

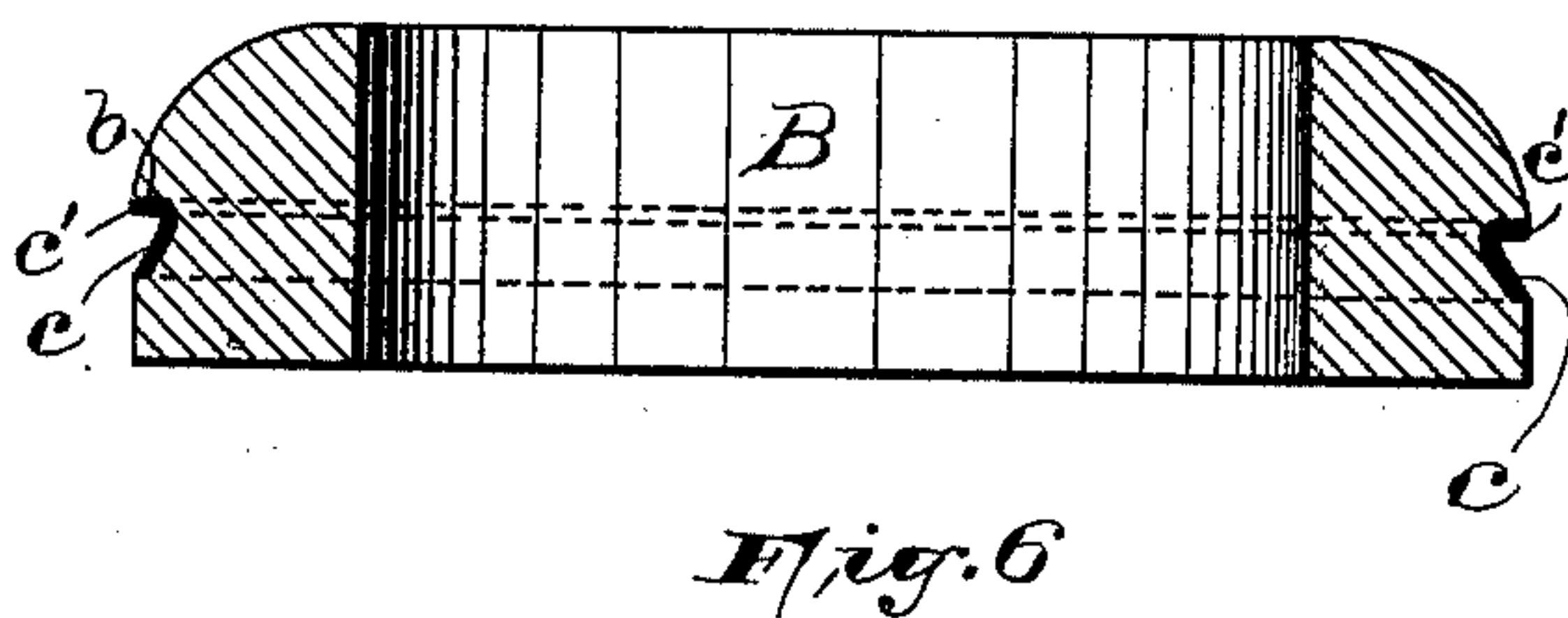
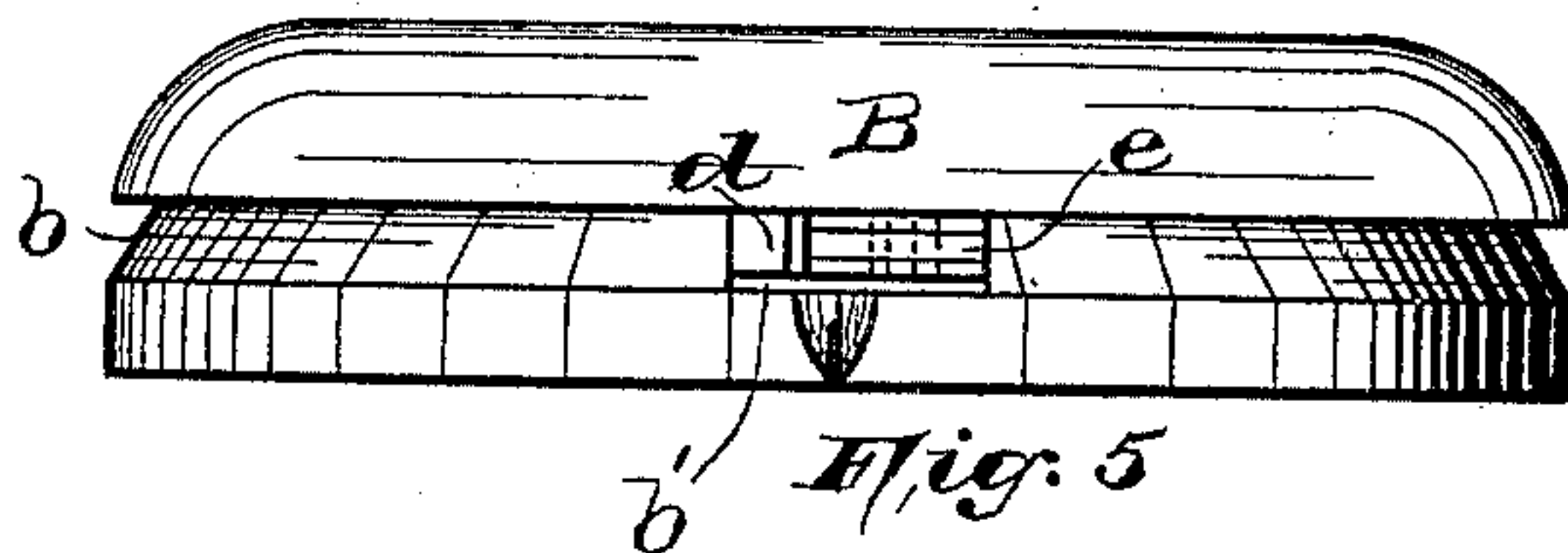
