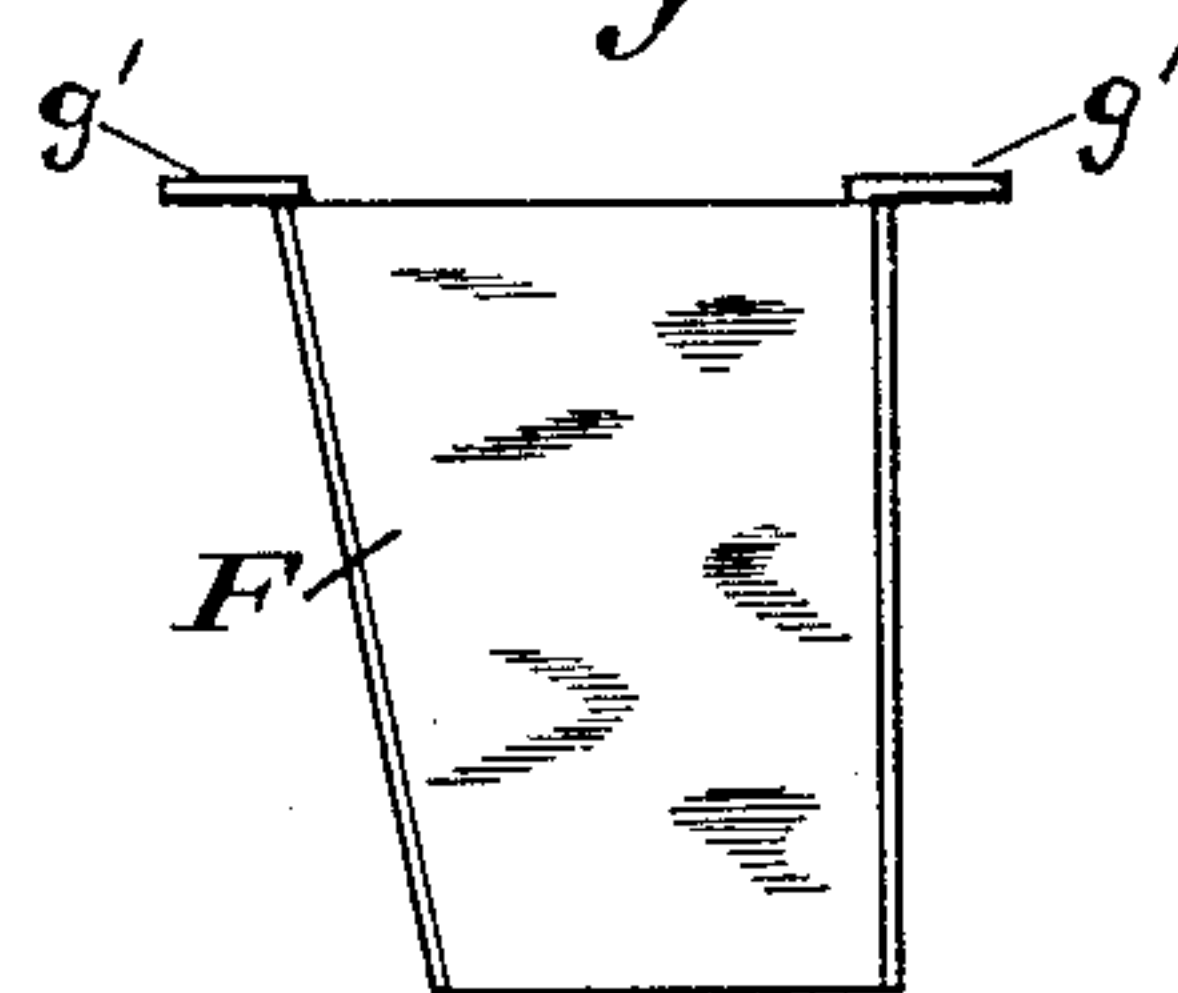
