

No. 740,776.

PATENTED OCT. 6, 1903.

J. PHILLIPS.  
CHILD'S BANK.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 12, 1901.

NO MODEL.

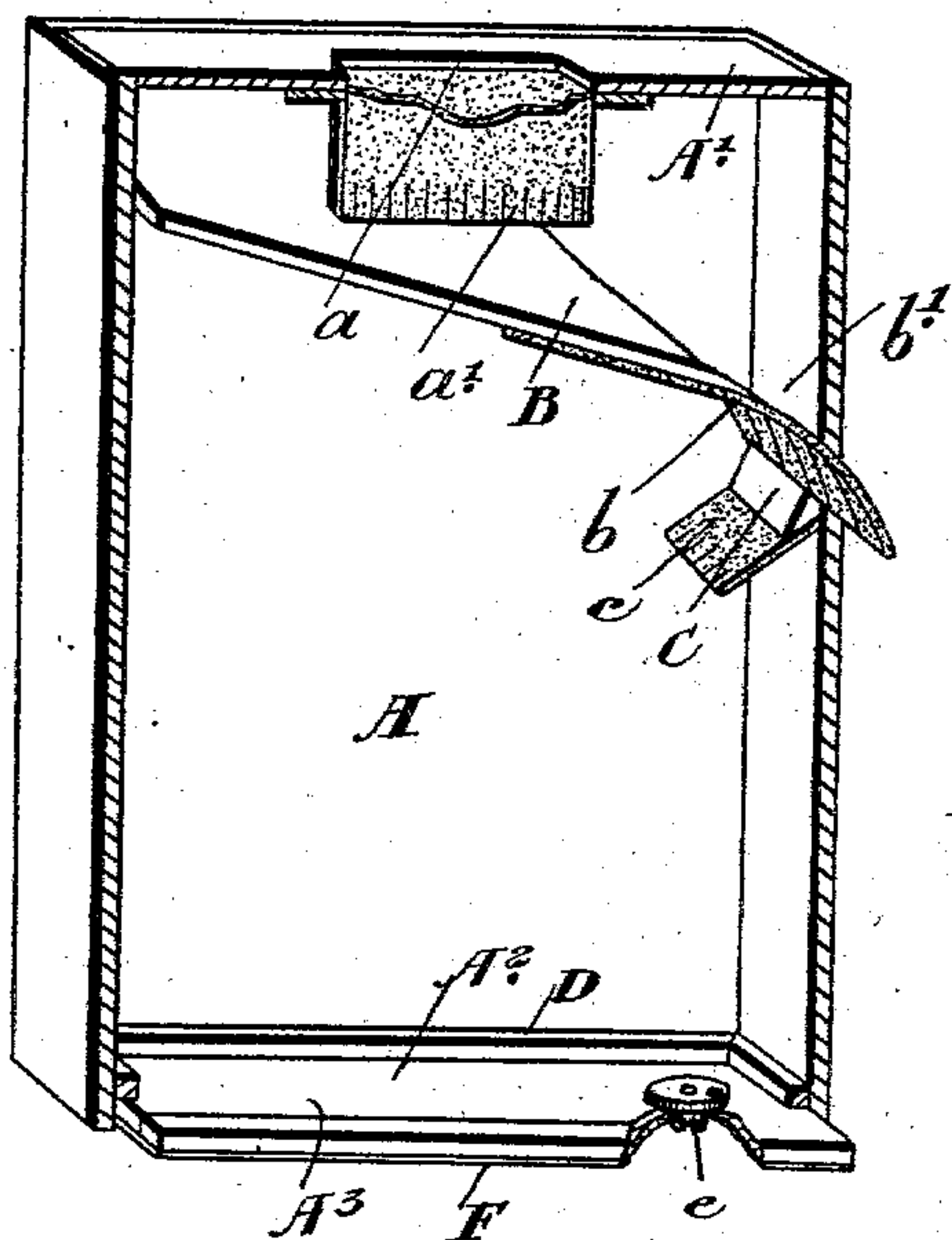


Fig. 1.

