

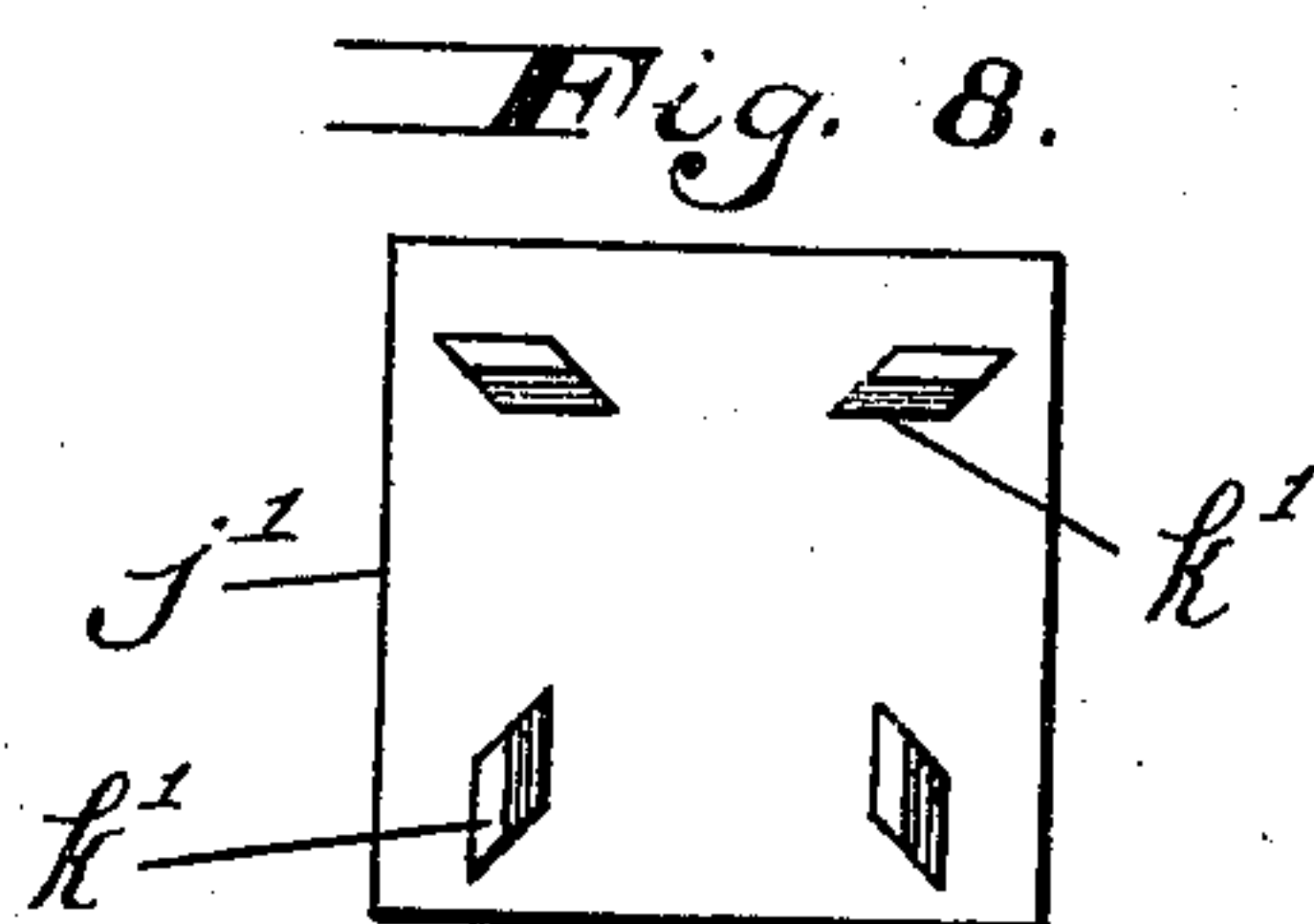
