

No. 711,502.

Patented Oct. 21, 1902.

J. H. & P. J. HUTTON.

MAIL POUCH.

(Application filed May 19, 1902.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

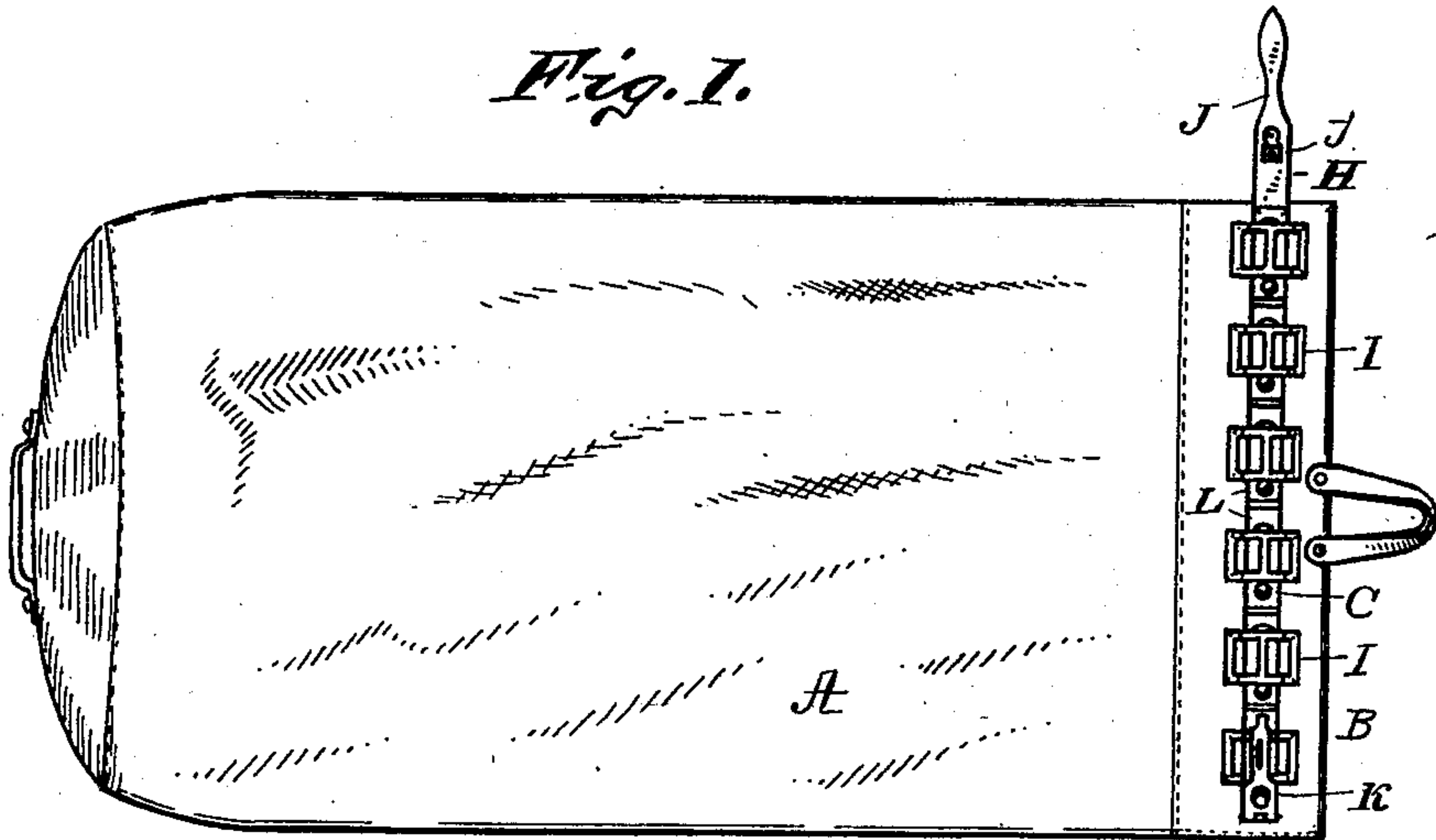


Fig. 2.