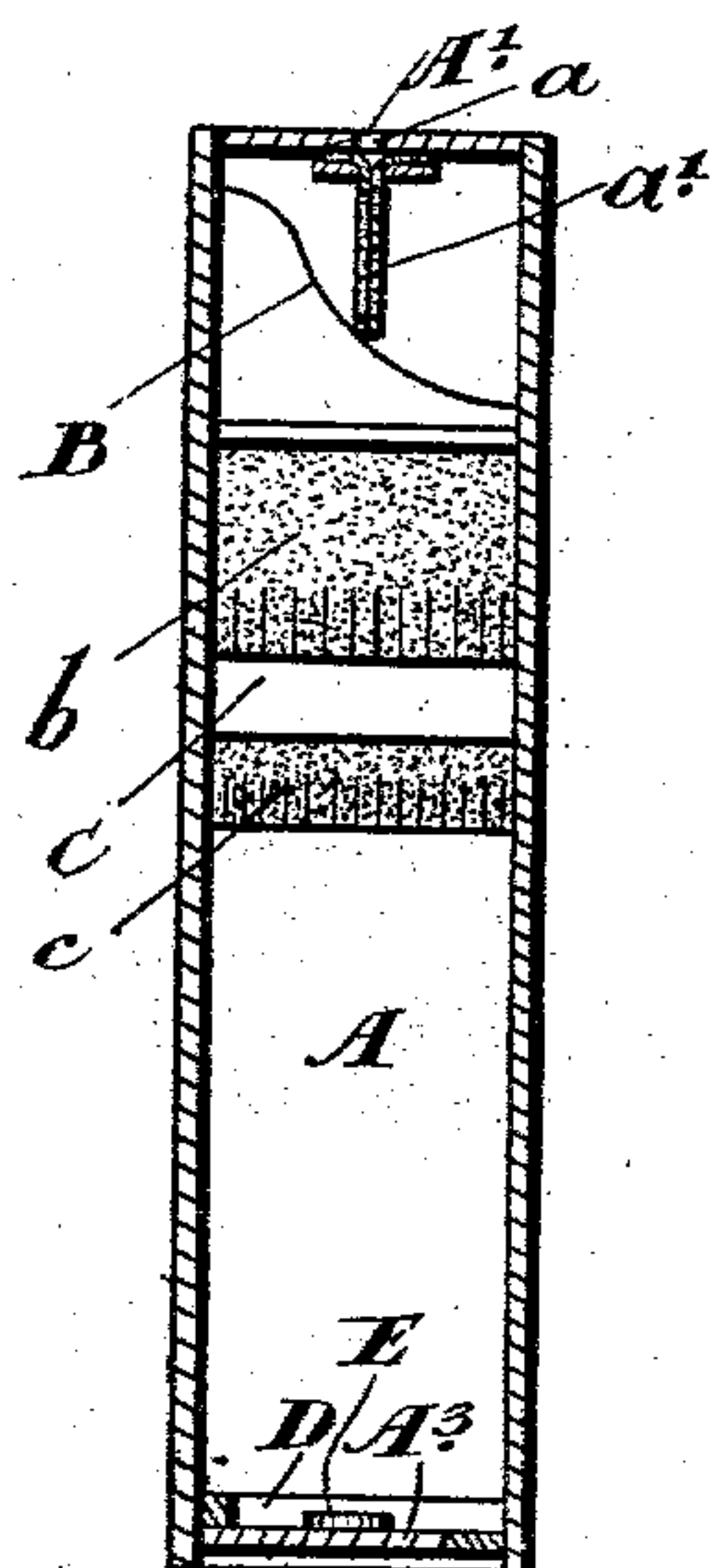


Fig. 2.

