

No. 749,832.

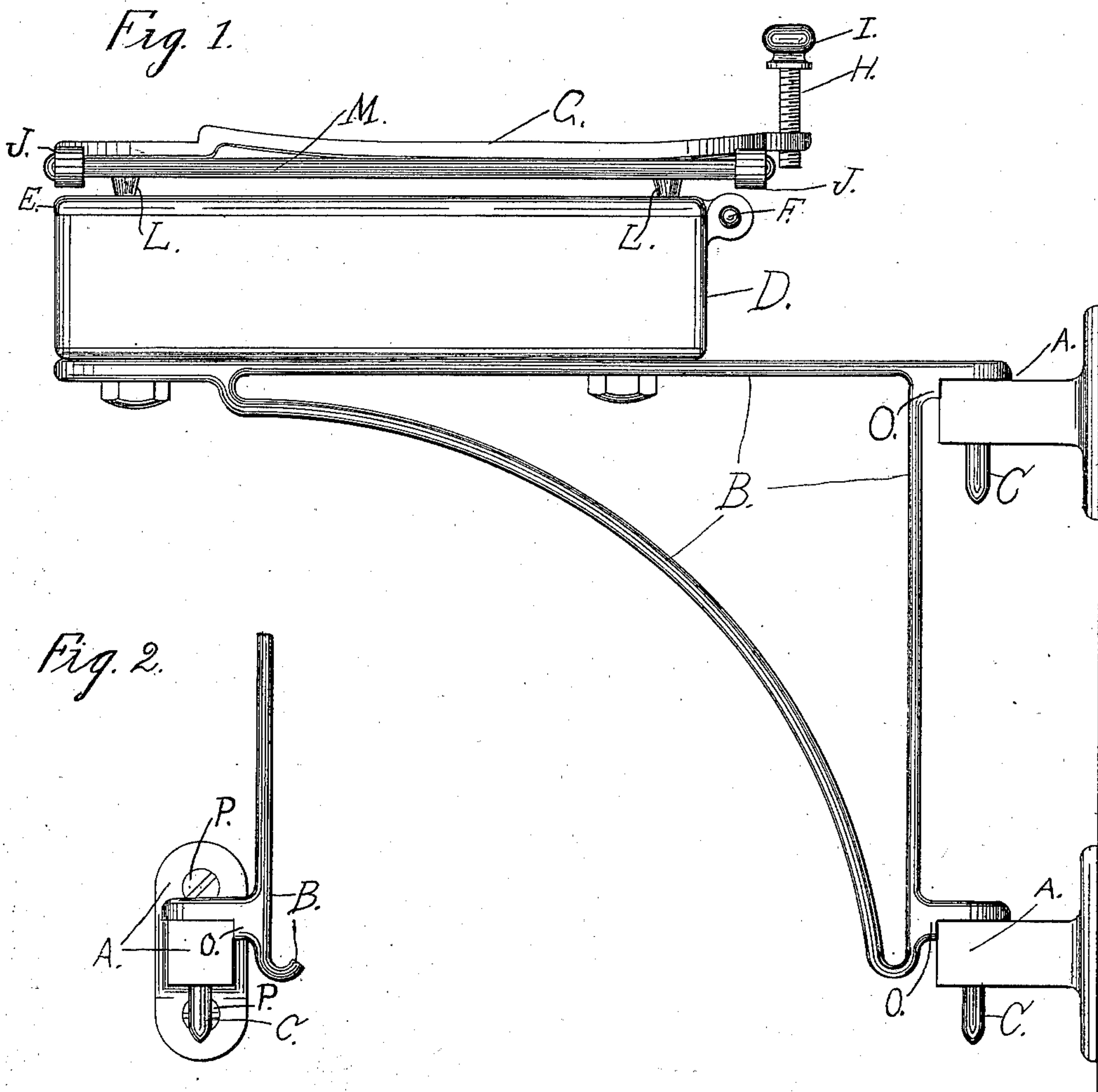
PATENTED JAN. 19, 1904.

H. M. BACKUS.  
SHOE POLISHER.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 19, 1902.

NO MODEL.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



WITNESSES:

*E. W. Green.*

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*Henry M. Backus*

INVENTOR

BY

*H. H. Barber*

ATTORNEY

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 6.