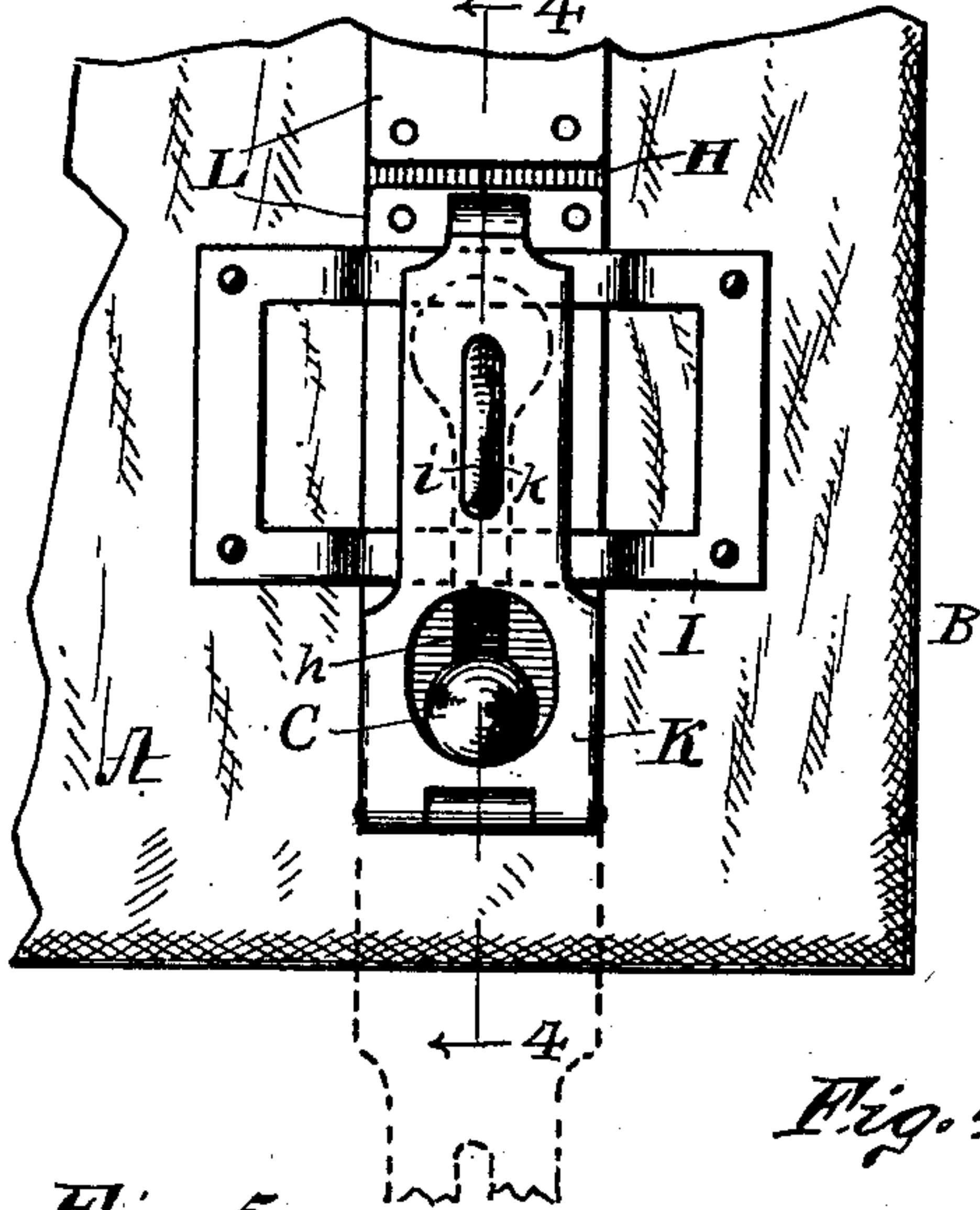


Fig. 3.

