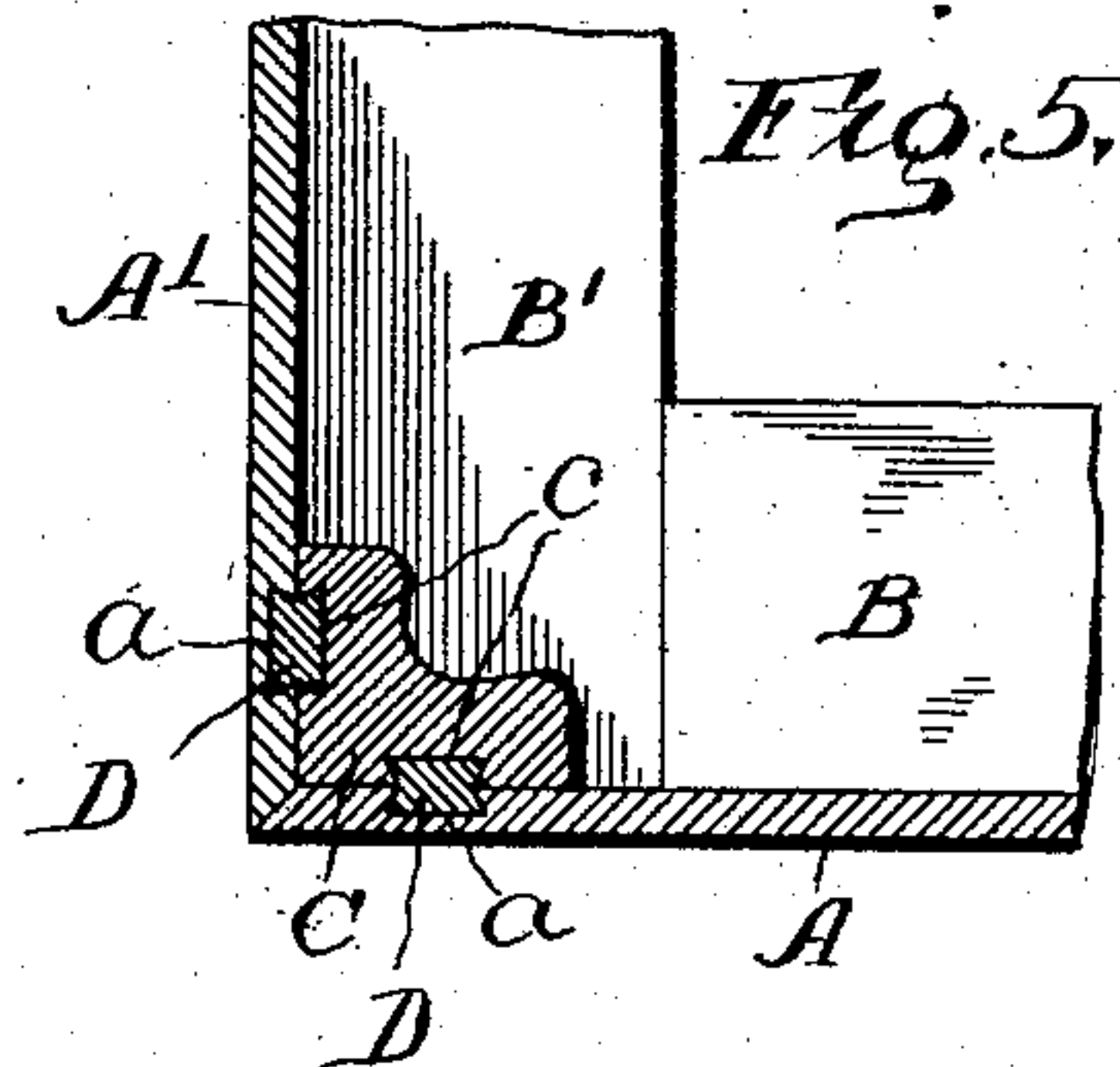
