

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

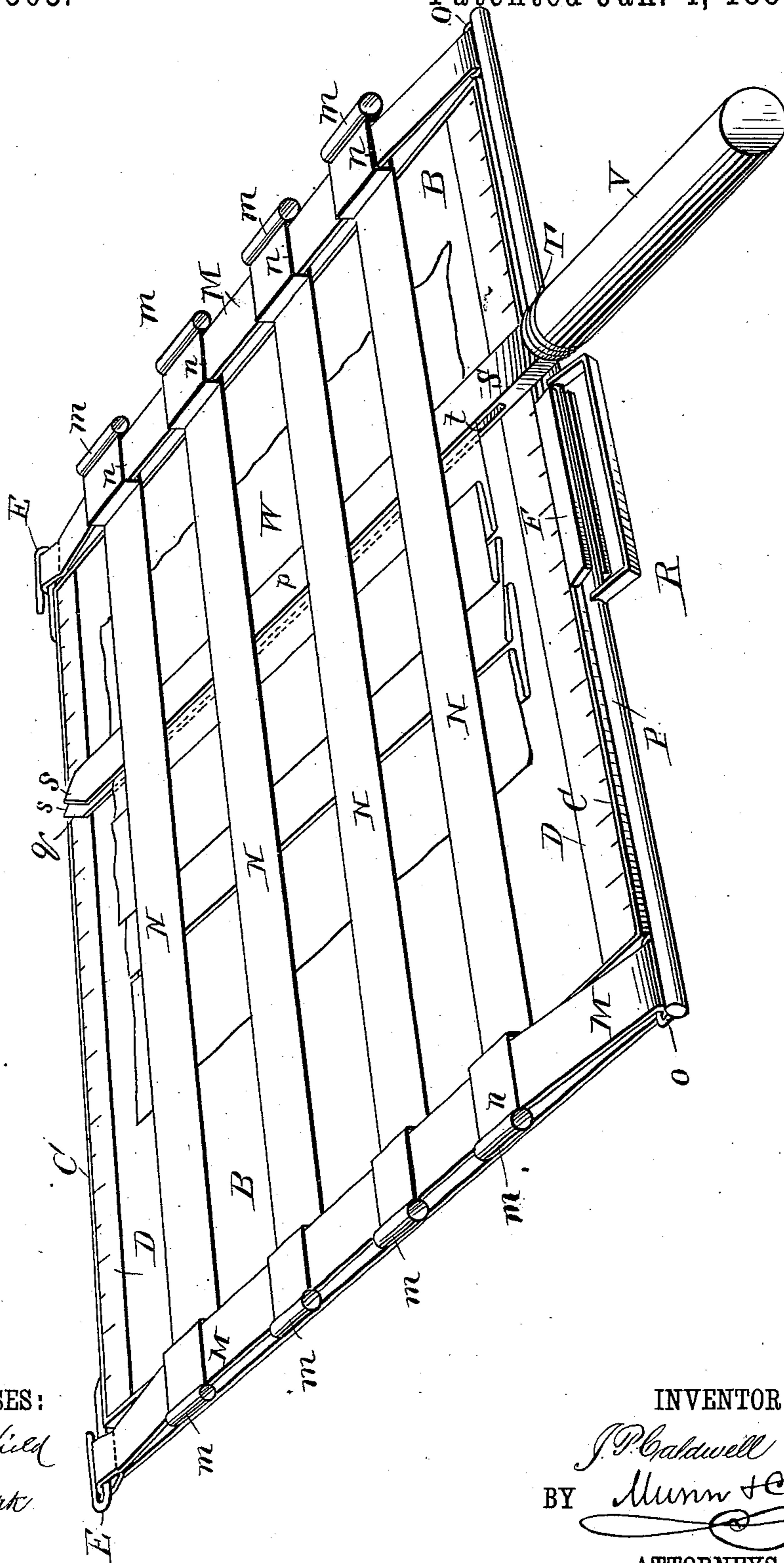
J. P. CALDWELL.

PLAITING BOARD.

No. 355,503.

Patented Jan. 4, 1887.

Fig. 1.



