

(No Model.)

4 Sheets—Sheet 1.

L. A. BROWN.
BASKET HAMPER.

No. 446,579.

Patented Feb. 17, 1891.

Fig. 1.

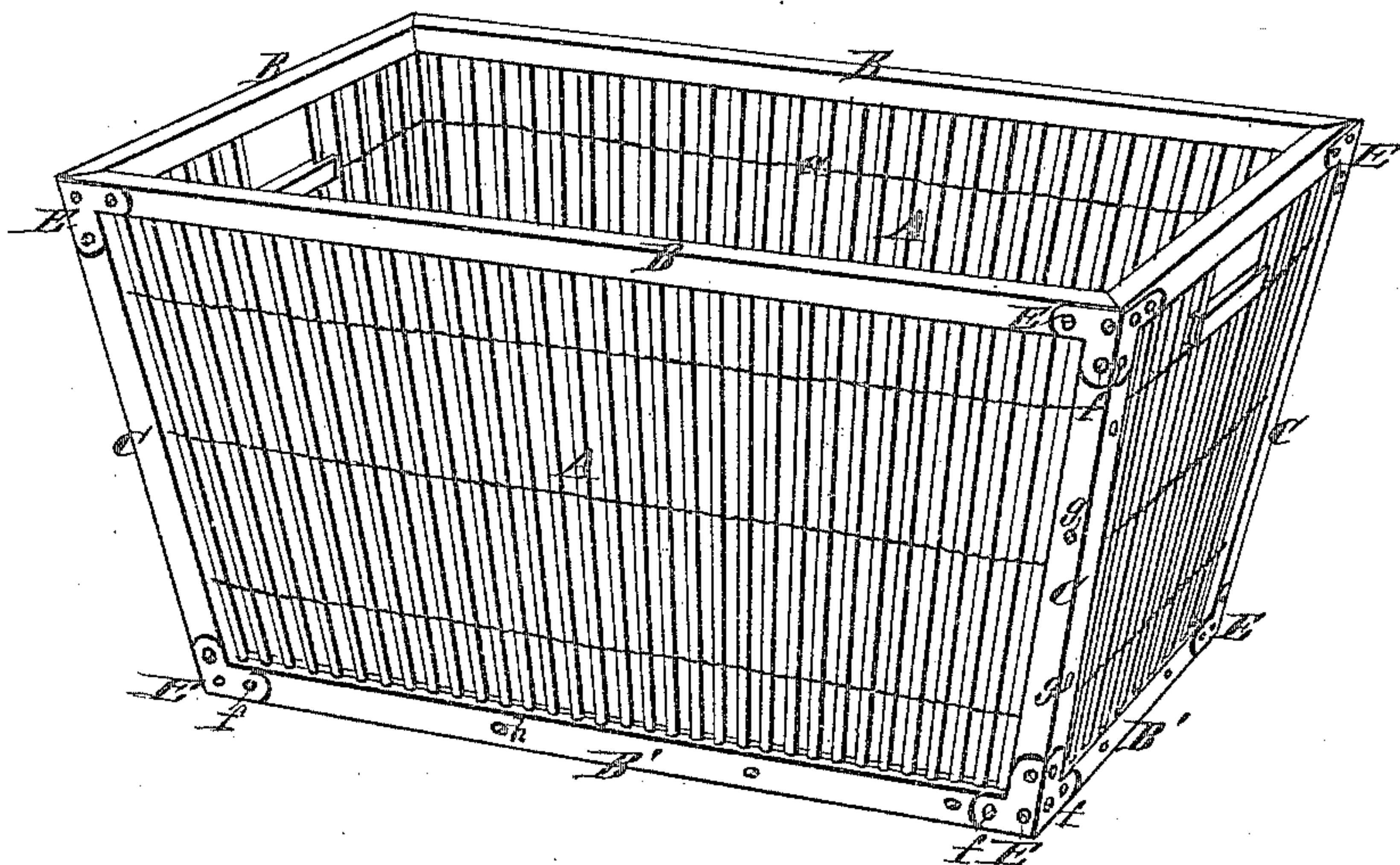
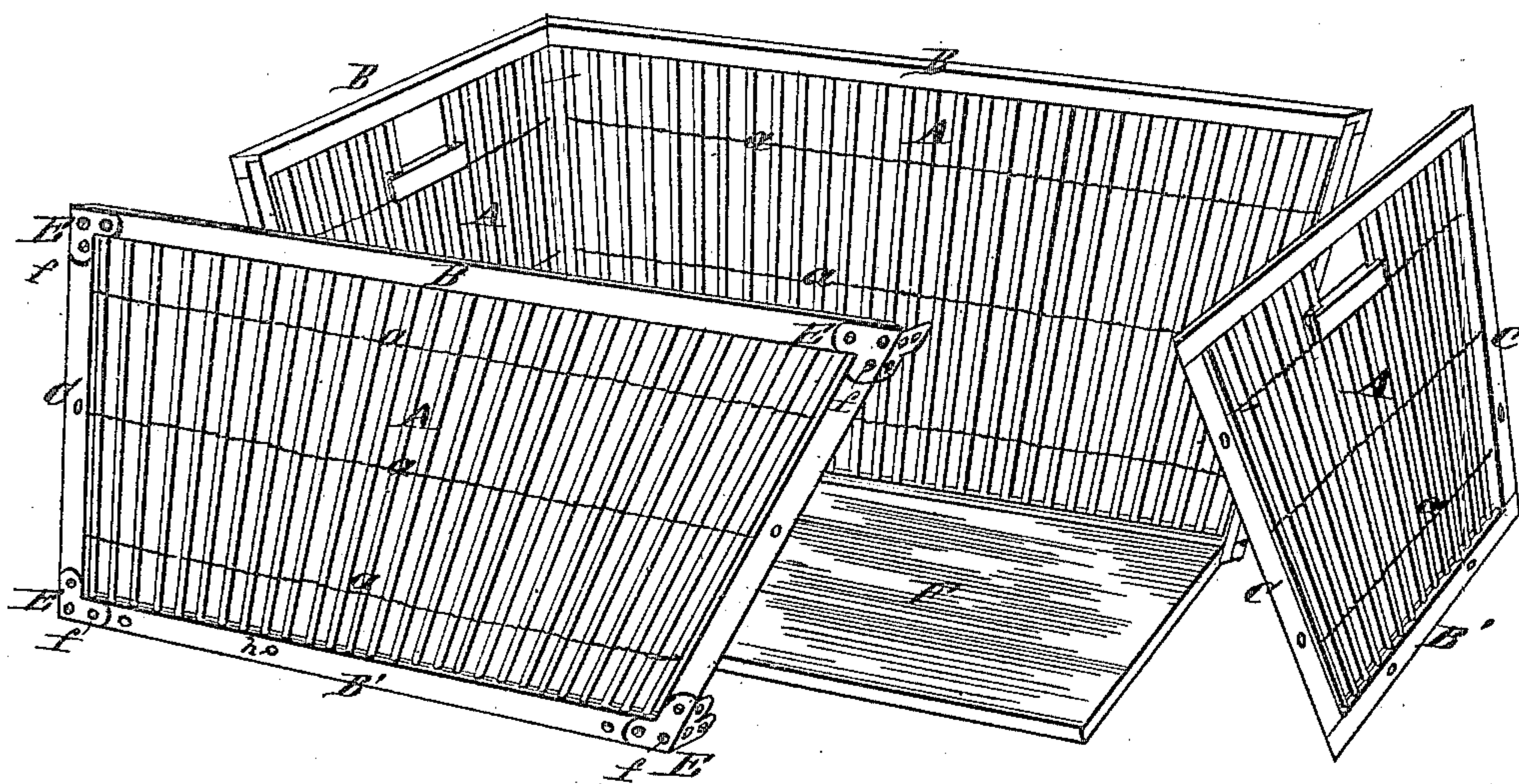


