

(No Model.)

J. G. STRODTMANN.

SEAL PRESS.

No. 395,521.

Patented Jan. 1, 1889.

Fig 1.

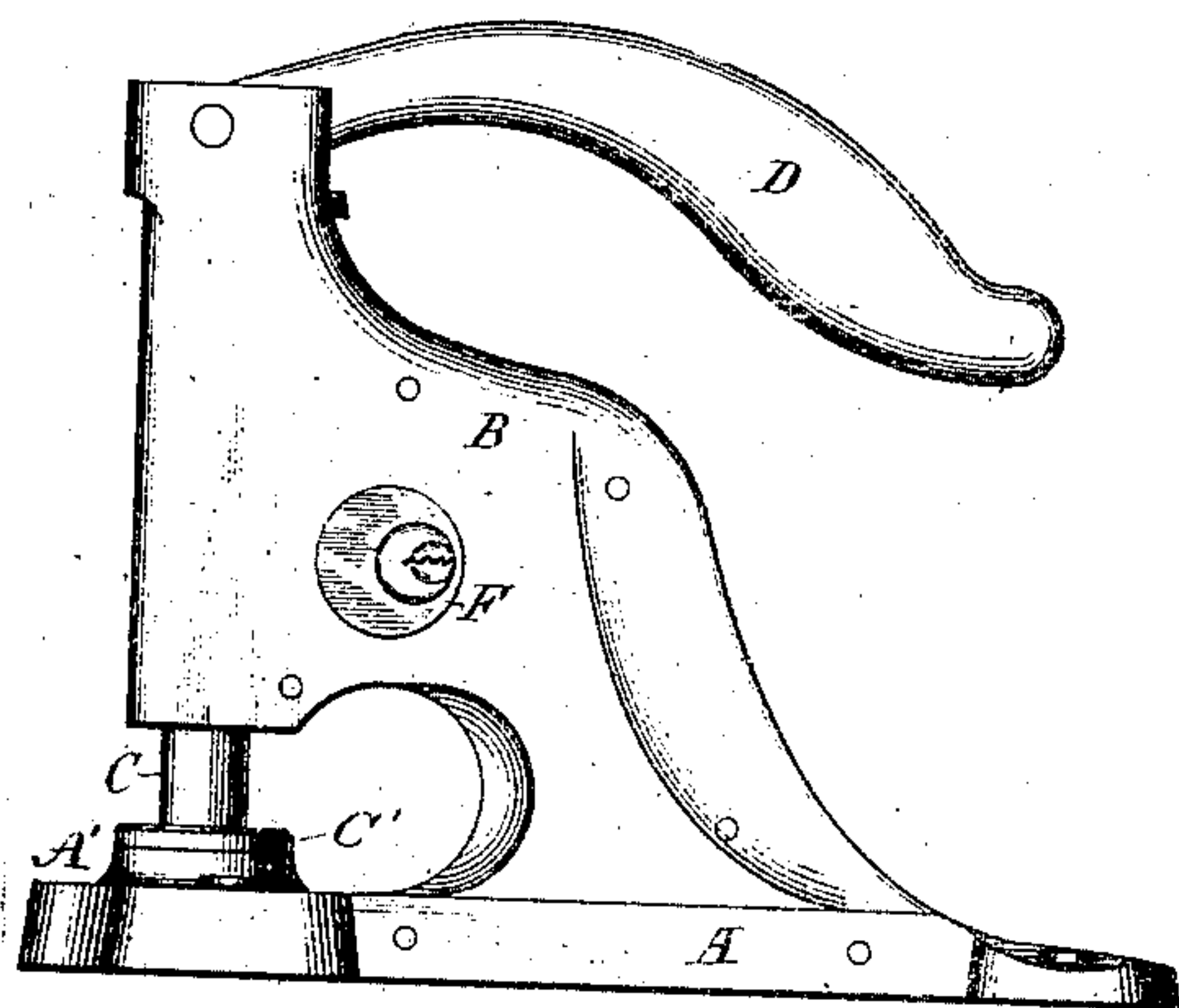


Fig 2.

Section on xx Fig 3.