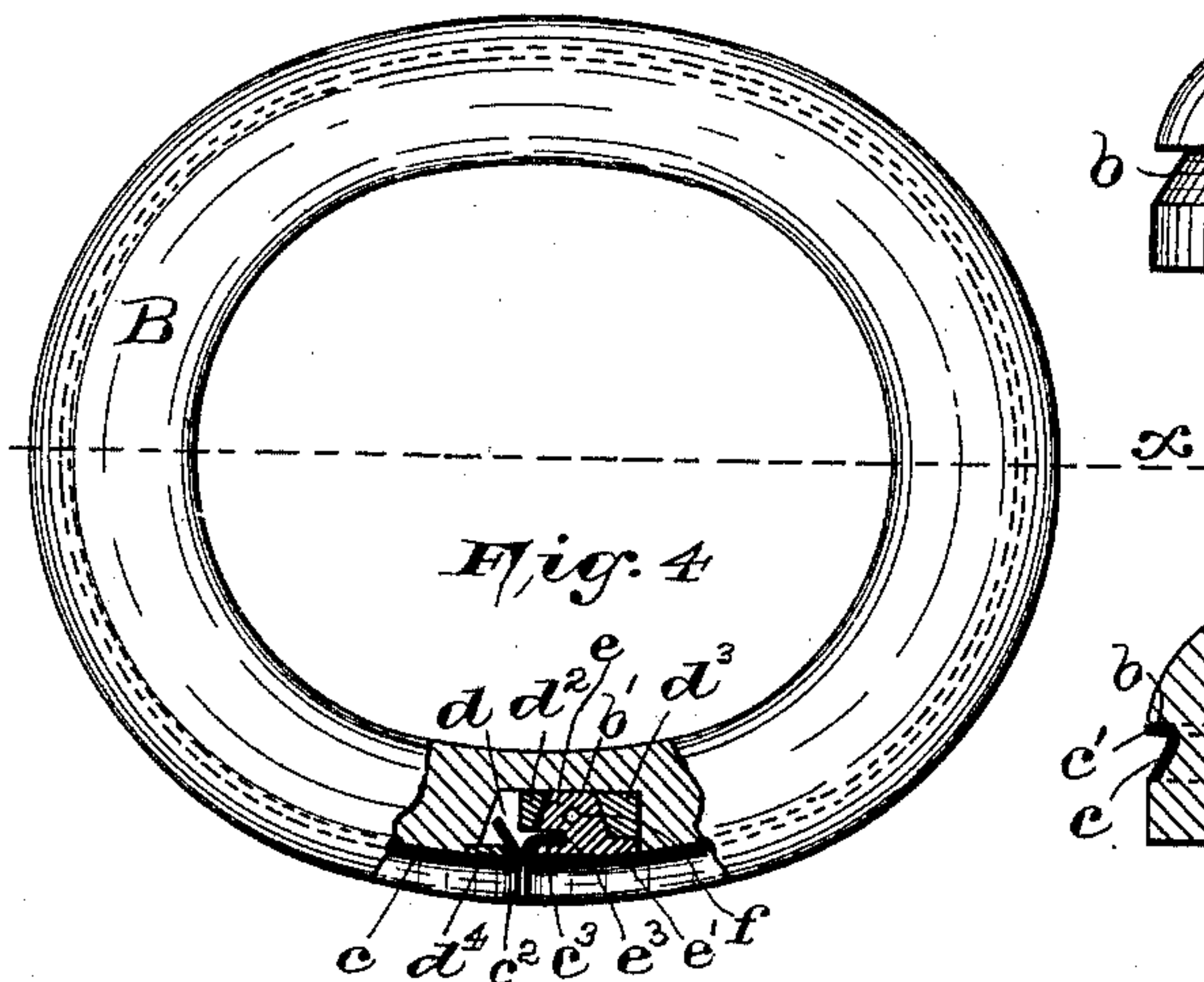
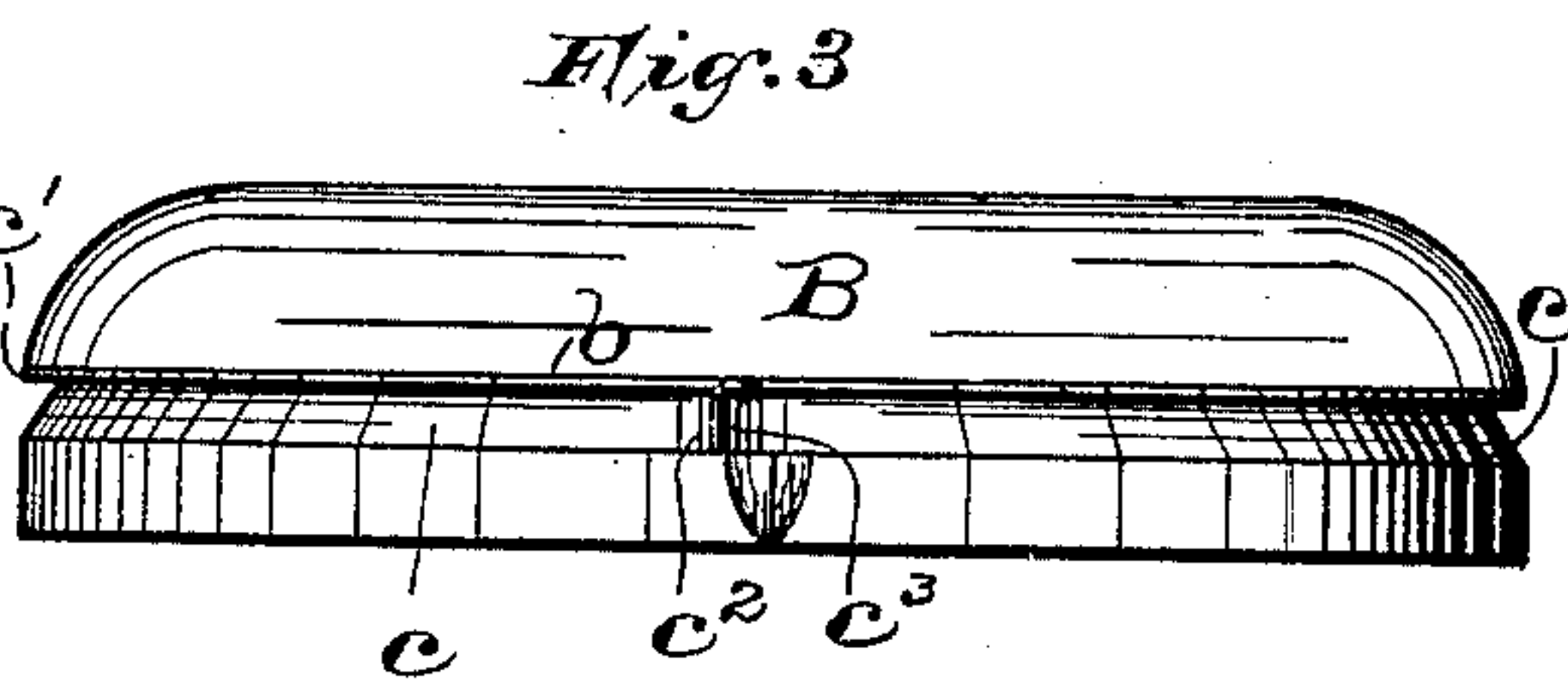
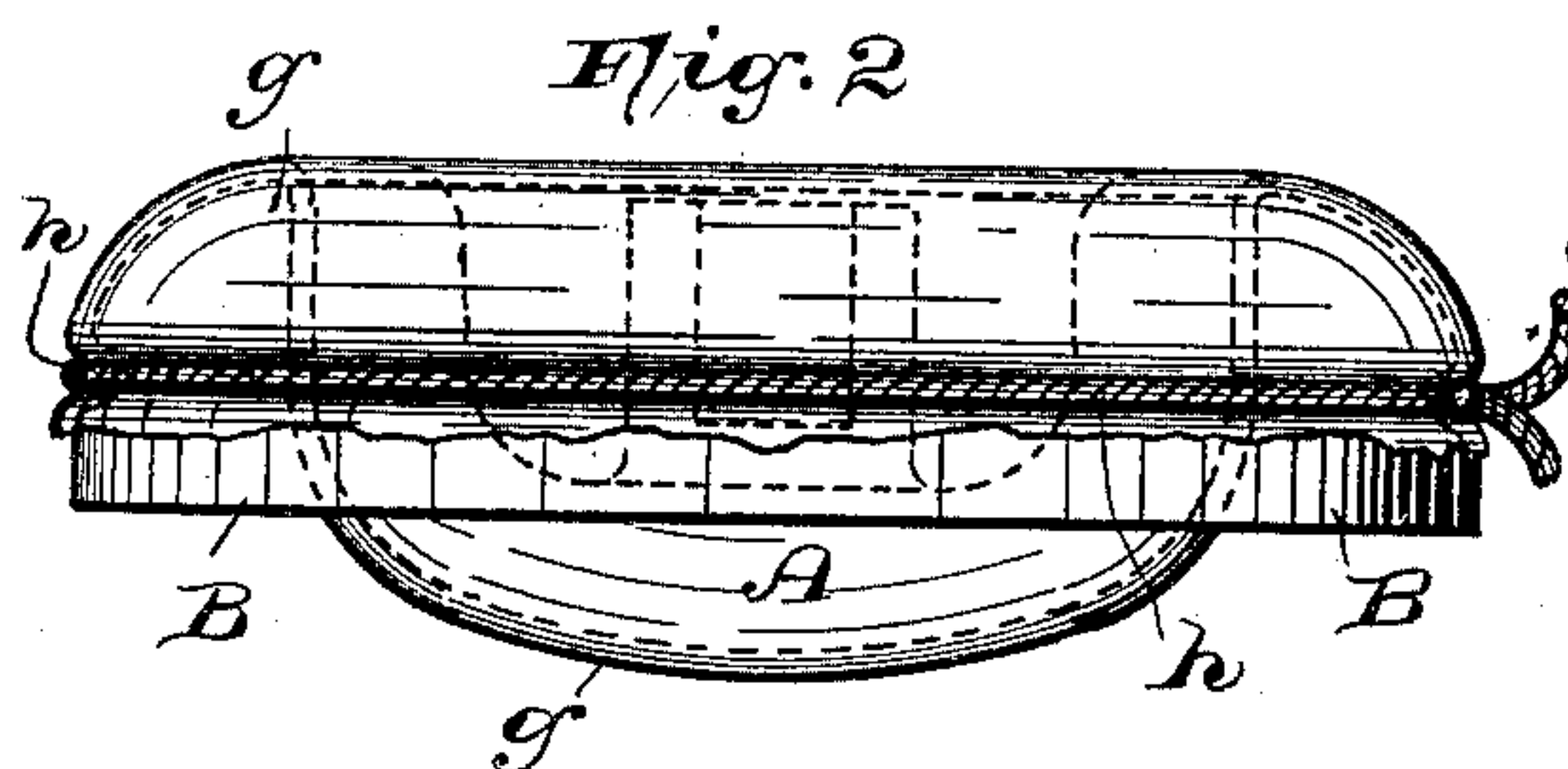
