

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

N. T. SHAW, W. S. CARLILE & J. W. DANN.

LAYING OUT AND EMBALMING BOARD.

No. 330,160.

Patented Nov. 10, 1885.

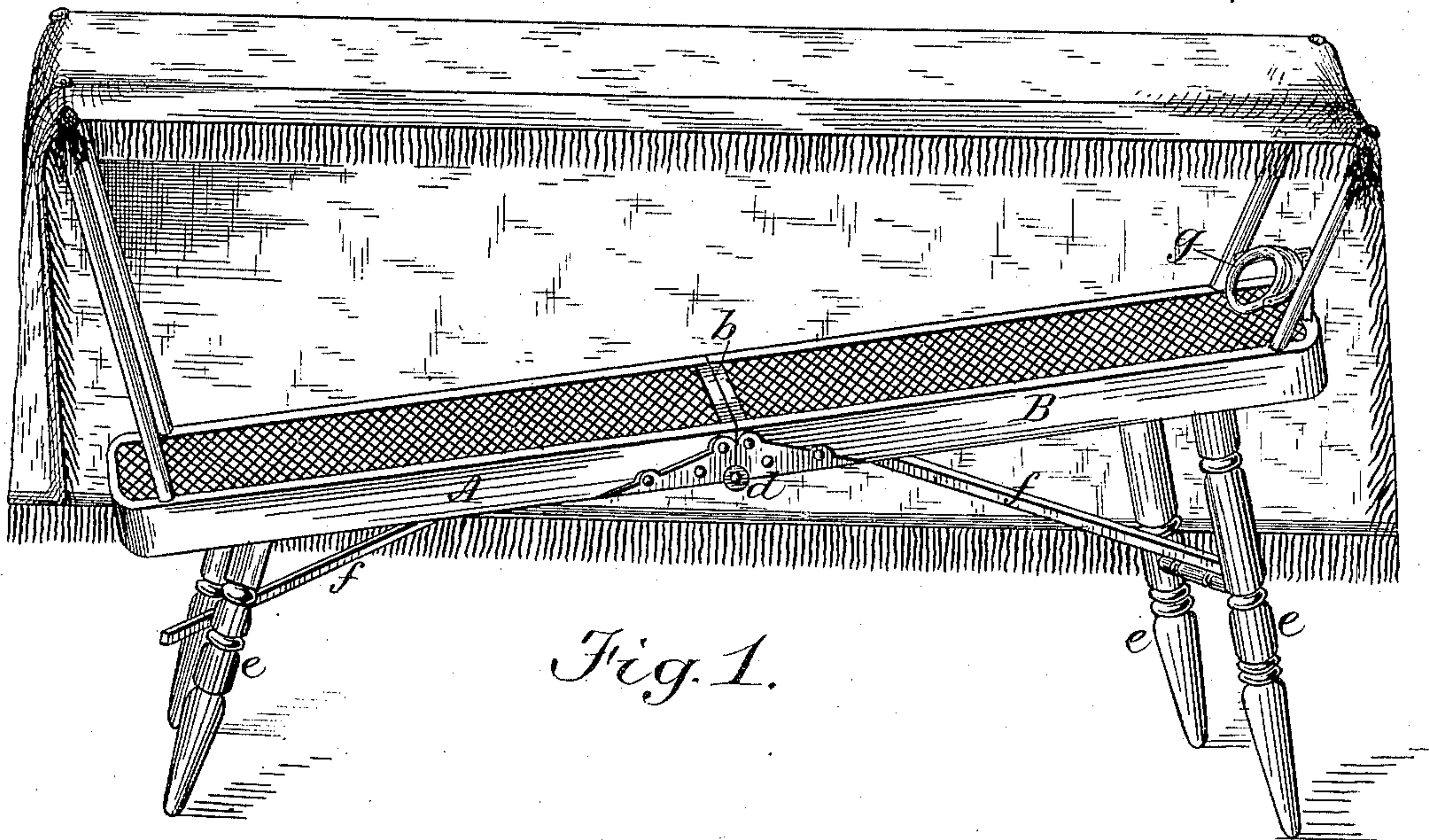


Fig. 1.