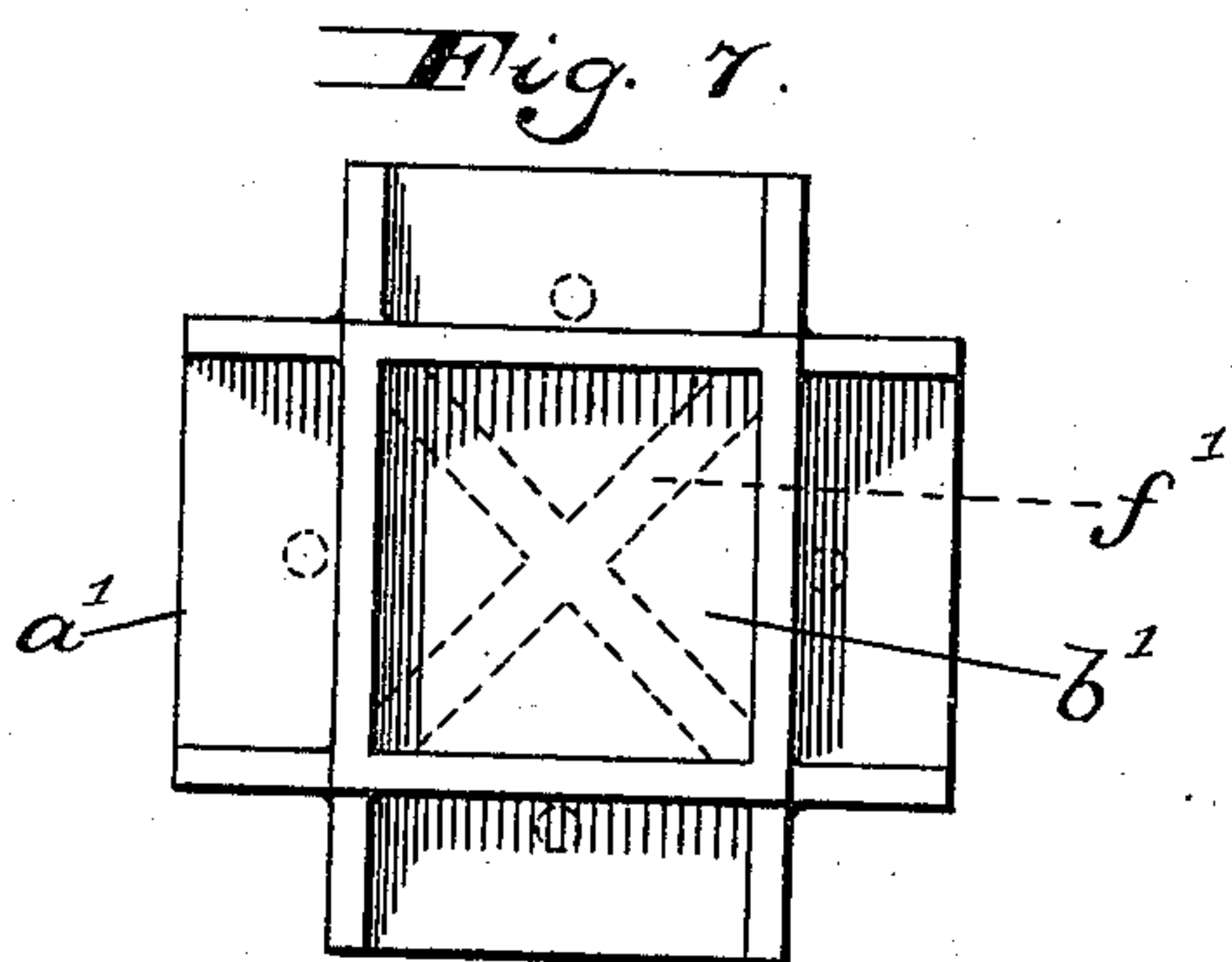
