

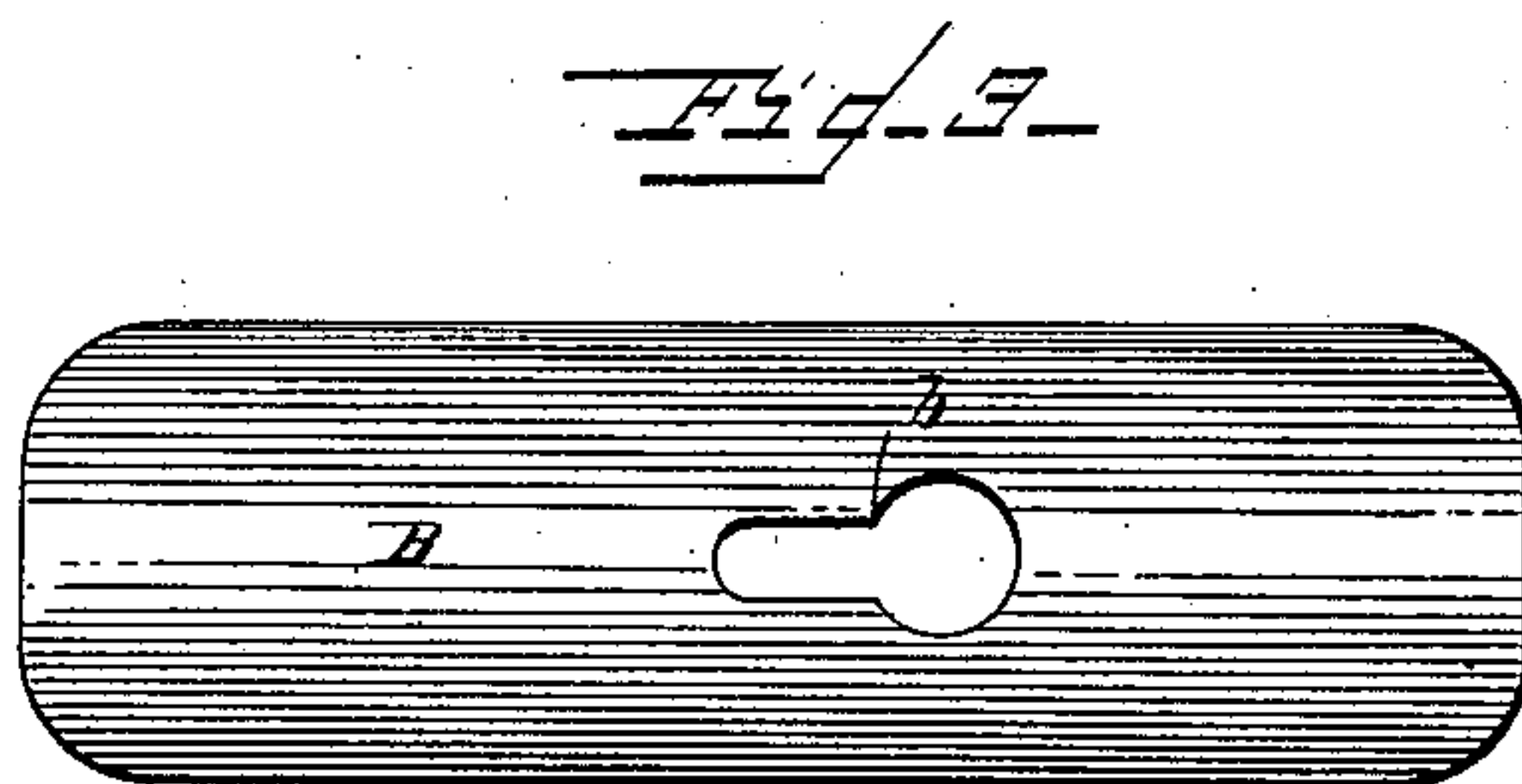