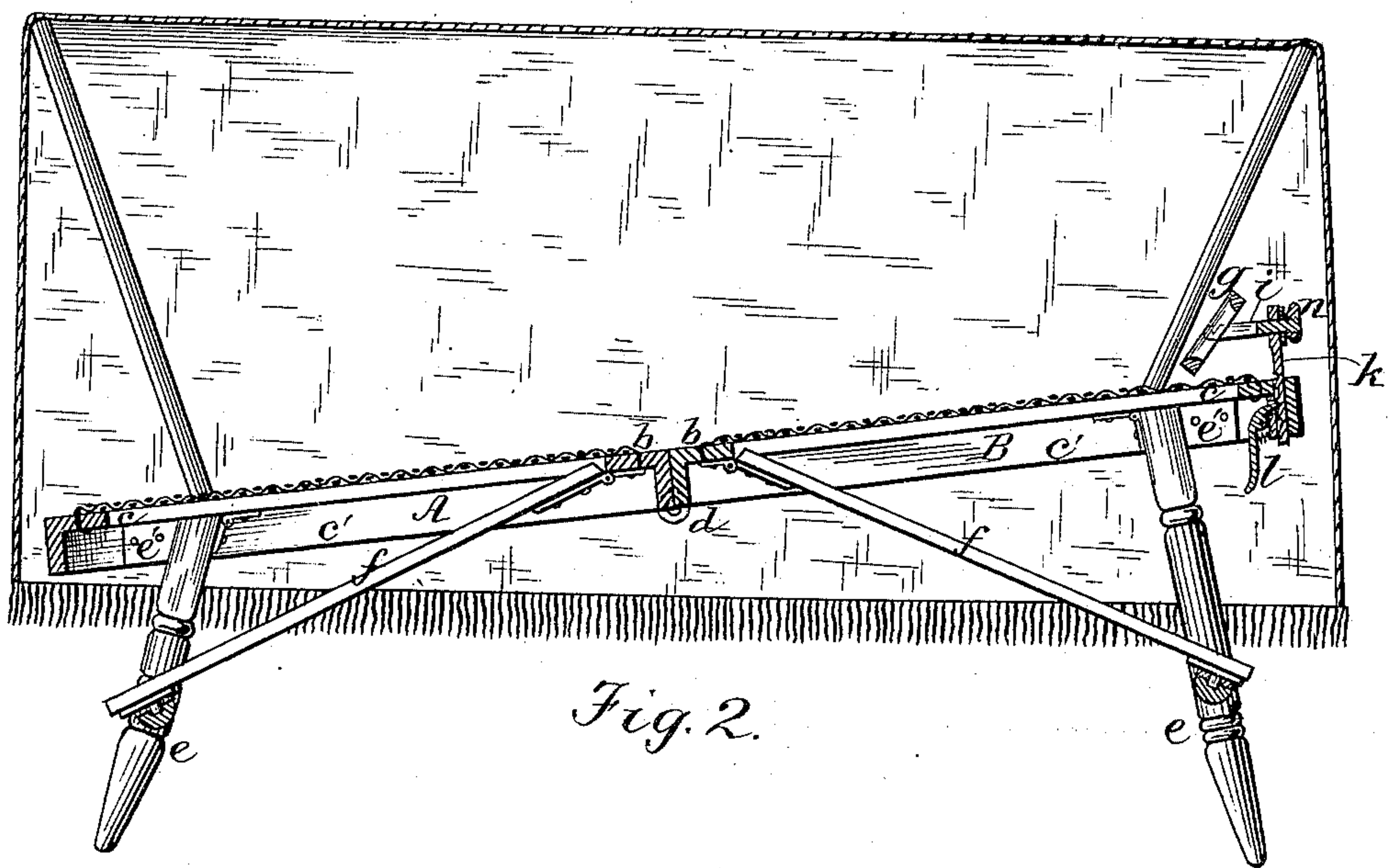


Fig. 2.

Witnesses:

J. E. Tucker
R. E. Grant

Inventors:

Noah T. Shaw
William S. Carlile,
Jersey H. Dann,
by their Attorneys
Johnson & Johnson

