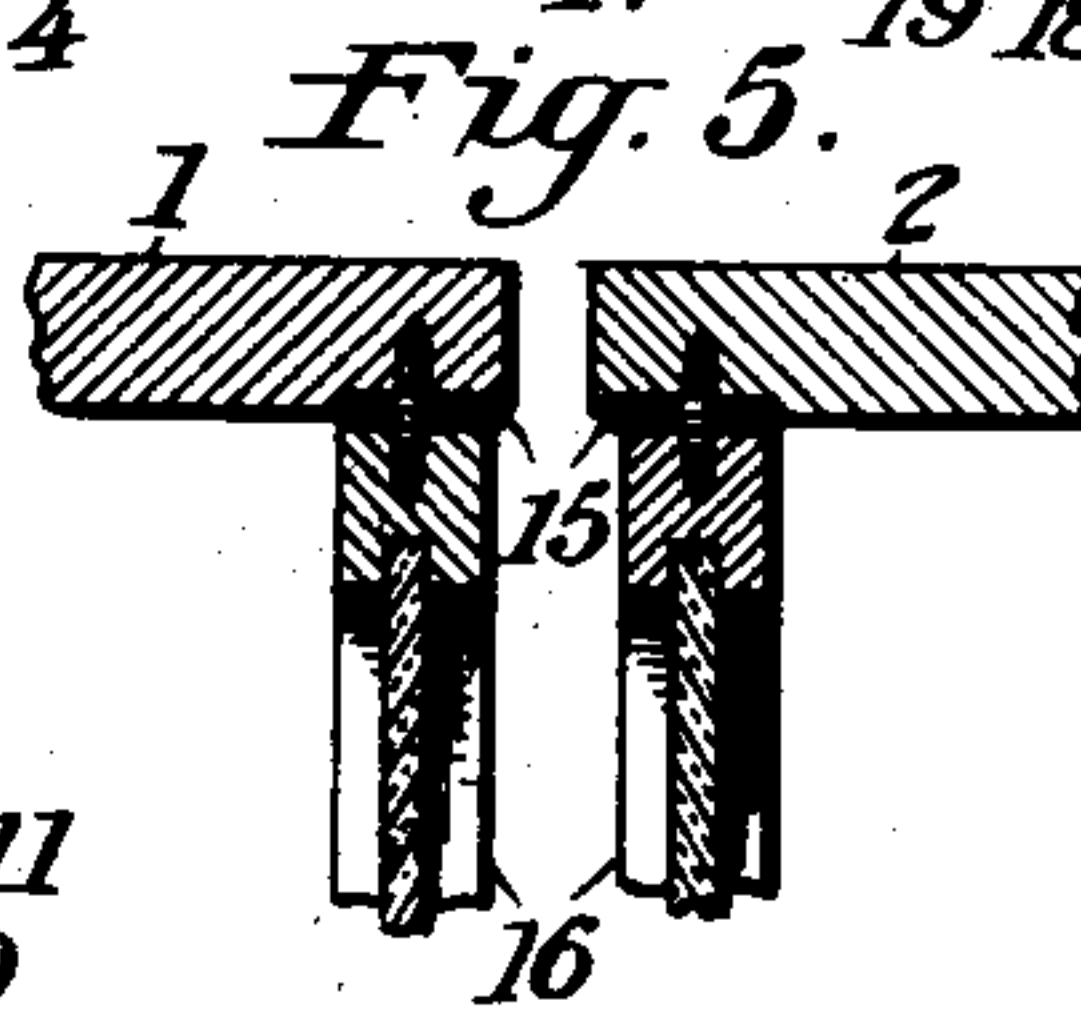