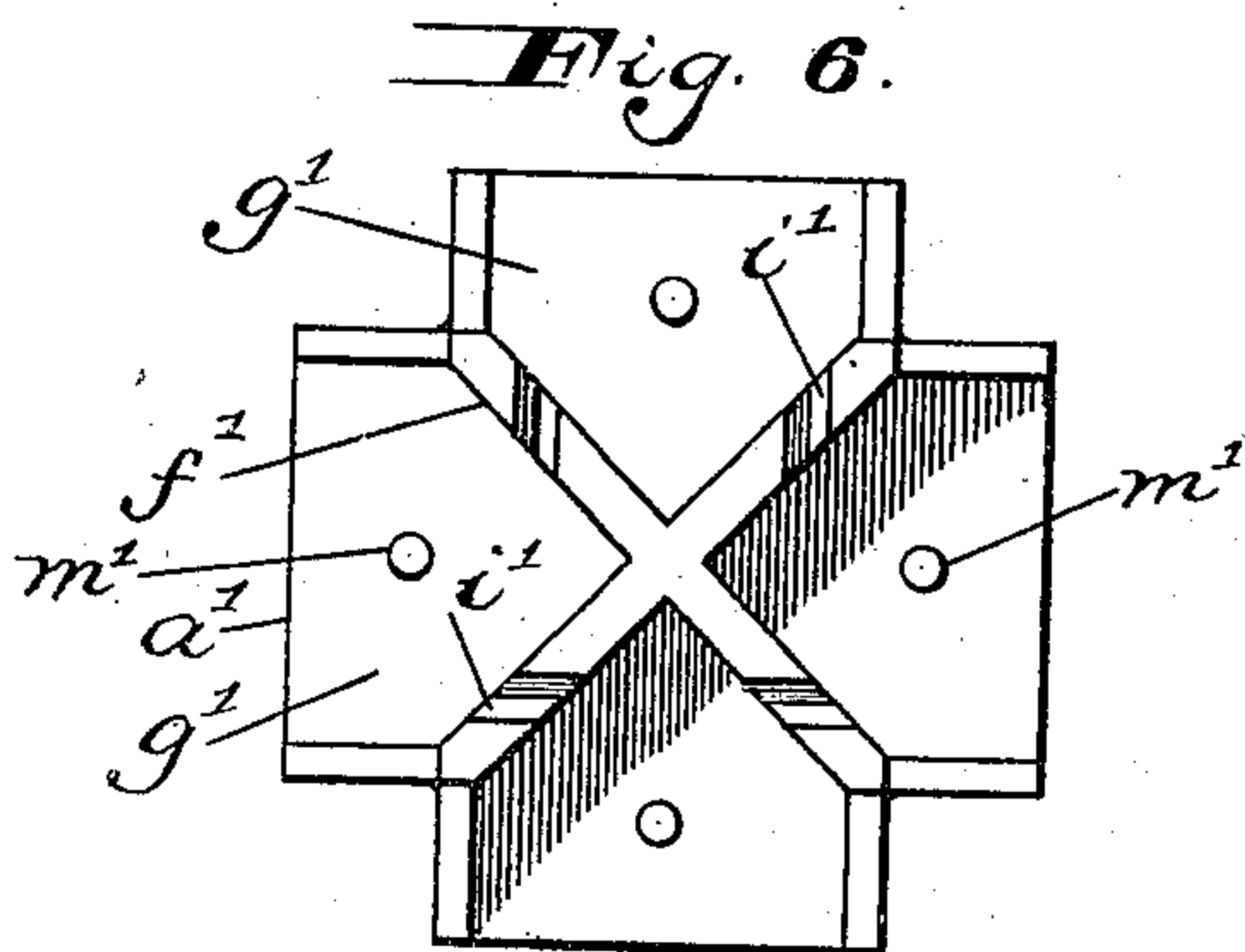
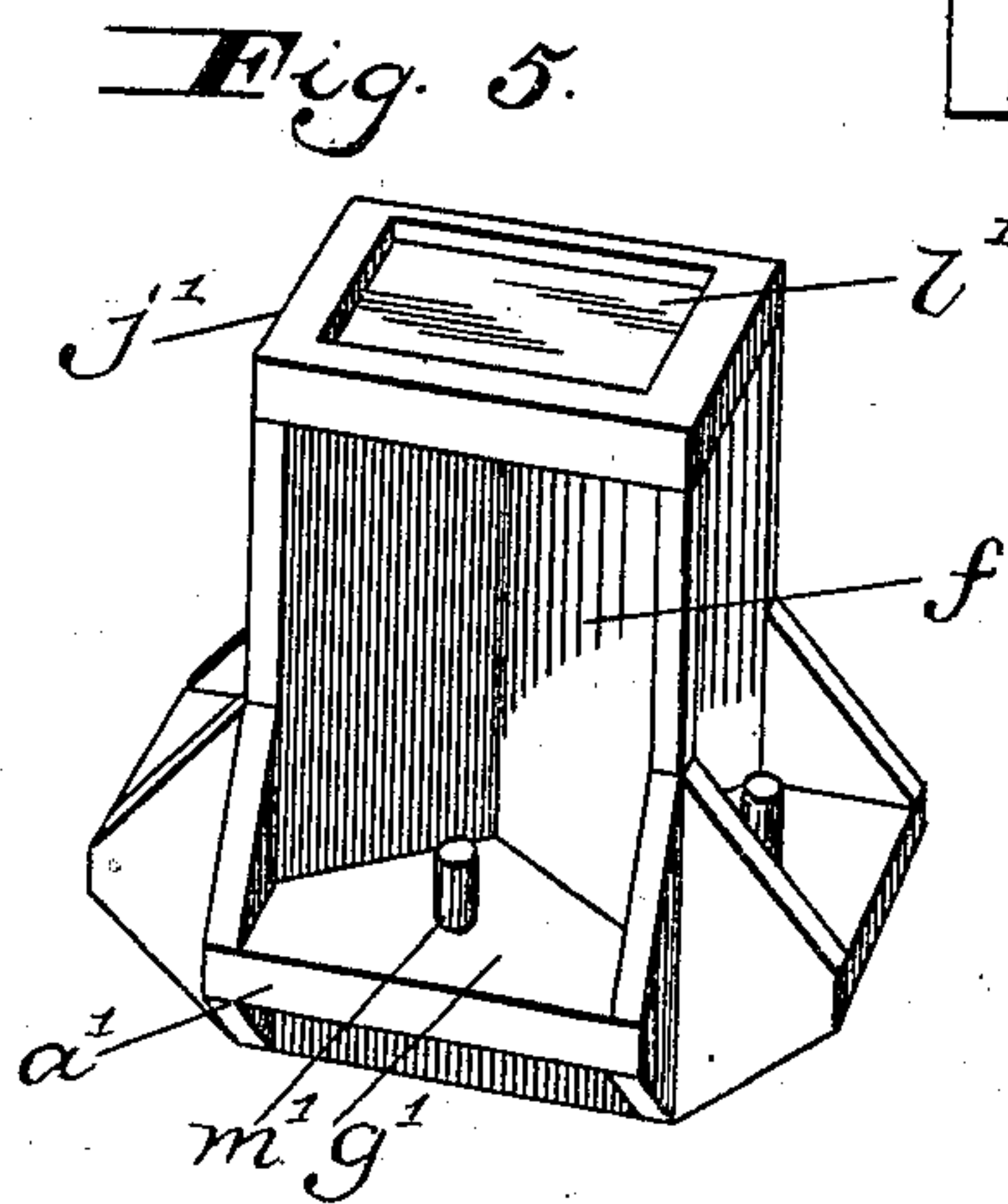