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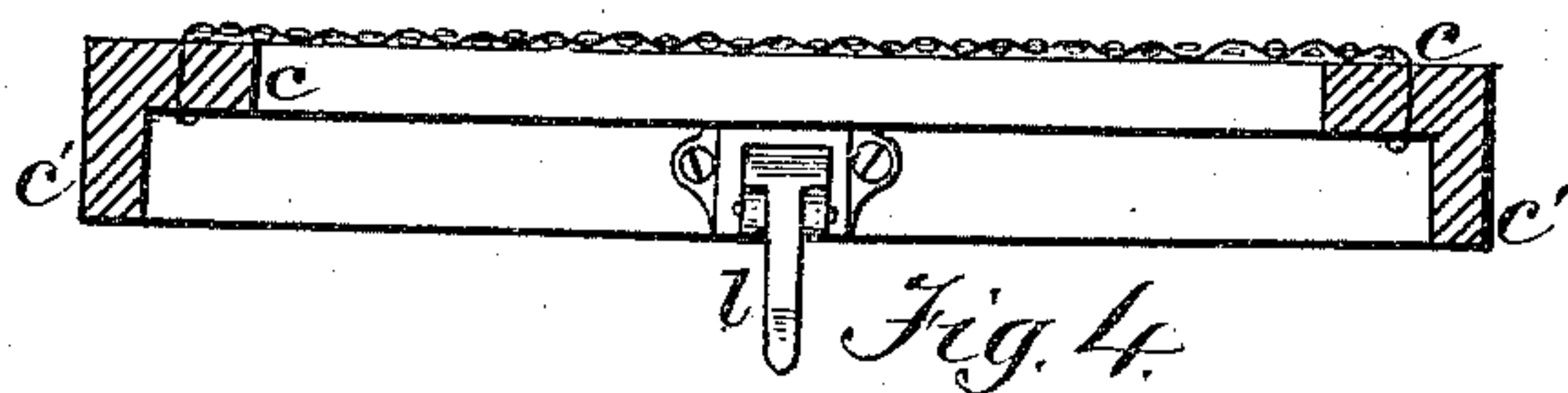
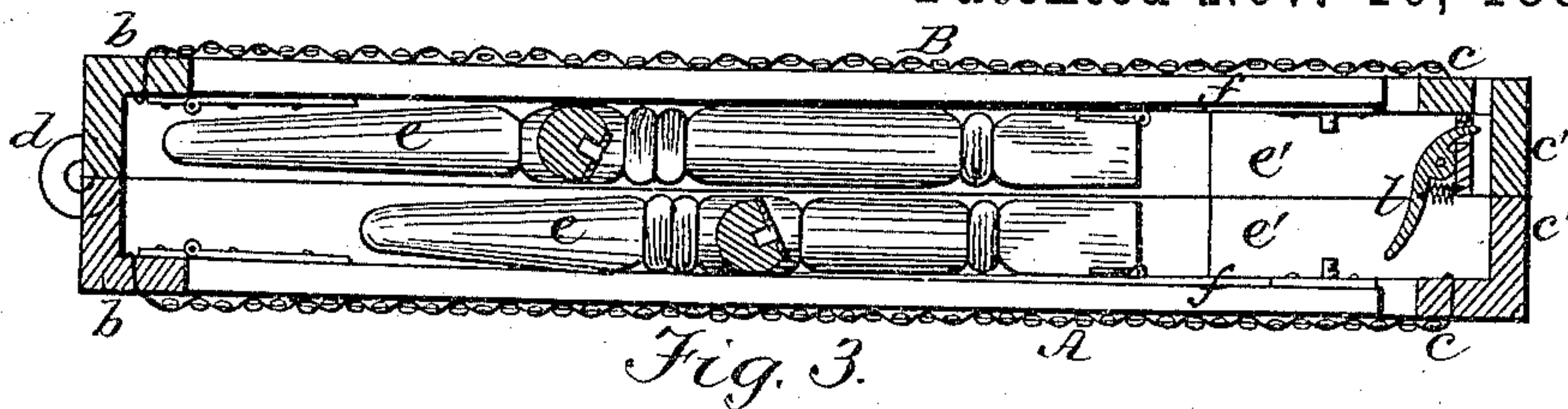


Fig. 5.

