

(No Model.)

H. B. PLUMB.

LOCK CASE.

No. 331,083.

Patented Nov. 24, 1885.

Fig. 1.

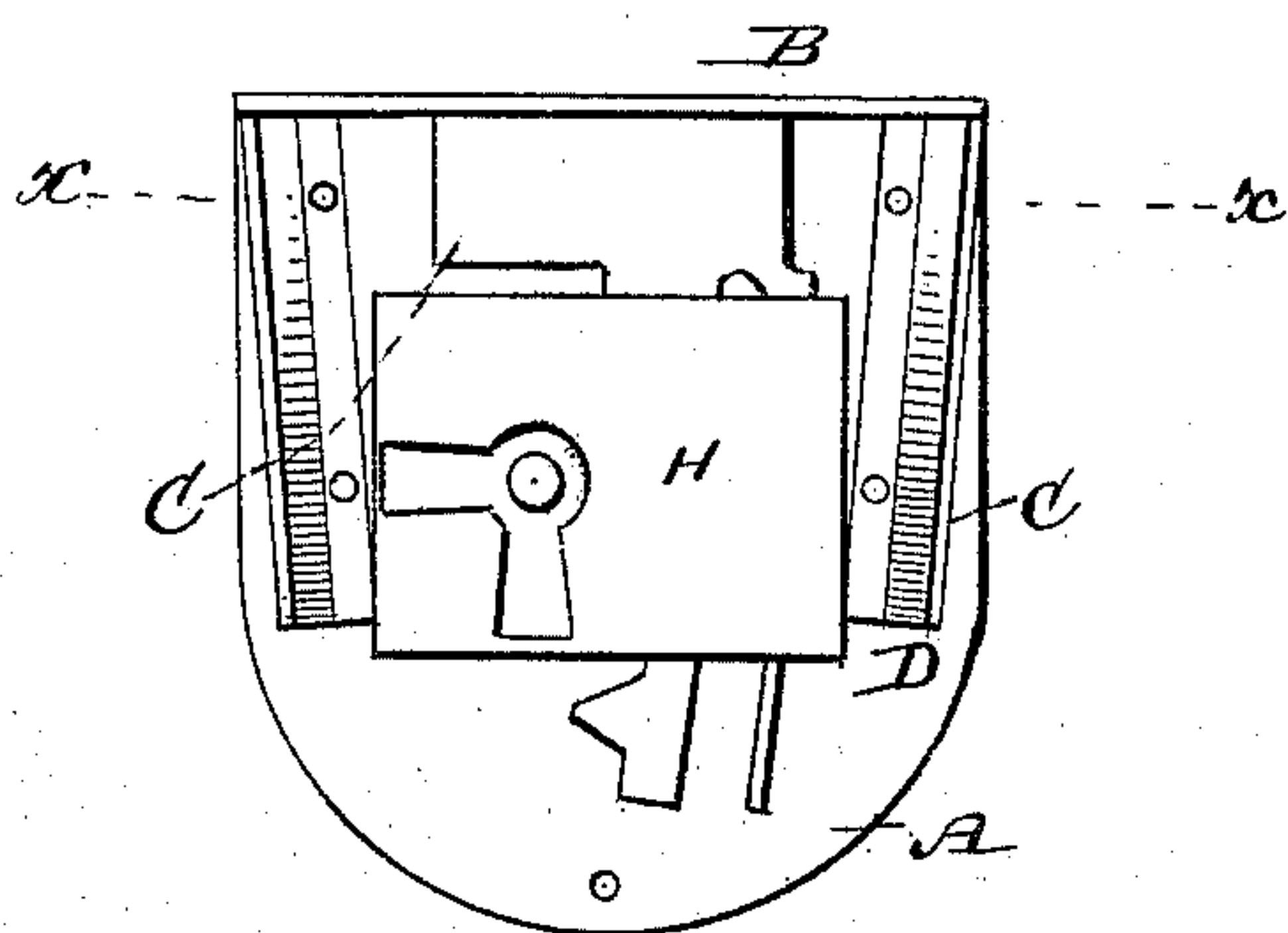


Fig. 2.

