

(No Model.)

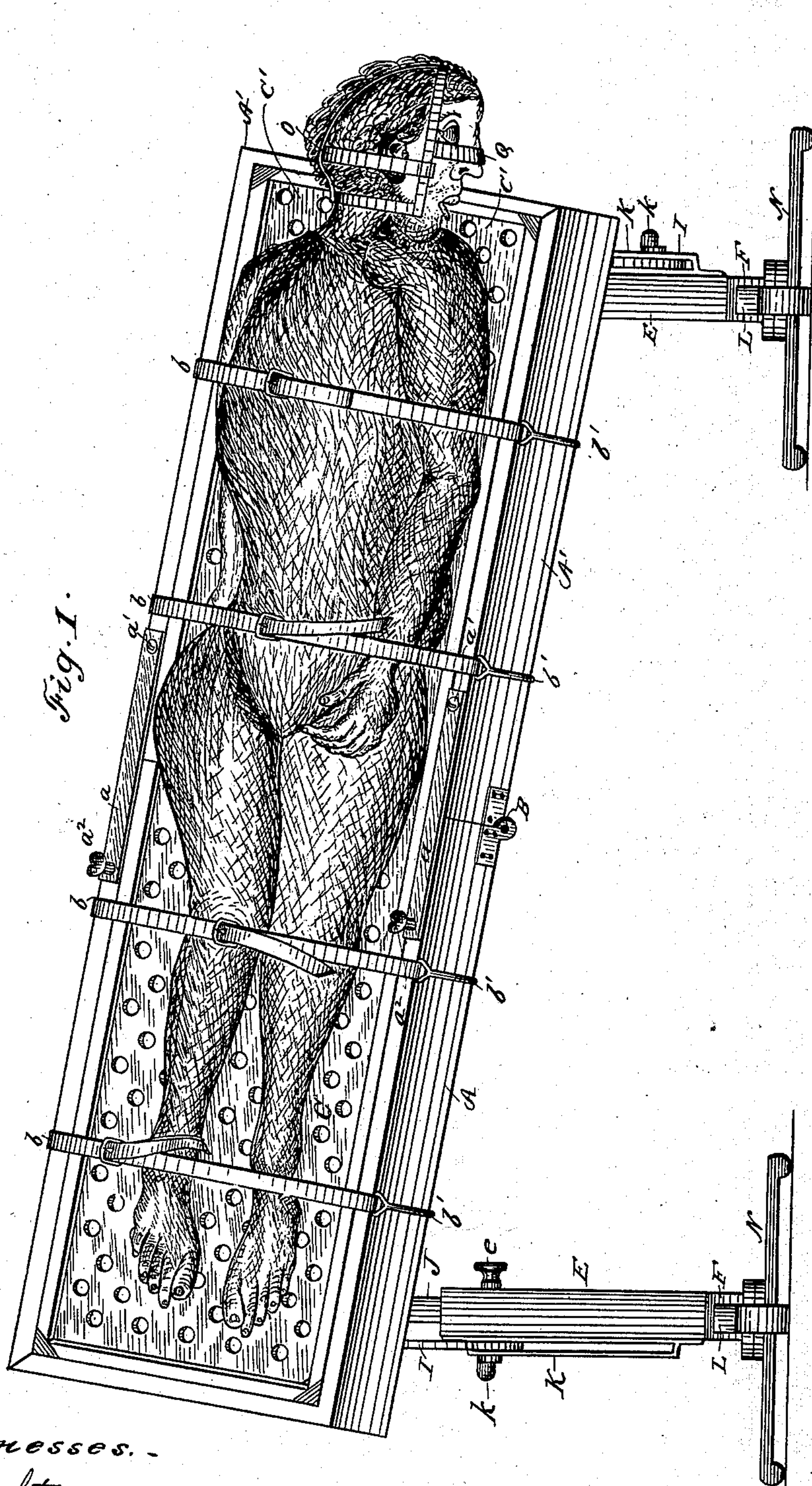
3 Sheets—Sheet 1.

G. P. GASTON.

ADJUSTABLE EMBALMING TABLE.

No. 322,437.

Patented July 21, 1885.



Witnesses.

H. M. Sturgeon.  
E. P. Nichols

Inventor

George P. Gaston

Per H. M. Sturgeon  
Atty.



(No Model.)

3 Sheets—Sheet 2.

G. P. GASTON.

ADJUSTABLE EMBALMING TABLE.

No. 322,437.

Patented July 21, 1885.

Fig. 2.

