

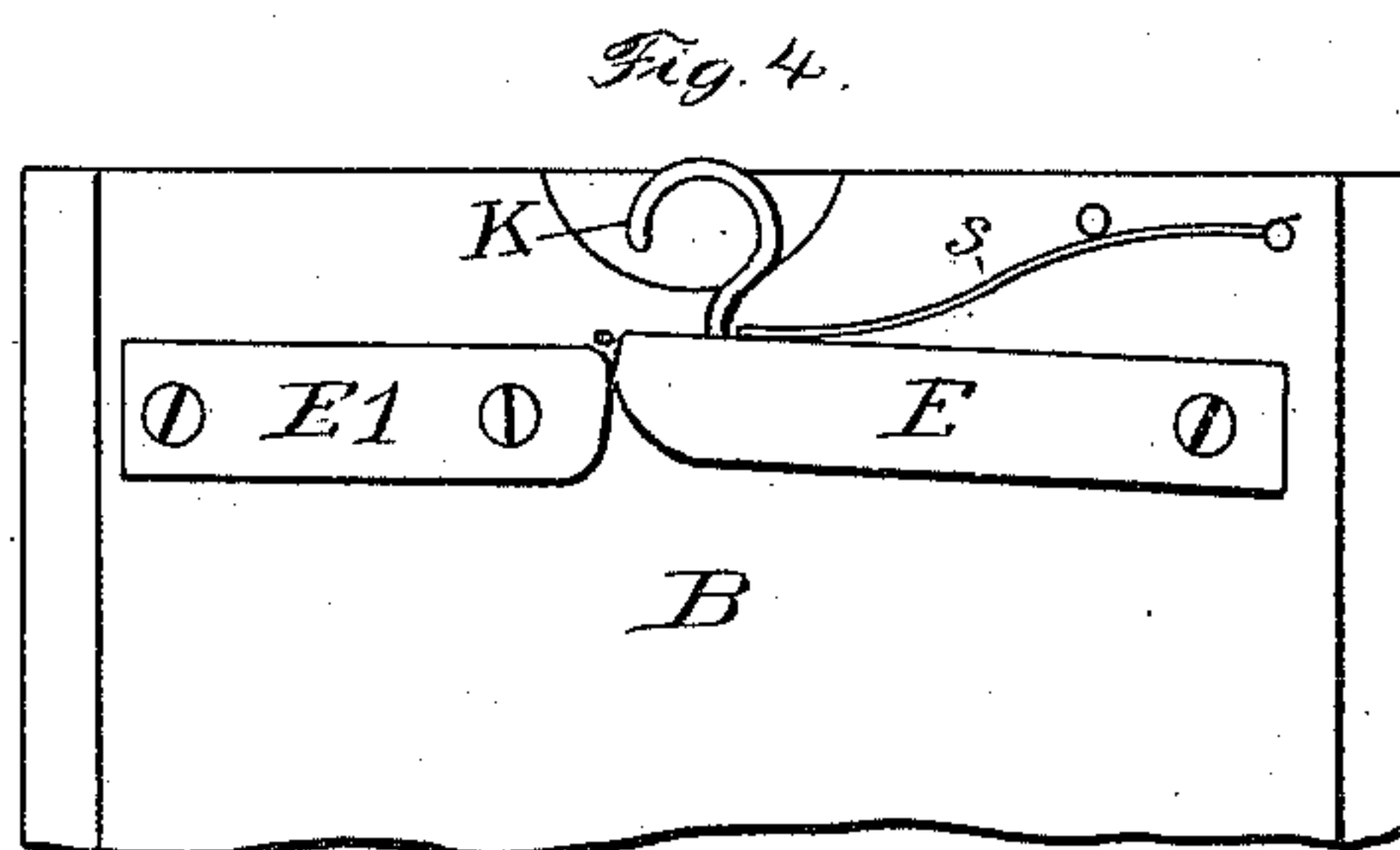
