

(No Model.)

A. W. ELSNER.  
FOLDING VOTING BOOTH.

No. 442,664.

Patented Dec. 16, 1890.

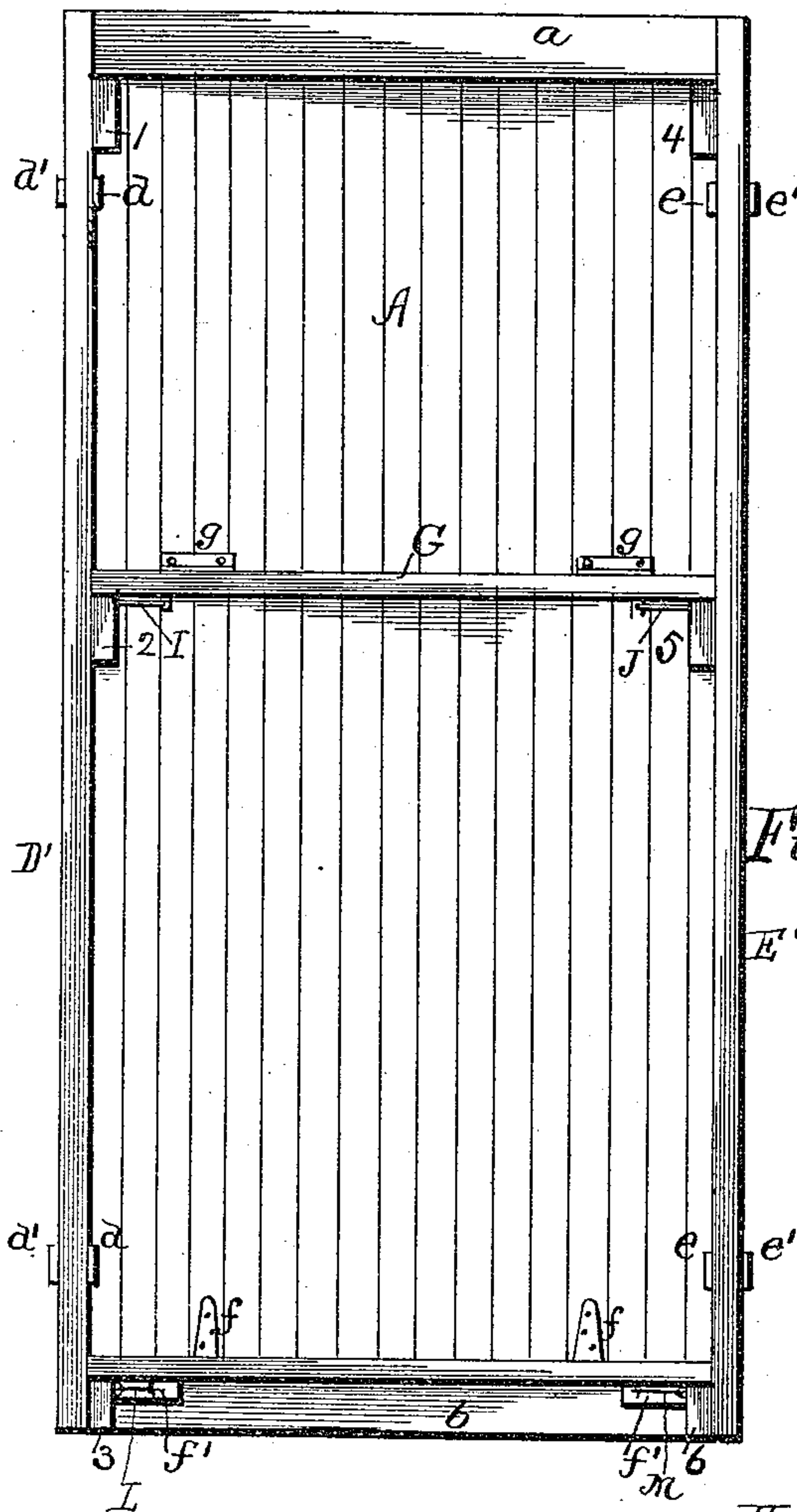


Fig. 1

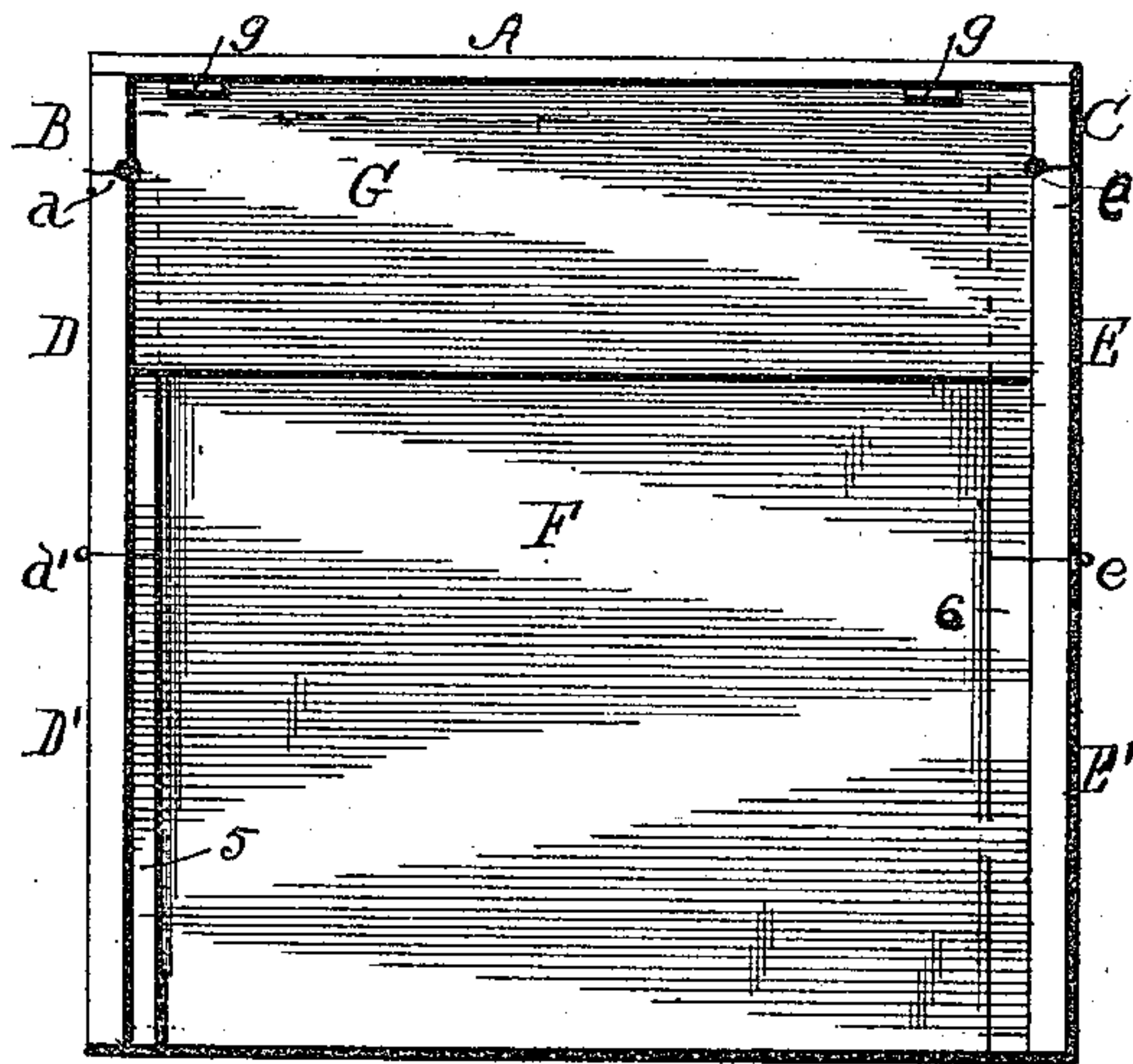


Fig. 2.