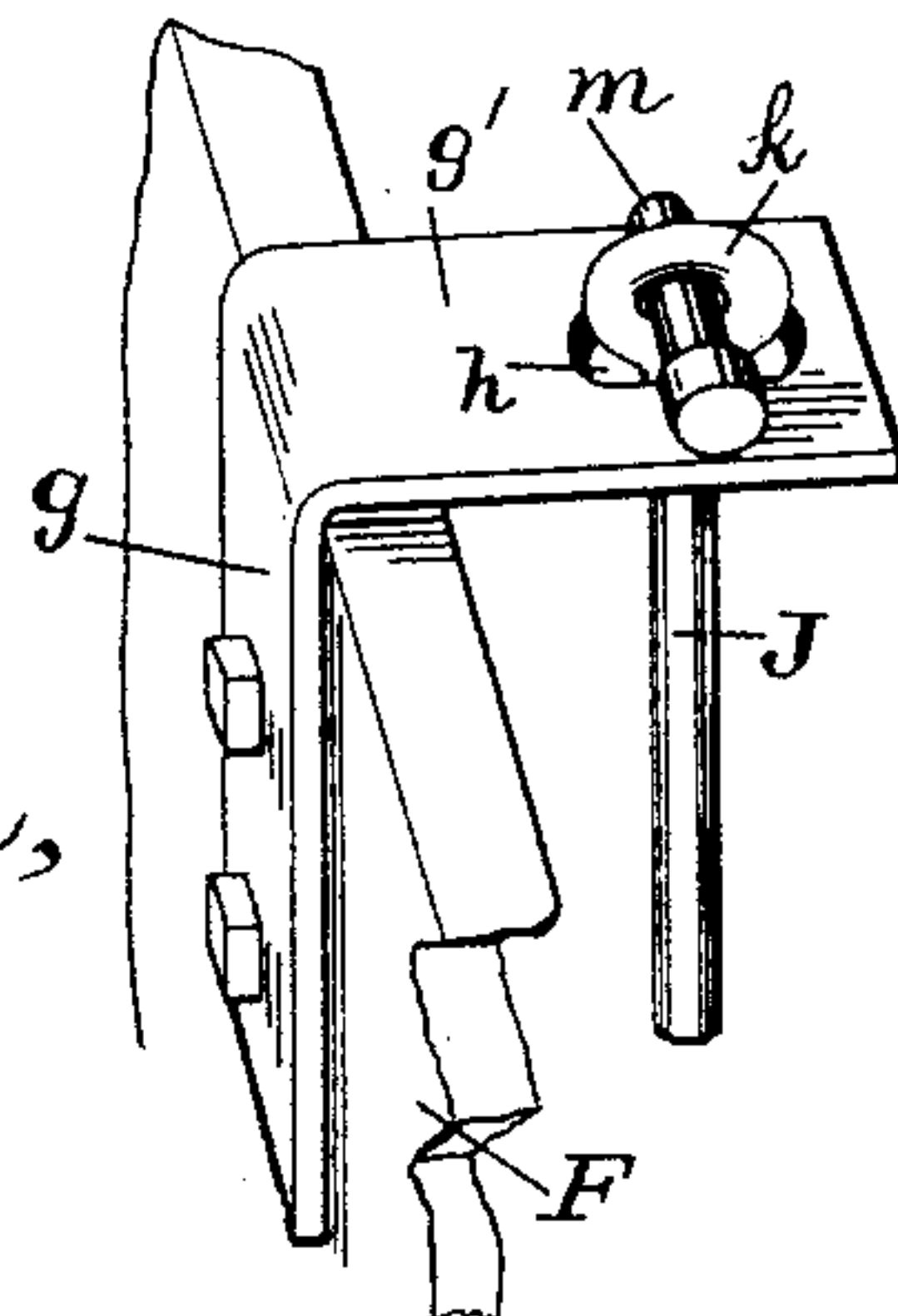


