

(No Model.)

3 Sheets—Sheet 1.

E. MOWREY.  
MOLD.

No. 584,953.

Patented June 22, 1897.

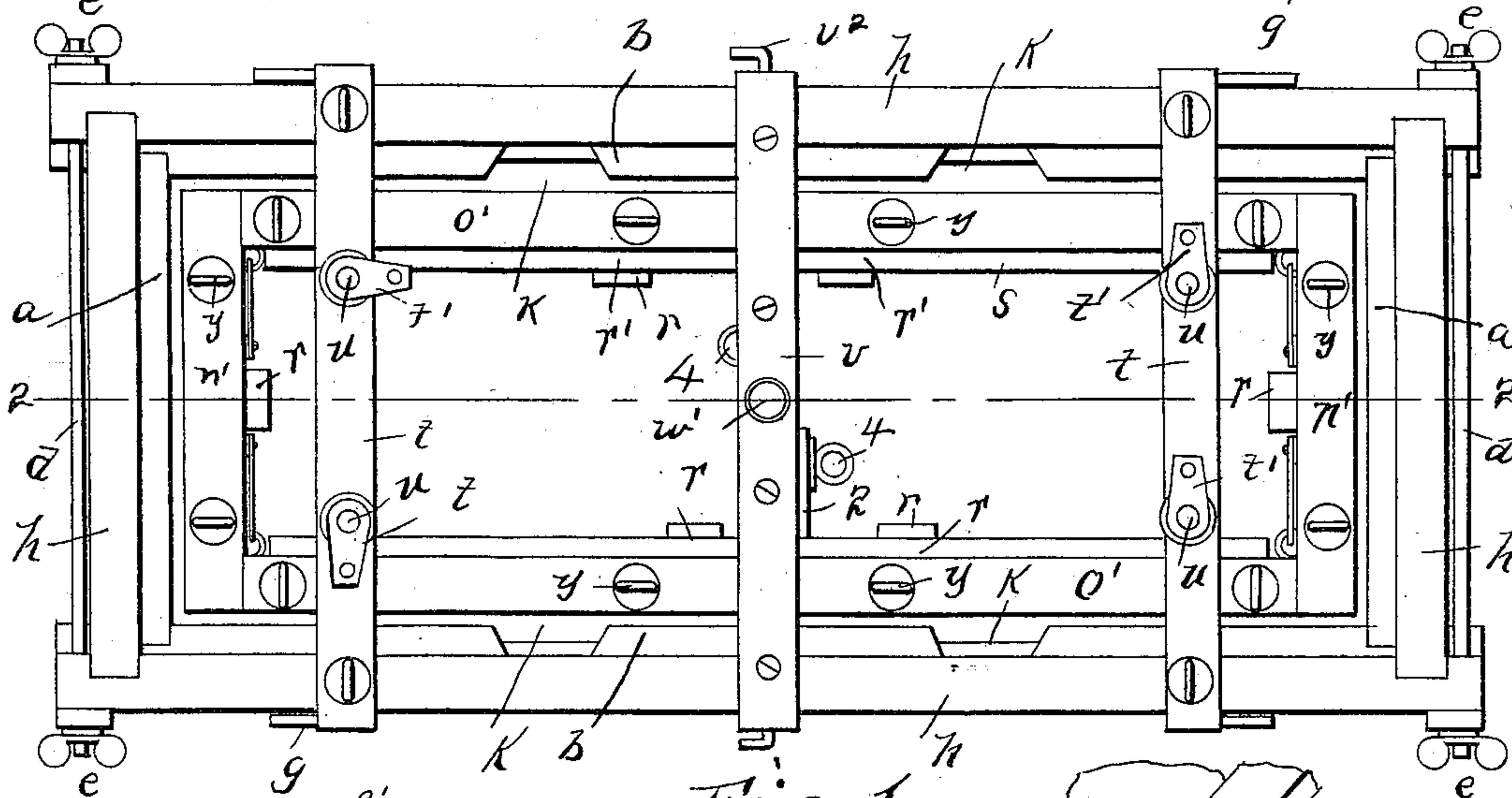


Fig. 1

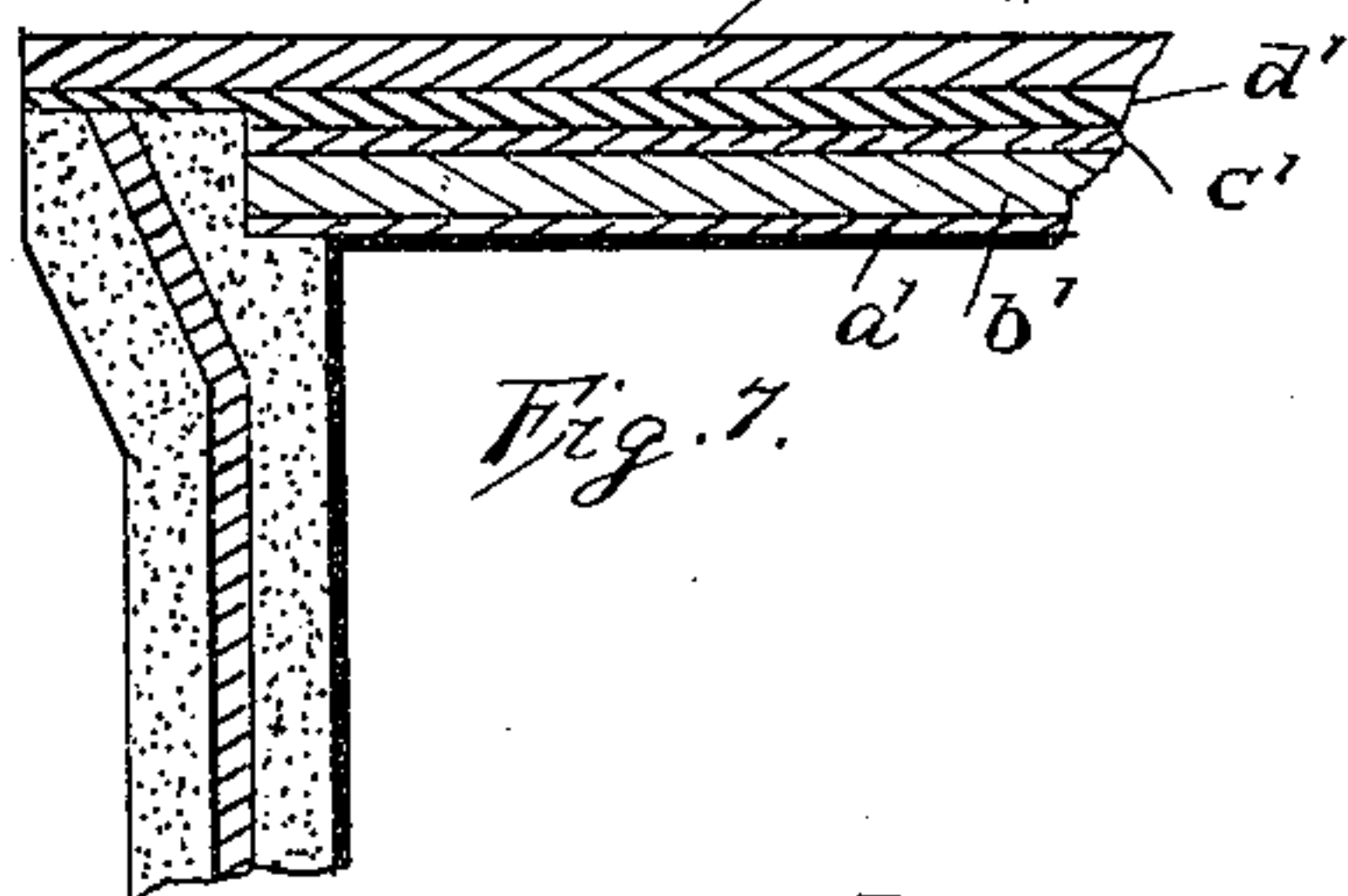


Fig. 7.

Fig. 8.

