

No. 742,237.

PATENTED OCT. 27, 1903.

S. P. RODABAUGH & J. CARR.

THILL COUPLING.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 2, 1903.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

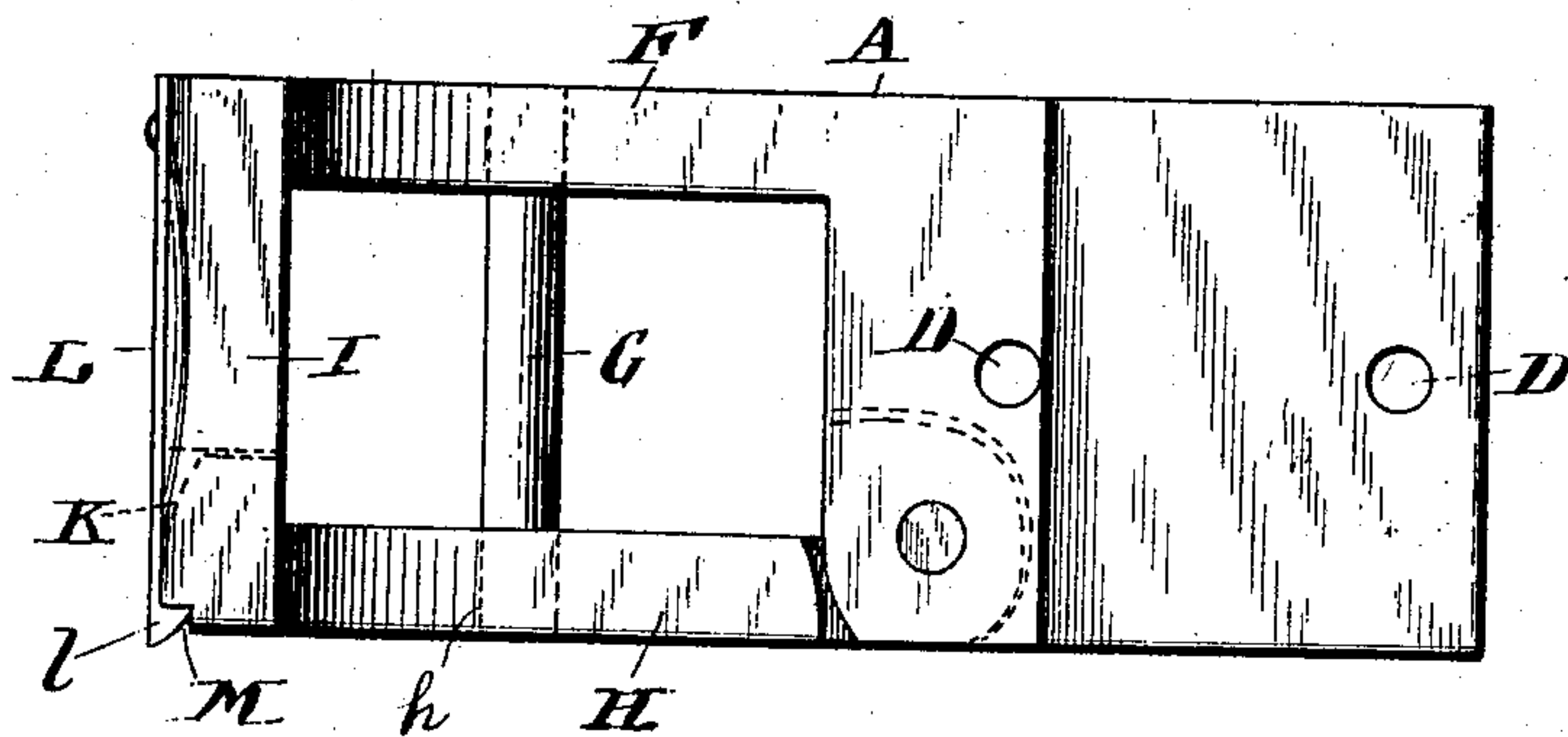


Fig. 2.

