

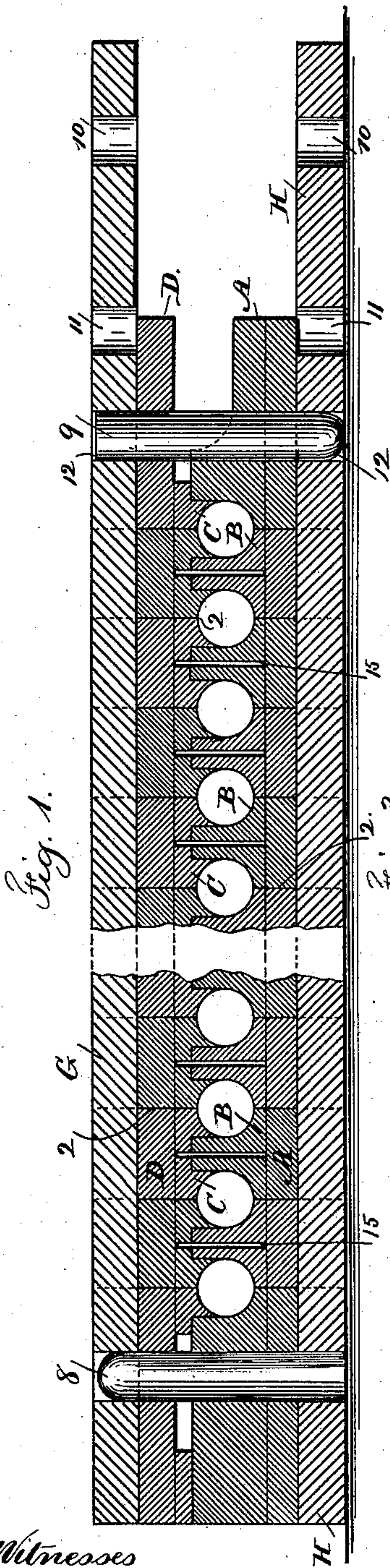
(Model.)

G. J. PRENTICE.  
CIGAR MOLD.

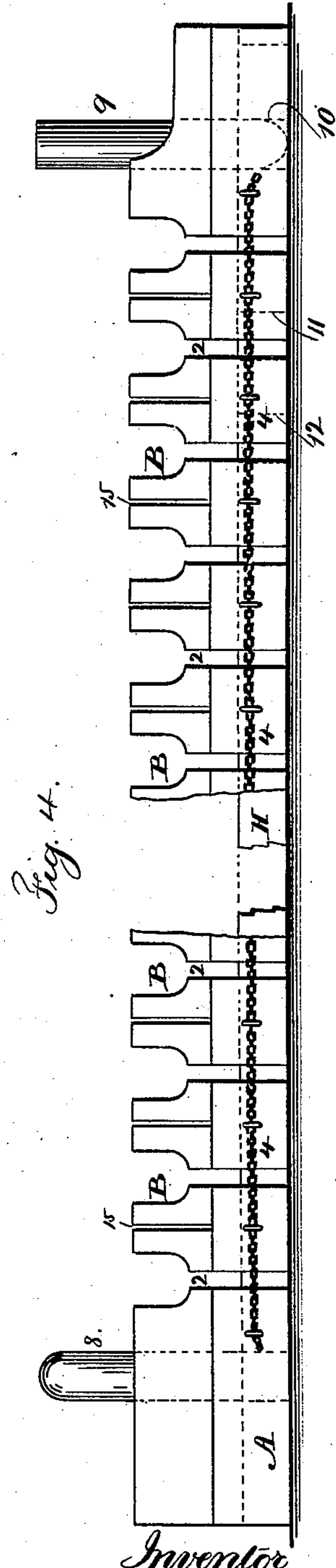
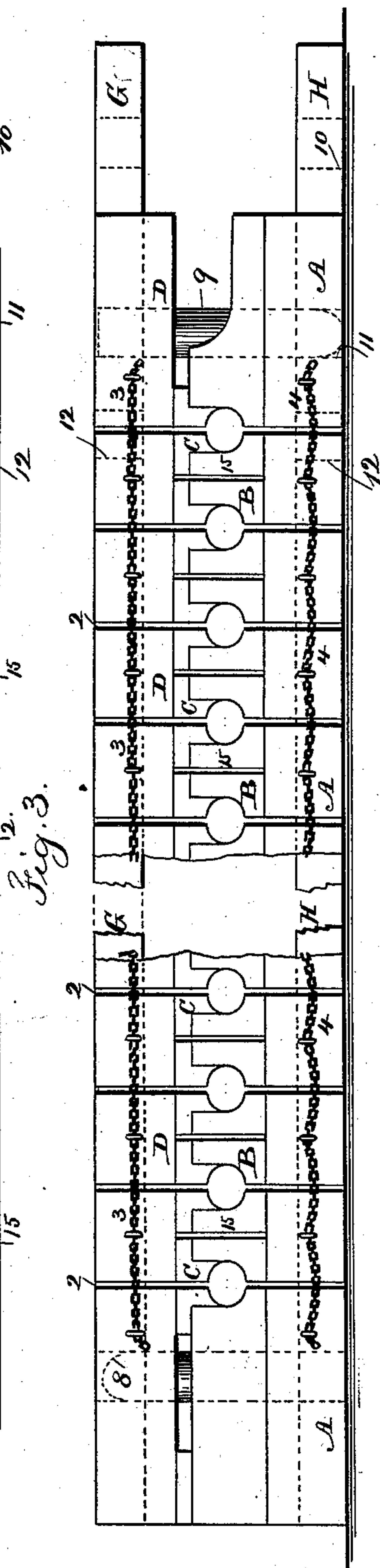
2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