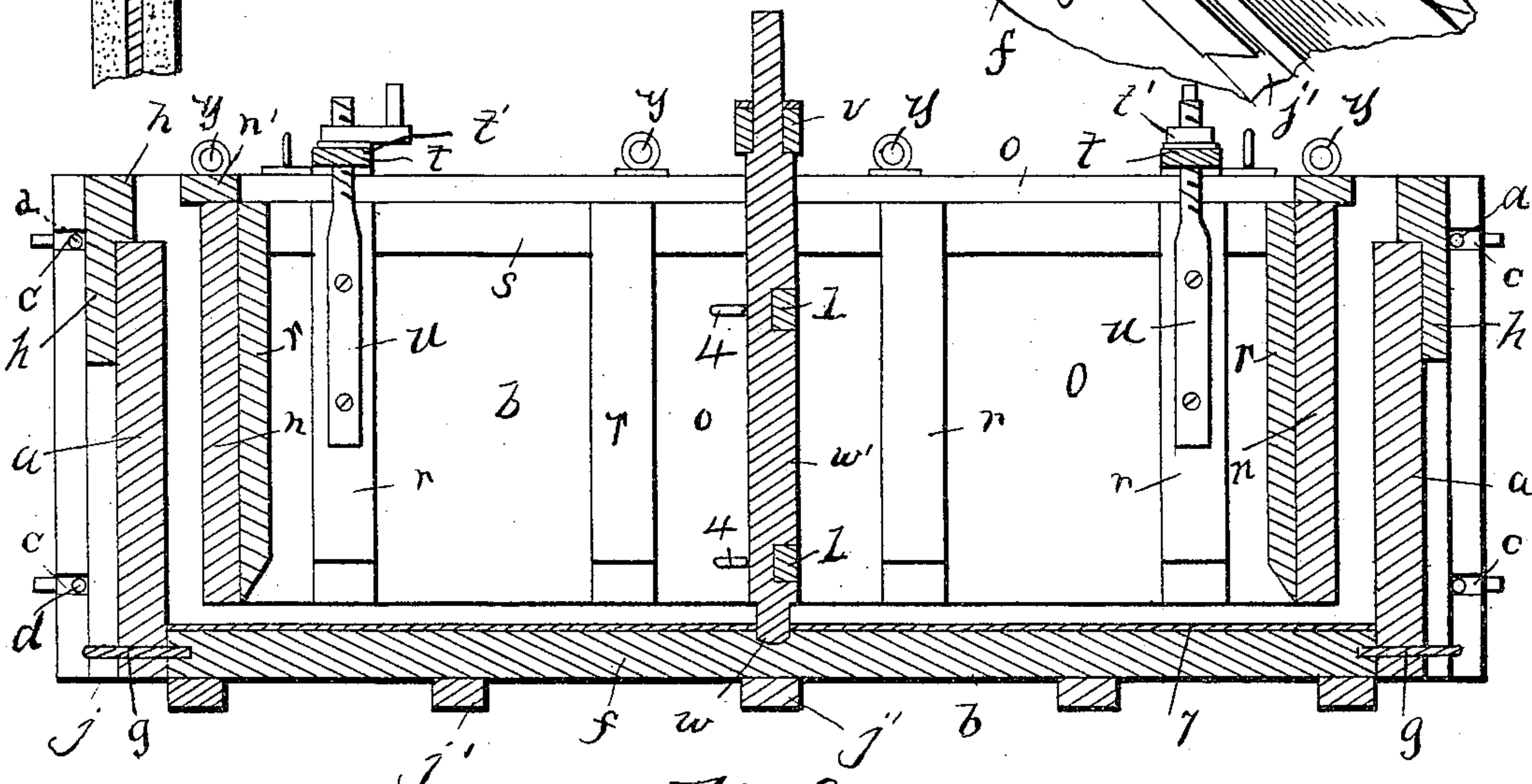
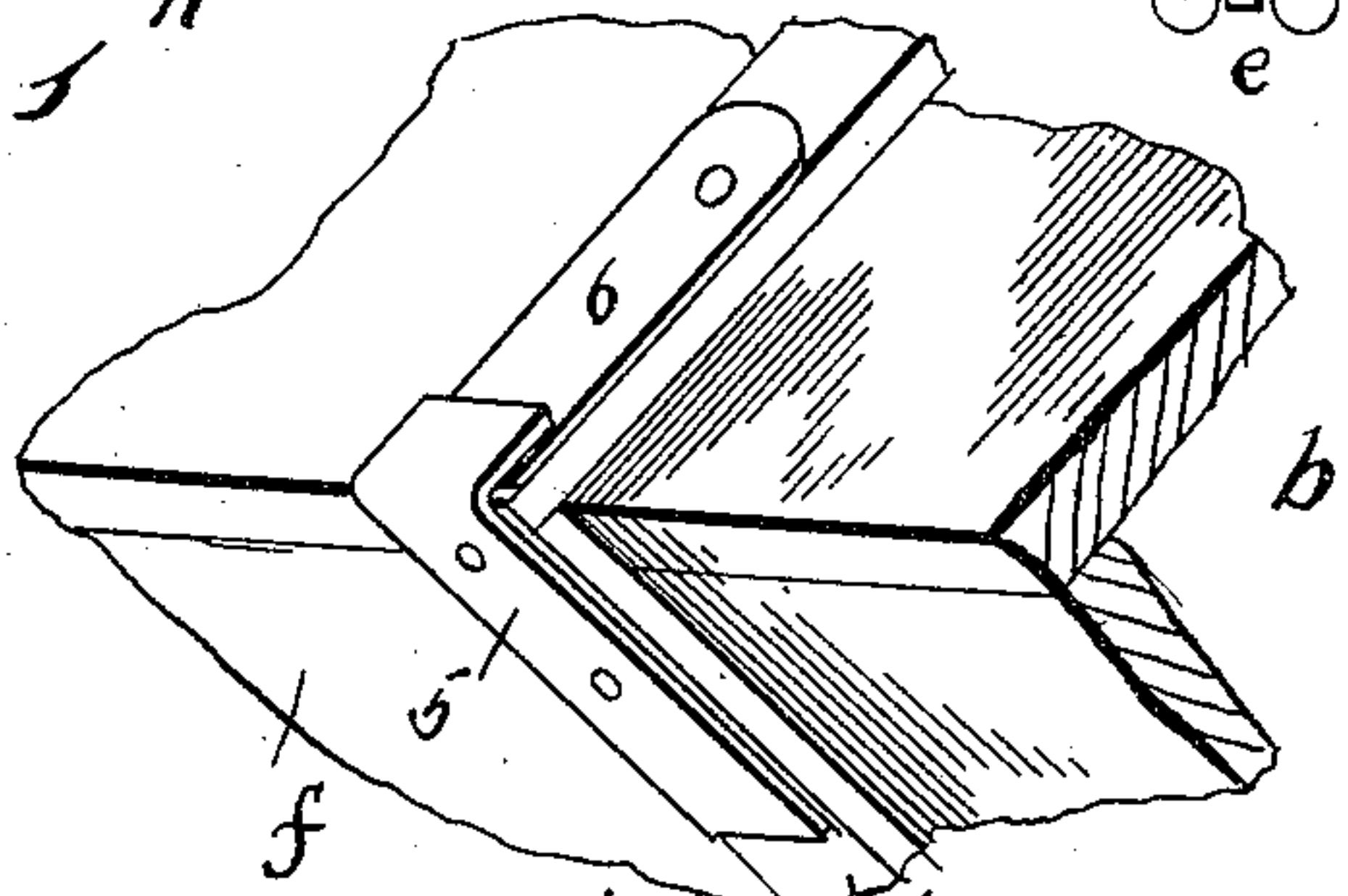


