

(No Model.)

R. G. DORRANCE.  
DUST PROOF INK WELL.

No. 575,708.

Patented Jan. 26, 1897.

Fig. 1.

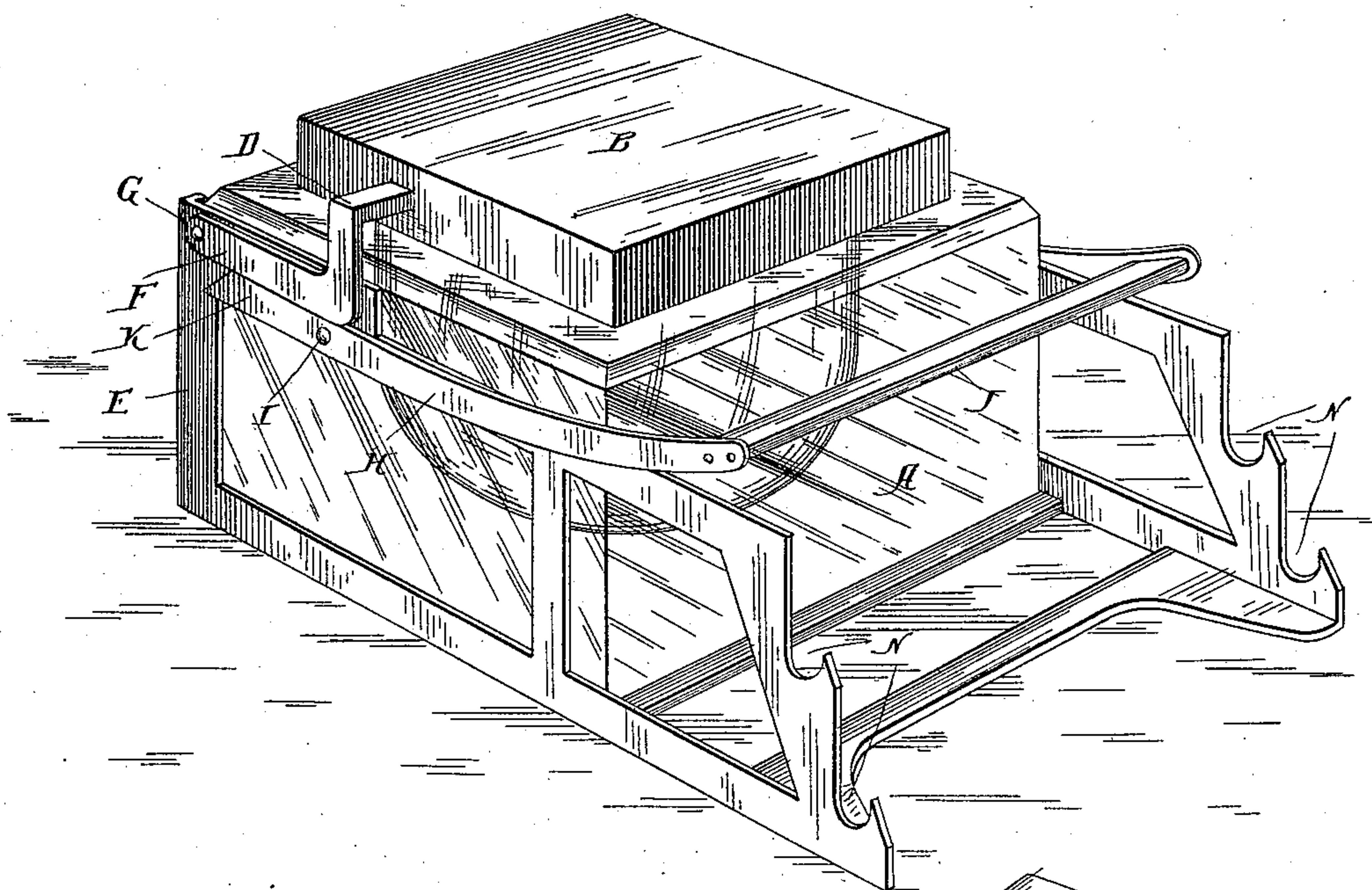


Fig. 2.