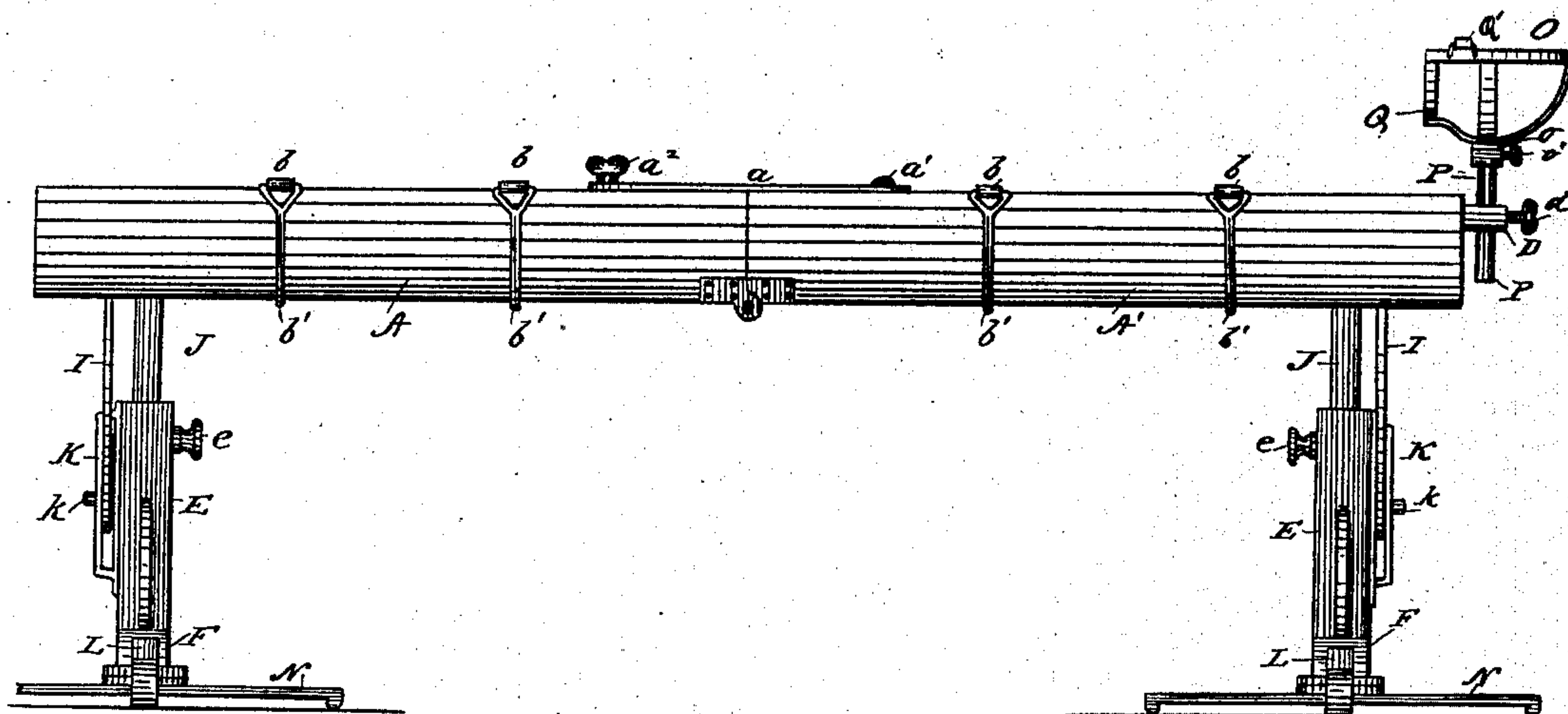
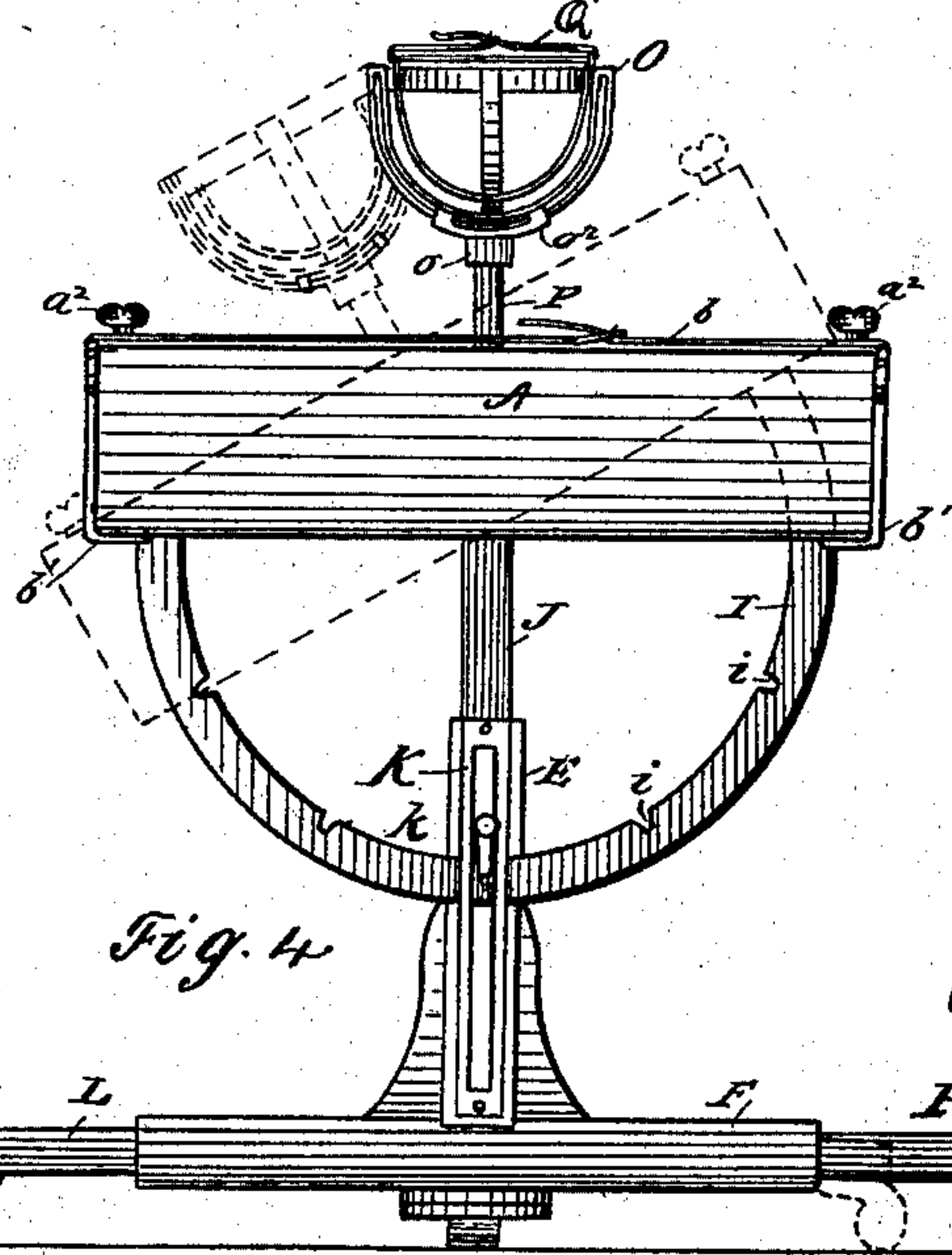