No. 365,631.

Patented June 28, 1887.



Witnesses  
Chas. N. Smith  
J. Stail



Inventor  
George J. Prentice.  
for Lemuel W. Serrell atty

(Model.)

G. J. PRENTICE.

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

CIGAR MOLD.

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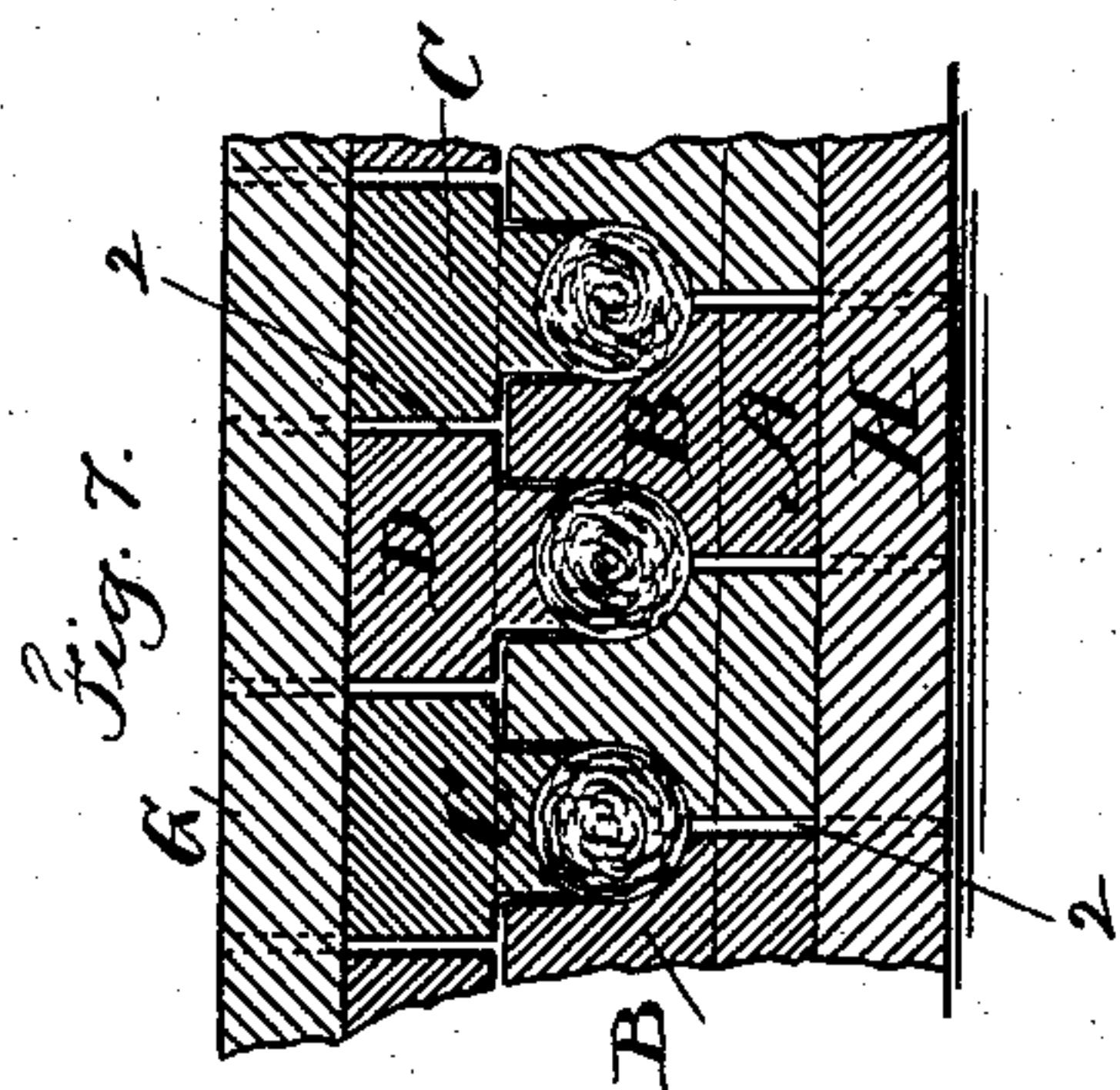


Fig. 5.

