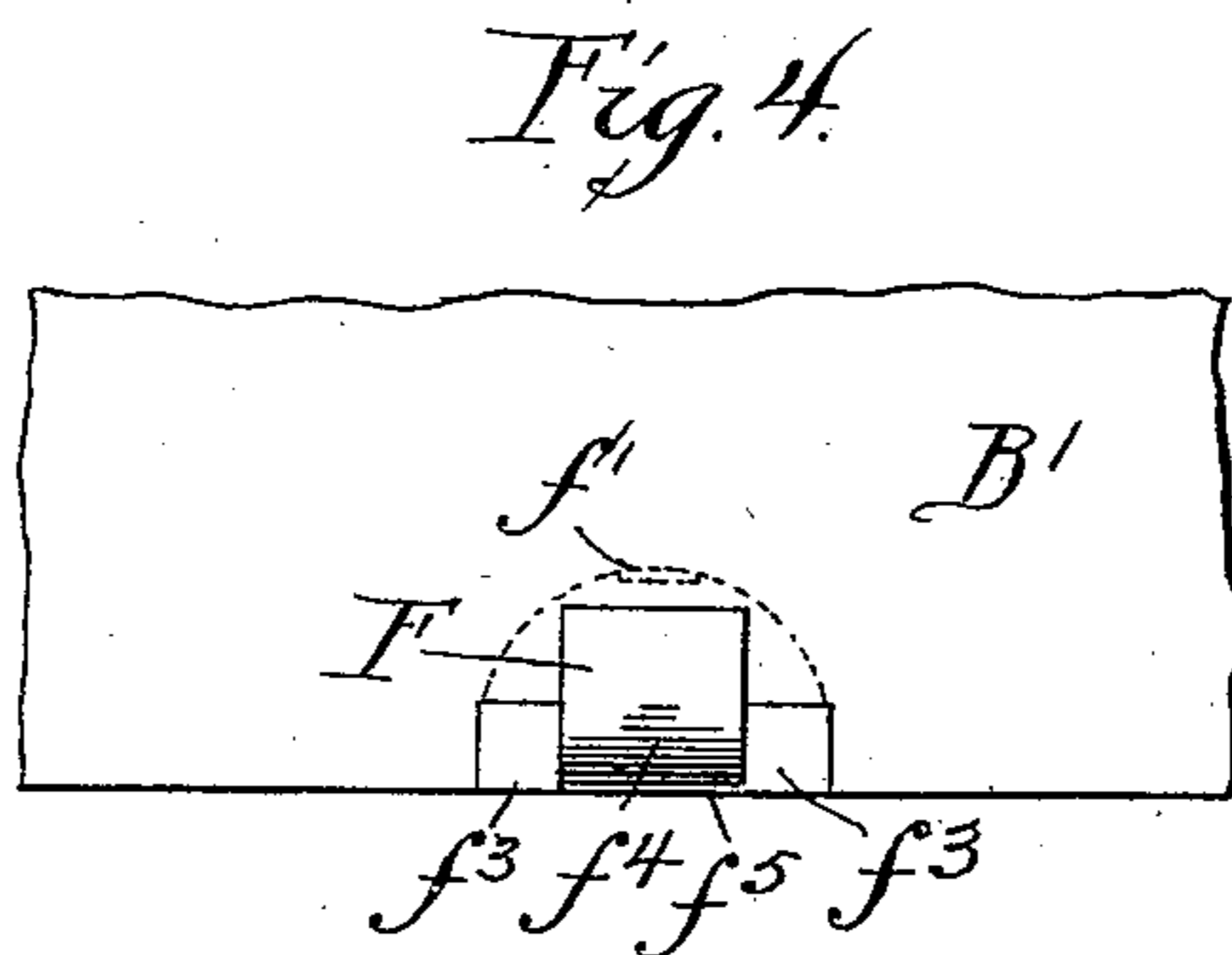