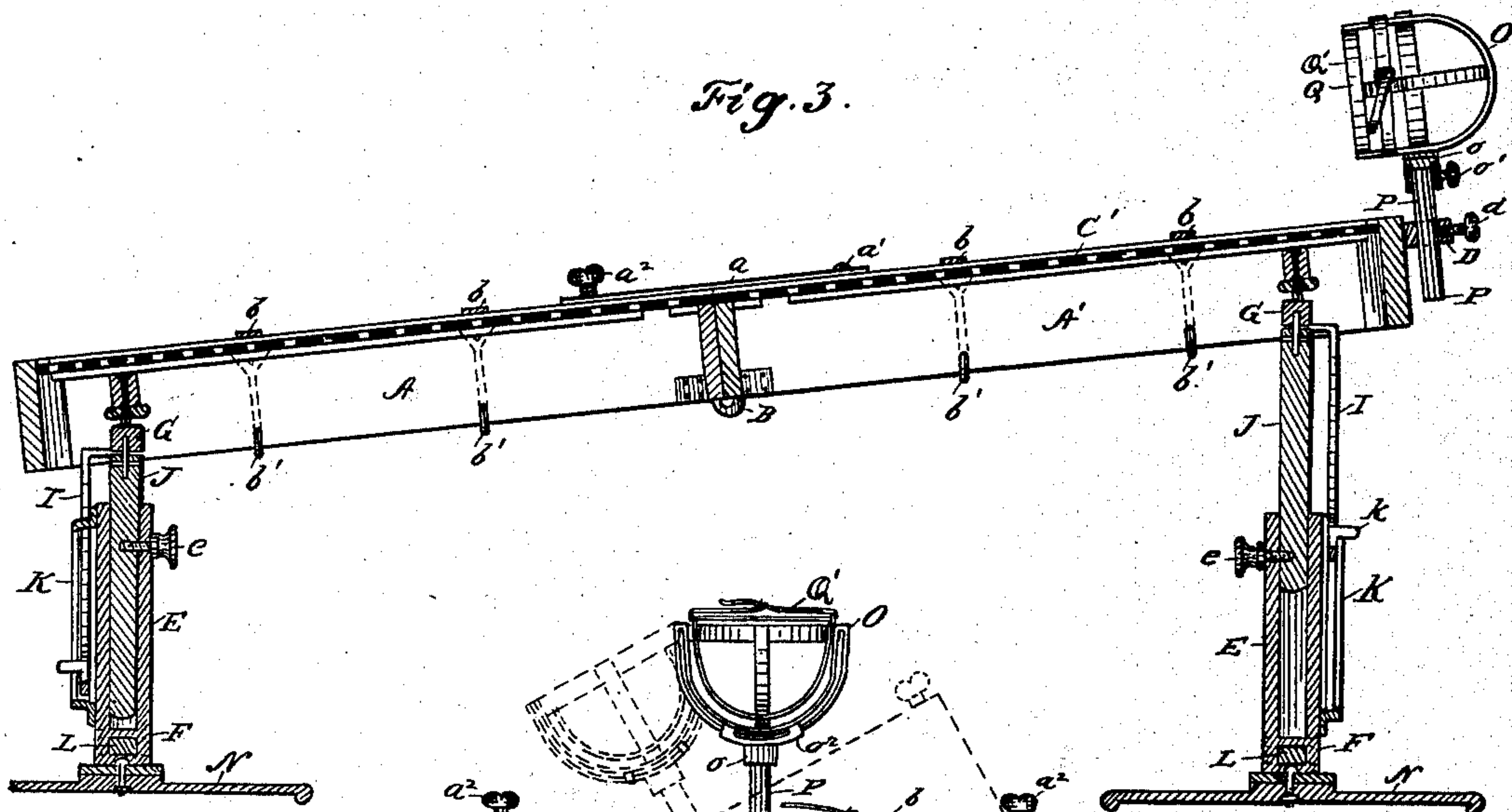