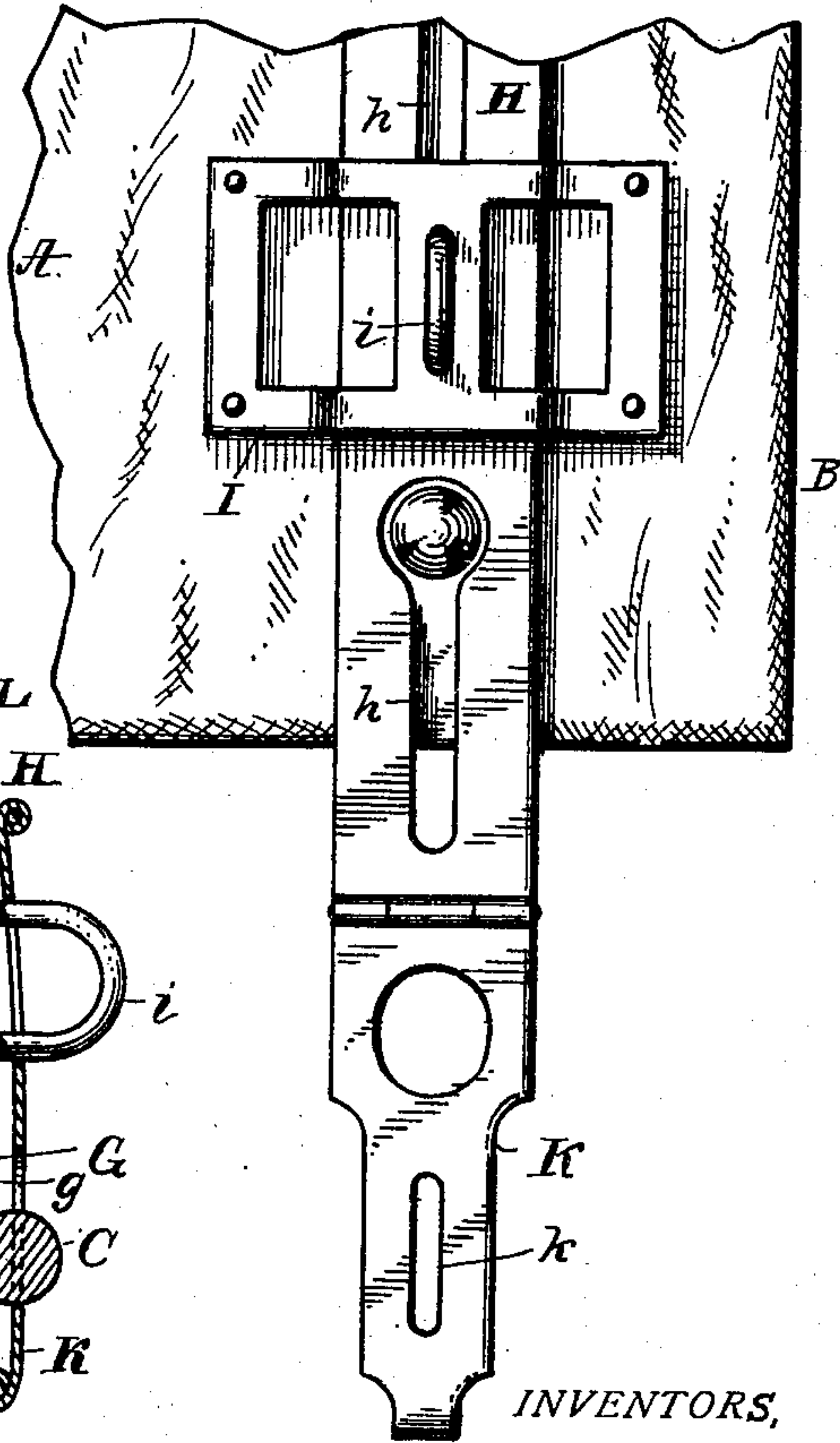


Fig. 5.