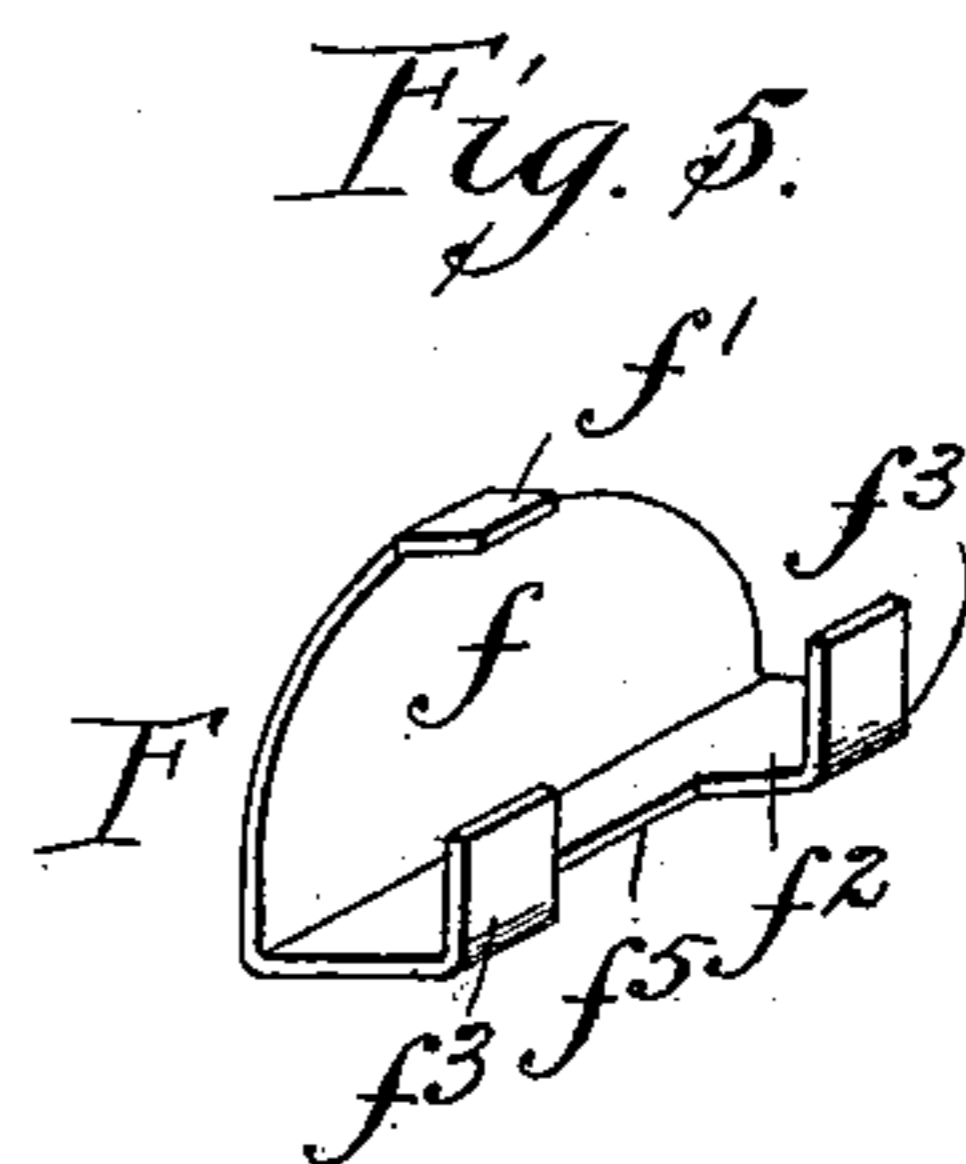
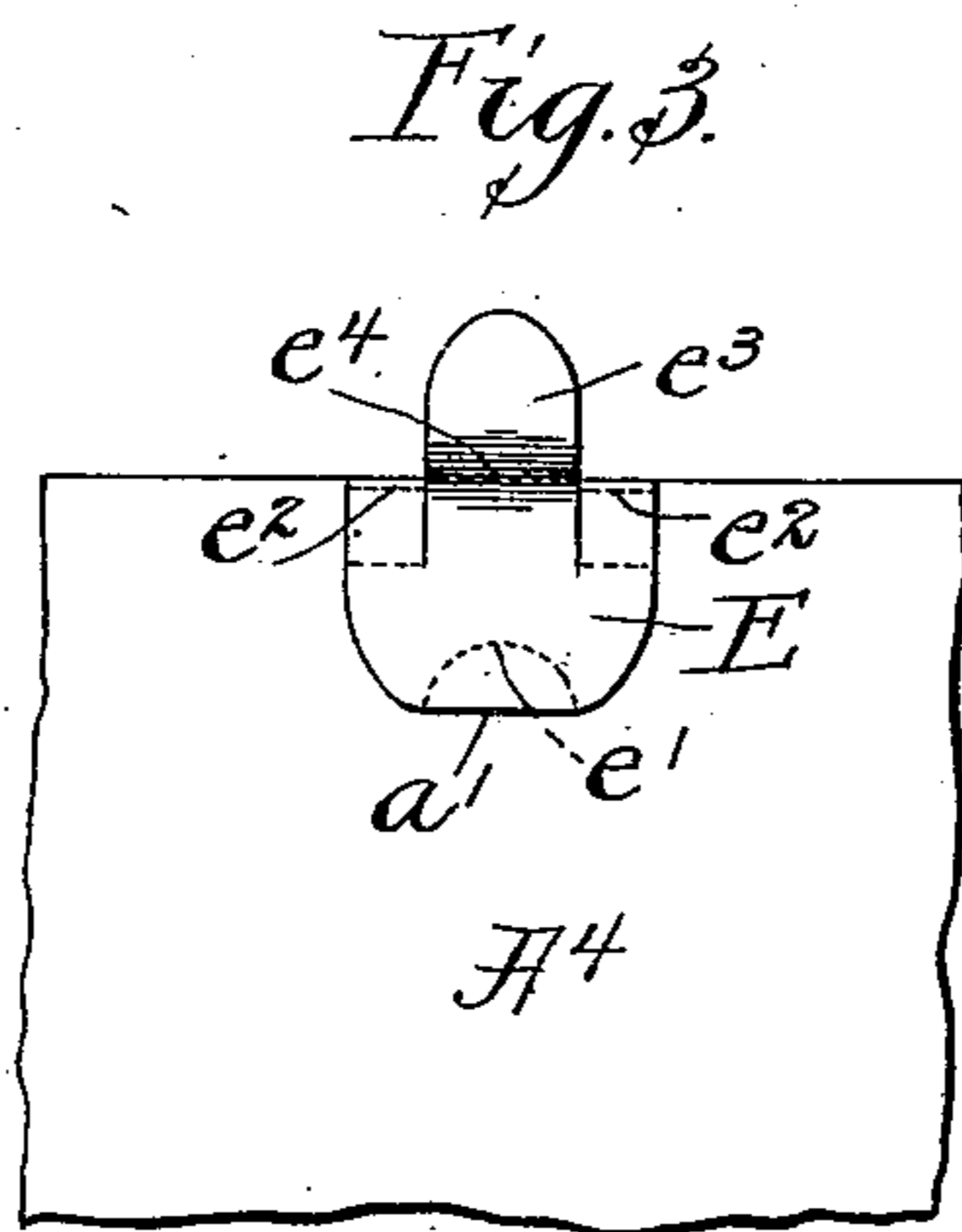
