

(No Model.)

J. E. HAMILTON.
PRINTER'S CASE.

No. 566,312.

Patented Aug. 25, 1896.

Fig. 1.

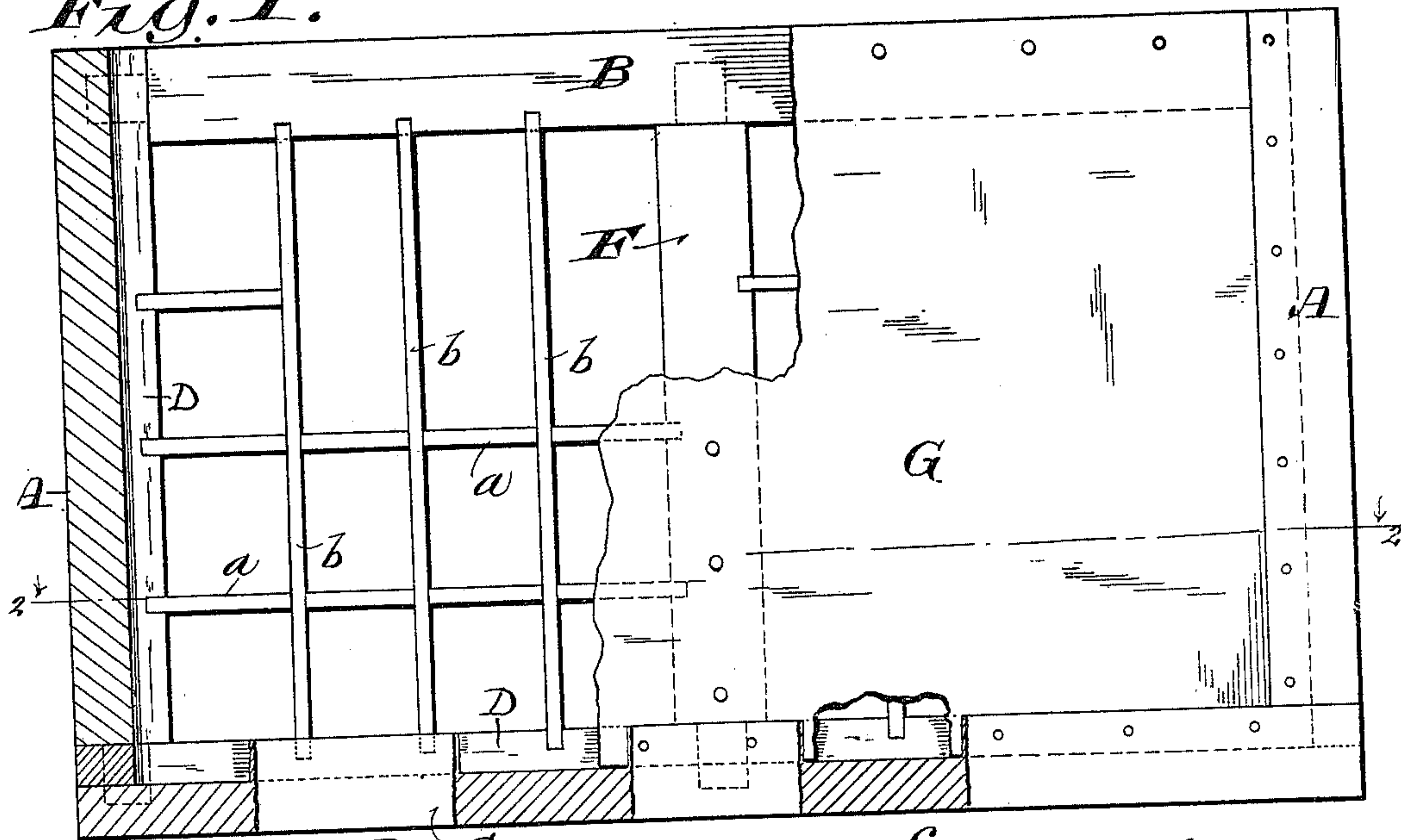


Fig. 2.

