

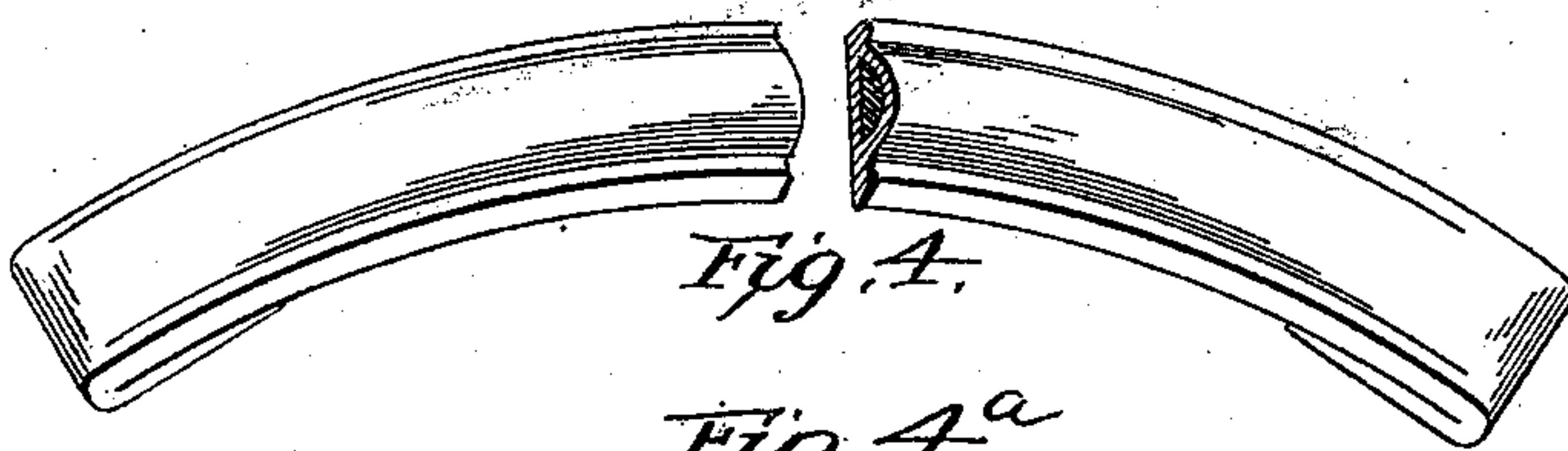