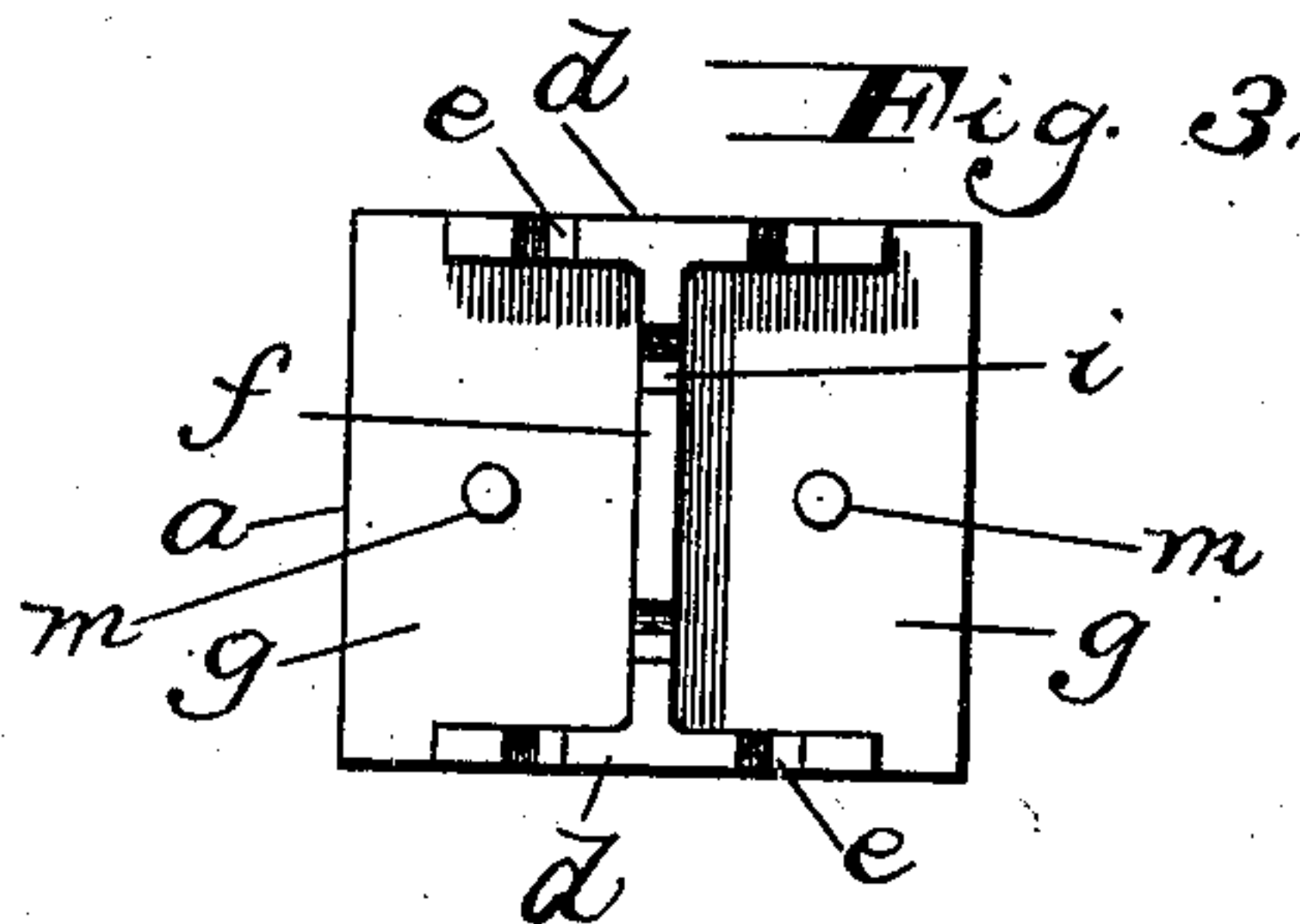