Fig. 2.

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Elias Mowrey  
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Attorney

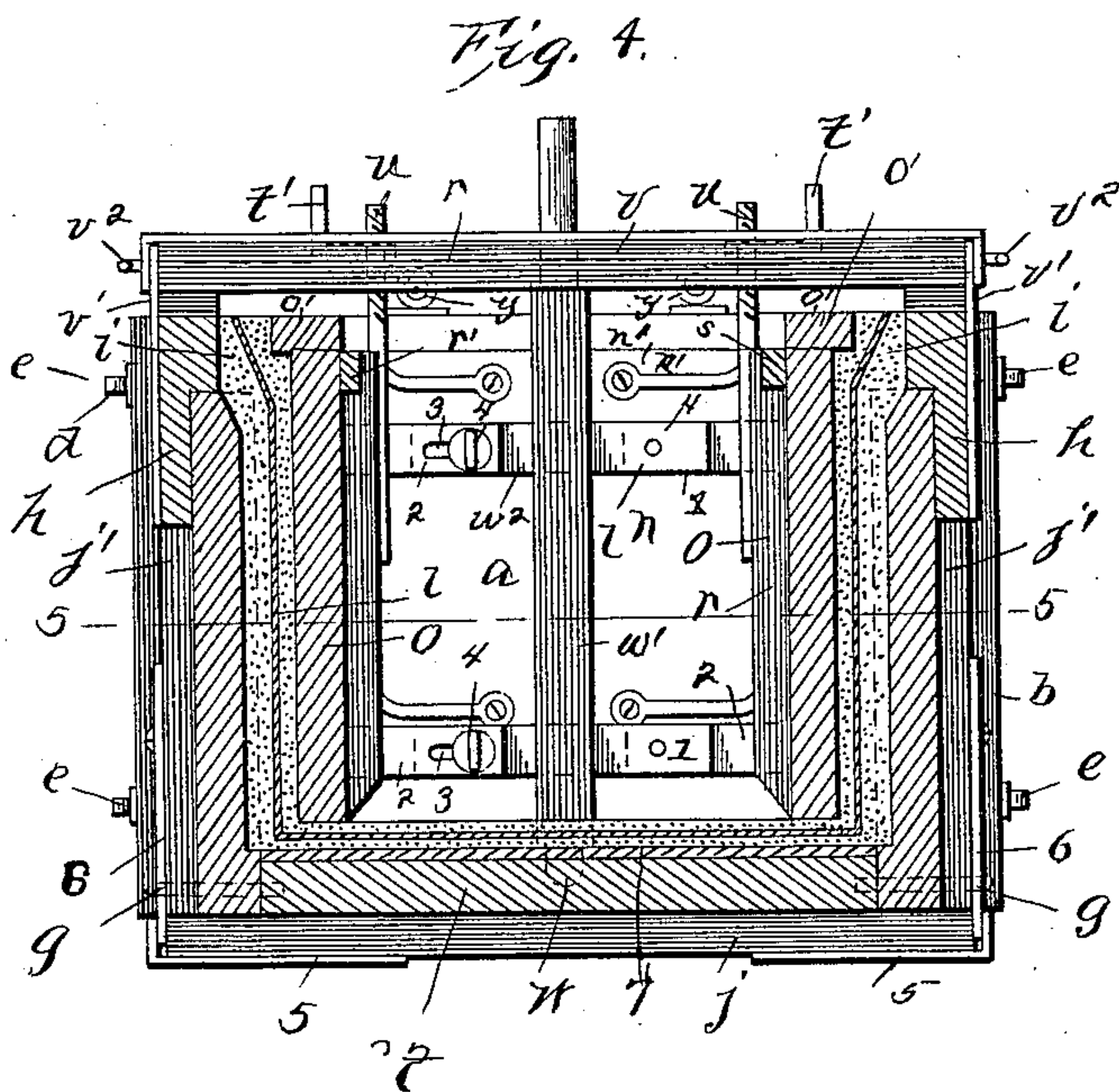
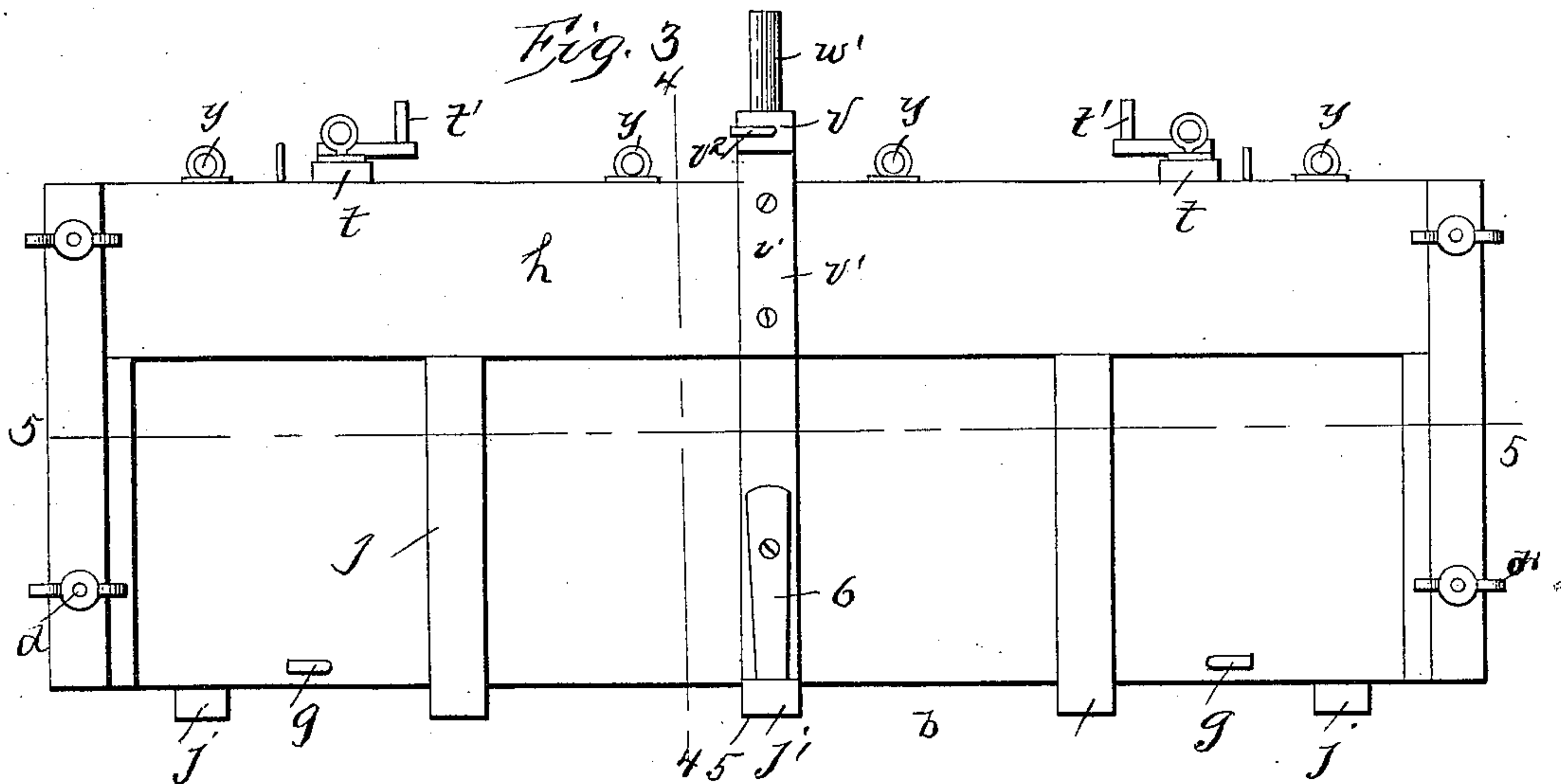
(No Model.)