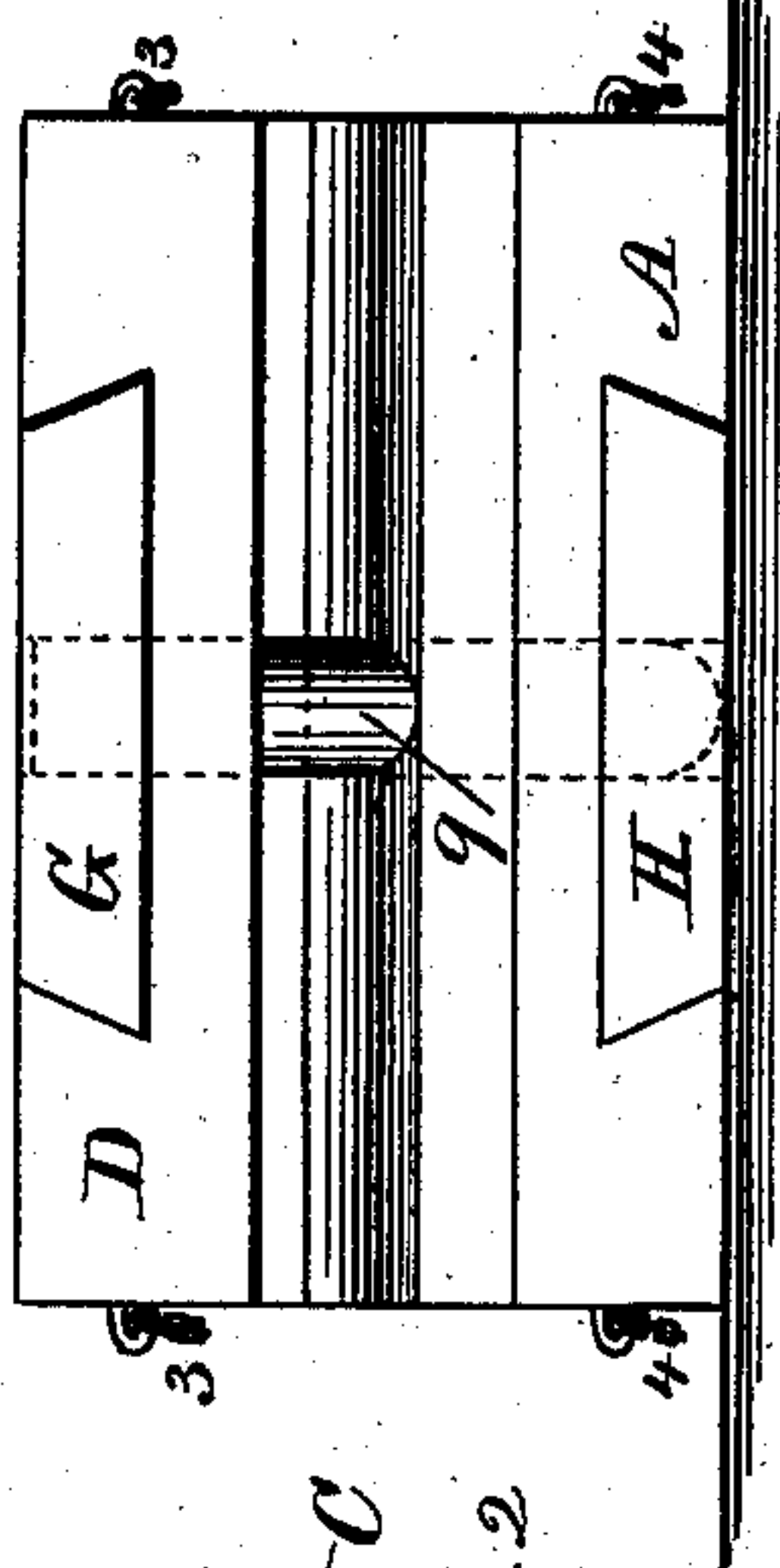


Fig. 6.

