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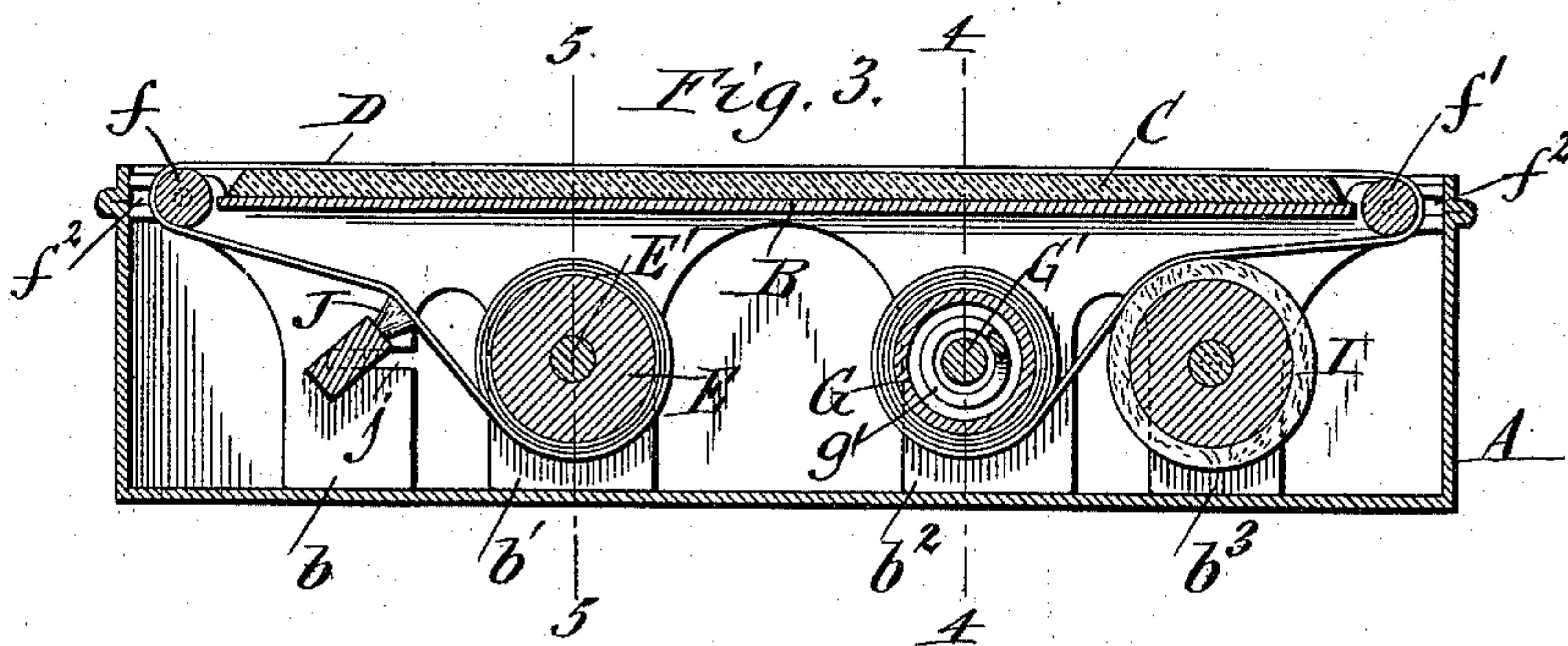
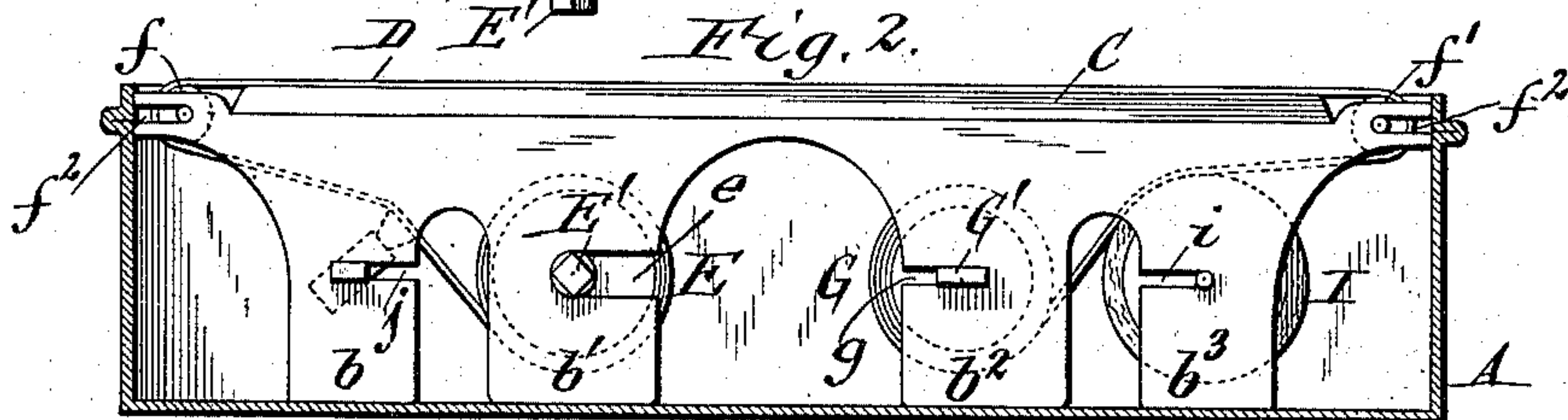