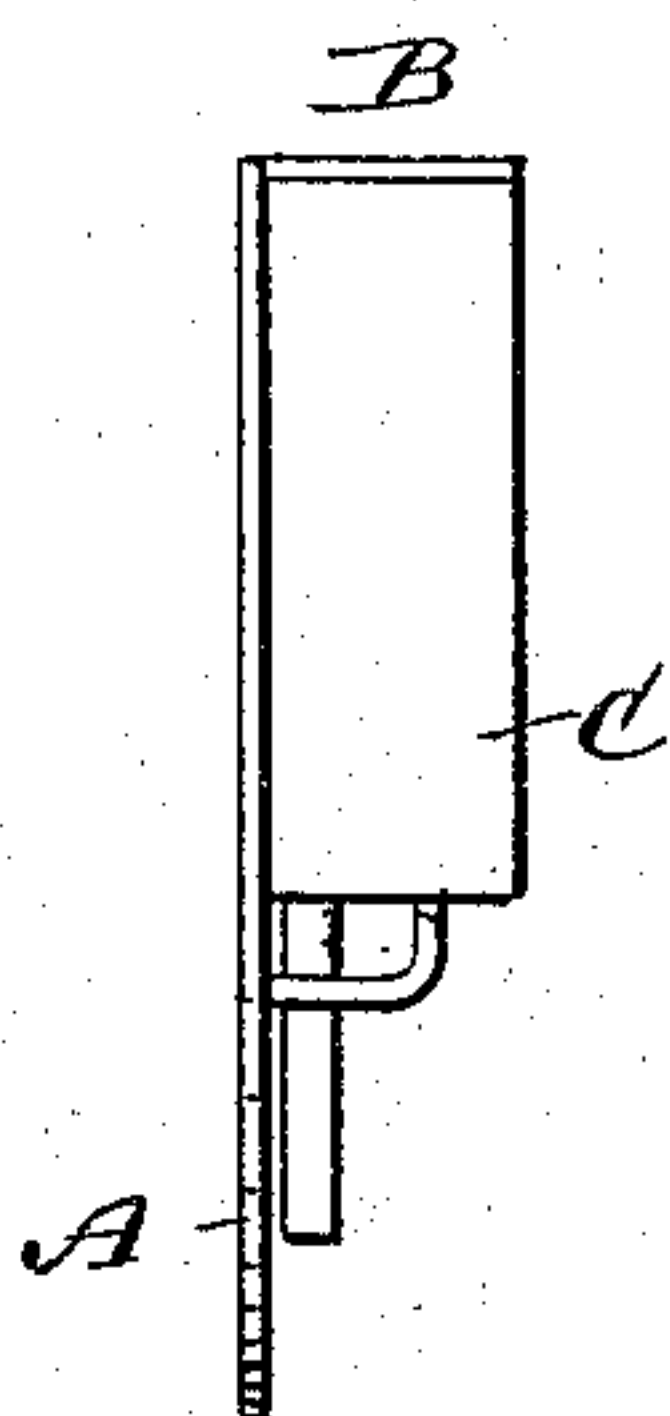


Fig. 3.