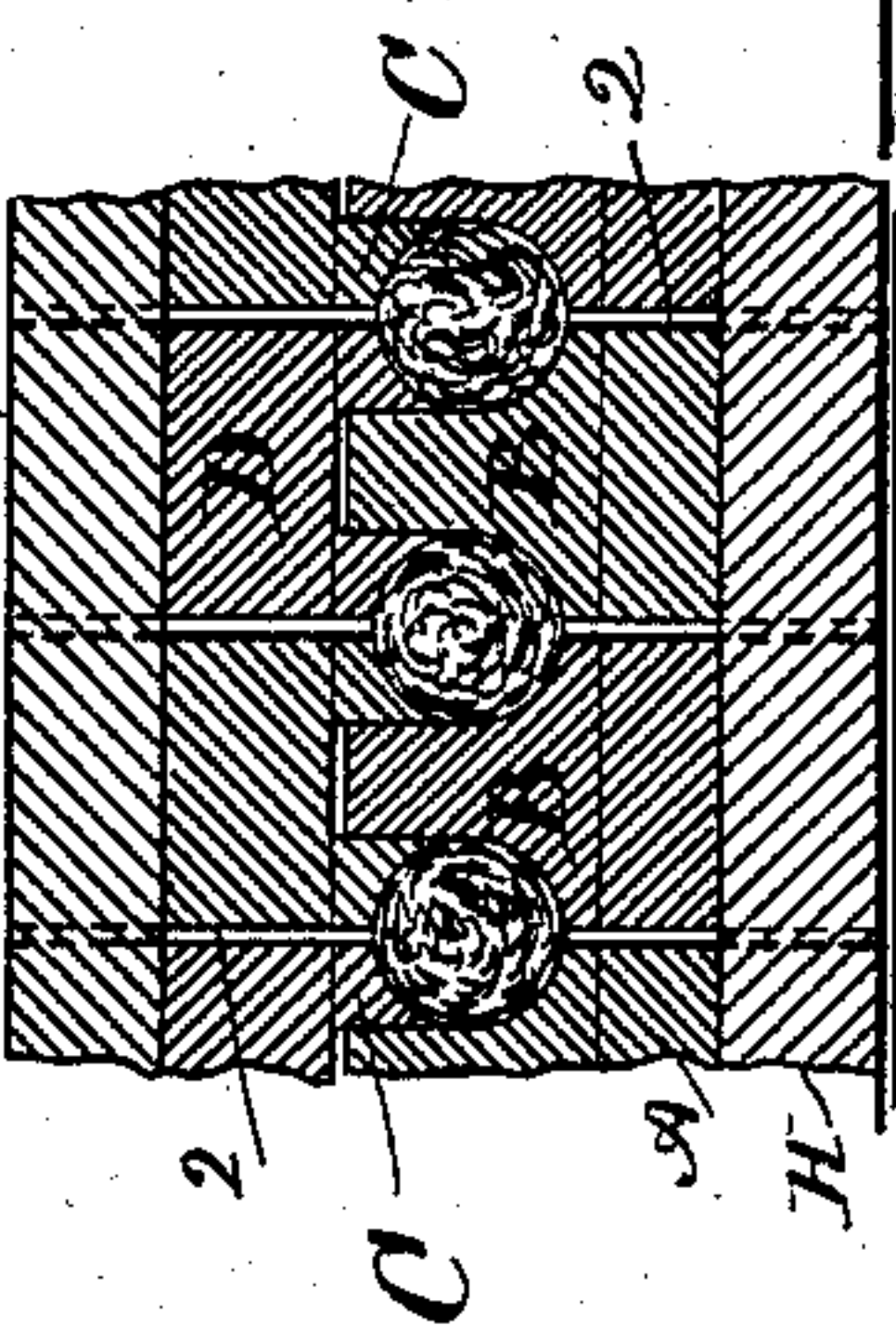