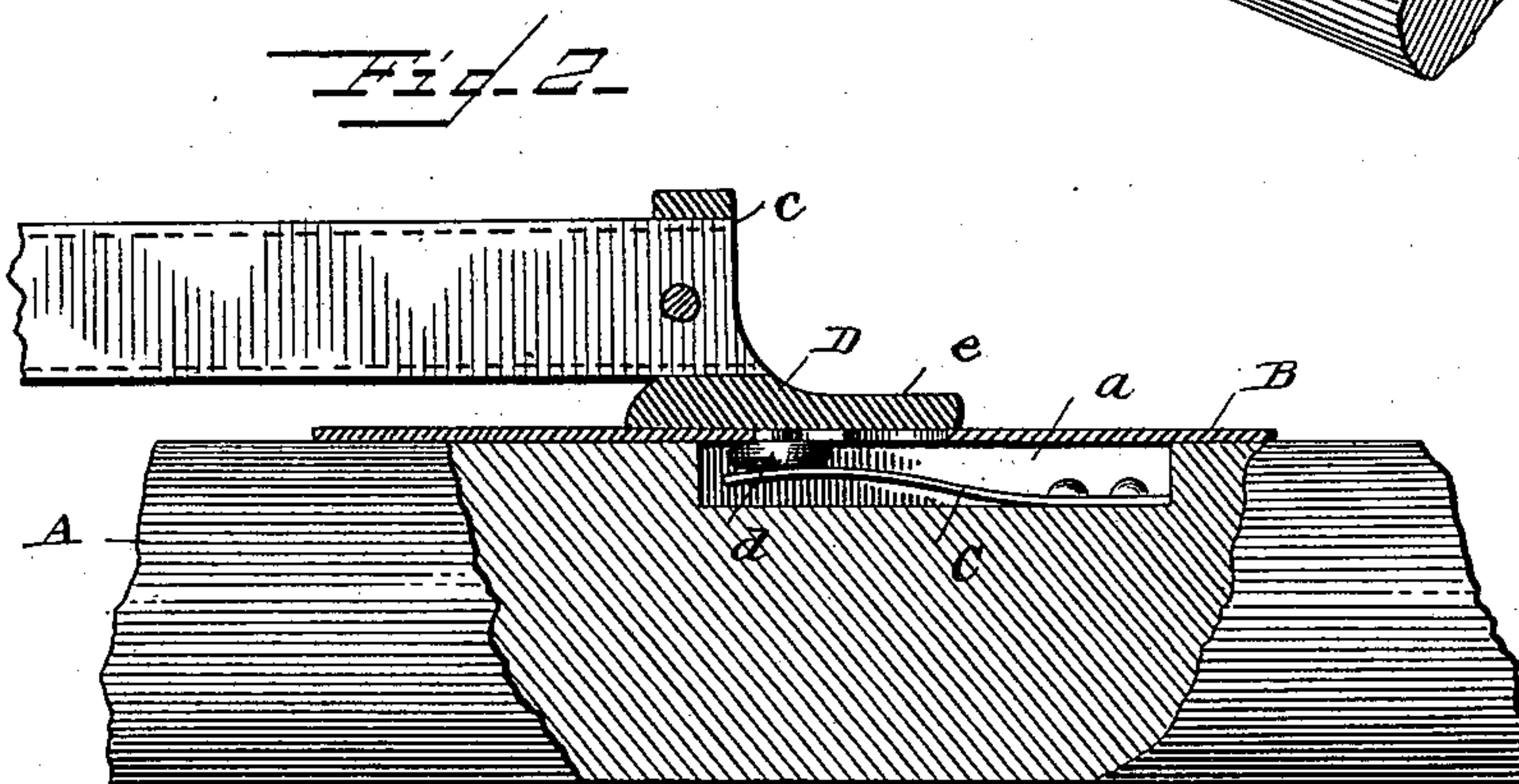
