

No. 687,092.

Patented Nov. 19, 1901.

S. J. WEBB.

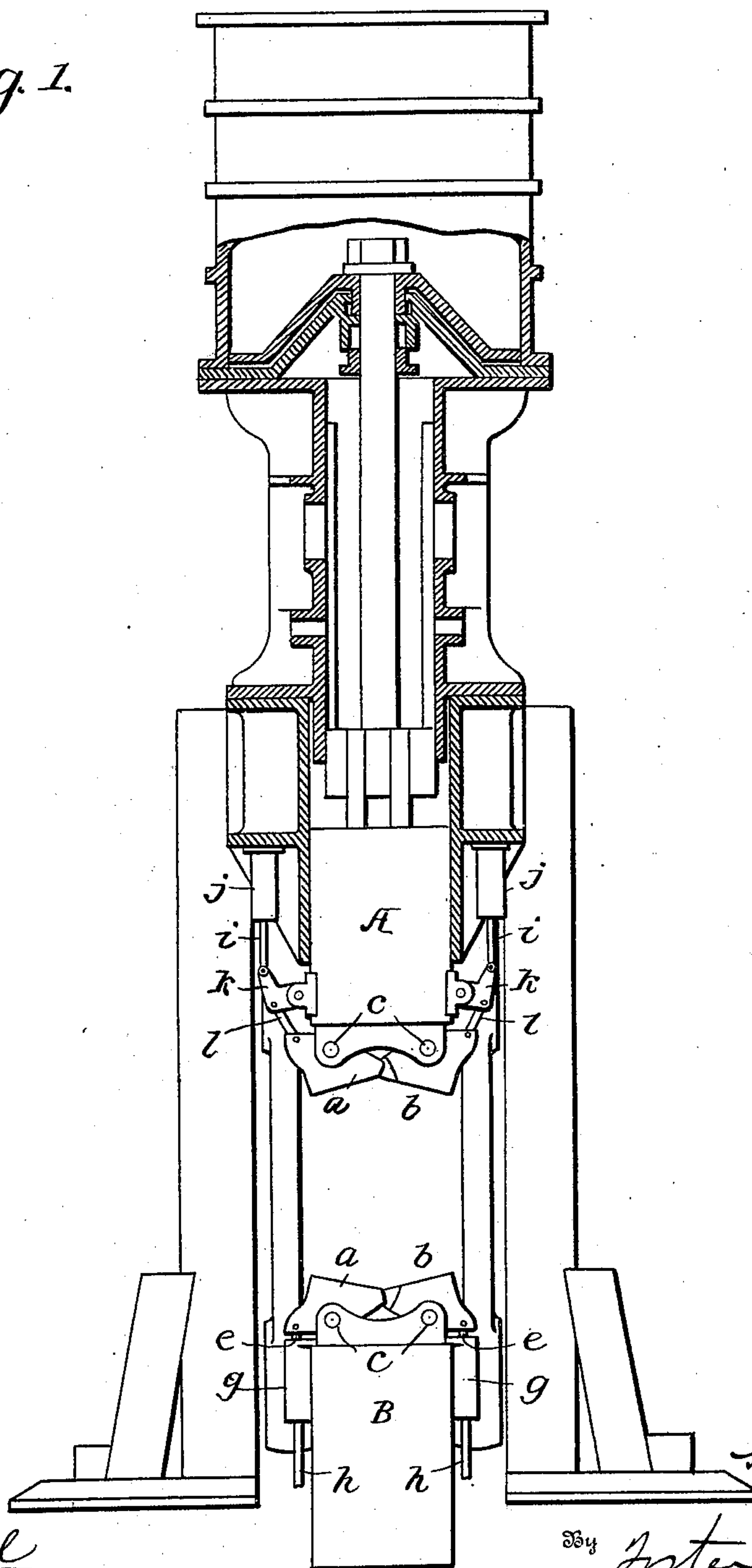
PRESS.

(Application filed Apr. 10, 1901.)

(No Model.)

3 Sheets—Sheet 1.

Fig. 1.



