

(No Model.)

T. F. CRANE.
ARM REST FOR PENMEN.

No. 364,705.

Patented June 14, 1887.

Fig. 1.

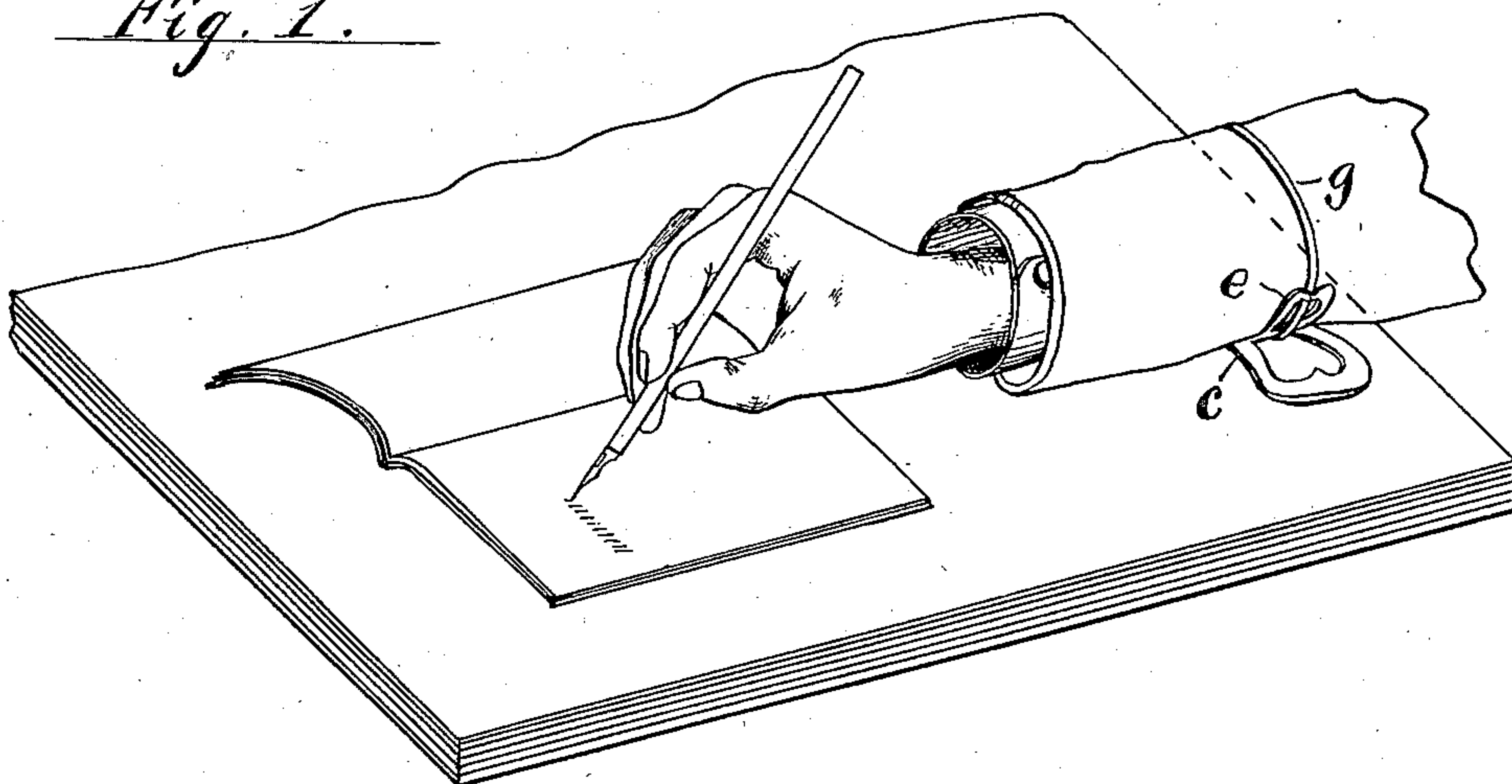


Fig. 2.

