

No. 750,692.

PATENTED JAN. 26, 1904.

R. F. POENITZ.  
PORTABLE FASTENER FOR DOORS.  
APPLICATION FILED NOV. 9, 1903.

NO MODEL.

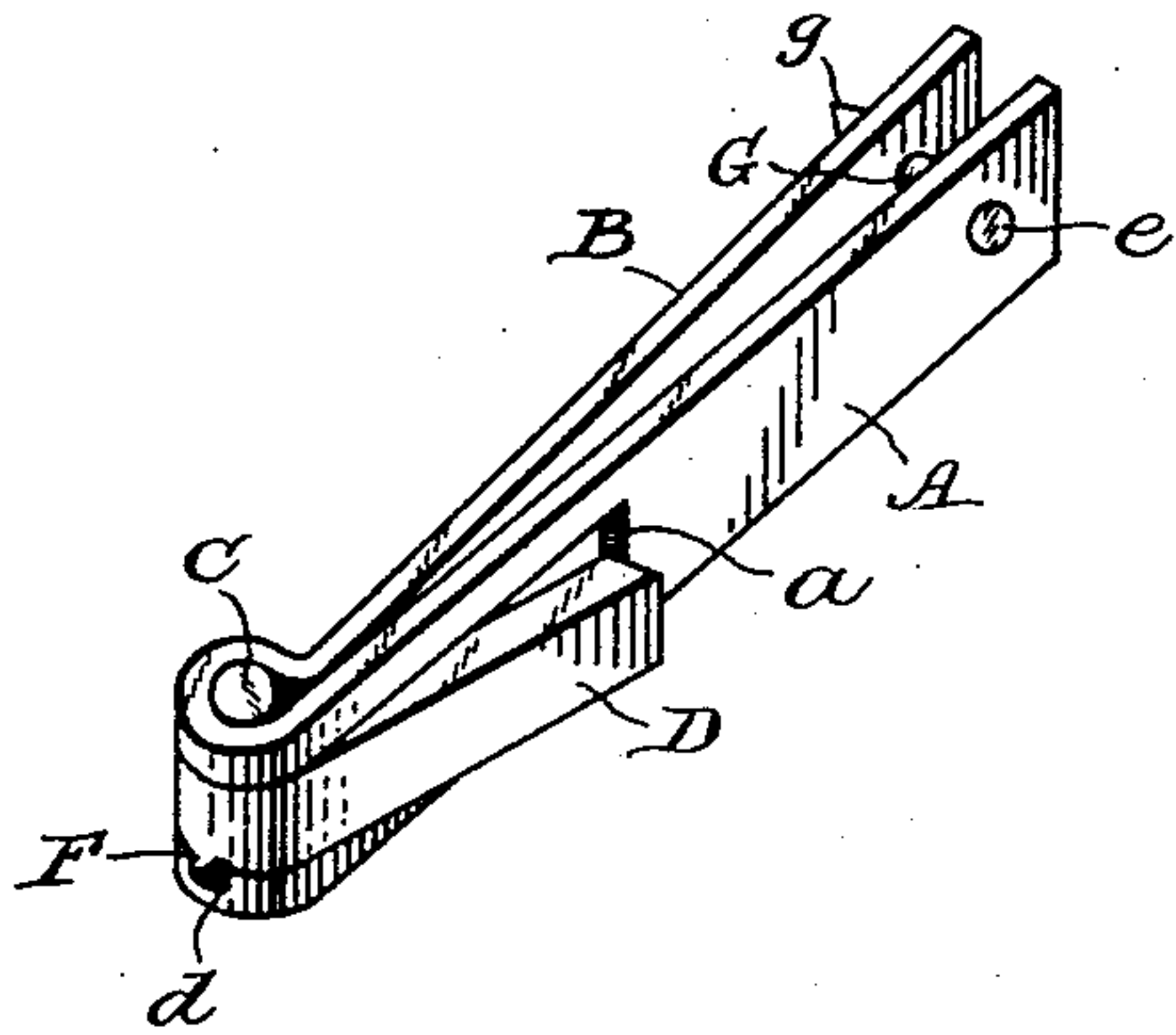


Fig. 1.