Witnesses

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PRESS.

(Application filed Apr. 10, 1901.)

3 Sheets—Sheet 2.

(No Model.)

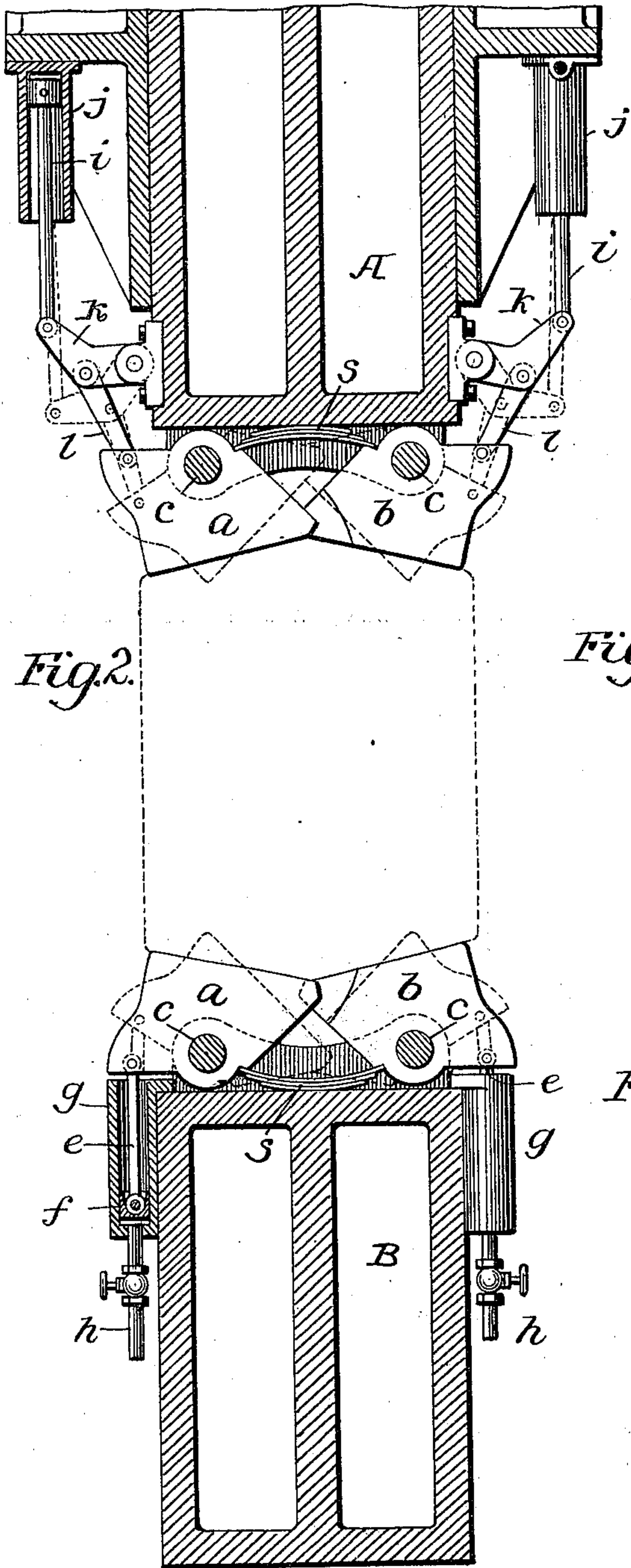


Fig. 2.

