

No. 702,036.

Patented June 10, 1902.

F. W. SHEPPERD.
FIREMAN'S SHIELD.

(Application filed Dec. 14, 1901.)

(No Model.)

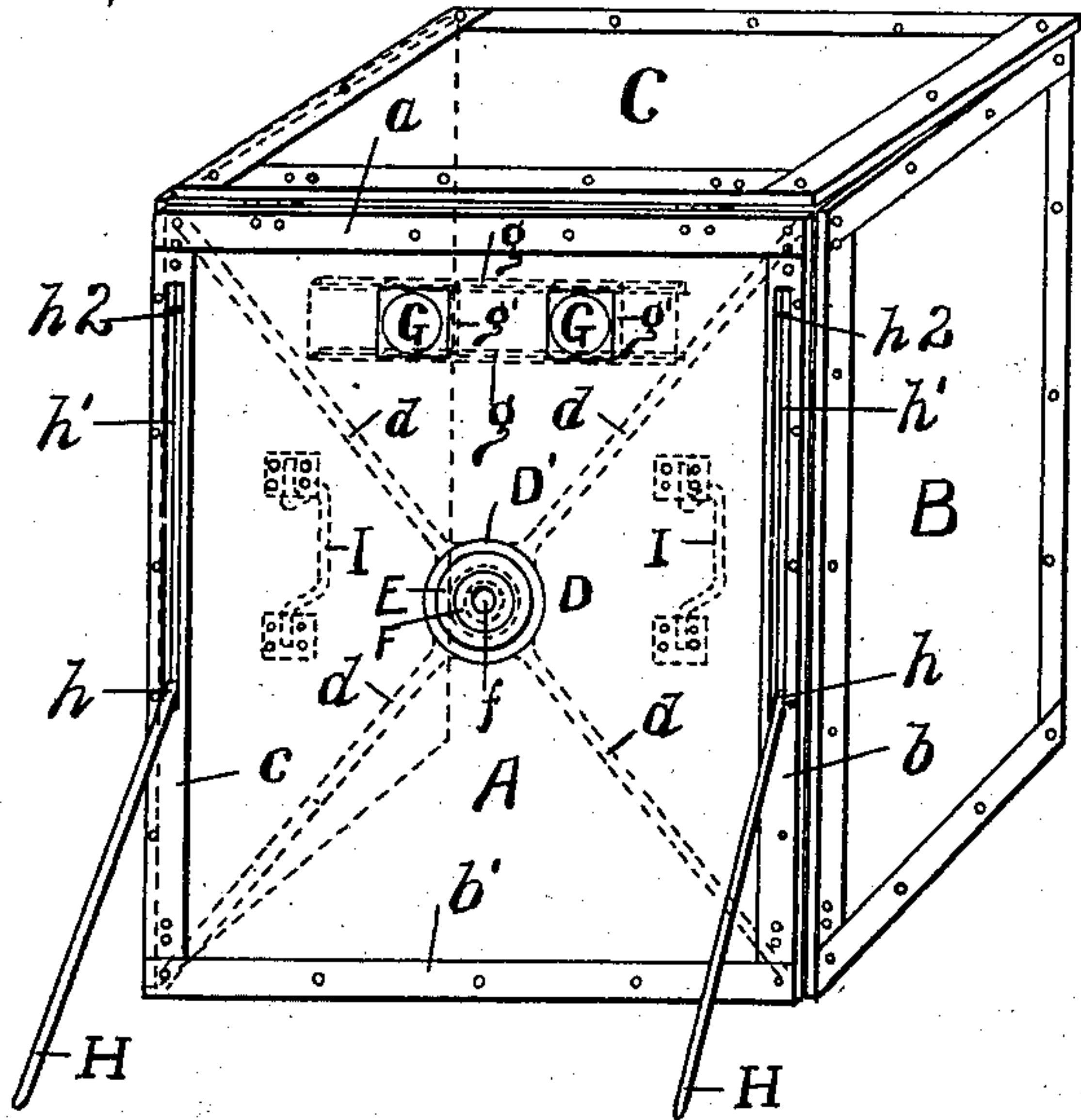


Fig. 1