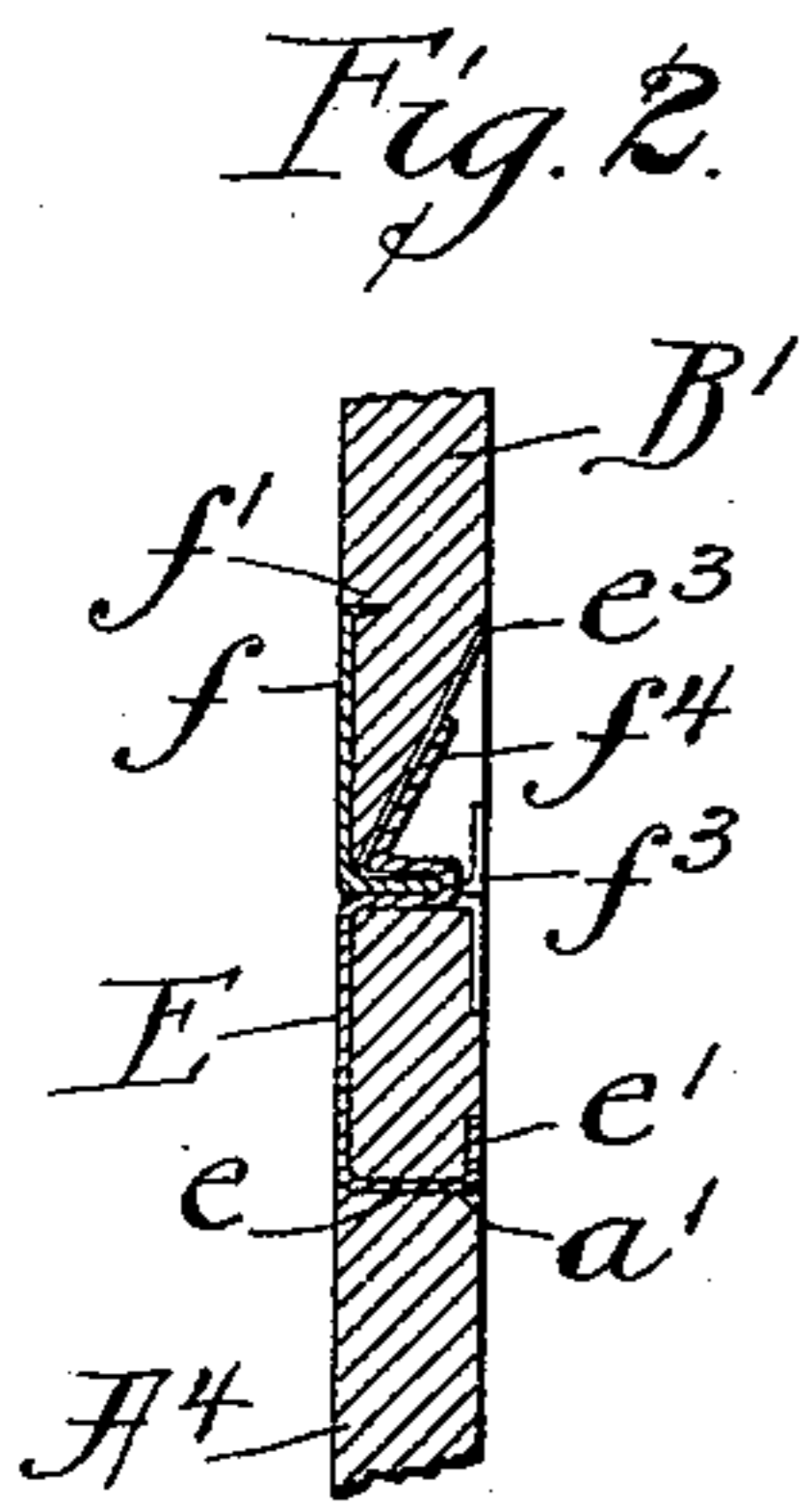