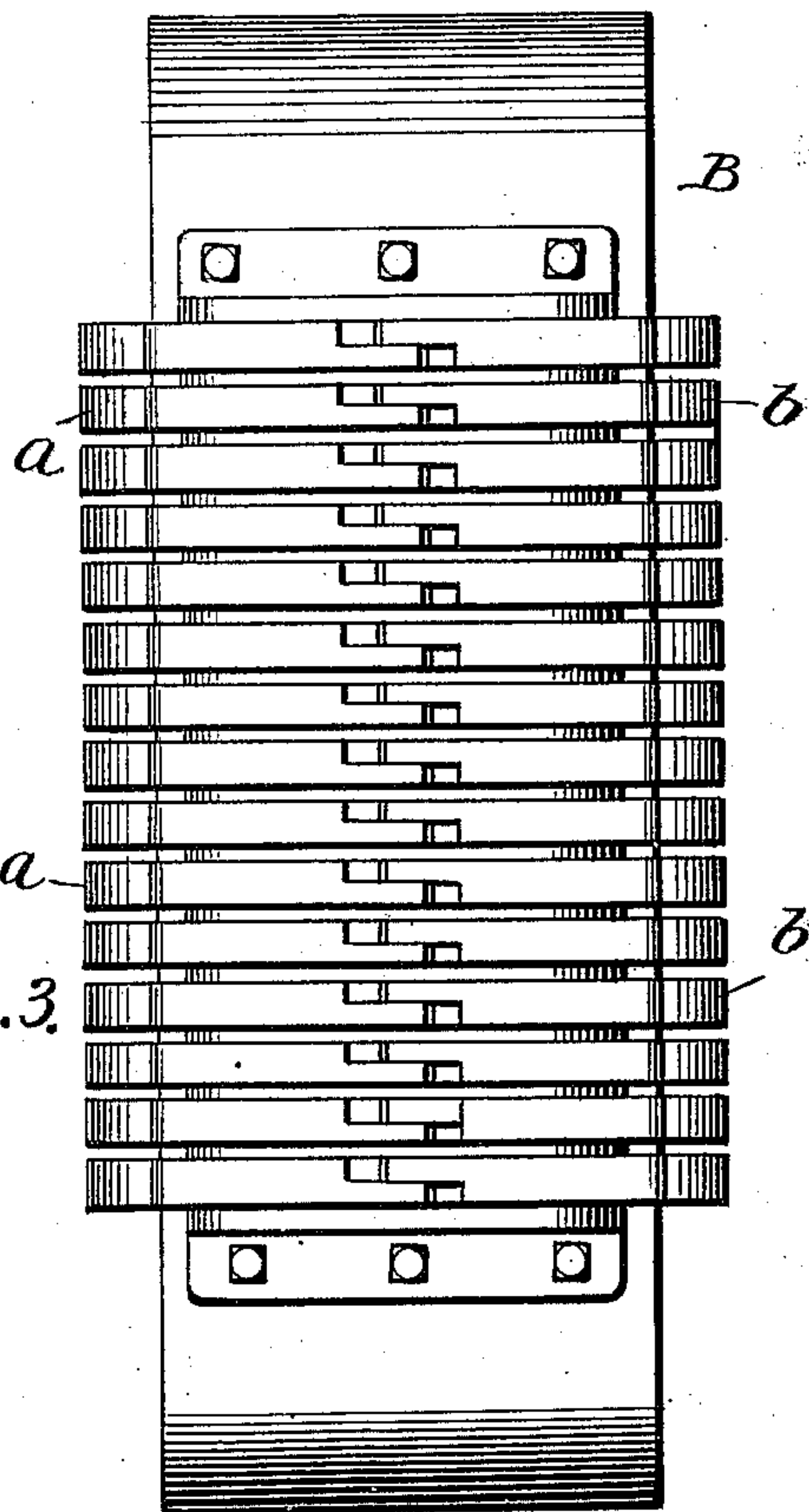


Fig. 3.