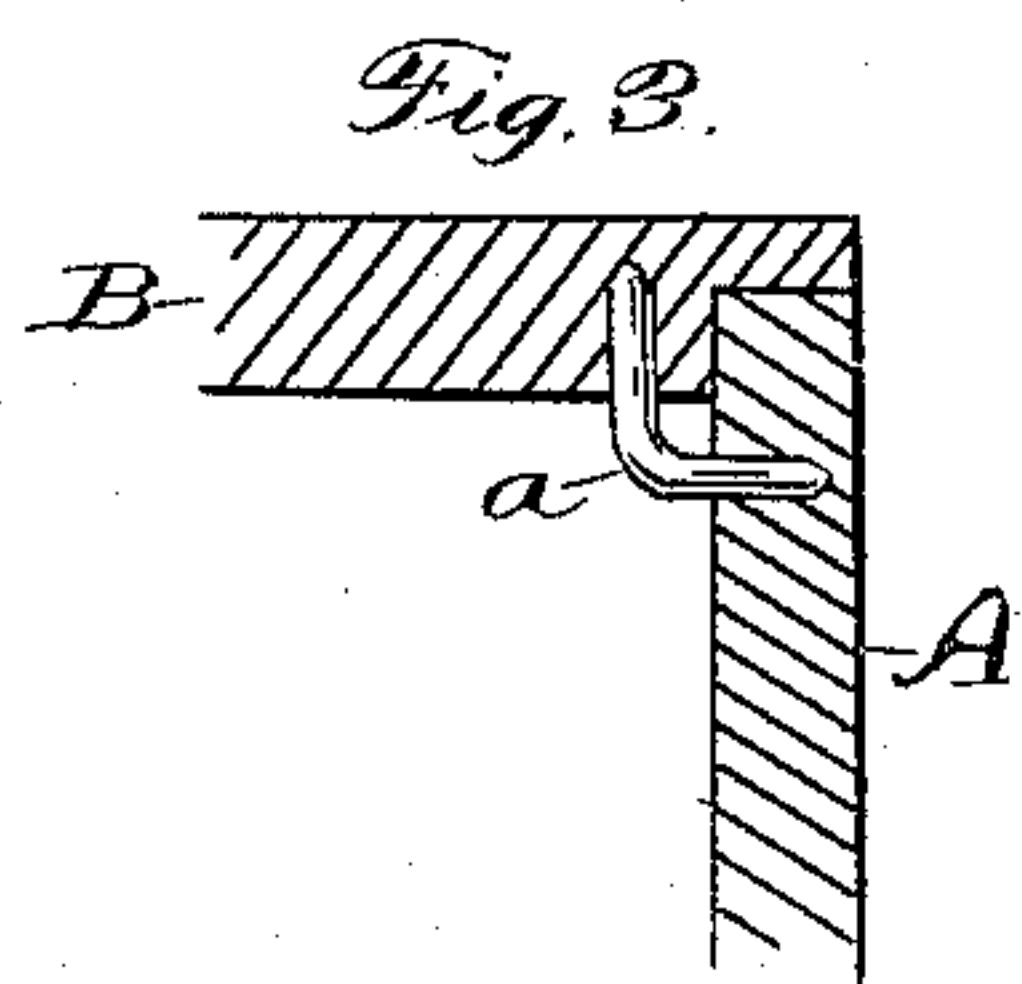
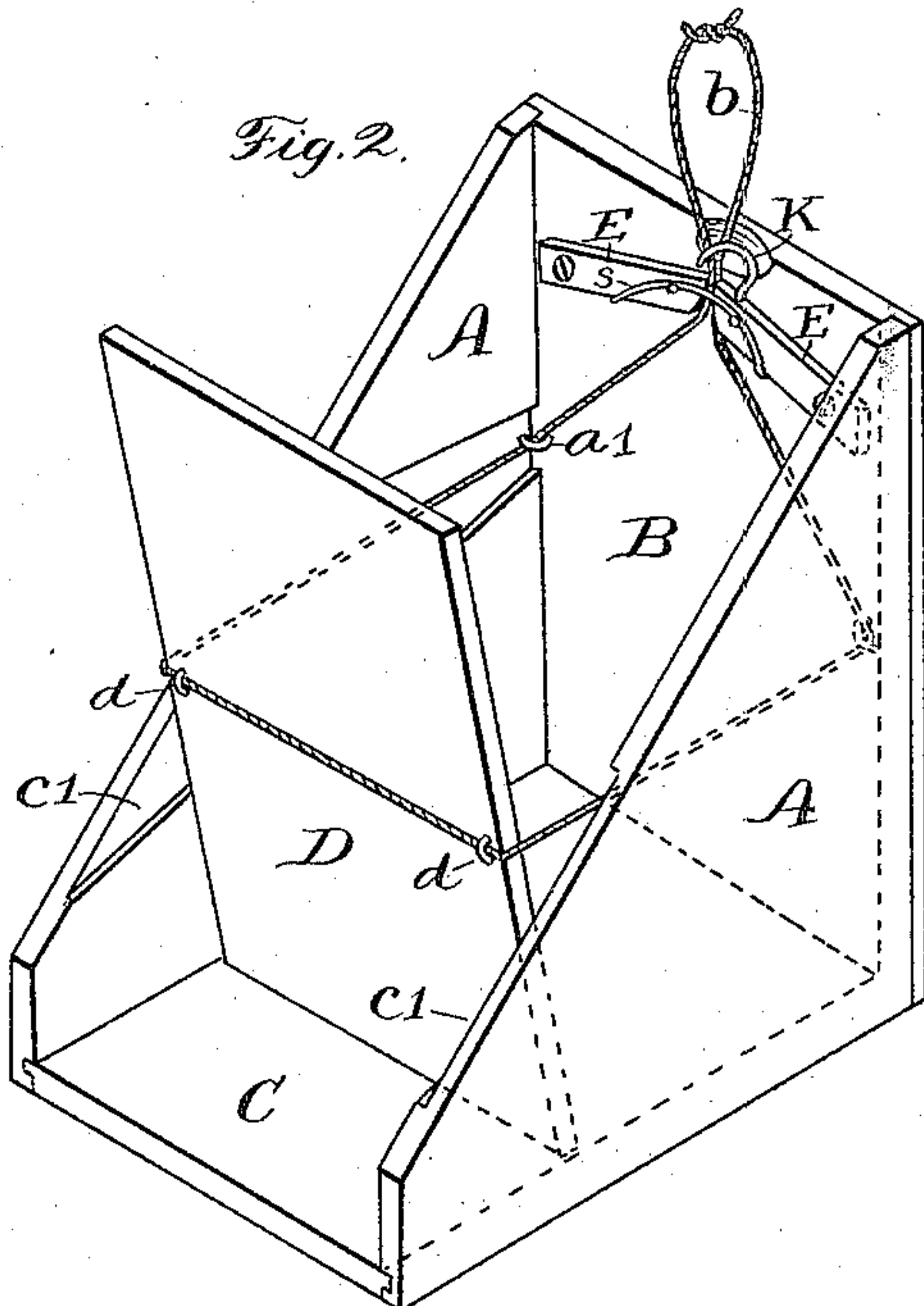