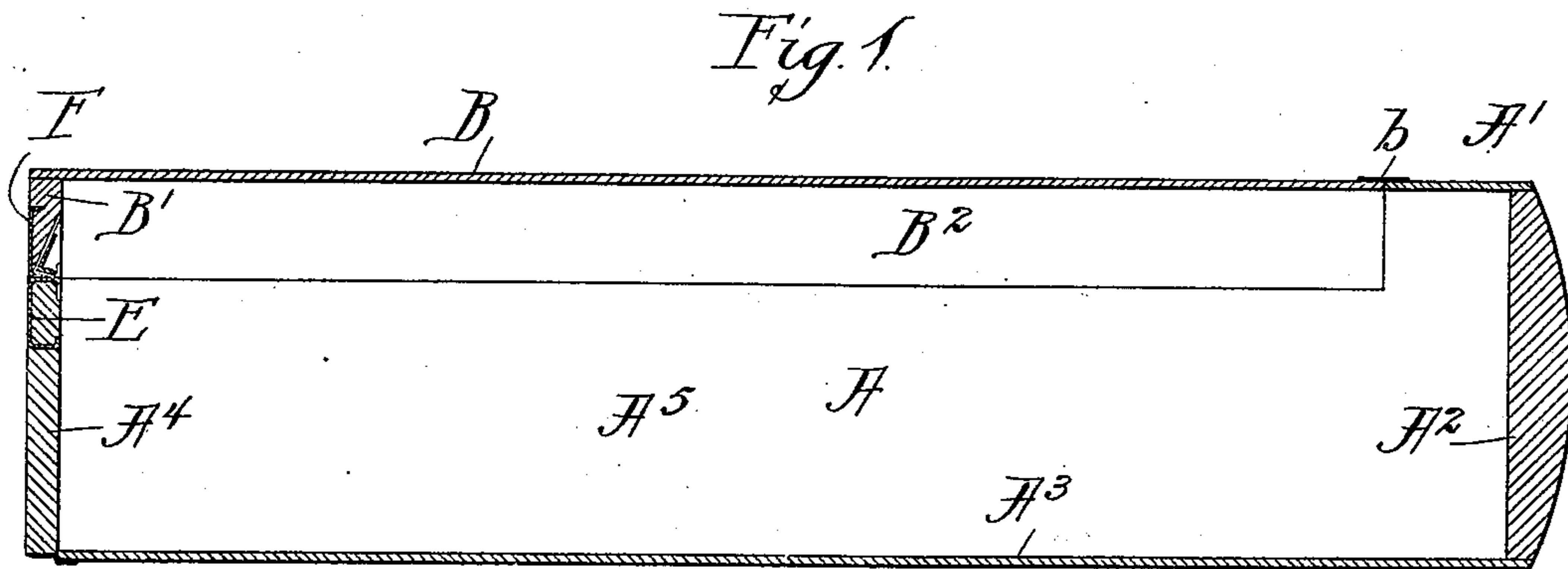