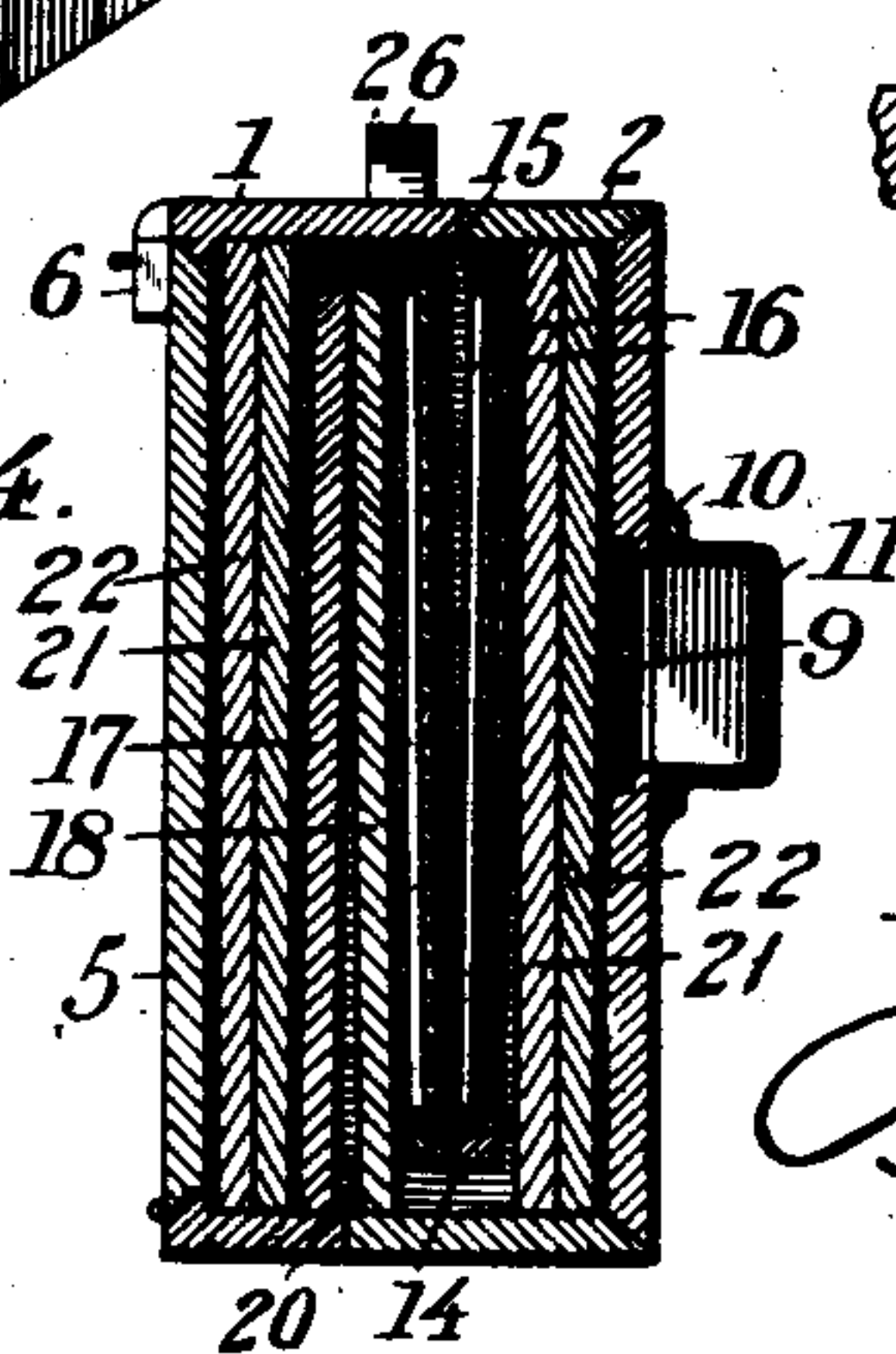