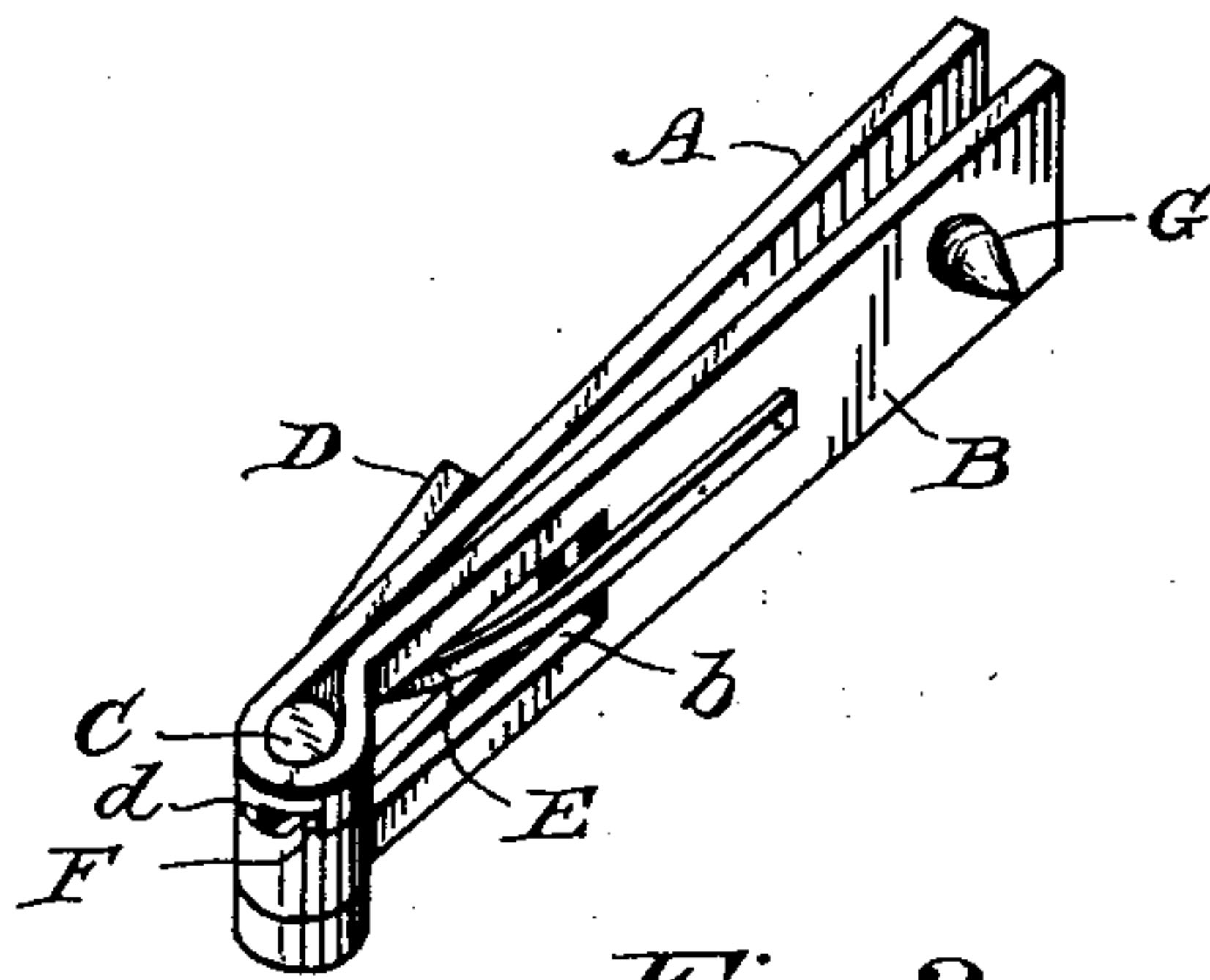


Fig. 2.