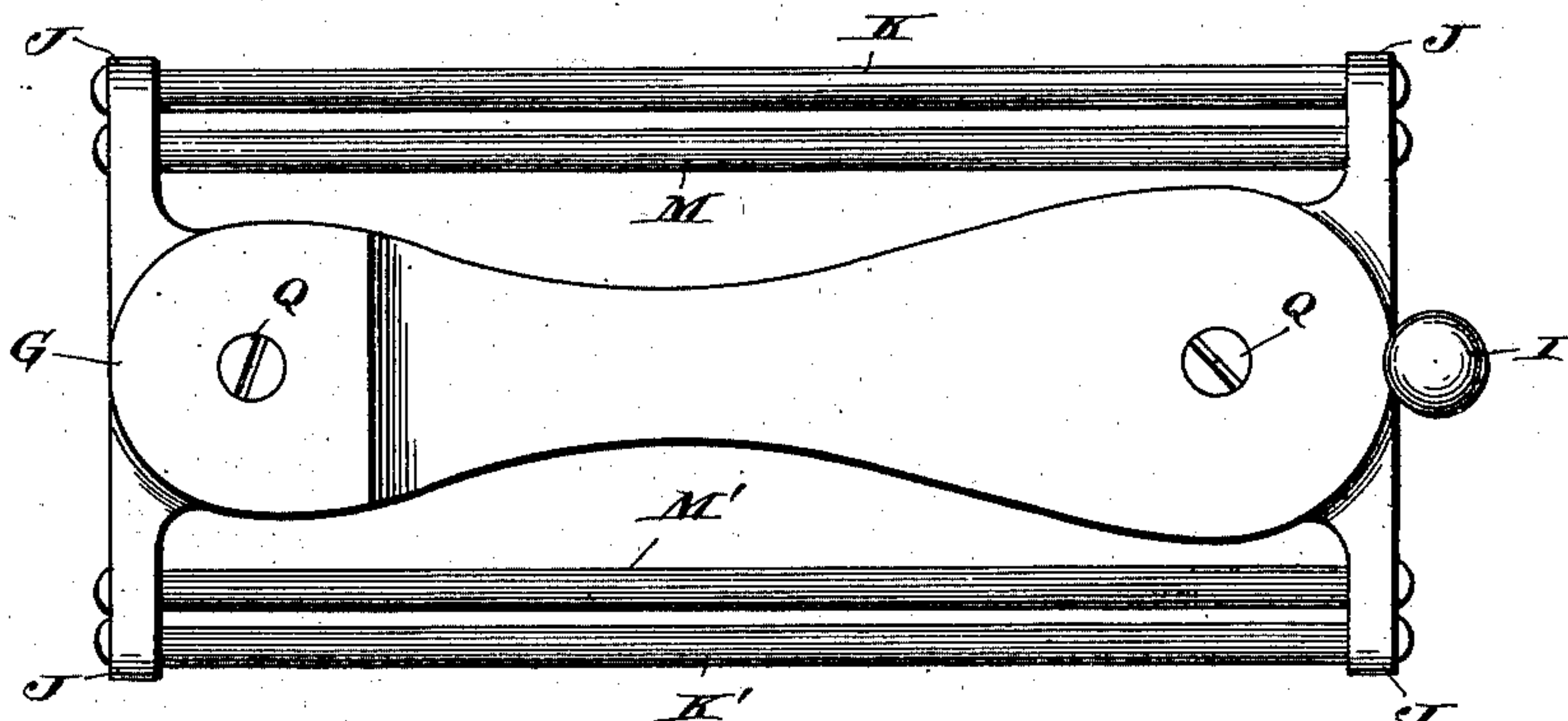


Fig. 4.