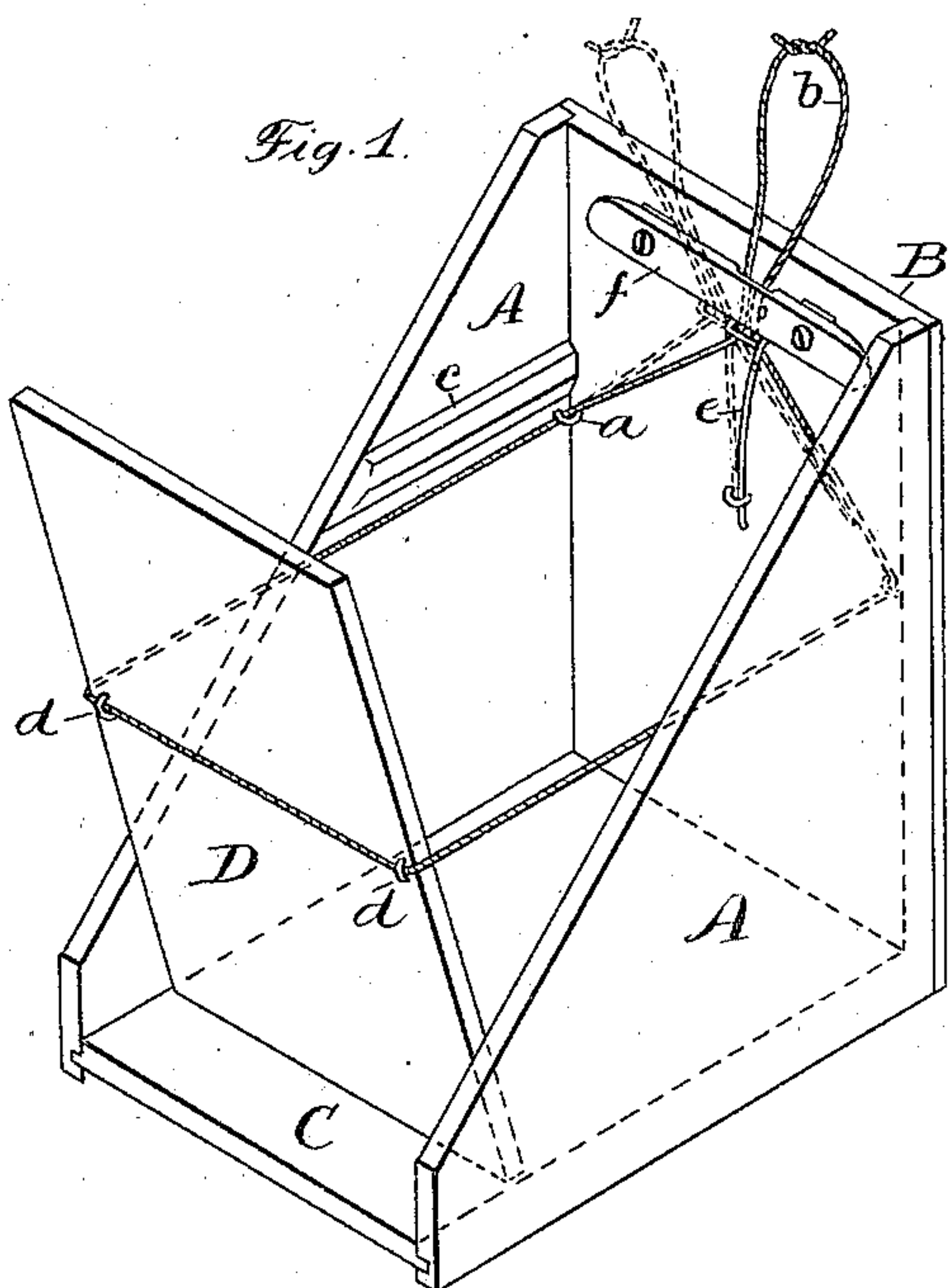
(No Model.)