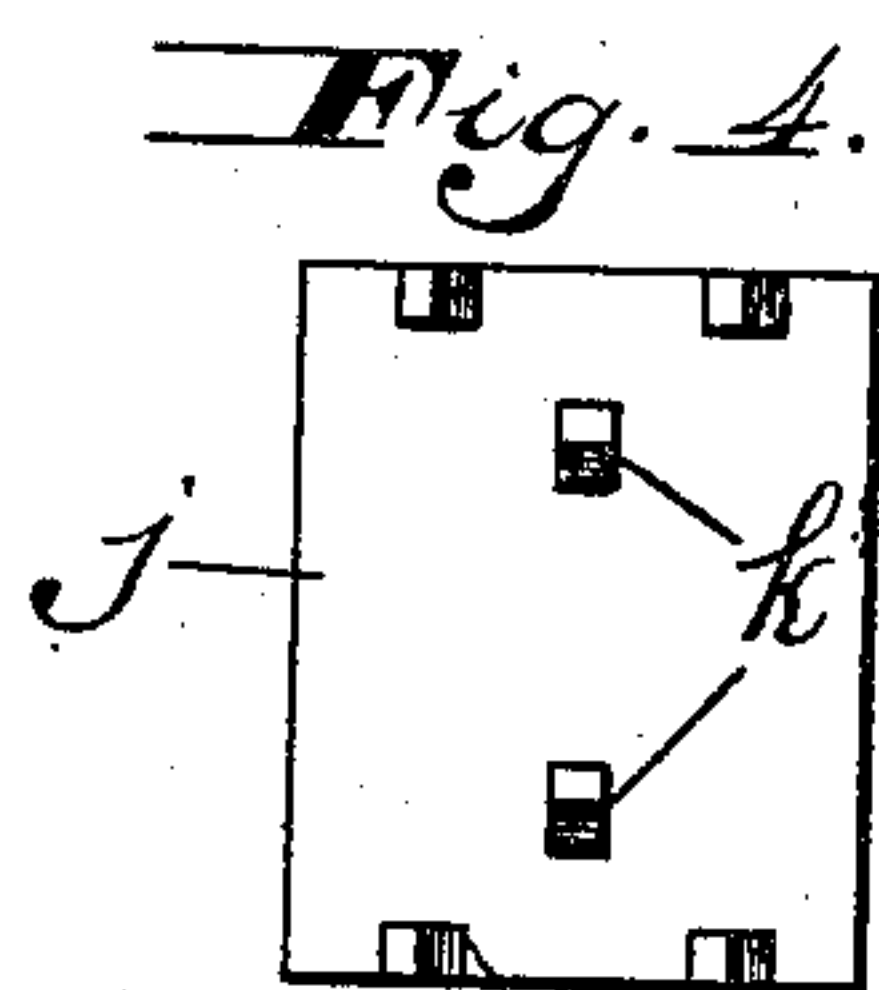
