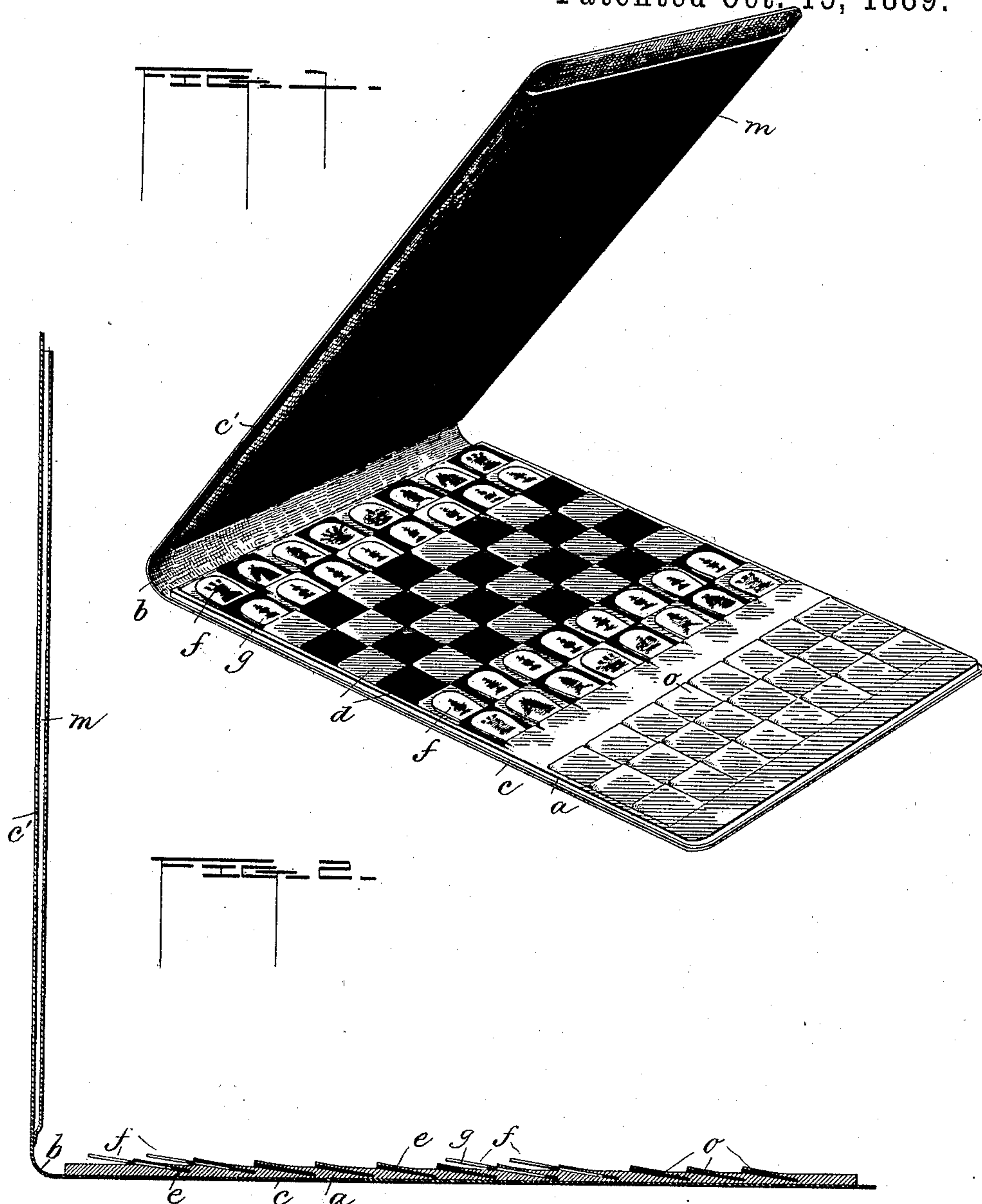


(No Model.)

