

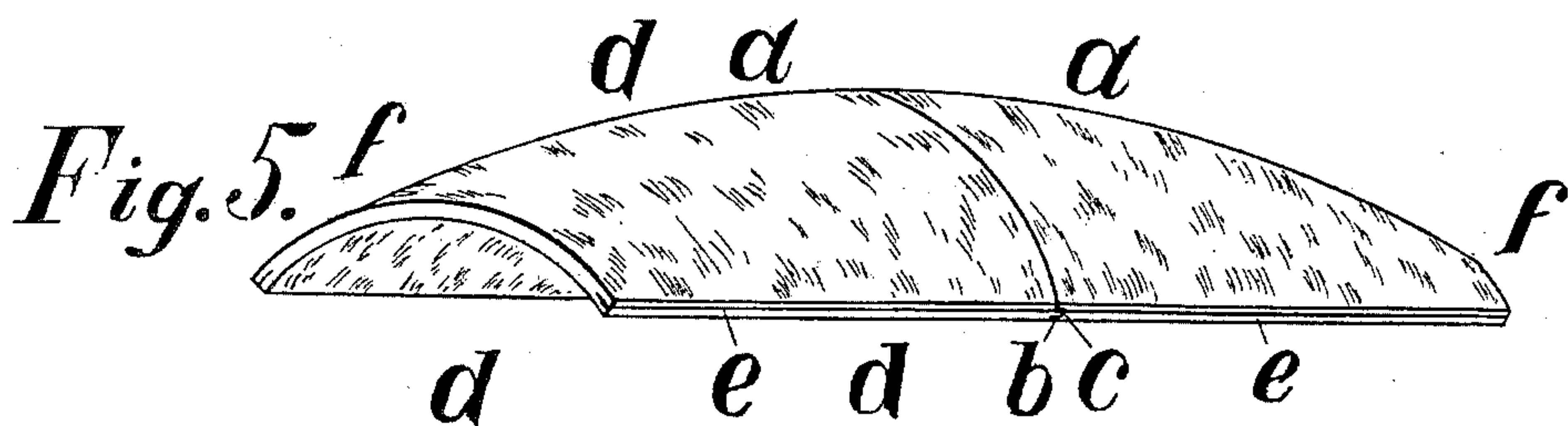
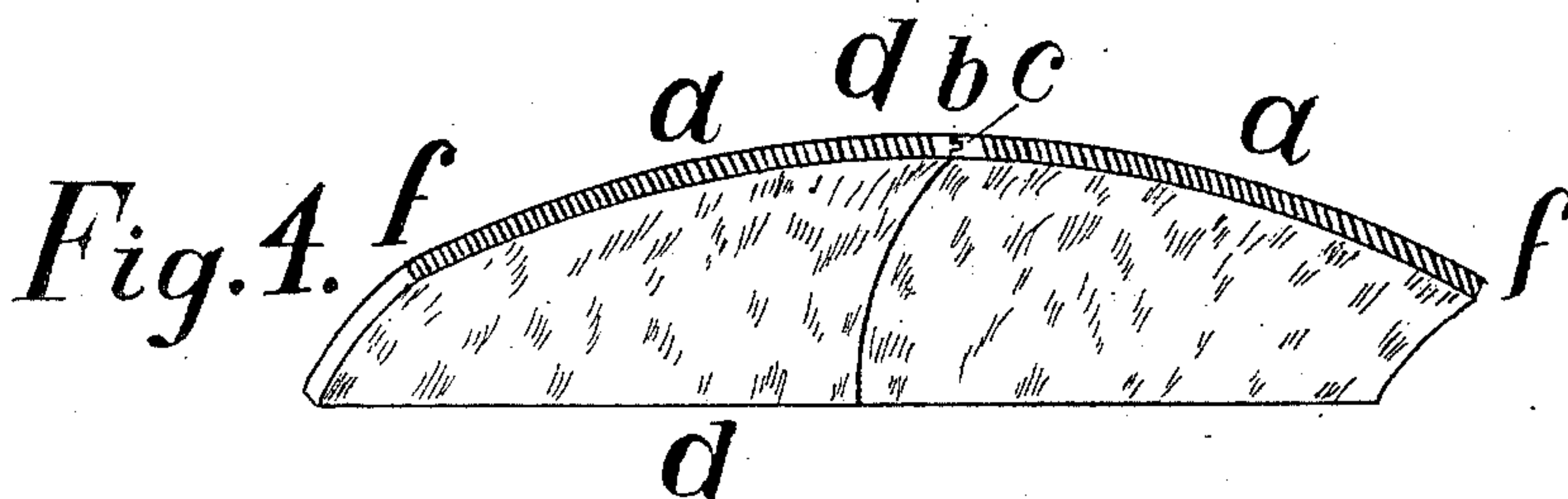
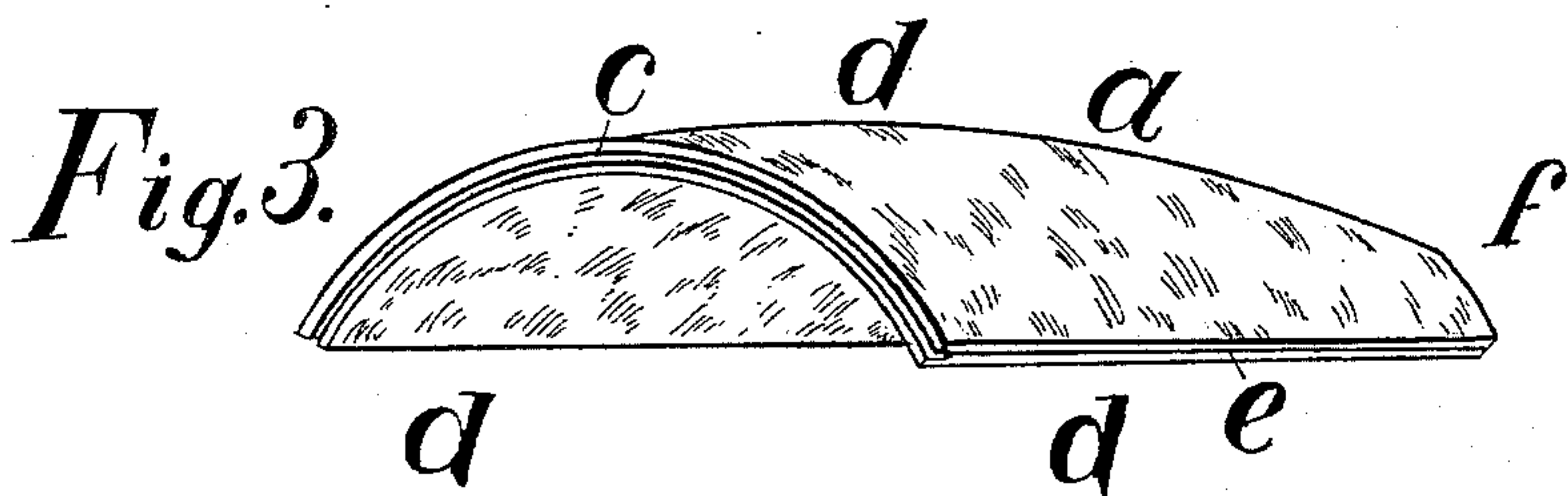