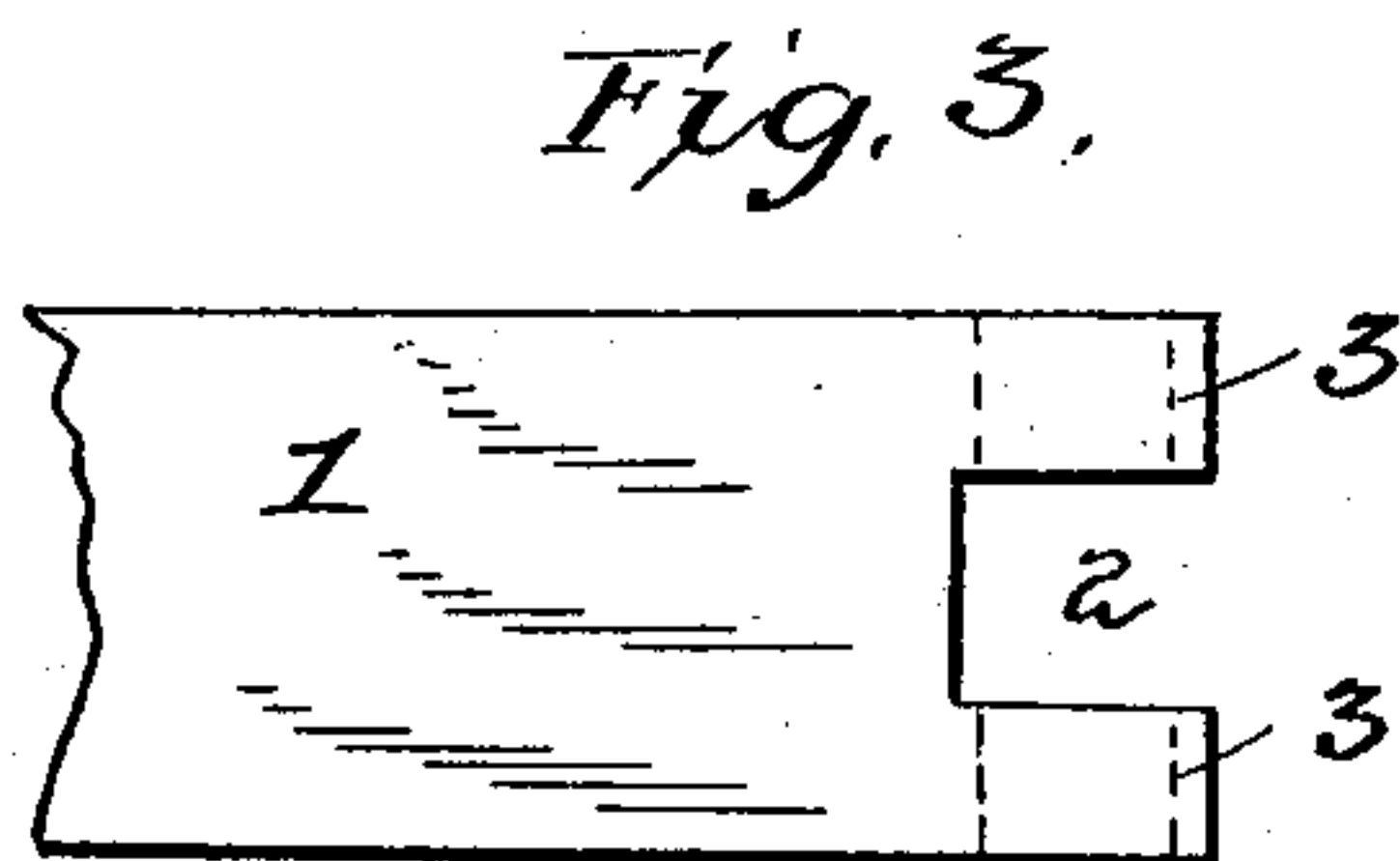
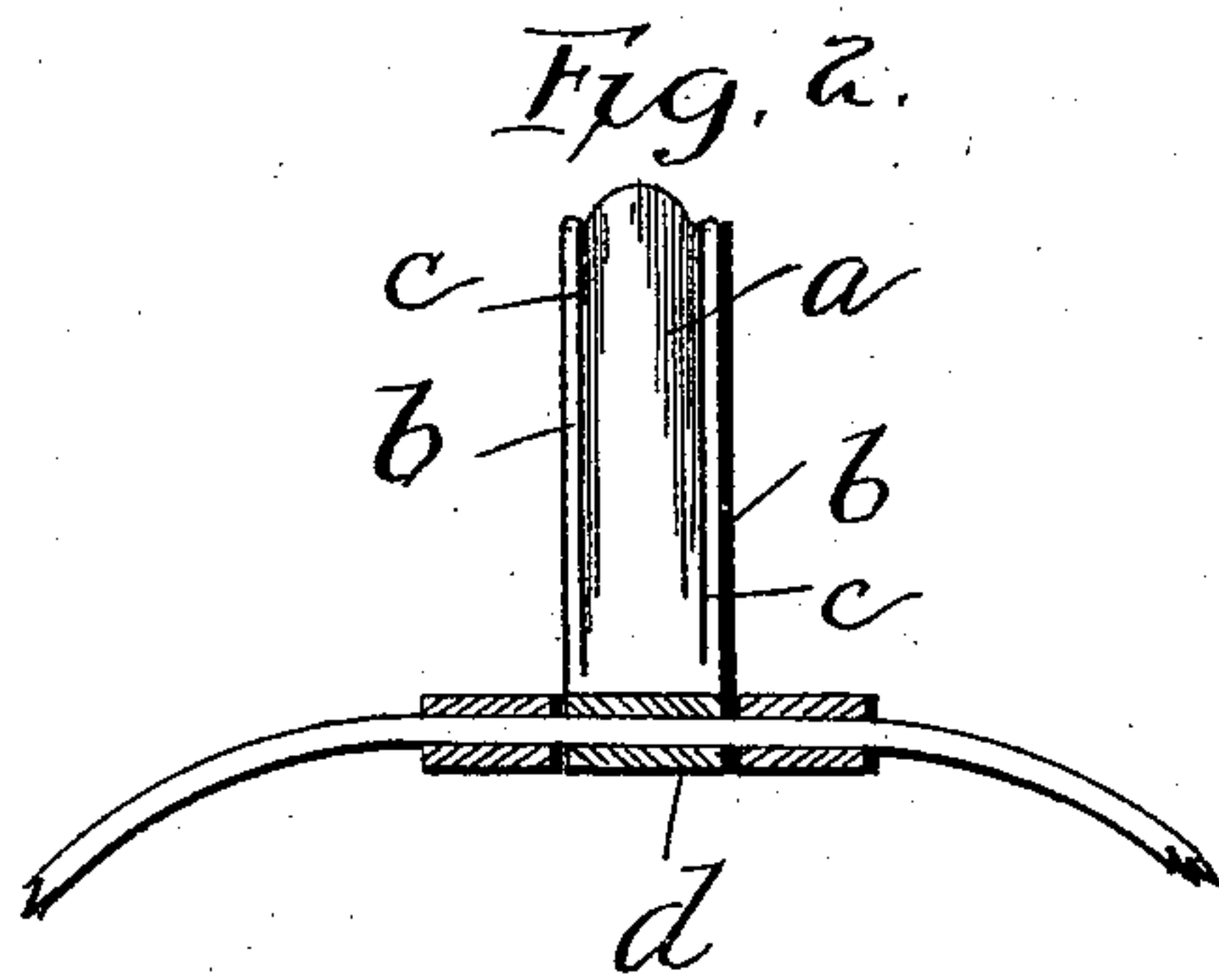