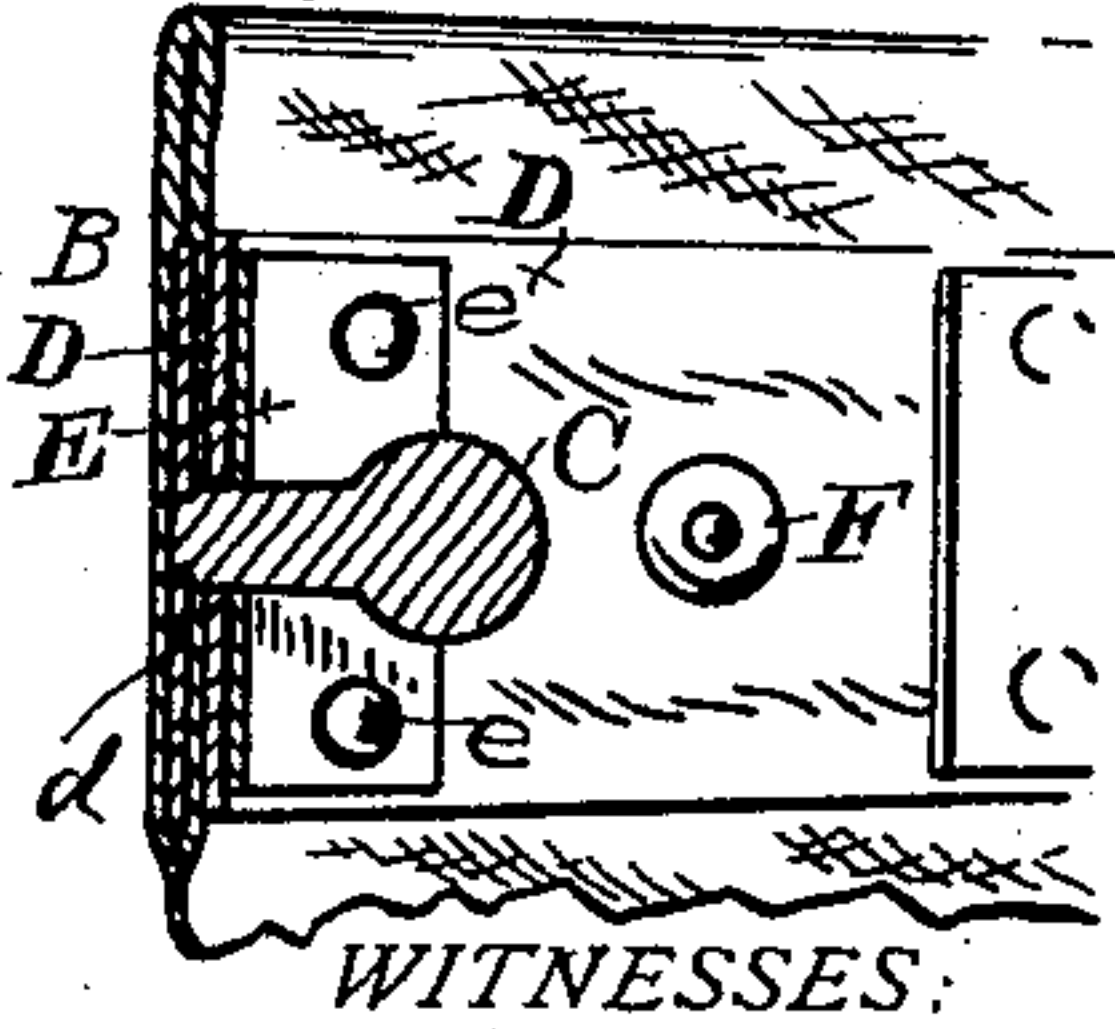