Fig. 2.



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Fig. 3

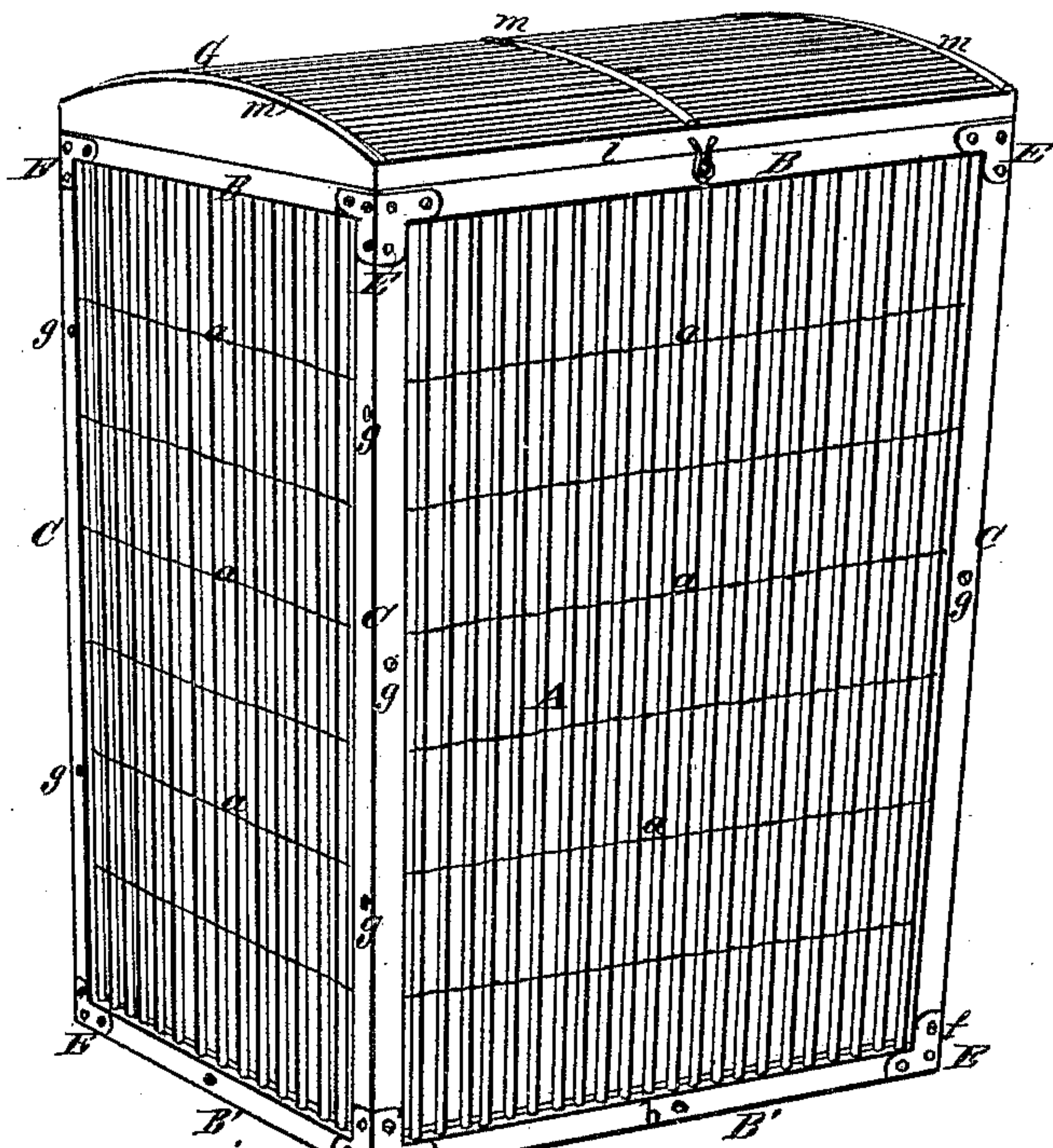
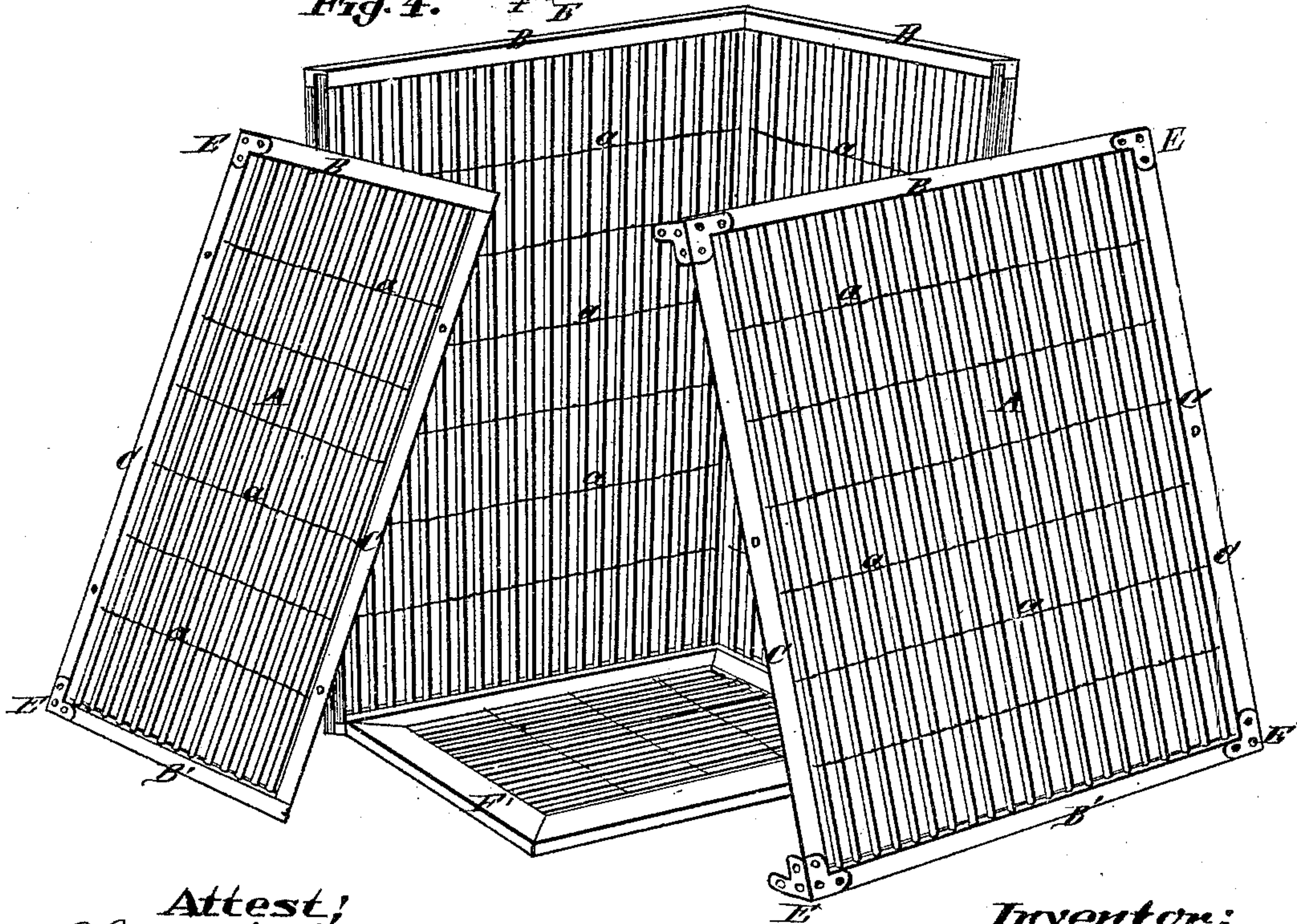