F. CATLIN.  
POCKET CHESS BOARD.

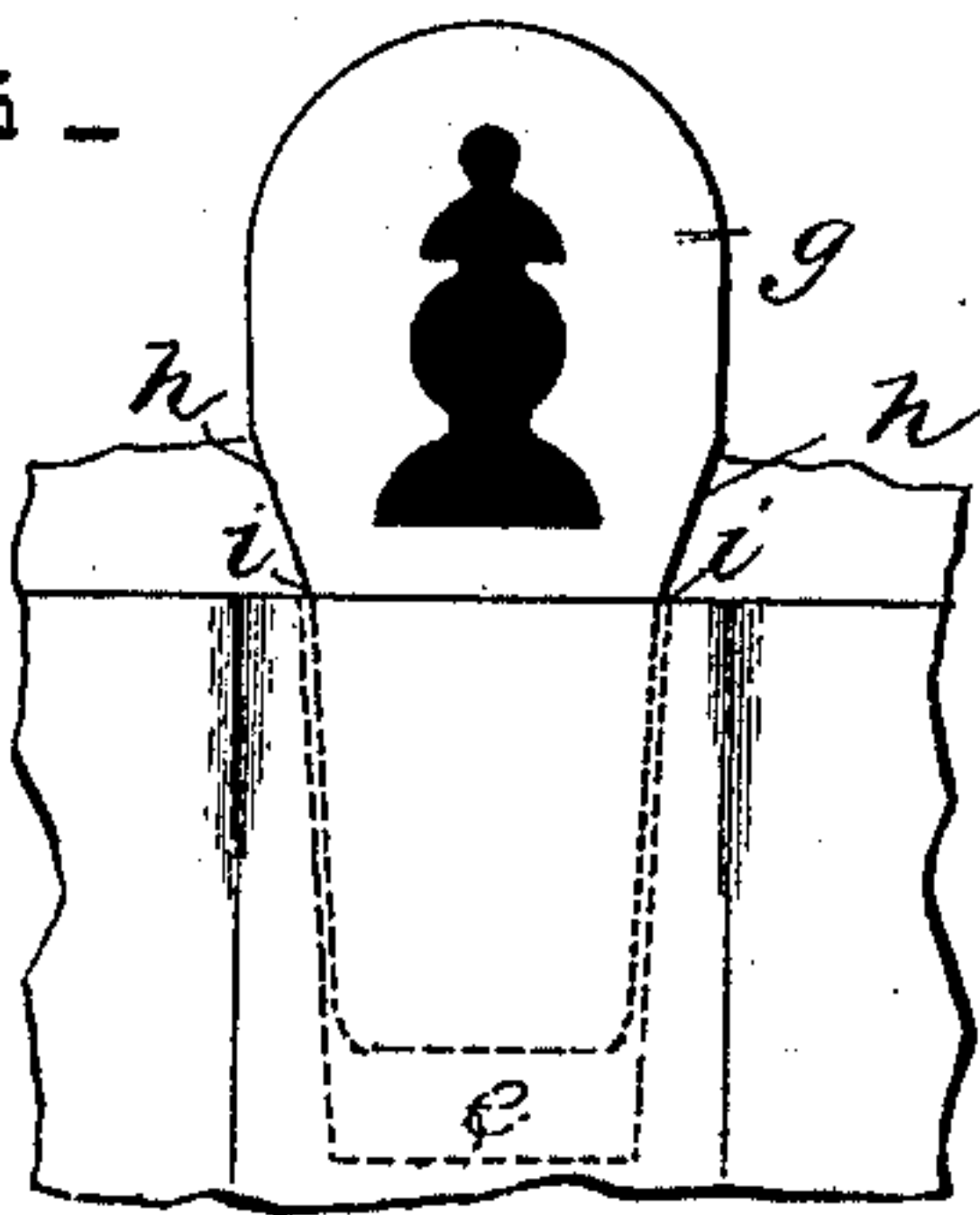
No. 413,026.

Patented Oct. 15, 1889.