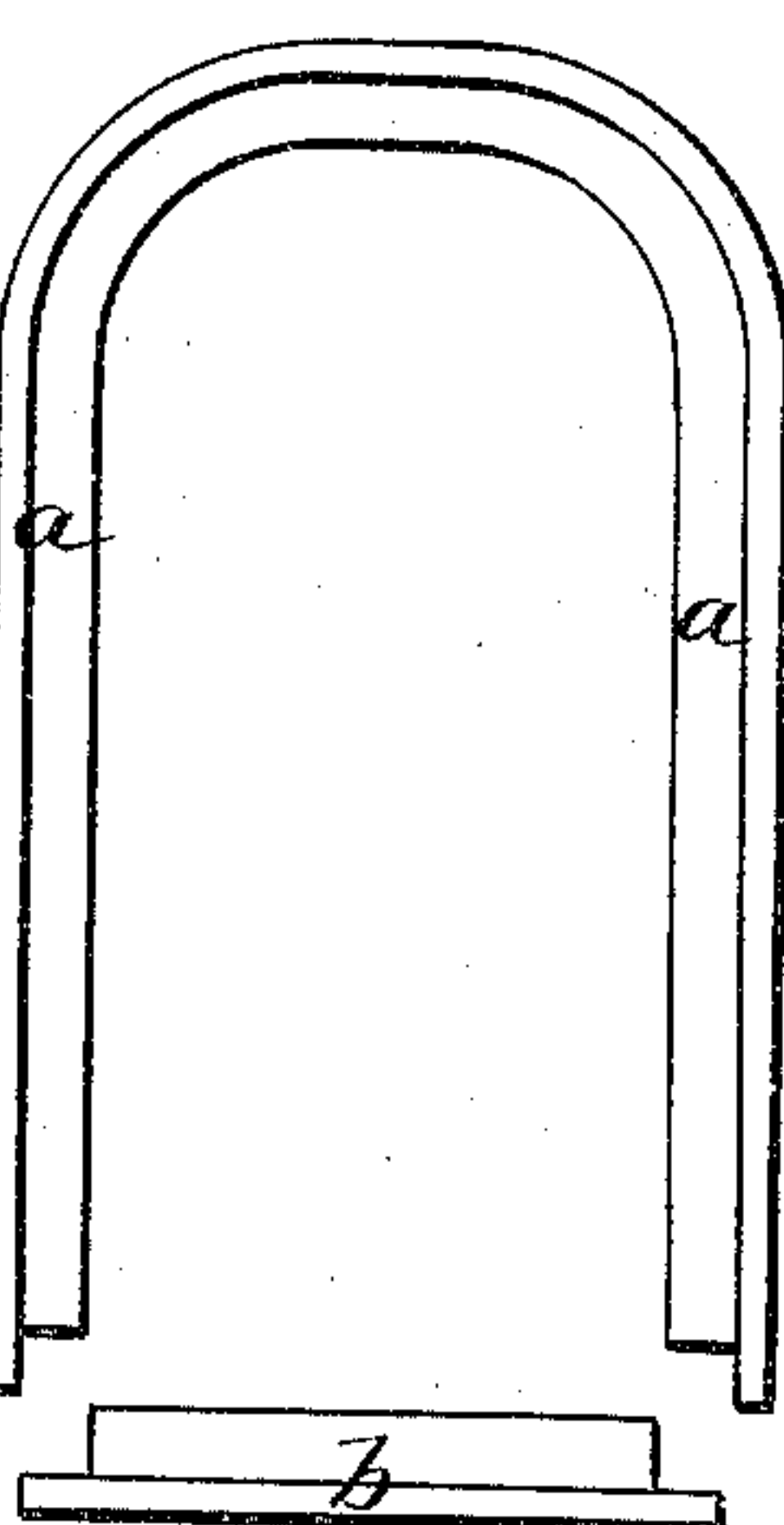