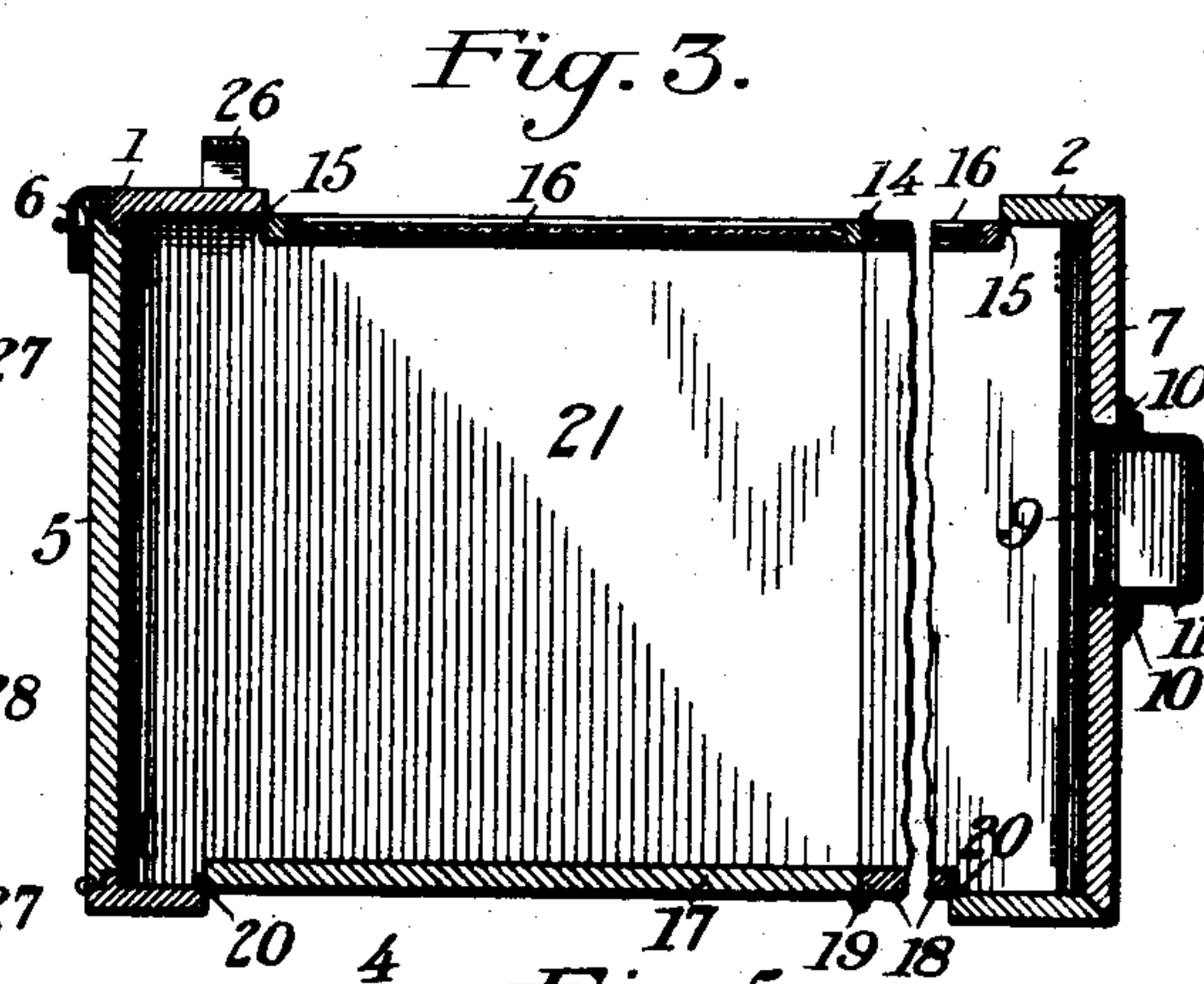