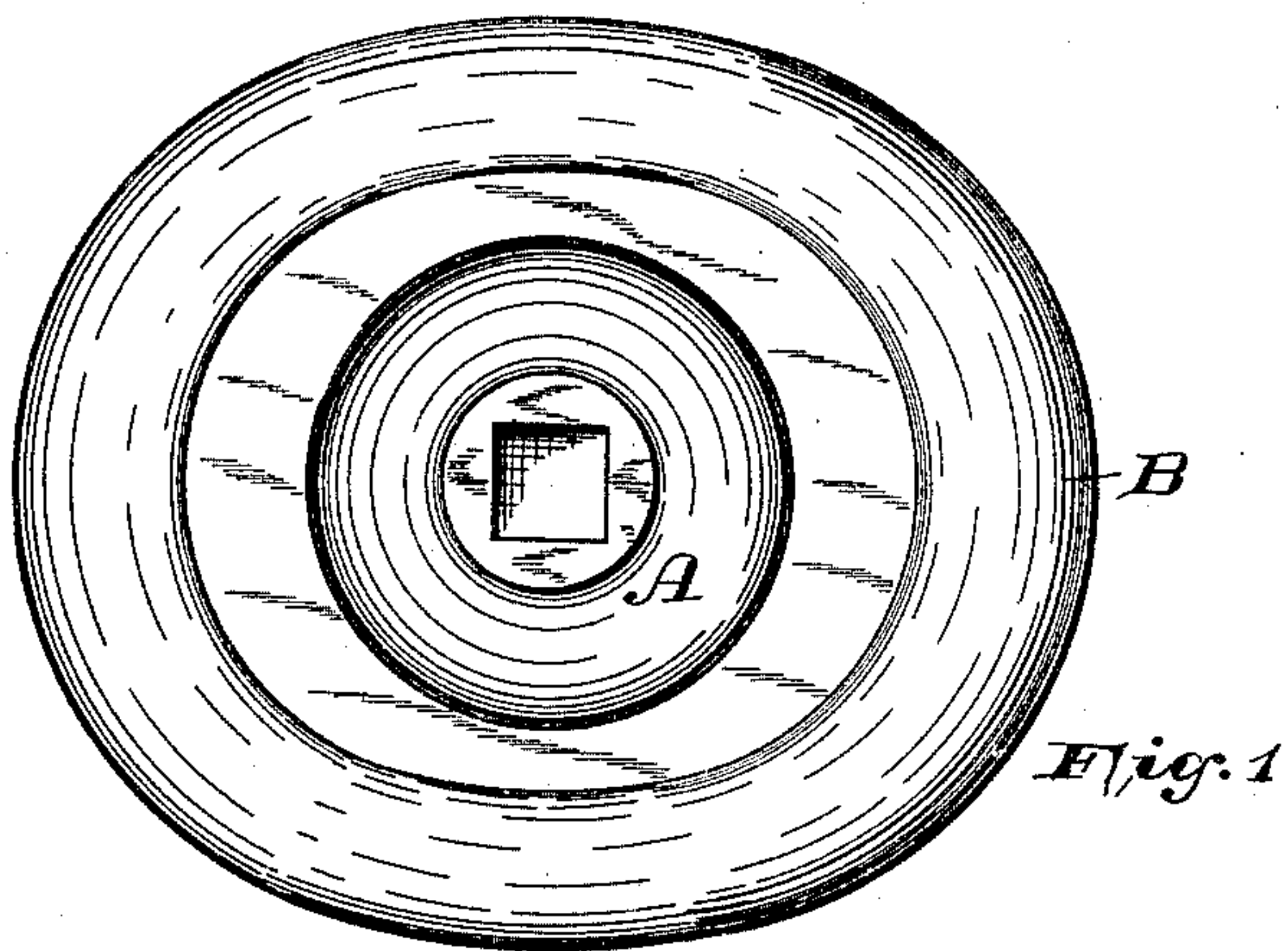
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