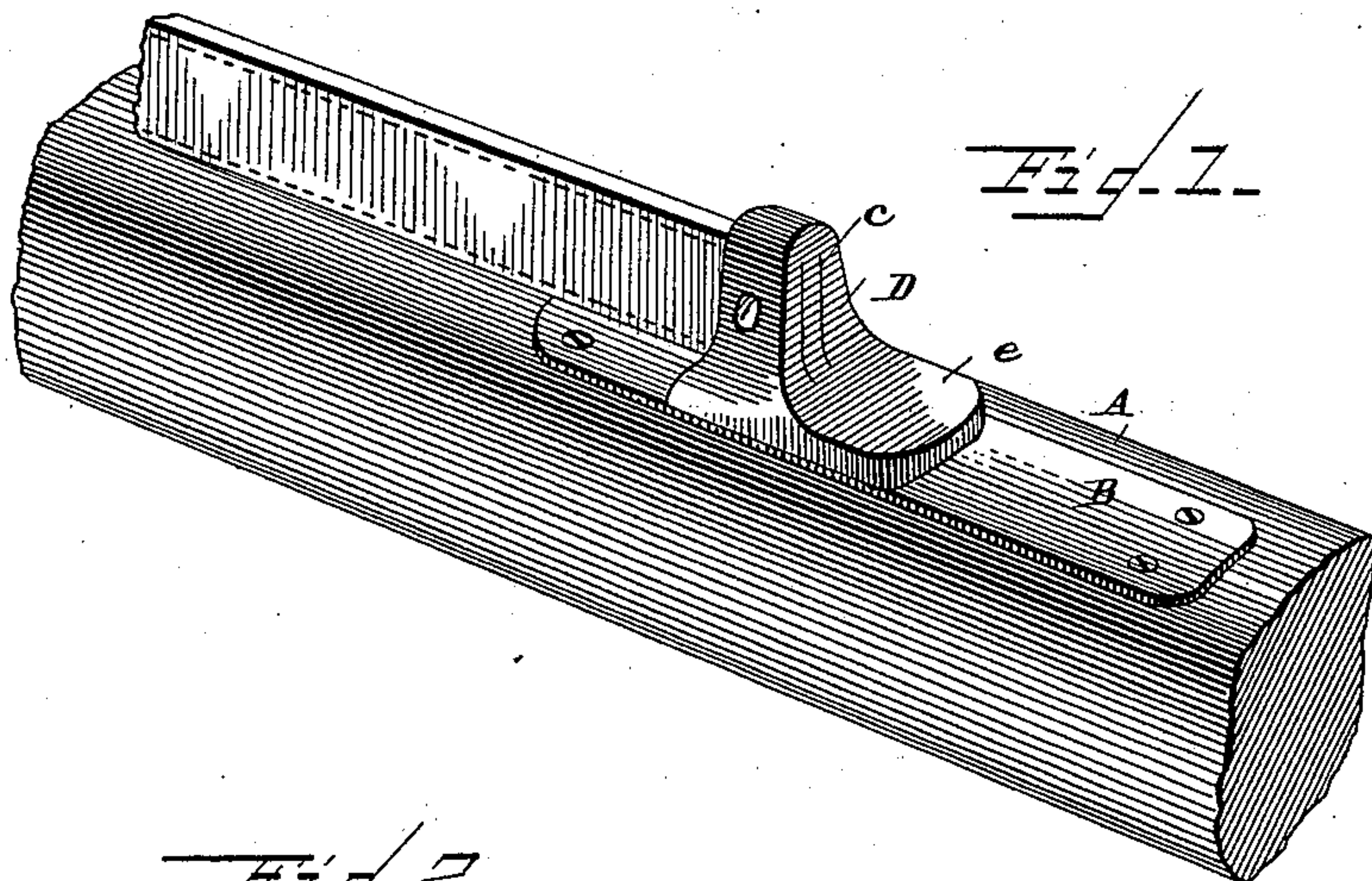
(No Model.)