Fig. 4.



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Fig. 5.

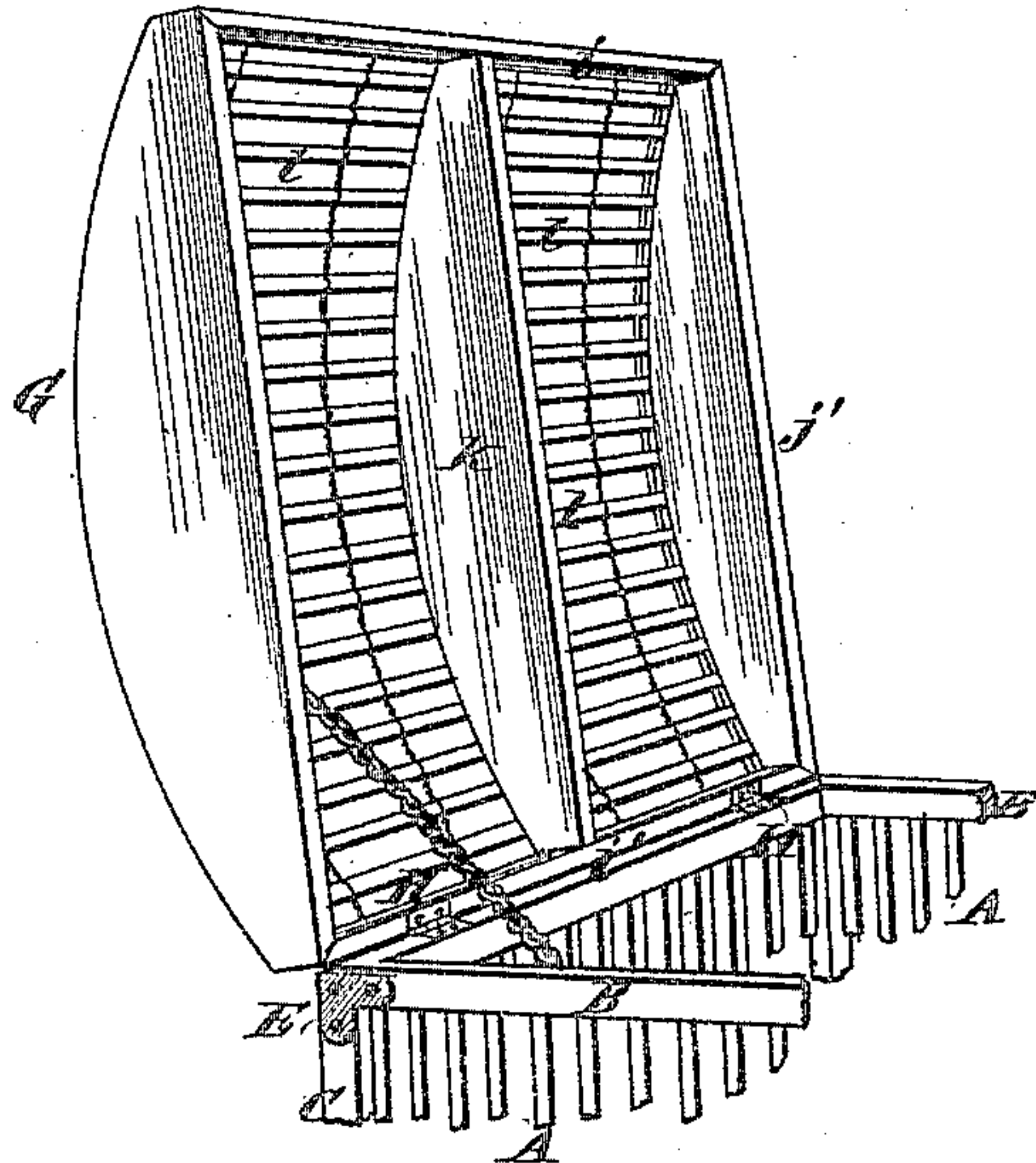


Fig. 6.