Fig. 3.



Witnesses.  
A. W. Sturgeon.  
E. P. Nichols.

Fig. 4

Inventor.  
George P. Gaston  
Per. A. W. Sturgeon  
Atty



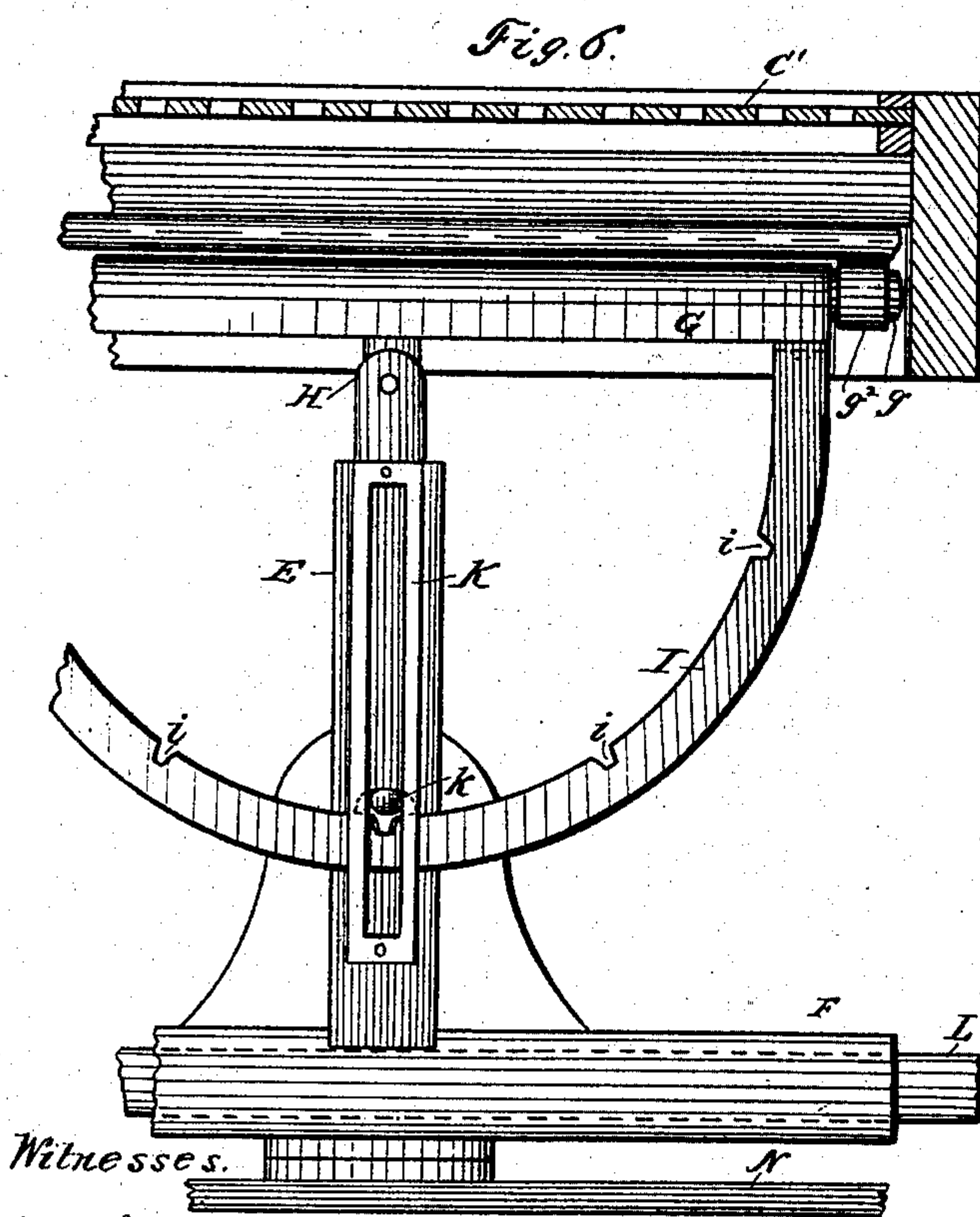
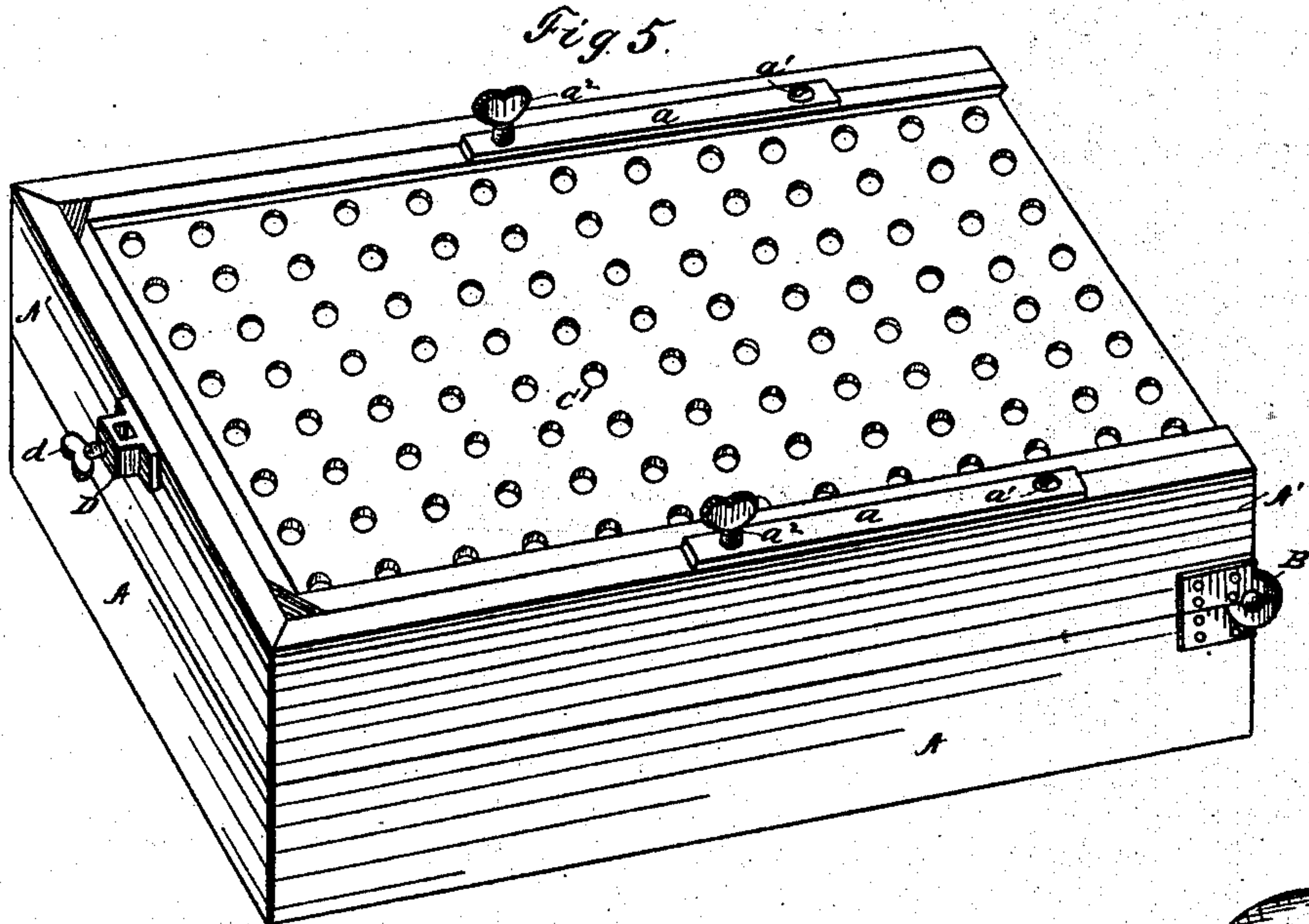
(No Model.)