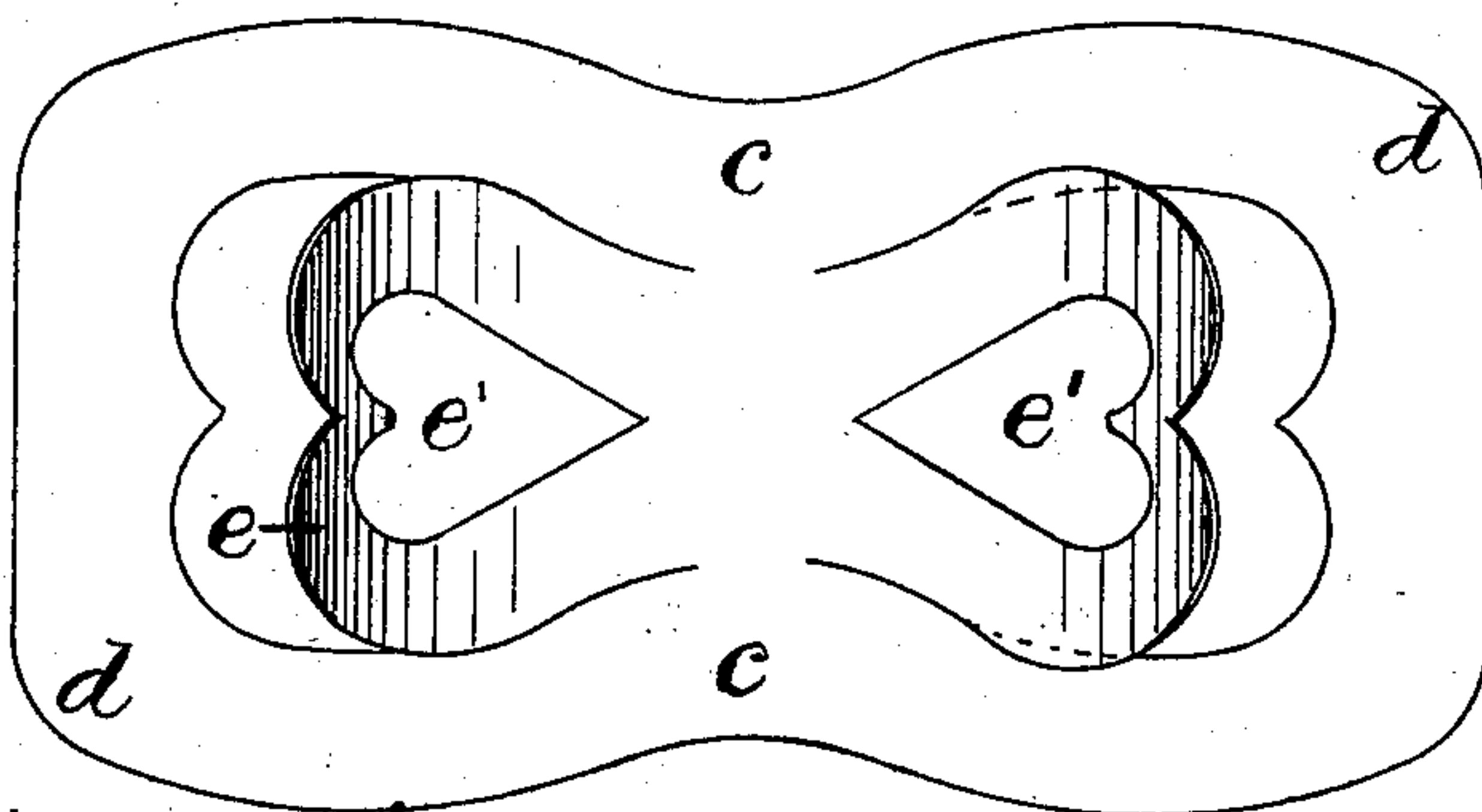
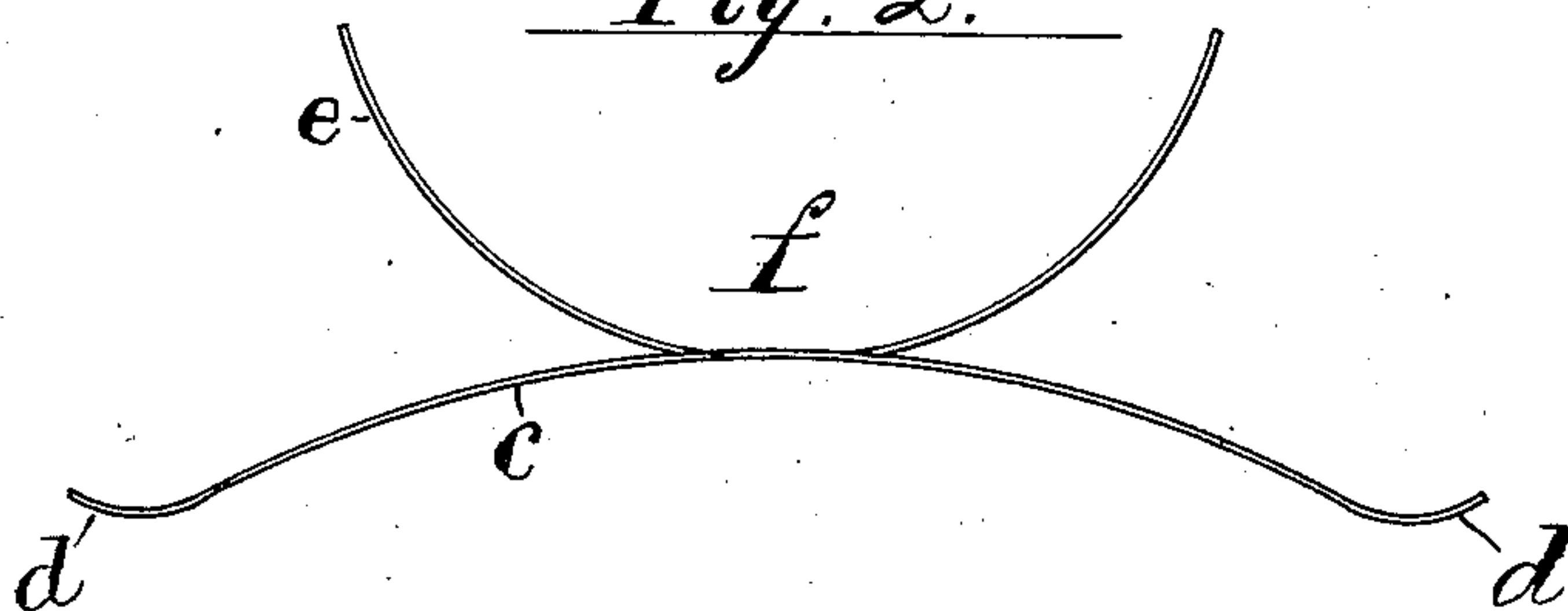


Fig. 3.