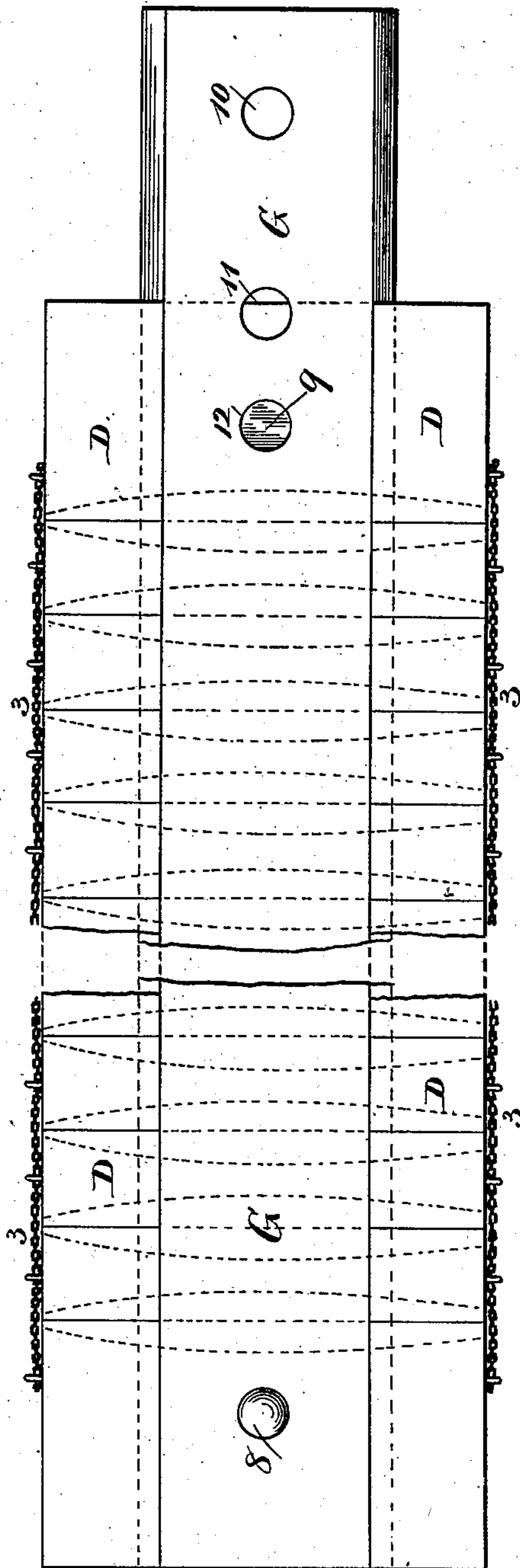


