

(No Model.)

J. A. LOFSTEDT.  
BOOK SUPPORT.

No. 602,164.

Patented Apr. 12, 1898.

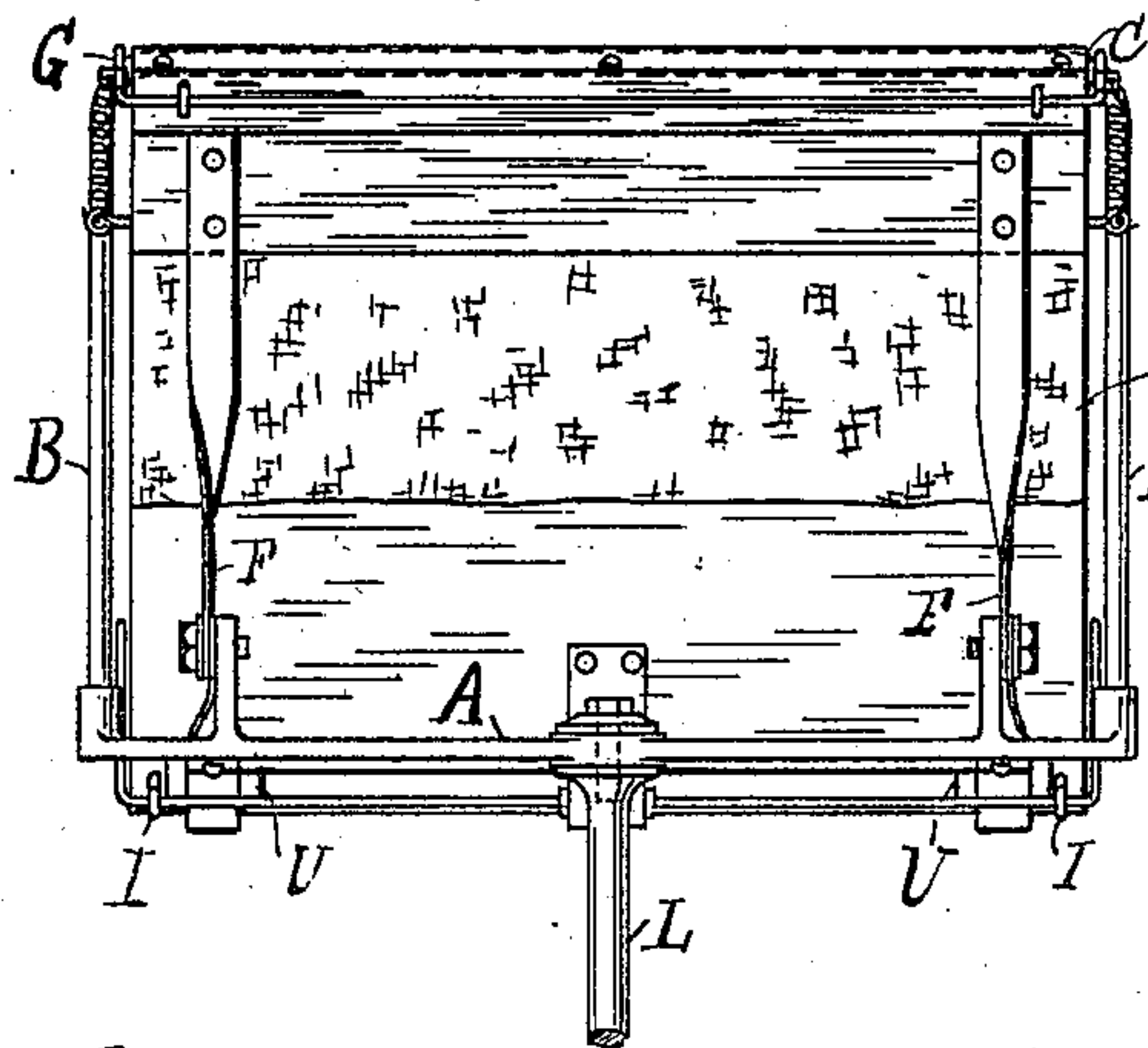


Fig. 1

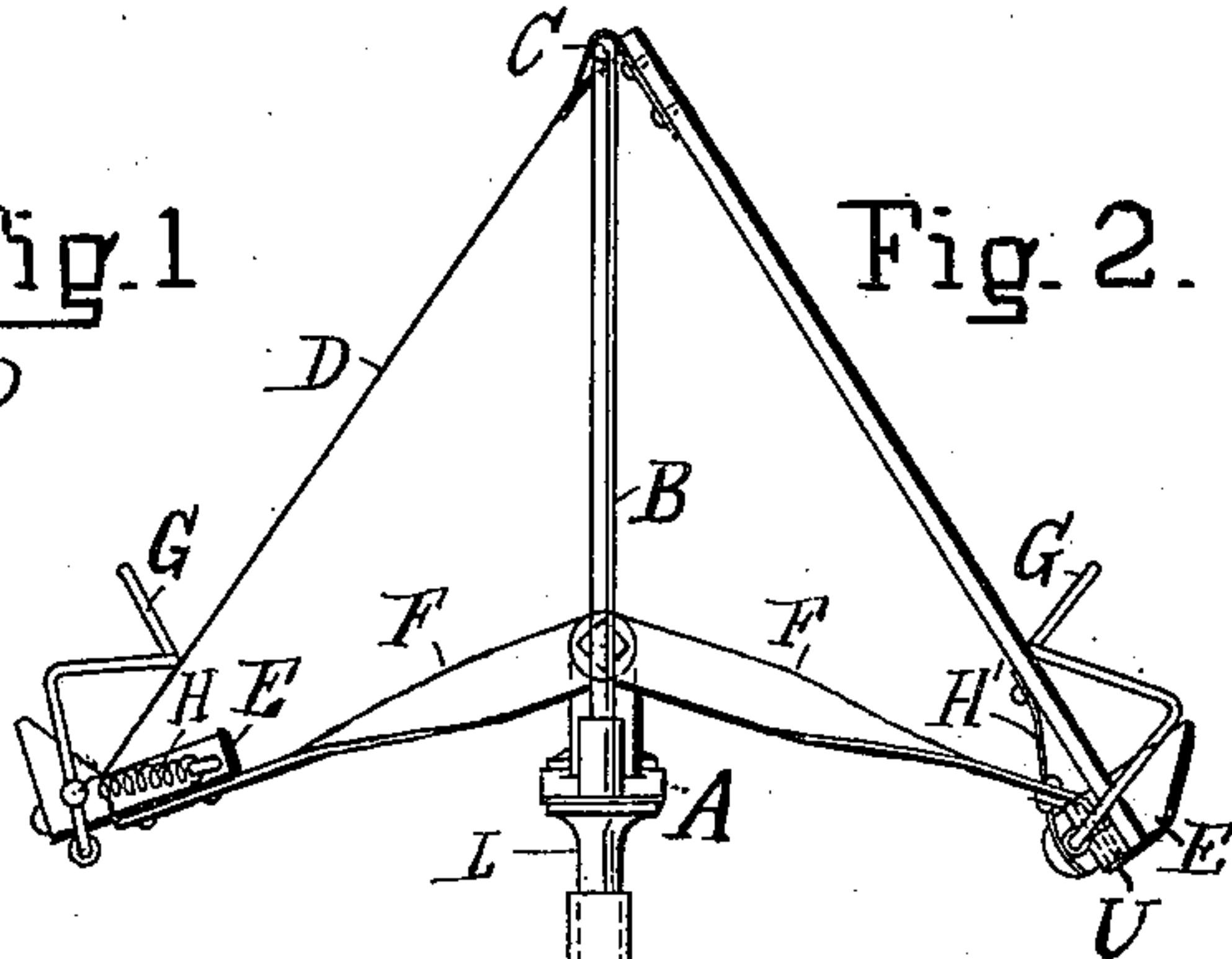


Fig. 2.