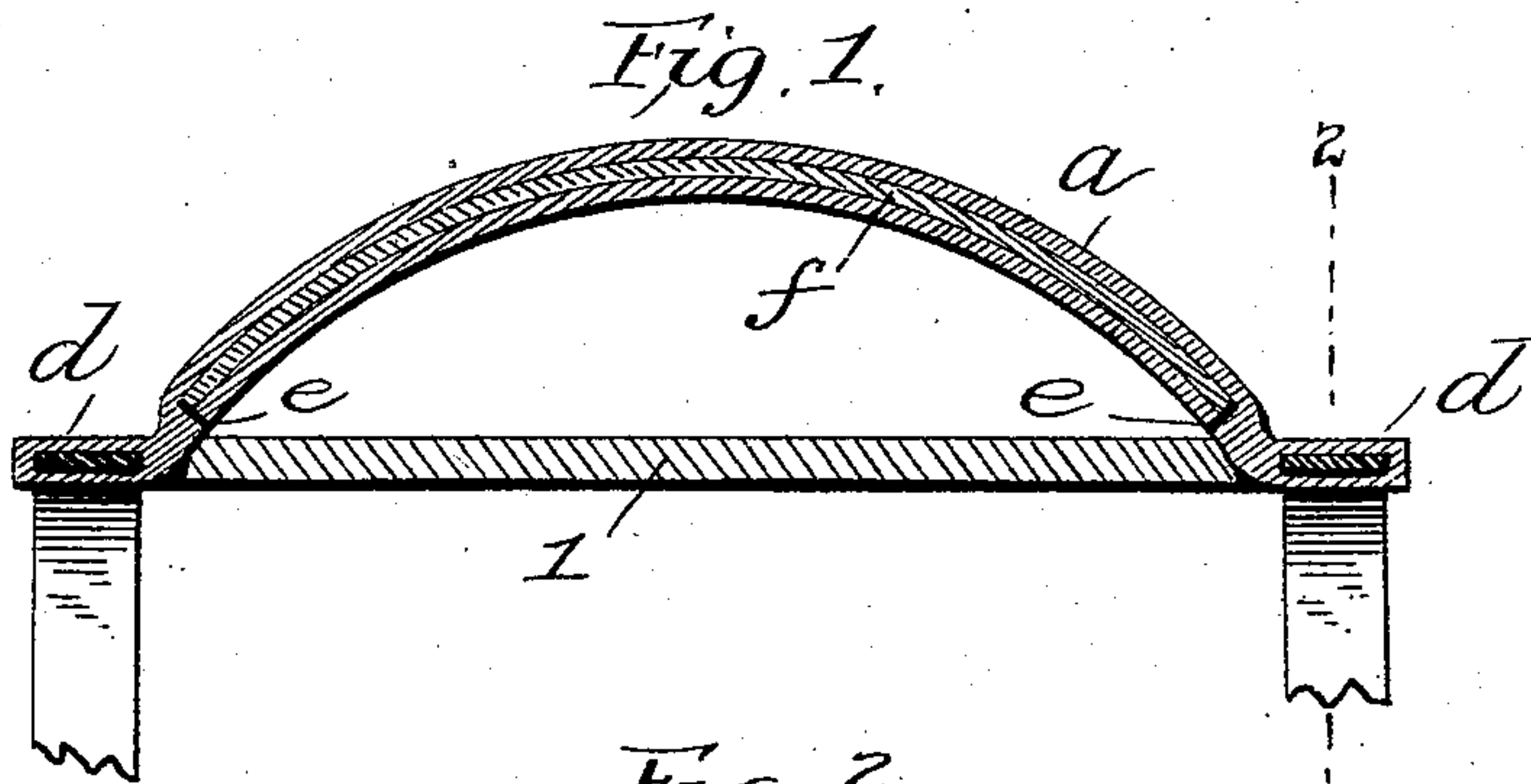
(No Model.)