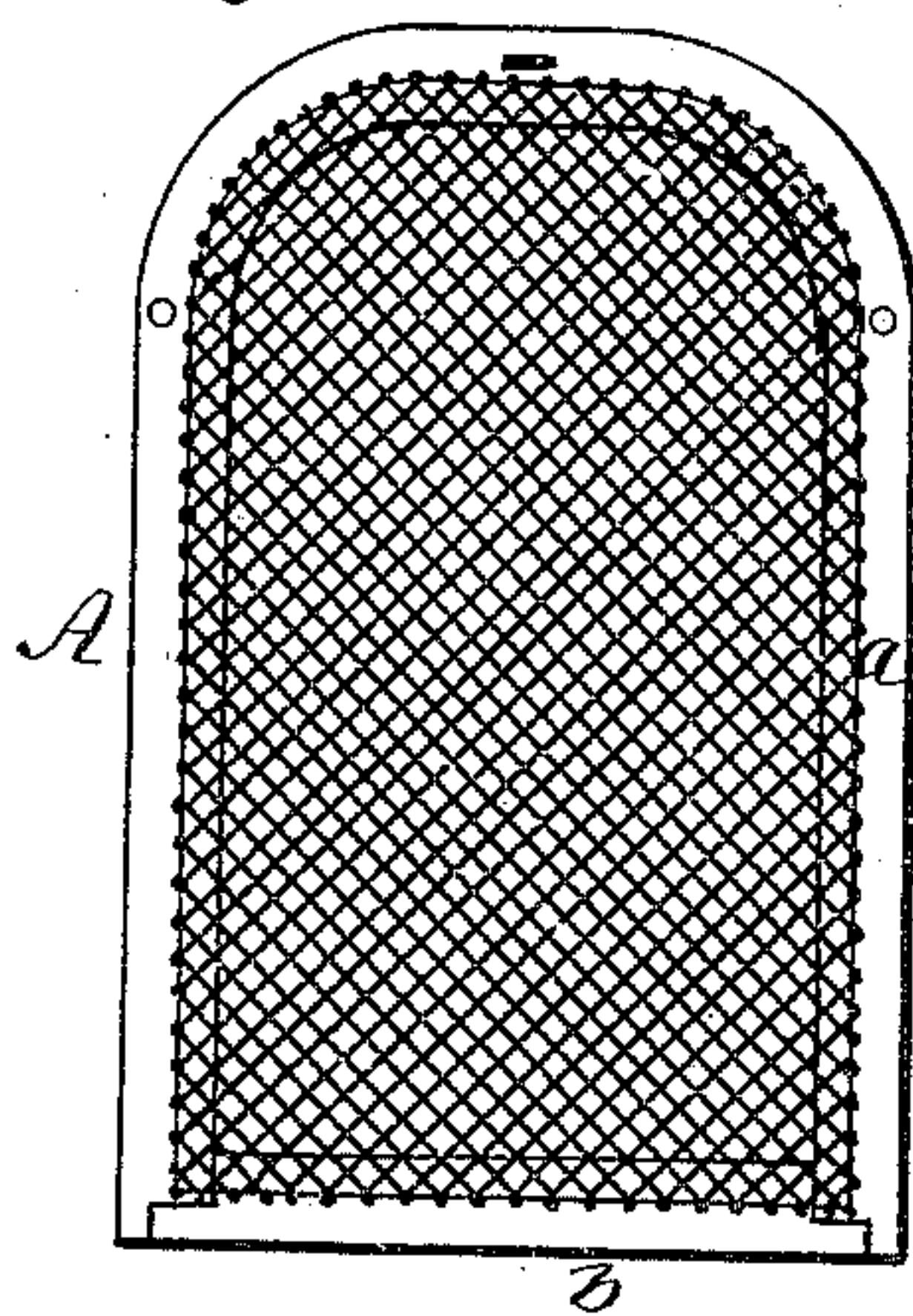
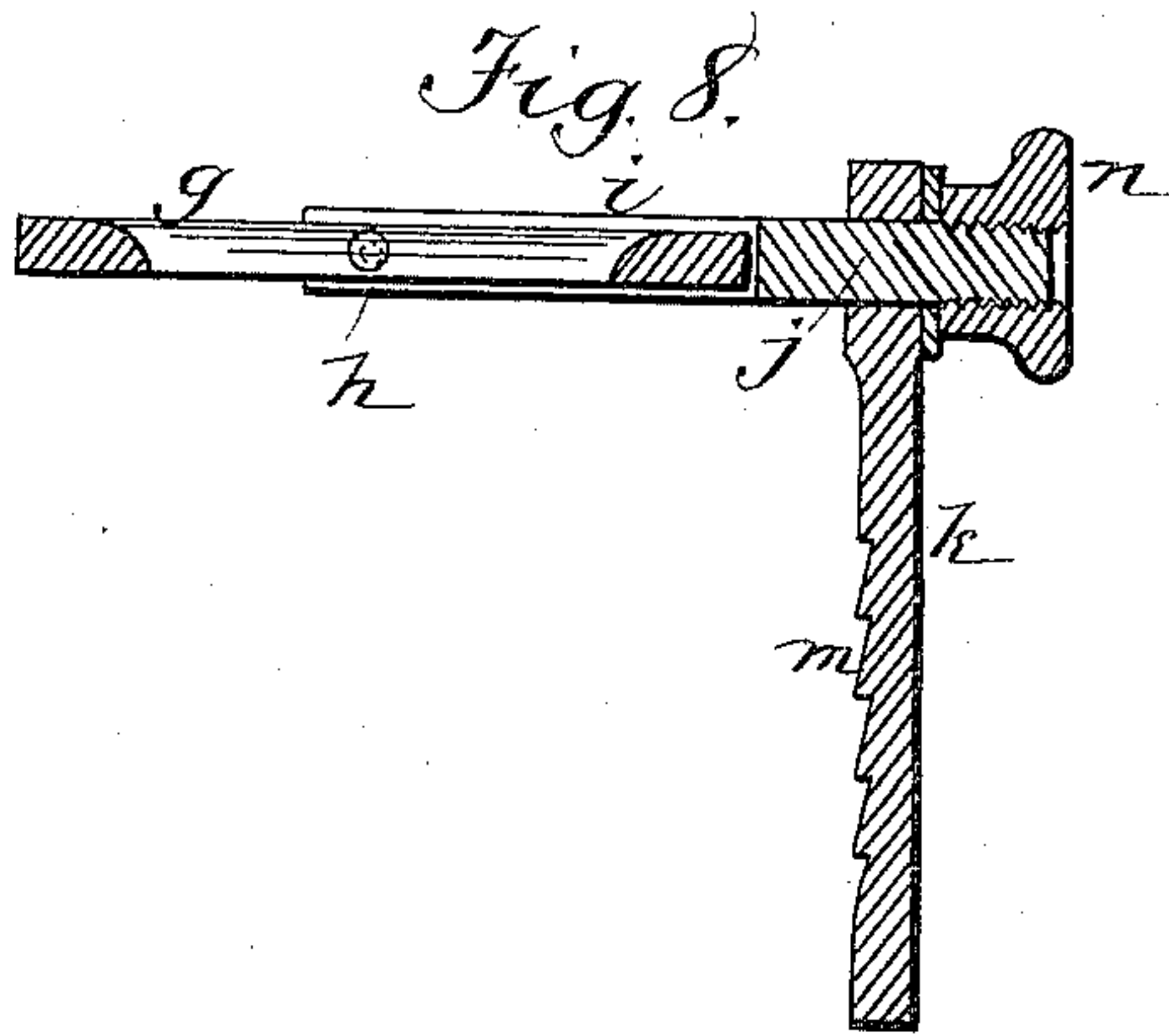