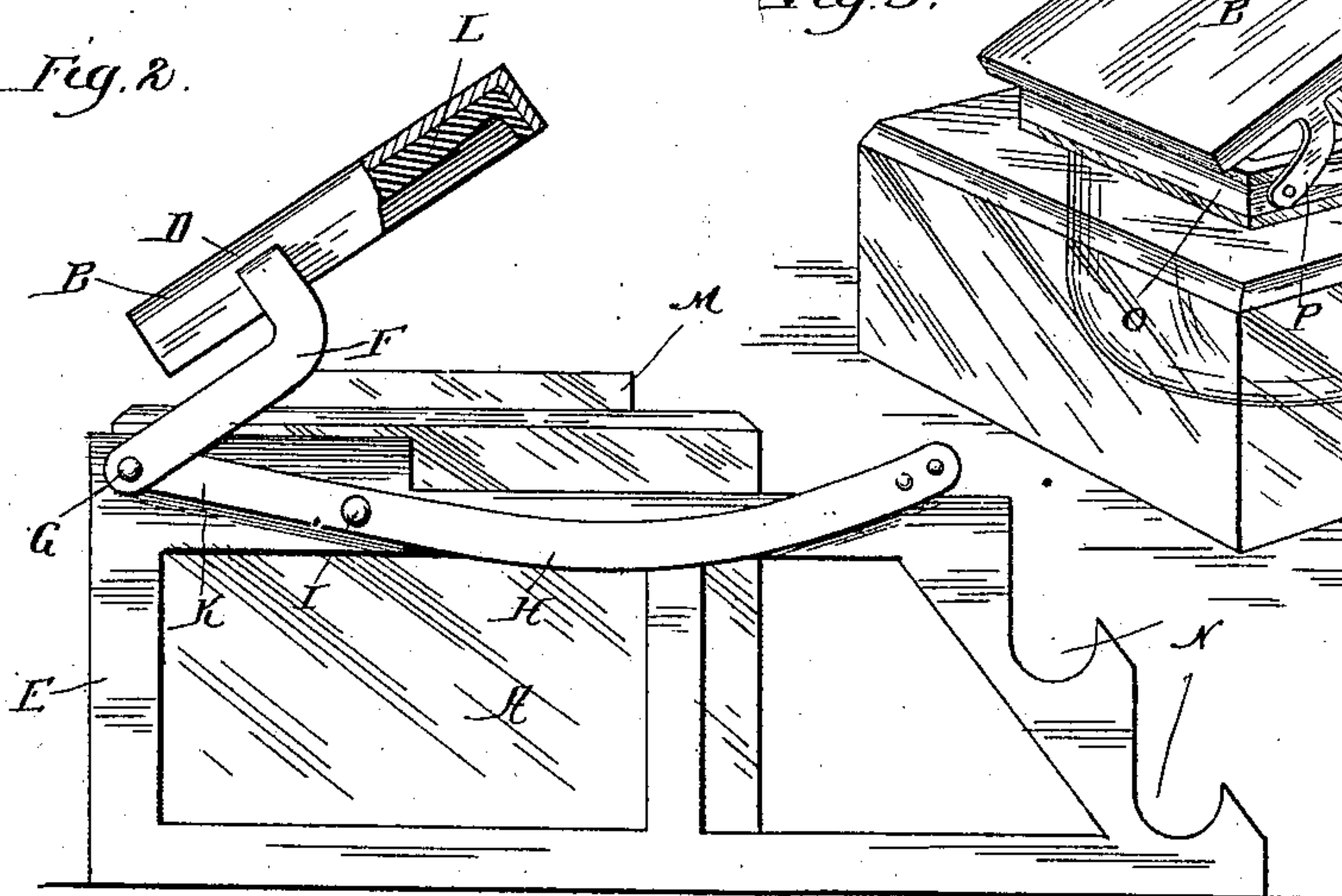