A. W. BURR.

FILE BOX.

No. 371,735.

Patented Oct. 18, 1887.



Witnesses.
John Edwards Jr.
W. H. Whiting.

Inventor.
Almon W. Burr.
By James Shepard.
Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALMON W. BURR, OF BELOIT, WISCONSIN.

FILE-BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 371,735, dated October 13, 1887.

Application filed March 8, 1887. Serial No. 230,093. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALMON W. BURR, a citizen of the United States, residing at Beloit, in the county of Rock and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in File-Boxes, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in file-boxes which are adapted for holding files of various manuscripts, letters, pamphlets, or other papers; and the objects of my invention are to simplify the construction, reduce the cost of production, and to produce a convenient file-box.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of one form of my file-box. Fig. 2 is a like view of another form of my box. Fig. 3 is a horizontal section, partly in elevation, of one corner of my box on an enlarged scale; and Fig. 4 is a side elevation, on an enlarged scale, of a cord-fastening device for my file-box.

The box or case I prefer to construct with one open end, said box consisting of the side pieces, A A, end piece B, and bottom piece, C, all secured rigidly together, as shown. I prefer to fit these parts with tongued-and-grooved or rabbeted edges, or both, so that they may be shipped in the knockdown form and afterward conveniently fastened together. I also prefer to provide the end piece B with corner-irons *a*, of an angular form, the arms of the same being secured to said end piece and the side pieces, A, at a little distance from their meeting edges, so as to leave an eye or opening inclosed by the corner-iron and the pieces A and B, as shown in Fig. 3, said eye being for the passage of the cord *b*. Said corner-pieces also serve as a corner-fastening to assist in holding the box together. Upon each of the side pieces, A A, at a point just above the corner-iron *a*, I secure a projecting cleat, *c*, for the double purpose of strengthening said side pieces and for forming a projection upon the inside of the box which will guard the cords by preventing the pamphlets or other papers within the box coming so closely to the sides thereof as to interfere with their operation.