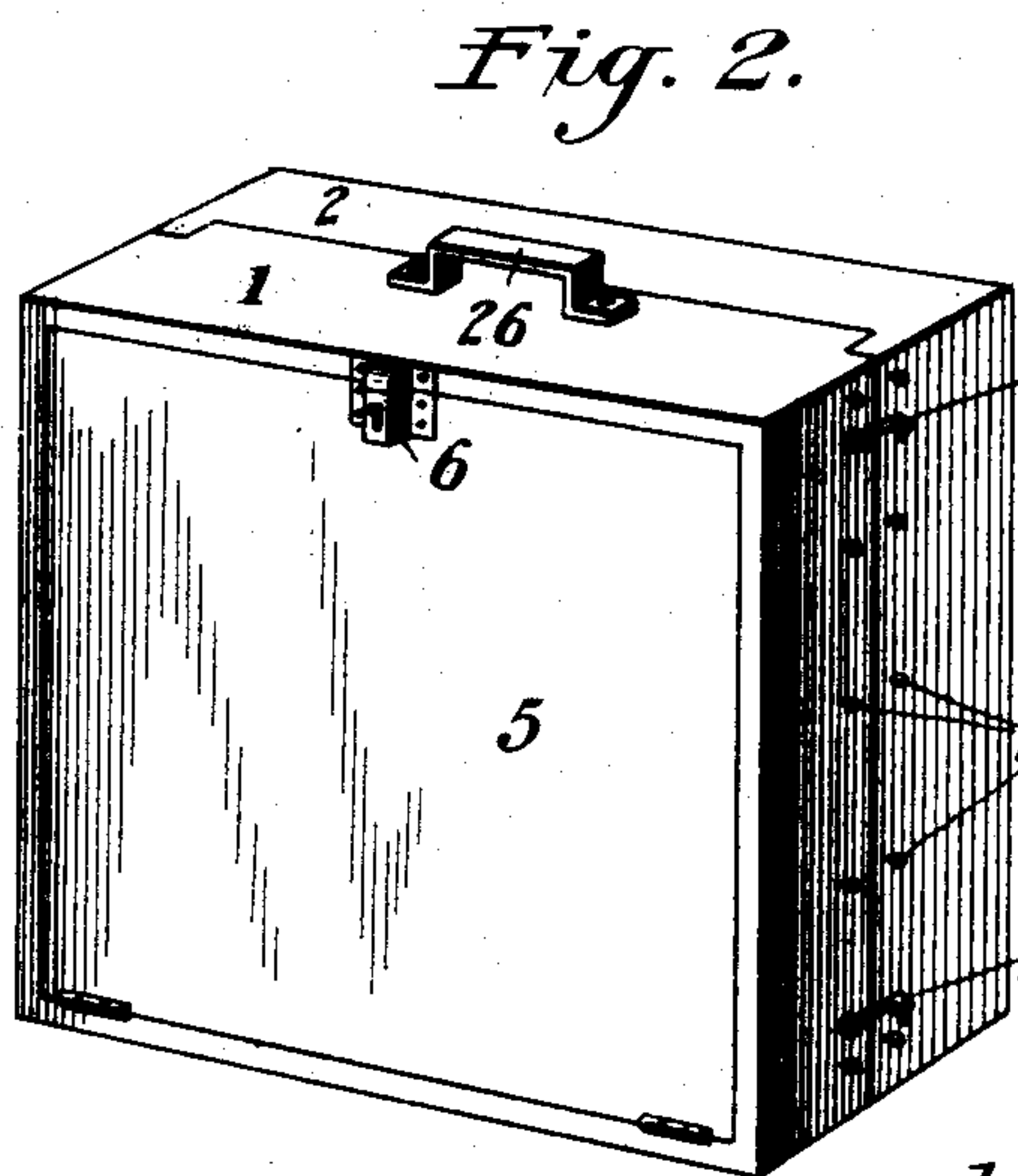