WITNESSES:

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(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

J. P. CALDWELL.
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Fig. 2.

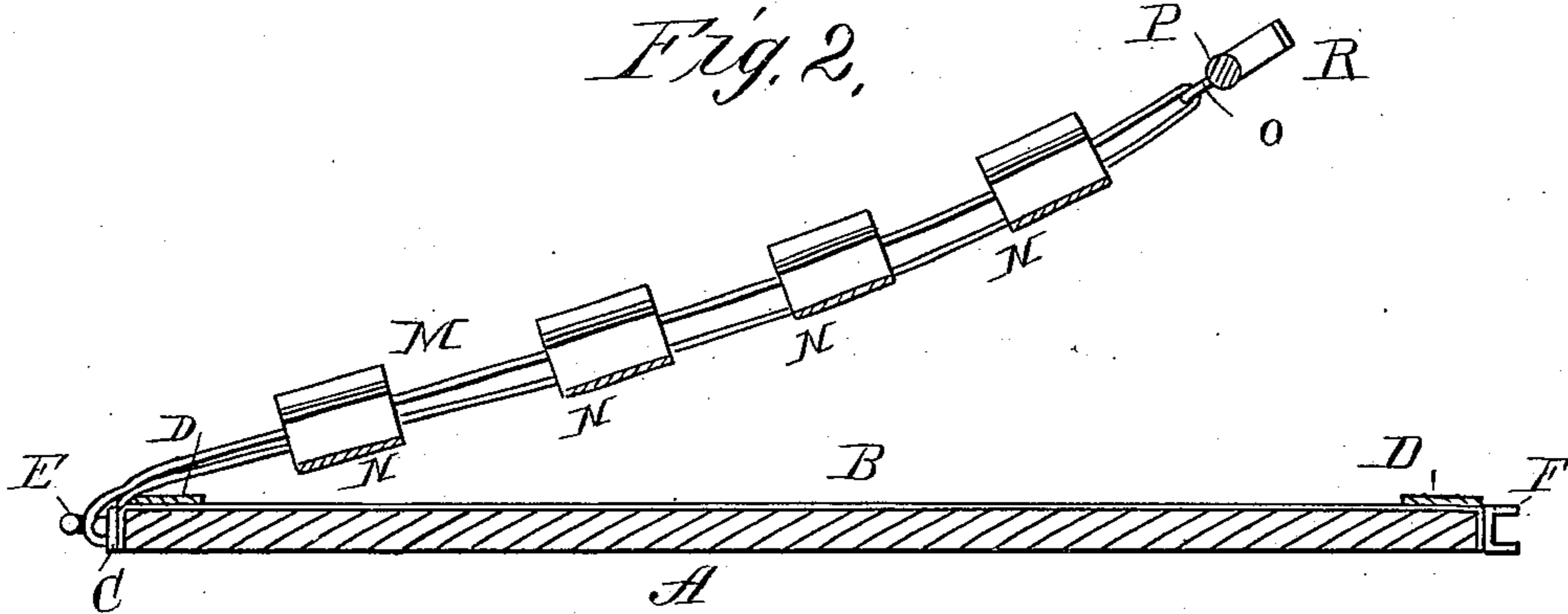


Fig. 3.