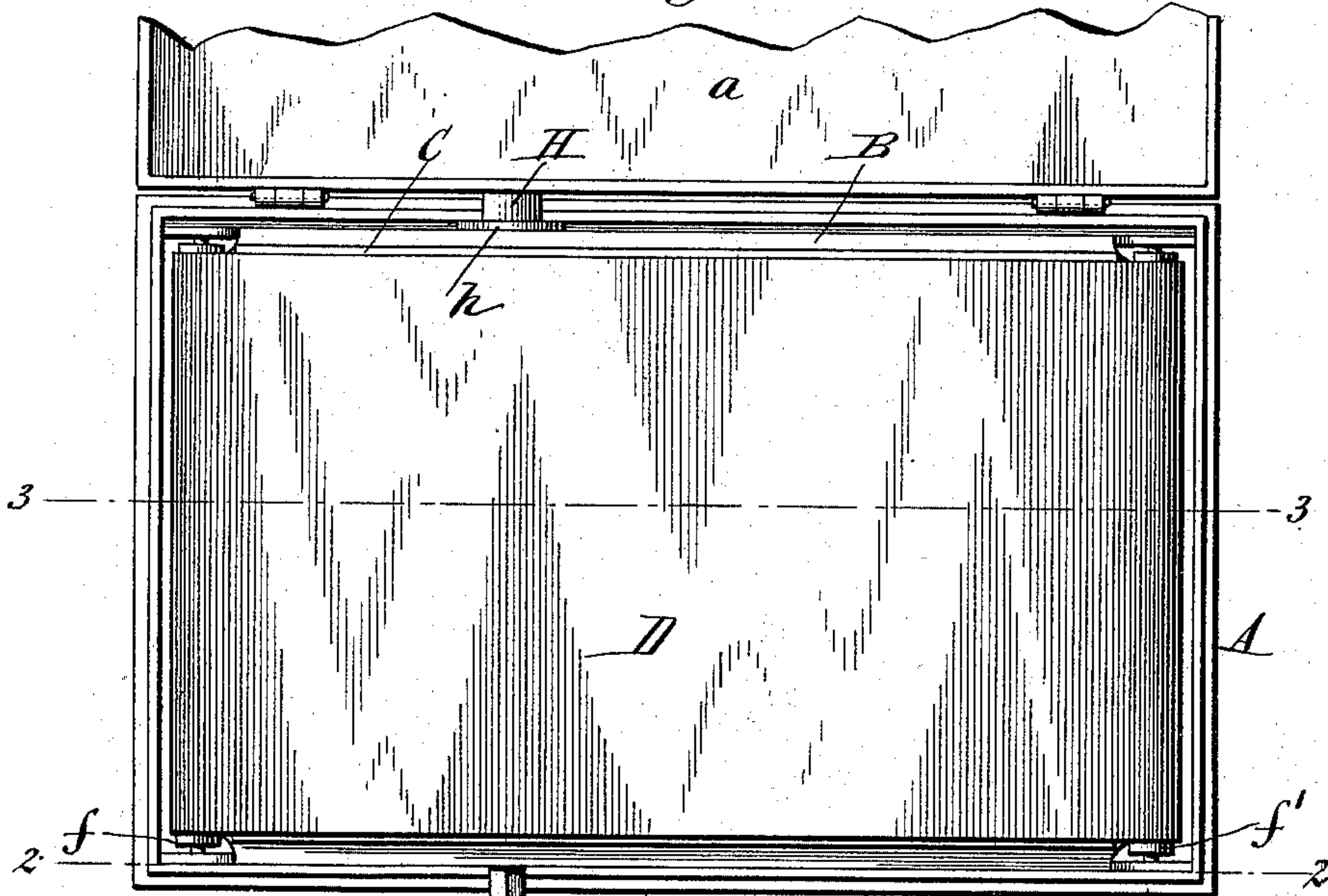
2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

