

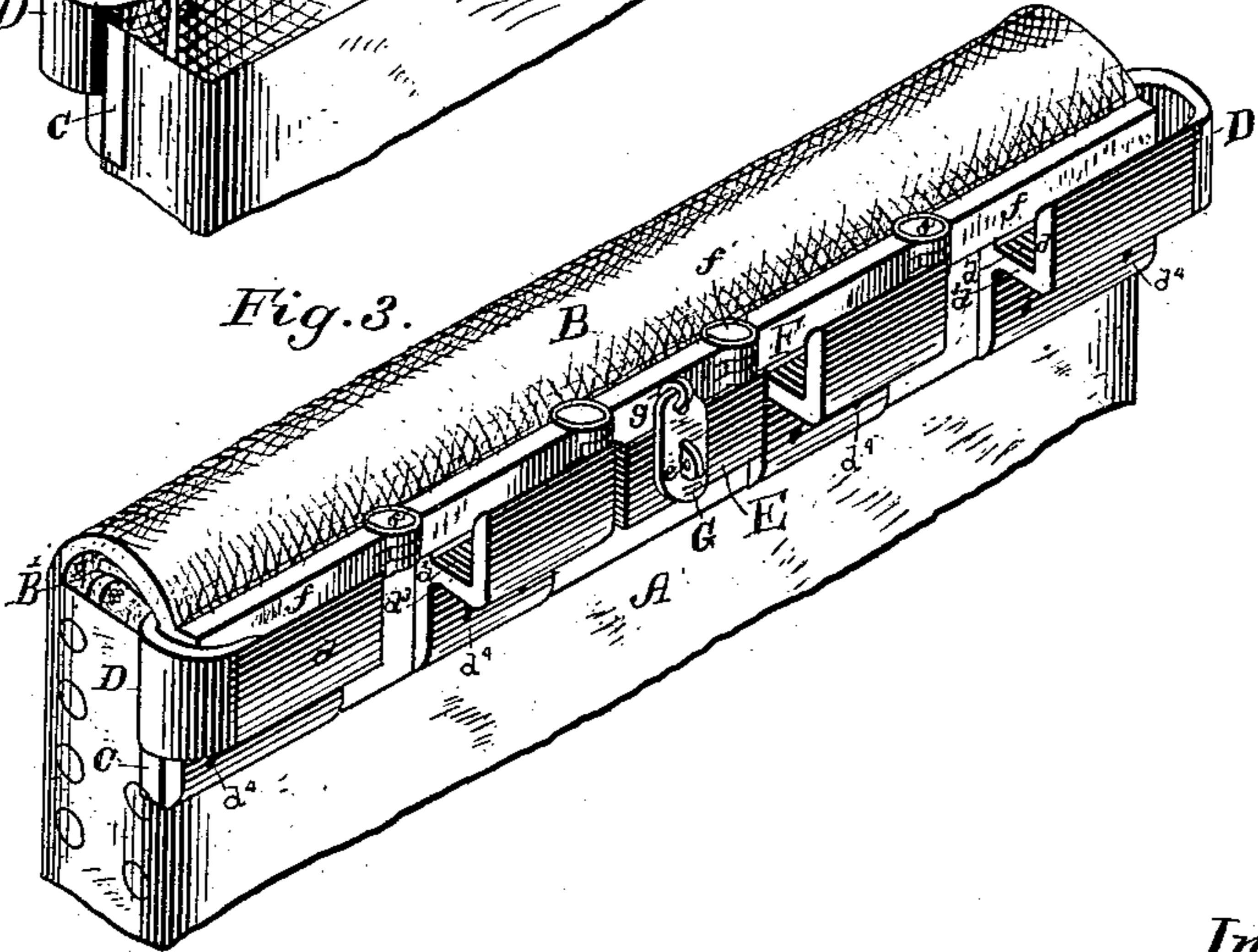