G. F. LARKIN.
DEVICE FOR BLOCKING HAT BODIES.

No. 435,145.

Patented Aug. 26, 1890.



WITNESSES:

Wm. H. Canfield.
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BY Fred C. Haentzel, ATTY.

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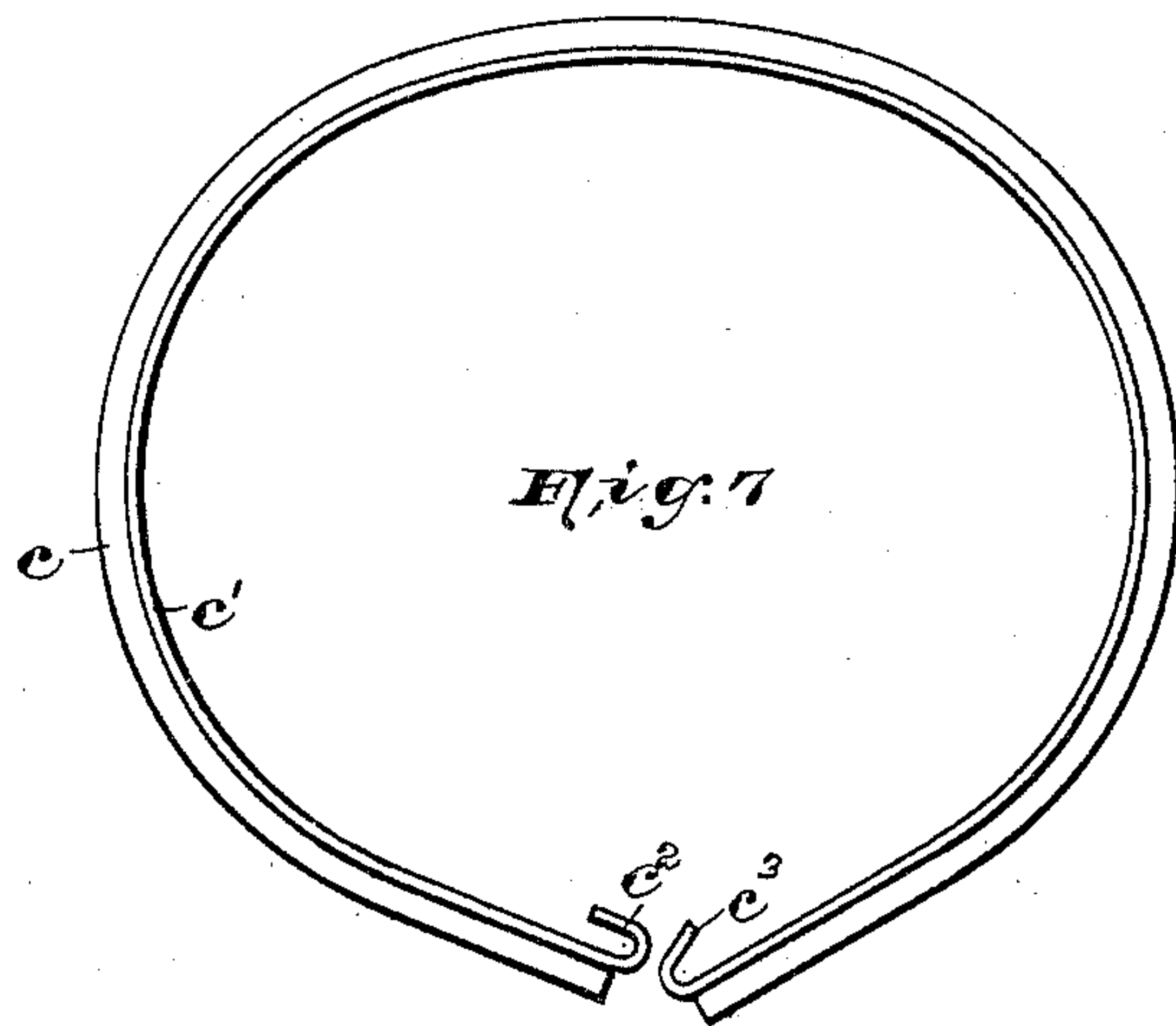


