

No. 715,573.

Patented Dec. 9, 1902.

C. J. GUSTAFSON.
POCKET BOOK CLASP.
(Application filed Mar. 6, 1902.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 2

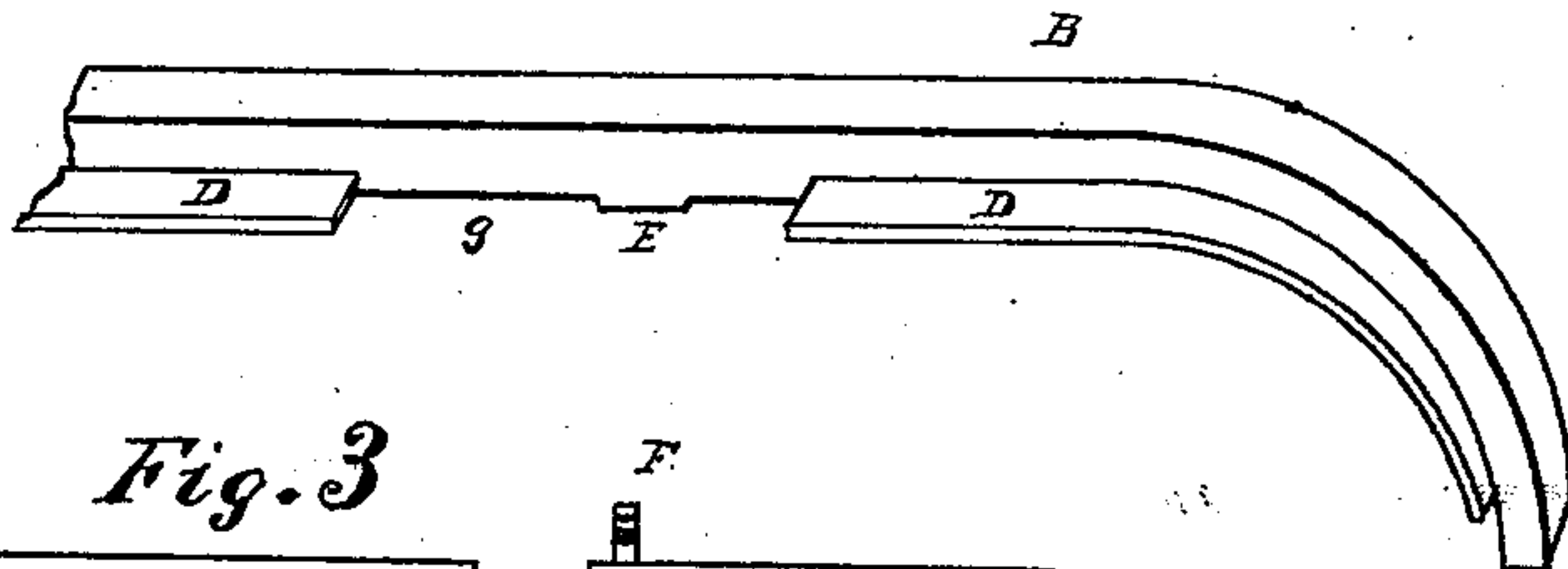


Fig. 3

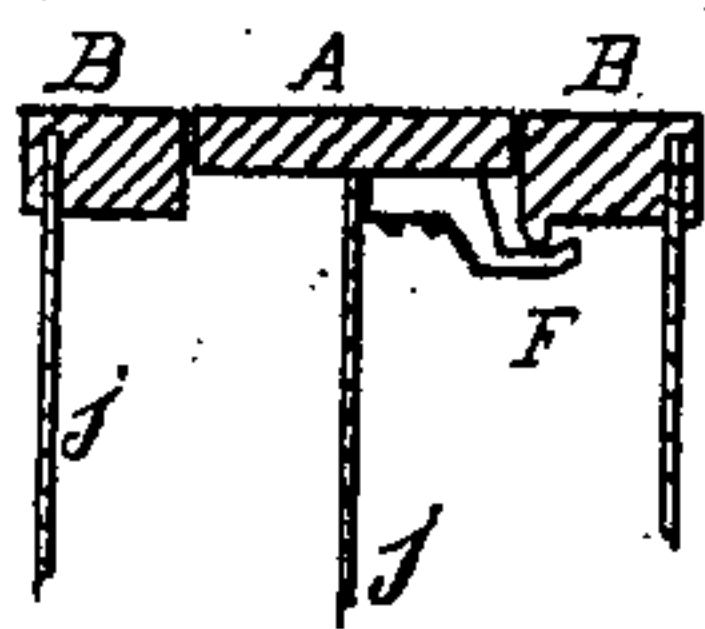
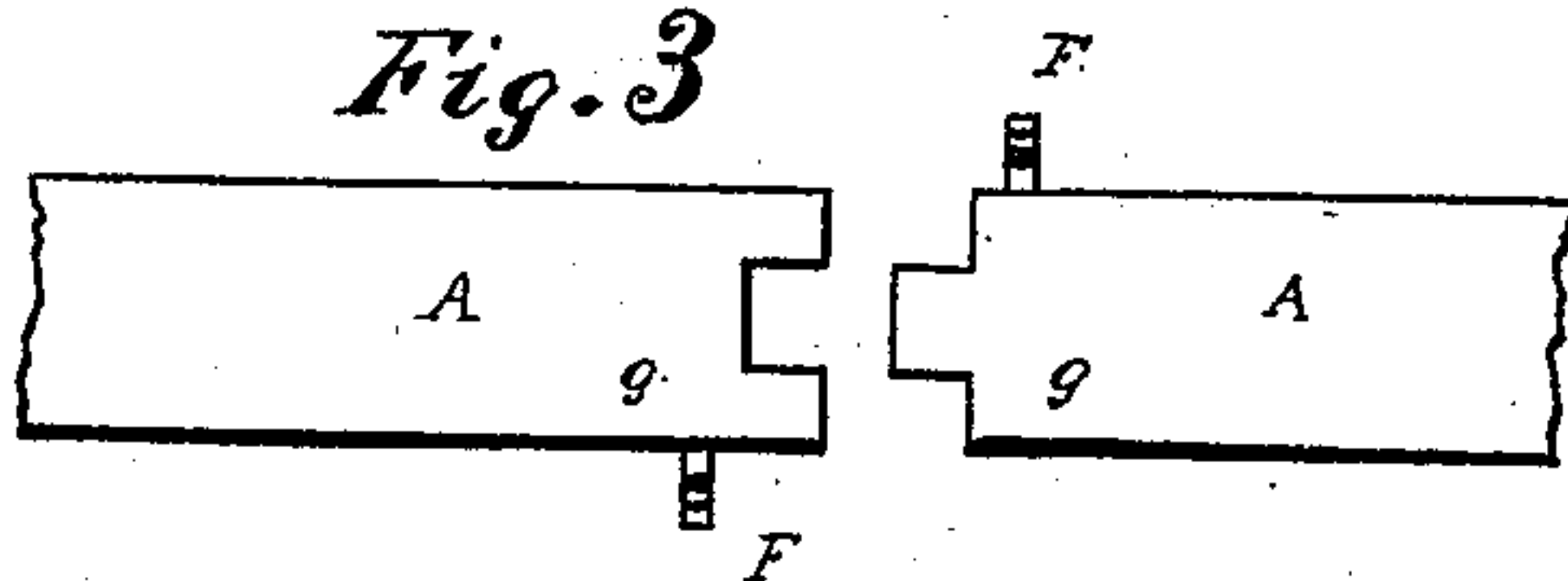