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN F. KENLY, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

DUCK-SHOOTING BLIND.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 315,297, dated April 7, 1885.

Application filed January 23, 1885. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN F. KENLY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Baltimore, in the State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Duck-Shooting Blinds, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improved duck-shooting blind.

10 The object of the invention is to provide a float to lie flat on the surface of the water, and having a tub submerged below the float to afford ambush for one or more gunners.

15 The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which Figure 1 is a top view of the apparatus. Fig. 2 is a side view in section. Fig. 3 is an end view. Fig. 4 is a detail of the metal plate which secures the tub. Fig. 5 is a view of the tub detached from the raft.

20 The float consists of a deck or raft, A, composed of four pieces of timber, *b c*, placed so as to form a square frame, and two cross-pieces, *d*, spaced apart, but extending across the frame somewhere near its center. Boards *e* are nailed on top, so as to cover this frame and form the deck.

30 About in the center of the deck or raft, and between the two cross-pieces *d*, is an opening. A water-tight tub, F, which is smaller across the bottom than the top, is shaped so that its top will accurately fit within the said opening and between the two cross-pieces. At opposite sides of its top the tub has metal plates *g*, two on each side, making four in all, bolted within its sides securely. The tops of these plates *g'* are bent at a right angle, and project over the rim of the tub and rest horizontally on the deck or raft. A slot, *h*, is in the right-angled top part of each plate. A bolt, J, has in its head an eye, *k*, and is fixed vertically in the cross-piece *d* by a nut, *l*, at its lower end. The head and eye of the bolt project above the cross-piece. Four such bolts are employed, and when the tub is in position the slot *h* of each plate comes over a bolt-head, which latter projects up through the slot. A short pin, *m*, passes through the eye, and thereby the tub is made fast to the raft. It will be seen the tub is kept submerged below the

raft, while the tub may be detached and entirely removed from the raft at any time by drawing the pins *m*, whereupon the tub will rise through the opening in the raft. One side of the tub inclines, whereby, as already stated, the bottom is made smaller than the top, which facilitates attaching the tub to the raft. A seat, *n*, for the gunner is attached to the inclined side, which latter thereby serves as a comfortable support for the gunner's back to rest against. A rack, *o*, made of slats, is in the bottom of the tub and serves for the gunner to stand upon, keeping his feet from any dampness or water that may happen to be in the bottom. On the surface of the deck, at each side of the tub-opening, a board, *p*, is hinged. These may be termed "storm-flaps." They may lie flat on the raft-surface, as in Figs. 1 and 2, or, if the water is rough, may be turned up edgewise, thereby forming a curb or guard about the tub, as seen in Fig. 3. When turned up edgewise, they are held by hooks and eyes at the corners, a hook on one engaging with an eye on the adjoining one. In this position the hinged boards or storm-flaps prevent any water which floods the surface of the raft from entering the tub. A cover, *q*, when the float is not in use, may be placed over the storm-flaps and secured by a hasp and padlock, *r*. This cover prevents rain from filling the tub, and also serves to keep intruders or unauthorized persons from using it. At one or more sides of the raft splash-boards S are hinged, and are adapted to float on the water. In the present instance two boards are united by hinges. As these boards are hinged, they will yield or give to the motion of the water and prevent the noise which would be occasioned by the splashing of the water over the sides. Strips T, of sheet-lead or other metal, have one edge, *u*, fastened to the deck by tacks driven along the edge. The other, which is the outermost edge, is free, and may be bent upward a little and to serve as a guard to keep the slight ripples of water from flowing over the deck into the tub without projecting above the deck-surface enough to interfere with the view of the gunner who is in the tub. The two strips shown are arranged so as to form a V across the deck, thus

guarding one side of the tub. In like manner two more lead strips may be used across the deck on the other side of the tub.

It will be seen that any shaped tub may be used—that is, it may be square, round, or oblong. The floating raft and tub attached thereto so as to be kept submerged, and provided with the adjuncts named—to wit, the storm-flaps, cover, splash-boards, and sheet-lead guard-strips—constitute a very complete arrangement for the purpose.

Having described my invention, I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States—

1. A floating blind having, in combination, a flat deck or raft provided with an opening, and a water-tight tub smaller across the bottom than the top, and entered through the raft-opening from the upper side and made fast therein, substantially as set forth, whereby the tub may be detached from the raft by allowing it to rise through the said opening, as set forth.

2. A floating blind having, in combination, a flat deck or raft provided with an opening, and a water-tight tub smaller across the bottom than the top, and having one side straight and

the opposite side inclined and made fast in the said raft-opening, and provided on the inclined side with a seat, as set forth.

3. In a floating blind, the combination of a flat deck or raft having an opening, and provided with bolts having a projecting head, and a submerged tub having position within said opening, and provided with metal plates, each having a slot to take over one of the said bolt-heads, as set forth.

4. In a floating blind, the combination of a flat deck or raft having an opening, with an attached tub below the opening, and hinged boards or storm-flaps at each side of the opening, as set forth.

5. In a floating blind, the combination of a flat deck or raft having an opening, with an attached tub below the opening, hinged boards or storm-flaps at each side of the opening, and a cover fitted over said storm-flaps, as set forth.

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

BENJAMIN F. KENLY.

Witnesses:

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