D designates the movable end piece or follower, which is of a size that will permit it to

move bodily through the box and up close to the fixed end piece B. Upon the outside of this end piece, at the middle portion and near each edge, I secure suitable eyes, *d*, through which to pass the cord *b*. While these eyes are within what I term the "middle" portion of the height of the follower, I prefer to secure them a little above the exact middle. In the construction shown in Fig. 1 both cords, or both ends of the cord *b*, run through a movable eye, *e*, then under a cleat, *f*, at the top of the end piece B, and are then knotted, making the endless cord *b*. The cleat *f* is cut away at its middle portion, so as to give the cord *b* free passage, said notch being preferably a little to the right of the exact middle when viewed as in the drawings, while upon each side of said notch the cleat is set at only a slight distance from the end piece, so that when the two parts of the cord *b* are drawn to the left into the narrow space between the cleat and the end piece, as indicated by broken lines in Fig. 1, they will be pinched sufficiently to prevent them from slipping. Should they slip under heavy pressure, the action of the cord upon the movable eye *e* is to draw the cord to the left and tighten it. The cord may also be additionally fastened by passing it around under one extremity of the cleat, which extremities are beveled for that purpose on the side facing the end piece B.

The box, when opened, as shown in Fig. 1, may be filled or partially filled with papers, when the cord *b* is grasped and pulled up through the central opening or notch in the cleat, thereby moving the follower D bodily through the box until it presses firmly upon the papers. The cord *b* is then drawn toward the left into the narrower space between the cleat and end piece to firmly fasten the cord in place, as indicated by the broken lines in Fig. 1. The loose end of the cord is then thrown on the papers in the box, and the file is ready for the shelf.

In order to open the file at any time the cord *b* is drawn toward the right to bring it within the notch in the cleat *f*, as shown by the full lines in Fig. 1, and is then allowed to slip until the follower D, falling back, releases the papers within the box and inclines them at any angle desired for convenience of consultation. The follower and papers may then

be set or fixed at this angle by drawing the cord to the left, as before described. Both hands are then free for handling the papers, and the papers may be left accessible any length of time desired. The follower D, being beveled at the bottom to its inner edge, by merely resting upon the bottom of the box will naturally fall into an inclined position when the cord *b* is loosened, so as to leave the box the widest open at the top, as shown.

In Fig. 2 I have illustrated the same general features, but differing somewhat as to the details of fastening the cord. Instead of cleat *c* to form a projection to make a free space for the cords, I groove the side pieces of the box for the same purpose, as shown at *c'*, thereby leaving a projection not only above the cord, but also below it. The knotted cord *b* passes around the follower D through two small screw eyes or hooks, *a' a'*. To the inside of the fixed end piece B, I secure two hinged arms, E E, having their confronting ends beveled or rounded off at the lower corners, as shown. These arms are of such length and so pivoted that when the confronting ends meet said arms do not fall quite far enough to bring them into alignment with their centers of motion, thereby giving them the nature of toggle-arms. A spring, *s*, is applied to said arms and has a constant tendency to force them downward into the position shown. The double end of the cord *b* passes between the ends of the arms E E, and is held thereby. The handle K is taken hold of to open the arms to let the cord slip down through them; but in drawing the cord up through the arms it is not necessary to touch the handle. A very similar fastening device is illustrated in Fig. 4, which differs from that shown in Fig. 2 by having only one of the arms E and substituting for the omitted arm a stationary jaw or abutment piece, E'.

I prefer to use hard twisted cord for drawing and fastening the follower; but any known equivalent may be substituted therefor—as, for instance, a fine chain, flexible wire, or band of leather or other material.

I claim as my invention—

1. The herein-described file-box, consisting of the box or case, the follower adapted to move bodily through said case, the cord connecting the middle portion of said follower with the end piece of said case, and fastening devices for securing said cord and the follower in place, substantially as described, and for the purpose specified.

2. The herein-described file-box, consisting of the box or case, the follower adapted to move bodily through said case, the cord for moving and fastening said follower, and the projections on the side pieces to guard the cord, substantially as described, and for the purpose specified.

3. In a file-box, the corner-pieces *a a*, extending into the end and side pieces a little distance from their meeting edges, thereby forming a corner-fastening and an eye for the cord, all substantially as described, and for the purpose specified.

4. The combination of the box or case, the movable follower, the cord connecting said follower with the end piece of said case, the fastening-cleat *f*, notched on its inside, and the movable eye below said cleat with both parts of the cord running through it, substantially as described, and for the purpose specified.

ALMON W. BURR.

Witnesses:

J. B. DOW,
CHASE A. BACON.