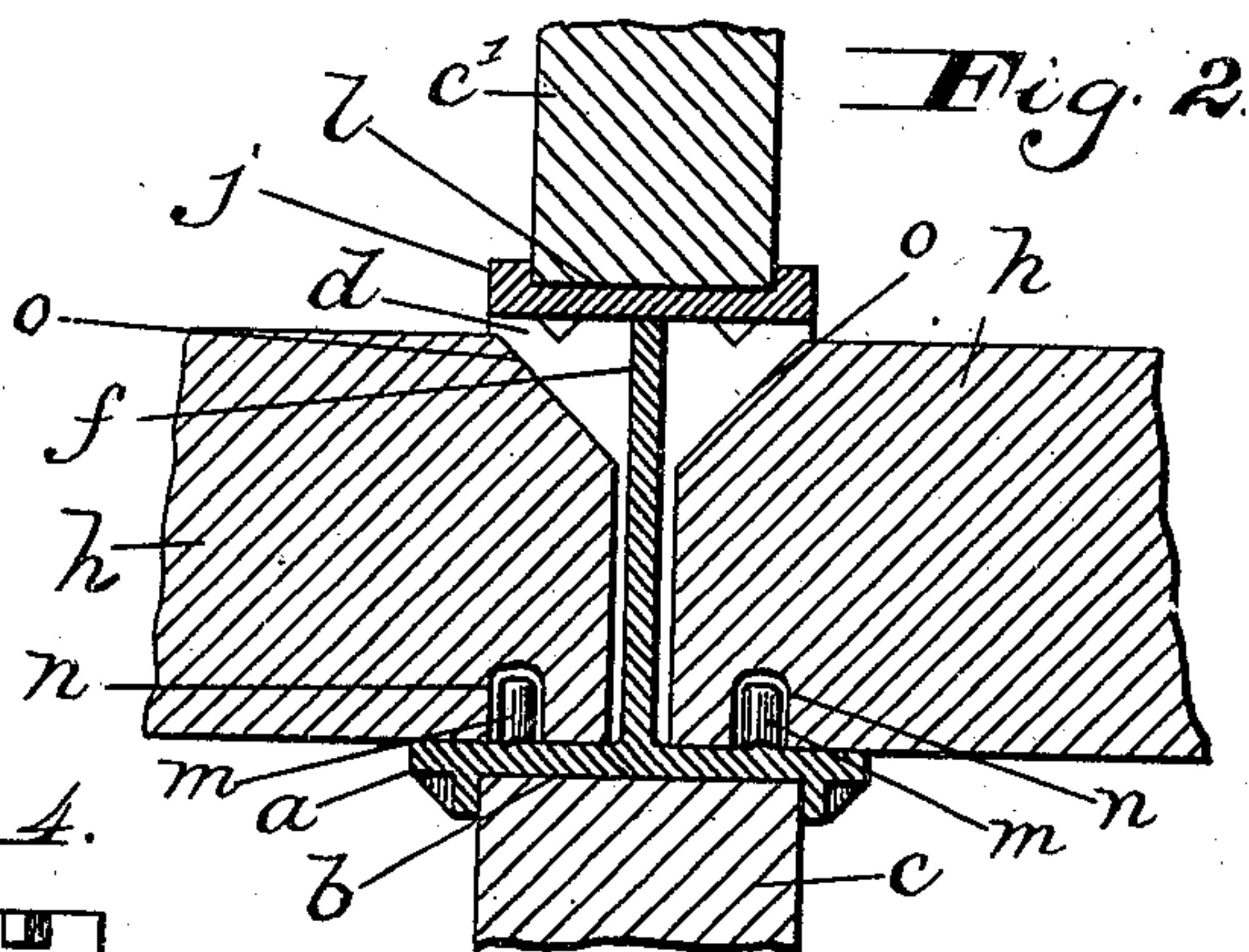