F. J. BRINGHAM.

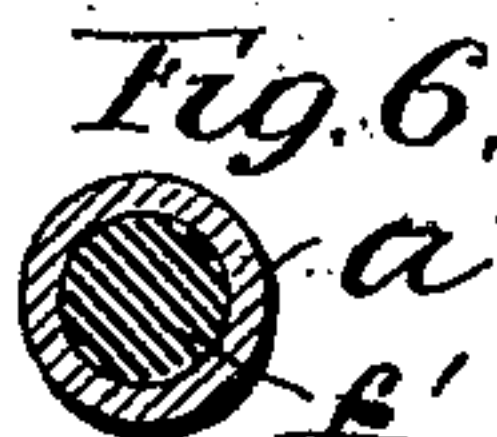
LEATHER STRAP FOR HANDLES, HARNESS, &c.

No. 548,031.

Patented Oct. 15, 1895.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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LEATHER STRAP FOR HANDLES, HARNESS, &c.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 548,031, dated October 15, 1895.

Application filed January 9, 1895. Serial No. 534,398. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRIEND J. BRINGHAM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Leather Straps for Handles, Harness, and the Like, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

My invention is an improved strap of leather made in a rounded or beaded form and designed for use as handles for valises, bags, or shawl-straps, and also for some parts of a harness for horses, such as the nose-strap of the bridle.

It consists, essentially, of a strap of leather split longitudinally in a plane parallel to the sides, the split extending from end to end, but not to the margins, the said strap being expanded to form a rounded or beaded shape and combined with a filling and with or without margins and terminal straps.

One form of my invention is illustrated in Figures 1, 2, and 3, the first of which is a longitudinal section of a handle for a shawl-strap. Fig. 2 is a section on line 2 2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a detail view. Figs. 4 and 4^a show a nose-strap embodying the invention. Figs. 5 and 6 show cross-sections of two forms.

In the figures I have shown a piece of leather split longitudinally on a plane parallel with the sides, so as to form a channel through the strap or piece of leather, the margins being left uncut wider or narrower, according to the external form, and these channeled straps are then expanded according to the external form required and are filled with any suitable material, according to the purpose for which the strap is required. In almost all of the uses contemplated for this article considerable strength is required, and therefore the filling is usually made of leather or some fibrous material; but in some cases I use metal.

In Figs. 1, 2, and 3 I have shown a beaded strap for a shawl-strap handle. In these the raised portion *a* is rounded, but the split terminates at suitable distances from the margin, leaving a flange *b* on each side. The under surface is flat and preferably the margins are creased, as shown at *c*, to improve the

appearance of the strap. In order to provide means for connecting this strap to the article with which it is to be combined, I provide on the ends flat extensions *d*. These extensions are the unsplit portions of the strap—that is to say, the split commences at the points *e*, between which is the beaded or tubular part of the strap, which contains the filling *f*. The openings at *e* are made on the under side of the strap or that side opposite to the beaded portion in those cases in which the beaded or rounded part is on one side only. In the form shown in Fig. 5 a flange is formed on one side only, and in making this form a wider uncut margin is left on one side, which in the shaping is made to assume the form of the flange *g*. This shape also is provided with the strap extensions *d*. In Fig. 6 I have shown the strap as formed into a round shape, the expanded leather strap being shown at *a'* and the filling at *f'*. In the form shown at Fig. 4 the flanges *b* may be omitted and the beaded strap be a plain half-circle in cross-section.

Figs. 1 and 2 show the invention applied to a shawl-strap handle, and in this form a base-plate 1 of leather is used, bifurcated, as at 2, at each end, into which fits the ends *d* of the handle portion. These ends *d* are slit through laterally, as are also the ends 3 of the base 1, and the ordinary straps are passed through the slits, holding the parts together. When the base 1 is omitted, the filling of the handle part may be of metal to give the necessary strength and rigidity.

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

1. A strap having a seamless channel formed in the thickness of the leather and a filling in said channel forming a raise or bead on the surface of the leather, substantially as described.

2. A strap having a longitudinal seamless channel open at each end combined with an expanding filling therein.

3. A strap having a seamless longitudinal channel, an expanding filling therein forming a beaded surface and extensions beyond the channel, substantially as described.

4. A strap having a seamless longitudinal

channel, an expanding filling therein, forming a beaded surface, and lateral margins *b*, substantially as described.

5 5. A strap having a seamless longitudinal channel, a flat lower face and a filling expanding the upper face, substantially as described.

6. A strap having a longitudinal channel, a filling therein and seamless end portions

having lateral openings therethrough, substantially as described. 10

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

F. J. BRINGHAM.

Witnesses:

HENRY E. COOPER,

JAMES M. SPEAR.