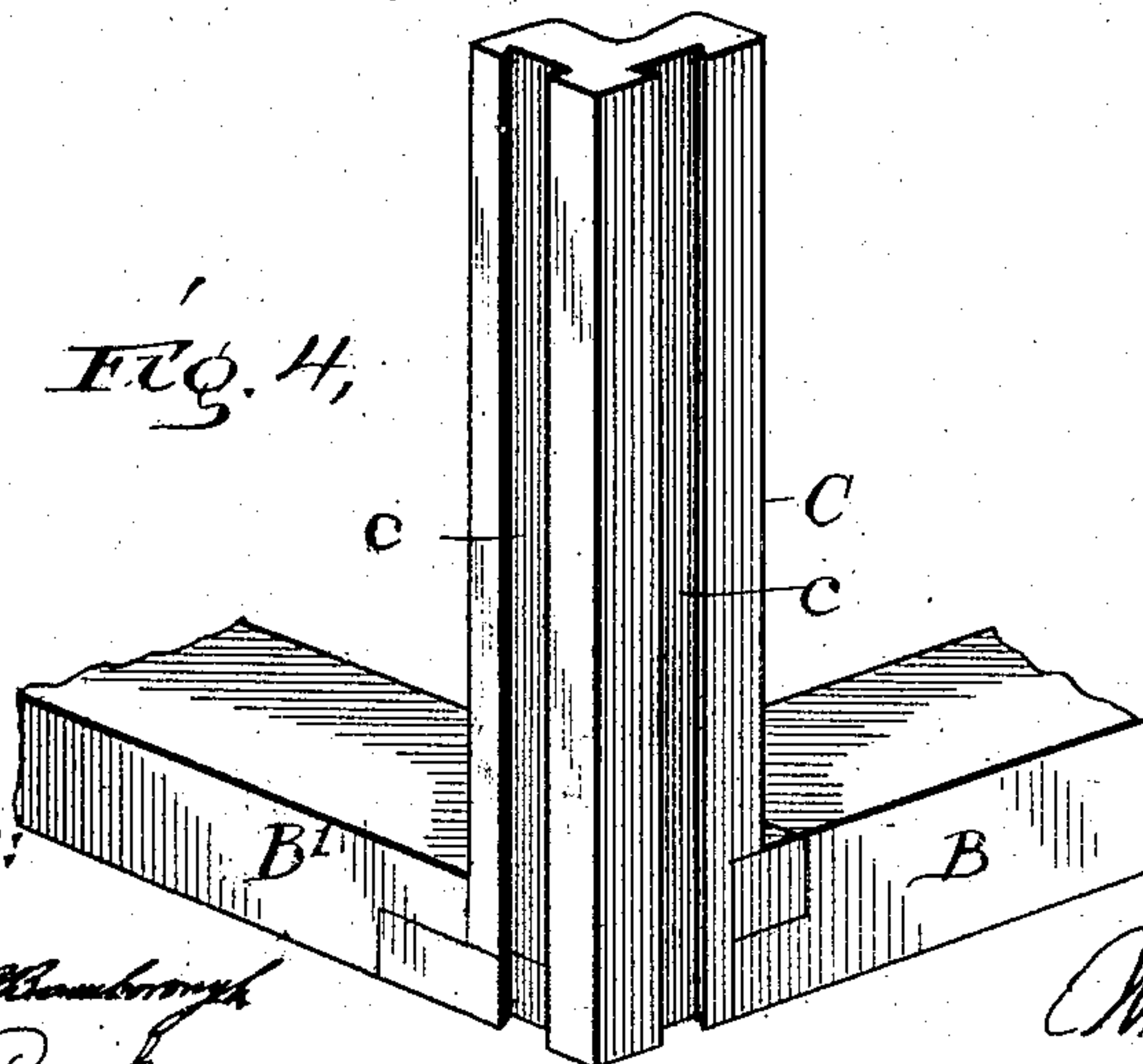