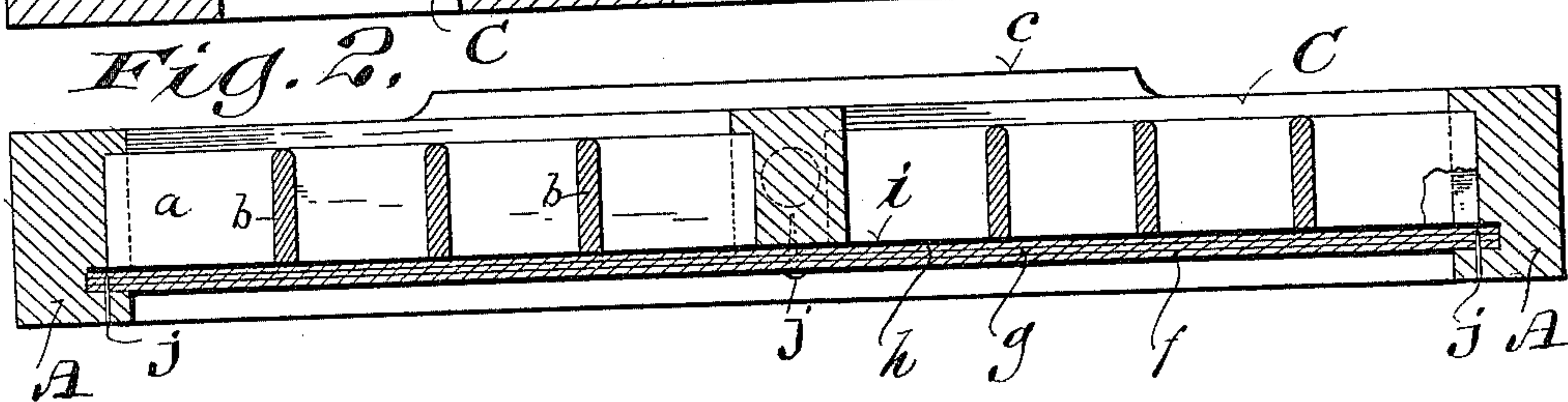


Fig. 3.