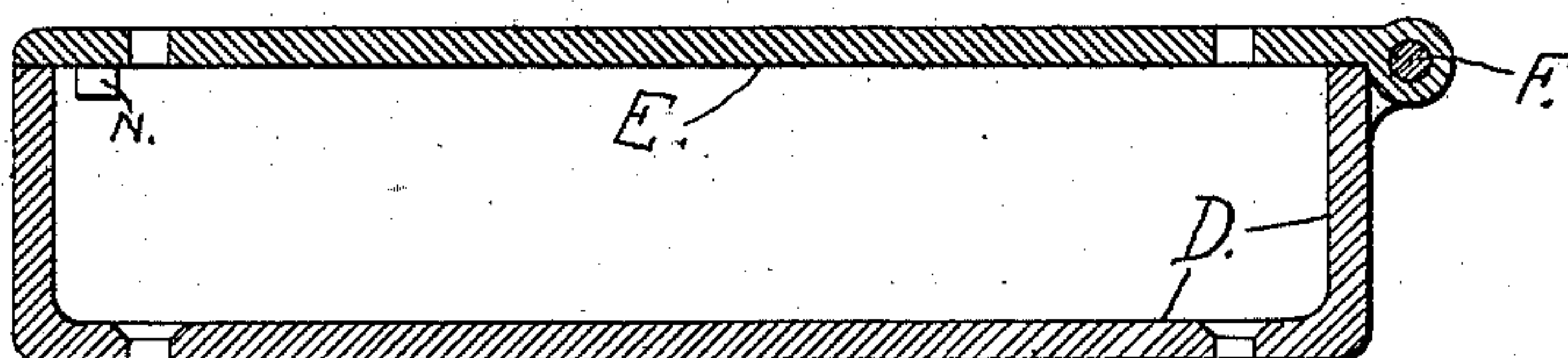


Fig. 3.