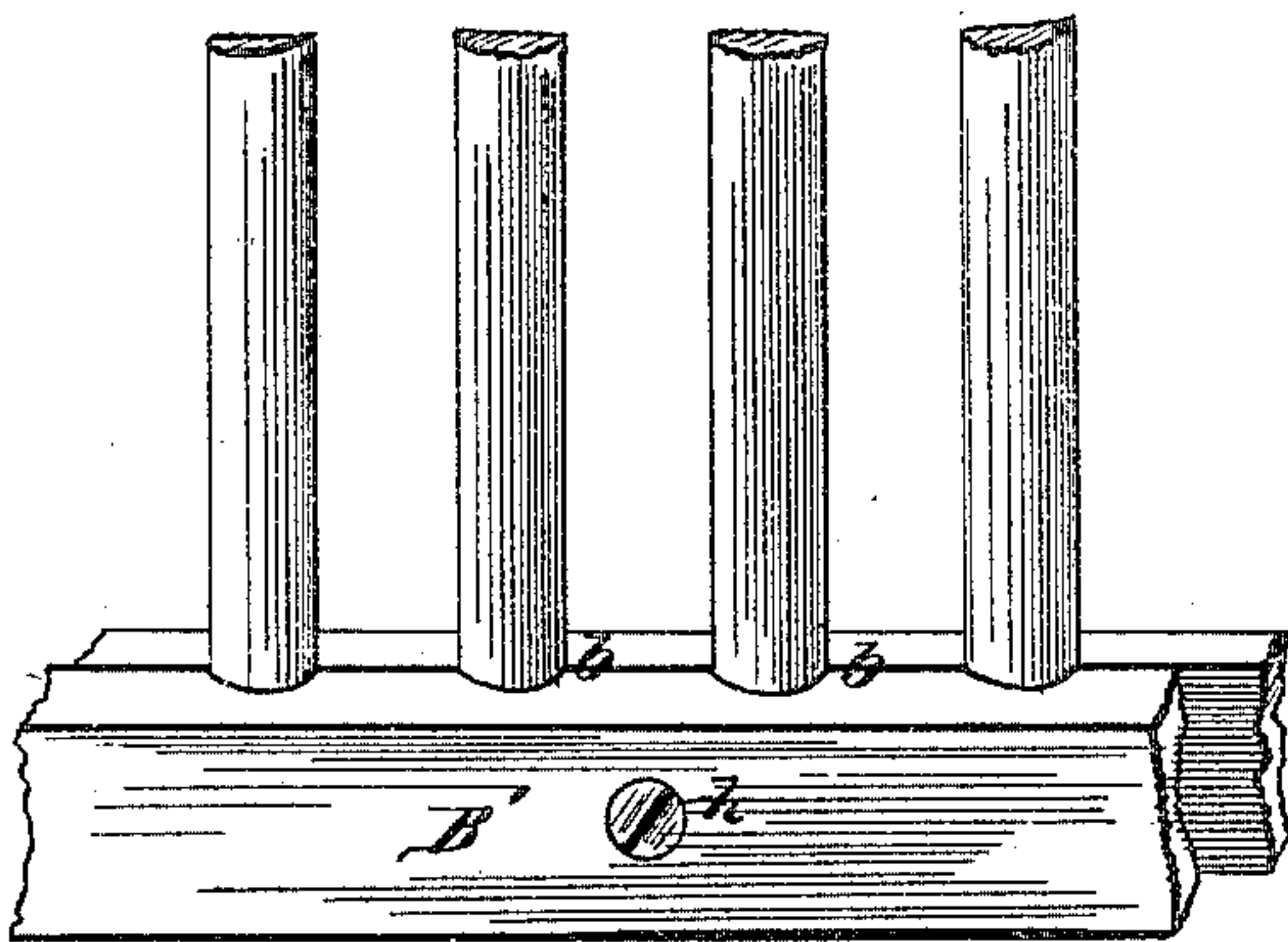


Fig. 7.

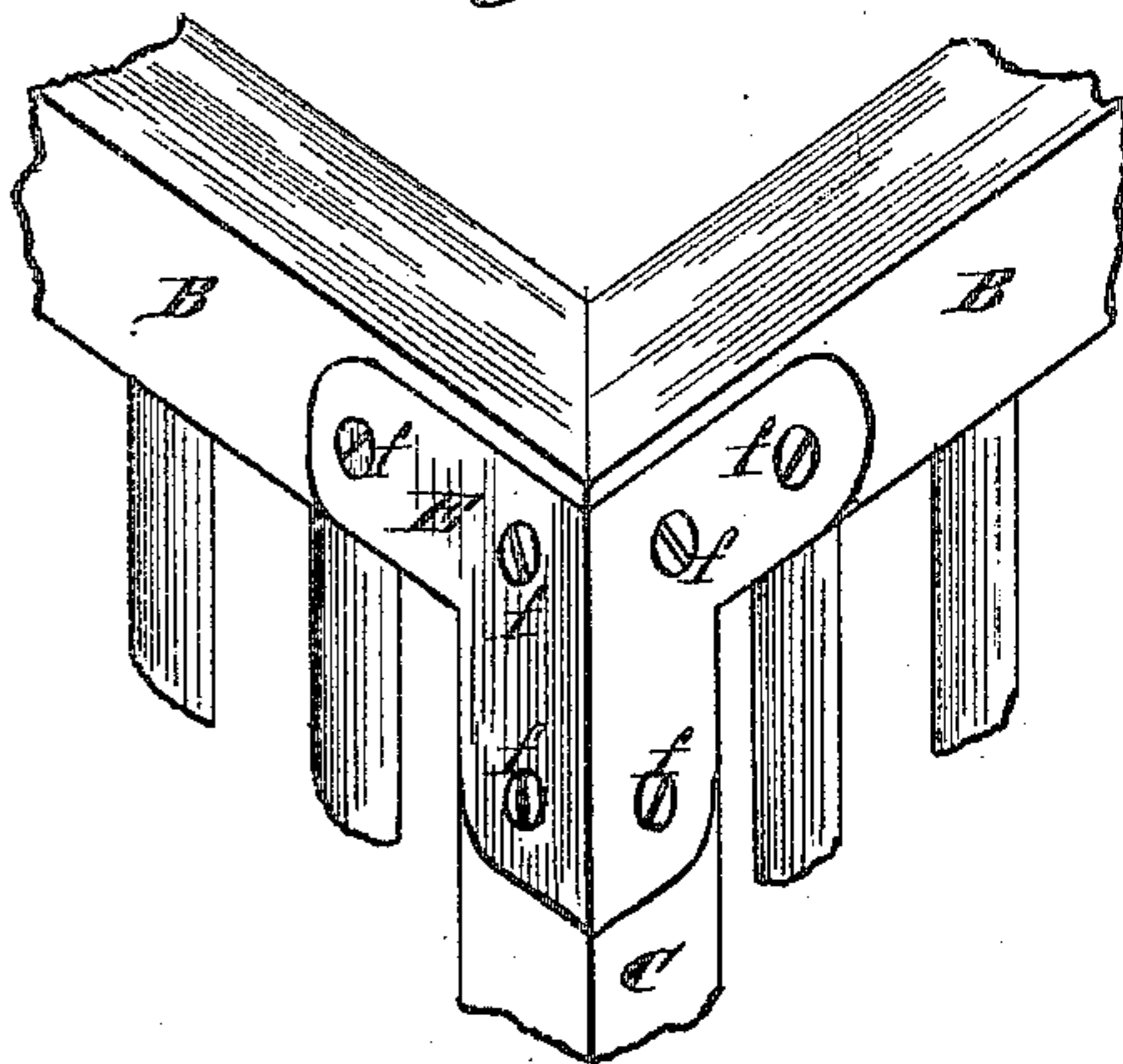


Fig. 8.