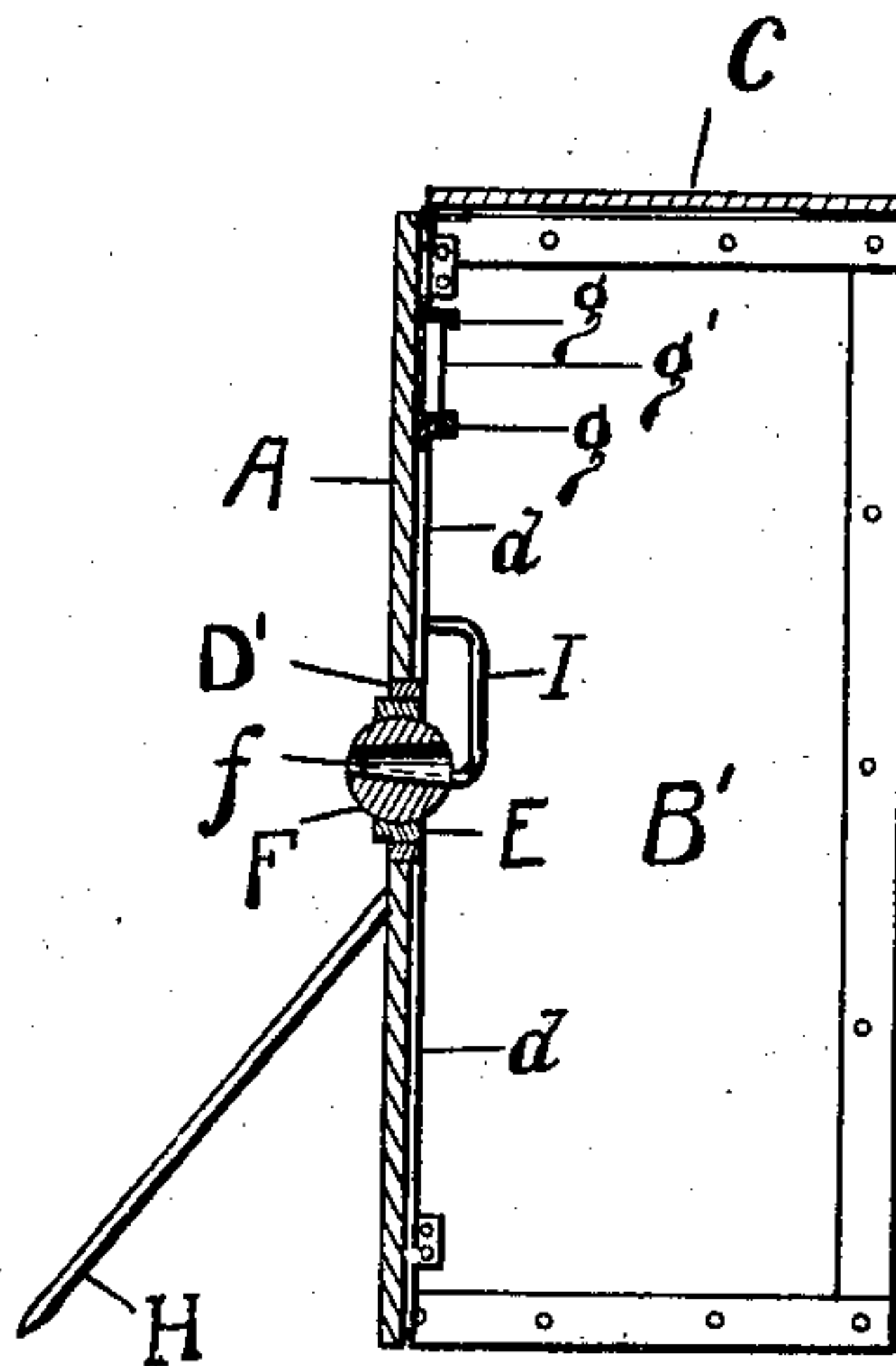


Fig. 2

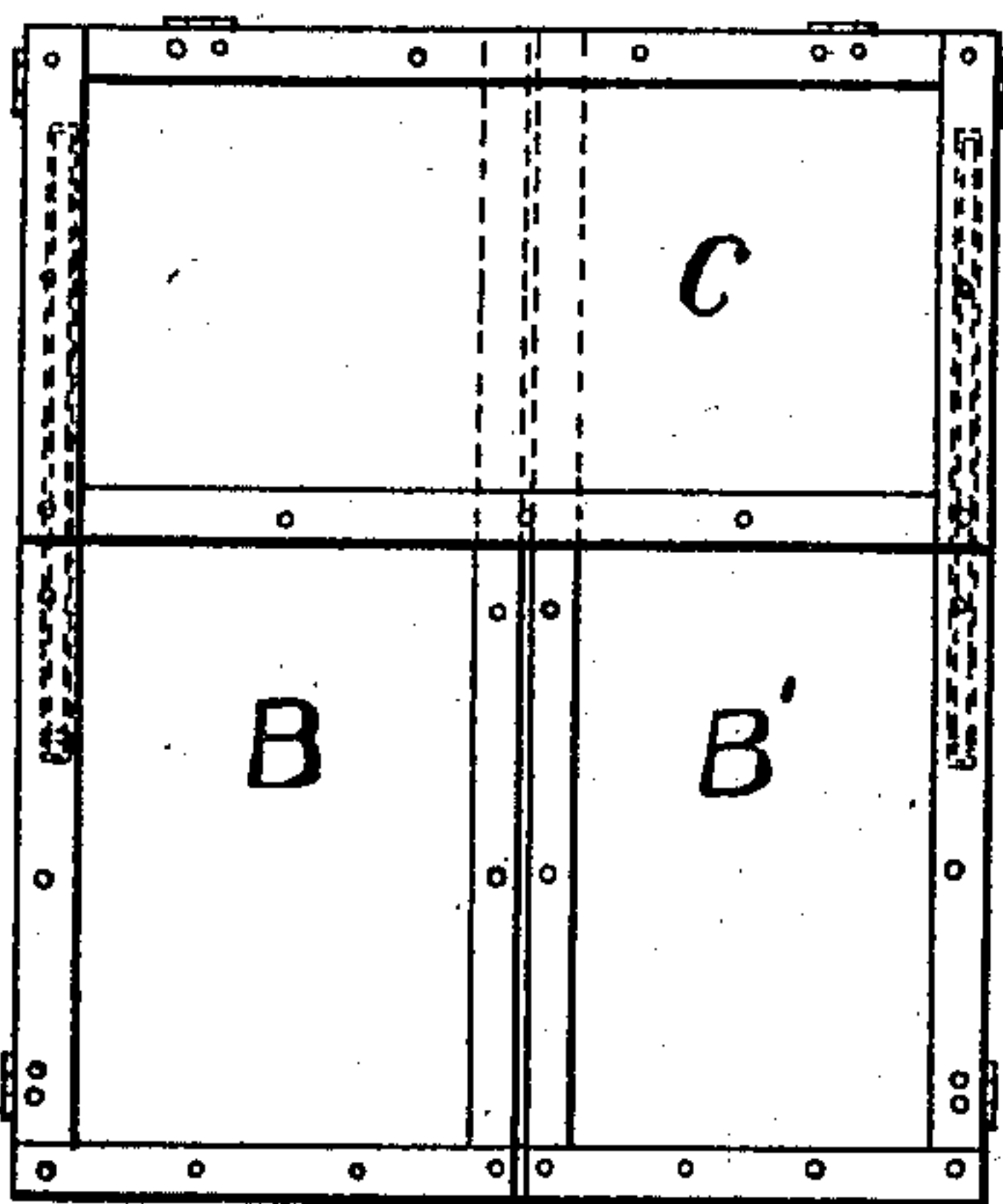


Fig. 3

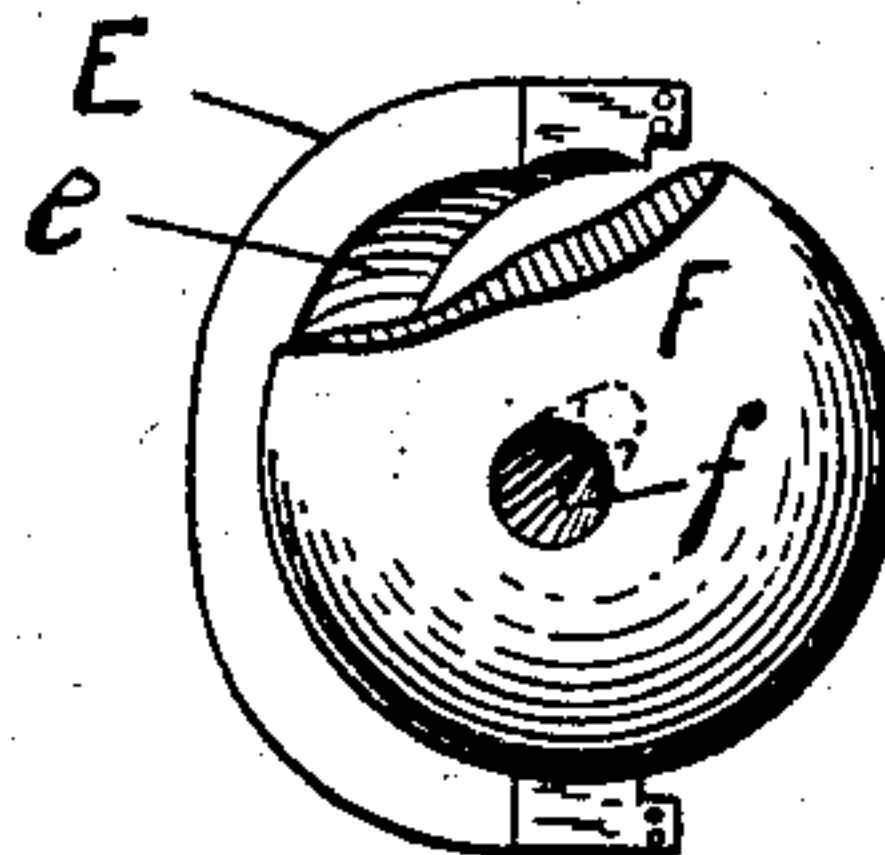


Fig. 4

WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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FIREMAN'S SHIELD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 702,036, dated June 10, 1902.