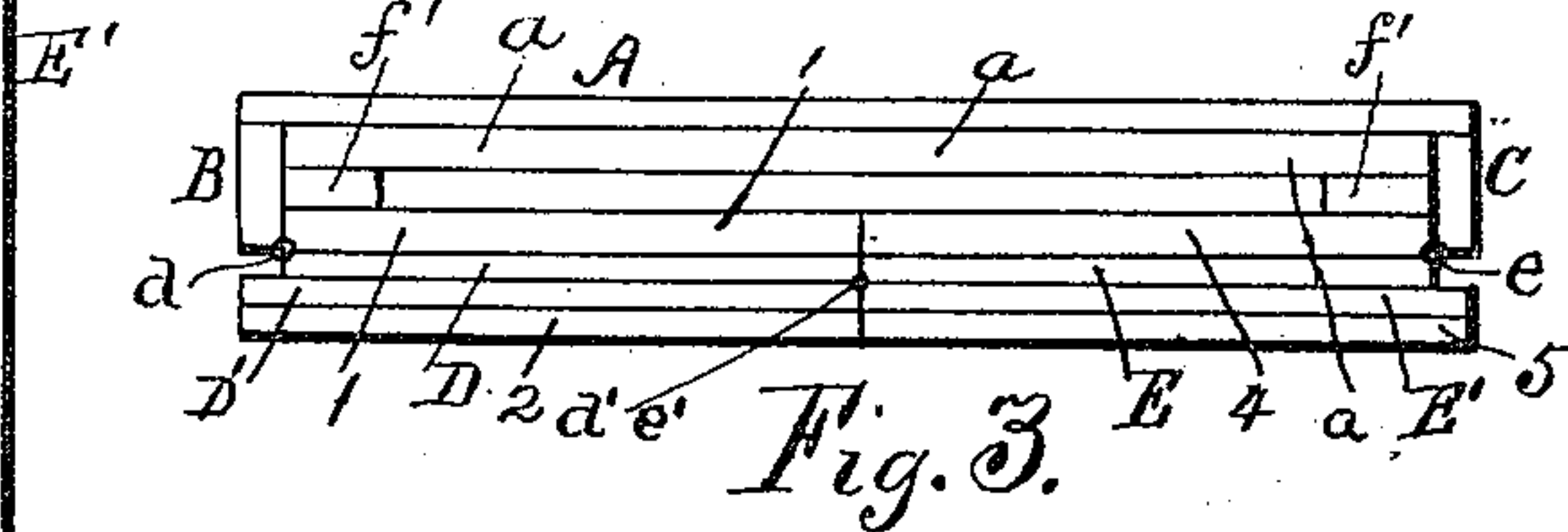


Fig. 3.