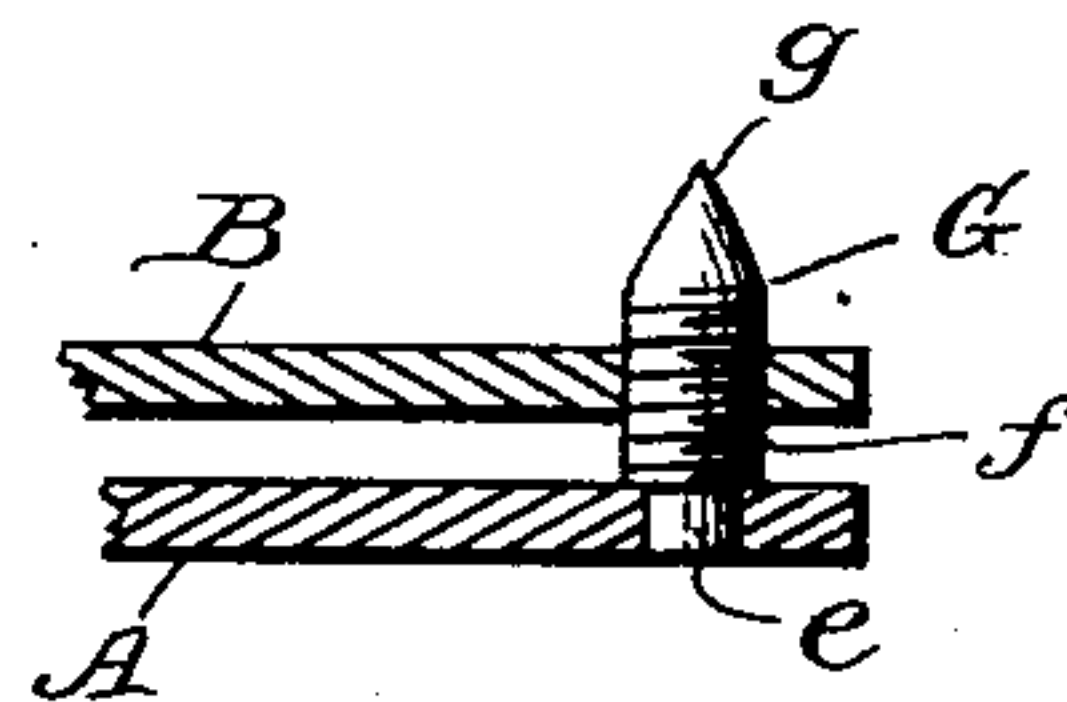


Fig. 3.