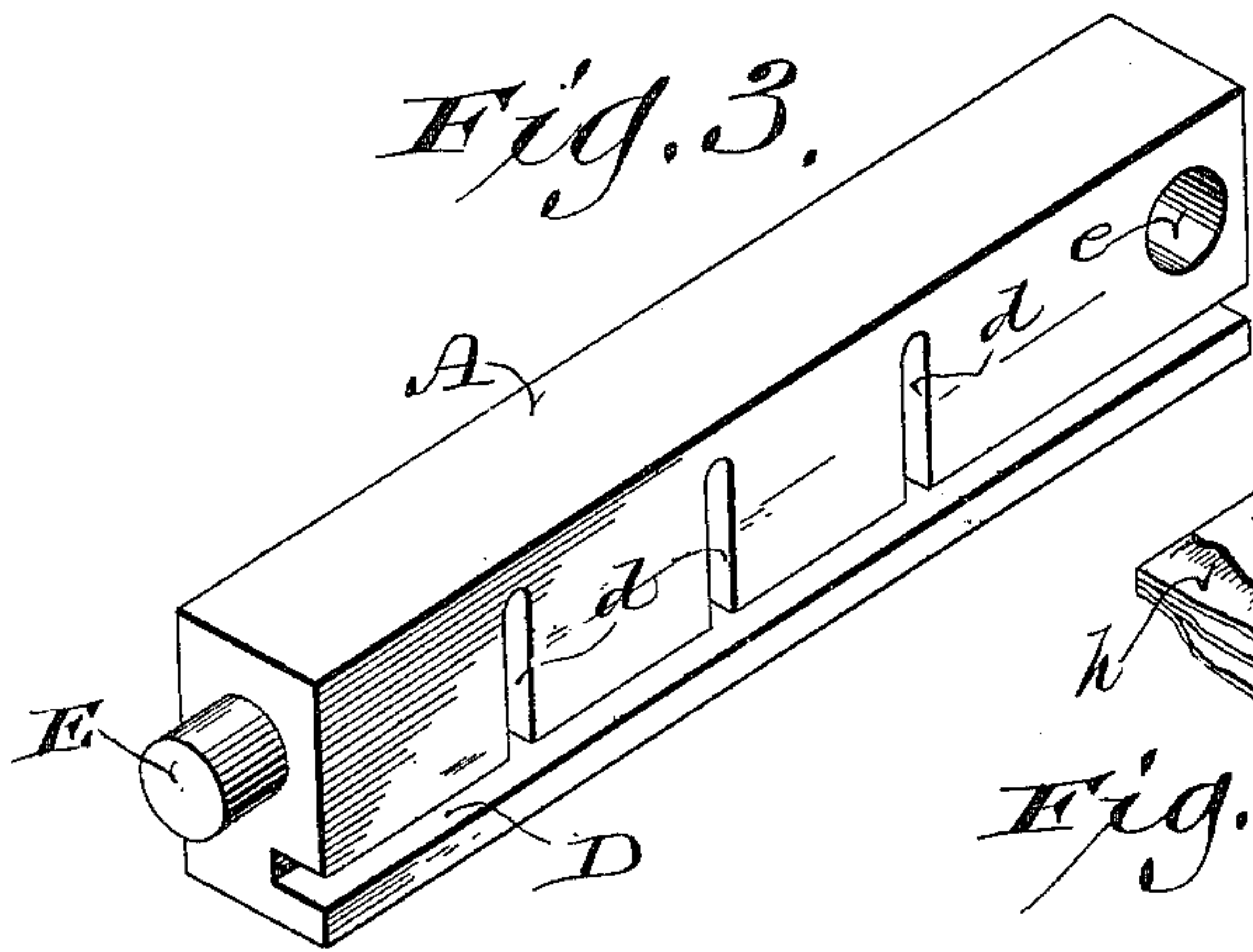
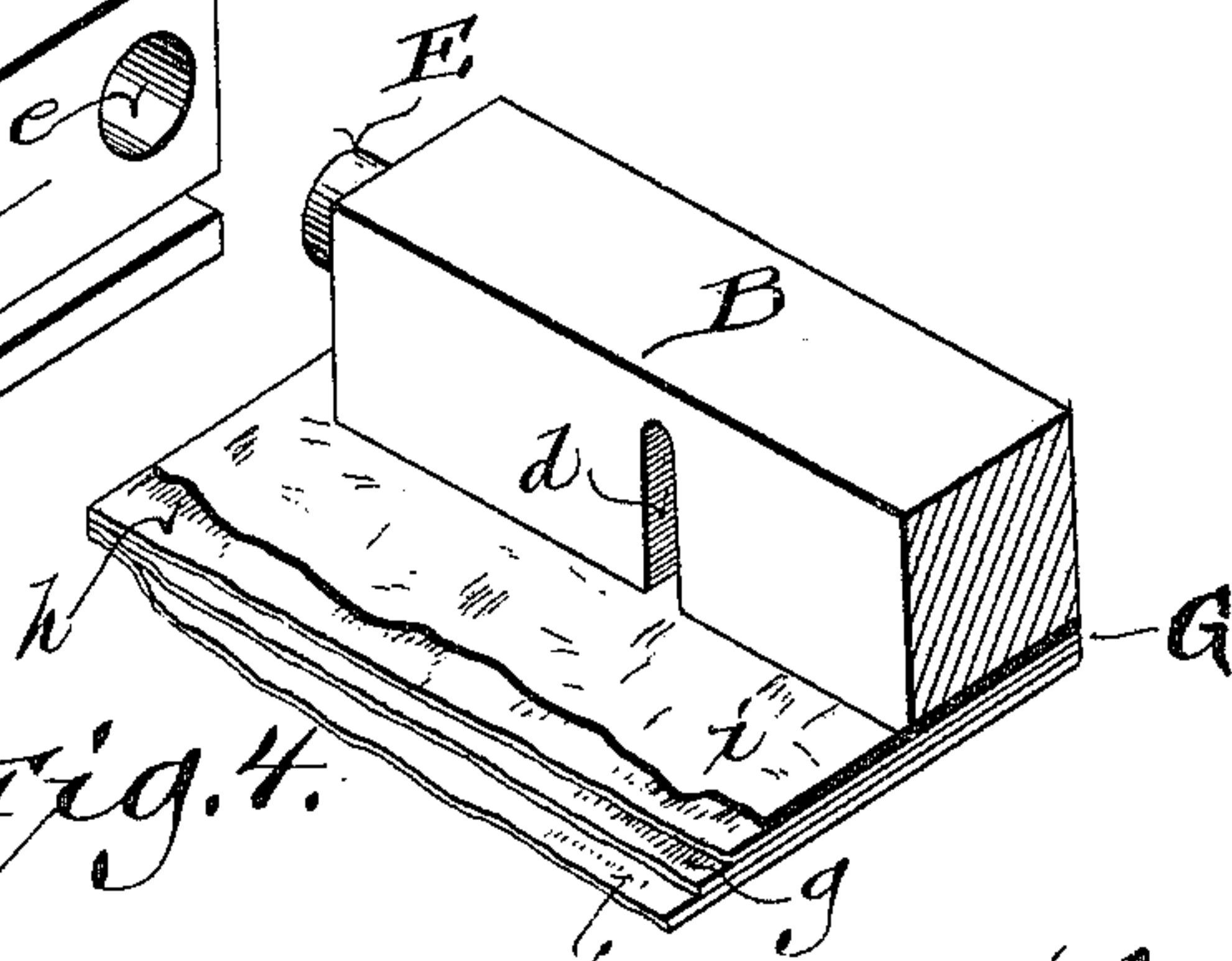