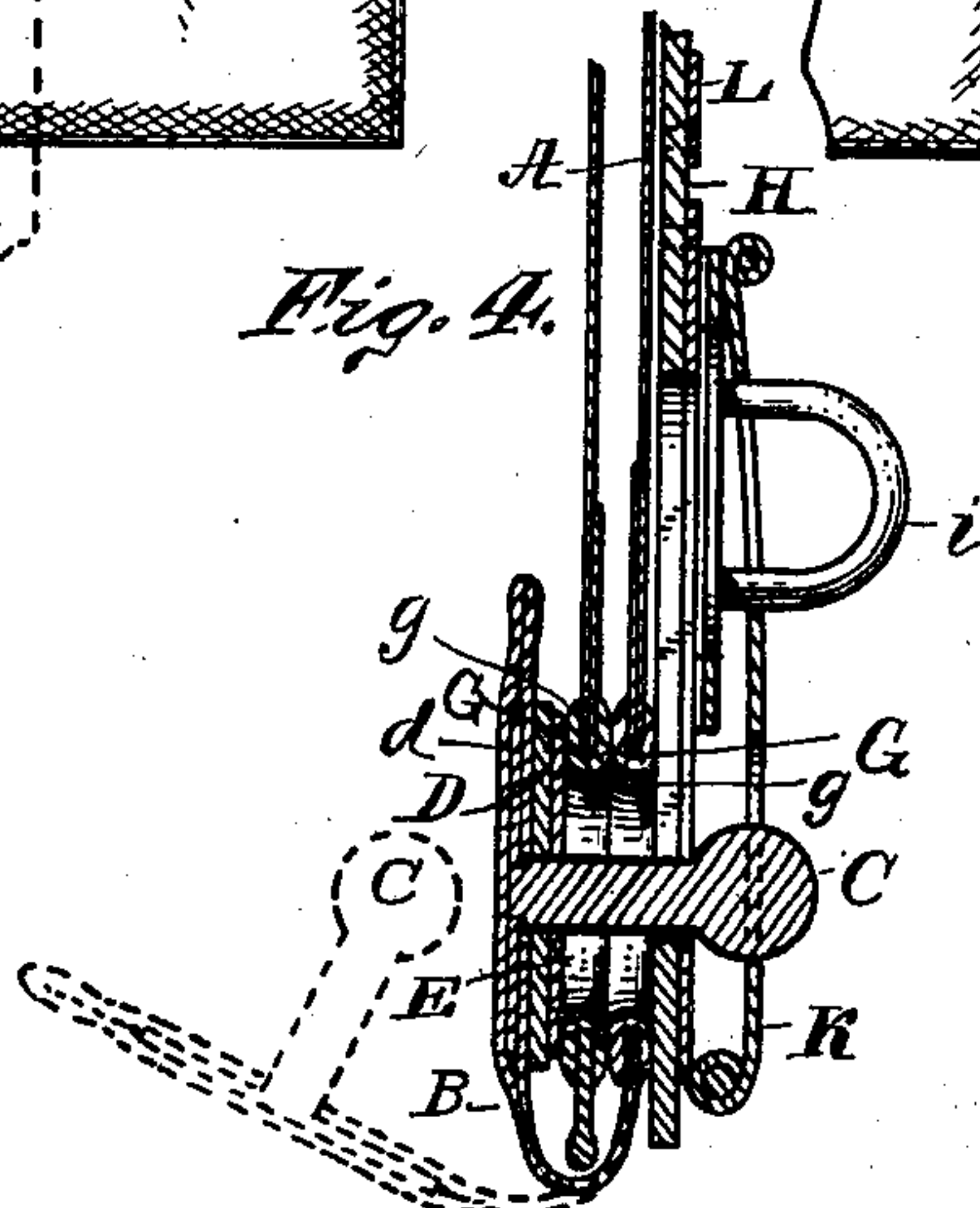


