

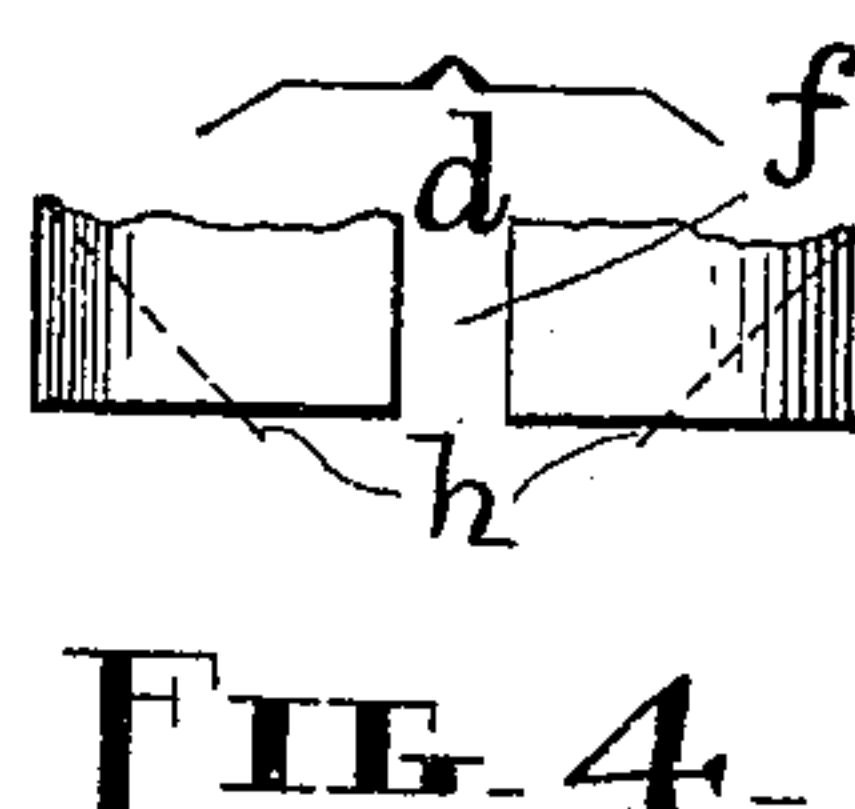