A. R. EATON.

HOLDBACK.

No. 363,814.

Patented May 31, 1887.



Witnesses,
Edwin L. Yewell,
A. M. Paxton.

Inventor
A. R. Eaton.
By his Attorney
William C. Calkins

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALPHEUS R. EATON, OF BROWNFIELD, MAINE.

HOLDBACK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 363,814, dated May 31, 1887.

Application filed February 9, 1887. Serial No. 227,007. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALPHEUS R. EATON, of Brownfield, in the county of Oxford, Maine, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Holdbacks; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to holdbacks for harness; and it consists in the improvements hereinafter fully set forth, whereby a cheap, simple, durable, and effective device is provided that will enable the holdback-strap to be properly supported without being twisted—an objection incidental to the ordinary forms of holdbacks—the holdback device being also of such arrangement as to be secure in its connection so long as the team travels properly, but becomes automatically disengaged when the team exerts too great a traction consequent upon moving too fast.

The invention further consists in making the portion which carries the holdback-strap of such shape that it will, when in position, cover the opening in the shaft in which its stud engages and prevent dust and other foreign matter from entering said opening, which would prevent the proper working of the device.

In the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a portion of my improved holdback. Fig. 2 is a central longitudinal section of a shaft having my improved holdback applied thereto, and Fig. 3 is a plan view of the plate which is secured upon the shaft.

A refers to a portion of the shaft of a vehicle, which is provided with a recess, *a*, which is covered by a plate, B, having an opening, *b*, formed therein, which opening consists of a circular perforation, which is intersected by a second perforation which is smaller and of elongated shape.

C refers to a spring, which is secured at one end in the front of the shaft-recess, and has its other end located below the elongated opening of the plate.

D refers to a vertical metallic casting or portion, which is rounded at its front face,

and is provided with a vertical slot, *c*, for the engagement of the holdback-strap. This said portion D is provided on its under face, at one side of its center, near its front, with a headed stud, *d*. It will be noted that the lower part of the casting D is constituted by a front extending base portion, *e*, which is preferably of oval form.

In operation the head of the stud *d* is passed through the larger plate-opening into the shaft-recess, and then moved rearward until the said stud is pressed upon by the free end of the spring, which retains it in position in the recess and prevents its free movement. The neck of the stud occupies the narrow elongated opening of the plate, and the stud is consequently prevented from being vertically withdrawn from the recess. Retained in this position the casting holds the strap vertically, as represented in Fig. 1, and thereby obviates twisting of the same.

The dimension and shape of the casting is such that when the stud is moved beneath the narrow portion of the plate-opening the said plate-opening will be completely covered by the said base, and the entrance of dirt and other foreign matter prevented. By this means the shaft-recess is maintained clear at all times.

I am aware of the Patent No. 91,831, granted June 29, 1869, to J. B. Eaton, for a holdback; and I do not therefore claim, broadly, any feature disclosed in said patent, my present invention being in the nature of improvements on said patent.

I claim—

1. The combination, in a holdback device, of a plate perforated, as described, and a casting consisting of a horizontal base to form a bearing portion upon the upper side of the plate, a stud depending from said base to engage said perforation, and a vertical integral portion located on said face and having a vertical slot to receive and hold the strap in a vertical position relative to the shaft, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination, in a holdback, of a plate having intersecting circular and extended openings, as described, a casting having a horizontal base to form a bearing por-

tion upon the upper side of the plate, a
headed stud depending from said base to en-
gage said perforations, and a vertical integral
portion extending centrally from said base
5 and having a vertical slot to receive and hold
the strap vertically, the relation of the stud
and base being such that the latter will cover

the extended opening, substantially as set
forth.

ALPHEUS R. EATON.

Witnesses:

F. R. LIBBY,

W. L. GATCHELL.