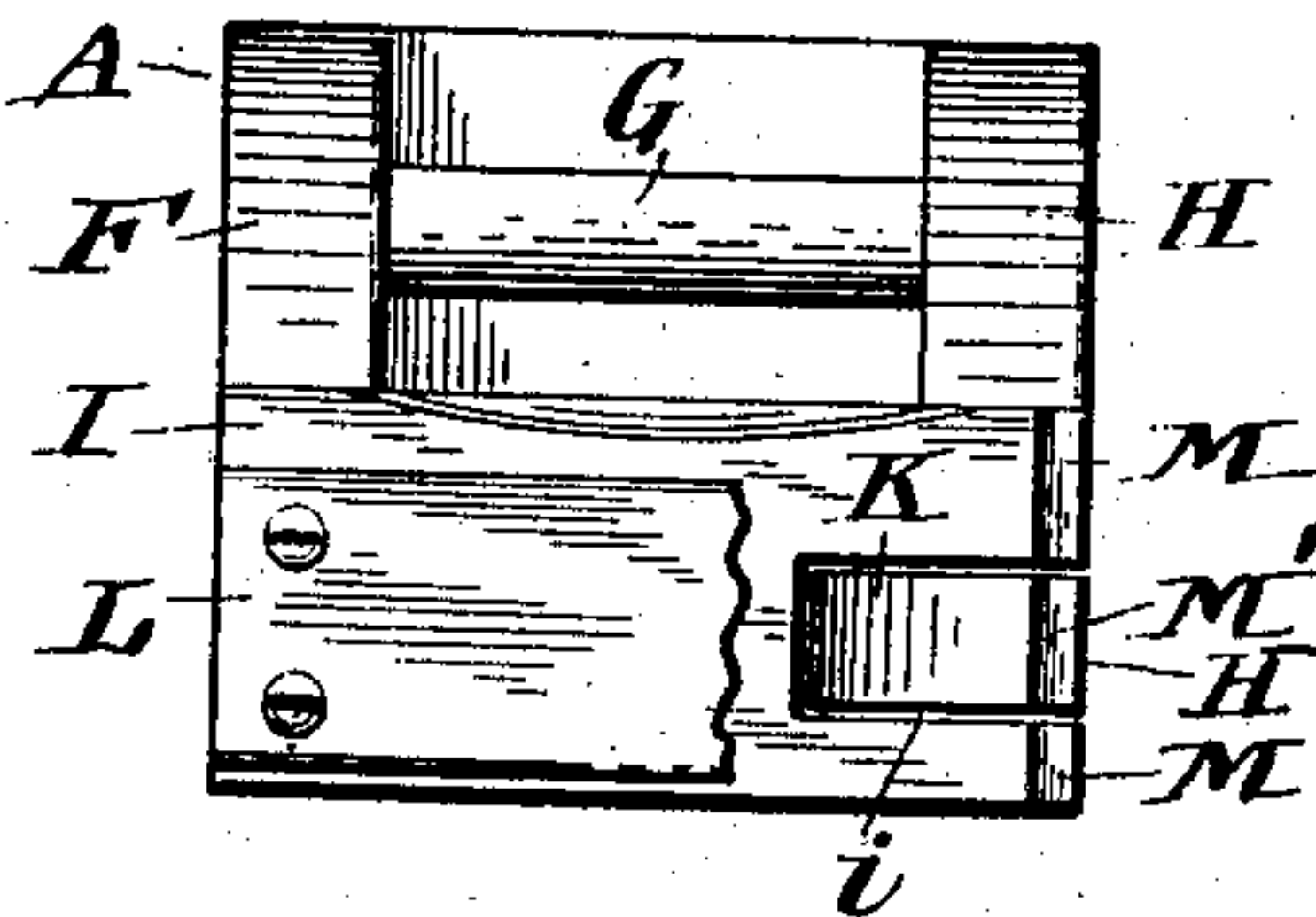


Fig. 4.