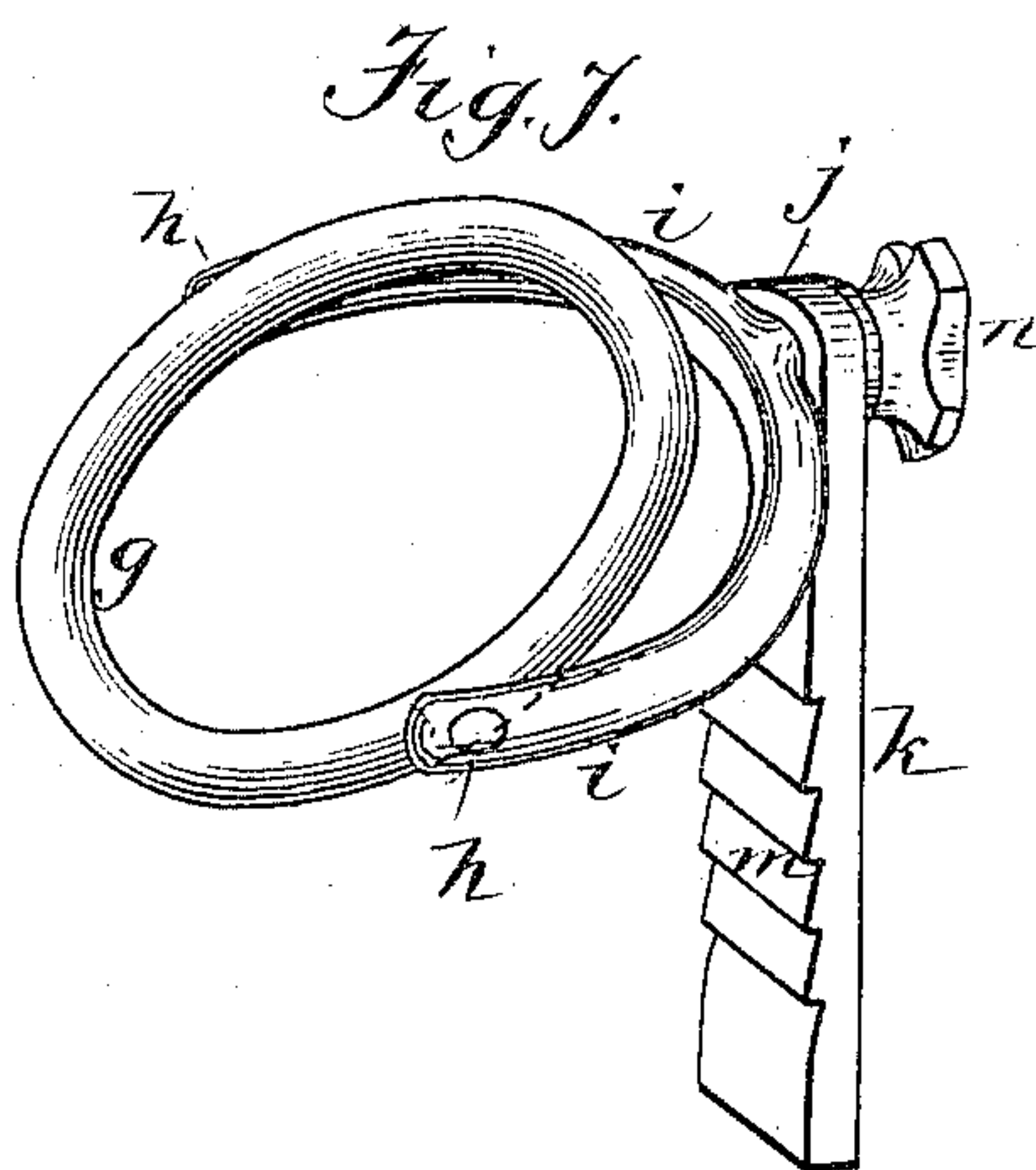