W. H. KEELER.  
INKING PAD FOR HAND STAMPS.

No. 559,291.

Patented Apr. 28, 1896.

Fig. 1.



Witnesses.

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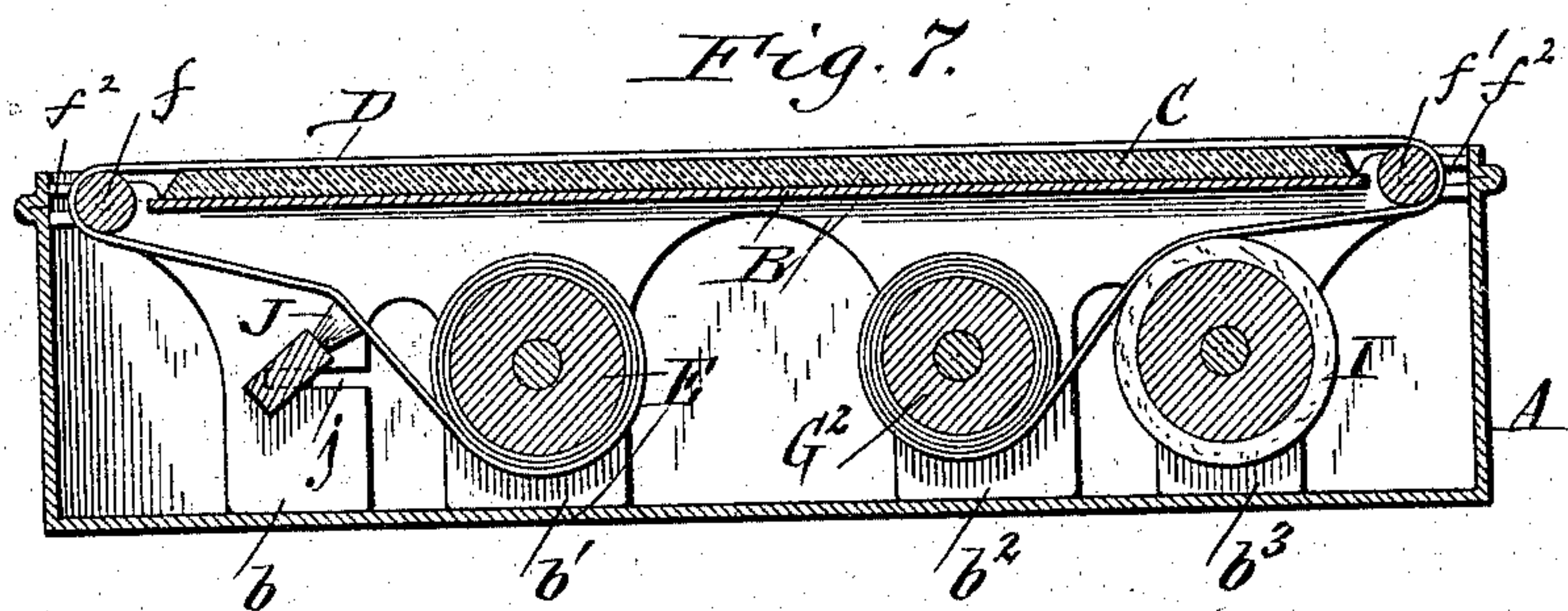