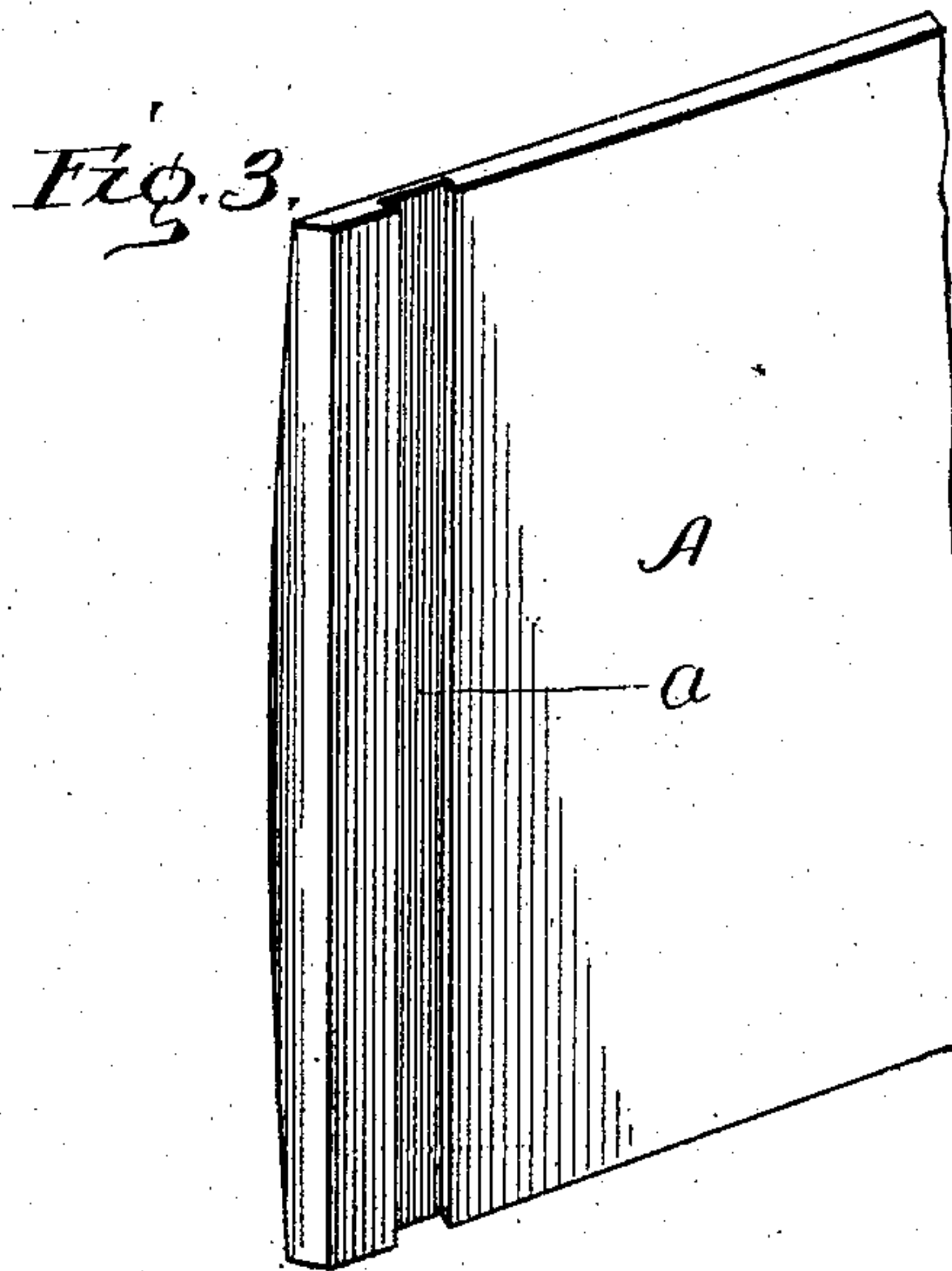