Fig. 2.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE J. PRENTICE, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## CIGAR-MOLD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 365,631, dated June 28, 1887.

Application filed June 7, 1886. Serial No. 204,313. (Model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE J. PRENTICE, of the city and State of New York, have invented an Improvement in Cigar-Molds, of which the following is a specification.

In the manufacture of cigars it is usual to employ wooden molds, into which are placed the bunches or bodies of the cigars. These molds are each of the proper shape for the exterior of the bunch, and when such molds have been filled they are subjected to powerful pressure to shape the bunches. The bunches are in a more or less moist condition, and in consequence of being firmly held the tobacco cannot expand, and the cigar does not smoke easily. Besides this, the cigar body or bunch is difficult to remove from the mold after being pressed. To facilitate this removal, it is usual to allow the tobacco to project beyond the mold at the tuck or larger end of the cigar, so that such tobacco may be grasped in the fingers to lift the bunch out of the mold. This entails a loss of tobacco, as well as causing the larger end or tuck of the cigar to be too compact and hard to light or to smoke freely.

My improvements are for overcoming the practical difficulties heretofore mentioned. I make use of two-part cigar-molds and top and bottom plates divided up into sections, and guide-bars passing through transverse undercut grooves for connecting the mold-sections and for allowing such sections to be partially separated, and connections between the respective mold-sections, and pins that pass across through the guide-bars.

My improvements are especially available with wooden molds having sections fastened to backing bars or plates; but such molds may be of any desired or ordinary construction, except in the particulars hereinafter named.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a section transversely of the molds at the end portions of a range of molds. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same portions of the range of molds. Fig. 3 is an elevation with the mold-sections partially extended. Fig. 4 is a similar view of the bottom mold-sections fully extended, the top molds being removed. Fig. 5 is an end view of the molds. Fig. 6 is a cross-section of three molds with the bunches in the same and the molds

partially opened for the tobacco to expand; and Fig. 7 is a similar view with the upper molds separated between one mold and the next.

The base-plate A has upon it the lower molds, B, into which the bunches are introduced, as usual, and C are the upper molds adapted to pass into the lower molds and press the bunches into the same, and these molds C are connected to the top plate or follower, D. These molds, thus far described, are well known, and my improvement is adapted to any of the molds of this general class. I groove the top and bottom plates, A D, of the molds for the reception of the dovetailed or undercut guide-bars G and H, and I separate the molds and plates transversely of the plates, but longitudinally through the center of each cigar-mold, as shown at 2 2, in order that the cigar-molds may be opened to any desired extent by sliding the sections along upon the guide-bars G H and away from each other.