Fig. 8

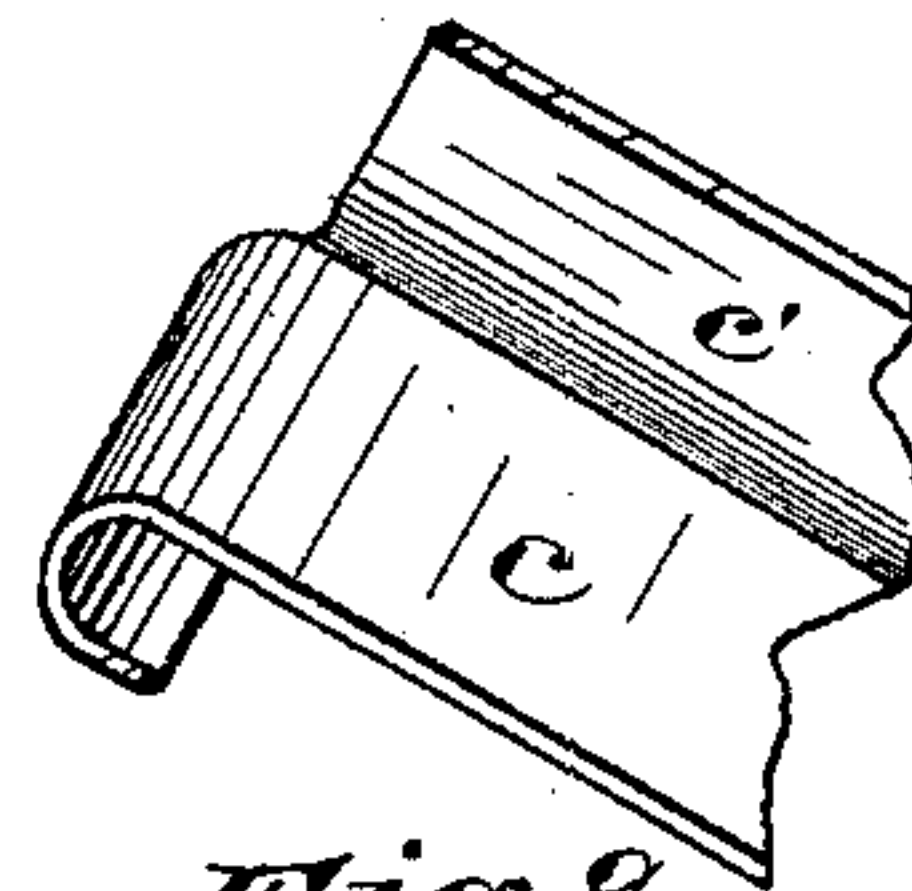


Fig. 9

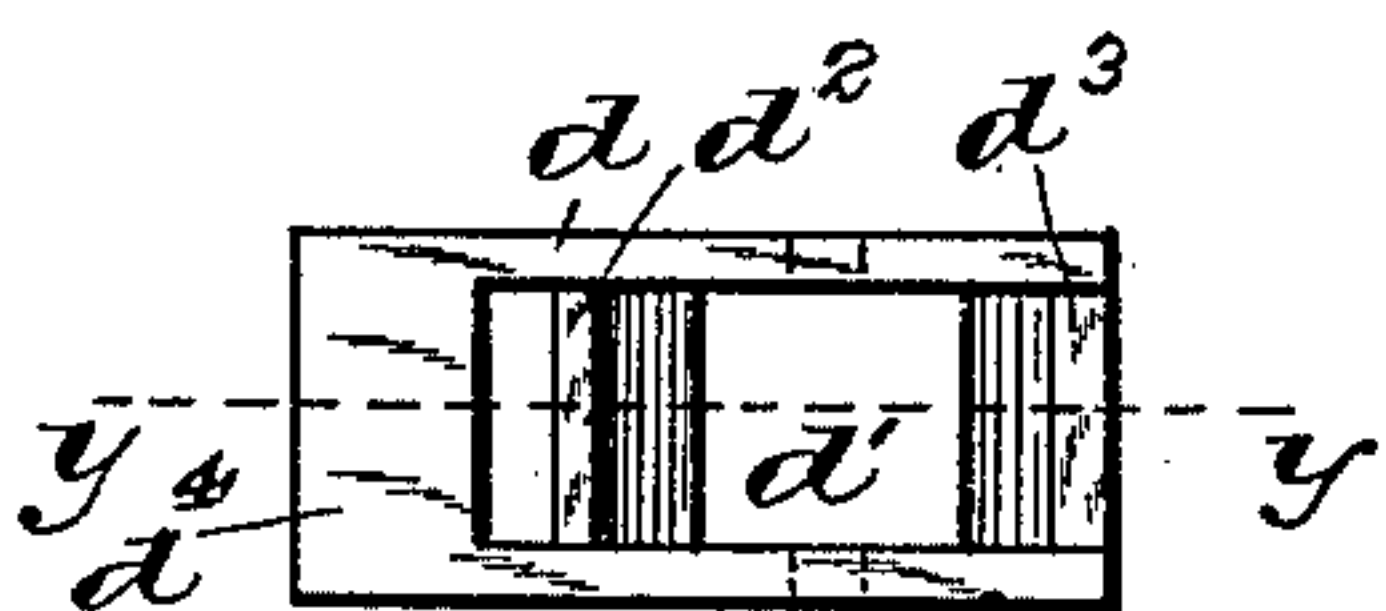


Fig. 10

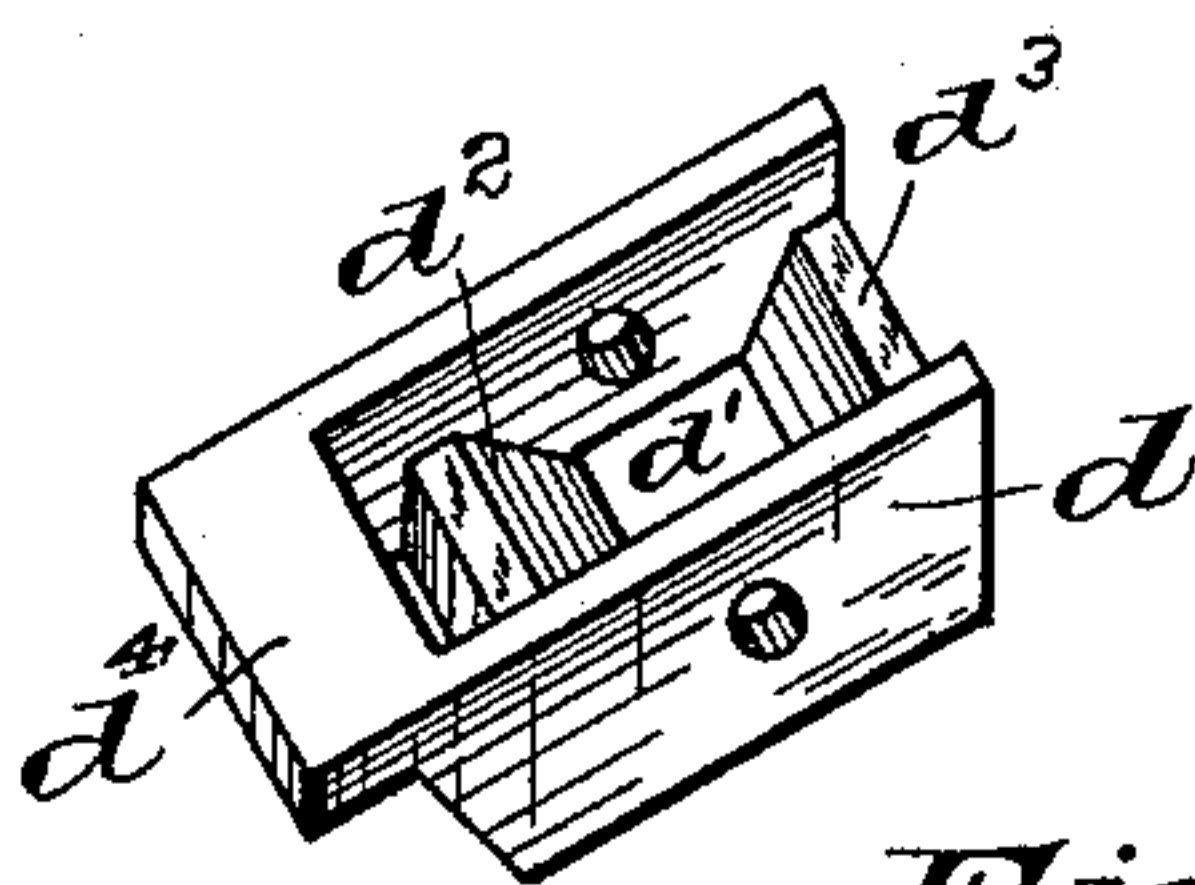


Fig. 12

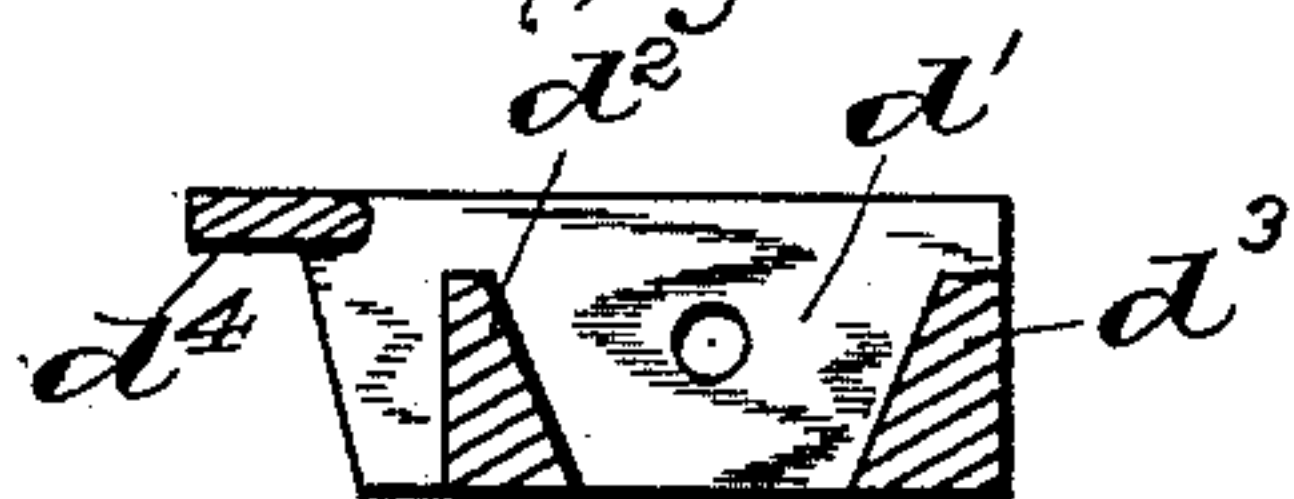


Fig. 11

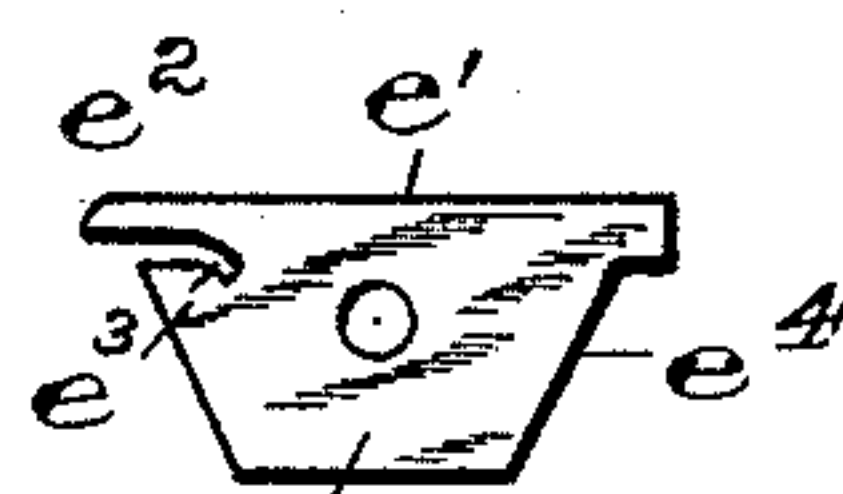


Fig. 13

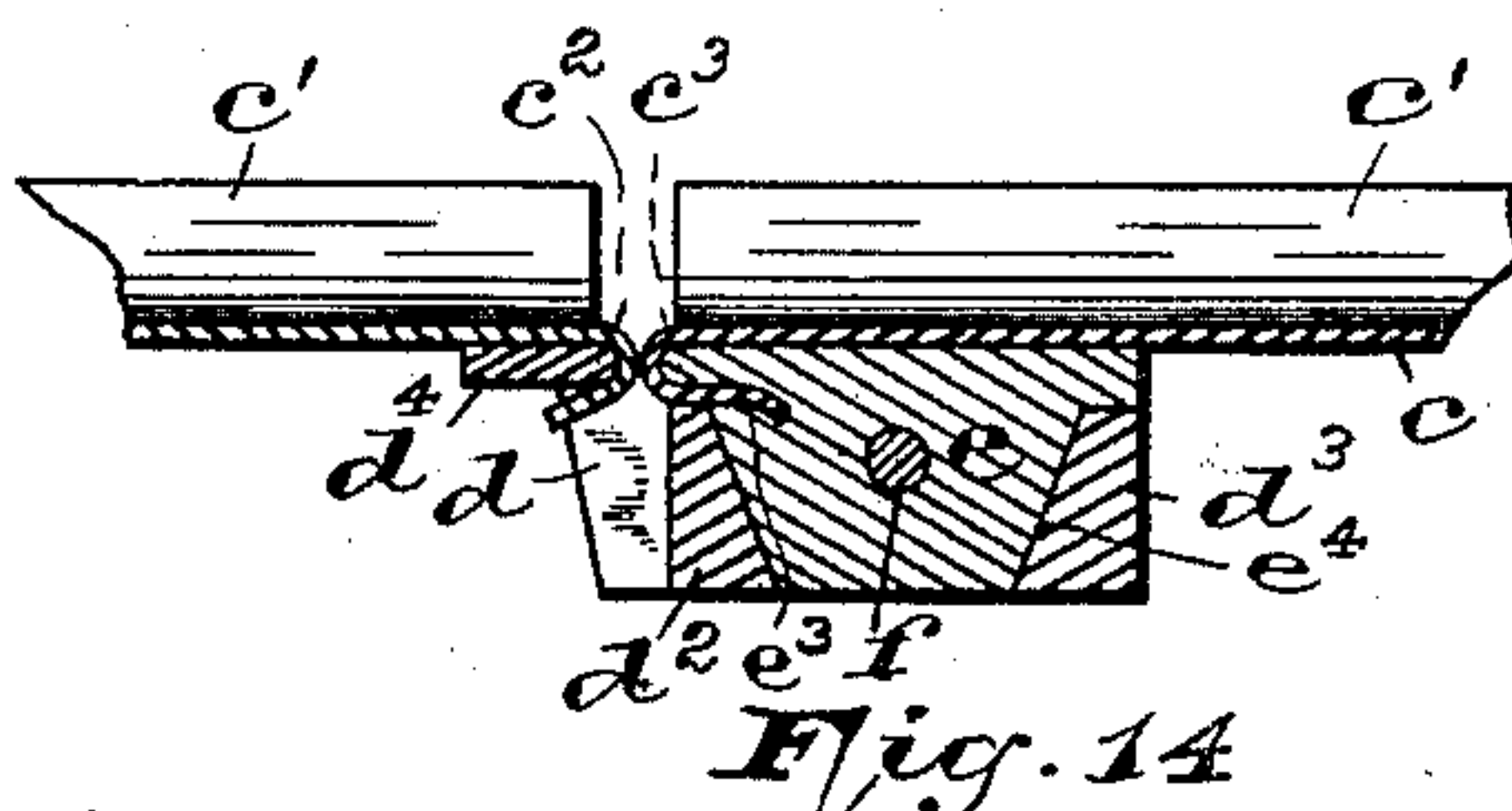


Fig. 14

WITNESSES:

Wm. H. Campfield.
Saml S. Nash

INVENTOR:

George F. Larkin.
BY Fred C. Fraentzel, ATTY.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE F. LARKIN, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY, ASSIGNOR TO THE NEWARK
HAT BLOCK COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

DEVICE FOR BLOCKING HAT-BODIES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 435,145, dated August 26, 1890.

Application filed December 10, 1889. Serial No. 333,218. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE F. LARKIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Newark, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Devices for Blocking Hat-Bodies; 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The present invention relates to improvements in hat-blocking devices; and it consists more especially in providing the brim-forming flange thereof with means whereby the same is prevented from being split when the block used in such devices is driven tight against the hat-body in the process of forming the hat.