(No Model.)

F. TRAMBLAY.
BOX FASTENER.

No. 564,347.

Patented July 21, 1896.



Witnesses:
L. Clifton Hunkler
John W. Adams.

Inventor:
Felix Trambly.
by: Clayton, Poole & Brown
his Attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FELIX TRAMBLAY, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

BOX-FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 564,347, dated July 21, 1896.

Application filed February 28, 1896. Serial No. 581,180. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FELIX TRAMBLAY, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Box-Fasteners; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to an improved lock or catch for file-cases, a lock embodying the present invention being applicable either to pasteboard, fiber, or other analogous boxes or cases wherein the sides are more or less yielding or resilient, or to wooden boxes having unyielding sides.

Among the objects of the invention is to provide a lock of simplified and improved construction, satisfactory in use, and capable of being reliably secured in position upon the case with the utmost facility.

The invention consists in the matters hereinafter described, and more particularly pointed out in the appended claims, and may be more readily understood by reference to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a view in central vertical section of a file-case provided with a lock or catch embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a central vertical section, enlarged, of the lid-catch and fragmentary portions of the meeting edges of a file-case to which the catch is applied. Fig. 3 is an enlarged front elevation of the lower member of the catch with a part of the front of the box to which it is attached. Fig. 4 is an enlarged view of the upper member of the catch and with a fragment of the cover to which it is attached, looking at the inner or rear face of the front wall of said cover. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the upper member of the catch.

Referring to the said figures, the invention is herein shown as applied to a file-case of the usual construction, (designated as a whole by the letter A,) of which are shown the top strip or ledge A', the back A², bottom A³, front wall A⁴, and one of the end walls A⁵ of the box proper, and the top B, front wall or flange B', and end flange B² of the lid-cover.

The front wall A⁴ of the box is hinged at its lower margin, so as to drop or fold outwardly,

and the top B of the cover is hinged to the edge of the top strip or ledge A' at *b* a short distance from the rear edge of the box. The front wall portion B' of the cover is rigidly secured to the top B, and is adapted to meet the front A⁴ when the latter is in vertical position.

