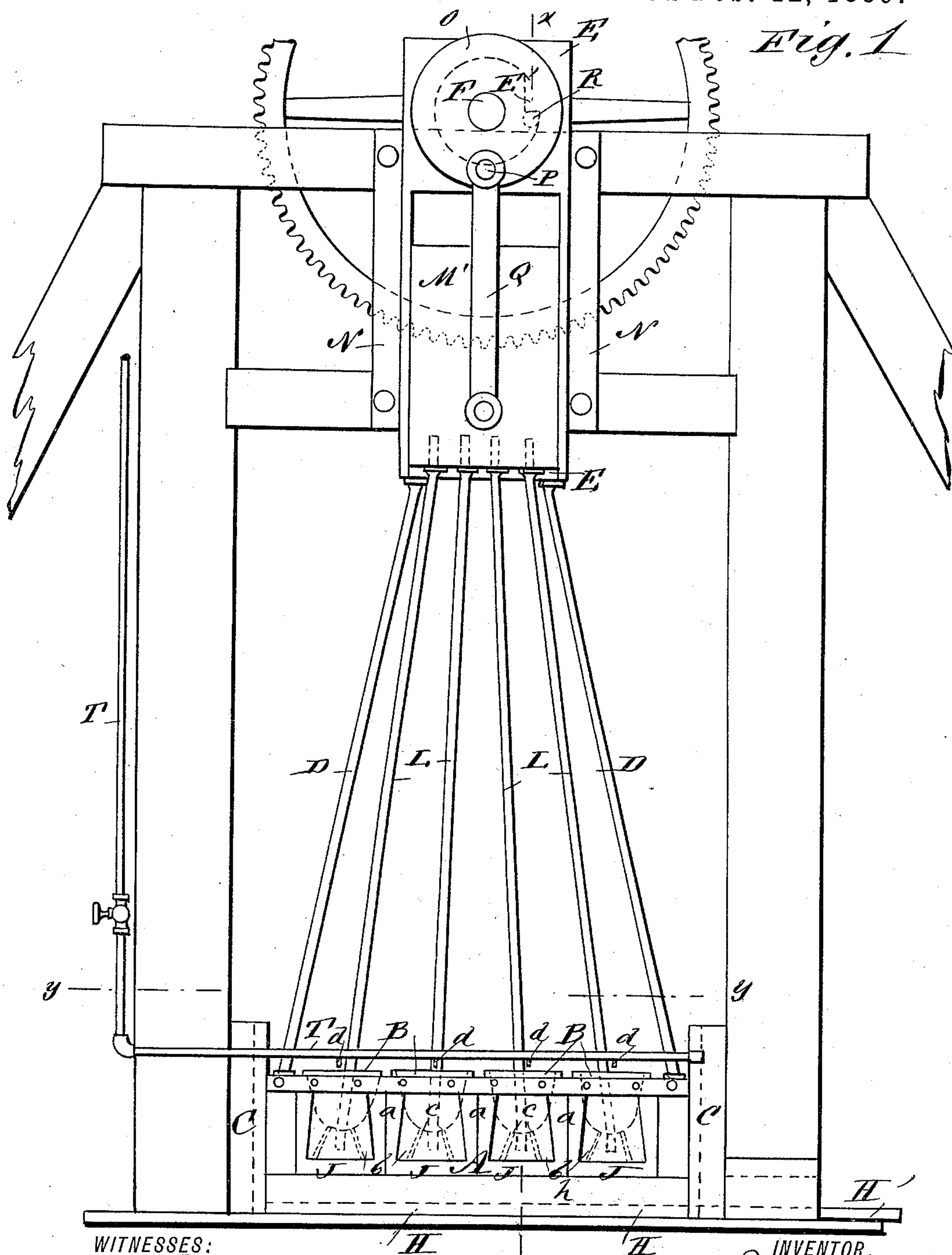


2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

BRICK PRESS.

Patented Feb. 12, 1889.



WITNESSES:

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BRICK PRESS.

No. 397,666.