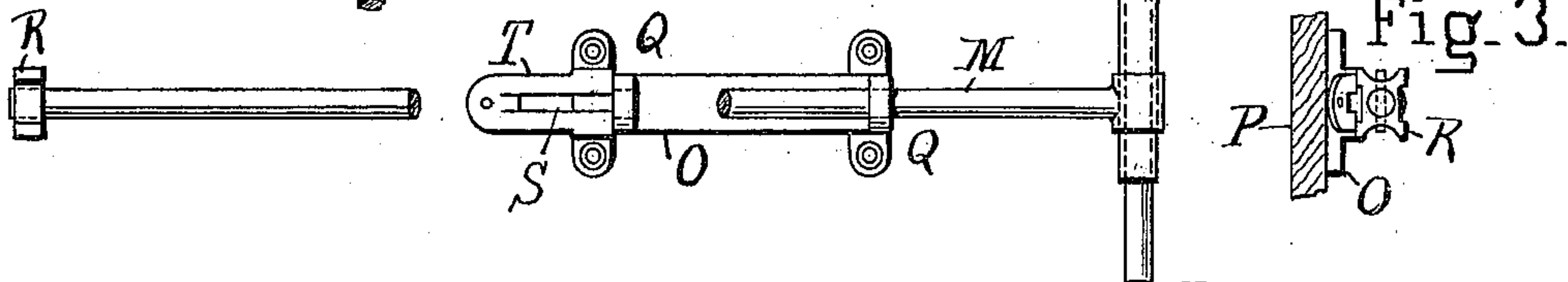


Fig. 3.