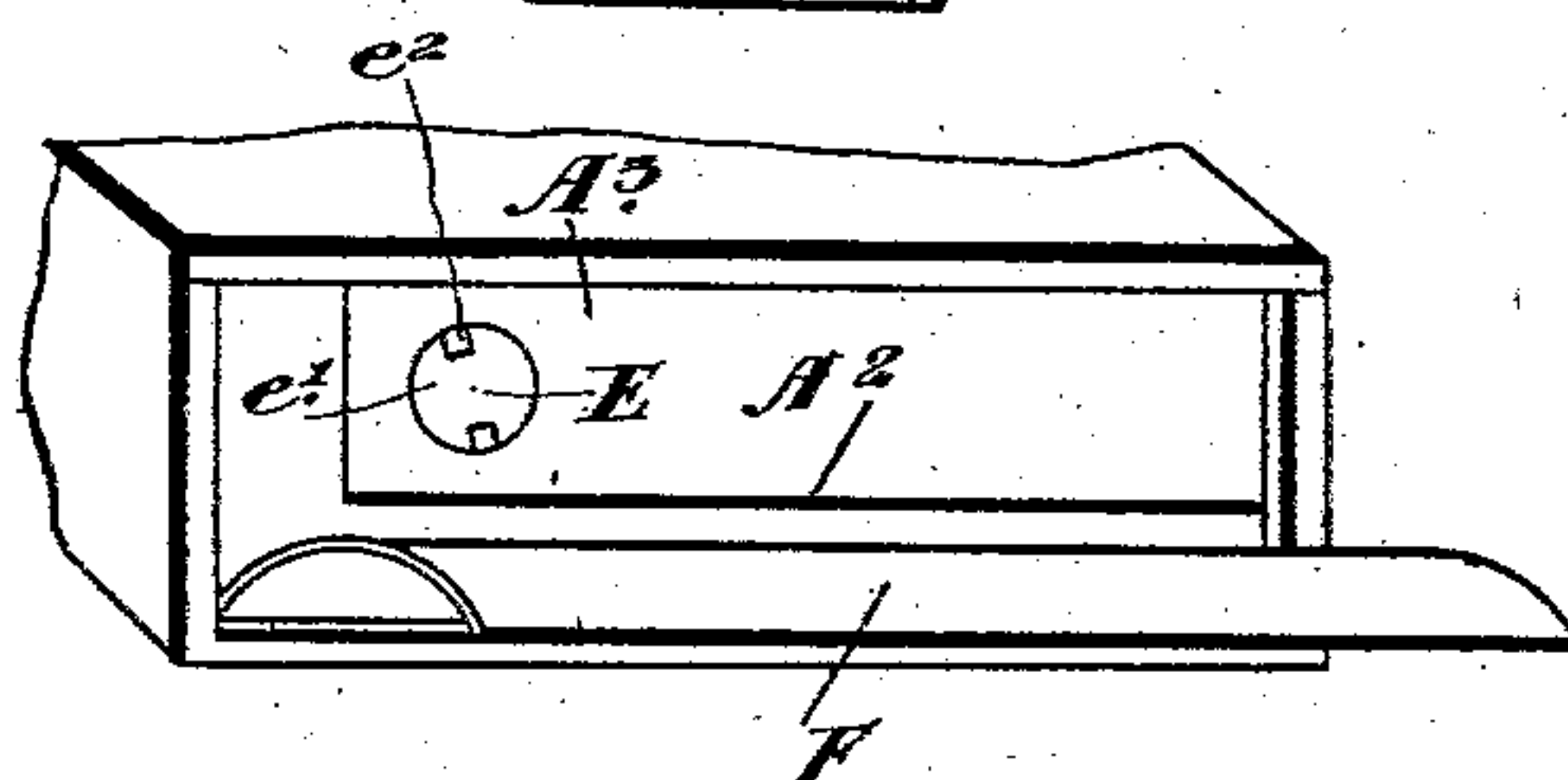


Fig. 3.

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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH PHILLIPS, OF TORONTO, CANADA.

## CHILD'S BANK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 740,776, dated October 6, 1903.

Application filed December 12, 1901. Serial No. 85,689. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOSEPH PHILLIPS, gentleman, of the city of Toronto, in the county of York, in the Province of Ontario, Canada, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Children's Banks, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in savings-banks particularly adapted for children's use; and the object of the invention is to devise a simple and cheap form of bank of this class which is particularly designed to be supplied by authorized banks to children and yet remain the property of the bank and from which it will be impossible to extract money after having once deposited it in the bank without it being detected; and it consists, essentially, of a rectangular casing made of any suitable material and provided with a coin-slot and inclined guiding-hopper located beneath the same, such hopper having located at one and the lower end thereof a flexible flap, preferably made of suitable fabric, which extends downwardly into the lower portion of the bank into proximity with a flexible flap fastened beneath the opening, the bottom of the bank being provided with a suitable lid designed to be securely held in position by a turn-nut and a paper seal extending completely over the bottom, as hereinafter more particularly explained.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a child's savings-bank with the side removed and constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical section. Fig. 3 is a view of the bank, showing the bottom outermost.

In the drawings like letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in each figure.

A is the bank, which is made of a rectangular casing, which has a suitable top A', having an inlet consisting of a slot *a*, from which depends a tubular flexible depending flap *a'*, which is suitably secured around the edge of the slot and has preferably a slitted bottom, such as shown.

B is the incline bottom of the hopper in which the coin is deposited. At the lower end of the incline is secured, preferably, a flexible flap *b*, of suitable fabric, such as flannel or felt, which is flexible and slitted, as indicated. The flap *b* normally inclines down-

wardly and covers the opening *b'*, communicating with the hopper.