Attest;

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THEODORE F. CRANE, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY.

ARM-REST FOR PENMEN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 364,705, dated June 14, 1887.

Application filed July 1, 1886. Serial No. 206,857. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THEODORE F. CRANE, a citizen of the United States, residing in Newark, Essex county, New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Chirographic Rests, fully described and represented in the following specification, and the accompanying drawings, forming a part of the same.

10 This invention relates to a chirographic rest, or means for supporting the arm of a penman or draftsman upon the work table or desk; and it consists in the construction herein shown and described for such device.

15 The nature of the invention will be understood by reference to the annexed drawings, in which—

Figure 1 shows a part of a table with the arm of a penman provided with such a rest. Fig. 20 2 is an edge view, and Fig. 3 a plan, of the rest shown in Fig. 1, and constructed of sheet-steel bent to fit the forearm.

The arm-rest consists in an oblong plate of sheet metal, *c*, with rounded corners *d*, and 25 arched so that only its two ends are in contact with the table, the hollow on the top of the arm-rest being obtained by punching a wide tongue, *e*, from each end of the plate *c* and bending the same upward to form a concave 30 socket, *f*. Such tongues are shown in Fig. 3, united to the substance of the plate at their inner ends, and are each provided with a heart-shaped opening, *e'*, to make them lighter. The ends of the plate are bent slightly upward, like 35 the rounded ends of the solid block *a*, to make them slide more freely over the desk, and the entire structure, being made of thin sheet metal, is more or less elastic, and thus yields somewhat to fit the arm and furnishes a slightly- 40 yielding support for the same. Such arm-rest is intended to be applied to the arm at the swell of the forearm muscle, midway between the wrist and elbow.

The device may be made about half an inch 45 high, or of any suitable height, and lifts the forearm from the desk such amount, the weight of the elbow then serving to balance in great measure the weight of the hand and enabling both the wrist and the fingers to move more 50 lightly and freely over the paper. By its adjustment beneath the forearm muscle the latter serves as a sort of yielding or rolling sup-

port to both the hand and arm, and removes in particular the weight of the hand from the desk or paper upon which it is lying, and thus 55 prevents its moist and adhesive surface from friction with the same. The operator is thus enabled to execute all the movements necessary in writing and drawing with greater ease, freedom, and grace than when his hand rests with 60 its entire weight upon the paper and its friction is a constant impediment to the exertion of his muscles.

The yielding character of the forearm muscle permits a longitudinal movement of the 65 forearm independently of any movement that can be effected by the movement of the fingers, and enables a penman to form the letters in his text of a uniform height, when a little practice has familiarized him with the extent of 70 such movement. Such a movement can be readily observed or effected by holding the pen immovably in the fingers and vibrating the forearm longitudinally upon the rest. While such a forearm movement is constantly avail- 75 able without any muscular effort or fatigue, the usual movements of the hand and fingers may all be practiced with greater facility than when operating without the arm-rest. The device, by thus relieving the operator of the 80 effort required to shift the weight of the hand constantly over the paper, secures great freedom from fatigue in the practice of penmanship, prevents the cramps which often result from such fatigue, and enables the operator to 85 greatly increase the rapidity and accuracy of his work with a material diminution in the labor.

The proper use of this device requires the 90 flat or muscular under side of the arm, rather than the bony outer edge of the same, to be placed upon the arm-rest, and thus compels the penman to hold the flat of the arm toward the desk, as required by the best teachers, and to hold the pen with the point in the direction 95 of its movement. The arm-rest, being made very light, may be attached to the arm by an elastic, as shown at *g* in Fig. 1. The arm-rest is thus retained in a suitable position upon the arm when moved from one desk to another, 100 or shifted, as is often done by a book-keeper, from one large volume to another.

I am aware that it is not new to construct a chirographic arm-rest hollowed at the top to

fit the forearm and adapted to slide over the writing desk or table, and I therefore disclaim such construction, broadly, limiting myself to that specifically claimed herein.

5 What I therefore claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

As a new article of manufacture, the chiro-graphic arm-rest herein shown and described, and consisting of a sheet-metal plate, *c*, having
10 its middle arched and its ends *d* bent upward to slide over the desk, and having two tongues,

e, bent therefrom and turned upward to form a hollow or socket, *f*, fitted to the forearm, substantially as herein set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set
15 my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

THEODORE F. CRANE.

Witnesses:

THOS. S. CRANE,

L. LEE.