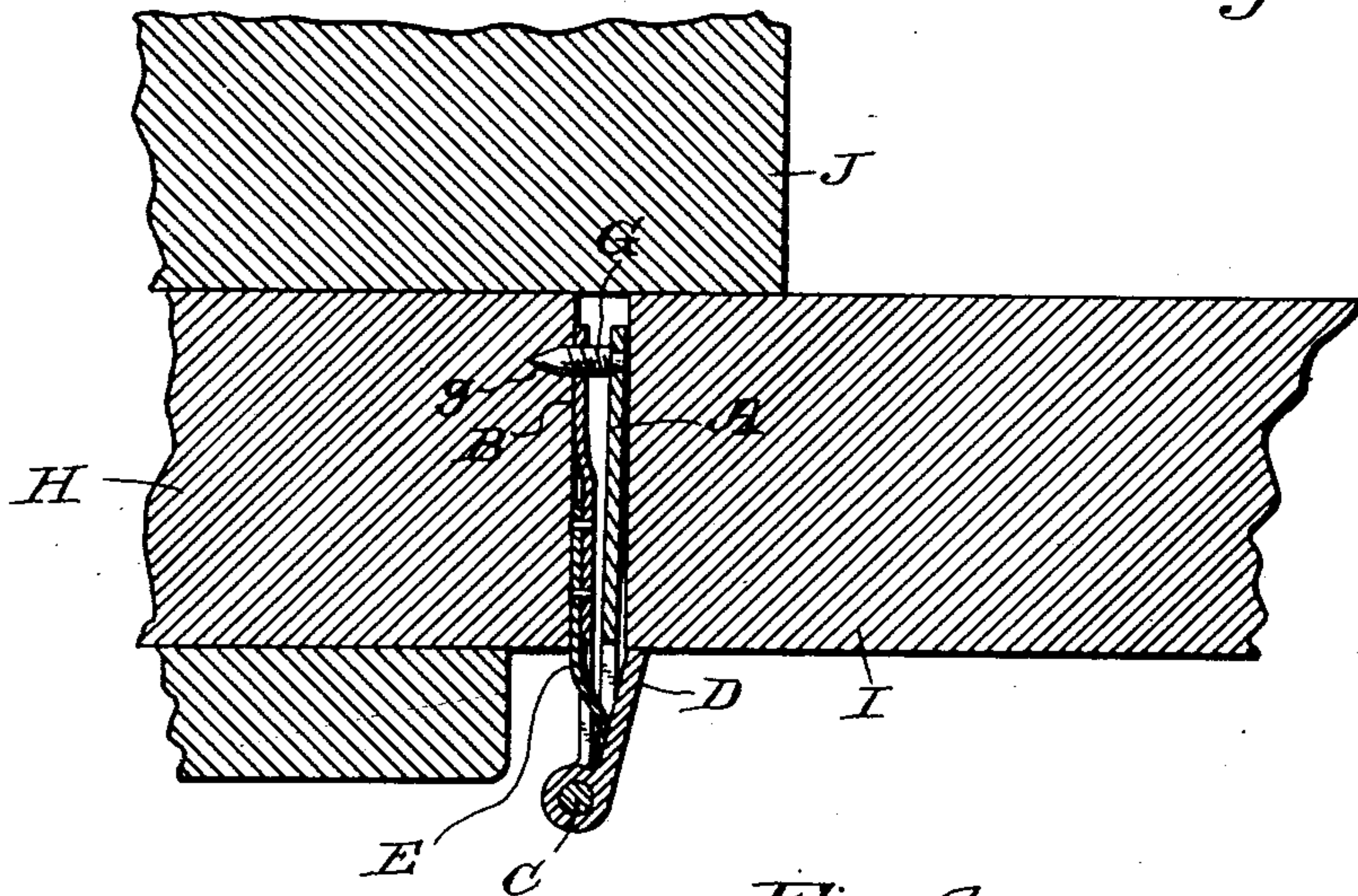


Fig. 4.

Witnesses:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT F. POENITZ, OF INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA.

## PORTABLE FASTENER FOR DOORS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 750,692, dated January 26, 1904.

Application filed November 9, 1903. Serial No. 180,292. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ROBERT F. POENITZ, a citizen of the United States, residing at Indianapolis, in the county of Marion and State of Indiana, have invented new and useful Improvements in Portable Fasteners for Doors; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to fasteners of the portable type, which may be carried about by persons for temporary use or in emergency, for securing doors and transoms in the absence of other and more efficient locking devices; and the invention has reference particularly to specific improvements in fasteners of the above-mentioned character.

The object of the invention is to provide portable door-fasteners which may be compact and adapted to be conveniently carried in the pockets of travelers always at hand ready for use, as well as to be suitable for constant use where ordinary locks may not be considered safe against burglars.

Other objects are to provide inexpensive fasteners of improved form which will be durable and economical in use.

The invention consists in the improvements in the features of construction, as hereinafter particularly described, and pointed out in the claims.