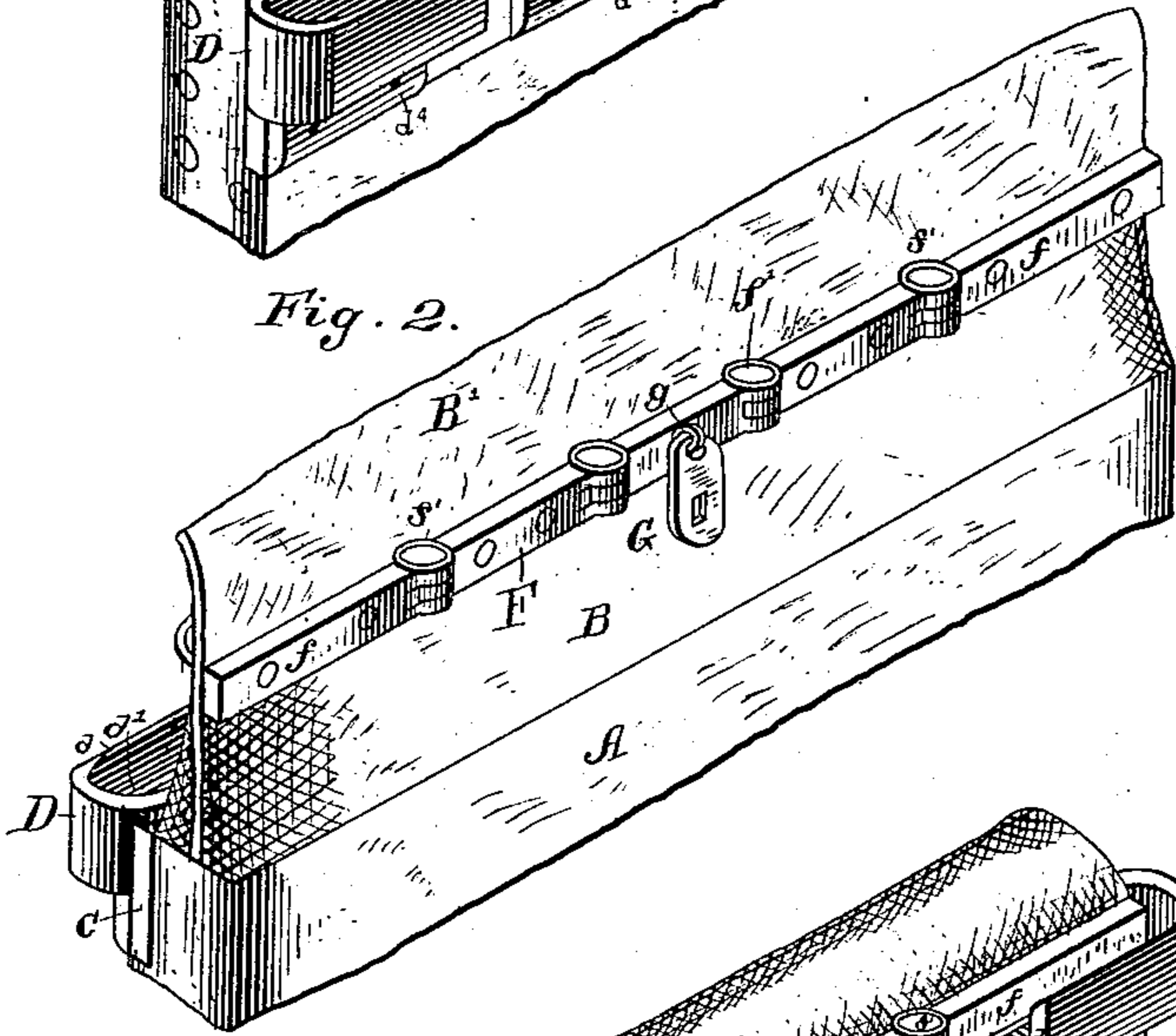
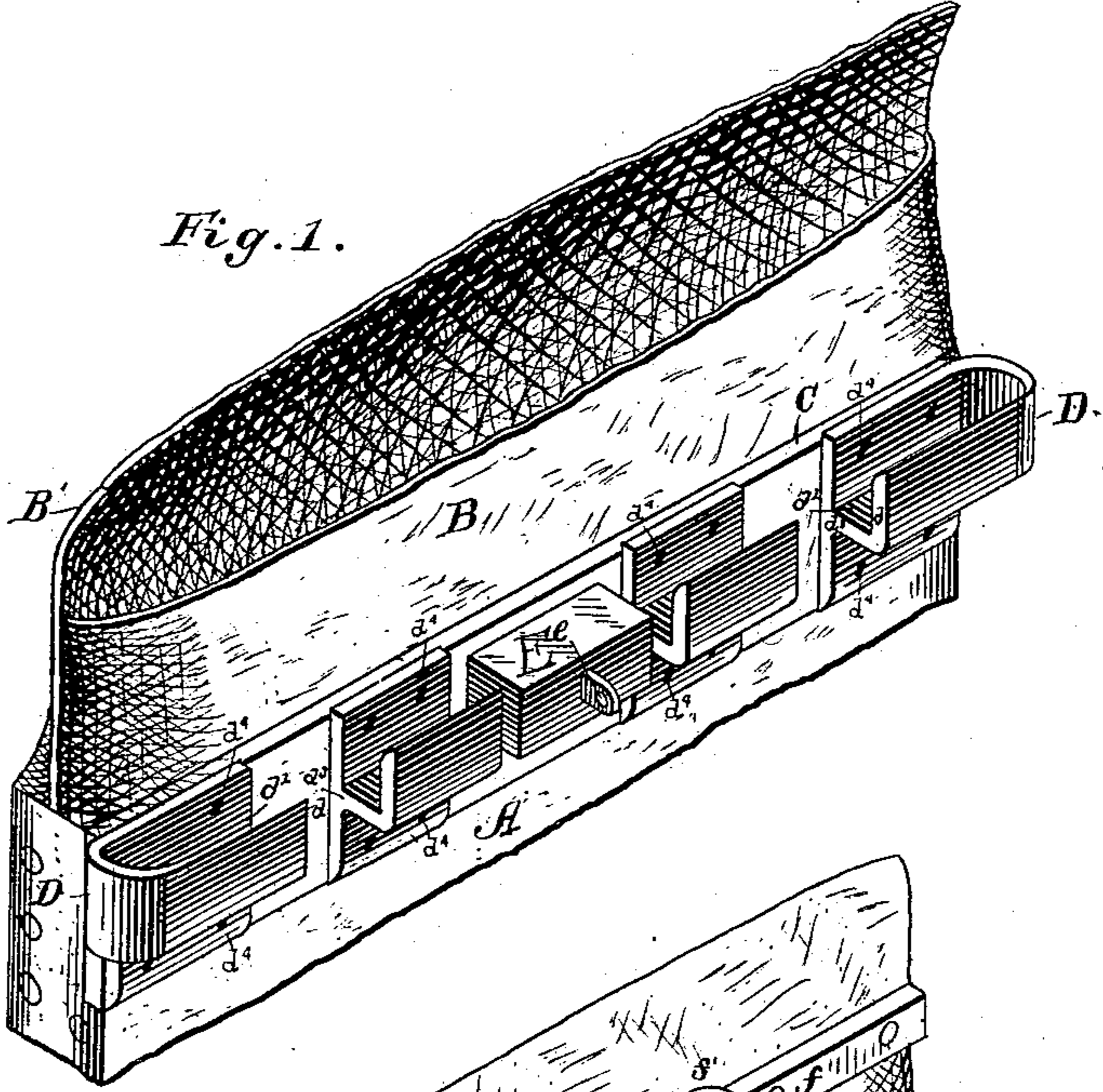
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