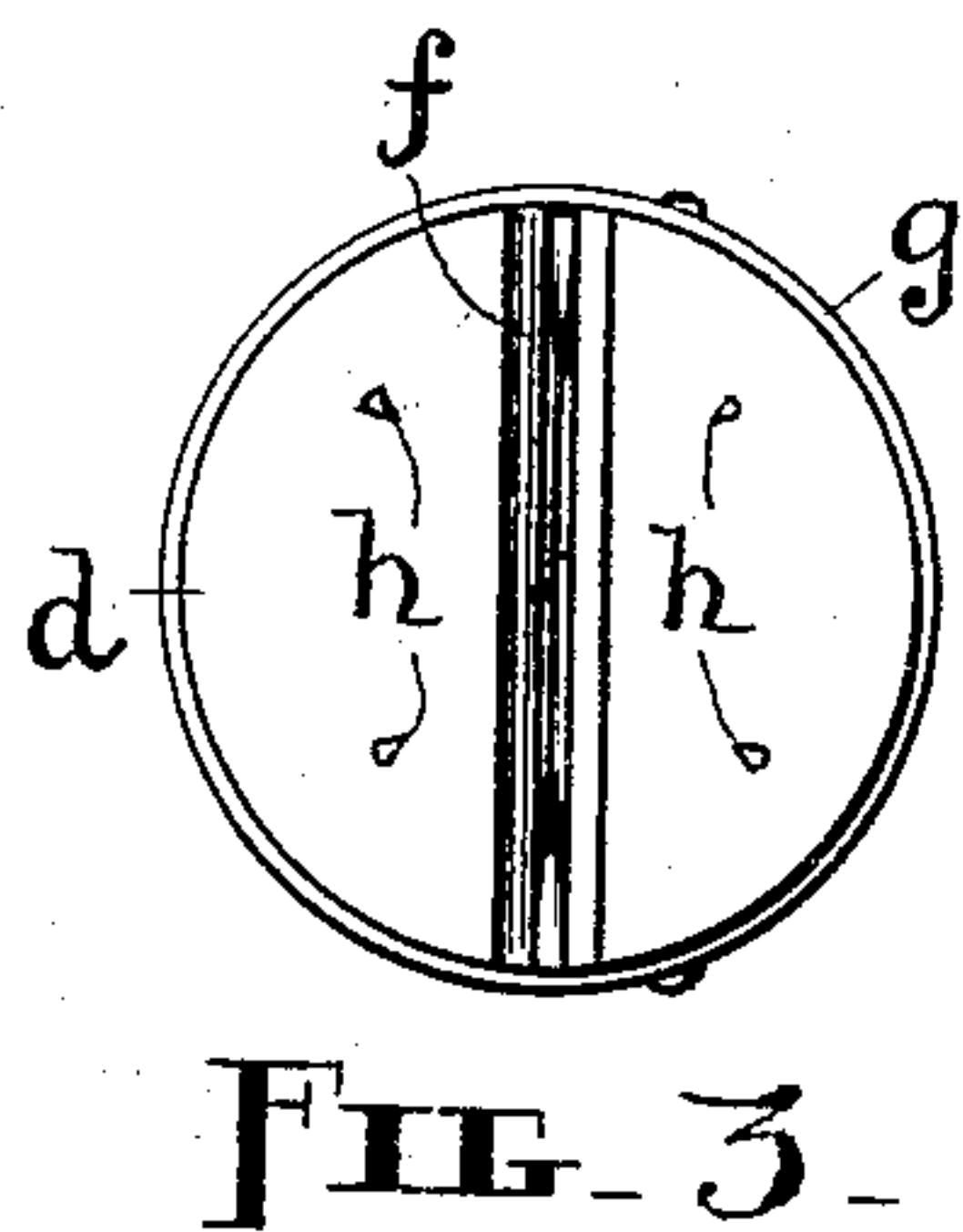
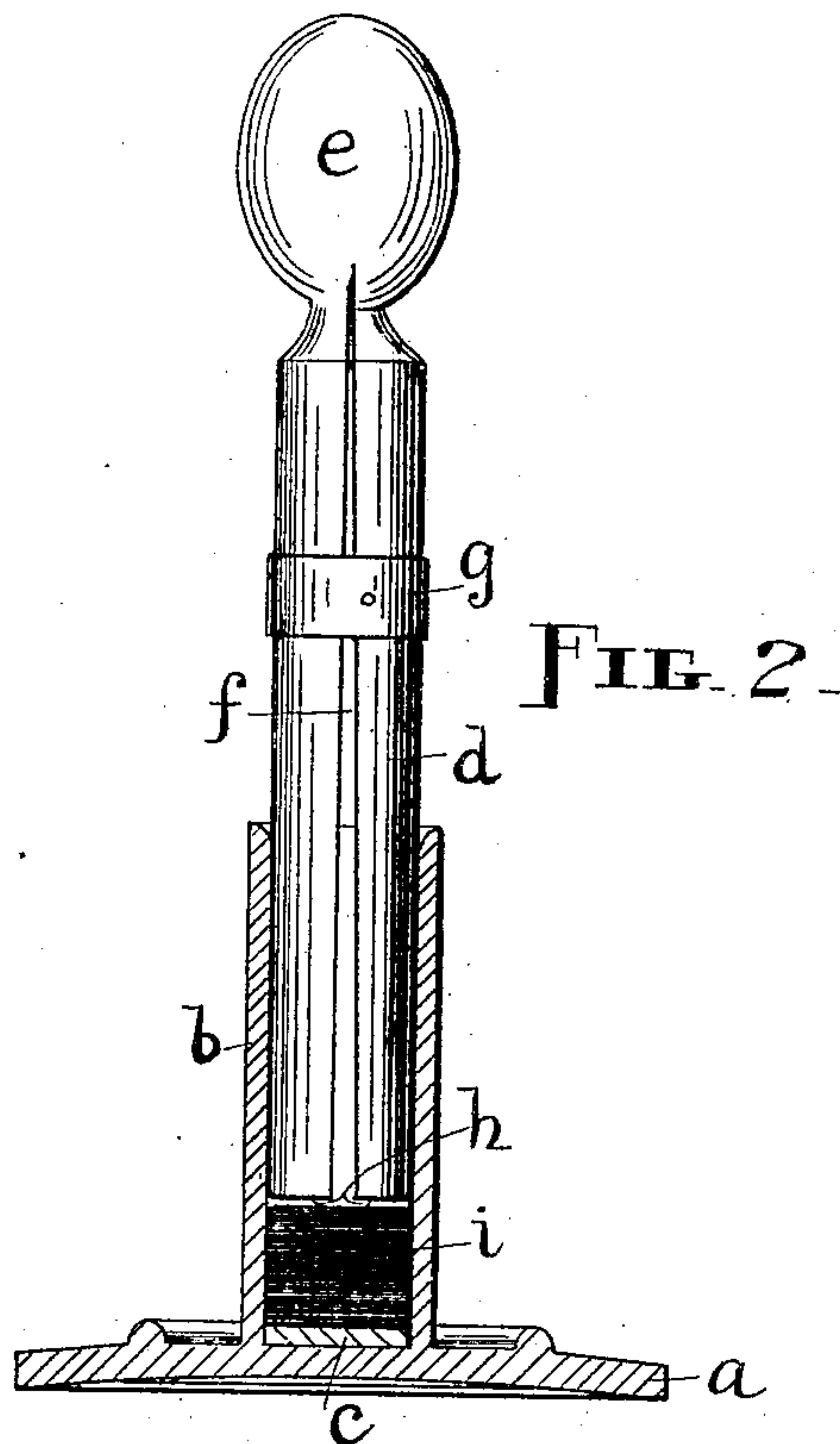