3 Sheets—Sheet 3.

G. P. GASTON.  
ADJUSTABLE EMBALMING TABLE.

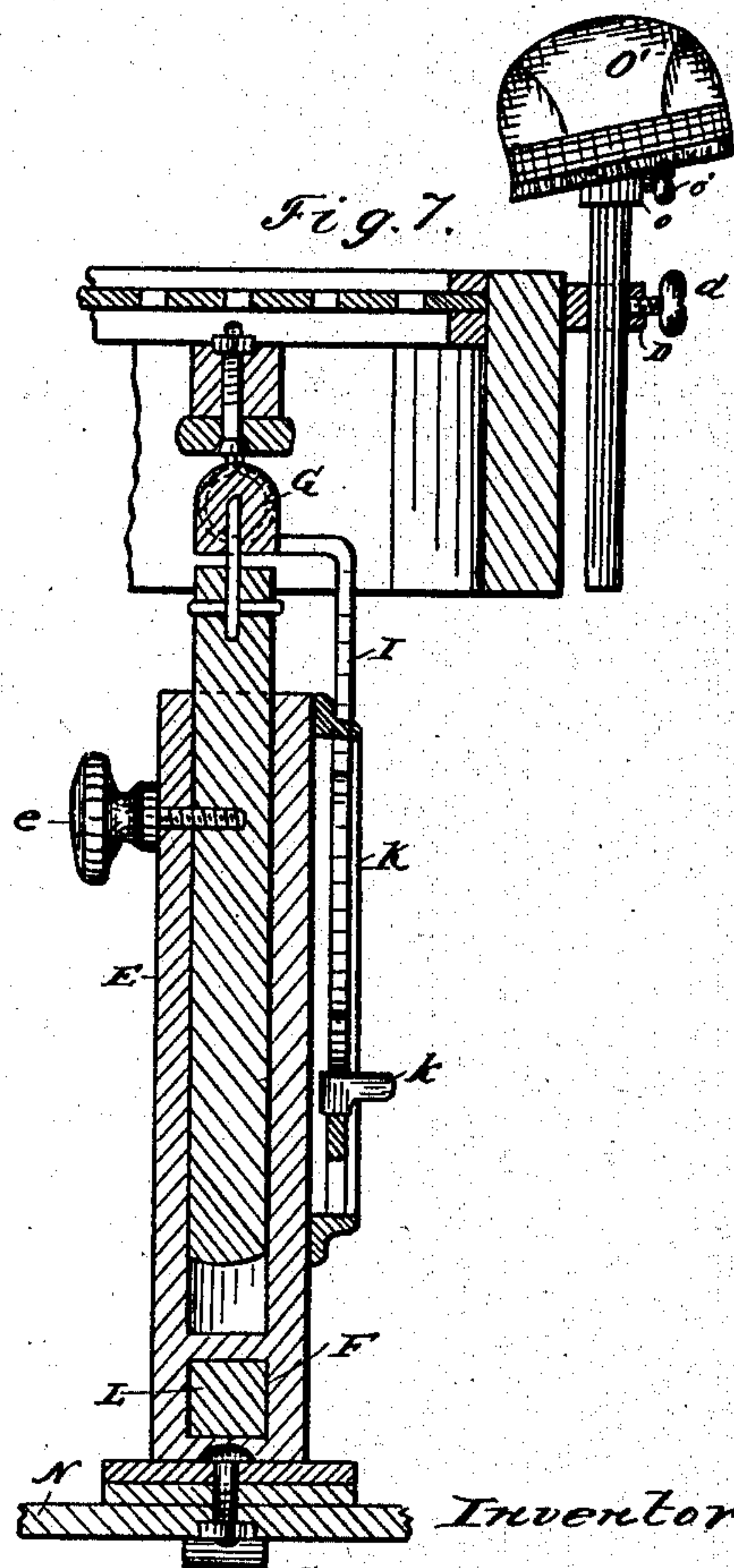
No. 322,437.