Fig. 6.

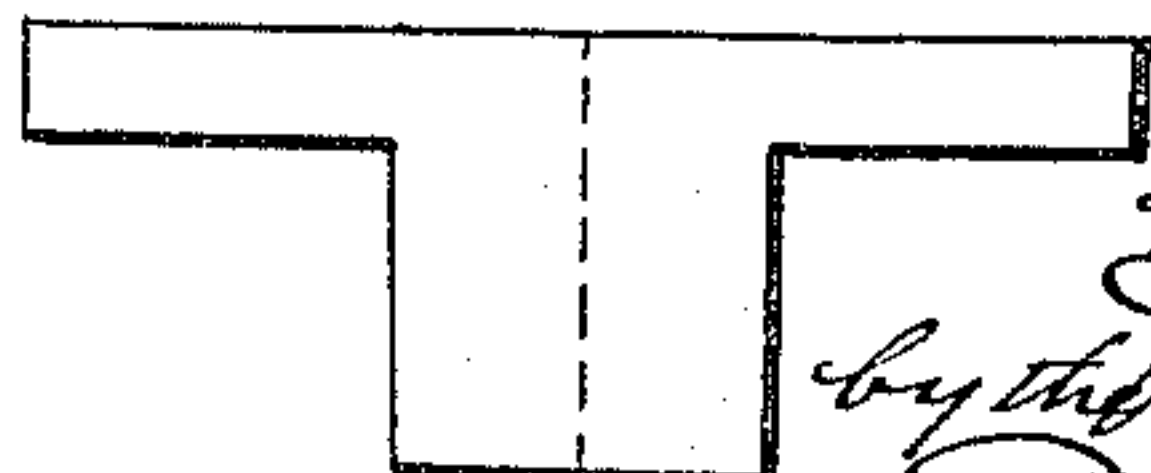


Witnesses:

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Fig. 9.



Inventors:

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by their Attorneys
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

NOAH T. SHAW, WILLIAM S. CARLILE, AND JESSE W. DANN, OF COLUMBUS,
OHIO.

LAYING-OUT AND EMBALMING BOARD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 330,160, dated November 10, 1885.

Application filed May 7, 1885. Serial No. 164,722. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, NOAH T. SHAW, WILLIAM S. CARLILE, and JESSE W. DANN, citizens of the United States, residing at Columbus, in the county of Franklin and State of Ohio, have invented new and useful Improvements in Laying-Out and Embalming Boards, of which the following is a specification.

We have improved the undertaker's board for laying-out and embalming corpses in matters of construction, of combinations, and of adjustments, which facilitate the work of the undertaker in the operation of laying-out the body and of adjusting and holding the head in any desired position.

An important matter of our improvement is the construction of the frame of the board in bent or yoke sections, each section having the shape of an L in cross-section to form the vertical sides of the board, and an interior horizontal projecting rim part, to which a rattan is laced between the yoke-arms, giving ventilation and lightness to the board. A cooling-board by which these objects are attained is represented in the accompanying drawings, which will now be described preparatory to a proper designation of the devices and combinations of parts claimed as our invention.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 represents a view in perspective of an inclined canopied laying-out and embalming board as set up for use, the canopy being shown as raised at one side to expose the adjustable head-rest. Fig. 2 represents a vertical longitudinal section of the same. Fig. 3 represents a longitudinal section of the board as folded. Fig. 4 represents a cross-section of one of the bent or yoke hinged sections of the board, showing the form of the cross-section of the bent frame; and Fig. 5 a top view, and Fig. 6 a bottom view, of one of the bent-frame hinged sections of the board. Fig. 7 represents in perspective the adjustable head-rest enlarged, and Fig. 8 a vertical section of the same.