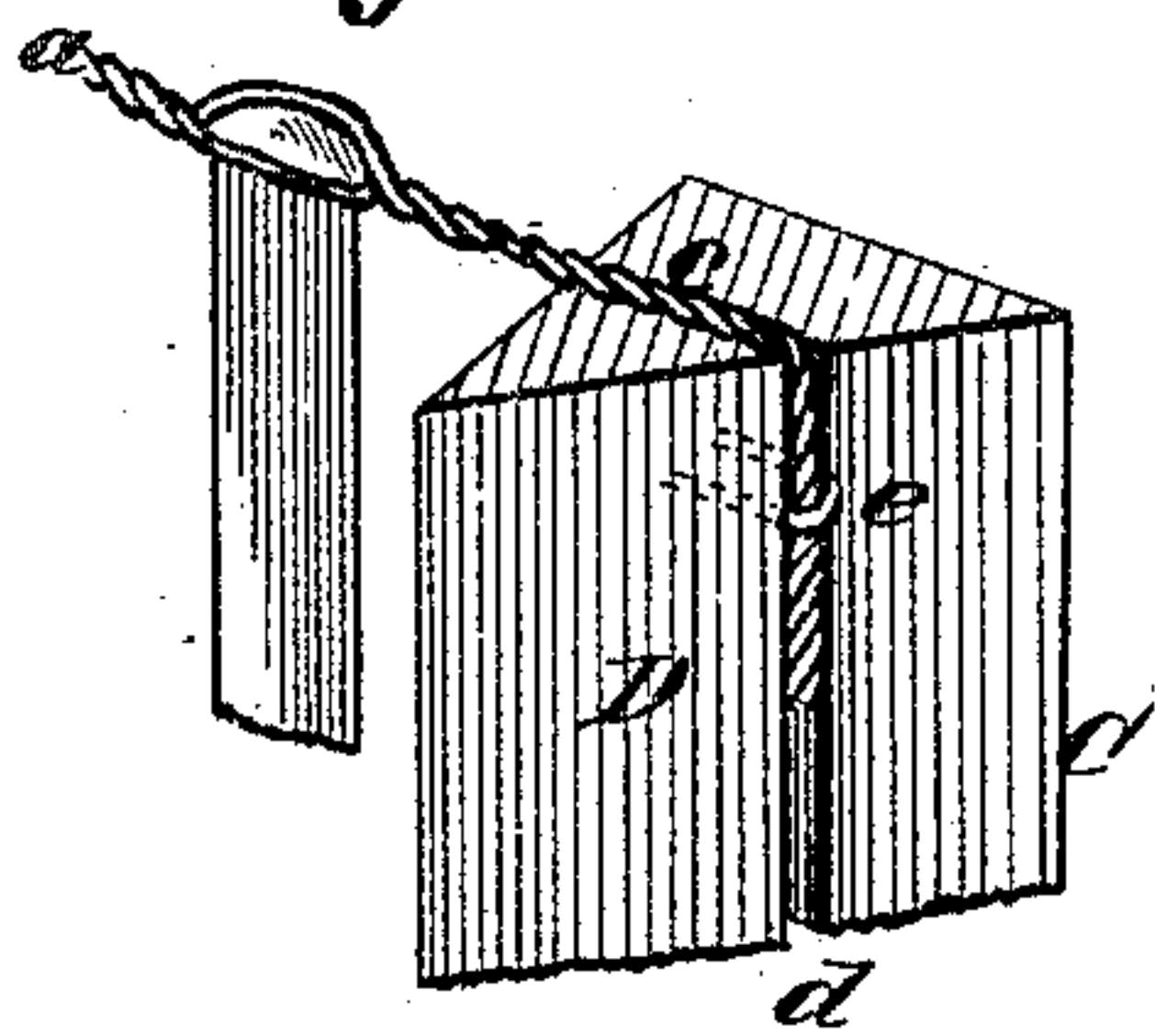


Fig. 9.

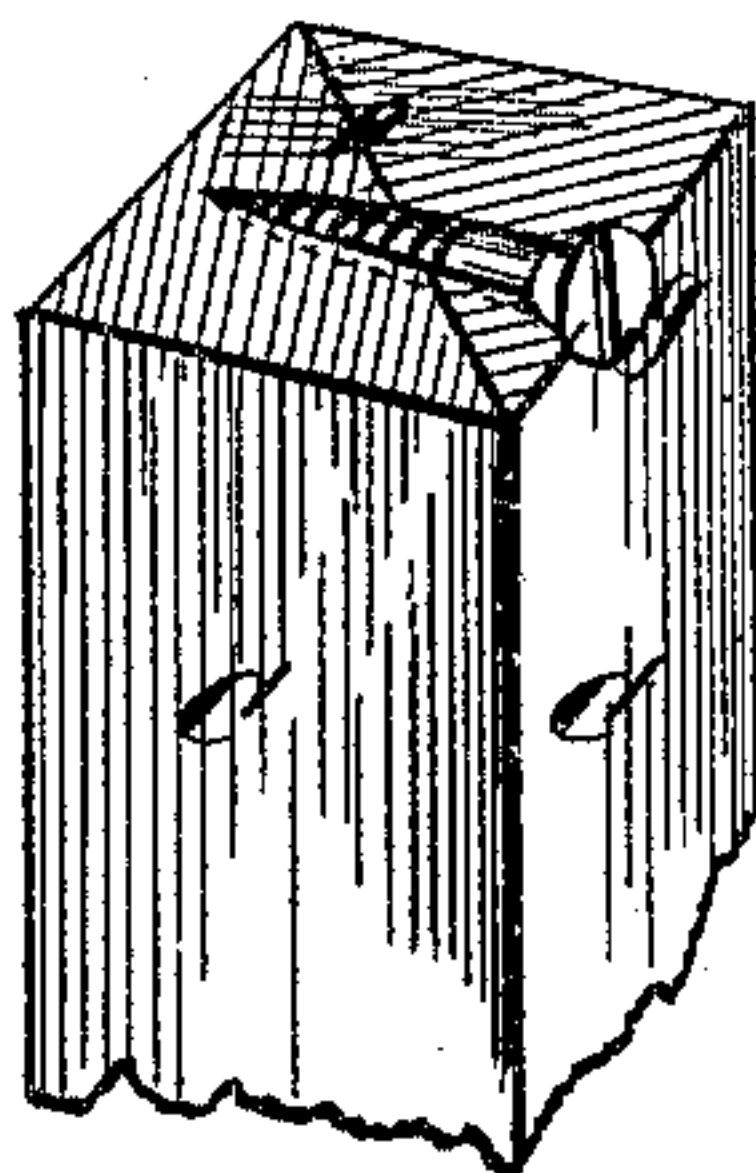


Fig. 10.