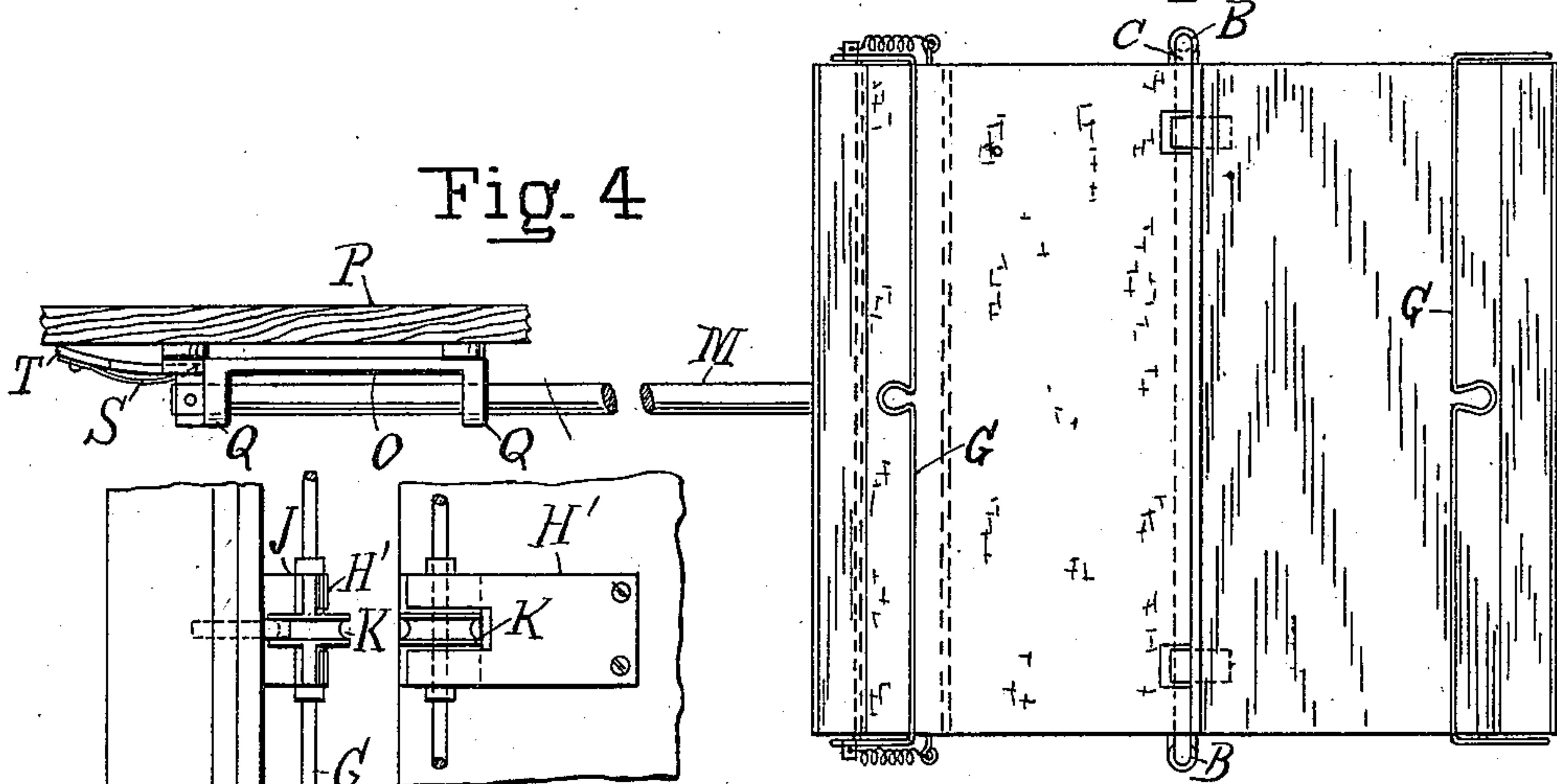


Fig. 4

Fig. 5.