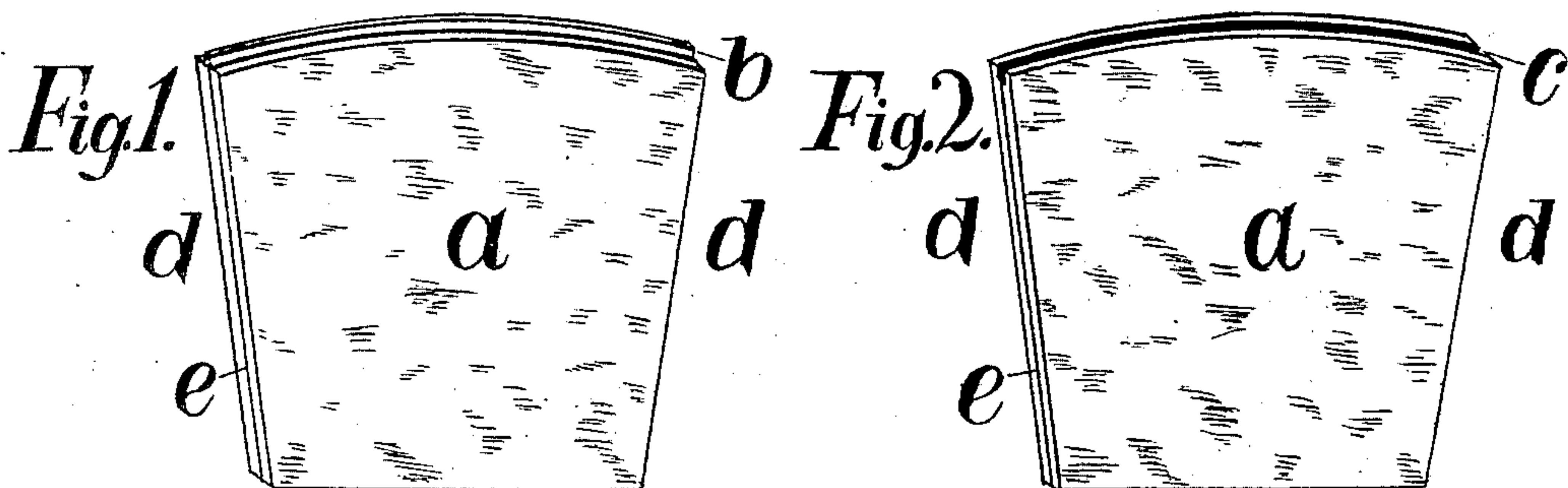
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