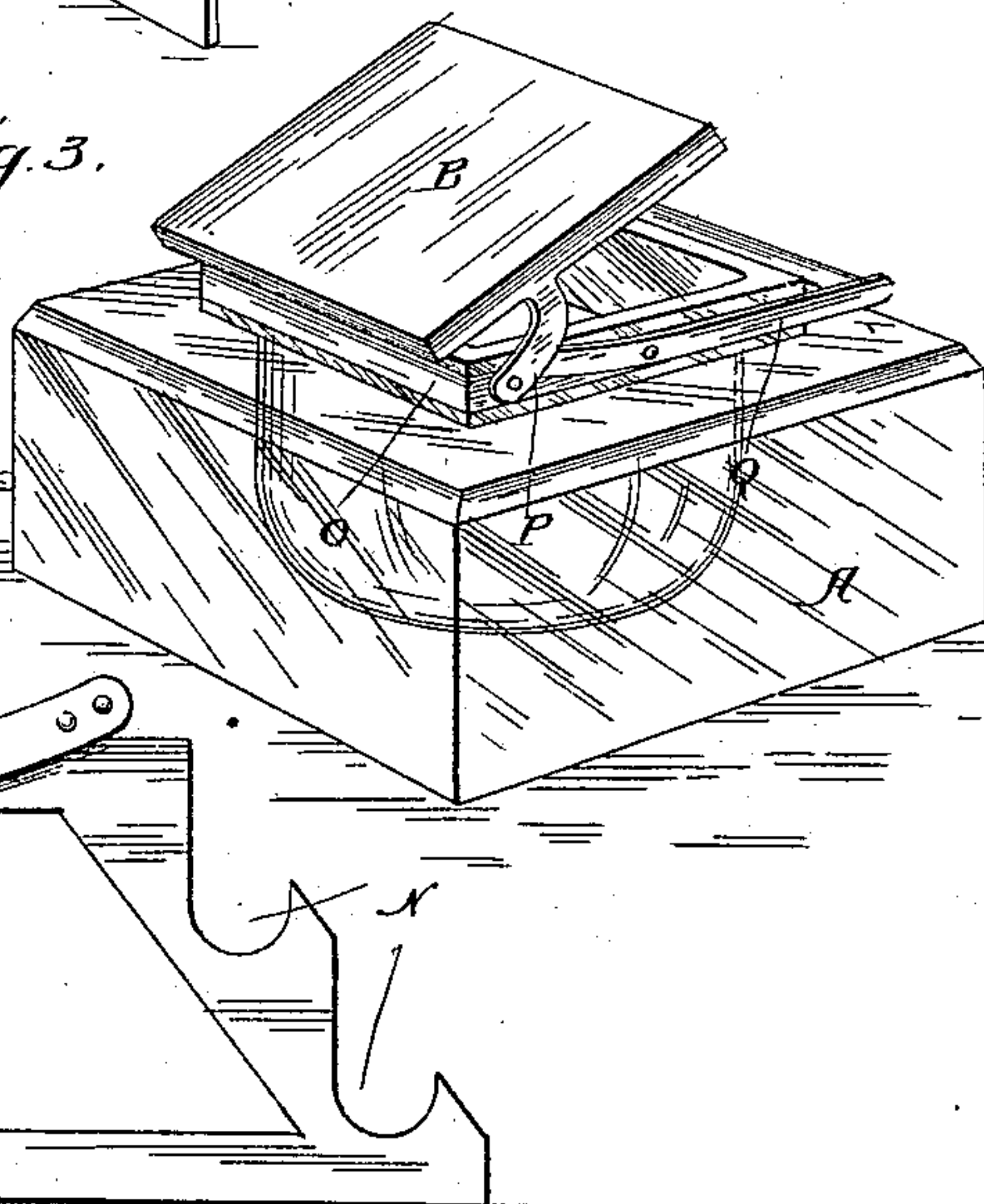