A further object is to provide the flange in such devices with a metal strap or band, which serves as a guide for the point of the knife in cutting off the rough edge of the brim of the hat-body, and which also prevents the cutting away of the upper edge of the annular groove or recess in the periphery of the flange, which is the great objection in the brim-forming flanges now ordinarily used. My improved flange is designed to remedy these defects.

In the accompanying two sheets of drawings, in which is illustrated my invention, similar letters of reference are employed to indicate corresponding parts in each of the several views.

In said views, Figure 1 is a plan view of a hat-block and my improved flange. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same, illustrating a felt hat stretched between the block and the flange, and also over the latter, and fastened thereto by means of a cord. Fig. 3 is a side elevation of a flange having a metal strap or band arranged in the groove therein provided with a locking or fastening means for securing the ends of the strap thereto, which means fit into a cut-away or recessed portion in said flange. Fig. 4 represents the flange in plan with a part thereof and the ends of the metal strap and the locking or fastening device rep-

resented in horizontal section. Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 3, with the metal strap or band removed, but showing the locking or fastening device inserted in the said flange; and Fig. 6 is a vertical section of Fig. 3. On Sheet 2, Fig. 7 illustrates in plan view the metal strap formed or struck into shape. Fig. 8 is a blank of one of the ends of said strap, and Fig. 9 is a perspective view of the same. Fig. 10 is a top view of one part of the locking device. Fig. 11 is a vertical section of the same part, taken through line *y* in said Fig. 10; and Fig. 12 is the same part in perspective. Fig. 13 is a side elevation of a wedge-shaped plug which fits into the part illustrated in said last-mentioned figures; and Fig. 14 is a vertical section of the ends of the metal band and the several parts of the locking or fastening device, illustrating the manner of putting said parts together before insertion into the recessed part in the flange.

In the process of forming hats the hat-body which has been previously steamed is shaped or formed between the hat-block and the flange. Said flange as heretofore made was provided with the peripheral recess or groove shown in the drawings, and then the brim of the hat having been drawn over the flange is fastened around the flange by means of a cord arranged on the outside of the hat-body directly above said recess. The hat is then formed by means of pressure exerted upon the block, which is tightly driven into the flange. While cutting away the rough edge around the brim of the hat, the point of a sharp knife, which is inserted through the material into the recess above the cord, thereby often causes the upper edge of the recess or groove around the flange to be cut and destroyed. The flange also very often splits across the weakest part thereof when the block is tightly driven home.