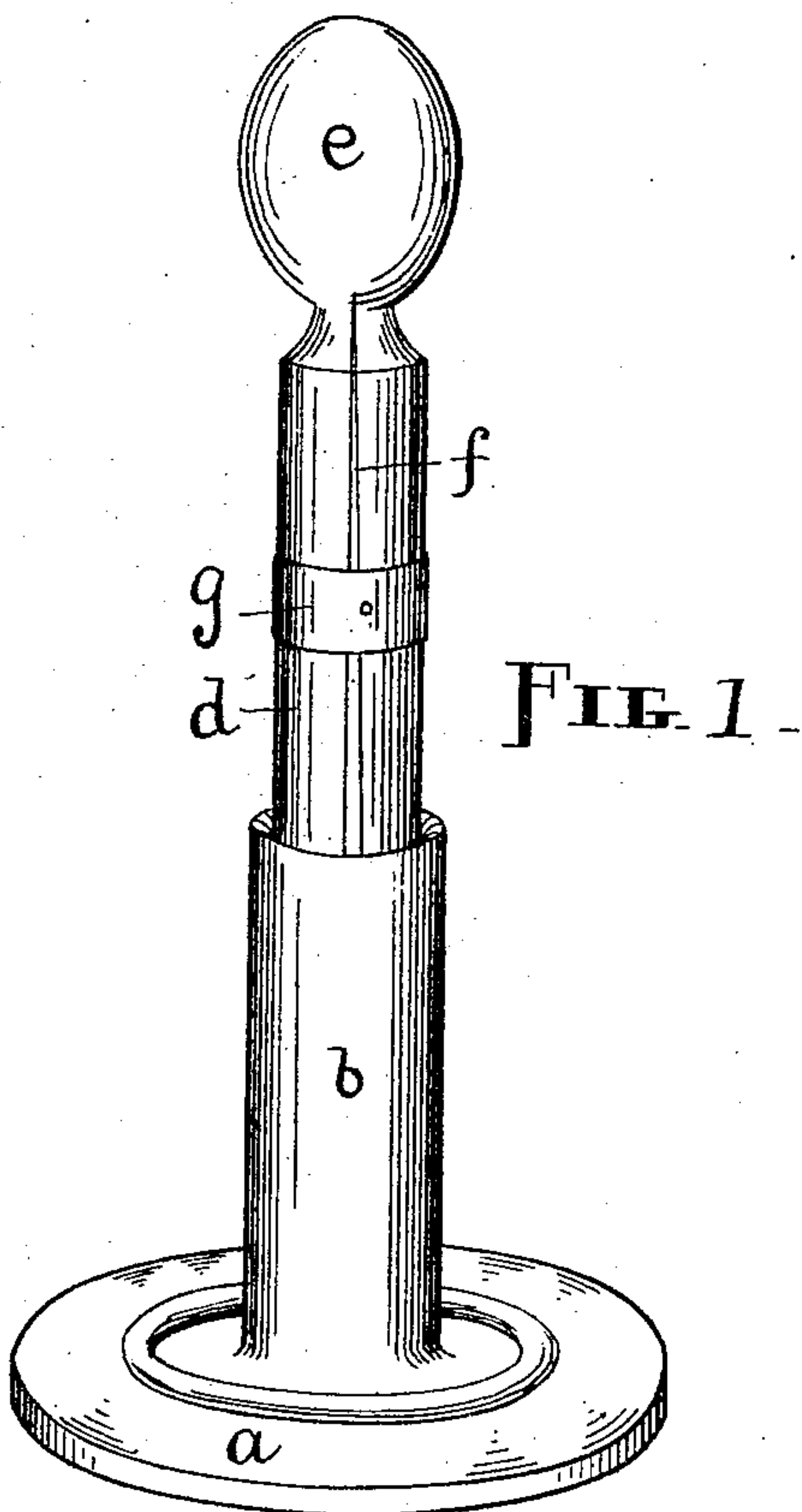
No. 814,708.