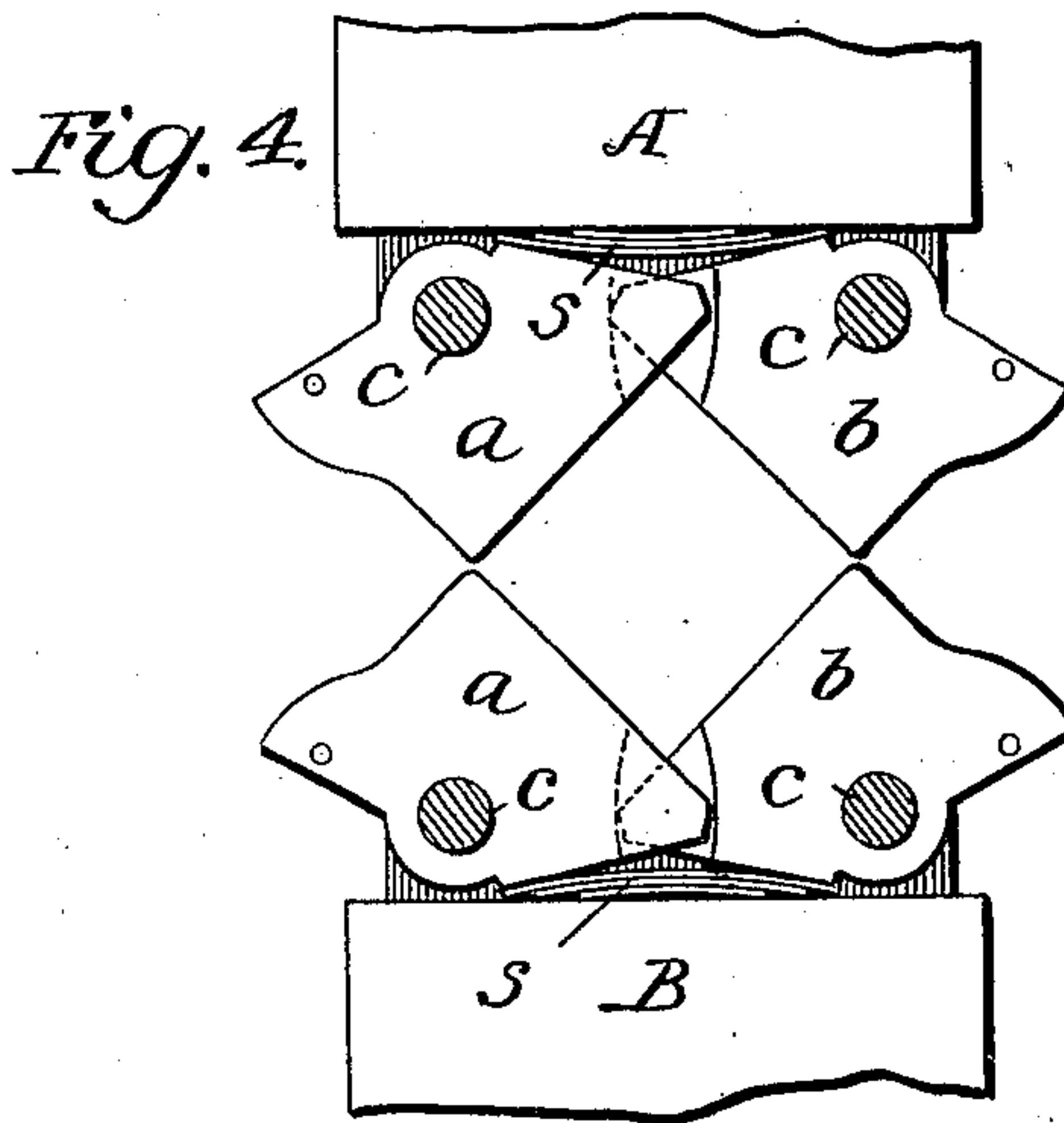


Fig. 4.

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3 Sheets—Sheet 3.

Fig. 5.