Fig. 4

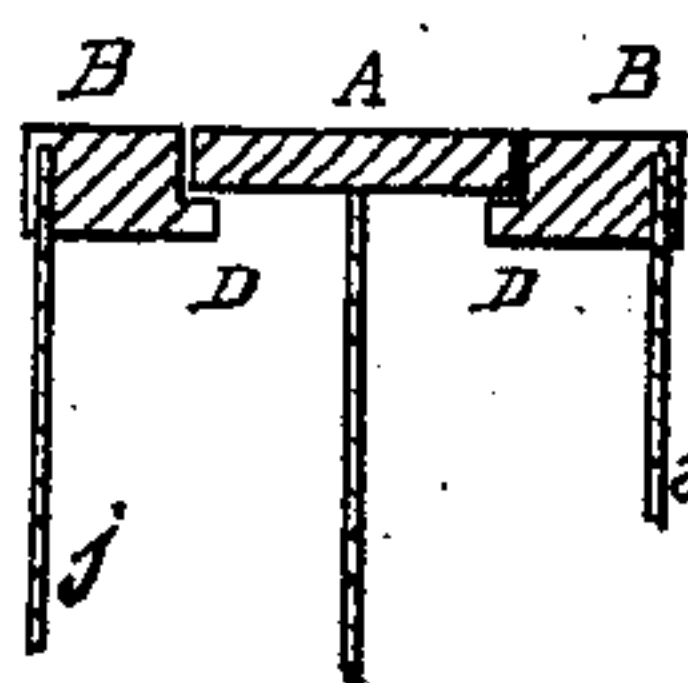


Fig. 5

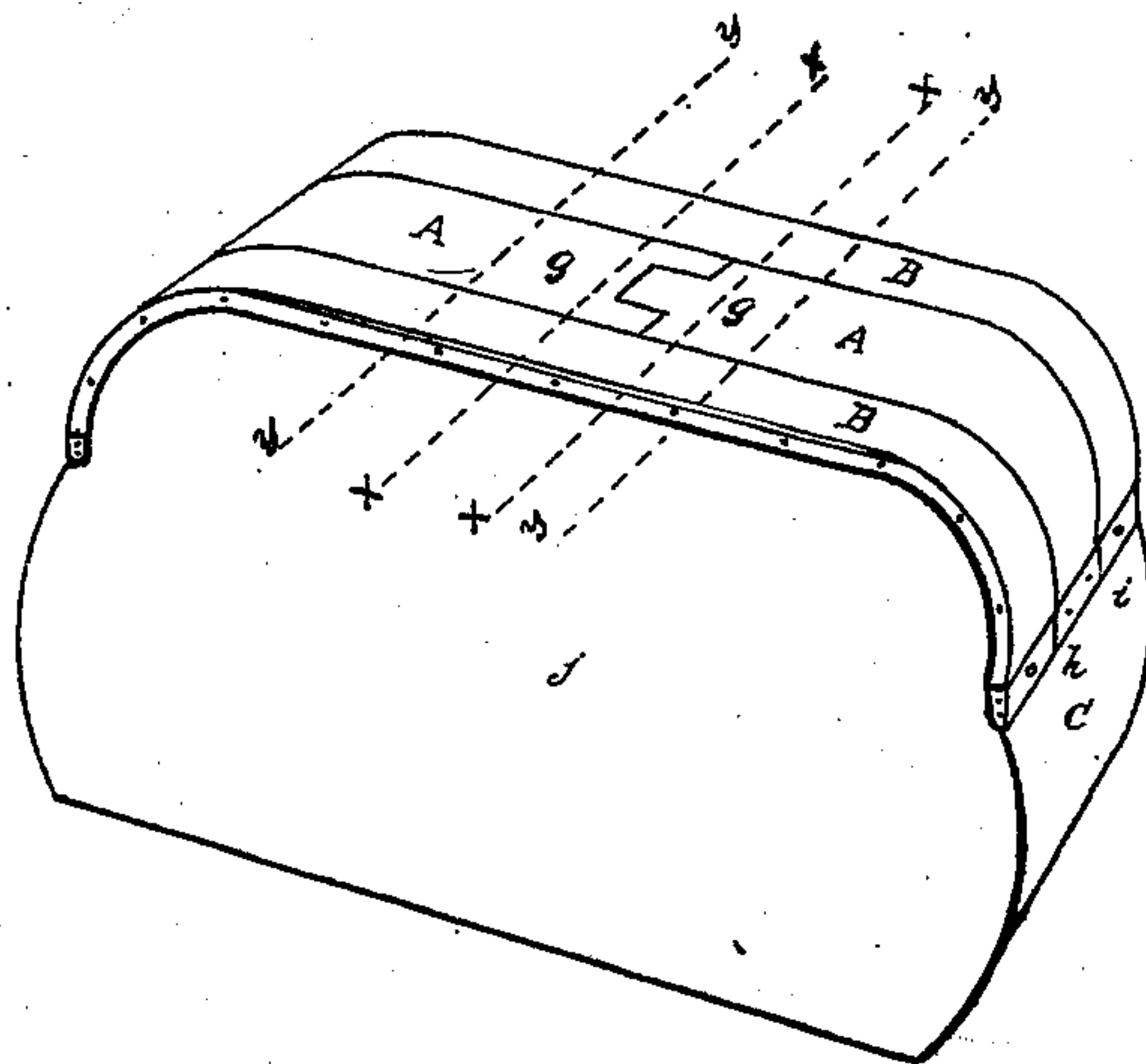


Fig. 1

WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES JOHN GUSTAFSON, OF ASHTABULA, OHIO.