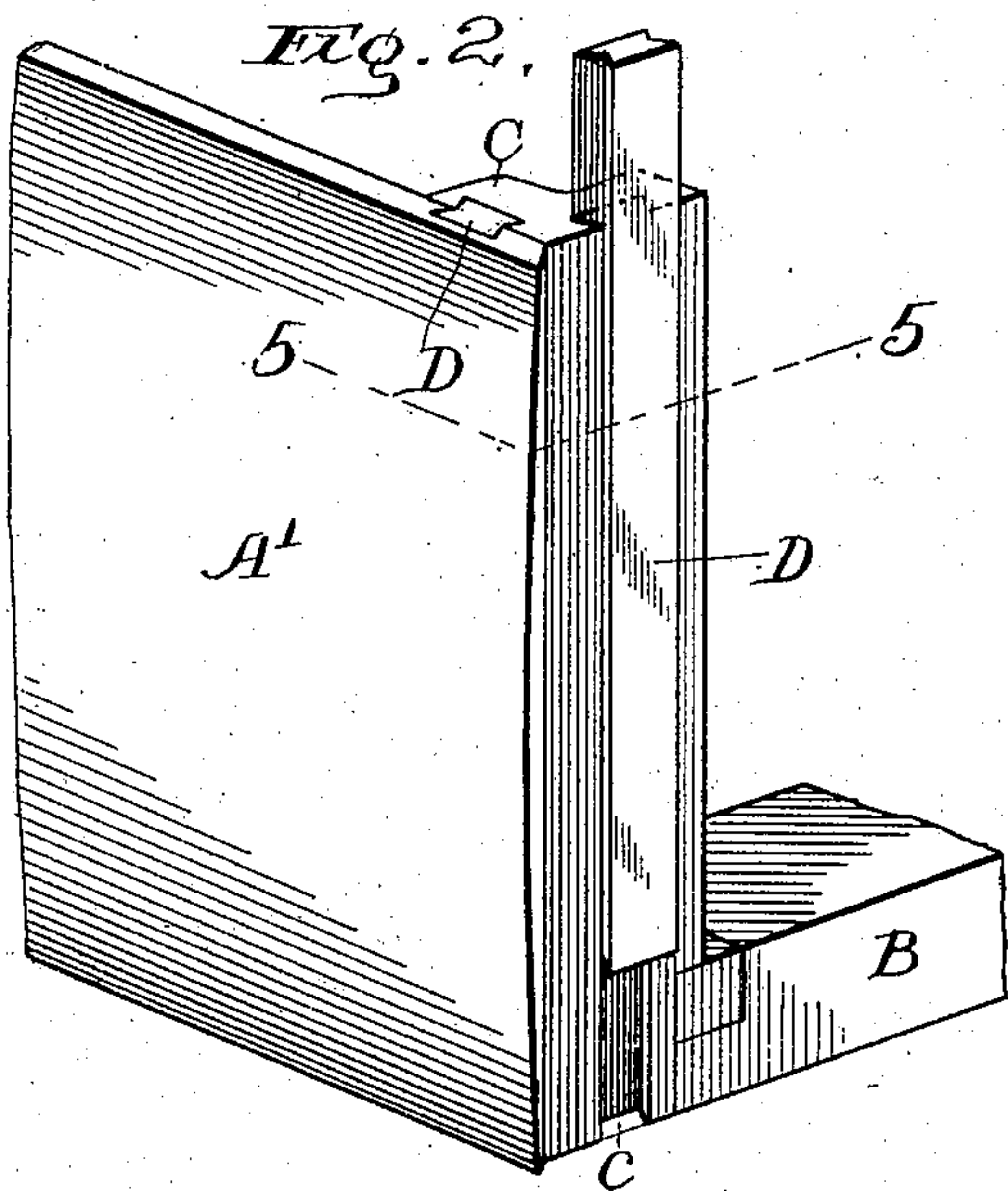