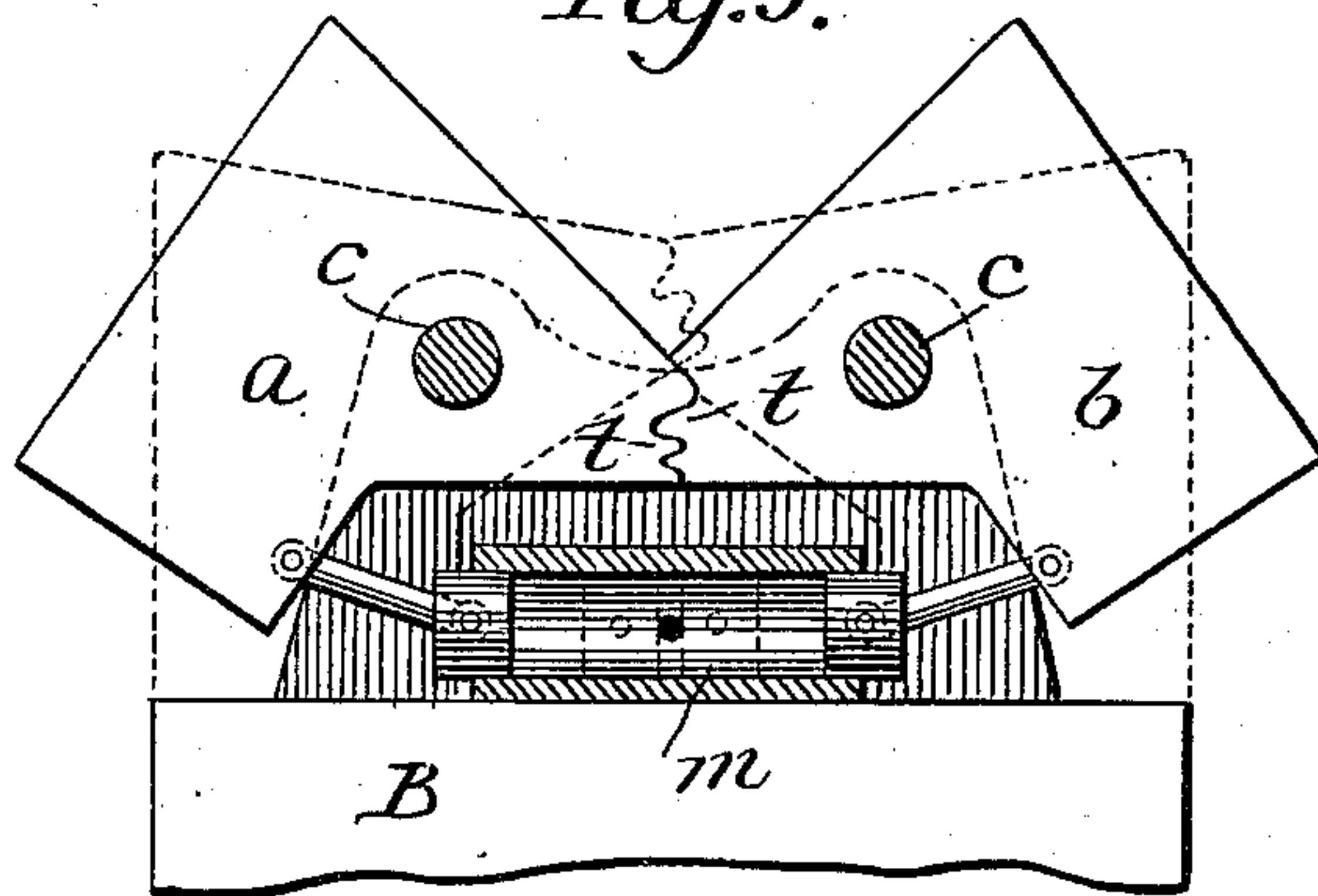


Fig. 6.