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES E. HAMILTON, OF TWO RIVERS, WISCONSIN.

PRINTER'S CASE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 566,312, dated August 25, 1896.

Application filed October 28, 1895. Serial No. 567,076. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES E. HAMILTON, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Two Rivers, in the county of Manitowoc and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Printers' Cases; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

My invention relates to the construction of cases used in printing-offices; and it consists in certain peculiarities of construction, as will be fully set forth hereinafter and subsequently claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is an under side plan view, partly in section and with parts broken away to better illustrate details of construction, of a case embodying my present improvements. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal vertical sectional view of the same, taken on the line 2 2 of the preceding figure. Figs. 3 and 4 are detail perspective views of portions of my improved case.

Referring to the drawings, A A represent the end pieces, and B C the upper and lower side pieces, of the rectangular frame of the case, the lower side piece C being provided with the usual upward-projecting rim or edge *c* to receive the composing-stick. This lower side piece C, with its rim or edge *c*, is shown in Fig. 2, (which is a view looking from the back of the case toward the compositor,) and in Fig. 1 no attempt is made to show the ordinary and well-known arrangement of the type-boxes in the lower case, but only a few of said boxes are shown by way of illustration.

Heretofore it has been customary, in the construction of cases, to rout out the side and end pieces of the frame of the case from the bottom edges of said pieces up to a line near the inner upper edges of the same, and after fitting together the partition-strips *a a a* and *b b b*, which form the type-boxes, (by cutting the strips *b b b* half-way down from their top edges and the strips *a a a* half-way up from their bottom edges and joining them together transversely,) to slip the ends of said partition-strips into the vertical grooves routed out in the said side and end pieces of the frame of the case, from the under side thereof, and then to secure a solid wood bottom to the case to keep

the parts all together and prevent the type from dropping out. There are several objections to these ordinary cases. In the first place, if a thin bottom is put on it reduces the proper height of the case and is liable to swell or shrink away from the under side of the partition-strips, and, in the second place, if of thick wood, it makes the case heavy and clumsy and increases the cost of manufacture. It is desirable that the cases should be of a standard height, so as to enable them to be used in any printing-office, and to accomplish this and obviate the hereinbefore-named objections I have devised the hereinafter described and illustrated construction.