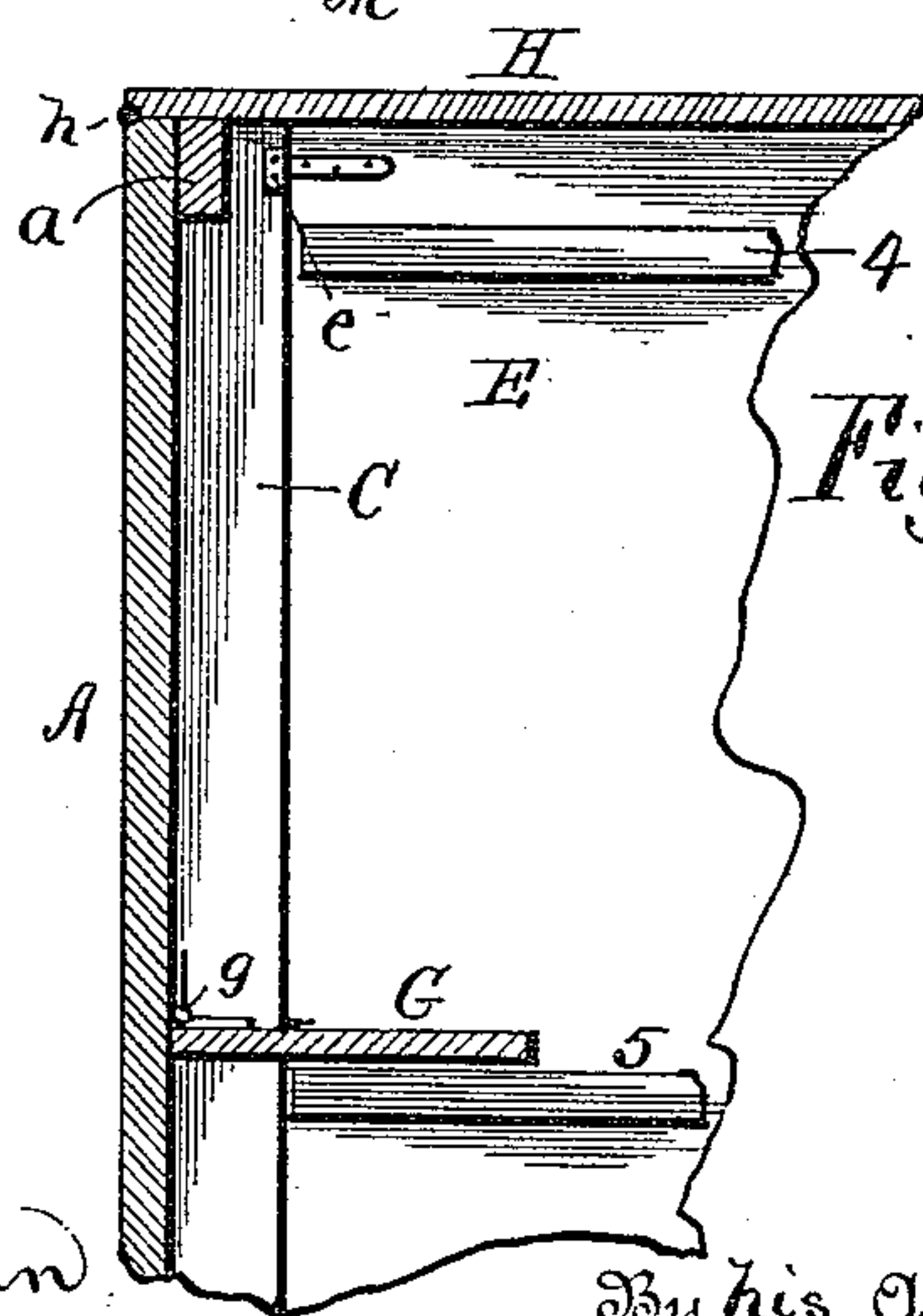


Fig. 4.

Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ADOLPH W. ELSNER, OF JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI, ASSIGNOR TO THE  
ELSNER'S PATENT FOLDING VOTING BOOTH COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

## FOLDING VOTING-BOOTH.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 442,664, dated December 16, 1890.

Application filed March 18, 1890. Serial No. 344,317. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ADOLPH W. ELSNER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Jefferson City, in the county of Cole and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Voting-Booths; and I do 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 the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to booths or portable houses to be used for voting purposes in places where the Australian or other similar voting systems are used. In such systems a small apartment or series thereof are provided in which the voter may privately prepare his ballot ready to deliver to the ballot-box or to a properly authorized officer, and inasmuch as the accommodations necessary for this purpose are such that they are generally of no use for other purposes it is not deemed advisable in many instances to fit up a building or room except with removable fixtures. For this reason a portable and collapsible structure with the necessary accommodation for voting purposes has become desirable, and to furnish such a structure is the object of my invention.

With this object in view my invention consists in the improved construction, arrangement, and combination of parts, hereinafter fully described, and afterward specifically pointed out in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a view in front elevation of my invention, the booth being set up in position for use without a roof. Fig. 2 is a top plan view thereof, the upper battens of the back and doors being omitted. Fig. 3 is a top plan view of the booth folded. Fig. 4 is a vertical section of the upper part of the booth with a roof in place, looking to the right in Fig. 1.