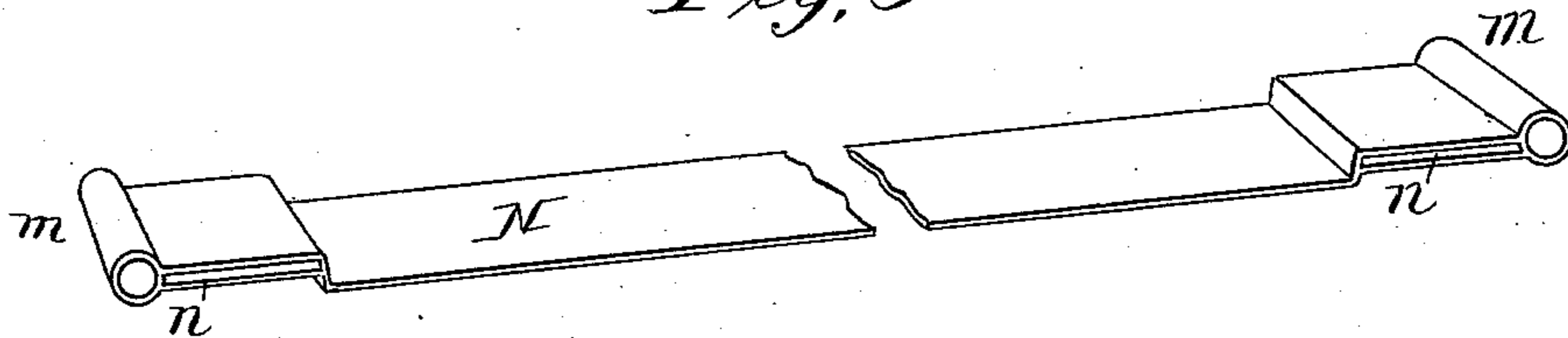


Fig. 4.

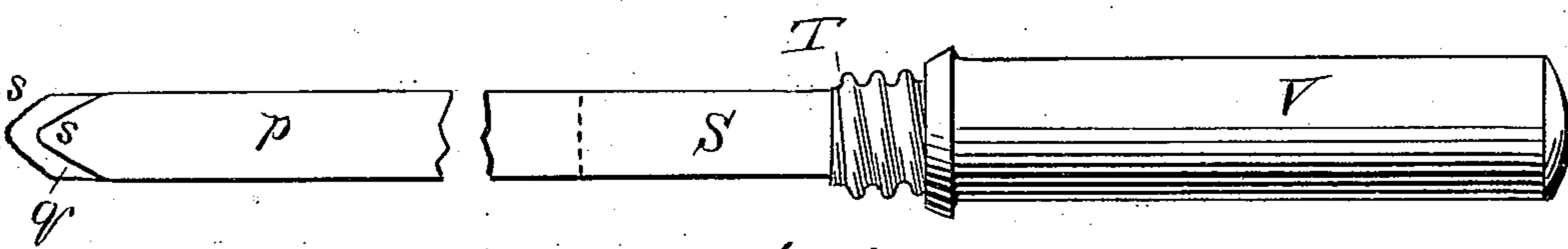
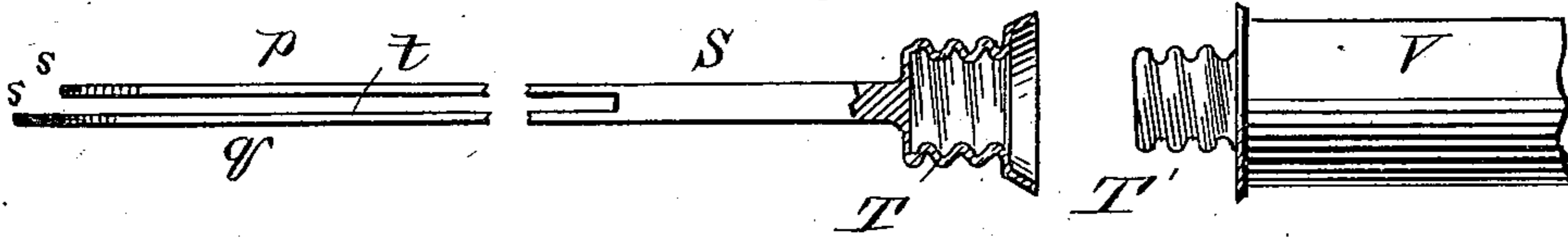


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN P. CALDWELL, OF GAINESVILLE, GEORGIA.

PLAITING-BOARD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 355,503, dated January 4, 1887.

Application filed February 1, 1886. Serial No. 190,508. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN PARK CALDWELL, of Gainesville, in the county of Hall and State of Georgia, have invented a new and Improved
5 Combined Plaiter and Lap Board, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to the construction of a combined plaiter and lap board, the object of
10 the invention being to enable the operator to rapidly lay off regular plaits of any desired depth, which may be either pressed or stitched to place after being formed; and to this end the invention consists in the construction and
15 arrangement of parts, as will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate
20 corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my combined plaiter and lap board. Fig. 2 is a cross-sectional view of the same, representing the retaining-frame as held up from the board.
25 Fig. 3 is a view of one of the retaining-strips. Fig. 4 is a view of one of the plaiting-knives. Fig. 5 is an edge view of the knife, the socket being broken away to disclose the construction.