Application filed December 14, 1901. Serial No. 86,000. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERICK WILLIAM SHEPPERD, a citizen of the United States, residing at borough of Manhattan, in the city,
5 county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Firemen's Shields, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a guard or shield
10 to be used by firemen in the performance of their duty to protect them from the effects of the heat and smoke while directing the hose upon a burning building.

My improvements, in brief, comprise the
15 following features: First, in a screen of the character indicated in Letters Patent No. 541,059, of June 18, 1895, the employment of a brace for the front plate thereof, which also serves as a support for the hose; second,
20 means for supporting a hose-nozzle as projected through a screen in such manner that it may be conveniently turned in all directions; third, means in a device of the character described, as adjustable stops or stays,
25 whereby the structure when in use is prevented from toppling over forwardly from inward pressure.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a front perspective view of the device. Fig. 2 is a central side vertical sectional view thereof. Fig.
30 3 is a rear view of the device as closed, and Fig. 4 is a detail enlarged view of the ball-socket nozzle-support.

In said figures, A indicates a front plate
35 of suitable dimensions; B B', respectively, the opposite wings or side plates secured by hinges to said front plate, and C a top plate or cover, which is also hinged to the front plate A. Said plates are each composed of suitable fireproof substance and are preferably
40 bound at their edges with folded metal strips, as indicated at *a*, *b*, *b'*, and *c*, to reinforce the plates and render them more rigid. For a like purpose in the instance of the front
45 plate A, which requires to be possessed of considerable strength to sustain the weight of the fire-hose in action, I provide a special brace, as D. This is composed of the arms
50 *d d d d*, lying against said plate and radiating from a central hollow boss or collar D', which latter is adjacent to a corresponding

aperture in the plate A. The arms *d d d d* may be formed integrally with their central boss or collar, or they may be united therewith in any suitable manner. Their outer
55 ends being secured to the metal edging, said arms or the entire brace serves to stiffen the plate A, while at the same time forming a rigid and strong support for the nozzle.

As indicated in Fig. 4, I preferably provide
60 an inner ring to fit within the collar D. Said ring is in two corresponding sections, as E, (one only being shown in the drawings,) with means for uniting them. Said ring-sections E are provided with an interior annular groove
65 *e*, capable of turnably supporting a ball or the like, as F. An aperture, as *f*, which may taper to conform to the shape of an entering nozzle, extends through said ball, as seen. By means of this device the fireman is re-
70 lieved of the weight of the hose and may conveniently turn the nozzle in any desired direction.

G G indicate the sight-apertures or windows, through which the fireman may observe
75 his operations. These are provided with slideways *g g*, and frames or slides *g' g'*, bearing a transparent covering, as mica, are supported therein. By means of the slideways the apertures G G may be closed or uncovered
80 at will.

A further feature of invention lies in the provision of certain forward stops or stays, as the rods or bars H H. These extend from the
85 plate A, preferably being pivoted to the metal binding, as at *h h*, and extend forwardly from said plate A, their free ends contacting with the surface ahead of the screen to prevent it from toppling over forwardly. When
90 not in use, these rods or bars H H are closed up against the plate A and preferably lie within grooves or recesses *h' h'*, formed therefor in the metal binding. A simple spring or other catch, as indicated at *h² h²*, serves
95 to hold the rods or bars in the closed position, from which they can be easily released and caused to fall into the operative position.

I I indicate the handles by which the device may be carried toward its destination
100 when opened for use.

When not in use, the sides or wings B B' are folded upon plate A and the top C, thus

released, falls into its folded position, as seen in Fig. 3.

I claim—

5 1. In a fireman's portable protector, composed of front, side and top fireproof plates, hinged together, a reinforce-brace extending over the front plate and a nozzle aperture and support in said brace.

10 2. In a fireman's protector, a vertical plate having an aperture for the passage of a fluid column, a collar about said aperture; a series of radial supports therefor; an annular grooved socket within said collar, and a ball revolvably fitted within said socket, said ball
15 having a nozzle-bearing aperture.

3. In a fireman's protector, composed of a front plate with side and top plates hinged thereto and extending rearwardly therefrom, a forward support or stop composed of a pair of adjustable props extending from said front plate, in advance thereof. 20

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses, this 5th day of December, 1901.

FREDERICK W. SHEPPERD.

Witnesses:

F. W. BARKER,
PETER MILNE.