It is advantageous to limit the extent to which the molds may be opened by moving the sections away from one another. With this object in view I make use, by preference, of chains 3 and 4, there being sufficient looseness or slack to allow of the proper lateral movement to each section when the end sections are grasped and drawn apart. The ends of these chains are permanently fastened to the end sections of the top and base plates by staples or other similar devices, and the intermediate sections of the molds are also fastened by staples to the chains, there being the necessary slack chain between each two fastenings. I have shown the upper molds as connected by the chains 3 and the lower molds connected by the chains 4; but these chains 4 are longer than the chains 3, so that there is more slack of chain between the respective staples or fastenings. When the molds are made use of, the top range of molds, C, and the guide-bar G are separated by lifting them off from the bottom molds. The pins 8 usually remain in place within the end mold-section and plate, A, and the mold-sections are pushed closely together and the pin 9 inserted in the hole 12 to hold the bottom mold-sections together. The bunches are now placed into the molds in the ordinary manner, and the upper



mold-sections are put into place, as shown in  
 Figs. 1 and 2, with the pin 9 in the holes 12  
 in G and H, and the bunches pressed into  
 shape, after which the pin 9 is withdrawn and  
 5 the mold-sections are drawn apart by hand  
 endwise to the extent that the chains 3 and  
 the pin 9 placed in the holes 11, as shown in  
 Fig. 3, will permit. In this condition the  
 molds are allowed to remain the proper length  
 10 of time until the bunches have swelled and  
 are in the proper condition for receiving the  
 wrappers, and as they swell they lift the upper  
 molds, C, and guide-bar G, as seen in Figs.  
 6 and 7, and then the upper mold-sections and  
 15 guide-bar are lifted off, exposing the bunches,  
 and these lower sections are still farther drawn  
 apart by hand to the extent that the chains 4  
 will permit, as shown in Fig. 4, and they can  
 be held in this position by inserting the pin 9  
 20 into the hole 10, provided for it in the bottom  
 guide-bar, H, so as to retain the molds in their  
 separated positions. These cigar-bunches are  
 now entirely free and simply lie in the molds,  
 and can be lifted out with facility and finished  
 25 by applying the wrappers. In consequence  
 of separating the mold-sections the bunches  
 expand and the cigar smoke much more freely,  
 because the bunches swell into the additional  
 space allowed for them when the molds are  
 30 opened, and, besides this, the tuck portions of  
 the cigars are more open and loose than in the  
 ordinary molded cigars, and the bunches are  
 not marred by any creases or folds due to the  
 action of the molds, because such creases are  
 35 obliterated by the swelling, and the cigars  
 when completed are much more perfect and  
 smoke much more freely than those made in  
 the ordinary molds.

In Fig. 6 I have shown three molds section-

ally and as drawn apart, and with the bunches 40  
 therein in their expanded condition. In Fig.  
 7 I have shown the lower molds, B, as sepa-  
 rated longitudinally through the center of the  
 mold and the upper molds as separated from 45  
 each other to allow them to rise and open  
 as the bunches expand. It is to be understood  
 that it is not necessary to have the molds chan-  
 neled on the lines 15, as shown in the draw-  
 ings, Figs. 1, 3, and 4, as they may be made,  
 as seen in Figs. 6 and 7, without any such 50  
 channels or saw-cuts.

I claim as my invention—

1. The two-part cigar-molds divided longi-  
 tudinally into sections, in combination with  
 guide-bars passing through the transverse un- 55  
 dercut grooves for connecting the mold-sec-  
 tions and for allowing such sections to be par-  
 tially separated, the connections between the  
 respective mold-sections, and the pins passing  
 across through the guide-bars, substantially 60  
 as set forth.

2. The combination, with the molds B C and  
 the top and bottom plates, A D, divided up  
 into sections, and the top and bottom bars, G  
 H, that hold the sections and upon which the 65  
 sections can be moved, of connections, sub-  
 stantially as described, attached at the ends of  
 each section, there being sufficient slack or  
 looseness to allow the mold-sections to be sepa-  
 rated to the desired extent, substantially as set 70  
 forth.

Signed by me this 5th day of June, A. D.  
1886.

GEORGE J. PRENTICE.

Witnesses:

GEO. T. PINCKNEY,  
 WILLIAM G. MOTT.