

(No Model.)

W. L. & A. HENSEL.
FOLDING BOX.

No. 561,708.

Patented June 9, 1896.

Fig. 1.

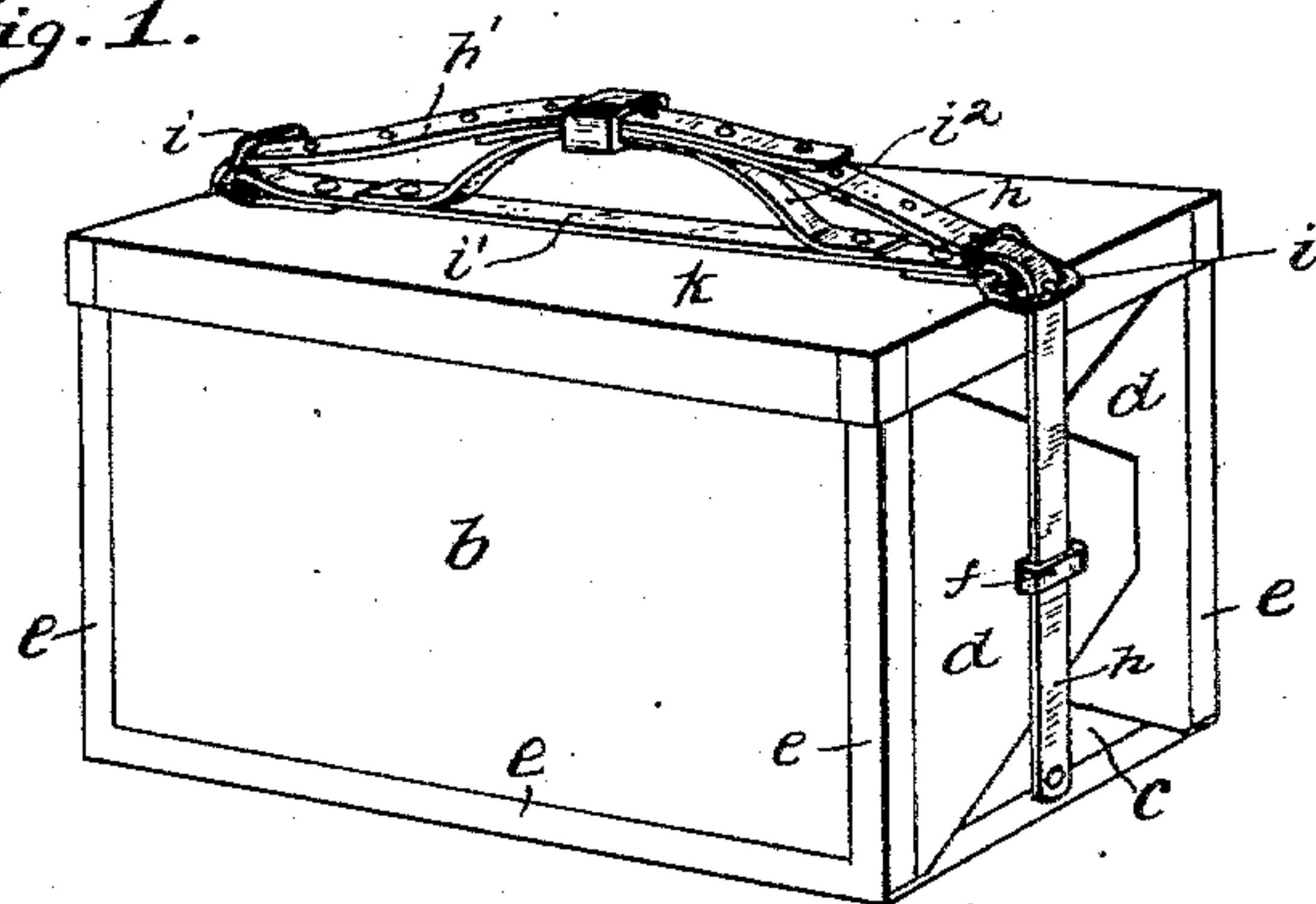


Fig. 2.