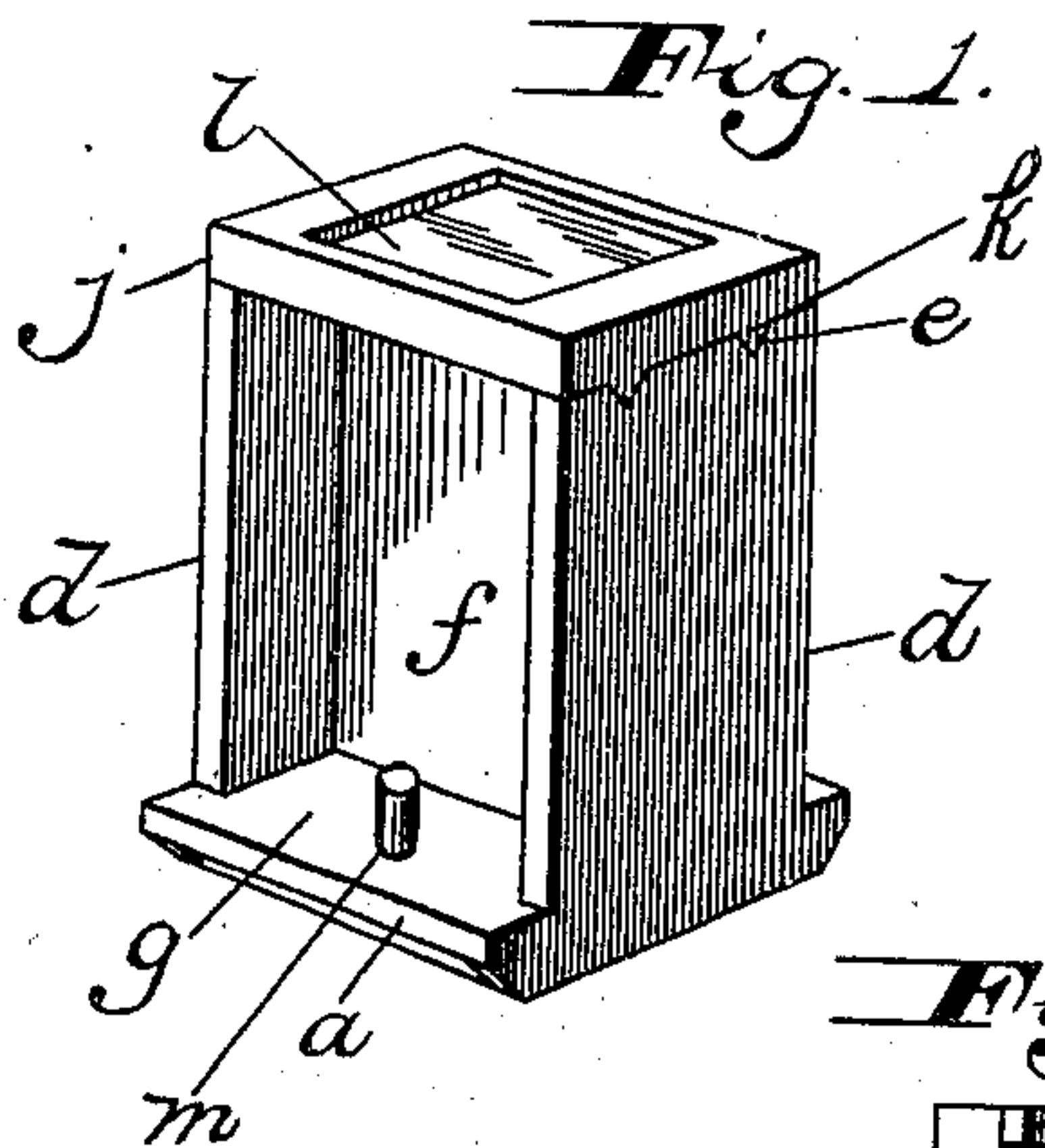
No. 725,527.