The board is made with a cane surface, and consists of two sections, A B, preferably of equal length, hinged together, so as to be folded, as shown in Fig. 3, to form an undertaker's

cabinet, within which the supporting-legs are hinged and folded, and to hold the canopy and things used for embalming. Each section is formed of a bent frame, like a yoke, *a*, the ends of which are firmly connected and joined by a cross-bar, *b*, suitably set in. The yoke-frame is bent from an L-shaped piece, and is used with the base *c* of the L uppermost and standing inward, Fig. 3, to receive the perforations which receive the rattan, which is laced and secured in any suitable manner. The end cross-bar, *b*, has the same form in cross-section as the bent frame, and renders the latter firm and strong. The outer end of the yoke is rounded, and the L shape of the bent piece renders the frame stiff, strong, and light.

These sections are hinged together by hinges *d*, preferably secured on the outer sides of the yokes, and are of such construction as to form iron bearings for the joined parts when extended and abutting. Each section is provided with legs *e*, hinged so as to be folded within their respective frame-sections, and they are held and braced in their supporting positions against blocks *e'* by suitable locking-braces, *f f*, hinged to the cross-bars *b b* at the joining ends of the sections, so as to be closed within the board when the latter is folded. The depth of each section within the bent frame is sufficient, when the two sections are folded, to hold the legs and braces, the canopy, and other parts.

The free ends of the braces may be fastened to the cross-rounds of the legs by any suitable locking device, so as to hold the legs and the board against accidental crushing or falling under the weight of the body and in changing the position of the board. The rear legs are shorter than the front ones to give the desired inclination of the board for embalming, and when fastened they stand in outwardly-inclined positions to each other, as shown.

The legs are hinged to the under sides of that part of the L-shaped frame or yoke to which the rattan is laced, and the abutting blocks *e'* for the legs are also secured to these frame parts against the inner walls of the vertical sides *c'*. At the rounded ends the yoke-frames are provided with sockets adapted to receive and hold the posts for supporting the

canopy. The head-posts are the shortest, so as to support the canopy in horizontal position.

The head-rest consists of a ring, *g*, of suitable diameter, pivoted at opposite diameter points by pins *h* to the ends of a semi-ring, *i*, which embraces said ring and is pivotally mounted by a bearing, *j*, equidistant between the pins *h*, upon the upper end of a flat bar, *k*, fitted vertically in a slot at the head of the board, and adjustably supported by a ratchet device consisting of a spring-catch, *l*, fastened by a keeper to the inner side of the vertical part of the bent frame, and engaging with ratchet-teeth *m* on the bar *k*, so that the latter can be set to any desired height. The bearing *j* of the semi-ring is cylindrical, and is formed with a screw-thread to receive a clamp-nut, *n*, by which the semi-ring is clamped at any desired angle to either side, while the ring can be set within the semi-ring so as to incline it as may be desired to set the head. This device gives three adjustments, and forms a circular rest in which the set of the ring in one direction is made by the clamp-nut, and in the other direction its set is controlled upon its diameter-pins by the desired position of the head, which rests within said ring. This device is a sort of universal rest, and gives every facility for placing the head in any desired position, and enables the undertaker to work around it from either side.

A scale may be formed along the edge of the board, by which the length of the corpse can be determined for the length of the coffin.

Referring to the yoke-frames, a very simple way of getting out the pieces for the bent parts is to divide or cut a T-shaped block so as to produce two equal parts, each of an L shape, as shown in Fig. 9, and then properly steam and bend the parts in a "former" into the proper yoke shape.

Instead of using separate canopy-supporting posts we may use a bowed or yoke-shaped support at the head and at the foot, and make them adjustable in height by slots and screws, so as to allow them to be turned down upon the board when not in use.

We claim—

1. The hinged frame sections of a laying-out and embalming board, composed each of a bar L shape in cross-section, bent in yoke shape, united at its ends by a cross-bar, the rims of the bars standing inward to brace and strengthen the frames and receive the woven rattan, substantially as described.

2. The combination, with a laying-out board, of a pivoted-ring head-rest, an adjustable holder therefor, and an adjustable support for said ring holder, substantially as described, for the purpose specified.

3. The head-rest of a laying-out board, consisting of a pivoted ring, a pivoted semi-ring, a vertically-adjustable bar, and a fastening device therefor, substantially as described.

4. The head-rest of a laying-out board, consisting of a pivoted ring and a semi-ring holder therefor having a cylindrical bearing, a vertically-adjustable ratchet-bar having an eye to receive said cylindrical bearing, a clamp-nut for adjustably holding said semi-ring to said bar, and a spring-catch for adjustably holding said ratchet-bar, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

NOAH T. SHAW.
WILLIAM S. CARLILE.
JESSE W. DANN.

Witnesses:

J. L. DANN,
W. F. SHAW.