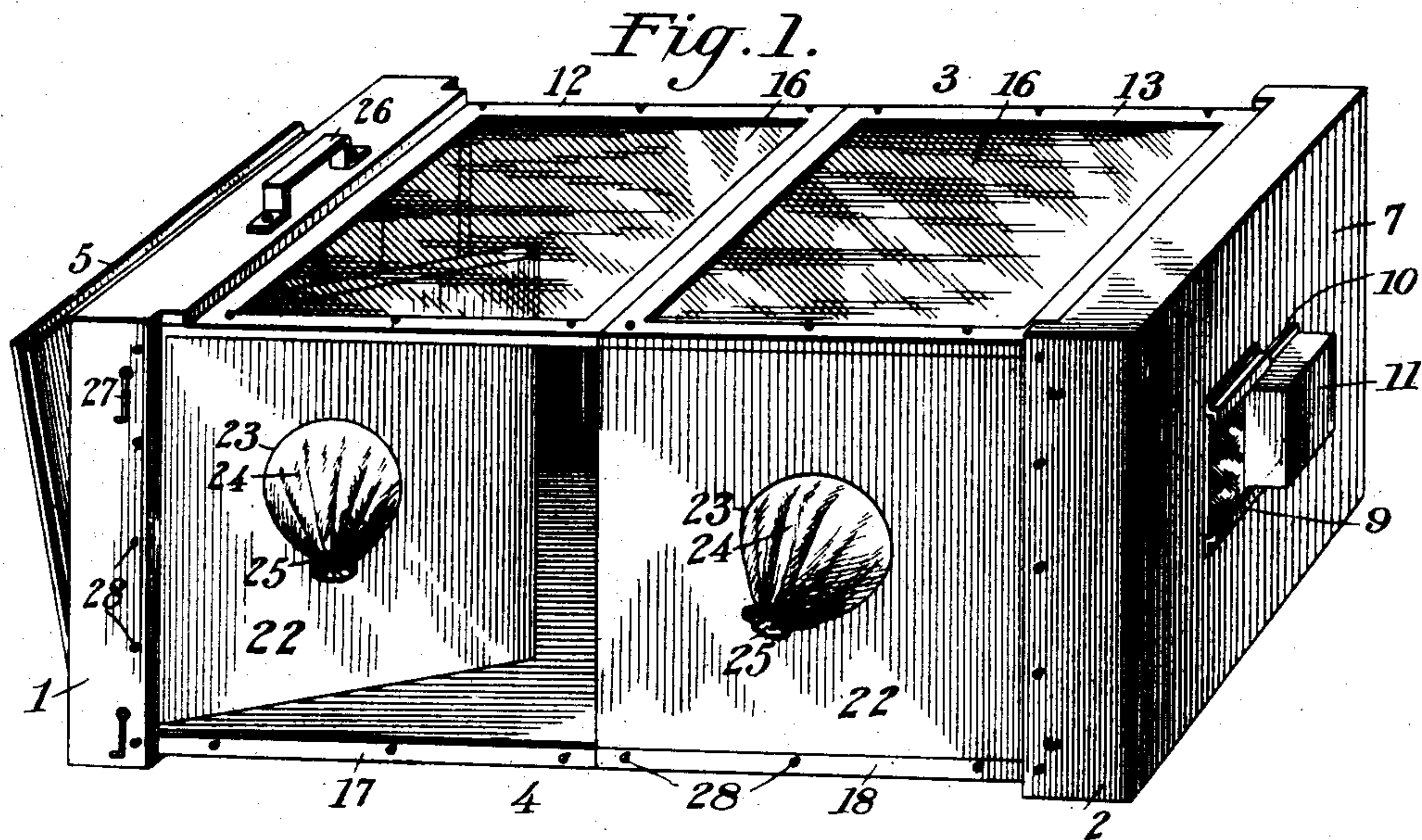