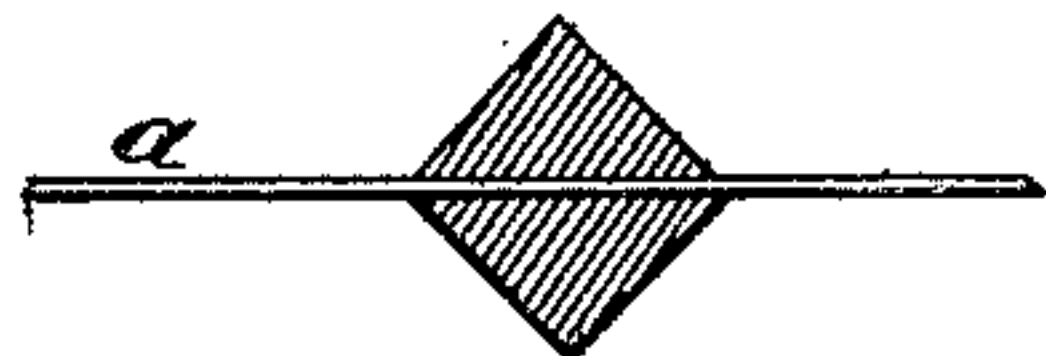


Fig. 11.



Fig. 12.



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Fig. 13.

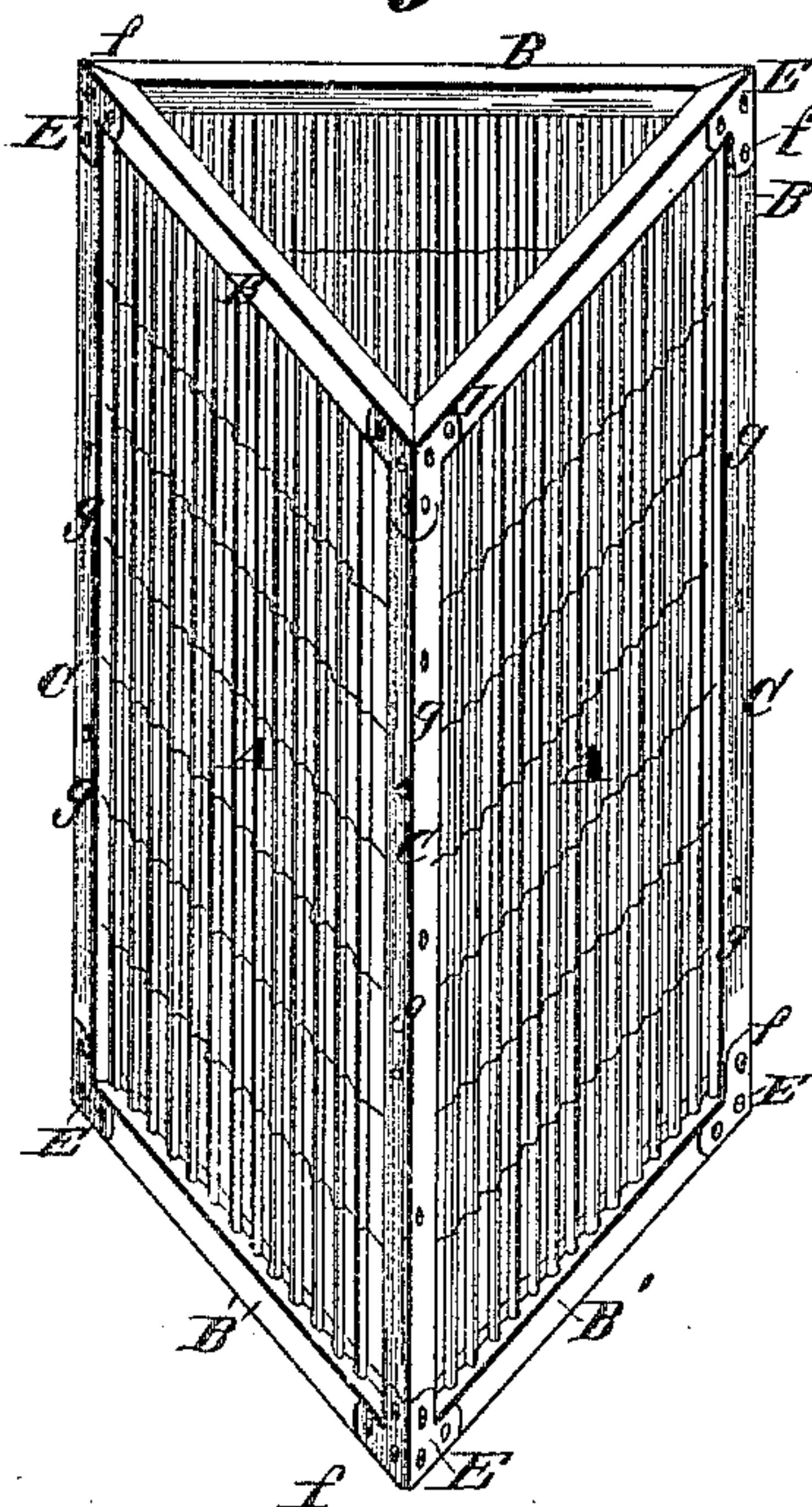
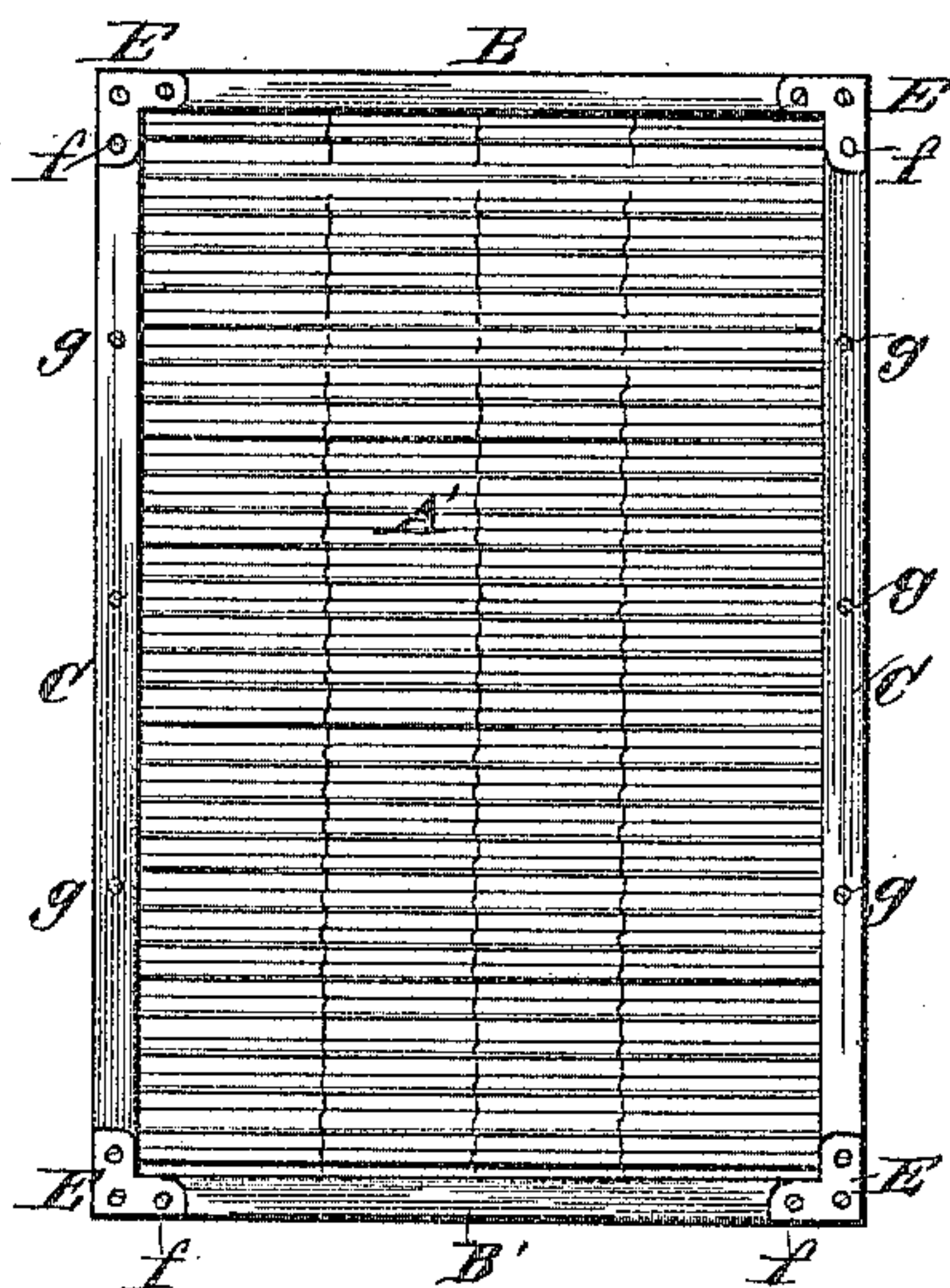