C is a block, triangular in cross-section, which is secured to the side of the casing and has secured to its lower side the flexible flap *c*, of any suitable fabric, such as flannel or felt, and slitted, as shown.

D is an internal rim suitably secured near the bottom edge of the casing and forming means for securing the bottom in position. The bottom is provided with an opening A<sup>2</sup>, which is closed by a suitable hinged flap A<sup>3</sup>, such flap being connected by flexible material, which covers the bottom, to the bottom proper, and thereby forming a hinge for the flap.

E is a turn-nut provided with the stem *e*, at the outer end of which is secured the disk *e'*, which is provided with the end notches *e''*, into which is designed to be inserted a key, so as to turn the turn-nut E and lock the bank, as shown in Fig. 1.

When the bank is locked, a strip of paper F is pasted or gummed over the whole bottom, so that the means for opening the bank is hidden from view and the bank cannot be opened without the fact being detected.

When the coin is deposited in the slot *a*, it passes through the flexible tube *a'*, and any attempt to tilt the bank so as to throw the coin out again through the slot is prevented on account of the difficulty of passing it back again through the flexible tube. To further prevent any danger of this, however, I provide the flaps *b* and *c*, so that when the coin passes down through the opening *b'* into the lower portion of the bank and the bank should be upturned in order to try and throw the coin back again into the hopper above the bottom B the flaps *b* and *c* prevent it, no matter which way the bank may be tilted.

The flexible tube *a* and the flexible flaps *b* are very important and really make my invention a success, for the reason that in any stiff flaps or springs such flaps if left open in the slightest degree present a definite opening through which it may be possible by careful manipulation to extract the coin. The flaps *b* particularly if stiff and made to close or held closed by a spring would have to be operated by a plunger or other device upon



the deposit of the coin, so as to allow the coin to drop into the lower compartment. As such flaps, however, are of a flexible material or fabric, they will naturally fall back into the closed position should it be attempted to tilt the box, and thereby prevent any possibility of the coin being returned to the upper compartment.

It may also be stated that as far as the upper tubular flexible flap is concerned if the box is tilted so as to attempt to withdraw the coin such tubular flap being flexible will turn over in the form of a curl to one side or the other, and thereby necessarily prevent the coin being withdrawn.

In this specification I also wish to draw attention to the fact that the upper slot is made in the top of the box on a plane at right angles to the slot covered by the flaps *b*, and consequently when the coin is deposited it runs down the inclined bottom *B* and has to turn in order to pass through the slots covered by the flaps *b*.

Should it be possible to return the coin through the flaps *b* and guiding means to be formed to direct the coin toward the flexible tube *a*, such coin on its way would have to turn in order to pass out through the flexible tube, which would of course be impossible to do, especially seeing such tube is flexible, and if a portion of it were held open the other corners or slitted edges would turn over and not present any opening.

My invention is particularly adapted for use for children and is intended to be left in the house of their parents, so that the children may save their money. The bank whose property each small bank is would send around periodically and have their agent open the small banks and give a receipt for the money which has been saved. In this way the saving of money is encouraged.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. In a toy bank, the combination with the casing and slot in one side thereof, of a flexible depending tube extending downwardly from the edges of the slot into the interior of

the box, and having the lower edge capable of being turned and closed by the inside pressure of the coin against it as and for the purpose specified.

2. In a toy bank, the combination with the casing and slot in one side thereof, of a flexible depending tube extending downwardly from the edges of the slot into the interior of the box and having the lower edge slitted to form a fringe-like edge capable of being readily turned and closed at any point thereof by the inside pressure of the coin as specified.

3. In a toy bank, the combination with the slots provided with a flexible tube, set lengthwise of the end of the box, of a hopper provided with an inclined bottom and a slot at the lower end of the bottom at right angles to the length of the aforesaid slot and a flexible depending covering for same extending from the edge of the slot to the wall of the box as specified.

4. In a toy bank, the combination with the box provided with a slot and the hopper provided with an inclined bottom and an opening at the lower end of the flexible extension-flap at the bottom designed to close the opening and normally designed to extend against the wall and a supporting-block having an inclined top face situated directly beneath the aforesaid opening with an inclined flexible flap at the bottom arranged reversely to the aforesaid flap and beneath the same as specified.

5. In a toy bank, the combination with the casing having the inlet in one side thereof, of a flexible depending tube extending downwardly from the edges of the inlet into the interior of the box and having the lower edge capable of being turned and closed by the inside pressure of the coin against it, as and for the purpose specified.

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