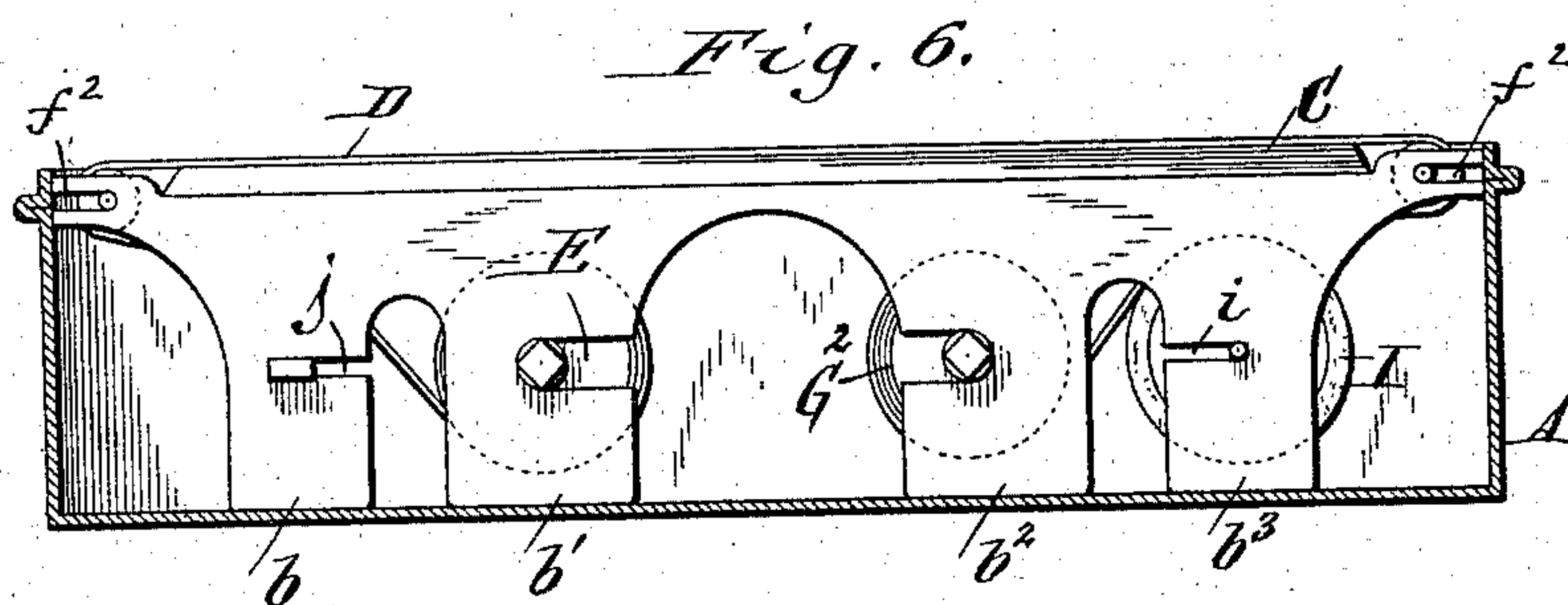
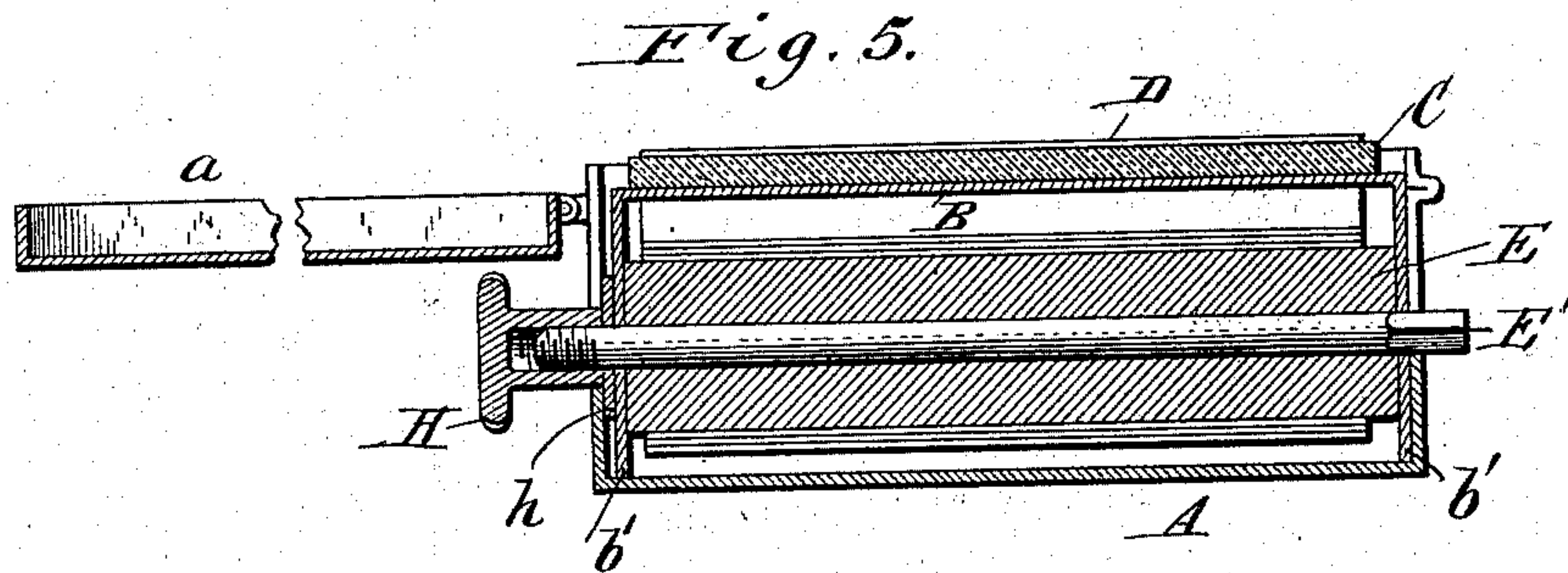
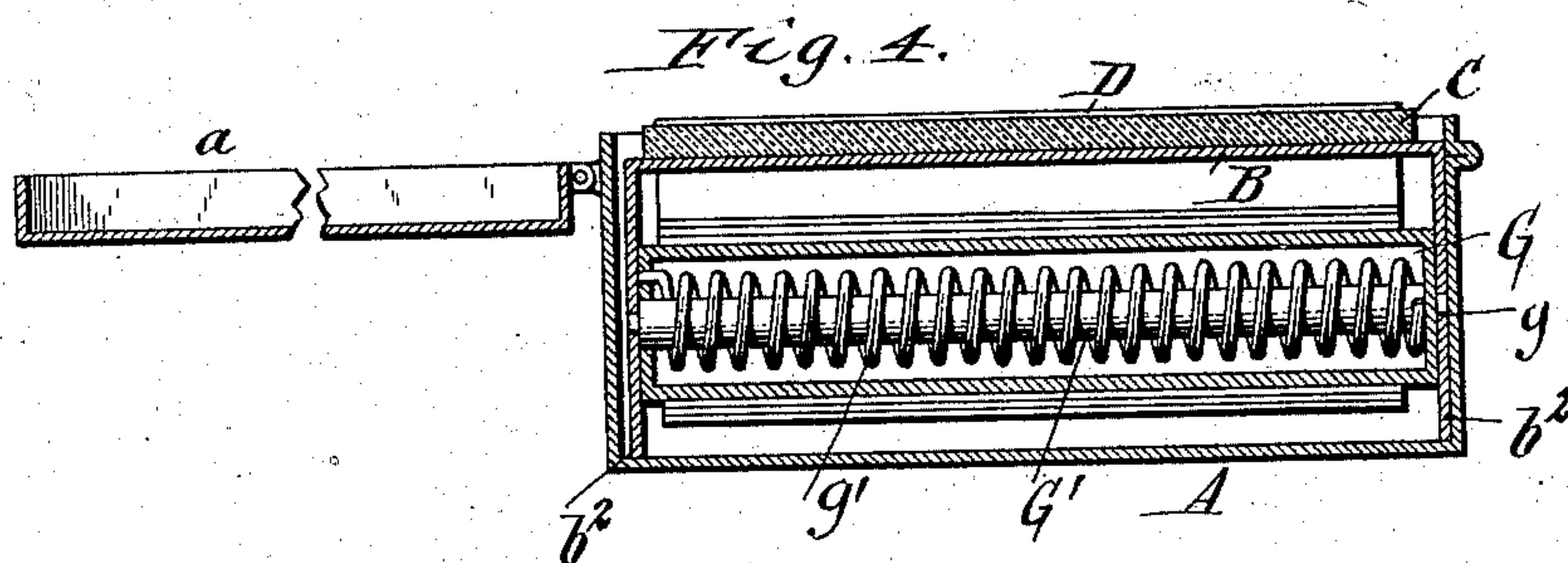
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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. KEELER, OF BUFFALO, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO WILLIAM W. HAMMOND, OF SAME PLACE.