Referring to the drawings, in which similar reference characters indicate like parts, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the fastener, showing particularly the front thereof. Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing particularly the rear of the fastener. Fig. 3 is a fragmentary detail view showing the construction of the claw which enters the door-casing when in use, and Fig. 4 is a fragmentary horizontal sectional view of a door and casing and also the fastener in operative position with respect to the door and casing.

In construction the frame of the fastener comprises a face-plate A and a base-plate B, formed of a single piece of steel, preferably elastic, bent over at its middle portion about a pivot-pin C, the two plates when formed being

equal in length, the piece of steel before being bent over having a central slot cut therein, so as to provide an aperture *a* in the finished plate A and an aperture *b* in the finished plate B to receive the latch D, which apertures together extend about the pin C, to which the latch is pivoted. In bending the steel piece to form the hinge connection for the latch the part forming the plate B is given a reverse bend at the pin C, so that the pin is situated at the rear of the plate A in order to avoid projections at the front side of the frame end that has the pivot. The latch D may work freely in the apertures *a b* within predetermined limits, governed by means of a recess *d* in the hinge-joint and a lug F, attached to the boss of the latch and operating in the recess and stopped against one side thereof, the latch D being normally pressed forwardly through the aperture *a* by means of a spring E, secured to the plate B and engaging the back of the latch, the spring extending through the apertures *a b*. The spring E is secured to the body portion of the plate B and is relatively long, so as to be somewhat weak and quite easily deflected when releasing the latch from a door. The latch D has its hinge-boss set over to the rear to conform to the hinge parts of the frame therefor, so that the door may not be obstructed by the hinge.

The claw G for securing the fastener, and thereby the door, is cylindrical and has a shank *e* mounted rotatively in the plate A, the body of the claw having screw-threads *f* and extending through a suitably-threaded hole in the plate B and provided with a point *g*, adapted to penetrate the wood of a door frame or casing. The claw G should rotate freely in the plates, so that it may be operated by the fingers of the person using the fastener in order to make proper adjustments to suit the openings that may be found between closed doors and their frames. Although the point *g* is shown as being circular, it is obvious that it may be either squared or flattened, according to fancy.

In practical use the fastener may be employed in the usual manner by placing the back of the plate B against the face of the casing H, the point *g* being set back near the stop J,



against which the door I closes. The claw G is to be rotated in order to adjust the two plates A and B, so that they will be sufficiently close together to permit the door I to close, when the door may slide against the plate A to its stop J, forcing the point *g* into the casing H. When the door in closing may have passed the end of the latch D, the latter will automatically be forced out of its frame forward of the door, thereby preventing the opening of the door until the latch may have been retracted by a person at the inner side of the door. Should the plates A and B be too close together to fill the opening and to be held tightly therein by the door, the plates should be further spread apart by means of the claw-screw. Where the opening is considerable, as is usually the case, the point *g* will not be forced so far into the casing as in narrow openings, but will have ample strength, because the plate B will prevent the claw from bending at its point of connection with the plate A, and thus the claw and connections may be light and yet strong. After having properly opened the door the fastener may be easily removed, since the claw G will not be inclined to stick in the wood when not forced by the door.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim as new is—

1. A door-fastener comprising a base-plate

having a threaded cylindrical claw mounted therein, a face-plate having the claw rotatively secured therein, and a latch supported by the plates.

2. A door-fastener comprising a pair of connected plates having apertures therein and hinge parts at the point of connection thereof, one of the hinge parts having a recess therein, a pivot-pin in the hinge parts, a latch mounted on the pivot-pin and having a lug extending into the recess in the hinge part, a spring for the latch, and a claw connected to both of the plates.

3. In a portable door-fastener, the combination of the base-plate and the face-plate having the apertures therein, the latch adapted to be contained in the apertures, the pivot-pin connecting the latch to the plates, one of said plates having a recess therein near said pivot-pin, and the latch having a lug extending into said recess, the spring for said latch, and the cylindrical pointed claw swiveled into one of said plates and screwed into the other one of said plates, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

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

ROBERT F. POENITZ.

Witnesses:

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A. C. HAND.