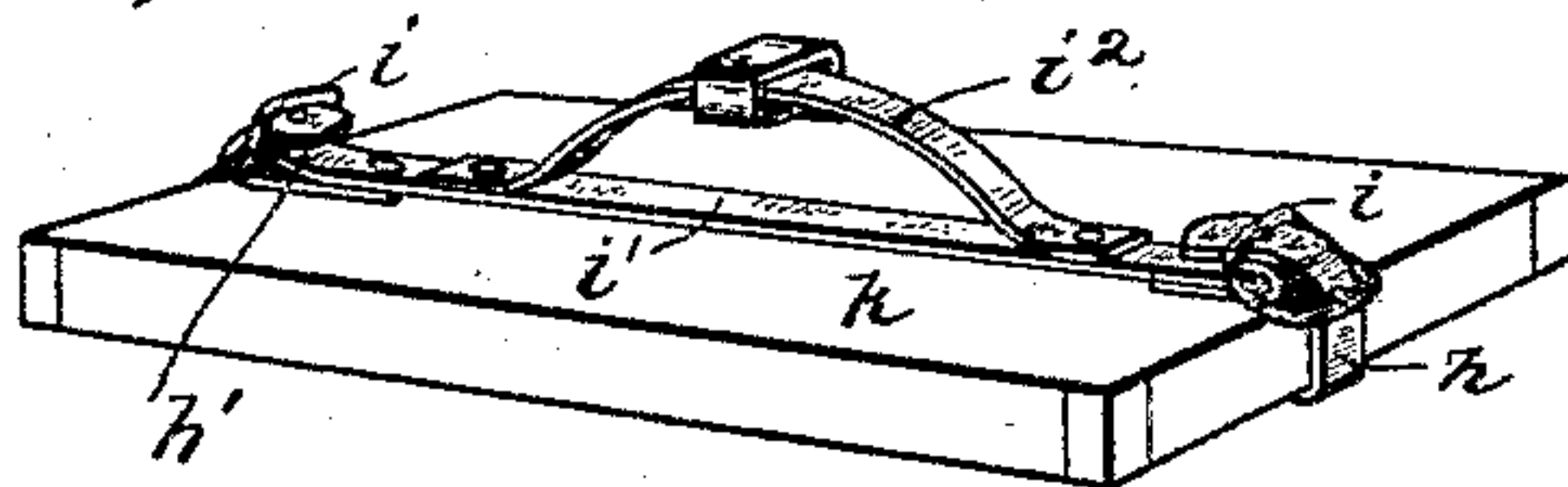
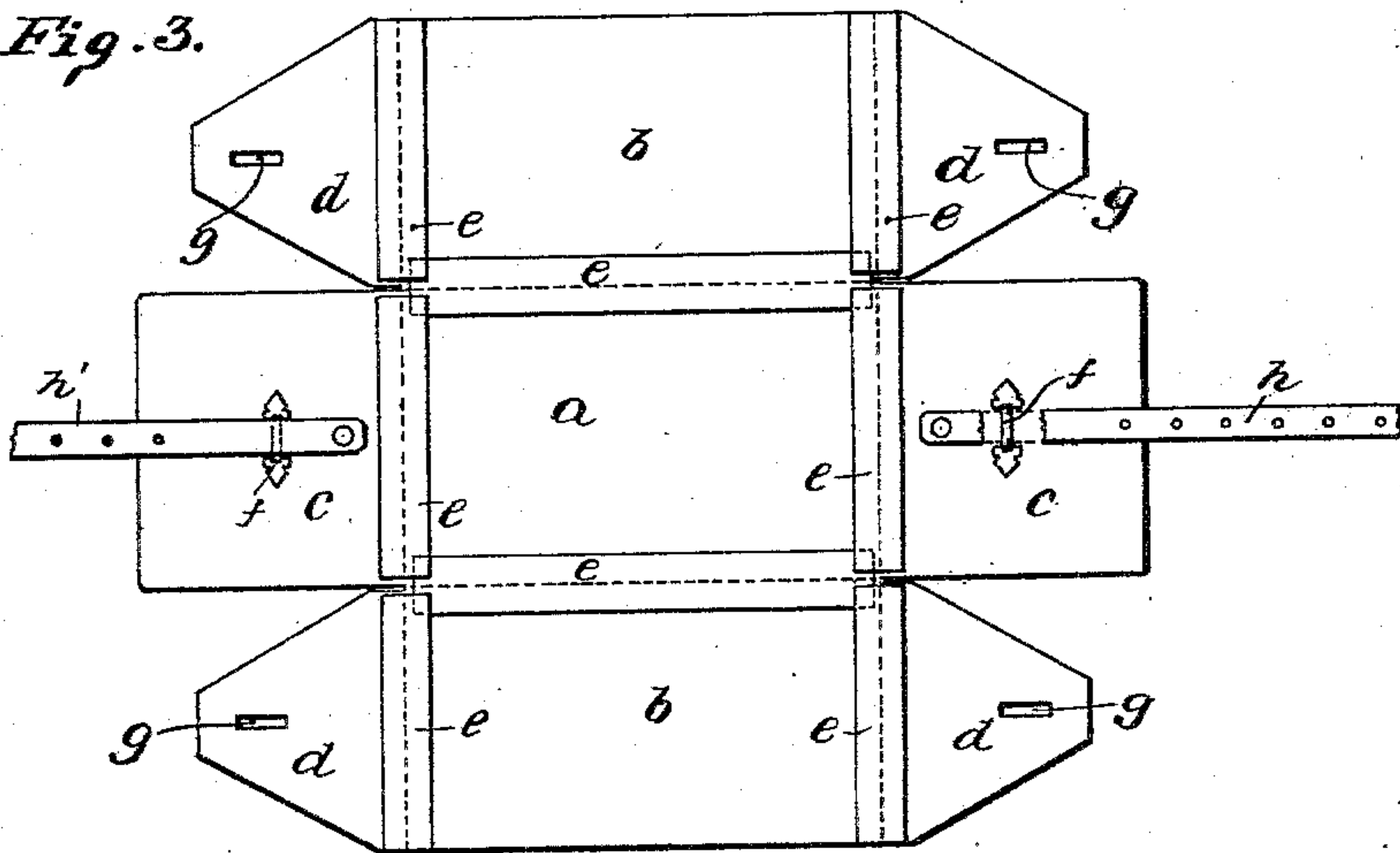