PATENTED MAR. 13, 1906.

G. B. KILBON.
STAMP AND SEAL HANDLING DEVICE.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 23, 1902.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses

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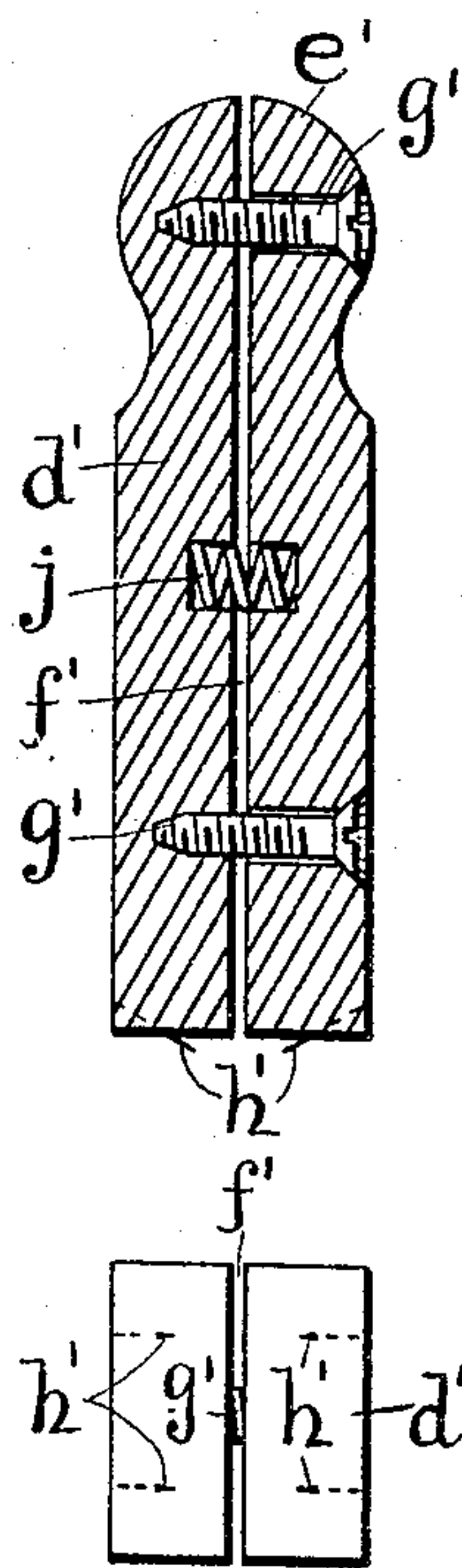
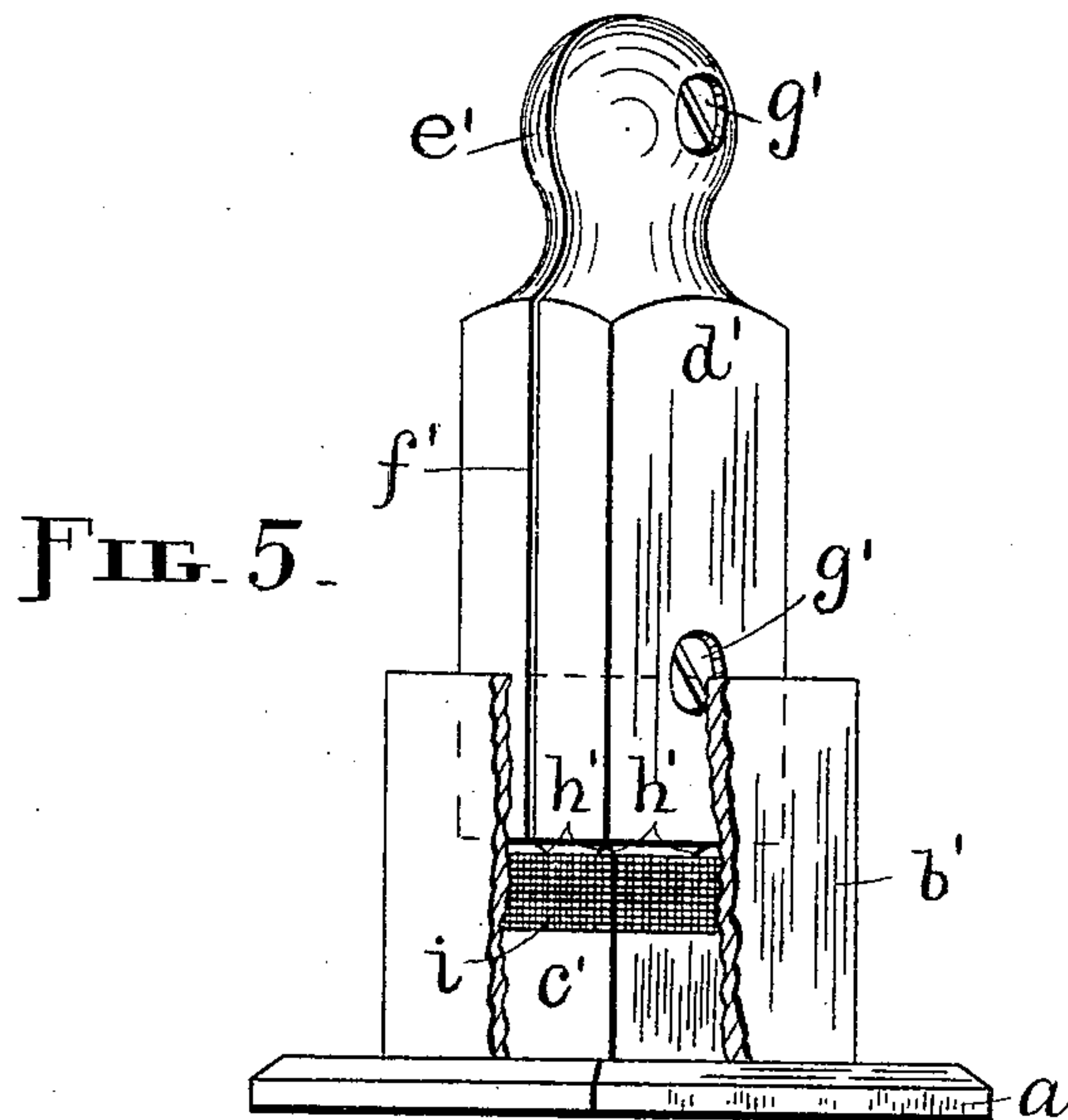