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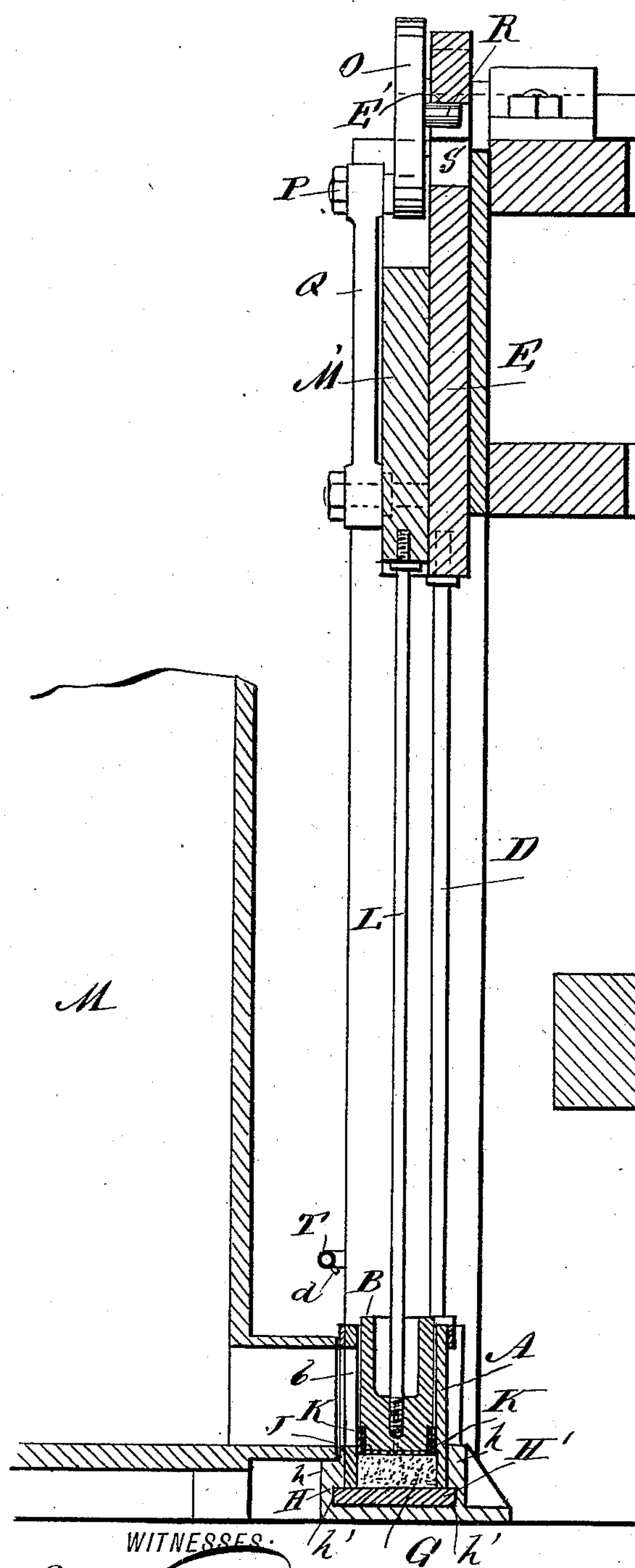