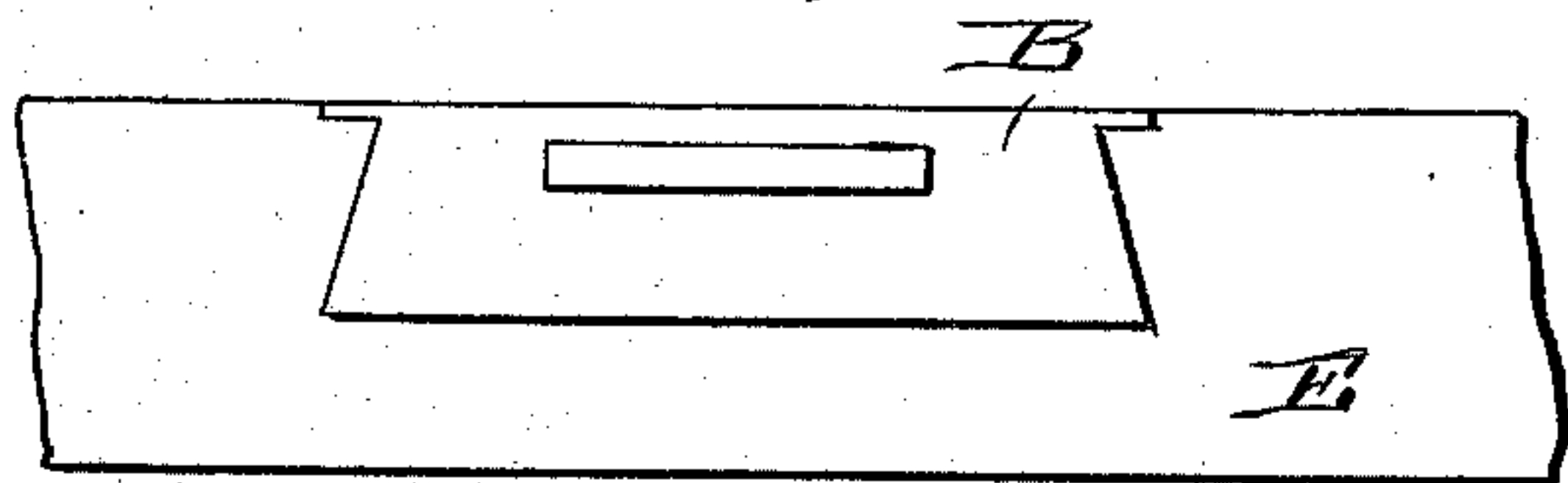


Fig. 4.