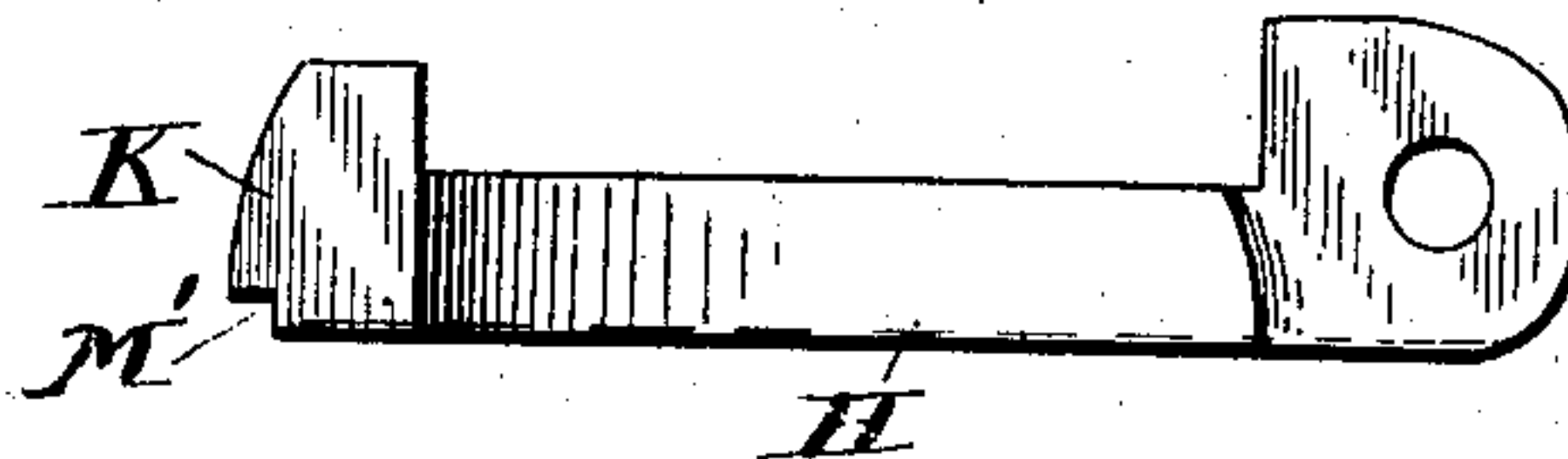
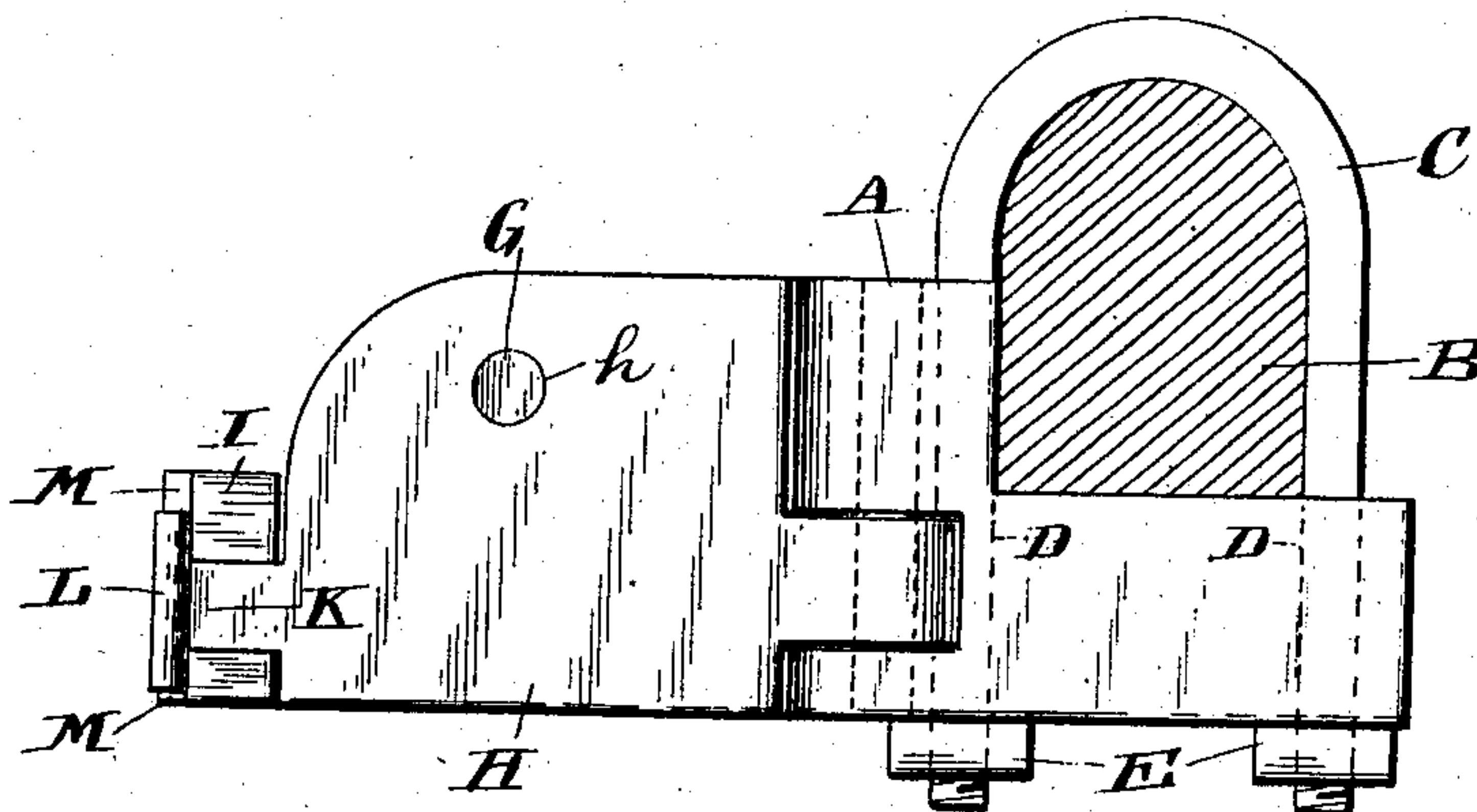