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM L. HENSEL AND ALBERT HENSEL, OF ALLEGHENY, PENNSYLVANIA.

FOLDING BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 561,708, dated June 9, 1896.

Application filed April 9, 1896. Serial No. 586,777. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, WILLIAM L. HENSEL and ALBERT HENSEL, residents of Allegheny, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Folding Boxes; and we do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

Our invention relates to folding boxes, its object being to provide a light yet durable box whose sides and ends are securely held together when in use, and one which may be folded into a neat small parcel when not in use for convenience in carrying.

Our invention comprises, generally stated, a folding box having side and end pieces hinged to a bottom piece, said end pieces having staples or eyelets projecting out therefrom, flaps on said side pieces at the ends thereof, said flaps having openings therein engaging said staples or eyelets, and a band or strap secured to said end pieces and passing through said staples or eyelets, whereby said side and end pieces are securely held together.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use our invention, we will describe the same more fully, referring to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of our improved folding box when in use. Fig. 2 is a like view of same folded. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the box spread out.

Like letters indicate like parts in each of the figures.

The box may be constructed of any suitable material—such as tin, paper, &c.—but we prefer to employ a stiff cardboard coated with shellac or other preservative composition, which will protect it from the action of rain or snow. This cardboard when thus coated has a glossy finish, which adds to the appearance of the box.

The box when spread out, as shown in Fig. 3, consists of the bottom *a*, the side pieces *b*, the end pieces *c*, and the flaps *d*. The bottom, side pieces, end pieces, and flaps may all be connected together by suitable hinge-straps *e*, which form hinges to permit of the folding of said parts together, as hereinafter set forth. The end pieces *c* have the staples or other guides *f* secured thereto and extending from the outer faces thereof. The flaps *d* on the side pieces *b* have the openings *g* formed therein. Attached to the end pieces *c* are the bands or straps *h h'*.

When the box is in use, the staples *f* on the end pieces *c* pass through the openings *g* in the flaps, while the straps *h h'* pass up through the staples *f*. These straps *h h'* engage with buckles *i* on the handle-strap *i'*, which has the handle *i²* secured thereto. The cover *k* is held securely in place by means of the straps *h h'* and the handle-strap *i'*. In this manner the sides and ends of the box are securely held together, so that a rigid structure is obtained and liability of the falling in of the sides or ends is avoided. At the same time a convenient handle is obtained for the box.

When it is desired to fold the box, it is done in the following manner: The straps *h h'* are disengaged from the buckles *i* and also from the staples *f*, whereupon the side pieces *b* and end pieces *c* are free to be folded down upon the bottom *a*, the flaps *d* being also folded in on the sides *b*. The folded parts can then be placed in the cover *k*, and the straps *h h'* are connected again to the buckles *i* of the handle-strap *i'*. The folded box contained within the cover *k* may be carried by means of the handle *i²*, or, if desired, may be inserted in a pocket.

As hereinbefore stated, such a box forms a convenient lunch-box, as it is light and compact, and when not containing food may be folded up in the manner hereinbefore set forth.

What we claim as our invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A box composed of folding sides and ends, staples in said ends, flaps on said sides having openings therein adapted to receive said staples, and straps on said ends passing up through said staples, substantially as set forth.

2. A box composed of folding sides and ends, staples in said ends, flaps on said sides having openings therein adapted to receive said staples, straps on said ends passing up through said staples, a cover, and a handle-strap with which said straps are connected, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof we, the said WILLIAM L. HENSEL and ALBERT HENSEL, have hereunto set our hands.

WILLIAM L. HENSEL.
ALBERT HENSEL.

Witnesses:

ROBT. D. TOTTEN,
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