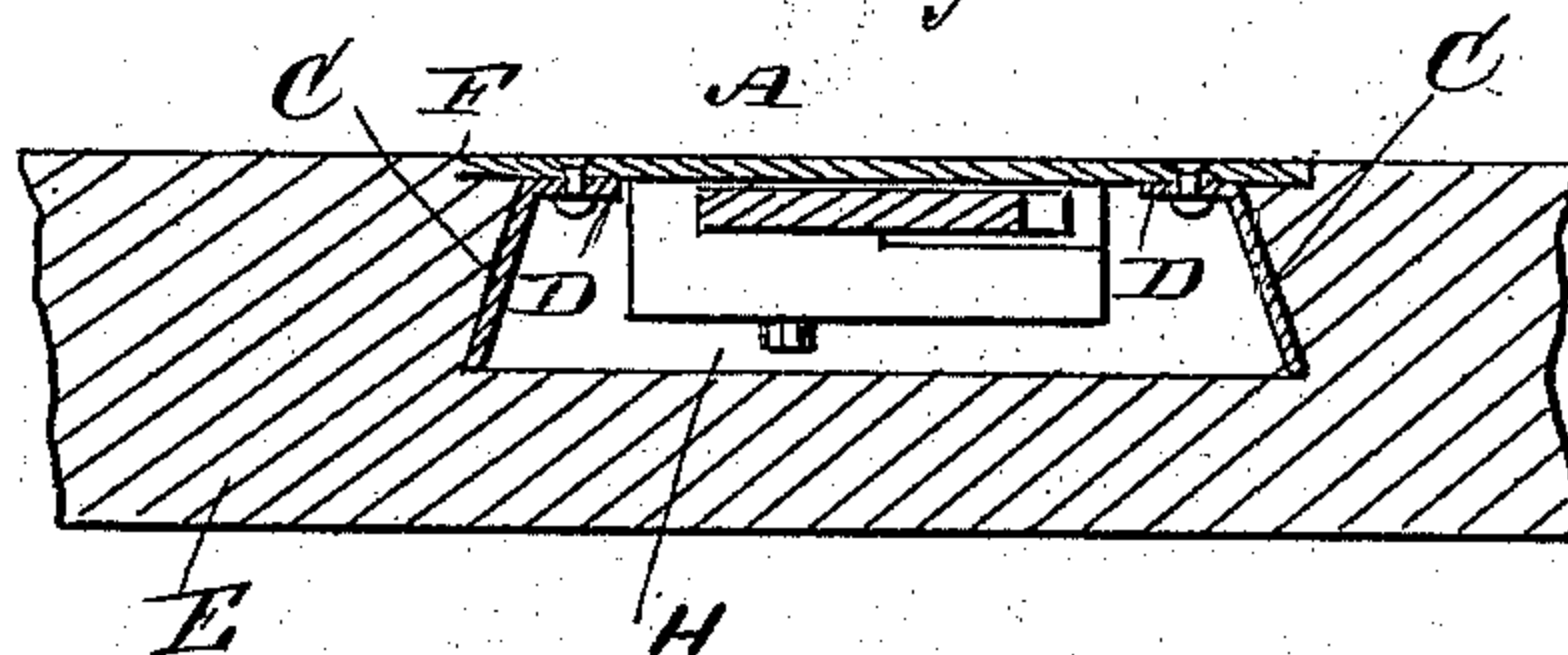
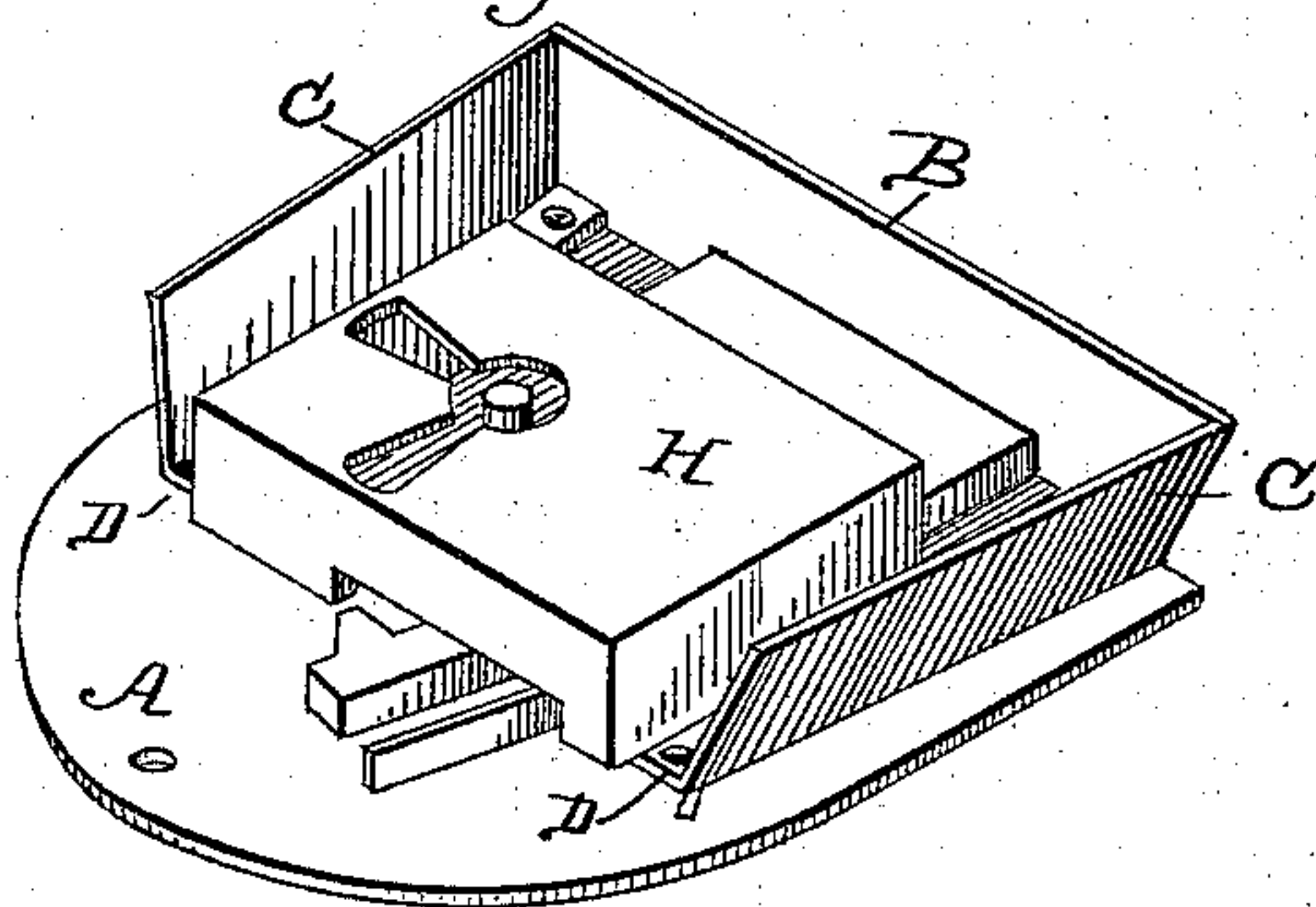


Fig. 5.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY B. PLUMB, OF TERRYVILLE, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO THE
EAGLE LOCK COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

LOCK-CASE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 331,083, dated November 24, 1885.

Application filed June 18, 1885. Serial No. 169,128. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY B. PLUMB, a citizen of the United States, residing at Terryville, county of Litchfield, State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Locks for Drawers and Similar Uses, of which the following is a specification.