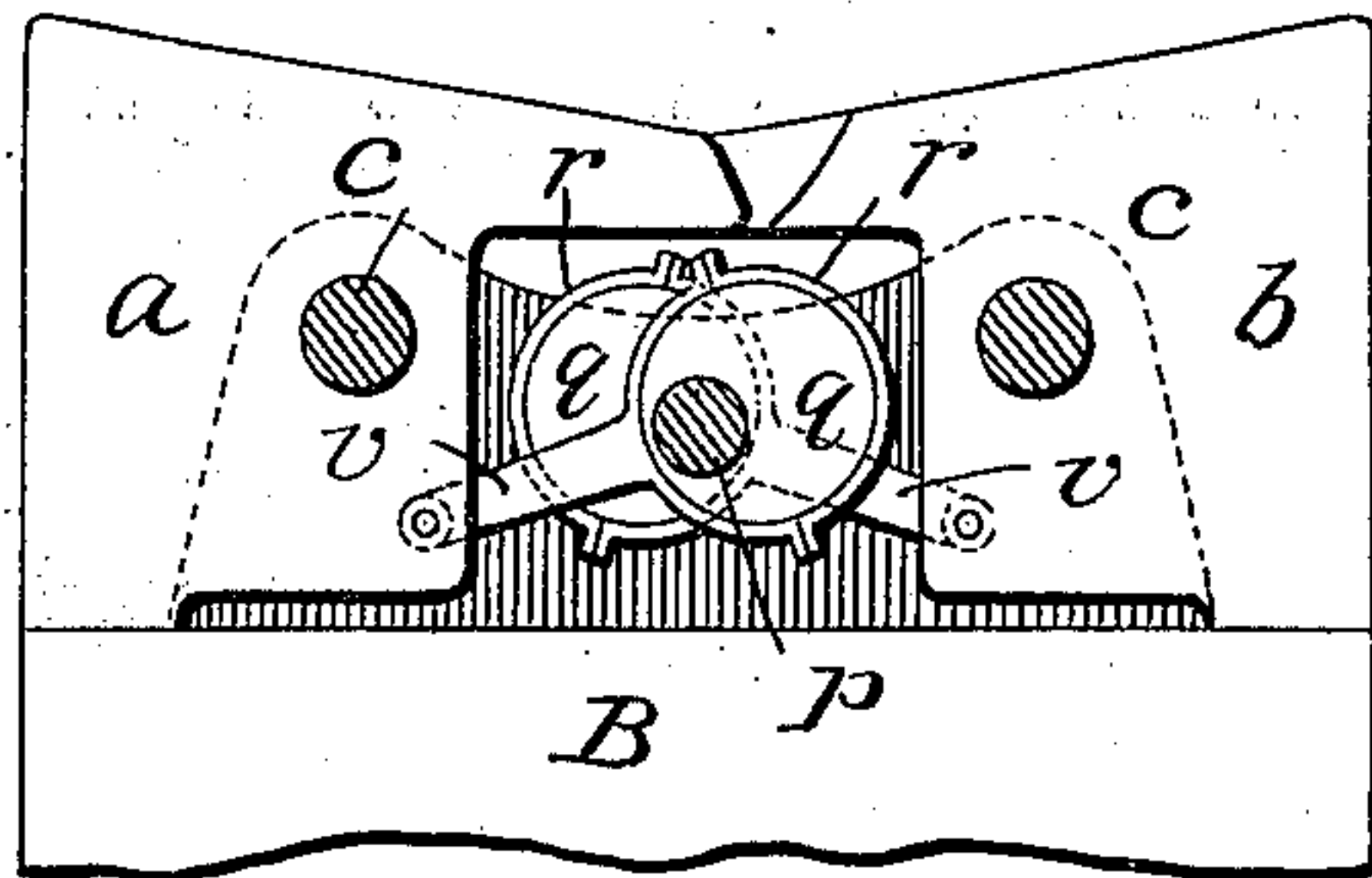