3 Sheets—Sheet 2.

E. MOWREY.  
MOLD

No. 584,953.

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Witnesses:  
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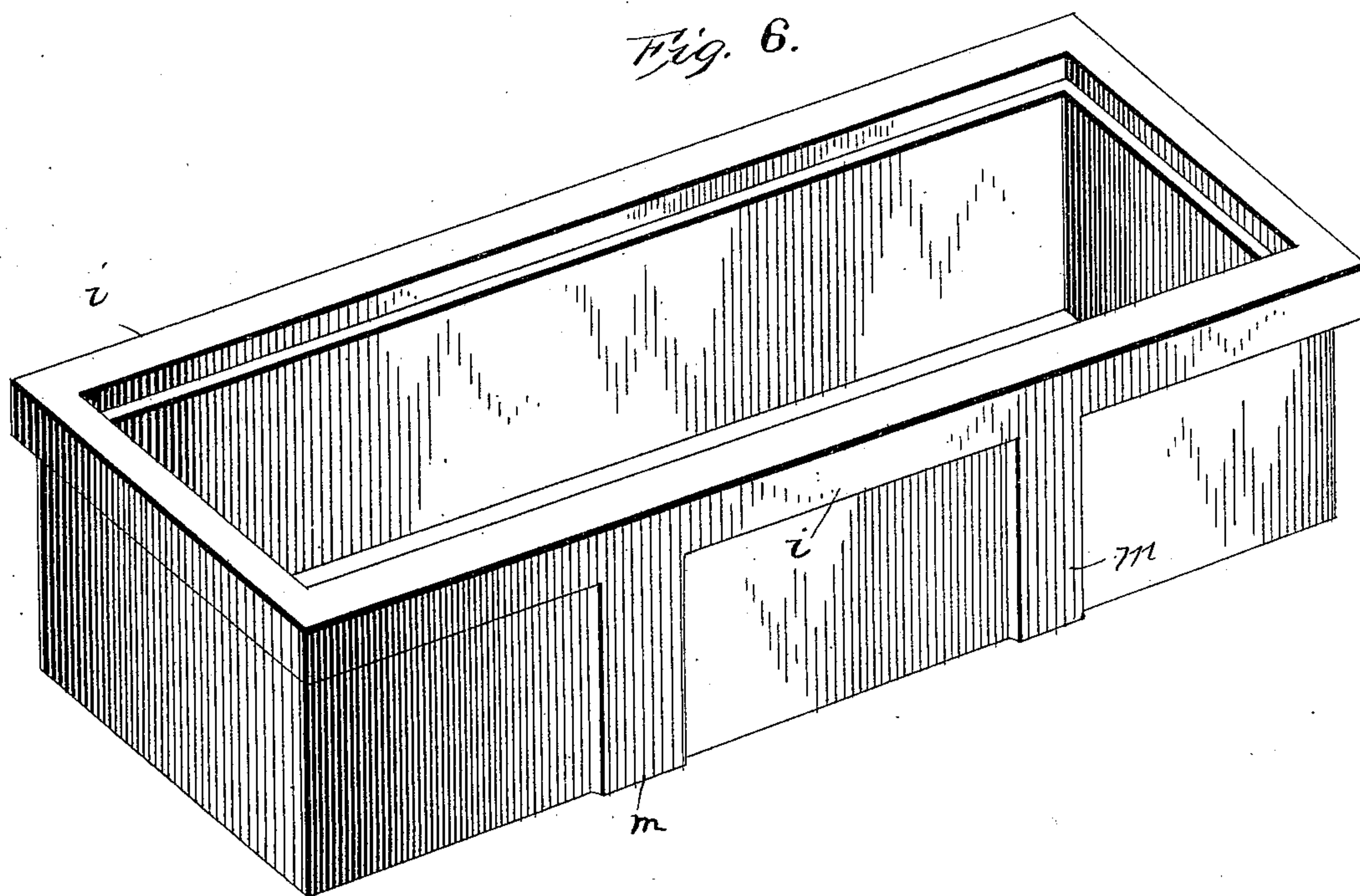
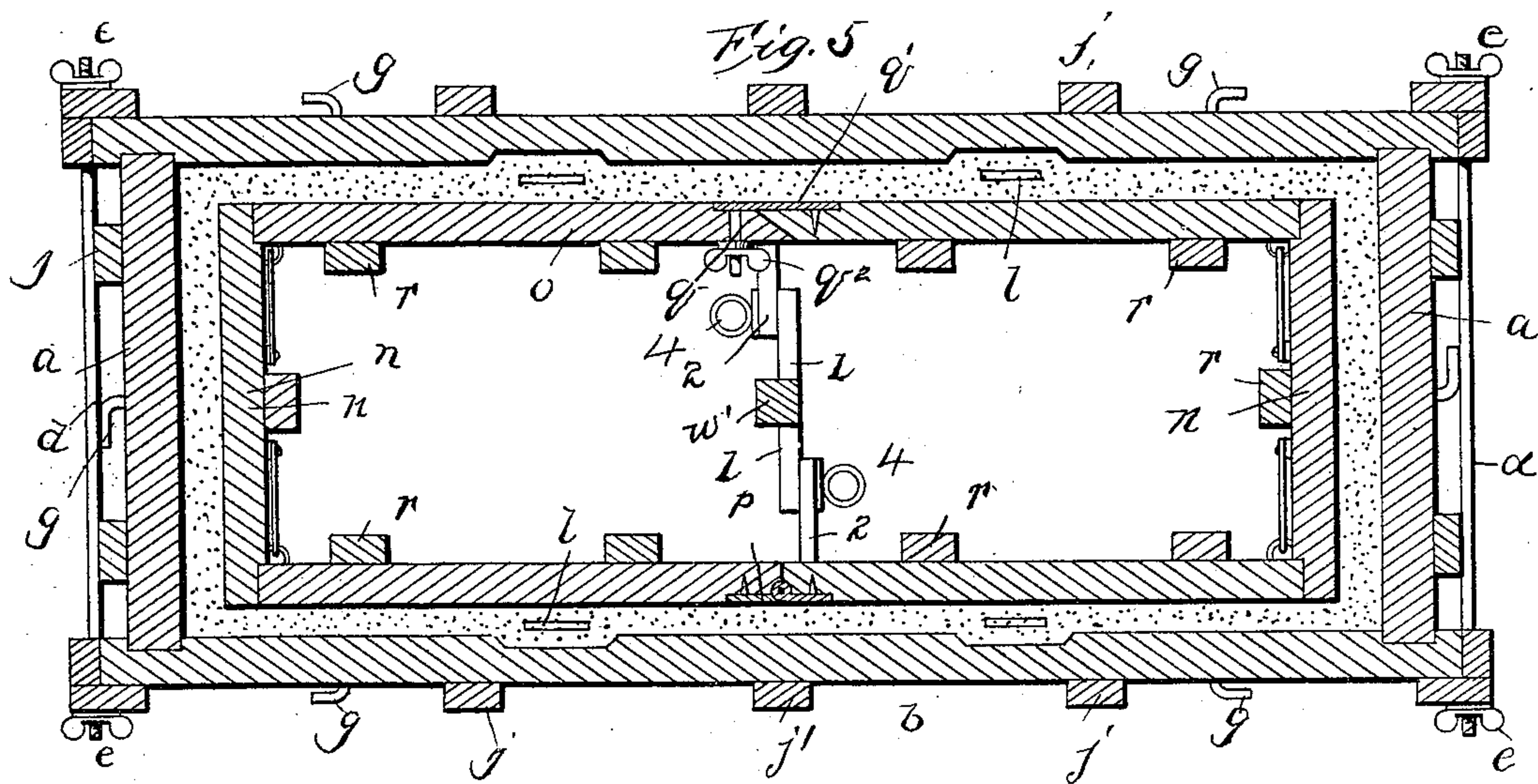
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3 Sheets—Sheet 3.