My said invention relates to that class of furniture-locks which are adapted for insertion into an undercut mortise and for holding themselves in place without the use of screws or nails. In locks of this class now in use there are certain difficulties, viz: In locks of this class that have dovetail caps rigid on the rear face of the lock-plate it is found that it is not practicable to cut all the mortises of the same size. Moreover, the wood into which the locks are inserted shrinks more sometimes than others after the mortises are cut, so that in practice it is found that some of the locks drop so loosely into the mortise that they do not secure themselves therein, while others fit so tightly that the attempt to force them into the mortise separates the cap from the face-plate.

In locks having integral oblique holding-wings bent over from the edges of the face-plates, such as are already patented, the above-named objections are overcome; but it is found that such locks do not present a satisfactory appearance when inserted in the mortise, as the router-bit which makes the undercut mortise throws up a feather-edge on the wood on the sides of the mortise, and this feather-edge of the wood comes against that portion of the plate where it is bent over to form the wings. A further objection to the use of locks having wings formed by bending over the edges of its plates is the fact that these wings must be bent at right angles with the selvage of the lock, and it is therefore necessary to use an expensive quality of metal of a sufficiently homogeneous character that it may be bent both with the grain and across the grain of the metal.

The object of this invention is to overcome these defects, to provide a lock that will adapt itself to such variations in the mortises as may occur, which will present a satisfactory appearance when inserted into the mortise, and

that may be constructed of the cheapest quality of iron that is rolled into bands or sheets.

The invention will be first described in connection with the accompanying drawings, and then particularly referred to in the claims.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a rear face view. Fig. 2 is a side elevation. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the lock in place, and Fig. 4 is a section on the line *xx* of Fig. 1. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of my improved lock-casing.

The lock-case is composed of the front plate, A, which is bent at right angles across the grain of the metal to form the selvage B, the ends of the selvage being dovetail in shape. The holding-wings C C are made separate and independent of the lock-plate A, and are preferably bent but once and across the grain of the metal to form the flanges D D, which are riveted flat upon the rear of the front plate, A, while the holding portions of the wings stand at oblique angles with the front plate. It will be perceived that as the holding-wings C C stand at oblique angles with plate A the outer edges of the wings C C are free, and the flanges D D are so placed upon the lock-plate that the outer edges of the wings C C are about one-eighth of an inch farther apart at the top, where they come in contact with the selvage B, than they are at their lower extremities—that is to say, the flanges converge at their lower ends. This renders it easy to insert the lower end of the lock into the mortise should the width thereof be less than the average, and as the distance between the outer edges of the wings increases near the selvage the wings will hold the lock securely, although the width of the mortise may be increased by the shrinking of the wood, while if the mortise is narrow the free edges of the wings above their lower ends are bent inward. The lower ends of the wings C C are extended as far downward as the points at which the edges of the plate A are rounded, to adapt it for insertion into a mortise made with a revolving cutter, while the tops of the wings are extended until they come in contact with the selvage B. The holding-wings therefore form a support for the selvage and prevent its being bent down or broken off when the lock is inserted into the mortise.

The flanges D D are placed upon the rear of the front plate, A, a short distance from its edges, so that the edges of the plate A project laterally beyond the angles formed by bending the wings C C at oblique angles with the plate A, and these projecting edges of the plate being countersunk into the wood, the feather-edges on the sides of the undercut mortise are concealed, and a finish is secured far superior to any ever attained with the use of locks having integral holding-wings bent over from the extreme edges of the plate; or, in other words, the sharp edges of the plate A will set in the recess that is formed around the undercut mortise and rest flush against the side wall of said recess. This is a very important feature of my improvement.

I am aware of patents to Orum, No. 262,977, Clarkson, No. 281,615, and Gory, No. 298,460, and do not claim the constructions therein shown; nor do I claim, broadly, a lock-case with its front plate provided with side wings.

Having now fully acknowledged the prior state of the art and described my improvements, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A lock-case consisting of a face-plate

formed with a top selvage at right angles thereto, and oblique holding-wings made separate from said plate and secured thereto a short distance inward from its vertical side edges, substantially as set forth.

2. A lock-case consisting of a face-plate formed with a top selvage at right angles thereto, and holding-wings formed of separate and independent plates having flanges riveted to the face-plate a short distance inward from the vertical side edges of the plate, said wings being arranged obliquely to the plane of the flanges and face-plate, substantially as set forth.

3. A lock-case consisting of the face-plate formed with the top selvage at right angles thereto, and separate and independent holding-wings secured to the said face-plate a short distance from the edges thereof, the said wings flaring outwardly from the face-plate and converging at their lower ends, substantially as set forth.

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Witnesses:

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