Fig. 14.



Attest;

Ed. Comling
W. C. Packoff

Inventor;

Lewis A. Brown

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEWIS A. BROWN, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, ASSIGNOR TO ALFRED P. BOHLINGER AND WILLIAM C. BACKOF, OF SAME PLACE.

BASKET-HAMPER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 446,579, dated February 17, 1891.

Application filed April 9, 1890. Serial No. 347,285. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEWIS A. BROWN, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city of St. Louis, in the State of Missouri, have
5 invented a new and useful Improvement in Baskets; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of my invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and
10 use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form part of this specification.

My improvement is adapted to any form of
15 basket having more than two sides, and I employ a clothes-basket, a hamper, and a three-cornered basket to illustrate it; but I do not desire to be confined to those forms of baskets, as the improvement can be embodied in
20 other forms, as above stated.

My improvement relates to that class of baskets which are adapted to be transported in a knockdown form; and it consists, partly, in the construction of the sections of which
25 the basket wall or body is composed, partly in the construction of the basket wall or body of a number of these sections removably secured together, each section consisting of a series of slats secured together by wire ties and having
30 the ends of the slats and the ends of the ties secured in bars forming a frame for the slats, as hereinafter described, partly in the construction of the cover, and partly in the construction of the bottom, and removably
35 securing the bottom in all cases, all with the object of producing a slat basket that can be readily taken apart and put together again when desired for convenience in handling and packing and to lessen freight charges, the particulars of all which will appear from
40 the following description of my improvement and claims therefor and the drawings mentioned, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the clothes-
45 basket. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the clothes-basket with parts detached. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the hamper. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the hamper with parts detached. Fig. 5 is a detailed perspective
50 view of the hamper, showing the cover open.

Fig. 6 is a detailed perspective view of the horizontal bars, showing the manner of securing the vertical slats. Fig. 7 is a detailed perspective view showing the corner-joint. Fig. 8 is a detailed perspective section through
55 the vertical bar in the line of the binding-wire. Fig. 9 is a horizontal perspective section showing the manner of securing the vertical bars. Figs. 10 and 11 are modifications showing wire passing through the slats. Fig. 60
12 is a cross-section of a bar in a modification, showing the bar grooved to receive the ends of the slats. Fig. 13 is a perspective view of a three-cornered basket. Fig. 14 is an elevation in a modification of one side of a basket,
65 showing the slats made horizontal.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views and figures.

A is a series of slats, the slats being of any desired shape, wired together by one or more
70 ties *a* in any suitable manner.

Figs. 8, 10, and 11 show some of the ways in which the slats can be wired together. Fig. 8 shows the manner of doing so used and shown in the baskets shown in the drawings,
75 which consists of looping two lengths of wire, one of which passes on each side of the slats, tightly around the slats by twisting the wire at each edge of the slats in the usual manner; and Figs. 10 and 11 show the wires passing
80 through the slats to bind them together. I do not desire to be confined to these methods, however, and I prefer that shown in Fig. 8, and used in the basket shown.

B and B' are top and bottom horizontal bars, 85
respectively, having suitable openings *b* to receive the ends of the vertical slats A; but grooves *n*, Fig. 12, may be used for that purpose, in which case the ends of the slats not
90 necessarily, but preferably, are to be firmly secured in place therein in a suitable manner. I prefer brads, and I also prefer the use of the openings. Where the shapes of the slats used are such that suitable openings for their
95 ends cannot be made by machinery in a single strip, I prefer to make the bars B and B' of two strips, as shown in Fig. 6, and recess one or both said strips, as the shape of the slats may require, to receive the ends of the
100 slats; but where suitable openings can be

made in a single strip by machinery I prefer the use of a single strip.