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

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SAMUEL P. RODABAUGH, OF BETHANY, AND JOHN CARR, OF LINCOLN,
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THILL-COUPLING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 742,237, dated October 27, 1903.

Application filed January 2, 1903. Serial No. 137,594. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, SAMUEL P. RODABAUGH, residing at Bethany, and JOHN CARR, residing at Lincoln, in the county of Lancaster and State of Nebraska, citizens of the United States, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Thill-Couplers, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to devices for coupling thills to the axles of wagons and carriages, and has for its object to provide a coupler that is easily and quickly manipulated and will securely hold the thills when secured to the axle.

The construction and operation as well as the advantages of our invention will fully appear hereinafter and by reference to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a top plan view of our invention; Fig. 2, a front view in elevation; Fig. 3, a side view in elevation, and Fig. 4 a detail view of the pivoted jaw detached from the coupler.

Referring to the drawings, in which similar reference characters indicate corresponding parts throughout the several views, A represents one of our improved thill-couplers, shown attached to the axle B by means of a clip C, which is secured in holes D in the coupler by means of nuts E. The front of the coupler A consists of a rigid jaw F, having a pintle G secured thereto, and a jaw H, pivoted at the other side of the coupler A and having a hole *h* to register with the pintle G. The fixed jaw F is cut down at its front and has formed integral therewith or rigidly secured thereto an offset I, which extends across the front of the device and has a slot *i* in its free end to receive a lug K on the front of the pivoted jaw H. In order to hold the pivoted jaw in a locked position, I provide a spring-catch L on the front of offset I, having a shoulder *l* at its free end to fit into angular grooves M and M' in the edge

of the offset I and lug K, respectively, which are in alinement when the pivoted jaw F is in a locked position.

It will be readily understood from this description that thills provided with irons having horizontally-bored heads are coupled by sliding them on the pintles G when the jaws H are open. The jaws H are then closed and held in a locked position by means of spring-catches L.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim is—

1. In a thill-coupler, a fixed jaw having an offset across the front of the coupler, a pivoted jaw, means to secure the thill between said jaws, and a spring-catch secured to said offset and adapted to engage the pivoted jaw to hold it in a locked position, substantially as shown and described.

2. In a thill-coupler, a fixed jaw having an offset across the front of the coupler, a horizontal swinging jaw, means to secure the thill between said jaws, and a spring-catch secured to said offset and adapted to engage the pivoted jaw to hold it in a locked position, substantially as shown and described.

3. In a thill-coupler, a fixed jaw having an offset across the front of the coupler, a pintle secured to said fixed jaw, a pivoted jaw having a hole to register with said pintle, and a spring-catch secured to said offset and adapted to engage the pivoted jaw to hold it in a locked position, substantially as shown and described.

4. In a thill-coupler, a fixed jaw, a pivoted jaw, an offset on said fixed jaw, having a slot and an angular groove, a lug on the pivoted jaw to register with said slot and grooved in alinement with the groove in said offset when in a locked position, and a spring-catch having a head to register with said grooves, substantially as shown and described.

5. A thill-coupler secured to a wagon-axle by means of a clip passing through holes in

the coupler, a fixed jaw secured thereto, a horizontally-swinging jaw pivoted thereon, a pintle secured to the fixed jaw to register with a hole in the swinging jaw when locked,
5 an offset on the front of the fixed jaw having a slot and an angular groove, a lug on the pivoted jaw to register with said slot and grooved in alinement with the groove in said offset when in a locked position, and a spring-
10 catch having a head to register with the

grooves in the offset and lug, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony whereof we hereto affix our signatures in the presence of two witnesses.

SAMUEL P. RODABAUGH.
JOHN CARR.

Witnesses:

S. J. DENNIS,
W. B. HESTER.