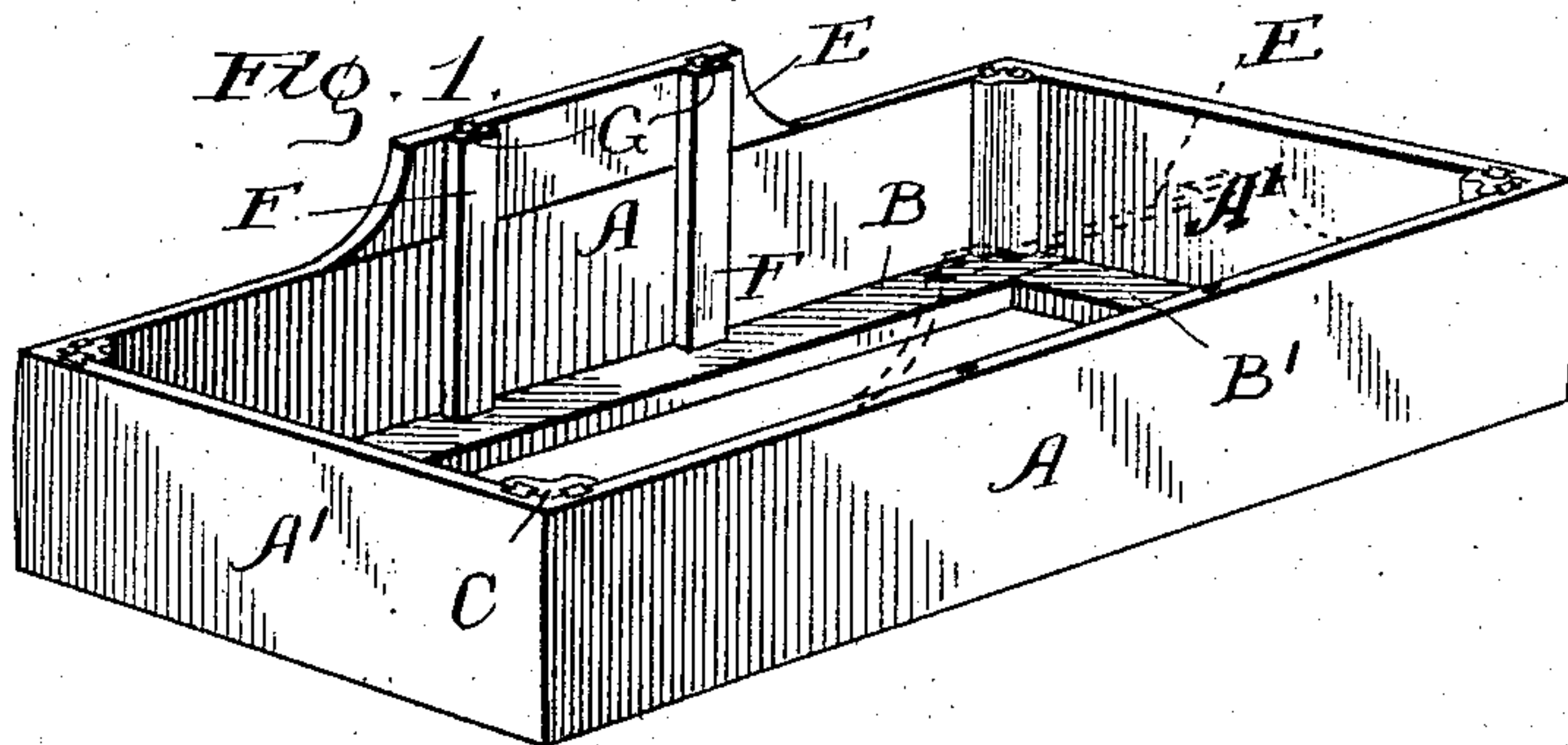