Fig. 2

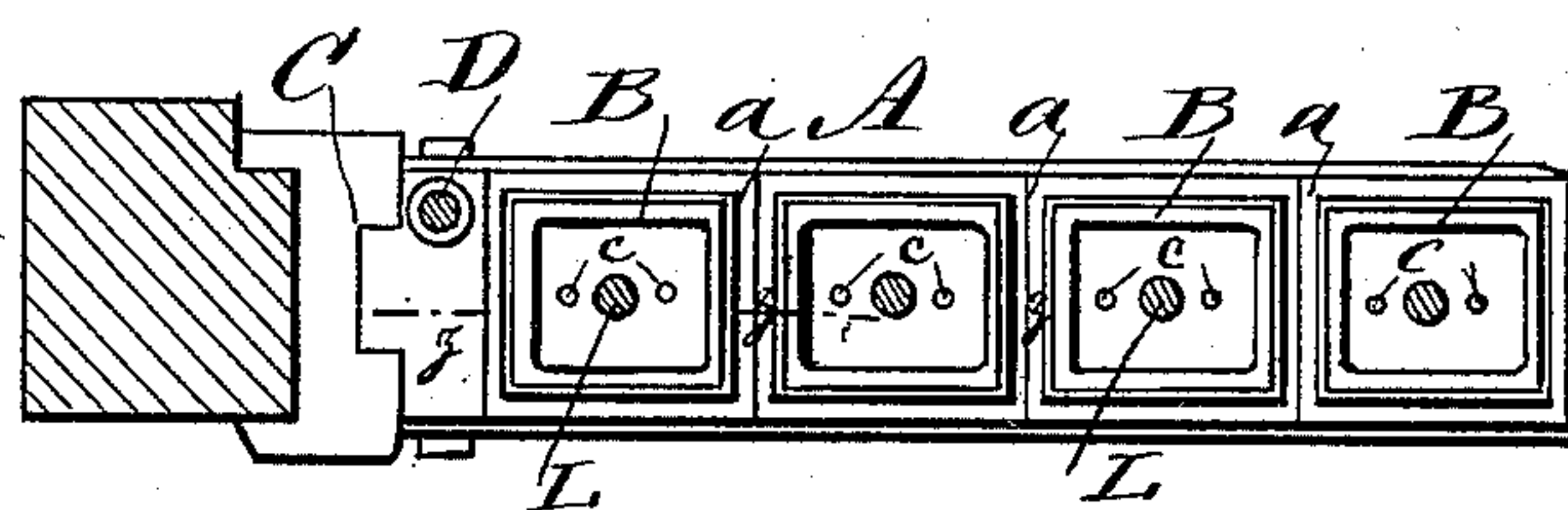


Fig. 3

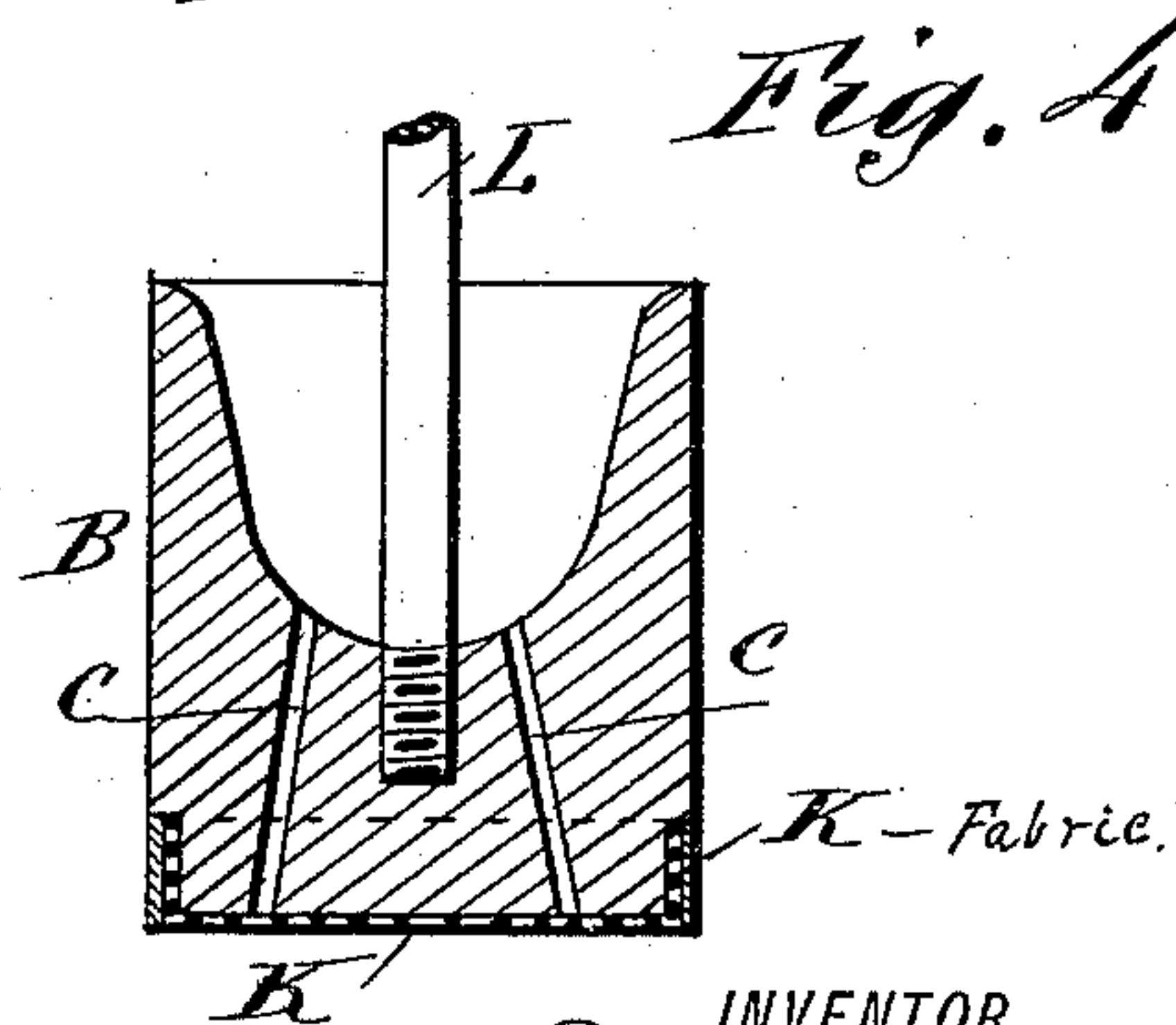


Fig. 4

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES H. STEELE, OF BUTTE CITY, MONTANA TERRITORY.

BRICK-PRESS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 397,666, dated February 12, 1889.

Application filed June 5, 1888. Serial No. 276,131. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES H. STEELE, of Butte City, in the county of Silver Bow and Territory of Montana, have invented a new and Improved Brick-Press, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates particularly to the molds and followers of brick-presses, and to the employment of jets of steam for moistening the molds.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a portion of a brick-press, showing my invention and the means for operating the followers and mold. Fig. 2 is a sectional elevation taken on the line $x x$ of Fig. 1, and showing a portion of the mud-mill. Fig. 3 is a sectional plan view taken on the line $y y$ of Fig. 1, and Fig. 4 is an enlarged sectional elevation of one of the followers on line $z z$ of Fig. 3.

A represents the mold constructed with several partitions $a a$ to form several bricks, and formed with passages b at one side to receive mud from the mud-mill M, to be pressed into bricks by the followers B. The mold A is held in the ways C C, and supported at its lower end by bed-plate H, and is connected by rods D to the cross-head or frame E, which receives vertical motion from the power-shaft F for lifting the mold above the bricks G, so that the board H', held in the grooves $h' h'$ of the flanges $h h$ of the bed-plate H, and also the bricks pressed thereon, may be removed at one end of the bed-plate and another board placed under the mold to receive the next pressure of brick. The flange J, below the openings b in the mold, is somewhat wider than the thickness of the bricks, so that as the followers B descend the superfluous mud forced into the mold through the openings b will be forced back into the mud-mill until