FIG. 7.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE B. KILBON, OF SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS.

STAMP AND SEAL HANDLING DEVICE.

No. 814,708.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 13, 1906.

Application filed October 23, 1902. Serial No. 128,484.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE B. KILBON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Springfield, in the county of Hampden and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Stamp and Seal Handling Device, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in devices for handling stamps, seals, or similar objects of a thin or light texture or material; and the object of my improvement is to provide a device by means of which a stamp or seal may be raised, moistened, and affixed to the envelop or document to which it is desired to attach the same, all without handling such stamp or seal with the fingers.

A further object is to produce a device of this kind which is simple and inexpensive, practicable, and efficient.

In a general way my device may be said to consist of a receiver for the stamps or seals and an affixer separable at one end or having a cleft base adapted to enter said receiver and provided on its separable end with spurs, as hereinafter described and claimed.

I attain these objects by the means illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the seal-handling device; Fig. 2, a side elevation of the affixer and a vertical section through the receiver, showing a bunch of seals therein; Fig. 3, an enlarged bottom view of the affixer, showing one arrangement of the spurs; Fig. 4, an enlarged side view of the aforesaid bottom part; Fig. 5, an isometric view of the stamp-handling device, a portion of the receiver being broken away to show a bunch of stamps within; Fig. 6, a vertical section through the center of the affixer shown in Fig. 5, and Fig. 7 a bottom view of the stamp-affixer.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

In the drawings I have shown two forms of my device, one adapted to handle round seals and the other adapted to handle ordinary postage-stamps; but, aside from the shape, an affixer constructed similarly to that shown in connection with the seal-handling device may be used for stamps, or one constructed after the manner of that shown in connection with the stamp-handling device may be used with the seal-handling device. The two forms of construction of the

affixer shown have been found to be practical and efficient; but it is obvious that various other changes may be made in the construction of this member so long as it is provided with a separable base equipped with projecting spurs, which are the essential features of my invention.