C are vertical bars, having beveled outer sides D, the bevel being such that when two of them are brought together in place they form a miter-joint, as shown in Fig. 9. These vertical bars, when the ends of the slats are in place in the openings *b* in the horizontal bars B and B', are secured by their ends to the ends of the horizontal bars B and B' in any suitable manner to hold the vertical slats securely between the horizontal bars, the vertical bars being of suitable length for that purpose, and the ends of the ties *a* are secured through, in, or to the vertical bars in any suitable manner to give firmness to the panel formed by the slats and ties in the frame formed by the horizontal and vertical bars. I prefer, however, to secure the ends of the ties in the vertical bars in the manner shown in Fig. 8, in which the ties pass through openings *c*, made through the vertical bars C, into a groove *d* in the beveled outer edge of the vertical bars, in which they are clamped by a staple *e*. The slats may be made horizontal, as shown in A', Fig. 14, in which case the vertical bars C, instead of the horizontal bars B and B', are constructed with openings *b* to receive the ends of the slats, and the slats are secured therein, in the manner hereinbefore described, for securing them in the horizontal bars when the slats are made vertical, and the ends of the ties are then secured through, in, or to the horizontal bars B and B', instead of the vertical bars C, in the manner hereinbefore described for securing them through, in, or to the vertical bars when the slats are made vertical; but I prefer making the slats vertical.

The series of slats A and ties *a*, the horizontal bars B and B', with their openings *b*, and the vertical bars C form one section of the wall or body of the basket. In case the slats are horizontal, however, it is manifest the openings *b* will be in the vertical bars C, instead of the horizontal bars B and B', and the openings *c*, the grooves *d*, and the staples *e* in the horizontal bars B and B', instead of the vertical bars C, and the whole wall or body is composed of a number of these sections, not less than three, secured together in any suitable manner that will admit of their being readily taken apart and put together again; but I prefer the manner shown in the drawings, Figs. 9, 7, 1, 2, 3, 4, 13, and 14, in which they are secured together by corner-plates E and screws *f*, and when the height of the basket or additional strength required demand it by screws *g* at intervals along the bars.

F, Fig. 2, is a plain solid bottom of any suitable material—I prefer wood—of such shape that it fits neatly in the space between the lower horizontal bars B' when the sections forming the basket-wall are set up and secured in place, and it is secured in place to the lower horizontal bars B' in any suitable

manner that will admit of it being readily removed and replaced; but I prefer screws *h*, as shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3. I do not desire to be confined to such a bottom in case of a hamper, for which I prefer a bottom F', Fig. 4, constructed of slats, ties, and bars in the same manner as described for constructing the sections of the basket-wall, except that all the bars are horizontal and secured in place in the same way as the plain bottom.

G is a cover, having front and back bars *i* and *i'*, the end pieces *j* and *j'*, and the center piece *k*, and the top *l*, consisting of a series of slats wired together in the same manner as the slats in the sections of the basket-wall, the end pieces being recessed to receive the ends of the slats, and the ends of the ties being secured to the front and back bars, as described, for securing them to the vertical bars of the sections of the basket-wall. The strips *m* are secured over the end and center pieces to hold the slats in place. The cover may be secured to the baskets by hinges H in any suitable manner, and a chain or strap attached to the end pieces of the cover and side of the basket in the usual way to hold the cover in position when opened, as shown in Fig. 5.

The shape of the basket is varied by changing the length and shape of the horizontal and vertical bars and the length of the slats and by changing the angle of inclination of the vertical bars from the perpendicular and of the horizontal bars from their horizontal planes in such manner as to produce the shape desired, and this may be done by making some of the changes mentioned or all of them.

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

1. To form the wall or body of a basket, the combination of a number of sections, each consisting of a series of slats A, one or more ties *a*, horizontal bars B and B', having openings *b*, and vertical bars C, substantially as described.

2. In a knockdown basket, the combination of a number of sections to form the wall or body of a basket, each consisting of a series of slats A, one or more ties *a*, horizontal bars B and B', having openings or recesses *b*, vertical bars C, the bottom F, and any suitable means for securing the sections and bottom together that will permit of their being readily taken apart and put together again.

3. In a knockdown basket, the combination of a number of sections secured together in any suitable manner to form the basket wall or body, each consisting of a series of slats A, one or more ties *a*, horizontal bars B and B', having openings *b*, vertical bars C, the angle-plates E, screws *f*, the bottom F, removably secured in place in any suitable manner, and the cover G, all substantially as described.

4. The combination, for a cover, of the front and back bars *i* and *i'* and the end pieces *j* and *j'*, the center piece *k*, a top consisting of

a series of slats *l*, wired together in any suitable manner, recesses in the end pieces *j* and *j'*, and the strips *m*, which bind the slats to the center piece *K*, all substantially as described.

5 5. In a knockdown basket, the combination of a number of sections, each consisting of a series of slats secured together in any suitable manner by wire ties, a frame consisting of
10 horizontal and vertical bars, the ends of the series of slats being secured in any opposite bars and the ends of the wire ties in the remaining bars of each section, substantially as described, and a bottom, all removably se-
15 cured together and all substantially as described.

6. In a knockdown basket, the combination of a number of sections, each section consist-
20 ing of a series of slats *A*, one or more ties *a* to secure the slats together, horizontal bars *B* and *B'*, having openings *b* to receive the ends of the slats *A*, vertical bars *C* to unite the horizontal bars together to hold the slats in place in the openings *b*, having beveled outer
25 edges or sides *D* for uniting the several sections composing the walls of the basket, as required, and having openings *c* for the ends of the slats to pass through and grooves *d* to receive the ends of the ties after they have been
30 brought through the openings *c*, staples *e* to hold the ends of the ties in place in the grooves *d*, angle-plates *E*, screws *f* and *g* to secure the

sections removably together, the bottom *F*, and the screws *h* to secure the bottom removably in place, all substantially as described. 35

7. A knockdown basket consisting of a bot-
tom and side walls, each side wall consisting of a series of slats *A*, one or more ties *a* to se-
cure the slats together, horizontal bars *B* and *B'*, and vertical bars *C*, with suitable open- 40
ings in any two opposite bars to receive the ends of the slats, with the horizontal bars se-
cured by their ends to the ends of the verti-
cal bars when the slats are in place in the openings in the two opposite bars containing 45
such openings, with the ends of the ties se-
cured through, in, or to the remaining oppo-
site bars to give firmness in the frame to the panel formed by the slats and ties, and with
the vertical bars having their outer sides or 50
edges *D* beveled to join, as required, the bev-
eled sides or edges of other like side walls to
form the whole wall or body of the basket, the
said side walls being secured together by an-
gle-plates of any suitable material passing 55
around the corners, all substantially as de-
scribed.

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

LEWIS A. BROWN.

Witnesses:

P. BEARDSLEE, Jr.,
GEO. J. CHAPMAN.