The improved hat-blocking device shown herein consists of the ordinary block A and the flange B, provided with a peripheral recess or groove *b* cut away therein. This recess is angular in cross-section, as illustrated, and into the same is fitted my metal strap or band *c*, corresponding in length to that of the groove *b*, and which is bent, as shown more especially in Fig. 7, to provide the shoulder

c' . The ends of said strap or band are hook-shaped, as at c^2 and c^3 . The flange has a cut-away or recessed portion or chamber b' , (see Fig. 4,) into which fits a locking or fastening device, to which the hook-shaped ends of the strap or band c are attached. Said fastening device consists of a portion d , into which is fitted and is securely but removably arranged therein in a pocket d' , formed by walls d^2 and d^3 , which are inclined toward each other, the wedge-shaped portion e . To secure said metal strap or band c firmly around the flange B in the groove or recess b , said band is provided at its ends with hooks c^2 and c^3 , as indicated in Figs. 7 and 9, one end of which, as hook c^2 , is hooked over the solid portion or ledge d^4 in the portion d , as shown in Figs. 4 and 5, and the other hooked end of the metal strap is brought over the top side e' of the wedge-shaped portion e and around the end e^2 thereof and fitted into the slot or cut e^3 in the said wedge-shaped portion. When the hooked ends c^2 and c^3 of the metal strap or band have been attached, to the portions d and e , respectively, said portion d is inserted or placed into the recess or chamber b' in the flange, the strap arranged around the same in the groove or recess b , and the wedge-shaped portion e , to which the other end of the strap has been attached, is placed into the correspondingly-shaped pocket d' in the portion d , so that the inclined side e^4 slides down upon the similarly-inclined side of the wall d^3 , and is thereby firmly held in place in said pocket d' . A pin f may be driven through the portions d and e to prevent said parts from falling apart when the metal strap or band has been arranged around the flange B in the recess or groove b therein.

In Fig. 2 is shown the manner of arranging the hat-body between the block and flange upon which the same is to be formed. As shown, the hat-body g is arranged over the block A and pulled over the flange B , and that part of the body which forms the hat-brim is tied or fastened by means of a string or cord h around the flange and over the shouldered metal band c on the outer side of the material, as is clearly illustrated. The said metal band or strap is angular in cross-section, as has been stated, to provide the shoulder c' , which shoulder is above the upper edge of the cord when the same has been secured around the hat-body. When the point of a knife is inserted above the upper edge of the cord and below the shoulder c' and through the material, said knife is forced along the shoulder c' , which acts as a guide, and the brim of the hat is thereby evenly and smoothly cut. By employing this metal band or strap around the flange there is no danger of cutting the upper wooden edge of the recess or groove b , and thereby spoiling the marking-edge upon the flange, and to which the brim of the hat is trimmed.

Another great objection to the use of the or-

dinary hat-brim-forming flange without the metal strap is that in constantly drawing the steamed hat-body over the flange and cording the same around said flange the sharp wooden edge above the groove in the periphery of the same, which, due to the great pressure exerted upon the hat-body by means of the block, forms a line or mark around the brim, to which the same is trimmed, gradually becomes worn and is rounded off, and its usefulness thereby destroyed. By the employment of my metal strap arranged in said groove this is prevented, and the brim can readily be cut and trimmed while upon the flange, or the hat-body, after being formed, can be removed therefrom and correctly and evenly trimmed when dry around said mark formed by the sharp shoulder c' on the metal band or strap, as will readily be understood. Furthermore, flanges as heretofore made, which are not provided with my metal band, very often in applying a very great pressure to the block are caused to split across the weakest part of the same in the direction of the grain of the wood, which renders the flange useless.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. In a device for blocking hats, a brim-forming flange provided with a 7-shaped peripheral groove and a 7-shaped metal strap or band therein, for the purposes set forth.

2. In a device for blocking hats, a brim-forming flange provided with an angular groove around the periphery thereof, and a correspondingly-shaped band or strap therein having on its opposite ends hooks formed integrally thereon, which extend into a pocket or chamber for attaching said band or strap, as and for the purposes set forth.

3. In a device for blocking hats, a brim-forming flange provided with a groove extending around the periphery thereof, a metal band or strap therein, and a fastening device arranged in a pocket or chamber in one side of the flange for connecting the ends of said band or strap for securing the same in said groove, for the purposes set forth.

4. In a hat-blocking device, a brim-forming flange provided with a metal band or strap bent angularly to form a shoulder, the free ends of said strap being formed into hooks, and a fastening device arranged in a pocket or chamber in one side of the flange, to which said hooks are attached, and thereby securing said strap or band to the flange, for the purposes set forth.

5. In a hat-blocking device, a brim-forming flange provided with a metal band or strap bent angularly to form a shoulder, hook c^2 thereon hooked over a ledge in the portion d , which is arranged in a chamber b' in said flange, a hook c^3 on the opposite end of said strap adapted to be hooked into a slot in a wedge-shaped portion e , which fits into a pocket in the portion d , and a pin for securing said parts together, for the purposes set forth.

6. In a hat-blocking device, in the brim-
forming flange therein, a locking or fastening
device consisting of portions *d* and *e*, said
portion *d* being provided with a ledge *d*¹,
5 walls *d*² and *d*³, forming a pocket, and a por-
tion *e*, fitting into said pocket, and a strap or
band arranged around said flange, the ends
of which strap are hook-shaped, for attach-
ing the same to the portions *d* and *e*, and
10 thereby securing the same to the flange, for
the purposes set forth.

7. The herein-described metal band or strap
bent 7-shaped in cross-section to form a shoul-
der and provided with hook-shaped ends, as
15 set forth.

8. In a hat-blocking device, in combination
with the flange having a chamber therein, of
a metal band encircling said flange and pro-
vided with a locking device in said chamber
concealed behind the ends of said band, for 20
securing said ends together, and the band
around the flange, as and for the purpose set
forth.

In testimony that I claim the invention set
forth above I have hereunto set my hand 25
this 7th day of December, 1889.

GEORGE F. LARKIN.

Witnesses:

FREDK. C. FRAENTZEL,
WM. H. CAMFIELD.