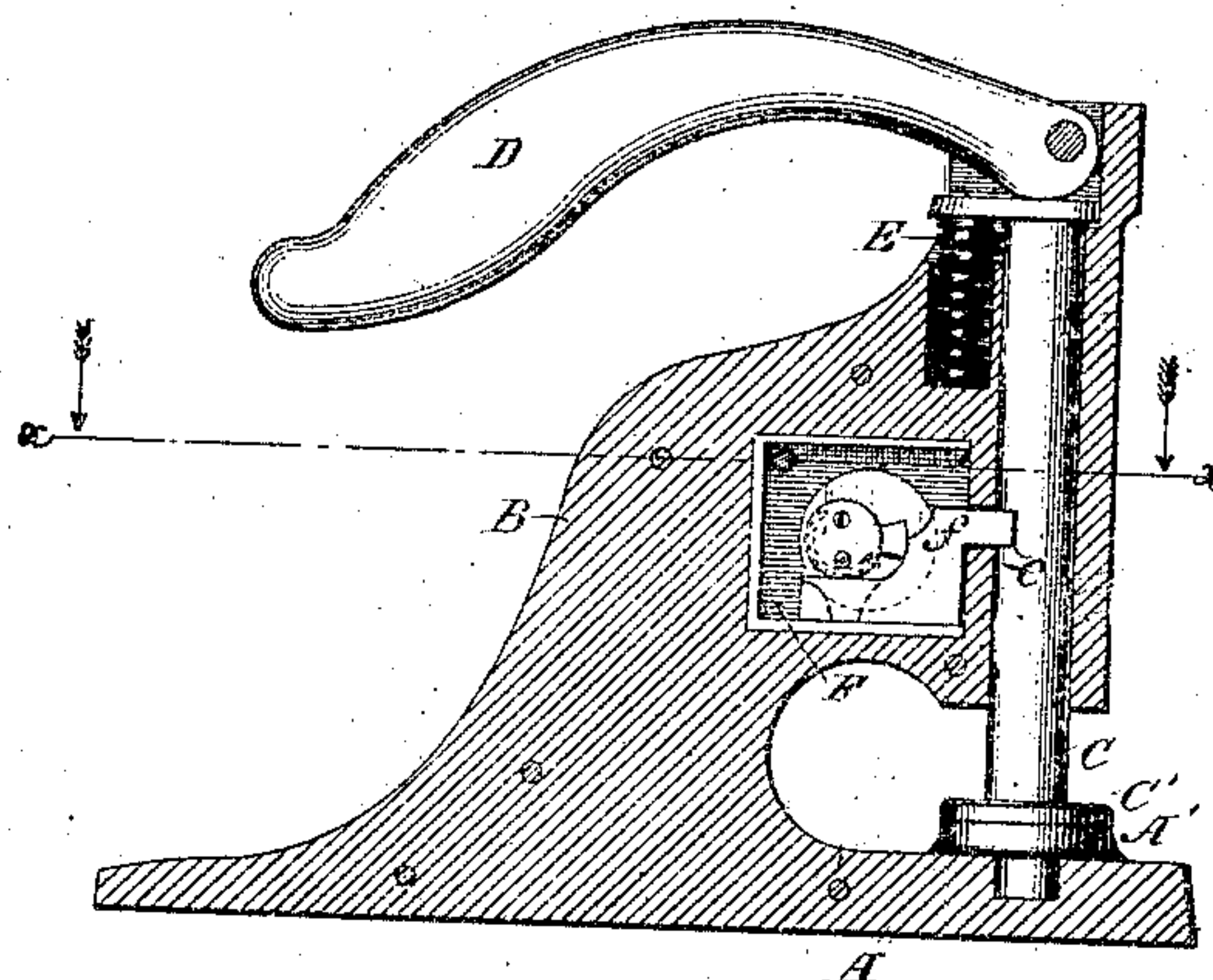
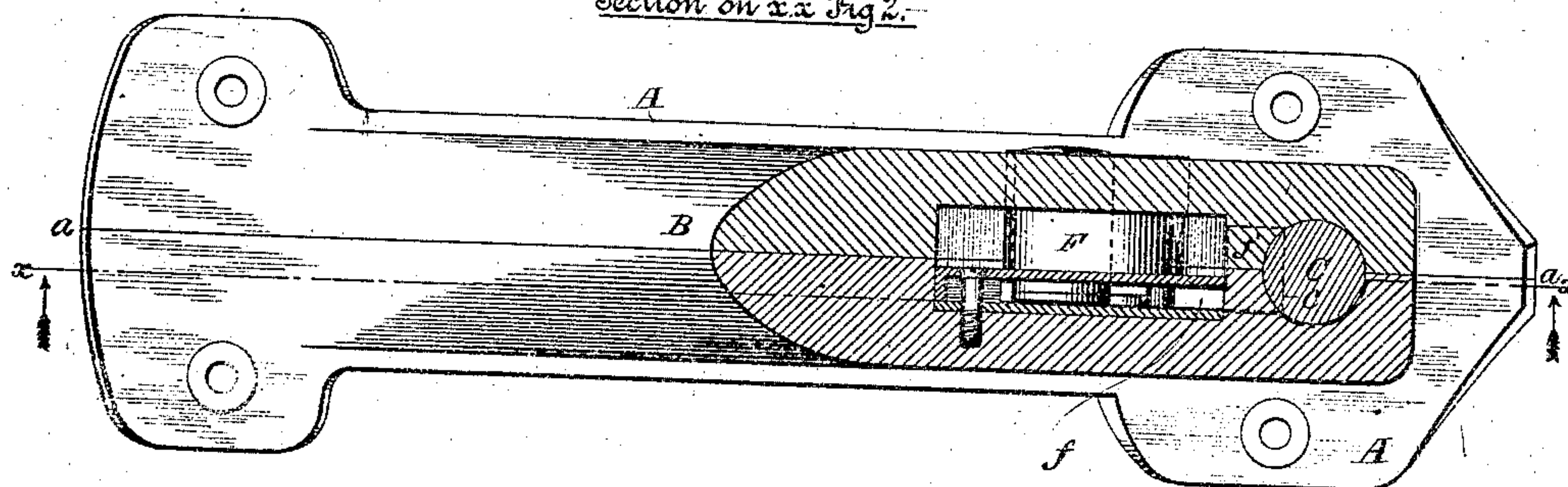


Fig 3.