WITNESSES:

L. G. Connor Jr.  
J. O. Davis.



INVENTOR,

Fred. Catlin  
per R. G. Davis  
his Att'y.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRED CATLIN, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

## POCKET CHESS-BOARD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 413,026, dated October 15, 1889.

Application filed May 22, 1889. Serial No. 311,658. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FRED CATLIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Pocket Chess-Boards; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to a pocket chess-board which is especially intended for the use of travelers, excursionists, and others.

Heretofore it has been common to make boards of this kind in the form of a flat pocket-book having two folding leaves with a board marked off on the inside of the leaves, the men used being made of flat pasteboard or other thin material which can be stuck into pockets contiguous to the squares, so that the men will ride over the squares, instead of resting thereon. Hitherto these pockets for the reception of the men have been formed by folding parchment or like material into plaits, and then stitching these plaits together at suitable intervals.

The object of my invention is to dispense with the folding and stitching, and at the same time to provide a board in which the pockets will better hold in the men to prevent them from dropping out when the board is turned wrong side up.

A further object of my invention is to provide a cover for the board which will be hinged to the end, so that it will fold backward under the board when the latter is in use, and which may also be provided with a pocket or other suitable receptacle for the men.

With these ends in view my invention consists in the peculiar features which will be more fully described hereinafter, and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my complete device; Fig. 2, a sectional view showing the manner in which the pockets are formed, and Fig. 3 a detail view showing the shape of the pockets and men.

The reference-letter *a* represents the board, which is glued or otherwise fastened to one

leaf *c* of the back *b*, and is composed in the present instance of leather, although other material could be successfully used. The usual squares *d* are marked off on the board, and a pocket *e* is punched contiguous to each square for the reception of the men *f*. Each pocket is given a width equal to about one-half that of the square, and they are punched just off the central edge of the latter, so that the head portion *g* of the men will project over the square when inserted in the pocket. These pockets or apertures can be readily formed with a chisel or similar sharp instrument, and when thus made they slant obliquely to the plane of the face of the board, as more clearly seen in Fig. 2, and the men, when inserted within them, will project slightly upward, so that they can easily be removed with the fingers.

The men are substantially wedge-shaped, and are provided upon their opposite sides with shoulders *h*, and are given a width sufficient to make the shoulders come in contact with the outside corners *i* of the pockets, to prevent the men from entering too far when inserted. It will be observed that in this construction there is no stitching to become broken or disordered, owing to the fact that the pockets are made in a single integral piece, whereby they are much more durable and handsome in appearance.

The fly-leaf *c'* is provided with a pocket *m*, which will also increase its usefulness, while an extra set of pockets and squares *o* are provided near the outer end of the board for those men which have been taken up or are not in use. The leaves *c* and *c'* are oblong and hinged together at their ends, the board *a* being mounted upon one, and the fly-leaf *c'* forming a cover for the board. By this arrangement the fly-leaf can also be folded back under the board when the latter is in use, thereby making it much more convenient to hold. As the board is composed of tough yielding substance—such as leather—the edges of the pockets will give slightly when the wedge-shaped men are inserted, and thus hold them securely in place, so that they will not drop out when the board is turned wrong side up.

It is evident that my invention could be



changed in many ways which might suggest themselves to a skilled mechanic; therefore I do not limit myself to the precise form and construction shown.

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

1. A pocket chess-board provided with a folding flap and formed of leather, having  
10 pockets punched in its surface contiguous to the squares, in combination with men having a wedge-shaped portion adapted to enter said pockets, whereby the men are securely held in place, in the manner and for the purpose  
15 substantially as described.

2. In a pocket chess-board, a pair of folding leaves, one of which is provided with a board composed of leather, having pockets punched in its surface, and the other arranged to fold

over the board when the latter is not in use, 20 and to fold under it when in use, in combination with men having a wedge-shaped portion adapted to enter said pockets, in the manner and for the purpose described.

3. A pocket chess-board formed of leather 25 or similar yielding material, having pockets punched in its surface contiguous to the squares, in combination with men having a wedge-shaped portion adapted to enter the pockets and to engage their edges, whereby 30 they are securely held in place, in the manner and for the purpose described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

FRED CATLIN.

Witnesses:

CHRISTOPHER GAFFNEY,  
WM. ARNOUX.