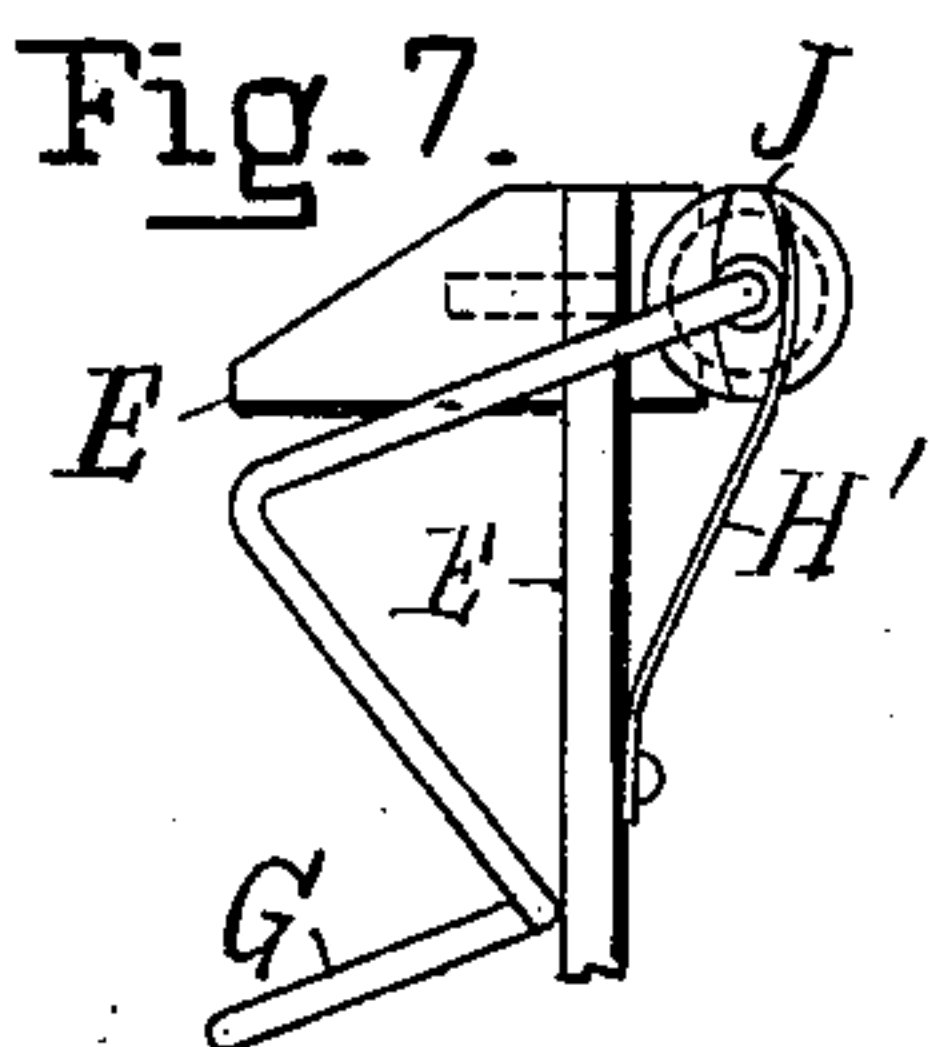


Fig. 7.