POCKET-BOOK CLASP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 715,573, dated December 9, 1902.

Application filed March 6, 1902. Serial No. 96,960. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES JOHN GUSTAFSON, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Ashtabula, in the county of Ash-
tabula and State of Ohio, have invented cer-
tain new and useful Improvements in Clasps
for Pocket-Books, of which the following is a
specification.

This invention relates to new and useful
improvements in clasps for pocket-books,
satchels, wallets, and analogous articles.

The object of this invention is to provide a
clasp in which the entire outer surface is free
from projections and presents no visible
means for opening it when in a locked posi-
tion.

A further object is to so construct a pocket-
book clasp that it may be adapted for two
compartments, permitting the opening of
either compartment independently of the
other.

The invention consists of a pocket-book
clasp having two bow-wings pivotally con-
nected at their ends to permit them to open
outwardly and a central bow carrying at op-
posite sides a latch to engage with a corre-
sponding lip on the under inner edges of the
bow-wings, the said central bow being di-
vided in cross-section at its center, for the
purpose hereinafter set forth.

In the drawings similar letters of reference
indicate corresponding parts.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the clasp
applied to a pocket-book. Fig. 2 shows a
part of one of the wing-bows. Fig. 3 shows
a portion of each section of the central bow.
Fig. 4 shows the clasp in cross-section at line
x x of Fig. 1. Fig. 5 shows the clasp in cross-
section at line *y y* of Fig. 1.

In the drawings, A A represent the central
bow, divided in cross-section at *g*, and B B
the bow-wings, which are pivotally connected
to cross-strips at *h*.

D D are ribs which support the sections of
the central bow, the said ribs being integral
with the inner lower edges of the wing-bows
and extending along said wing-bows, as shown
in Fig. 2.

E E represent the lips, with which the latches
F F engage.

It will be seen that the sections of the cen-

tral bow are supported by the supporting-
ribs D, while at their free ends, at *g*, they are
unsupported to permit movement by down-
ward pressure to engage or disengage the
latches F from the lips E. It will be under-
stood that the division in cross-section of the
central bow may be made in outlines other
than shown in the drawings.

In operation when downward pressure is
applied at *g* to section A the latch F is dis-
engaged, permitting the wing-bow B to be
opened. The sections of the central bow A
are rigidly fastened at *i* to the cross-pieces
C, thus holding said sections in permanent
horizontal position when either or both of the
wing-bows are open. When it is desired to
close the pocket-book, the wing-bows are
pressed against the central bow, when the
latches F F will engage the lips E E, the free
ends of the central bow having sufficient re-
silience to permit the engagement.

j represents the fabric of which the body
of the receptacle may be formed, said fabric
being attached to the clasp-frame in any ap-
proved and well-known manner.

The advantages of this invention are that
it presents no raised surface to catch adja-
cent objects, is neat in appearance, simple of
construction, secure, and yet easily operated
by any one familiar with it.

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

1. A clasp for pocket-books and analogous
receptacles having a central bow divided in
cross-section at the center, carrying at the
free end of each section a latch, oppositely
disposed, the extreme ends of said sections
being rigidly fastened to cross-pieces, as de-
scribed and for the purpose set forth.

2. A clasp for pocket-books and analogous
receptacles having two wing-bows along
whose inner lower edges, at fractional dis-
tances from their ends are supporting-ribs
which are integral with said wing-bows, said
ribs being provided for the support of the
sections of the central bow, as shown and de-
scribed.

3. The combination with a pocket-book or
analogous receptacle of a clasp having the
central bow divided in cross-section, latches

at the free end of each section of said central bow to engage with a lip which is integral with the lower inner edge of each wing-bow, as shown and described.

- 5 4. The combination with a pocket-book or other analogous receptacle, of a clasp having a central bow, divided in cross-section, two wing-bows provided with ribs for the support of the sections of the central bow, the
10 said wing-bows being pivotally connected at

their ends to cross-pieces, as shown and for purpose described.

Signed at Ashtabula, in the county of Ashtabula and State of Ohio, this 2d day of February, A. D. 1901.

CHARLES JOHN GUSTAFSON.

Witnesses:

JOHN SWANSON,
DAVID M. REID.