No. 584,953.

Patented June 22, 1897.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELIAS MOWREY, OF MILTON, PENNSYLVANIA.

## MOLD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 584,953, dated June 22, 1897.

Application filed September 30, 1896. Serial No. 607,414. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ELIAS MOWREY, of Milton, in the county of Northumberland and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Molds; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and numerals of reference marked thereon, which form part of this specification.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in molds for caskets, and has for its object the provision of a mold cheap and durable in construction and capable of perfectly forming a casket of the desired shape and dimensions.

A further object is to provide a mold with walls, both inside and out, which can be removed separately from the completed casket.

A further object of the invention is to provide means for adjusting and strengthening the inner frame or walls of the mold.

A further object is the means provided for quickly and accurately setting up and knocking down the mold.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a top plan view of the invention, showing the inner and outer boxes or frames of the mold adjusted and ready to receive the cement or plastic material. Fig. 2 is a central longitudinal section on the line 2 2, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a side elevation also showing the parts in operative position. Fig. 4 is a vertical cross-section taken on the line 4 4, Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is a horizontal section on the line 5 5, Fig. 3. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the completed casket. Fig. 7 is an enlarged section of the casket and lid in position, and Fig. 8 is a detail view of the swinging plate and angle-iron.

This casket may be used either as a coffin proper for the reception of a corpse or as a coffin box or casket. In the first instance, of course, it will be lined and ornamented, also a slight change will be made in the lid. A glass may be used under the ordinary marble or flagstone lid used when it performs the function of a coffin-box.

Referring by letters and numerals to the drawings, *a* are the end or short walls of the outer frame or box; *b*, the long or side walls thereof, having slots *c* in their ends outside of the end walls *a*, and adapted to receive the bars *d*, screw-threaded at both ends for the set or thumb screws *e*. A suitable bottom *f* is provided and adapted to snugly fit between the walls *a* and *b*, and held in place by the pins *g* or the like, and having a metal covering *h* to prevent the plastic material adhering thereto. The pins *g* pass through the side and end walls *b* and *a* into the bottom *f* a sufficient distance to hold it firmly in place.

On the outside of the walls *a b* and projecting some distance above said walls the strip *h* is placed. This strip performs the double function of reinforcing the walls and also to form an offset where it projects above the walls for the formation of the flange or rim *i* around the top of the casket when completed.

Other suitable braces or stays *j* may be employed.

*k* are recesses cut out of the inner surface of the outer walls *b* and also in the walls *a*, if so desired. This is done to give room for the metal strips *l* and also to form the ribs *m* on the casket, said metal strips being placed in position before the plastic material is poured into the mold.

*n* are the end or short walls of the inner box or frame, having suitable means for fastening them rigidly to the sectional long or side walls *o* of the said inner box or frame. In these long or side sectional walls *o* two joints or fastenings are shown, (see Fig. 5,) one being simply a hinge, such as *p*, and the other a splice-joint, such as *q*, composed of a plate *q'*, countersunk in one section of the outer face of the wall *o* and having a lug passing through the other section of the wall *o*. A thumb-screw *q<sup>2</sup>* is screwed on said lug, thereby pressing the beveled edges of the two sections together between said plate *q'* and thumb-screw *q<sup>2</sup>*, producing a smooth and rigid joint.

Suitable stays or braces *r* are provided on the inner faces of the walls *n o*, having in their tops recesses or notches *r'* to receive



and retain the longitudinal bars or braces *s* to insure the squareness of all the corners of the inner box or frame.