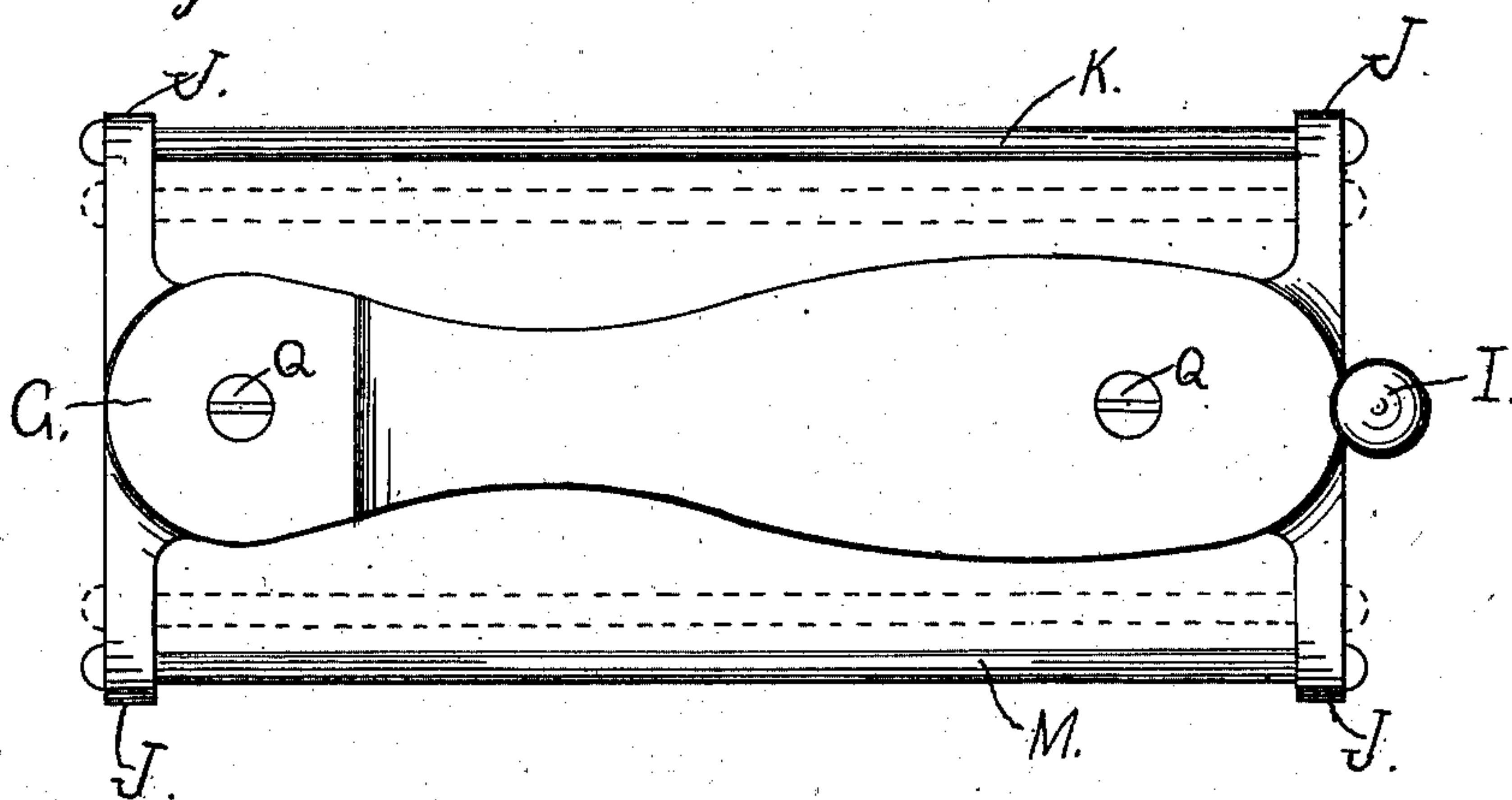
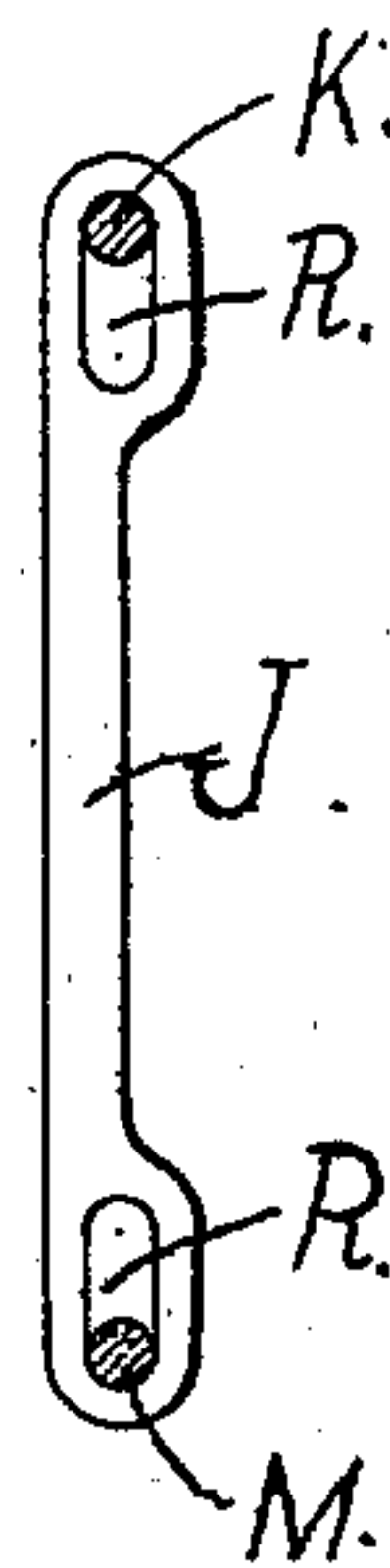


Fig. 5.



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY M. BACKUS, OF WESTON, OHIO.

## SHOE-POLISHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 749,832, dated January 19, 1904.

Application filed March 19, 1902. Serial No. 98,881. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HENRY M. BACKUS, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Weston, in the county of Wood and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shoe-Polishers, of which the following is such a full, clear, and exact description as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof.

This invention relates to improvements in appliances for polishing shoes; and it consists in certain novel features hereinafter described and claimed.

In the annexed drawings, which fully illustrate my invention, Figure 1 is a side elevation. Fig. 2 is a detail view of the bracket-hinge. Fig. 3 is a top view of the foot-rest. Fig. 4 is a cross-section of the box, and Fig. 5 is a detail view of the arms supporting the rollers. Fig. 6 is a top view of the foot-rest, showing the alternate construction of using two rollers on each side thereof.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

In carrying out my invention I employ a supporting-bracket B, which is secured to the wall of a room or any other suitable perpendicular surface by hinges composed of the lugs O and pins C, cast solid with and as a part of the bracket, and the lugs A, in which are holes to receive the pins C and which are secured to the perpendicular support by screws or bolts P. In the lug O is an offset adapted to fit snugly against the squared end and sides of the lug A, so as to prevent the bracket from turning when it is either perpendicular to or parallel with the wall without slightly raising the bracket on the pins C.