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## DUST-PROOF INK-WELL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 575,708, dated January 26, 1897.

Application filed August 31, 1896. Serial No. 604,348. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, RALPH G. DORRANCE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Dust-Proof Ink-Wells, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a new and useful improvement in dust-proof and non-evaporating ink-wells, and has for its object to provide a simple and cheap device of this description by means of which the well will be closed at all times, except when temporarily uncovered for the immersion of the pen within the ink.

With these ends in view this invention consists in the details of construction and combination of elements hereinafter set forth and then specifically designated by the claims.

In order that those skilled in the art to which this invention appertain may understand how to make and use the same, its construction and operation will now be described in detail, referring to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective of an ink-well embodying my improvements; Fig. 2, a side elevation of the same, a portion of the cover broken away and sectioned to show the rubber washer placed therein for hermetically sealing the well when the cover is in place, and Fig. 3 is a modified form of my improvement.

In carrying out my invention I use a well A of any desired size and design, and provide therefor a metallic cover B, from which project the shanks D, with which are formed the right-angle levers F, and E represents a stand or frame in which the ink-well is placed, and this frame is so designed as to hold said well therein against accidental displacement. The levers F are pivoted at G to the frame, in order that the cover B may be swung upward and rearward from off the ink-well, as will be hereinafter set forth.

Two levers H are pivoted at I to the frame, one upon each side thereof, and are connected at their front ends by the cross-bar J, of such width as to serve as a presser-bar against which the fingers or some portion of the hand carrying the pen may be brought into contact, and the heels K of these levers extend rearward from the pivot-points I and lie immedi-

ately beneath the levers F and in contact therewith. From this it will be seen that to gain access to the ink within the well with the pen it is only necessary that the operator press upon the bar J, thereby forcing the outer ends of the levers H downward and their heel ends upward, which in turn will force the levers F upward and swing the cover from off the well sufficiently to permit the immersion of the pen within the ink. Now when the hand is removed from the presser-bar the weight of the cover will return the levers F to their normal position, and these levers will force the heel ends of the levers H downward and the presser-bar upward to its normal position, while at the same time the cover will fall into its proper relative position upon the well, thereby closing the latter.

To hermetically seal the ink-well, I place a rubber or other compressible washer L within the cover, of such shape as to fit over the flange M of said well, thereby completely preventing the evaporation of the ink from the well and also preventing dust and other foreign matter from gaining access thereto.

One of the principal advantages of my improvement is that an ink-well of any design may be adapted thereto, as the principal features thereof consist in the arrangement of the levers H and the securing of the levers F to the cover of the well; yet a well thus arranged will be absolutely dust-proof and the ink cannot evaporate therefrom.

It is obvious that any amount of ornamentation may be provided in the designing of the frame, and I have here shown the notches N formed in the front portion of the frame, which serve as a rack for the holding of the penholder; but of course any arrangement for this purpose may be provided without departing from the spirit of my invention.

The extreme ends of the heels K may be beveled, as shown, so that when the levers H are depressed and the levers F swung upward these beveled edges will come into alinement with the lower edges of the last-named levers and partially lock the levers F in their elevated position, so as to prevent the cover from going farther rearward than is required.

The center of gravity is so placed that the cover, by its weight, will go downward upon the release of the presser-bar.

It is obvious that my improvement may be



applied directly to an ink well or bottle by the securement of a metallic band O around the neck of said well or bottle and pivoting the levers P and Q thereto, in which case the  
5 necessity for the frame is obviated and a very cheap, yet effective, automatically-closing ink-well is provided, as shown in Fig. 3.

Another modification might be utilized in the embodiment of my invention, consisting  
10 of the displacement of one of the levers H and substituting for the presser-bar J, which extends between these levers, a key or button carried by the outer end of a single lever corresponding to the levers H, and this lever  
15 should be arranged upon the right-hand side of the frame in order that the button carried thereby might be in easy access of the fingers of the hand carrying the pen.

Having thus fully described this invention,  
20 what is claimed as new and useful is—

1. In a device of the character described, a

frame, a lever pivoted thereto carrying a cap, a lever pivoted to the frame having its heel engaging and operating the first-named lever, said heel extending nearly to the pivot of the  
25 cap-carrying lever and being beveled to limit the movement of the cap, substantially as described.

2. In a device of the character described, a suitable frame, levers carrying a cap pivoted  
30 to the frame, a second series of levers pivoted to the frame having beveled heels engaging the first-named levers near their pivotal supports, as and for the purpose described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto af-  
35 fixed my signature in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

RALPH G. DORRANCE.

Witnesses:

S. S. WILLIAMSON,  
JOHN M. KEENEY.