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## PORTABLE PHOTOGRAPHIC DARK ROOM.

(Application filed Dec. 20, 1900.)

(No Model.)



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS McCUSKER, OF PORTLAND, OREGON.

## PORTABLE PHOTOGRAPHIC DARK ROOM.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 684,292, dated October 8, 1901.

Application filed December 20, 1900. Serial No. 40,529. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, THOMAS McCUSKER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Portland, in the county of Multnomah and State of Oregon, have invented a certain new and useful Portable Photographic Dark Room, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

10 This invention relates to portable dark rooms, the object in view being to provide a case or box which may be readily carried from place to place by a photographer and which will enable him, either in daylight or darkness, to load and unload plate-holders without danger of fogging. The device when set up is sufficiently large to contain the camera, plate-holders, &c., and when folded assumes the form of a compact rectangular case which  
20 may be readily carried at the side, the case being equipped with a suitable handle for that purpose. The several parts of the box or dark room are so associated and connected that the box or case may be readily extended  
25 and set up and as quickly collapsed and folded.

The detailed objects and advantages of the invention will appear more fully in the course of the ensuing description.

30 The invention consists in a portable dark room embodying certain novel features and details of construction and arrangement of parts, as hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the drawings, and incorporated in the claims.

35 In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a portable dark room constructed in accordance with the present invention and shown set up in readiness for use. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the device folded, ready for transportation. Fig. 3  
40 is a vertical longitudinal section through the box or case in its extended condition. Fig. 4 is a similar view showing the box or case closed, as in Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is a detail sectional view showing the manner of hinging the sections of the folding top.

Similar numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

50 The portable dark room contemplated in this invention comprises a pair of end frames

1 and 2, which are connected by a sectional hinged top 3 and a sectional hinged bottom 4. Both of the end frames 1 and 2 are preferably rectangular in shape, and the frame 1 is rabbeted to receive a correspondingly-rabbeted door 5, hinged at one edge to the frame 1 and provided at its free edge with a catch 6 for holding the door closed during the operation of loading and unloading plates. The object  
55 in rabbeting the door and frame is to provide a light-tight joint and obviate admission of white light. The other end frame 2 is closed by an opaque end wall 7, which is provided with an opening 8, in which is fitted a ruby-glass window 9. At opposite sides of the opening 8 are rabbeted cleats 10, in which is  
60 slidably fitted a lamp-box 11, adapted to receive a lamp, candle, or other suitable illuminating device, the inner side of said box being open, so that the rays of light may be transmitted through the ruby-glass window 9 to illuminate the interior of the box with a safe light. The lamp-box 11 is removed to  
65 introduce or remove the illuminating device and may be detached for the purpose of storage or transportation.

The top 3 of the box or case comprises a plurality of hinged sections or frames 12 and 13, the same being hinged together at their meeting edges, as shown at 14, and hinged  
80 at their outer edges to the end frames 1 and 2, respectively, as shown at 15. The sections 12 and 13 are provided with panes 16 of ruby glass to enable the operator to examine his work. The bottom 4 is constructed similarly to the top 3, comprising sections 17 and 18, which are hinged together at their meeting edges, as at 19, and hinged to the outer edges of the frame, as at 20. It will be seen upon  
85 examination of Figs. 3 and 4 that the hinges 14 of the top are out of vertical alinement with the hinges 19 of the bottom and that the hinges 15 at the top are correspondingly out of alinement with the hinges 20 at the bottom, so that when the box or case is collapsed and folded the sections 12 and 13 of the top will lie at one side of the sections 17 and 18 of the bottom, thus enabling the device to be folded into the compact form illustrated clearly in  
90 Fig. 4.