B. T. SMITH, J. C. STEINMETZ & C. J. PETRY.
TRUNK TOP.

No. 339,227.

Patented Apr. 6, 1886.



WITNESSES.

Martin J. Birmingham
Emmanuel Baier

INVENTORS.

Benjamin T. Smith
John C. Steinmetz
Charles J. Petry

(No Model.)

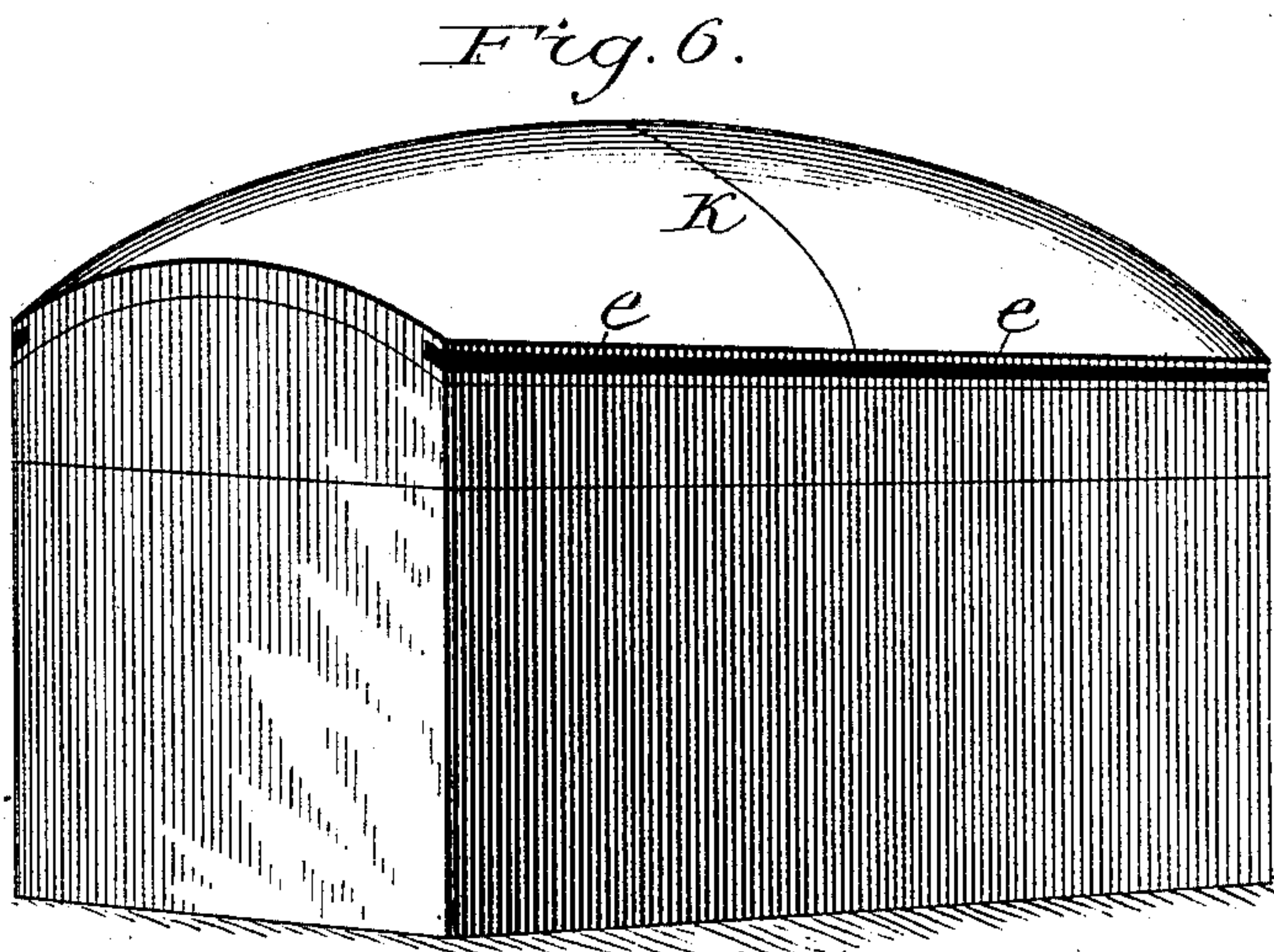
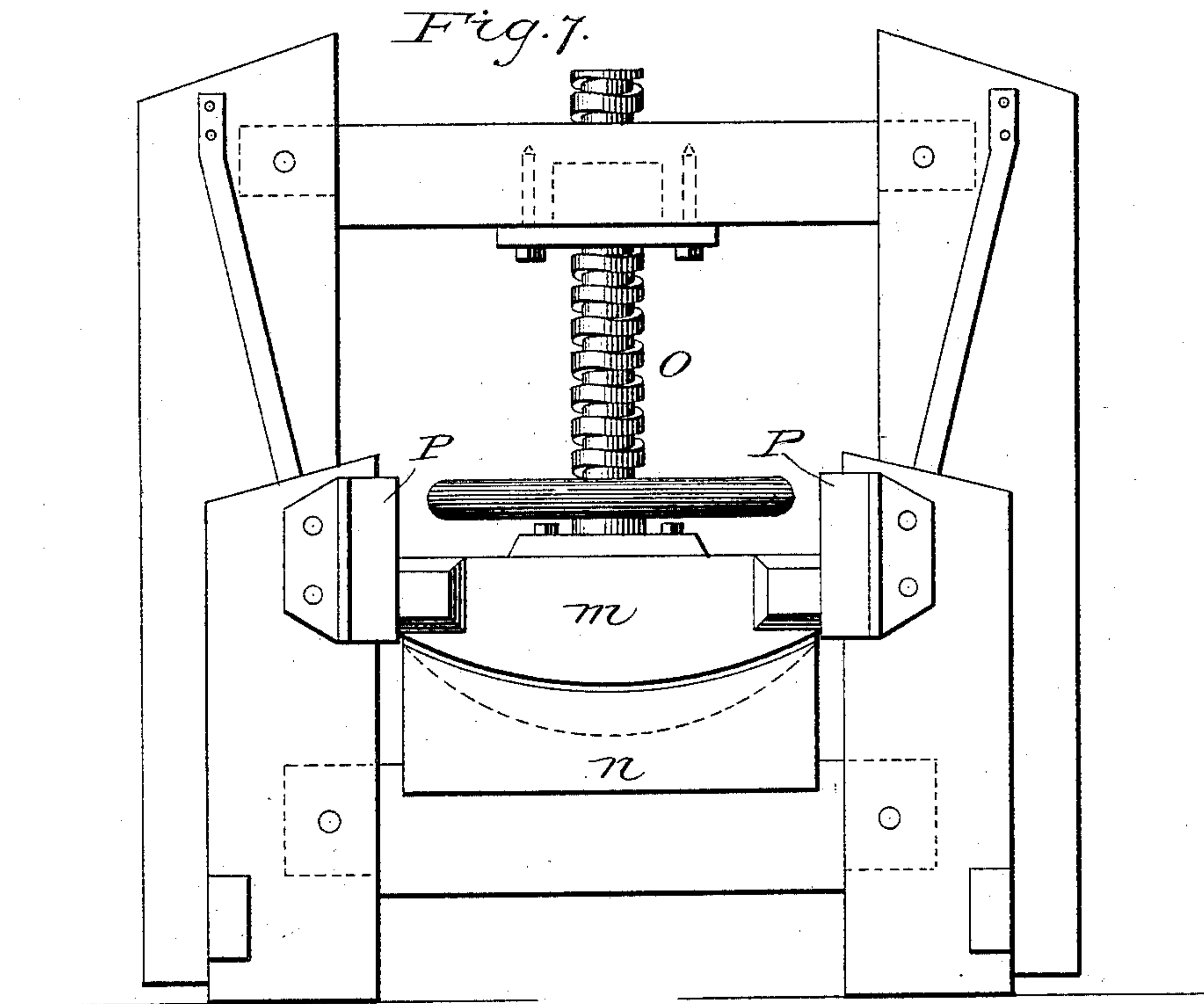
2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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Witnesses:

H. Mueller,
John Ruppel

Fig. 8.