Fig. 6. Fig. 8

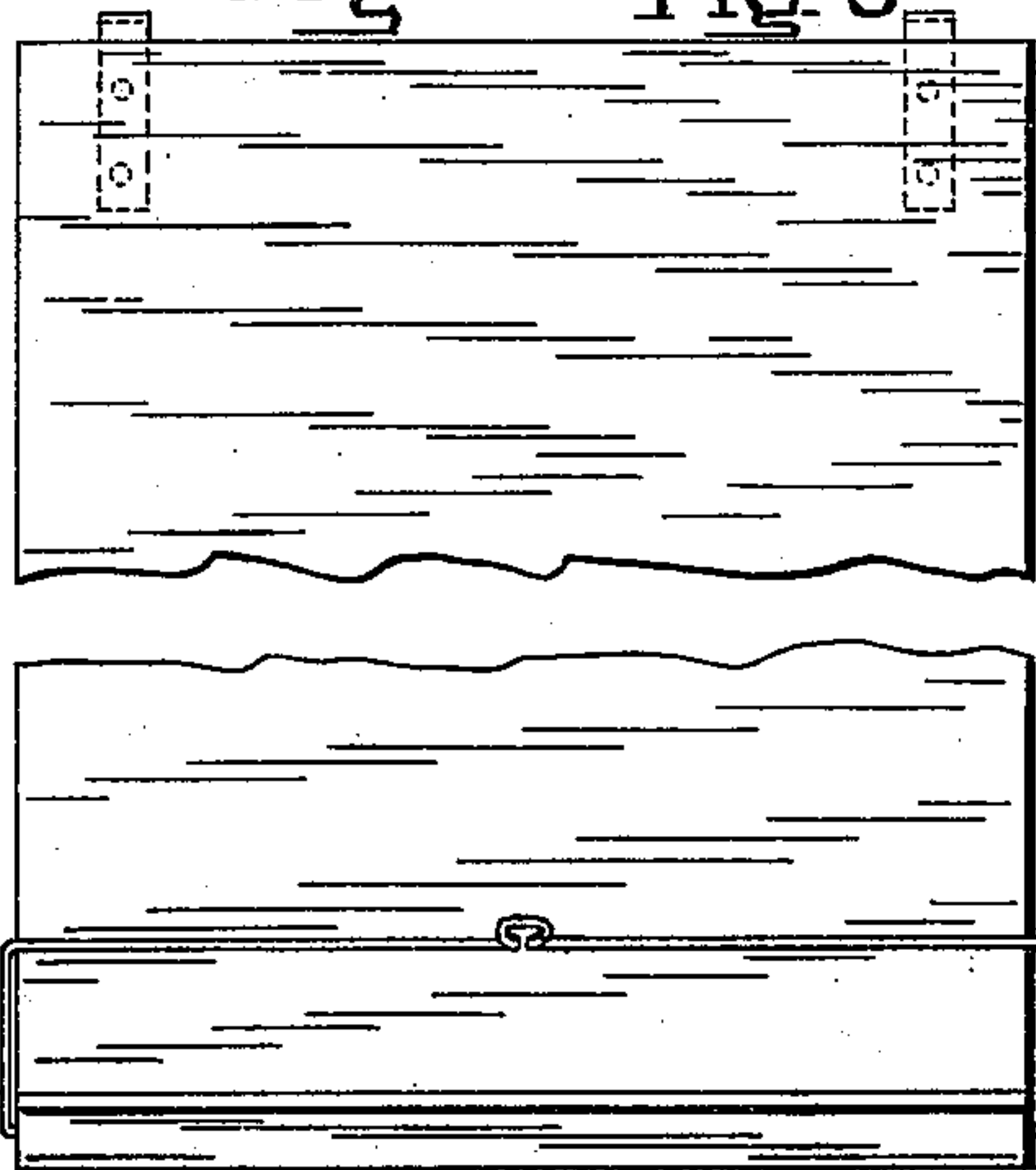


Fig. 9.



Witnesses:

Edmund Muller  
Samuel W. Balch

Inventor,  
Julius A. Lofstedt,  
by  
Thomas Ewing, Jr.,  
Attorney



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JULIUS AUG. LOFSTEDT, OF YONKERS, NEW YORK.

## BOOK-SUPPORT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 602,164, dated April 12, 1898.

Application filed June 28, 1897. Serial No. 642,573. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JULIUS AUG. LOFSTEDT, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Yonkers, county of Westchester, State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Book-Supports, of which the following is a specification.

My book-support consists, broadly, in a suitable book-rest mounted on a rod which in turn is supported by a bracket suitable for attachment to a desk in such a manner that the book-rest may be held firmly in position to hold the book where it can be conveniently examined, and when the book-rest is not in use it can be lowered and placed out of the way; and my invention consists in certain other details hereinafter more specifically described and claimed.

In the accompanying sheet of drawings, which form a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a side view of the book-rest with the canvas side folded up and the other side with the wooden board open for use. Fig. 2 is an end view of the book-rest with both sides open and showing the supporting-rods, one of the rods being broken away at its middle. Fig. 3 is an end view showing the catch for locking the supporting-rod to the bracket to hold the book-rest in proper position for holding the book for use. Fig. 4 is a plan view of the book-support, showing how it is attached to the side of the desk, part of the desk being shown in section and the supporting-rod being broken away. Figs. 5, 6, and 7 are views showing one of the means for holding one of the guard-wires. Figs. 8 and 9 show an attachment, consisting of a large board, which can be hooked onto the book-rest for supporting extra-large books.

The drawings show a double-folding book-rest. There is an intermediate cross-bar A, upon which all other parts of the book-rest are supported. There are two uprights B B and a connecting cross-bar C, all preferably in one piece and supported at the end of the intermediate cross-bar. Two forms of support for the book are shown, one at the left of Fig. 2 of canvas and one at the right of stiffer material—as, for example, of board; but it is obvious that either form may be used on both sides. The canvas D or other material forming the side of the book-rest is at-

tached at its upper edge to the connecting cross-bar C and at its lower edge to one of two strips E E, upon which the lower edges of the book are intended to rest. These strips are supported on arms F, that are hinged to uprights on the intermediate bar. These are so hinged that the strips E may be folded up to the connecting cross-bar.

If a stiffer material than canvas—as, for example, board—is used, as shown on the right of Fig. 2, the ends of the arms F F are hooked into staples U U at the lower edge of the board E. These are unhooked when it is desired to fold this side, and it is folded down instead of up.

Each side of the book-rest is provided with a guard-wire, forming a book-guard for holding the books open. This book-guard G is supported by eyes I, which are fastened under the strips E E. The one at the left is provided with a spring H for pressing it against the book, or, when it is thrown under the strip, for holding it against the strip. The book-guard is drawn in by a spring H, attached to the edge of the strip and to the book-guard on opposite sides of the supporting-eyes. It therefore acts to hold the book-guard in either position. The device shown at the right of Fig. 2 and also in Figs. 5, 6, and 7 accomplishes the same purpose in a different way. There is a spring H' attached to the back of the board for supporting the book, and there is a cam J, with a plurality of cam-faces, attached to the book-guard, with which the spring engages to press the book-guard either toward the face of the board to hold the book or away from the board to permit the book to be removed or folded against the back of the board. When held away from the board, the spring contacts with the cam-face on the opposite side to that with which it is shown to be contacting in the drawings, and when folded against the back the spring contacts with the same side of the cam as when folded against the face. The spring is forked, and between the forks of the spring there is a collar K, which steadies the book-guard against any lateral movement.