The back of the box consists of a pair of



doors or hinged sections 21, hinged to the end frames and rabbeted at their meeting edges to form a light-tight joint. The front also comprises doors or sections hinged to the end frames out of line with the hinges of the back sections, so that the front and back sections 21 and 22 may be folded inward flat against each other and between the folding top and bottom sections and the end walls of the box, as shown in Fig. 4. The front sections 22 are provided with a pair of hand-holes 23, covered by sleeves 24, the edges of which are gathered, as shown at 25, and equipped with elastic webbing or bands that will clasp snugly around the wrists or arms of the operator. The sleeves 24 are conical in shape and need not be more than several inches in length, so that the operator may thrust his arms through the holes without the necessity of carefully adjusting the sleeves about his wrists. The construction described enables the operator to freely move his hands about within the case or box in manipulating the plates and plate-holders or camera. When the box or case is set up, the front and back sections prevent the collapse of the top and bottom sections.

The box or case is equipped with a suitable carrying-handle 26 and is also preferably provided with fastening hooks and eyes 27, which connect and hold together the end frames 1 and 2 after the device has been collapsed.

From the foregoing description it will be seen that I have provided a simple, convenient, and efficient portable dark room which may be quickly set up for use and is readily folded or collapsed for storage or transportation.

The dark room may be manufactured in various sizes, according to the dimensions of the plates, plate-holders, or camera to be placed therein.

The device when folded may be readily carried by the photographer and will enable him to load and unload his plate-holders while traveling.

Instead of employing the doors or hinged sections 21 and 22 the end frames and top and bottom sections may be provided with pins or hooks 28, upon which opaque cloth may be impaled and stretched to form the front and back of the box. The construction previously described is, however, the preferred one.

I do not desire to be limited to the exact details of construction hereinabove described, as numerous changes may be made in the form, proportion, and details of construction without departing from the principles of this invention.

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

1. A portable dark room consisting of a collapsible box comprising end frames, hinged and sectional top and bottom walls, and sec-

tional folding front and back walls connected to the end frames, all of said parts being hinged so as to fold inward flatwise together without disconnecting them, substantially as described. 70

2. A portable dark room, comprising end frames movable toward and away from each other, hinged sectional top and bottom walls connected to the end frames and having their several hinges located out of alignment with each other, and folding front and back walls connected to the end frames, all of said parts being hinged so as to fold inward flatwise together without disconnecting them, substantially as described. 75 80

3. A portable dark room, comprising end walls movable toward and away from each other, a hinged door mounted in one of the end frames for giving access to the casing when set up, top and bottom walls composed of hinged sections hinged to each other and to the end frames, and folding front and back walls connected to the end frames, all of said parts being hinged so as to fold inward flatwise together without disconnecting them, substantially as described. 85 90

4. A portable dark room, comprising end frames movable toward and away from each other, top and bottom walls composed of sections hinged to each other and to the end frames, one or more of the sections of the top being provided with transparent panes, and sectional front and back walls connected to the end frames, the front wall being provided with elastic hand-holes, and all of said parts being hinged so as to fold inward flatwise together without disconnecting them, substantially as and for the purpose specified. 95 100

5. A portable dark room, comprising end frames movable toward and away from each other, top and bottom walls each composed of a plurality of sections hinged to each other and to the end frames, and folding front and rear wall sections connected to the end frames, the top and bottom sections being hinged out of alignment, so as to fold inward and lie side by side when the end frames are moved together, all of said parts being hinged so as to fold inward flatwise together without disconnecting them, substantially as described. 105 110 115

6. A portable dark room comprising relatively movable end frames, top and bottom walls each composed of sections hinged together and to the end frames, and front and rear wall sections hinged to the end frames, all of the top and bottom and front and back sections being arranged to fold inward and lie flatwise together inclosed between the ends of the box without disconnecting any of said parts, substantially as described. 120 125

7. A portable dark room comprising end frames movable toward and away from each other, hinged and inwardly-folding top and bottom walls connecting the end frames, in-

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wardly-folding front and back walls connected to the end frames, all of said parts being adapted to be folded inward flatwise together without disconnecting them, a ruby-  
5 glass window located in one of the end frames, and a detachable lamp-box arranged to cover said window, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

THOMAS McCUSKER.

Witnesses:

C. A. MALBOEUF,  
W. H. JENKINS.