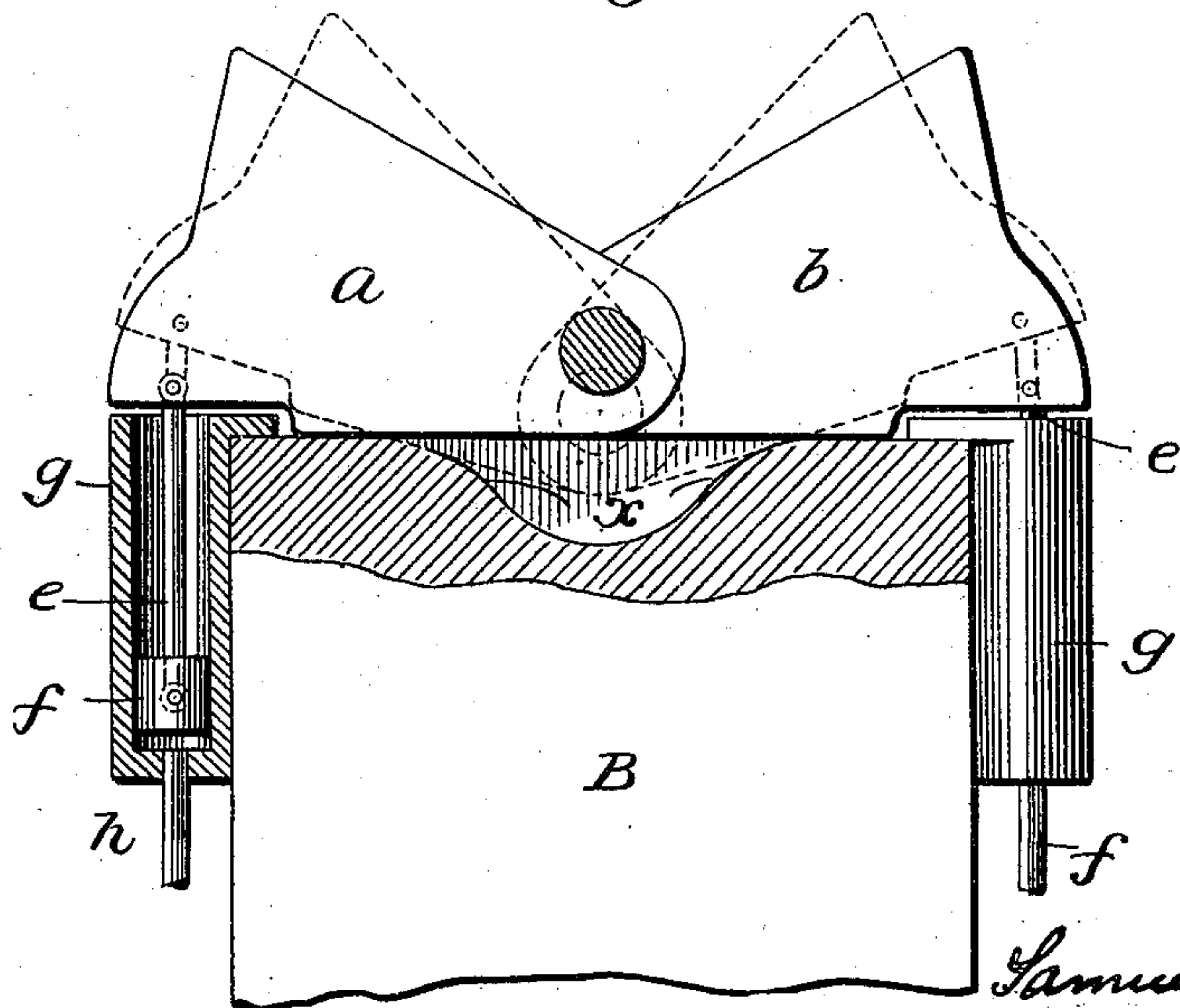