Inventors.
Benjamin T. Smith.
John C. Steinmetz
Charles J. Petry

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN T. SMITH, JOHN C. STEINMETZ, AND CHARLES J. PETRY, OF
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

TRUNK-TOP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 339,227, dated April 6, 1886.

Application filed February 20, 1885. Serial No. 156,591. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, BENJAMIN T. SMITH,
JOHN C. STEINMETZ, and CHARLES J. PETRY,
all of the city of St. Louis, in the State of
5 Missouri, have invented a certain new and
useful Improvement in Trunk-Tops, of which
the following is a full, clear, and exact de-
scription, reference being had to the accom-
panying drawings, forming part of this speci-
10 fication.

This invention relates to that class of trunk-
tops known as "scale-board" or "veneer"
tops, the apex of the top being at the inter-
section of the central longitudinal and trans-
15 verse arcs, the top descending in curves from
the apex in all directions.

The object of our invention is to form the
top with two bent boards. Trunk-tops of the
described form are usually made of three-ply
20 veneer. We prefer to use two boards of a
single thickness with the grain running trans-
versely.

Figures 1 and 2 are respectively perspec-
tive views of the two boards of which the top
25 is made. Fig. 3 is a perspective view show-
ing one of the boards bent into shape. Fig.
4 is a perspective view of one-half of the top,
which is divided by a longitudinal line. Fig.
5 is a perspective view of the completed top.
30 Fig. 6 is a perspective view of a trunk-box
having our improvement. Fig. 7 is an ele-
vation of a press that may be used to give the
required shape to the boards of which the top
is composed. Fig. 8 is a perspective view of
35 a strip-filler.

The boards are marked *a*, and are exactly
similar in form, except at the edges where
they are connected together, the board in Fig.
1 having a tongue, *b*, and the board in Fig. 2
40 having a groove, *c*, in which the tongue fits,
and in which it is glued, so that the sections
a are made of a general wedge shape with the
edges curved, so as to give the proper form to
the finished top. They are preferably made
45 with the grain running from *d* to *d*, Figs. 1 and
2, so as to extend transversely in the trunk-
top.

e is a saw cut or kerf made about one inch
deep into the grain edges *d* of each piece to
50 receive a strip, (shown in Fig. 8,) in which

the grain runs lengthwise. The strips are
glued in the kerf and prevent the checking of
the board at the edges.

In carrying out our improvement the pieces
or sections *a* are formed of lumber about three- 55
eighths of an inch thick and thoroughly
steamed in a steam-box, and are then put in a
press or former whose bed-die *n* and moving
die *m* are so constructed as to impart to the
sections *a* the required shape to form each 60
one-half of the top.

In the press *O* is the pressure-screw, and *P*
guides for the moving die.

The dotted line *n*, Fig. 7, indicates the po-
sition of the distant end of the section *a*. 65

The filler-strip, Fig. 8, has special value
when the bent sections *a* are kept in stock, as
then the grain edges in the absence of the filler
are liable to check. When the pair of sec-
tions *a* have been pressed to form, the tongue 70
and groove are glued and forced together, thus
forming the top. (See Figs. 5 and 6.) *K* in-
dicates the transverse joint between the sec-
tions.

We are aware there is a patent, No. 275,500, 75
of date April 10, 1883, and others; also one
issued to J. Lagowitz, No. 94,009, and one to
Clark, Doggett and Burr for a trunk made of
bent wood, &c. To any subject-matter in these
patents we make no claim. 80

We claim as our invention—

A barrel trunk-top of concavo-convex shape
having the apex of the arc in a central longi-
tudinal line, consisting of two equal transverse
sections with the grain of the wood running 85
transversely or the shorter way of the top, and
having a saw-cut in the grain ends or sides of
the top, and a strip-filler inserted therein to
prevent the sides of the top checking or split-
ting, substantially as described. 90

In testimony whereof we have hereunto sub-
scribed our names this 7th day of February,
A. D. 1885.

BENJAMIN T. SMITH.
JOHN C. STEINMETZ.
CHARLES J. PETRY.

Witnesses:

MARTIN J. BIRMINGHAM,
EMANUEL BAIER.