P. CAMPBELL.  
MAIL BAG OR POUCH.

No. 335,424.

Patented Feb. 2, 1886.



*Witnesses*

Fred. G. Fischer.  
H. B. Wyman

*Inventor*

Parker Campbell

*By his Attorney*

L. Deane

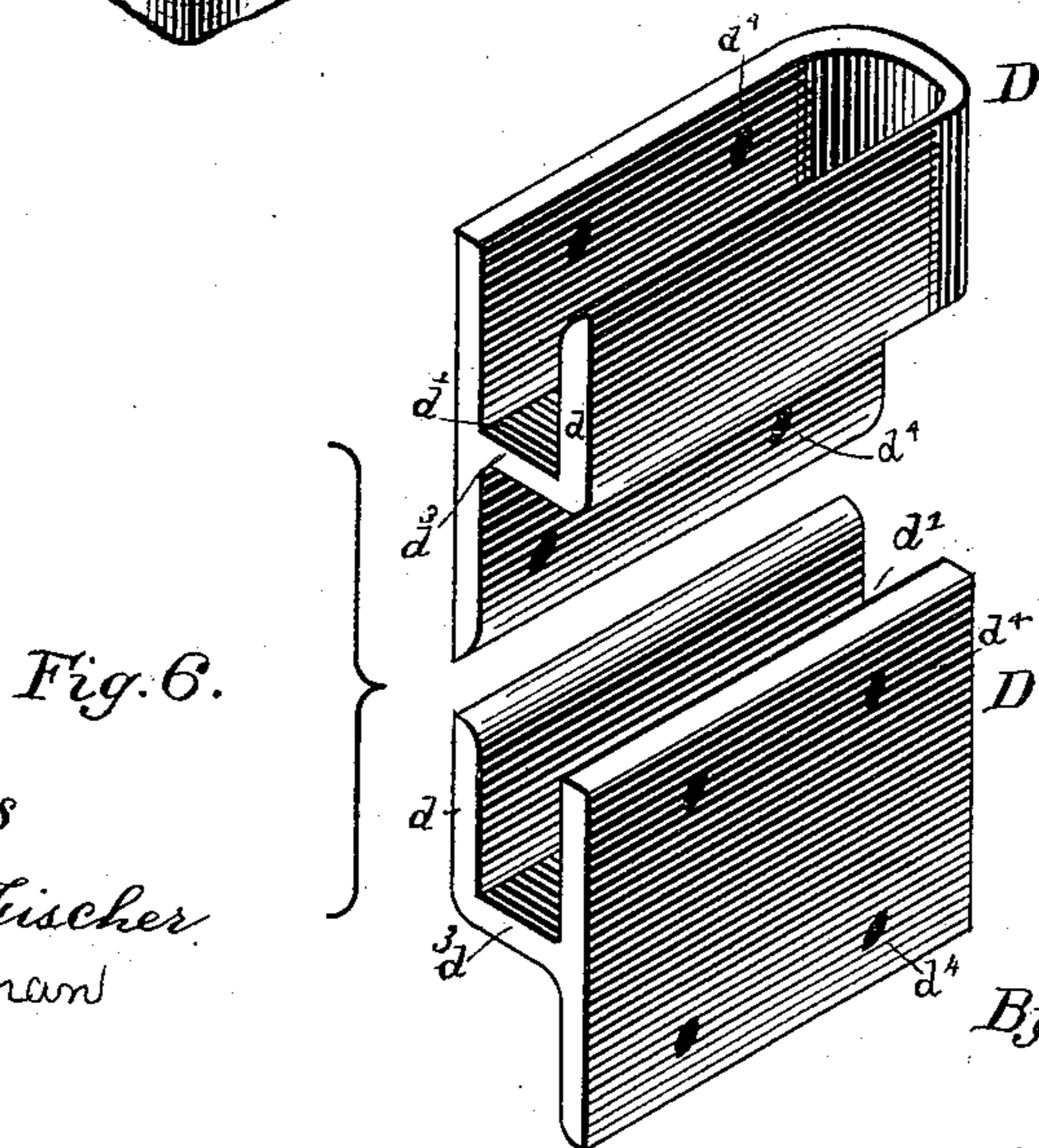
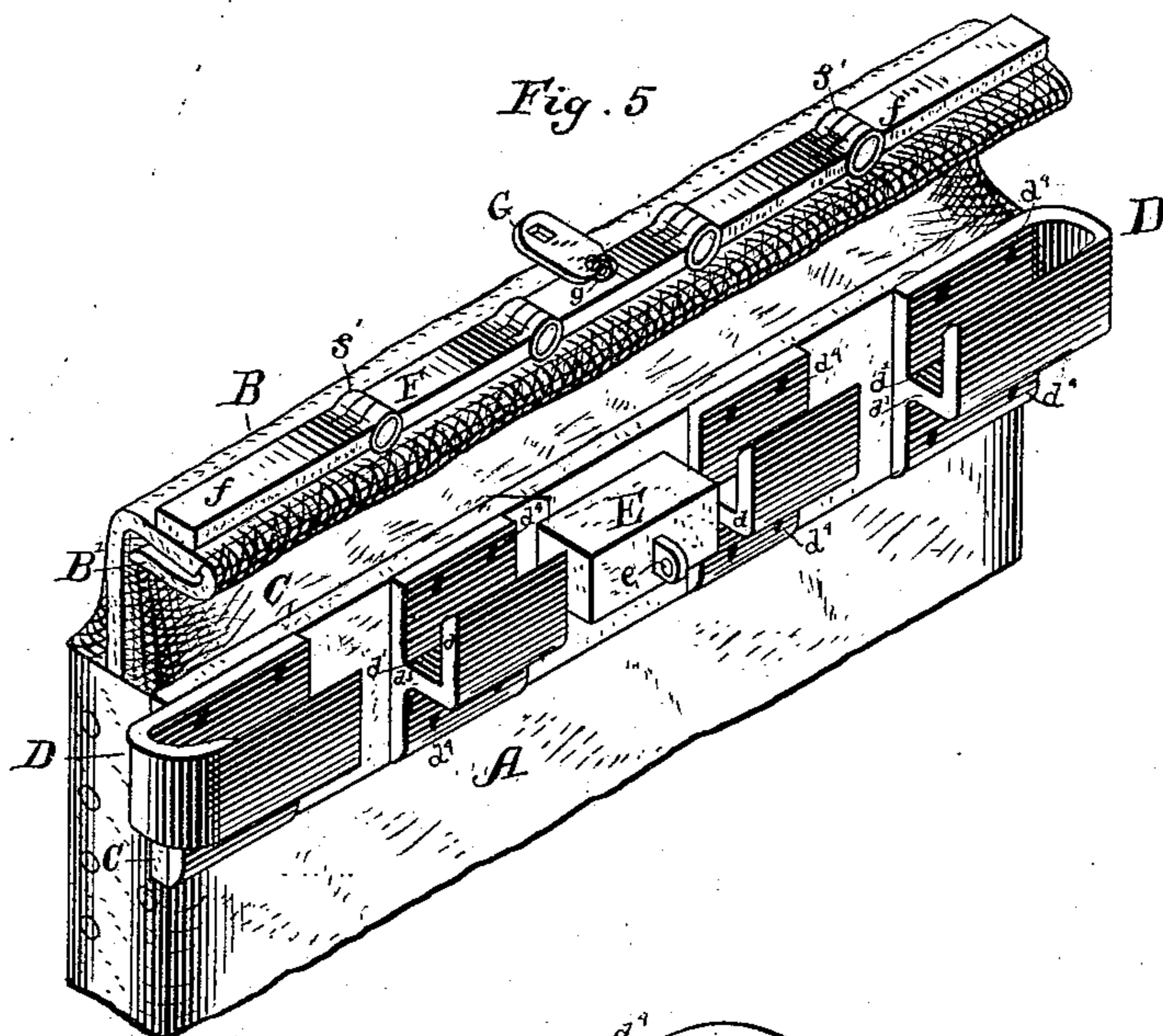
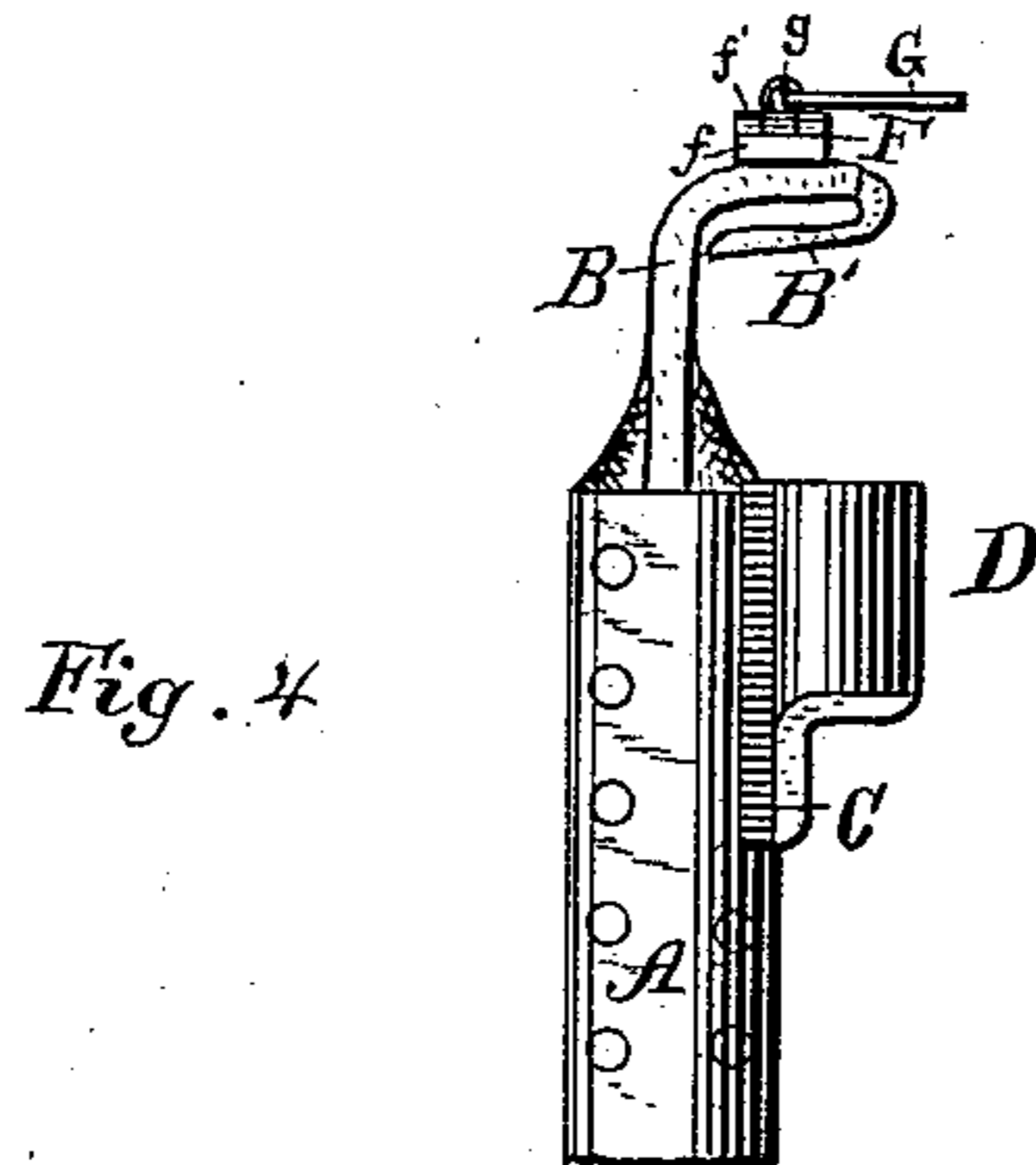
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PARKER CAMPBELL, OF DENTON, ASSIGNOR TO ISAAC T. PRYOR, OF AUSTIN, TEXAS.