Patented July 21, 1885.



Witnesses.

H. M. Sturgeon.  
E. P. Nichols



Inventor.

George P. Gaston  
Per H. M. Sturgeon, atty.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE P. GASTON, OF SILVER CREEK, NEW YORK.

## ADJUSTABLE EMBALMING-TABLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 322,437, dated July 21, 1885.

Application filed May 7, 1885. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE P. GASTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Silver Creek, in the county of Chautauqua and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Adjustable Embalming-Tables; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, forming part of this specification.

My invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in adjustable embalming-tables and mechanism connected therewith, by means whereof they are adapted to be adjusted, with a body thereon, to any position in which the operator may desire to place such body during the operation of embalming, without removing it therefrom.

Other objects and features of my improvement are hereinafter set forth, and explained in the specification and claims.

In the accompanying drawings, illustrating my improvements, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved embalming-table and apparatus with a body thereon, illustrating some features of its operation. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of my improved embalming-table and apparatus. Fig. 3 shows a longitudinal vertical section through the center of same, the foot end thereof being lowered and the head-rest, turned to one side. Fig. 4 is an end view of same, illustrating in dotted lines the lateral adjustment of the table-top, and also of feet of the table. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of my improved embalming-table and apparatus when folded up for transportation. Fig. 6 is a sectional end view of the legs or supports of the table and the adjusting mechanism thereof. Fig. 7 is a side section of the same through the center thereof, and also shows my improved adjustable pillow head-rest.

Like letters refer to like parts in all the figures.

In the construction of my improved em-

balming-table I make the frame of the top preferably in two sections, A A', connected together by hinged joints B, so that the sections A A' may be folded together, as shown in Fig. 5.

To render the hinged joint B rigid, when desired, I provide straps *a a*, one end of which swings on the screws *a'* in the upper edges of the section A', and the other ends are secured to the section A by thumb-screws *a''*. These straps, however, may, if desired, be altogether omitted in the construction of the frame.

Inside of the frame A A', I secure the sectional top C C'. This top may be constructed of woven cane or perforated board, through which the air has access to cool the body; but I construct it, preferably, of perforated sheet metal, so that it can be more readily washed and cleaned when desired. To the end of the section A', I secure a socket, D, provided with a set-screw, *d*, by means whereof I attach to the table the adjustable head-rest, hereinafter described. Straps *b* are also provided, one end of which is provided with hooks *b'*, by means whereof they can be attached to the lower edges of the frame A A', and buckled over a body, as illustrated in Fig. 1, thereby securing it upon the table, so as to admit of the adjustment of the table-top to any desired position without danger of the body falling off of it. These straps *b* are so arranged that they may be entirely detached and removed from the table when not needed thereon. This table-top is mounted upon standards or legs under each end thereof, which, for the purpose of vertical and lateral adjustment of the table-top, are constructed as follows: The upright part of these standards or legs consists of hollow standards E E, having tubular cross-sections F F across the lower ends thereof, the purpose of which will hereinafter be fully described.

Under and on the inside of the sections A A' of the table-top, near each end thereof, are bolsters G G, having trunnions *g g* on the ends thereof, which operate in bearings *g'' g''* attached to the inner sides of the said frame-sections A A', and to the central part of the bolsters G are attached the standards J, by



joints H, hinged so as to admit of lateral move-  
 ment of the bolsters C upon said standards,  
 and near the ends of said bolsters are attached  
 half-circles I, provided with notches *i*, for the  
 5 purpose hereinafter stated and described, thus  
 substantially forming gimbal-joints between  
 the table-top A A' and the standards or sup-  
 ports thereof. These standards J are arranged  
 10 to move telescopically up and down in the  
 hollow standards E, and are secured at any  
 desired elevation by means of set-screws *e*, the  
 half-circles I, moving within the guides K on  
 the outsides of the hollow standards E, which  
 15 guides are provided with vertically-sliding  
 stops, which operate in the notches *i* in the  
 half-circles I, securely retaining them in any  
 desired position.