D is a box bolted to the top of the bracket B and having a cover E hinged at F, which cover has on its under side lugs N, one near each edge of the cover adapted to press against the sides of the box when it is closed to prevent a lateral motion of the cover.

G is a foot-rest having short supports L and being adapted to stand upon the cover of the box B and to be secured thereto by suitable bolts Q, or it may be removed and used inde-

pendently of the box and bracket by standing it on a chair, a loose box, or any other convenient support, or it may be bolted direct to the bracket. On either side of the foot-rest G are parallel rods or rollers K and M, pivoted loosely in the arms J, which extend laterally each way from the toe and heel of the foot-rest and adapted to rotate therein and to move laterally in the slots R. At the toe of the foot-rest is a post H, with a knob I, on which post are screw-threads adapted to engage corresponding threads in the hole in the toe of the foot-rest to raise and lower the knob in adjusting it to the desired height.

The construction and arrangement of the several parts being thus made known, it is thought the method of using my polisher will be readily understood. When not in use, the bracket can be placed parallel with the wall, bringing the box and foot-rest close to the wall, where it will be locked and held out of the way by the offset in the lugs O in the hinges, as shown in Fig. 2. When desired for use, the bracket is raised enough to allow the offset to pass the corner of the lug A, and the bracket is swung to a position perpendicular to the wall or other support, where it is again locked by the offset O. The foot in the shoe to be polished is then placed upon the foot-rest, and after the polish is daubed upon the shoe a cloth is passed under one of the rollers K or M, then over the shoe, and again under the roller on the opposite side, the loose ends of the cloth on either side being grasped by the operator in either hand. The cloth is then drawn by alternately pulling it from side to side under the rollers and across the shoe till by the friction thus applied to the shoe the desired polish is obtained.

The object of having the rollers on each side of the foot-rest pivoted in the slot R and adapted to move laterally therein is to accommodate different-sized shoes, causing the cloth when drawn across the shoe to touch as much as possible of the sides thereof. In polishing a very wide shoe the rollers under the tension exerted by pulling on the cloth, especially when pulling perpendicularly to the plane of the foot-rest, assume the extreme outer position shown in Fig. 3, and on a very narrow



shoe they assume the position shown by the dotted lines in Fig. 3, while for any width between the two extremes they assume a corresponding intermediate position. It is obvious that a like result might be obtained by using parallel rollers or stationary rods on each side of the foot-rest, as shown in Fig. 6, and inserting the cloth under different sets of rollers or rods corresponding with the width of the shoe to be polished. So I do not wish to be confined to the specific construction shown in Figs. 3 and 5; but I consider the construction shown preferable from the fact that it is more simple, while it gives an unlimited variety of widths, and also as every shoe varies in width from toe to heel this construction allows the rollers to assume different positions to correspond with the varying width of the same shoe without changing the cloth under the rollers or rods.

The purpose of the post H and knob I is to prevent the cloth from slipping off over the toe of the shoe, which can be accomplished by simply placing the foot so as to touch the post with the projecting sole of the shoe; but the preferable way is to so adjust the height of the knob as to just allow the projecting sole of the shoe to slip under the knob, which

is of a proper size to allow the cloth to rub the upper leather of the toe of the shoe without slipping down and off.

The box makes a handy receptacle for the cloth, polish, dauber, &c.

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

A shoe-polishing device comprising a foot-rest having arms extending laterally, on either side, from the heel and toe thereof, which arms support rods on either side of the foot-rest and parallel therewith, arranged to allow a polishing-cloth to pass over said foot-rest and under a rod on either side thereof, and an adjustable toe-stop adapted to prevent the polishing-cloth from slipping off from the shoe over the toe thereof, as the cloth is drawn across and over the shoe in polishing it; all substantially as described and for the purposes set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

HENRY M. BACKUS.

Witnesses:

L. H. KREKE,  
A. C. JONES.