PATENTED APR. 14, 1903.

R. W. WHITEHURST.
POST CAP.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 3, 1903.

NO MODEL.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT W. WHITEHURST, OF NORFOLK, VIRGINIA.

POST-CAP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 725,527, dated April 14, 1903.

Application filed January 3, 1903. Serial No. 137,649. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT W. WHITEHURST, a citizen of the United States, residing at Norfolk, in the county of Norfolk and State of Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Post-Caps, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in post-caps which are designed for use in buildings to support one post vertically above another and to support also the girders.

The object of the invention is to provide an improved post-cap of this character which will so support the post above it and also the girders as to allow the latter to fall out in case of a fire or from any other cause without danger of tearing down the posts and which will tend to protect the posts from catching fire from burning girders.

The invention consists of certain constructions, arrangements, and combination of parts, hereinafter fully described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of one form of the improved post-cap. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view thereof in applied position. Fig. 3 is a top plan view of the post-cap with the top plate removed. Fig. 4 is a bottom plan view of said top plate. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of a modified form of post-cap. Fig. 6 is a top plan view thereof with the top plate removed. Fig. 7 is a bottom plan view thereof. Fig. 8 is a bottom plan view of the top plate for said modified form of post-cap.

The post-cap illustrated in Figs. 1 to 4, inclusive, comprises a base-plate *a*, provided on its under side with a socket *b*, adapted to fit over the upper end of the lower post *c*. It also comprises two vertical side walls *d*, rising from said base-plate and provided in their upper edges with V-shaped grooves or nicks *e*, and a central vertical web or partition *f*, extending from the base-plate to the upper edges of the side walls and from one side wall to the other, thereby dividing the post-cap into two entirely separate compartments *g* for the reception of the ends of the girders *h*, and said web also provided in its upper edges with V-shaped nicks *i*, and a top plate *j* is supported on the upper edges of said web and side walls, said top plate be-

ing provided on its under side with lugs *k*, fitting in the nicks *e* and *i* to hold it secure and prevent it from skewing, and provided in its upper side with a socket or depression *l*, in which is seated the lower end of the upper post *c'*. The accompanying drawings illustrate the base-plate, two side walls, and central web or partition, all cast or formed in one integral structure; but said parts may also be made separable and secured together, although the integral structure is preferable.

Two studs *m* project from the upper surface of the base-plate *a* on opposite sides of the web *f*, and each girder is provided with a socket *n*, which receives one of the said studs, so as to secure the girder in place and prevent any longitudinal movement of the same. The end of each girder is beveled on top, as indicated at *o*, Fig. 2.

From the foregoing description of the parts it is evident, first, that with the improved construction of post-cap the weight of the girders is supported directly over the post which is below their ends and not upon any base-plate flanges which project beyond said post; second, that in case the girders should fall or break down by reason of fire or any other cause the beveled ends of the girders will allow the latter to tilt outwardly from the post without tearing the latter down, and, third, that the upper post *c'* is supported entirely free from contact with the girders, thereby minimizing the danger of its catching fire from a burning girder. These advantages are also present in the modified form of post-cap illustrated in Figs. 5 to 8, inclusive.

The main difference between the post-cap before described and the modified post-cap now to be described are differences of form, the former being formed to support two girders and the latter being formed to support four girders or may support only three girders, if preferred. The web *f*, therefore, of the modification is cruciform, as best seen in Fig. 6, and is disposed diagonally with respect to the post-socket *b'* on the under side of the base-plate *a'*, as indicated in Fig. 7, whereby to form V-shaped compartments *g'* for the reception of the ends of the girders, and in each compartment is a stud *m'*, similar to the stud *m* of the other construction of post-cap. The upper edge of the web *f'*

is provided with V-shaped nicks i' , which, as shown in Fig. 6, are disposed obliquely therein, and the top plate j' is provided on its under side with corresponding lugs k' to enter
5 said nicks and retain the top plate in proper position and prevent it from skewing. The top plate is also provided with a socket or depression l' to receive the lower end of the upper post. The girders (not shown) intended to be supported by this modified form
10 of post-cap must have V-shaped ends to correspond to the like shape of the compartments g' , in which they are received.

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

1. A post-cap, comprising a base-plate adapted to be secured to the upper end of a post; a vertical web supported by said base-
20 plate and producing compartments for the reception of the ends of girders or the like, and said web provided in its upper edge with nicks; and a top plate supported on said

web and adapted to be secured to the lower end of a post and provided on its under side
25 with lugs taking in said nicks.

2. A post-cap, comprising a base-plate adapted to be secured to the upper end of a post; a vertical web supported by said base-plate and producing compartments for the
30 reception of the ends of girders or the like, and said web provided in its upper edge with nicks; a top plate supported on said web and adapted to be secured to the lower end of a post and provided on its under side with
35 lugs taking in said nicks; and a stud on the base-plate in each compartment adapted to be engaged by the ends of girders or the like, as and for the purpose set forth.

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

ROBERT W. WHITEHURST.

Witnesses:

J. ROY COLLINS,
J. STANLEY TRICE.