Like letters and figures of reference mark the same parts wherever they occur in the various figures of the drawings.

Referring more particularly to the draw-

ings by letters of reference, A marks the back, B C the permanent sides, D E the movable sides, or, as for convenience, I denominate them the "doors," and F is the floor. These are the main parts of the structure, and are composed of ordinary lumber, such as flooring or planks, as may suit the builder, the pieces thereof being secured and held together by cross-pieces, which, for convenience, I call "battens."

G is the writing table or desk.

The planking forming the back A is secured by battens *a b*, the batten *a* being across the top and the batten *b* across the bottom. The sides B C are nailed or otherwise rigidly secured at each edge of the back. The doors D E are hinged at *d e* to the sides B C, and have hinged to them at *d' e'* wings D' E', the doors D E being hinged to fold inward and the wings D' E' to fold outward. These doors and wings are made of planking secured together and stiffened by battens 1 2 3 4 5 6, as shown.

The floor F, which is composed of planking secured and braced by battens *f'*, is hinged to the back A by hinges *f*, as shown.

The shelf or desk G consists of a board hinged at *g* to the back at a proper height to write upon.

When the booth is to be used out of doors, a roof H is necessary, which is shown in Fig. 4, and is secured removably to the top of the back by suitable hinges, or they may be hooks, as at *h h*. The sides B C are sufficiently wide from front to rear to bring the hinges of the doors D E far enough away from the back to permit proper folding, and the battens of the back, doors, and floor are so placed that they will not interfere with each other in folding.

My improved booth being in position for use, as in Fig. 1, the desk G will be secured to the doors D E by hooks I J, the ends of the desk resting on the battens 2 and 4 on said doors. The floor F will be secured to wings D' E' by hooks L M, the ends of the floor resting upon battens 3 and 6.

When desired for use, the roof will rest on top of the structure, as described.

To fold the booth for storage or transportation, the desk and floor hooks are unfastened



and the desk and floor folded up against the back, the floor-battens being on the outside and the floor lying close against the back in the same vertical plane as the desk, but below  
 5 it. The wings D' and E' are folded outward until they lie close against the outside of doors D E, when these doors are folded inward against the folded floor and desk in the position shown in Fig. 3, and the whole is se-  
 10 cured in its folded position by any suitable means, occupying less than one-sixth of the space required when open.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by  
 15 Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. A folding booth consisting of a back having sides rigidly secured thereto, doors hinged to said sides to fold inward, a floor  
 20 hinged to said back to fold upward against it, and a desk hinged to fold against said back, as set forth.

2. A folding booth consisting of a back having sides rigidly secured thereto, doors hinged to said sides to fold inward, wings  
 25 hinged to said doors to fold outward, a floor hinged to said back to fold upward against it, and a desk hinged to fold against said back, as set forth.

3. A folding booth consisting of a back  
 30 having sides rigidly secured thereto, doors

hinged to said sides to fold inward, a floor hinged to said back to fold upward against it, and a desk hinged to fold against said back, and a roof removably hinged to said back, as  
 35 set forth.

4. A folding booth provided with a back having sides rigidly secured thereto, doors hinged to said sides to fold inward and pro-  
 40 vided with battens 2 3 and 5 6, a floor hinged to said back to fold against it, a desk hinged to said back to fold against it, said floor resting upon battens 3 and 6 and said desk upon battens 2 and 4 when in position for use, and fastening devices for securing said floor and  
 45 desk in such positions, as set forth.

5. In combination, the back having battens *a b*, the sides secured to the back, the doors D E, hinged to the sides and having battens 1  
 50 2 3 4 5 6, the floor hinged to the back and having battens *f' f'*, and the desk G, hinged to the back, the desk and floor and the battens of the back, floor, and doors being arranged in position so that they will not interfere with each other in folding, as set forth.

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

ADOLPH W. ELSNER.

Witnesses:

LOGAN B. CHAPPELL,  
 W. A. DALLMEYER.