## INKING-PAD FOR HAND-STAMPS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 559,291, dated April 28, 1896.

Application filed January 2, 1895. Serial No. 533,543. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. KEELER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Buffalo, in the county of Erie and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Inking-Pads for Hand-Stamps, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to the pads which are employed for inking rubber and metallic hand-stamps; and it has the object to provide an inexpensive pad of this character which will impart a uniform and comparatively small quantity of ink to the stamp, so as to avoid blurring of the impression, and which will permit the pad-surface to be conveniently reinked when necessary.

In the accompanying drawings, consisting of two sheets, Figure 1 is a top plan view of the inking-pad, the cover of the inclosing case being shown open to expose the pad. Figs. 2 and 3 are vertical longitudinal sections of the pad in lines 2 2 and 3 3, Fig. 1, respectively. Figs. 4 and 5 are transverse sections of the same in lines 4 4 and 5 5, Fig. 3. Figs. 6 and 7 are vertical longitudinal sections corresponding to Figs. 2 and 3, showing a modified construction of my improvement.

Like letters of reference refer to like parts in the several figures.

A represents a case or box inclosing the parts of the device and having a cover *a*, which is preferably hinged to one side of the case.

B is a horizontal table arranged in the case near the upper edge thereof and supported by legs *b b' b<sup>2</sup> b<sup>3</sup>*, which rest upon the bottom of the case.

C is a flat platen which is secured upon the top of the table B, and which is preferably constructed of yielding and practically non-absorbent material, such as rubber.

D is an inking ribbon or band which is arranged upon the platen, and which is preferably capable of traveling over the surface thereof, so that different portions of the ribbon may be brought upon the platen.

The ribbon is about as wide as the platen and is secured at one end to a take-up roller E, arranged transversely underneath the table B, and it passes thence upwardly around a transverse guide-roller *f*, arranged at the

adjacent end of the table; thence over the table and around a similar guide-roller *f'*, arranged at the opposite end of the table, and thence to a spring-roller G, also arranged underneath the table, the surplus portion of the ribbon, which does not lie upon the table, being wound upon the spring-roller and the take-up roller.

The spring-roller is preferably made of metal and journaled upon a stationary arbor or shaft G', having flattened ends which engage in horizontal notches or open bearings *g*, formed in the intermediate legs *b<sup>2</sup>*.

*g'* is the spring of the roller which surrounds its arbor, and which is secured at one end to the arbor and at its other to the spring-roller, as shown in Fig. 4. This spring tends constantly to wind the ribbon upon its roller and thus keeps the ribbon taut upon the platen.

The take-up roller is rigidly secured to a transverse shaft E', which is journaled with its ends in notches or open bearings *e*, formed in the intermediate legs *b'*. The shaft E' extends through the front and rear walls of the case, and its projecting front end is made square or flat-sided and adapted to receive the correspondingly-shaped socket of a key, whereby the take-up roller is turned for winding the ribbon thereon when it is desired to bring a fresh portion of the ribbon upon the table. The projecting rear portion of the roller-shaft E' is provided with an external screw-thread, as shown in Fig. 5.