The file-case is herein shown as provided with a single lock or catch secured upon the meeting edges of the two members centrally thereof.

Referring to the detail figures, E designates the socket or receiving member, and F the catch or engaging member of the lock. As herein shown, (although obviously the arrangement might be reversed,) the member E is secured to the upper edge of the front wall A⁴ of the box, while the member F is secured to the depending front edge B' of the cover. The member E is formed from sheet metal, and comprises an end portion *e*, turned at right angles to the main body, inserted through a slit *a'*, extending transversely through the box, and clenched upon the inside face of the latter, as shown at *e'*, Figs. 1 and 2. At the upper edge of the box-front A⁴ the member E is provided at each side with a narrow clenching-strip *e*² *e*², adapted to be clenched over the edge of the box-front, and an intermediate portion *e*³, which is formed into an outwardly-opening U-shaped socket or deep transverse recess *e*⁴, adapted to receive the engaging lip of the member F. From the socket *e*⁴ the end of the strip *e*³ is extended upwardly and inwardly, so as to provide an inclined or beveled tongue adapted to guide the member F into engagement with said socket *e*⁴. The beveled portion or tongue is unsupported at its inner side, and will therefore have some slight resilience, but it need not necessarily be made of spring metal.

The member F is also formed from sheet metal, but is considerably wider than the member E, as shown in Figs. 4 and 5. Said member comprises a flat portion *f*, adapted to rest against the outer face of the cover B', (for neatness of appearance, herein shown as of semicircular form,) provided at its upper margin with a prong *f'*, turned at right angles inward and inserted in the body of the cover, a right-angled inturned portion *f*², adapted to rest against the lower edge of the cover, and

two clenching strips or arms $f^3 f^3$. The said arms $f^3 f^3$ are bent upwardly and clenched upon the inner face of the cover, in which position they serve, in conjunction with the stud f' , to hold the member securely upon the edge of the cover. The space or opening between said arms $f^3 f^3$ is sufficient to permit the entrance of the tongue and socket portions of the member E between them, and the inner face of the cover is recessed or cut away between said arms at f^4 , so as to permit the engagement of the U-shaped socket e^2 with the inturned edge f^5 of the member F, which extends between said arms $f^3 f^3$, as clearly shown in Figs. 1, 2; and 5.

In operation the members E and F of the catch will slide into engagement automatically when the lid is closed, the resilience or yielding of the front wall portions B' and A^4 insuring such action without any spring action in the tongue e^3 . In disengaging the parts the front A^4 of the box is forced inward sufficiently to separate the members and thus release the catch. Boxes or cases of this character being ordinarily made of pasteboard, thin wood, or analogous material, this bending or springing of the front in order to permit the unfastening of the catch will produce no injury.

From the above description it will be apparent that a lock or catch embodying my invention can be very cheaply produced, while at the same time its simplicity of operation, efficiency, and utility are of a high order.

I claim as my invention—

1. The combination, with a file-case body and lid, of a locking device the members of which are made of sheet metal, one of said

members being creased to form a transverse socket and having an inclined tongue, the other of said members having a main part adapted to be secured to the face of one member of the case and being provided with a lip bent at right angles to the said main part and adapted to engage said socket, substantially as described.

2. The combination, with a file-case body and lid, of a catch consisting of two members, one of which is provided with a transverse socket, with an obliquely-arranged tongue and with a prong adapted to be inserted through the wall of the case and clenched on the inside of the same, and the other member being provided with inturned arms embracing the edge of the wall of the case, with an inturned free edge extending between said arms and adapted for engagement with said recess, and a prong adapted to be inserted in the case-wall, substantially as described.

3. A catch for file-cases, comprising a lower member E provided with a prong e' , a recess e^4 , and an inclined tongue e^3 and an upper member F having an exterior portion f provided with an inturned prong f' , an inturned portion f^2 provided with arms f^3 and with a free edge or flange f^5 extending between said arms, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses, this 24th day of February, A. D. 1896.

FELIX TRAMBLAY.

Witnesses:

J. B. ALEXANDER,
F. E. WAGGAMAN.