Fig. 4.



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MAIL-POUCH.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 711,502, dated October 21, 1902.

Application filed May 19, 1902. Serial No. 108,036. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOSEPH HENRY HUTTON and PHILIP JAMES HUTTON, citizens of the United States, residing at Columbus, in the county of Franklin and State of Ohio, have
5 invented certain new and useful Improvements in Mail-Pouches, of which the following is a specification.

The object of this invention is to provide a
10 closure for mail-bags that will be strong and durable and that can be quickly opened and closed, so as to save time in handling mail-matter.

We accomplish the objects of the invention
15 by the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of a bag provided with our invention; Fig. 2, a detail, on a larger scale, of the hasp end of the locking-strap and
20 associated parts, showing the hasp in closed position; Fig. 3, a like detail showing the hasp open; Fig. 4, a detail in section on the dotted line 4 4 of Fig. 2; and Fig. 5, a detail of the flap of the bag, showing the manner of
25 securing the locking-stud.

Like letters of reference indicate like parts throughout the several views of the drawings.

A represents a mail pouch or bag of any suitable or well-known construction having
30 one side at the mouth end of the bag extended to form a flap B, which will be folded over the open end of the bag to form a closure. Extending inward from the flap, adjacent to its outer longitudinal edge, is a row of headed
35 pins or studs C. Each of these studs has a base-plate *d*. The end of the flap is folded over and stitched to form a hem wide enough to receive the plates *d*, and the plates are inserted between the folds in the manner shown
40 in Fig. 5, with the stud projecting through the side of the hem. The plate *d* is preferably riveted to the stud after those parts are in position, but before the flap is sewed down. A strap D is laid longitudinally of the flap
45 on the same side as the studs, and outside of that are the metal plates E, one for each stud. The plates E are square and are each secured by the four corner-rivets *e*, which rivets pass through the said plates, the strap, the base-
50 plate, and both folds of the flap-hem. Interme-

diate of each stud is a rivet F, which secures the strap D to the flap B. Formed in the walls of the body of the pouch are the perforations G, reinforced by the metal eyelets *g*, and through which perforations the stud-pins
55 C are adapted to extend when the flap is folded over the pouch to close the same.

On the back of the bag near the top is a sliding strap H, which is held to place and guided by the metal cross-bands or strap-
60 holders I. In the sliding strap H are longitudinal slots *h*, slightly greater in width than the diameter of the stems of the studs and less than the diameter of the stud-heads. These slots terminate at one of their ends with
65 eyes large enough to allow the heads of the studs to pass through, after which the withdrawal or locking of the studs is secured by a longitudinal movement of the strap, which brings the narrow slot under the larger head
70 of the stud. The head of the stud is spherical to facilitate the sliding of the strap under it. The round openings are all at the same ends of their slots, and the end of the strap toward which they are placed is provided with the
75 handle extension J, having a stop *j*, which by contact with the nearest cross-band I arrests the strap with the slot enlargements alined with the perforations G of the pouch. The opposite end of the strap has the hinged hasp
80 K, with slot *k*, which engages the staple *i* of the next adjacent strap-holder when the hasp is turned back upon the pouch, as shown in Fig. 2. A padlock (not shown) passed through the staple in the usual manner locks the hasp
85 and secures the closure of the pouch.

Each cross-bar I is placed adjacent to perforations G; so that when the strap H is locked the head of the stud C will be against the cross-band. The cross-bands may be cut
90 away on either side of their middles to lessen their weight, as shown; but their middles should be left intact to cover and protect the slot in the strap H. These slots in said strap are further strengthened by plates L, which
95 surround the slots and are riveted to the strap. The strap is preferably of leather and the plates of metal, and the latter are slotted to match the slots of the strap. There is a separate plate for each slot, and the open joint
100

between the plate ends affords the requisite flexibility to the strap.

The plates protect the strap from wear, and should the strap be cut at the joint between the plates, as for the purpose of rifling the pouch, the plates will stiffen the strap, so the severed parts cannot be withdrawn from under the bands and the studs released.

Having thus fully described our invention, what we claim as new, and wish to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination with a mail-pouch of a flap for closing the end thereof having a hemmed edge and carrying a plurality of locking-studs, each of said studs comprising a base-plate located in the hem of the flap, a stem secured to the base-plate terminating at its outer end in a spherical head, said heads being adapted to be projected through perforations in opposite walls of the pouch, a longitudinal strap outside of the hem of the flap, and auxiliary metal plates outside of the strap through which the stems pass, rivets passing through said base-plate, flap, strap, and the auxiliary plate, cross-bands on the outside of the pouch, a locking-strap between the cross-bands and the side of the pouch having slots for engaging the heads of the studs, said slots having end enlargements to permit of the passage of the stud-heads there-

through, and means for locking the strap against endwise movement.

2. The combination with a mail-pouch, of a flap for closing the end thereof carrying a plurality of locking-studs, each of said studs comprising a stem having a base-plate riveted to the flap and terminating at its outer end in a spherical head, said heads being adapted to be projected through perforations in opposite walls of the mouth of the pouch, cross-bands on the outside of said pouch, a locking-strap disposed between the cross-bands and the side of the pouch having slots for engaging the heads of the studs said slots having end enlargements to permit of the passage of the stud-heads therethrough, metallic plates riveted to the outer side of said strap each plate embracing a single slot and the ends of each two adjacent plates almost touching each other, and means for locking the strap against endwise movement.

In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals, at Columbus, Ohio, this 1st day of May, A. D. 1902.

JOSEPH HENRY HUTTON. [L. S.]
PHILIP JAMES HUTTON. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

E. E. BROBST,
THOMAS HAYNES.