Section on xx Fig 2.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN G. STRODTMANN, OF PETERSBURG, ILLINOIS.

SEAL-PRESS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 395,521, dated January 1, 1889.

Application filed December 6, 1887. Serial No. 257,076. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN G. STRODTMANN, of Petersburg, in the county of Menard and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Seal-Presses; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to improvements in seal-presses or hand-stamps of that class employed by notaries public, clerks of courts, and other officials for impressing their seals upon documents.

The object of the invention is to prevent the use of the seal by unauthorized persons; and to this end the invention consists in the combination, with the standard and the plunger which carries the movable die, of a lock which is arranged to engage the plunger with the standard when the former is at or practically at the lower extremity of its throw, or, in other words, when the die-plate carried by the plunger is in contact or closely proximate to its opposing die-plate fixed to the bed.

The invention also consists in the construction of the frame of the press in parts permanently riveted together and embracing the lock in such manner as to render the removal of the lock impossible without practical destruction of the press.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, which illustrate my invention, Figure 1 is a side elevation of a seal-press provided with my improvement. Fig. 2 is a vertical section in the indirect line $x x$ of Fig. 3. Fig. 3 is a horizontal section, enlarged, in the line $x x$ of Fig. 2.

The frame of the press is composed of a base, A, and standard B.

C is the plunger, fitted to slide vertically in the standard B.

D is a cam-lever for forcing the plunger C downward, and E is a spring for lifting the plunger when the pressure of the lever D is removed therefrom.

C' is the movable die, fixed to the plunger C, and A' is the stationary lower die, fixed to the bed A.

F is a lock embedded in the standard B, the bolt f of which may engage a notch or shoul-

der, c , in or upon the plunger, and thereby prevent movement of the latter in the standard. The notch c is so located on the plunger that to engage with the bolt of the lock the plunger must be at its lower position in contact with or proximate to the die A', so that unauthorized use of the press is wholly prevented both by preventing movement of the plunger and by making the faces of the dies inaccessible. The notch of the plunger and the lock-bolt are also concealed and protected within the press-frame, so that the bolt cannot be reached and forced from its engagement with the plunger.

The frame of the press is constructed of metal in two parts, preferably divided in the central vertical plane, $a a$, of Fig. 3, and permanently riveted together. The object of making the frame in two parts thus joined is that the lock may be embraced between them, and thus secured against removal or against being opened or otherwise tampered with, and in this manner to insure greater security of the press against use by unauthorized persons.

As herein shown, the parts of the frame are interiorly recessed to admit the body of one form of multi-tumbler lock which cannot be easily picked and which presents its key-hole and the end of the tumbler-barrel only to view and flush with the side face of the frame.

The rivets which secure the two parts of the frame together will be desirably finished flush with the surface of the frame, and the frame thereafter japanned or otherwise finished in such manner as to conceal the position of the rivets.

As above stated, the notch c in the plunger C, which takes the bolt f of the lock, is so located that the plunger must be thrown down to its lowest position, or practically so, before the lock can be engaged therewith for the purpose of preventing access to the dies as well as for the purpose of preventing the press from being operated, for it is obvious that if the plunger were locked in its higher position an impression could be taken of one or both of the dies, and a duplicate stamp made therefrom; or by the aid of a thick plate of rubber a sheet of paper could be impressed upon one of the dies with a little ingenuity in handling

and without movement of the plunger, where-
fore it will appear that the locking of the
plunger in contact or in close proximity with
the bed gives a special security. The press
5 containing both this feature and that of a lock
confined between two permanently - joined
parts of the frame manifestly cannot be used
without its practical destruction, and as such
destruction would promptly reveal itself suc-
10 cessful appropriation of the stamp for unau-
thorized purposes or by unauthorized persons
will be thereby practically defeated.

I claim as my invention—

1. In a seal-press of the general character
15 described, the combination, with the standard
and a plunger sliding therein and provided
with a notch or shoulder, of a lock secured to
the standard, the bolt of which lock engages
the shoulder of the plunger, said shoulder be-
20 ing placed in position to secure the plunger-

die in contact with or in close proximity to its
opposing die, substantially as and for the pur-
poses set forth.

2. A seal-press of the general character de-
scribed, comprising a metal frame constructed 25
of two parts permanently fastened to each
other, a lock having its working parts em-
braced between the parts of the frame, and a
plunger working in the frame, engaged by the
lock-bolt when said plunger is at its lower po- 30
sition, substantially as and for the purposes
set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as
my invention I affix my signature in presence
of two witnesses,

JOHN G. STRODTMANN.

Witnesses:

HOMER STEWART,
JAMES S. BLACK.