Fig. 7.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## PRESS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 687,092, dated November 19, 1901.

Application filed April 10, 1901. Serial No. 55,191. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, SAMUEL J. WEBB, a citizen of the United States, residing at Minden, in the parish of Webster and State of Louisiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Presses, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to presses for compressing bales and to that class of presses in which each platen consists of a plurality of sections the faces of which may be brought to the same plane or at about right angles to each other; and my invention consists in combining with such platen means whereby the sections may be positively rocked, as fully set forth hereinafter and as illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is an elevation, in part section, of sufficient of a compress to illustrate my improvements; Fig. 2, an enlarged sectional elevation of part of the press. Fig. 3 is a plan of one of the platens, Fig. 1; Fig. 4, a view showing the platens in a different position from Figs. 1 and 2. Figs. 5, 6, and 7 are views illustrating different means of constructing, supporting, and actuating the platen sections.

The supports A and B of the platens may be both movable or one fixed and one movable, as in ordinary presses, with any usual or suitable means for carrying them from or toward each other with the pressure requisite to compress the bale between the platens supported by the platform. Each platen consists of a plurality of rocking sections *a b*, two of such sections being shown, each section consisting of a series of plates connected together and separated sufficiently for passage of the bands and notched to permit the ends of the plates of the opposite sections to overlap to a slight extent, as best shown in Fig. 2. If desired, however, each section may consist of a single cast-metal piece. The sections are supported to rock upon their supports either by pivots *c*, as shown in Figs. 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6, or by providing curved faces *x* on the support to constitute bearings on which the sections may rock, as shown in Fig. 7. In either case the sections of each platen may be brought to a position with their faces substantially in the same plane to receive the bale, as shown in Figs. 1, 2,

and 6, retaining this position until the bale is partly compressed, and thereafter the sections may be rocked until their faces are nearly at right angles to each other, as in Figs. 4 and 5, to thereby compress the side portions of the bale to a greater extent than the central portion, forming side faces at substantially right angles to each other. Springs *s* tend to keep the sections in the positions shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The pivotal points or fulcrums of the rocking sections are so arranged approximately below the middle lines of the upper faces of the sections when said faces are horizontal that the direct pressure of the bale thereon has substantially no tendency to rock the section, which may therefore maintain this position until the bale is compressed vertically to the desired extent without any substantial alteration of its cross-sectional form. After the bale has been pressed vertically to the desired degree the sections are swung upon their fulcrums, gradually carrying their inner ends toward the supports, while the platens are brought toward each other until the side portions of the bale are compressed to produce at each side two faces at right angles to each other. To thus rock the sections, I make use of any suitable operating means which will positively impart or secure the desired movement at the proper time. As shown in connection with the lower platen, Figs. 1 and 2, each section is connected by a rod *e* to a piston *f* in a cylinder *g*, to which a fluid under any desired pressure is admitted through a pipe *h*. In the construction shown a liquid would be employed and there would be, preferably, a plurality of cylinders with their corresponding pistons and connecting-rods, and the actuating fluid being under very high pressure would gradually tilt the sections to carry up their outer ends and compress the sides of the bale to the extent required.

Where greater force is required or where it is not possible to secure fluid at the desired pressure—as, for instance, when steam is used—the piston-rod *i* of a steam-cylinder *j* may be connected with one of two toggle-levers *k l* to operate the same to swing the connected section of the platen with the upper platen in Figs. 1 and 2.

In Fig. 5 there is shown a single cylinder



*m*, containing two pistons, between which the motor fluid is passed, each piston connected by a connecting-rod with the opposite section *a* or *b* of the platen.

5 In Fig. 5 the inner ends of the sections are formed into curved racks *t*, engaging each other, so that the two sections will swing together.

10 In Fig. 6 the means for swinging the sections consists of a rock-shaft *p*, provided with eccentrics *q*, straps *r* of which are provided with arms *v*, pivoted to the sections *a b*, so that the rocking of the shaft will impart the desired movements to the sections.

15 Without limiting myself to the precise construction and arrangement of parts shown, I claim—

20 1. In a compress, the combination of upper and lower platen-supports, and platens thereon, each consisting of two rocking sections, and means for positively rocking said sections to carry their faces from substantially the same plane to planes at about right angles to each other, substantially as set forth.

25 2. In a compress, the combination of upper and lower platen-supports, and platens thereon each consisting of two rocking sections, and means, independent of those for carrying the platens toward each other, for rock-

ing said sections to carry their faces from 30 substantially the same plane to planes at about right angles to each other, substantially as set forth.

3. The combination in a press-platen, of oppositely-arranged rocking sections, the faces 35 of which constitute the pressing-faces, and devices for applying power to rock said sections, substantially as set forth.

4. The combination with the platen-supports of a press, of platens each in two rock- 40 ing sections having fulcrum arranged to prevent the sections from rocking under the direct pressure of the bale, and means for applying power to rock the sections, substantially as set forth. 45

5. The combination in a press-platen, of oppositely-arranged rocking sections connected to rock together, and the faces of which are the pressing-faces, and devices for applying 50 power to rock said sections, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

SAMUEL J. WEBB.

Witnesses:

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W. CLARENCE DUVALL.