In my improved case I form a longitudinal groove D in the lower inner faces of the end pieces A A and lower side piece C adjacent to and parallel with the bottom faces thereof, but at such a distance therefrom as to leave a substantial portion of the wood of said pieces beneath said groove. I then slip a proper routing-tool within the groove D and rout out the vertical grooves *d d d*, as shown, said vertical grooves extending upward to a line near the upper faces of the said pieces, as heretofore. The upper side piece B is of less depth than the other pieces of the frame of the case, and is simply routed out to form the vertical grooves *d*, extending from the bottom of said side piece B upward in the old manner. The end and side pieces A A B C may be provided with dowels E and mortises *e* therefor for the ready joining together of these pieces, as shown, or they may be united in any other suitable and secure manner.

The partition-strips *a a* and *b b*, which form the type-boxes, are made and joined together in the ordinary manner already described, and the ends of said strips are slipped into the described vertical grooves *d d* above the line of the upper walls of the horizontal grooves D D, which latter are of about double the depth of the vertical grooves *d d* in the end pieces A A and lower side piece C. The cases are preferably provided with one or more of the division-pieces F, tenoned and mortised into or otherwise secured to the side pieces B C, as shown in Fig. 1, the under surface of each piece F coming flush with the upper wall of the said groove D in the piece C and with the bottom of the piece B.

The bottom *G* of my improved case is formed of a series of layers of the wood, there being preferably three such layers *f g h*, with the grain of the central layer *g* running in a contrary direction to that of the other layers, and with a layer of paper *i* upon the upper layer *h* of wood, and all four of these layers being cemented and pressed together to form a composite veneer, which will not shrink or swell, and which, while being much thinner than the old-style solid piece of wood, is stronger and not liable to crack, thereby obviating the existing danger of loss of any of the type in the old-style cases. This composite veneer bottom is slipped to place within the grooves *D D D* and secured therein, as by tacks *j j*, and the case is complete.

Inasmuch as the bottom line of the vertical grooves *d d* is flush with the upper line of the longitudinal grooves *D D*, it will be seen that when the partition-strips *a a b b* have been slipped to place within the described upper grooves *d d* they are securely locked therein by slipping the bottom piece *G* to place within its grooves *D D*, and thus the lower edges of said partition-strips and the upper surface of said bottom piece are permanently held in positive contact beyond any possibility of accidental separation, which is not only a novel feature in type-cases, but of the greatest practical advantage.

When my cases are placed upon their supporting racks or cabinets in use, they will be of the standard height, and all wear and friction comes upon the bottom portions of the frame of the cases and not upon the bottom of the type-holding portion of the case, as heretofore.

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

1. In a printer's case, the combination of a frame formed of end pieces and a lower side piece of a uniform height, provided with longitudinal grooves on their inner faces adjacent to, and parallel with, their under surfaces, and shallower vertical grooves communicating with said longitudinal grooves, and an upper side piece, of a less depth, terminating at the base on a line flush with the upper wall of the said longitudinal grooves in the other pieces and provided with corresponding vertical grooves, transversely-crossed partition-strips whose ends are fitted within said vertical grooves, and a bottom piece whose lower side, and end edges are slipped and secured within the described longitudinal grooves in the lower side, and end pieces, substantially as set forth.

2. In a printer's case, the combination of the lower side, and end, pieces of the frame, having longitudinal grooves in the inner surfaces thereof, adjacent to and parallel with the bottom surfaces of said pieces, and an upper side piece of less depth than, but rising to the same height as, the other pieces of the frame, with a thin bottom piece formed of composite layers of wood veneer, and an upper layer of paper, all pressed and cemented together, slipped into and secured within said longitudinal grooves, in the lower side, and end, pieces of the frame, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand, at Two Rivers, in the county of Manitowoc and State of Wisconsin, in the presence of two witnesses.

JAMES E. HAMILTON.

Witnesses:

ARTHUR H. LOHMAN,
CORA M. HARRISON.