the lower ends of the followers pass the flange J. This causes a uniform supply of mud for each brick.

The followers B are formed with air-passages c , and are covered at their lower ends with flexible fabric K. This prevents the passages c from becoming clogged, and as the followers ascend air passes through the ducts c and bags the fabric K and prevents clay from sticking to the followers.

The followers are connected by the rods L to the head-block M', held in the ways N, and operated vertically by the disk O on shaft F, crank-pin P, and connecting-rod Q.

The cross-head E is operated vertically by the pin R in said disk O, (shown clearly in Fig. 2,) which pin works in a recess, S, in the cross-head E and strikes a projection or cam, E', so that the pin lifts the cross-head E and mold A for the purposes above described.

Attached to the main frame of the press is the steam-pipe T, formed with perforations or nozzles d , for diverting jets of steam into the mold to prevent the clay from sticking.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The vertically-reciprocating molds A, held in the main frame in ways C C and formed with the openings b at one side, in combination with the vertically-reciprocating followers B, fitted in the said molds, substantially as described.

2. The vertically-reciprocating molds A, having openings b , and the flange J, made wider than the thickness of a brick, in combination with the vertically-reciprocating followers B, fitted in said molds, substantially as described.

JAMES H. STEELE.

Witnesses:

SIMON JACOBS,
JOSEPH H. HARPER.