H is a clamping or thumb nut applied to the screw-threaded rear end of the roller-shaft E' and bearing against a washer *h*, interposed between the rear wall of the case and the adjacent leg of the table B. This nut clamps the roller against the leg of the table, and thereby holds it against turning in its bearings.

The guide-rollers *f* and *f'* are provided at their ends with journals, which turn in open bearings or horizontal notches *f<sup>2</sup>*, formed in the ends of the side pieces of the table. The journals are retained in these slots by the tension of the ribbon.

I represents an inking-roller, which bears against the face of the ribbon, preferably between the spring-roller and the adjacent guide-roller *f'*, and whereby the ribbon is



supplied with ink. This roller is provided with a covering, of felt or other absorbent material, which is saturated with ink. The journals of this roller turn in horizontal notches or open bearings *i*, formed in the end legs *b*<sup>3</sup> of the table, and the roller is preferably so large in diameter that the portion of the ribbon passing over it is bent or deflected, whereby the tension of the ribbon retains the inking-roller in its bearings.

When it is desired to shift the ribbon, the clamping-nut H of the take-up roller is loosened and the take-up roller is turned by means of a key in the proper direction to wind the ribbon thereon, a corresponding length of the ribbon being thus unwound from or paid out by the spring-roller, whereby the tension of the spring is increased.

When all the available portion of the ribbon has been unwound from the spring-roller and wound upon the take-up roller, the ribbon can be readily reinked and rewound upon the spring-roller by loosening the clamping-nut of the take-up roller, when the latter permits the spring-roller to rotate rapidly under the reaction of its strained spring in the proper direction to wind the ribbon upon the spring-roller. By this reverse movement the entire available length of ribbon comes in contact with the inking-roller, and the same thus receives a fresh supply of ink. In this manner the ribbon can be repeatedly used and reinked from the inking-roller, and when the latter has become exhausted it can be easily removed and again saturated with ink.

J is a transverse brush or scraper whereby any dust or grit adhering to the ribbon is removed. This brush bears against the face of the ribbon adjacent to the take-up roller and is provided at the ends of its stock with flat-sided pins, which are seated in horizontal notches or recesses *j*, formed in the edge of the adjacent end legs *b* of the table.

In inking-pads as heretofore constructed a thick inking-pad of absorbent material was employed which was saturated with ink, and upon pressing a hand-stamp against the pad an excessive amount of ink was transferred to the stamp, which caused the latter to make a blurred impression.

In my improved pad the inking-ribbon is

thin and it therefore holds a comparatively small quantity of ink, and as it is drawn over a non-absorbent platen or backing it cannot become supersaturated like a thick absorbent pad. A thin and uniform coating of ink is thus transferred to the hand-stamp, enabling a neat and clean impression to be made without liability of blurring.

In the modified construction of the pad shown in Figs. 6 and 7 the spring-roller of the first-described construction is replaced by a take-up roller G<sup>2</sup>, similar to the take-up roller E, each take-up roller being provided with a flat-sided front end for receiving a key and with a clamping-nut at its rear end for tightening the roller after shifting the ribbon. In this case the ribbon is alternately wound upon one take-up roller and unwound from the other by turning the proper roller, and the ribbon is kept taut after shifting it by tightening the clamping-nut of one roller, stretching the ribbon by further turning the other roller, and then clamping the latter.

I claim as my invention—

1. The combination with the inclosing case or box, of a table arranged therein, a platen secured to said table, a spring-roller arranged underneath said platen, a take-up roller also arranged underneath said platen and having a shaft which projects through the walls of the case or box and which is provided at one end with a screw-thread, and a clamping-nut applied to the threaded end of the roller-shaft and bearing against said table, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination with the inclosing case or box, of a table removably arranged in said case and having supporting-legs provided with open bearings, a platen arranged upon said table, a spring-roller and a take-up roller supported in the open bearings of the table-legs, and an ink-ribbon passing over said platen and secured at its ends to the spring-roller and take-up roller respectively, substantially as set forth.

Witness my hand this 29th day of December, 1894.

WILLIAM H. KEELER.

Witnesses:

THEO. L. POPP,  
KATHRYN ELMORE.