In the tubular cross-sections F, on the lower  
 ends of the hollow standards E E, I place  
 20 cross-bars L, which slide in the tubular cross-  
 sections F, and are provided with feet *l* *l'*, one  
 of which, *l'*, is attached thereto by means of a  
 loose sleeve, *l''*, whereby it can be removed and  
 the cross-bar L taken out when desired; and  
 25 pivoted to the center of the lower ends of the  
 hollow standards E are also swing-arms N,  
 which, when swung around at right angles to  
 the cross-bars L, operate as the other feet for  
 the standards E E. From the construction of  
 30 these standards or legs, and the connections  
 of the table-top A A' thereto, it will readily  
 be seen that they are adapted to be independ-  
 ently adjusted in height, so that either end  
 of the table may be independently raised or  
 35 lowered at will, and also that the entire table-  
 top can be canted to one side or the other  
 without regard to the elevation of the ends  
 thereof, and that the adjustable feet thereof  
 adapt them to be moved to one side, so as to  
 40 support the table with a body thereon in sub-  
 stantially the position shown in Fig. 1, with-  
 out danger of the table tipping or of over-  
 turning it.

The head-rest O and pillow O' are interchang-  
 45 ably attachably by sockets *o* and set-screws  
*o'* to the standard P, which moves vertically  
 in the socket D, and is secured at any desired  
 elevation by means of the set-screw *d*, so that  
 after the body has been treated the head-rest  
 50 O may be removed and the pillow O' substi-  
 tuted therefor. The head-rest O is so con-  
 structed that it will receive the head of the  
 body therein, and is also provided with a  
 neck-support, Q, which fits and supports the  
 55 neck of the body, and, together with the strap  
 Q', attached to the head-rest O, retains the  
 head of the body therein, as illustrated in Fig.  
 1. This head-rest O is attached to the socket  
*o* by means of a guide, *o''*, through which the  
 60 central rib of the head-rest slides, so that the  
 head-rest can be turned from side to side, so  
 as to move the head of the body into any po-  
 sition desired. For example, when it is de-  
 sired to draw the fluids from the stomach of  
 65 the body, the rest O may be turned over to

one side, so as to hold the head in the posi-  
 tion shown in Fig. 1.

From the foregoing description the opera-  
 tion of my improved adjustable embalming-  
 table is obvious to those skilled in the art to  
 70 which it appertains, its construction being such  
 that the operator can place a body to be em-  
 balmed thereon, and by adjusting the table  
 with the body secured thereon sustains the  
 body in any position which may be required  
 75 during any part of the operation of embalm-  
 ing without being obliged to lift and other-  
 wise handle the body, as is now universally  
 done in the embalming of it.

I am aware that in the construction of my  
 80 device some parts of it in themselves are not  
 new, they having been heretofore used in ta-  
 bles of different kinds; but I believe that I  
 have so combined and arranged the several  
 parts of my improved table that I am enabled  
 85 to accomplish results therewith not heretofore  
 attained, which are novel and useful in em-  
 balming-tables. Therefore I do not broadly  
 claim a table-top hinged in the center, or legs  
 or standards therefor the height of which is  
 90 adjustable, or mechanism for laterally adjust-  
 ing the table-top, as certain Letters Patent  
 on tables of different kinds show devices which  
 are adapted to produce these results; but

What I do claim as new, and desire to se-  
 95 cure by Letters Patent of the United States,  
 is—

1. In an embalming-table, the combination,  
 substantially as shown, of an adjustable ta-  
 ble-top vertically-adjustable folding legs or  
 100 standards under each end of said table-top  
 attached thereto by substantially gimbal-  
 joints, and adjustable feet on said legs or stand-  
 ards, substantially as and for the purpose set  
 forth.

2. The combination, in an embalming-table,  
 of the following elements: a folding table-  
 top, a movable head-rest which is adjustable  
 both vertically and laterally, vertically-ad-  
 110 justable legs or standards under each end of  
 said table-top attached thereto by substan-  
 tially gimbal-joints, and adjustable feet on  
 said legs or standards, substantially as and  
 for the purpose set forth.

3. In combination with an adjustable em-  
 115 balming-table top, straps provided with  
 hooks *b'*, adapted to be hooked under the lower  
 edges of the table-top frame and buckled over  
 a body placed thereon, substantially as and  
 for the purpose set forth.

4. In combination with an adjustable em-  
 balming-table, a laterally and vertically ad-  
 justable head-rest, substantially as shown,  
 provided with a head-retaining strap, sub-  
 120 stantially as shown, adapted to retain and ad-  
 just the head of a body, substantially as and  
 for the purpose set forth.

5. In combination with an embalming-ta-  
 ble, an interchangeable head-rest, one portion  
 of which may be used for retaining and ad-  
 130



justing the head of a body in any required position while being treated, and the other portion as a pillow for supporting the head after treatment, substantially as shown and  
5 set forth.

6. In combination with an adjustable embalming-table top, folding legs or standards therefor provided both with laterally-sliding

and with pivoted feet, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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

GEORGE P. GASTON.

Witnesses:

GEO. E. BARBOUR,  
S. U. NEWTON.

10