(No Model.)

F. A. COFFIN.

SLATTED DESK CURTAIN.

No. 320,913. Patented June 30, 1885.

Fig. 1.

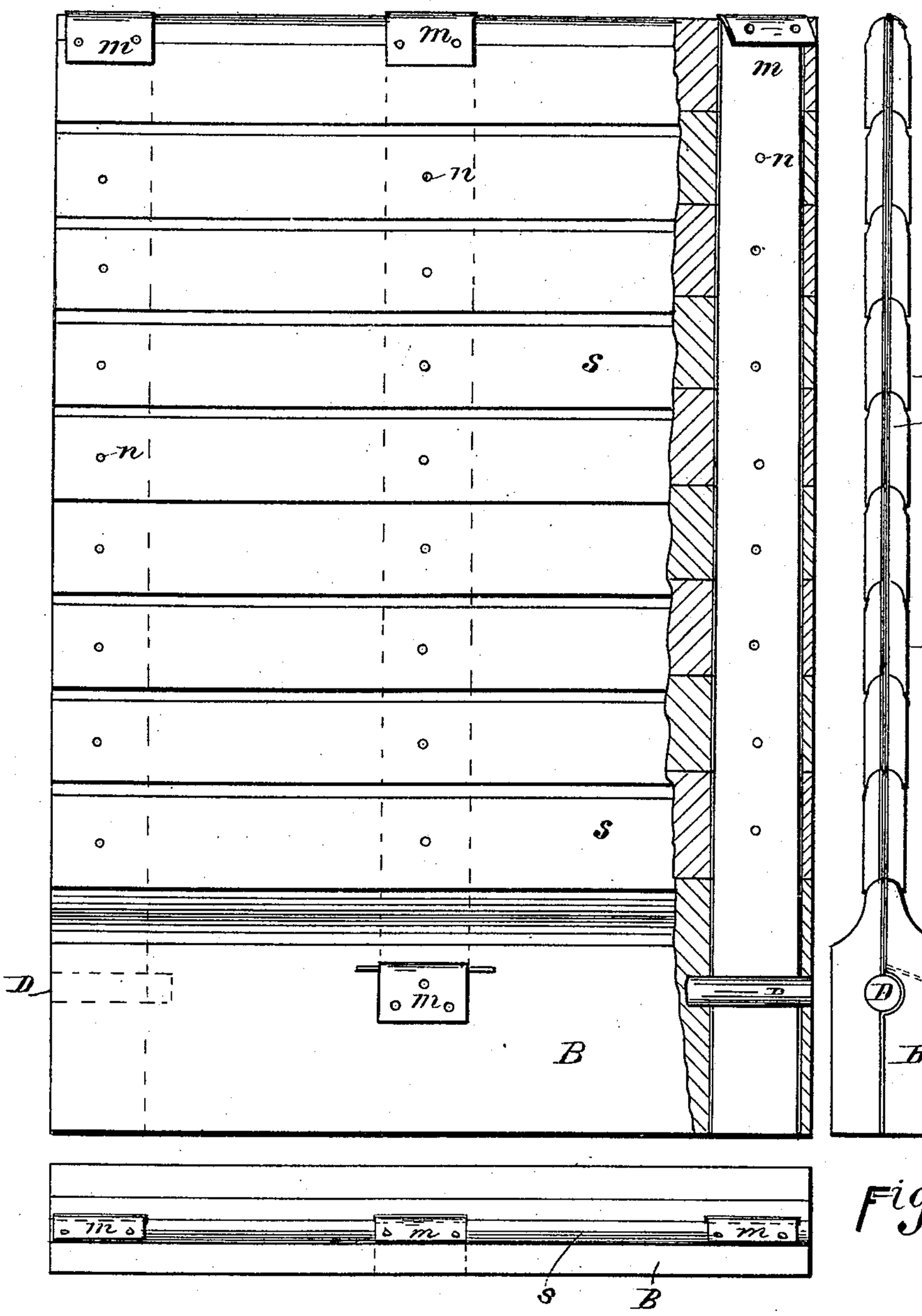

Fig 2

Fig. 3.

WITNESSES.

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FRANCIS A. COFFIN, OF INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA.

SLATTED DESK-CURTAIN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 320,913, dated June 30, 1885.

Application filed October 23, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANCIS A. COFFIN, a resident of Indianapolis, Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Desk-Curtains, a description of which is set forth in the following specification, reference being made to the accompanying drawings, in the several figures of which like letters indicate like parts.

My invention relates to the construction of what are called "desk-curtains" in the trade, being shutters for rotary desks, composed of pieces or slats hinging one upon the other and connected by flat strips of annealed flexible metal, as hereinafter shown and described.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents a plan of my device; Fig. 2, an end view, and Fig. 3 a top view, of the same.

In detail, B is the bottom strip or head, made heavier than the slats, which are designated *s*, and are jointed so as to hinge upon each other, as shown in the end view, Fig. 2. These slats are connected by three metal strips, *m m m*, one in the middle and one at each end of the slats. The middle strip passes through an opening or slit cut in the center of each slat, is turned up over the side of the top slat and nailed, as shown in Fig. 3, and at the bottom passes through a portion of the head-piece B, and then comes out through an opening in the side thereof and is nailed, as shown in Fig. 1. Outer strips, *m*, are let into grooves cut in the ends of the slats nailed over the side of the top slat, and are secured at the bottom by dowels D, which are driven into holes bored into each end of the head-piece B, these strips passing half-way around the dowel-pins and extending a short distance below, as shown in Fig. 2.

I am aware that flexible desk-curtains are not new, and only claim as my invention the construction herein shown. They have been made of a series of slats fastened to strips of thin sheet spring-steel, as in the patent of Heymann, October 28, 1873; but the use of spring-steel is objectionable, because it does not allow the cover readily to conform to the grooves of the desk, and the method of attaching the same to the under side of the slats is not similar to my own, which consists in passing the strips through central and end grooves and securing them through the side of the bottom piece by dowel-pins, as hereinbefore described.

I am aware, also, that continuous sheets of flexible material have been used in desk-curtains between slats and cleats, as in the patents issued to F. H. Cutler, October 5, 1875, and A. Cutler, June 7, 1881; and I do not claim such constructions as my invention. Where such flexible material is confined between cleats and slats, the latter have operated as nippers, and the same is broken through between the slats; but my construction, by providing strips of flexible annealed metal to secure the slats together, and the peculiar method of uniting the parts by means of passing the strips through grooves, avoids the use of cleats or other devices for fastening these parts together, and the result is an improvement over previous devices in many respects.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is the following:

The desk-curtain composed of the head-piece B, slats *s*, hinging one upon another, connected by metal strips let into grooves on each end of the slats and secured by the dowel-pin D, and a central metal strip passing through the slats and coming out of the side of the head-piece B, all combined substantially as described.

FRANCIS A. COFFIN.

Witnesses:
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GEORGE LOEPER.