The above-described book-rest is supported on an upright rod L, which is supported at the end of a horizontal rod M at right angles thereto. The terms “horizontal” and “up-



right" are here used for convenience, but no essential limitation is intended thereby. The book-rest is swiveled on the end of the upright rod L, and the latter is adjustable vertically to any desired height at which it can be clamped by the thumb-screw N. The horizontal rod is supported by the bracket O, which, as is shown, can be screwed fast to the side of the desk P, the rod passing through holes in projections near the ends of the bracket. The horizontal rod is free to slide in the bracket and except when nearly drawn out is free to turn with respect to the bracket, so that the book-rest may be turned up or down. In order to lock the book-rest in the upright position, the horizontal rod is provided at its end with a block R. This block is rigidly attached to the rod and has two locking or guiding faces on each side and parallel to each other, the block being notched between these faces. The bracket is provided with a tongue T, which extends beyond the outer of the two projections. This tongue has guiding-faces to contact with the guiding-faces of the block on the horizontal rod. Between them is a spring S, which bears against the notch in the block, so as to offer some resistance and prevent the accidental pushing in of the horizontal rod after it has been pulled out far enough to be locked. Only one set of guiding-faces on the block is used in practice, the other set being provided so that the bracket may be fitted either to the right or left hand side of the desk.

When the book-support is not in use, it can be folded. The horizontal rod will be pushed back until its guide-block comes out of contact with the bracket. The book-rest can now be swung down and the rod pushed back until the rest lies along the side of the desk entirely out of the way. When it is desired to make use of the rest, the rod is drawn partly forward, and the rest is turned up in the desired position. The rod is then drawn completely forward until the guide-faces of the block bear against the guide-faces of the bracket. The rest may then be set at any angle or any height desired.

Without limiting myself to the exact description shown, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. The combination of a book-rest, a supporting-rod therefor, a bracket for the supporting-rod in which the rod slides longitudi-

nally, and means for locking the rod against rotation in the bracket by sliding it longitudinally therein in drawing the book-rest into its position for use, substantially as described.

2. The combination of a book-rest, a supporting-rod therefor, a bracket for the supporting-rod in which the rod slides longitudinally, and guiding-faces on the rod and bracket to engage and hold the rod against rotation on sliding the rod longitudinally in the bracket in drawing the book-rest into its position for use, substantially as described.

3. The combination of a bracket having circular bearings therein and a guiding-face, a book-rest, a rod mounted to slide and rotate in the bearings of the bracket and carrying the book-rest, whereby the latter can be slid in and turned down when not in use, and a guiding-face on the rod to engage the corresponding face on the bracket and hold the book-rest in position when it is slid out and turned up for use, substantially as described.

4. The combination with an intermediate cross-bar, of a connecting cross-bar carried thereby, pivoted arms supported from the intermediate cross-bar, and a side cover extending from the connecting-bar to the free ends of the pivoted arms, substantially as described.

5. The combination with an intermediate cross-bar, of a connecting cross-bar carried thereby, pivoted arms supported from the intermediate cross-bar, strips upon the ends of the pivoted arms forming supports for the lower edges of books placed thereon, and a side cover extending from the connecting cross-bar to the strips and permitting the book-rest thus formed to fold flat, substantially as described.

6. The combination with a book-rest and a book-guard pivoted to swing into and out of contact with a book on the book-rest, of a cam with a plurality of cam-faces attached to the book-guard, and a spring bearing on the same for throwing the book-guard toward a plurality of positions, so that it is thereby either held toward or away from the face of the book-rest or against the back thereof, substantially as described.

Signed by me in Yonkers, New York, this 25th day of June, 1897.

JULIUS AUG. LOFSTEDT.

Witnesses:

SAMUEL W. BALCH,  
GALUSHA B. BALCH.