## MAIL BAG OR POUCH.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 335,424, dated February 2, 1886.

Application filed November 14, 1885. Serial No. 182,855. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, PARKER CAMPBELL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Denton, in the county of Denton and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Mail Bags or Pouches, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

Figure 1 is a front view, partly in perspective, of the upper part of a mail-pouch open. Fig. 2 is a rear view of said part. Fig. 3 is a front view, partly in perspective, of the pouch closed. Fig. 4 is an edge view of top of pouch, the flap folded over the mouth and top ready to be bent to be placed in its sockets. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the top, &c., bent and ready to be placed in sockets; Fig. 6, details in perspective of front and rear of one of the sockets.

This invention belongs to that class of devices known as "mail-pouches," which are usually leather or canvas bags, and used by the Post-Office Department in the transportation of letters, papers, and other mail matter; and the novelty in the present instance consists more particularly in the construction of the mouth portion of the pouch, whereby simple and efficient means are provided for closing and securely locking and fastening the bag, while at the same time, when occasion requires, the mouth can be unlocked and opened in a ready and speedy way, all as will be more fully set out and explained, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

In these the mail-pouch is designated by the letter A; B, the flexible mouth part, and B' the mouth-covering flap. Horizontally across to and upon the front of the pouch is secured in any well-known manner the leather strip C, and upon this, and also, if desired, to the front of the pouch are secured the sockets D, preferably made of metal. These sockets at their front side,  $d$ , are bent up, so as to have an open space,  $d'$ , between the front and back.  $d''$  is the seat or closed end bottom of this space. The holes  $d^1$  at the back and lower end are for the purpose of riveting or otherwise fastening the socket to the strip and pouch, as above suggested. These sockets

can be made by stamping, casting, or in any desired way. There may be as many of these sockets across the upper part of the pouch as are desired or needed, and they are placed at a little distance apart from each other. About centrally of the strip C, and secured to it and the pouch by rivets or in any desired way, is the piece E, preferably of metal. This takes the place of the central socket in the arrangement along strip C. Upon and in this piece and the pouch the metal staple  $e$  is firmly secured. On the back of the pouch is secured, in any suitable way, the metal strip F, which is made up of separate pieces  $f$ , each united to the other by vertical hinge  $f'$ , so that it is readily foldable along its length—that is, across the pouch—but rigid against vertical folding movement. Centrally in and through this hinged strip F and the pouch is fixed the staple  $g$ , on which is hung the clasp or a link, G. As thus constructed the top flap, B', of the pouch is placed over the mouth of the pouch, as shown in Fig. 4, and then the top is folded over on itself, as shown in Fig. 5, and bent down till the metal strip F, which now is on the edge, rests within the space  $d'$  of the sockets D, as shown in Fig. 3". The hinges  $f$  will come between the sockets, so as to have free play, as above described, horizontally. The link or clasp G is placed over the staple  $e$ , and secured there by a padlock.

The operation of closing and locking and the reverse operation of unlocking and opening are very easily accomplished.

By the means above described the pouch can be securely locked, and at the same time the mouth part or top of the bag is sufficiently flexible for all desired uses or purposes.

Having thus described my invention, what I consider new, and wish to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A mail-pouch having on its upper front sockets and at its rear a hinged strip, and provided with a mouth-flap, whereby the mouth of the pouch can be covered and the folded top portion placed in the sockets and secured, substantially as described.

2. The combination, in a mail-pouch as described, of the sockets D, strips C, and staple  $e$ , with the hinged strips F, having hinges  $f$ ,

and the clasp G, whereby the sockets are adapted to hold the said strip and its hinges come alternately between each socket, substantially as set forth.

5 3. The socket D, having the upward bent front side,  $d$ , and seat  $d^3$ , as and for the purposes set forth.

4. The combination of the hinged strip F with the pouch having a top flap or cover, as

set forth, whereby, when the top of the pouch is folded upon itself, the said strip will come on the edge, as and for the purposes described.

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

PARKER CAMPBELL.

Witnesses:

A. W. ROBERTSON,  
R. H. BATES.