Resting on and removably secured to the strips *h* of the walls *b* and just over and registering with the end braces or stays *r* of the inner box or frame are the cross-bars *t*.

Attached to the end braces or stays *r* are the upright screw-threaded pieces *u*, which pass through the cross-bars *t* and are provided with adjusting means *t'* for the purpose of raising or lowering the entire inner box or frame to the desired position.

On the top of the walls *no* of the inner box or frame and projecting over the outer edges a suitable distance are removably secured the top rails *n'* and *o'* by means of thumb-screws *y*, the rails *n'* being secured to the walls *n* and rails *o'* to the walls *o*.

About the center of the mold is the cross-bar *v*, resting on and removably attached to the uprights *v'* by means of the pins *v<sup>2</sup>*, which may be withdrawn. These uprights *v'* are metal plates secured to the middle braces or stays *j'*. (See Fig. 3.) In the center of the bottom *f* is a socket *w*, and resting in this socket is one end of the central upright or post *w'*, the upper end of which is journaled in the cross-bar *v*. Extending laterally from and at right angles to the upright or post *w'* are the cross-bars 1, carrying the extensible arms 2, adapted to be adjusted to the desired width of the casket by means of the slots 3 and set-screws 4.

5 indicates the upturned plates or angle-irons attached rigidly to the middle brace or stay *j'* of the bottom *f* of the mold. These plates or irons 5 extend a suitable distance beyond the brace *j'* to allow the swinging iron or plate 6 to pass in between said plates 5 and end of brace or stay *j'*, thus holding the walls *b* of the outer box or frame tightly against the side edges of the bottom *f*.

The mold having been constructed in accordance with the foregoing description and a casket desired to be molded, the cement or plastic material is poured in between the inner and outer frames or boxes, passing under the inner frame to the desired thickness. It is then smoothed off by hand or any suitable means.

When the casket has hardened and it is desired to remove it from the mold, the cross-bars *t* and *v* are removed, the set-screws *e* loosened, and the rods *d* taken away. The swinging plates or irons 6 are then disengaged from the angle-irons or upturned plates 5, allowing the walls *b* of the outer box or frame to be removed. When these walls are removed, there being nothing to hold the end or short walls *a* they fall away. This will leave the entire outside of the casket bare and only the inner box or frame therein.

Now that the cross-bars *t v* are gone it is only necessary to take away the top rails *n'* and *o'* by loosening the set-screws *y* and re-

moving the longitudinal bars *s* from the recesses *r'* in the tops of the stays *r*, detach the fastenings that connect the walls *n* and *o*, then press the walls *o* inwardly where the hinge is employed, thus allowing the walls *o* to be easily raised out of position. When the other form of connection is used, as at *g*, the thumb-screw is unscrewed, allowing that section of the wall to be pressed inwardly and removed, and this will allow the other section to be withdrawn without difficulty, leaving the caskets complete and ready for use.

It will be readily seen that the plastic casket constructed as described will be both air and water tight.

When used as a coffin-box, the lid will be constructed as follows: First, iron bars *a'* will be placed across the mold as supports for a wooden covering *b'*. Then on this wooden covering will be placed a metallic plate *c'* to prevent the cement *d'*, which is laid over this metallic plate, from coming in contact with the said wooden covering *b'*. Then upon said layer of cement, which entirely covers the metallic plate and all the edges of the mold, the flagstones *e'* are laid, making a hermetically-sealed case.

When the casket is to be used for the reception of the body only or simply as a coffin, it may be suitably lined and a glass or marble lid used. Then when lowered into the grave the flagstones are placed over the glass or marble for the protection thereof and also to seal it from air or water.

The efficiency, simplicity, and durability of this device are obvious, and the cheapness thereof is one of its features.

It is evident that various slight changes might be made in the form, construction, and arrangement of the parts described without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention. Hence I do not wish to limit myself to the exact construction herein set forth, but consider myself entitled to all such changes as fall within the spirit and scope of my invention.

What I claim is—

1. A mold for coffins or the like composed of an outer sectional frame or box, an inner collapsible frame, means for adjusting said inner frame with respect to the outer frame, longitudinal braces on said inner frame, an upright or post located about the center of the mold and extensible arms carried by said upright or post, substantially as described.

2. A mold for coffins or the like composed of an outer sectional frame, means for joining the sections of said frame, an inner collapsible frame, longitudinal braces for said inner frame, an upright or post about the center of said frame, extensible arms carried by said upright or post and a cross-bar in which the upper end of said upright or post is journaled, substantially as described.

3. The combination in a mold for coffins or the like, of an outer sectional frame, means

for securing the sections of said frame, an inner collapsible frame, longitudinal braces within said inner frame, a post journaled in the bottom of the mold, a cross-bar to support  
5 the upper end of said post, extensible arms carried by said post and means for adjusting said arms, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ELIAS MOWREY.

Witnesses:

CHAS. O. MÉFELL,  
SETH C. BOWER.