30 In constructing such a plaiter as is illustrated in the drawings above referred to I provide a board, A, one side of which I cover with a soft fabric of quilting, B, said fabric being held to the board by a metallic binding-strip, C, graduated metal strips D D being,
35 however, interposed between the strip and the fabric, as best shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

At either corner, upon one edge of the board, I secure hooks E E, while to the center
40 of the other edge I fix a catch, F. The plaiting-frame which I use to hold the fabric to be plaited in position upon the board consists of a number of strips, N N, that are arranged to extend longitudinally across the board, said
45 strips being provided at each end with sockets *n n*, through which one length of an elastic band, M, is passed, and, although not absolutely necessary, I prefer to form the strips with tubular hand-pieces *m m*, as shown in
50 the drawings. Any required number of these strips N N, arranged parallel with each other,

are mounted on the elastic strips M, two of such strips being used and one end of each strip being looped to engage with the hooks E. The other ends of the bands M are passed
55 through loops *o o*, formed on a bar, P, that is provided with a handle, R, the parts being so arranged that by grasping the handle R the bar P may be brought into engagement with the catch F, as clearly shown in Fig. 1. 60

In connection with the lap-board just described I employ a plaiting-knife, the construction of which is fully illustrated in Figs. 4 and 5, wherein *p* and *q* represent the blades of the knife, which are pointed, as shown at *s s*, and
65 project in parallel lines from a common shank, S, which shank is provided with an interiorly-threaded socket, T, arranged to be engaged by a projection, T', on the handle V, the idea being to provide a number of different-sized
70 plaiting-knives which may all be used with the same handle.

In plaiting with such an apparatus as has been described the retaining-frame is thrown back from the board and the fabric W to be
75 plaited is placed upon the board, being held there by the frame, which is returned to the position shown in Fig. 1. The longer blade of the plaiting-knife is then passed between the plaiting and the board, the fabric entering the
80 opening *t* between the blades, the upper blade being fixed between the strips N and the fabric, as clearly shown in Fig. 1. The plaiting-knife is then turned over to form the plait and withdrawn, to be again inserted and turned as
85 before, the operator being greatly assisted in the formation of the plaits by the graduations formed on each side of the board.

Various styles and widths of plaiting may be made with this device, the width of the
90 plaits varying with the size of the knife employed, and the spaces between the plaits being measured by means of the graduations on the sides of the board. If it is desired to press the plaiting so that it shall retain its form, the
95 side of the board provided with the quilting B is turned uppermost; but if the plaits are to be stitched to place the opposite or uncovered side of the board A is used.

From the construction described it will be
100 seen that the retaining-frame formed by the strips N and elastics M may be readily re-

5 moved from the board, it being only necessary to disconnect the rod P from engagement with the catch F and the loops at the end of the elastic from engagement with the hooks E E, after which disconnection the board is adapted for use as a simple lap-board.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

10 1. The combination, with the board having one surface plain and the other covered with fabric, hooks on the rear corners of the board, and a catch on the front edge, of the longitudinally-elastic strips removably connected at
15 their rear ends to the hooks, a cross-bar connected to the front ends of the elastic strips and constructed to engage the catch F when the elastics are swung over either the plain or covered sides of the board, and strips having
20 sockets on their ends through which the elastics pass, whereby the board may be used on either side to allow of the plaited fabric being pressed or stitched, as may be desired, substantially as set forth.

25 2. The combination, with the board, of longitudinally-elastic strips connected at their rear ends to the rear corners of the board, a

cross-bar connecting the forward ends of the elastics, a catch on the front edge of the board adapted to engage the bar, and the strips N, 30 having sockets on their ends through which the elastics pass, whereby, by a forward pull on the cross-bar, the elastics may be stretched to allow the bar to engage the catch, substantially as set forth. 35

3. The combination, with the board having a catch on its forward edge, of the doubled elastic bands secured to the rear edge of the board, the cross-bar having loops through which the elastics pass at their forward ends, 40 and the strips having sockets through which the upper halves or portions of the elastics pass, substantially as set forth.

4. The combination, with a board one face of which is covered with the fabric B and the 45 edges of which are bound by metal strips C C, of graduated strips D D, hooks E E, elastic bands M, strips N, bar P, and catch F, substantially as described.

JOHN P. CALDWELL.

Witnesses:

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E. S. WILEY.