No. 781,362.

PATENTED JAN. 31, 1905.

W. W. RICKERD.
VEHICLE BODY.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 5, 1903.



Witnesses:

Mason A. Lamborn
Blanche Barker

Inventor:

William W. Rickard

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM W. RICKERD, OF MOUNT PLEASANT, MICHIGAN, ASSIGNOR TO
MASON A. BAMBOROUGH, OF MOUNT PLEASANT, MICHIGAN.

VEHICLE-BODY.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 781,362, dated January 31, 1905.

Application filed October 5, 1903. Serial No. 175,854.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM W. RICKERD, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Mount Pleasant, in the county of Isabella and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Vehicle-Bodies, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in vehicle-bodies, its object being to obviate the necessity of using screws or the like for screwing together the panels or sides of the box, seat, and other parts. When screws are used for this purpose, they are usually countersunk, and plugs of some sort are employed to fill in the screw-holes outside of the heads of the screws, so that the surface of the panels may appear unmarred. It is my purpose to unite the meeting edges of these panels by means of locking devices engaging their inner faces, thereby leaving the outer faces entirely free from such undesirable features.

To such end my invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in the details of construction, a description of which will be found in the following specification and illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a vehicle-body containing my improvements. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of one of the corners, showing one of the panels removed and one of the keys partly withdrawn. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a fragment of one of the panels looking from the inside of the body. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a corner-post and fragments of the sills; and Fig. 5 is a horizontal section in the line 5 5 of Fig. 2, showing both panels in place.

In the views, A A' represent the side and end panels of a vehicle-body and form a rectangular box-like structure.

B B' are the sills, which are secured together—as, for instance, by lap-joints—to form a substantially rigid frame for the box. Upon the corners of this frame are secured posts C, which may be glued to the frame or also screwed thereto, if desired. The two outer

faces of these corner-posts are formed with dovetailed mortises or grooves *c* preferably along their entire length, and the panels are likewise formed with mortises *a*, adapted to register with those in the posts.

The panels are connected to the posts by dovetailed keys D, fitting the mortises in the posts and panels, these keys being preferably glued in place in the mortises. The overhanging edges of the keys and the mortises draw the panels tightly against the post, thus firmly securing the panels thereto. It will be readily apparent that when the key is secured in place no lateral or longitudinal movement of the panel with respect to the post is possible, no further fastenings being required to keep together the meeting edges of the two panels which form the corner. The meeting edges of the panels are preferably mitered to give a perfect finish to the corner; but this is not absolutely essential.

From the above it is evident that a very substantial structure is formed without in the least marring the outer surface of the panels. I am aware that boxes have been made with corner-blocks dovetailed into grooves in the panels; but this has been found to be a very awkward construction, both in the manufacture of the posts and in the assembling of the parts, besides being much more expensive than the present method. It will be noted that with this device the panel is placed in position upon the post and the key driven in place, while with the old devices the panels had to be hammered down upon the posts until they were in place. The key in extending the entire width of the panel greatly adds to its strength, thus preventing warping thereof. The use of the key is equally applicable in the seat-post construction, as shown in Fig. 1, the seat-posts and risers on one side of the body being shown in dotted lines only. The risers E and the inner faces of the side panels are formed with vertical grooves like the ones at the ends of the panels. The seat-posts F are likewise grooved and connected to the panels and risers by keys G, like the ones used in the corner construction, the beveled

edges of the keys engaging the overhanging edges of the grooves in the panels and risers, forming a very substantial construction for the seat.

5 I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. A corner comprising a post having one substantially square angle and having dovetail mortises extending the entire length of the faces forming said angle, panels having
10 corresponding mortises on their inner faces, registering with those in the post and interlocking dovetail keys seated in said mortises, said dovetail keys forming the sole locking
15 means between the post and panel.

2. A corner comprising a post having one substantially square angle and having dovetail mortises extending the entire length of the two faces forming said angle, panels formed
20 with mitered ends adapted to abut against each other and formed with dovetail mortises registering with those in the post, and interlocking dovetail keys, seated in said dovetail mortises, said dovetail keys forming the sole lock-

ing means for locking the panel to the post and to each other. 25

3. In a buggy-body the combination with two meeting sills of a corner-post secured thereto at the resulting corner, said corner-post having longitudinally-extending dovetail
30 grooves upon its outer faces, panels arranged upon said corner-post with their meeting edges in close contact and having mortises corresponding with those upon said corner-post and interlocking dovetail keys adapted to be
35 driven into said mortises, the said dovetail keys forming the sole means for locking the panels to the corner-posts.

In witness whereof I have signed the above application for Letters Patent, at Mount Pleasant, in the county of Isabella and State of Michigan, this 3d day of October, A. D. 1903. 40

WILLIAM W. RICKERD.

Witnesses:

MASON A. BAMBOROUGH,
BLANCHE BARKER.