Describing first the seal-handling device, I provide a receiver consisting of a base *a*, having a tubular holder *b* rising from the center of the same. If this receiver is made of metal, an annular block *c* of wood or other non-metallic substance should be fastened in the bottom of the chamber in the holder *b*, for the reason presently to be explained.

The seal-affixer comprises a cylindrical body *d*, surmounted by a bulb *e*. The body *d* is provided with a separable base by having a central cleft *f* extend from the bottom up into the bulb, and the sections thus formed are prevented from spreading so far that said body cannot be introduced into the holder *b* by means of a collar *g* encircling the body at its upper part and fastened to one of said sections. To further explain the need of the collar *g*, it may be said that the two sections of the body are normally separated by the cleft *f* and might spring so far apart as to prevent said body from being introduced into the holder *b* were it not for the presence of said collar, which always maintains them in proper condition to be thus introduced. On the bottom of the affixer is a plurality of minute spurs *h*, preferably four in number, two in the base of each section. The spurs *h* should be driven at an angle through the sides of the body until they project slightly below the base thereof. It will now be readily seen that when the body is forced down onto an object as thin and light as a seal and the sections pressed together at the base the spurs *h* will stick into the seal, which may be lifted up by and with said body, and when pressure on said sections is relaxed the resiliency of the material of which the body is composed will cause the sections and opposite sets of spurs to separate and release the seal. The spurs *h* should project below the base of the body only so far as is necessary to enable them to pick up a single seal. In other words, such projection should be about equal to the thickness of the seal. In no event must these spurs have sufficient projection to penetrate two seals at the same time, or at least to penetrate to such an extent that the second one will be lifted out of the receiver.

In Fig. 3 the spurs *h* are shown as being directed toward a common center; but this is not material, as those in one section may be directed toward those in the opposite section, as shown in Fig. 7.

In operation, a bunch of seals *i* with their gummed sides down having been placed in the bottom of the receiver *b*, the affixer, held in any convenient manner so that its body-sections may be readily compressed, is inserted into said holder, pressed down firmly onto the seals, and compressed in the manner hereinbefore described. Without releasing the compression, the affixer is next lifted out with a seal firmly attached to the base thereof. This seal is now moistened with the tongue or otherwise and then firmly pressed into place on the document or article to which it is to be affixed, at the same time pressure on the body-sections being relaxed, and finally the affixer is removed, leaving the seal firmly adhering to the document. Another seal can be removed and affixed as before, and so on until the whole bunch has been exhausted.

The object of the block *c* is to prevent blunting, bending, or breaking the ends of the spurs *h* when they are pressed into engagement with the last seal in the receiver, such damage being liable to occur if said spurs were forced into contact with a metallic surface.

Passing now to a description of the stamp-handling device, (shown in Figs. 5, 6, and 7,) a rectangular receiver is here provided having a base *a'* and a holder *e'*. In case this receiver is made of metal a rectangular block *c'* is placed in the bottom of the chamber in the holder *b'* for the same reason as that ascribed to the use of the block *c*.

Besides being rectangular instead of cylindrical, the stamp-affixer differs from the seal-affixer in that the former is cleft through its entire length—that is, through both the body *d'* and the bulb *e'*—and the sections thus formed are normally separated by means of a spring *j*, introduced into suitable pockets located in the approximate center of the affixer, and screws *g' g'*, passing loosely through one of the sections and threaded into the other, are employed in place of the collar *g* to limit the amount of separation provided for by said spring. Spurs *h'* are driven at an angle into opposite sides of the body *d'* to emerge through the base at both sides of the cleft *f'* and are for the purpose set forth in connection with the description of the spurs *h*. Although the cleft *f'* extends clear through the stamp-affixer, the operation of the same does not materially differ from that of the seal-affixer, and it is evident that a spring might be introduced into the latter and a screw used in place of the collar *g*; furthermore, that such a collar differing only in shape might be substituted for one of the screws *g'* in the Fig. 5

construction and that the cleft therein might be shortened at the top, thereby dispensing with the upper screw *g'* and probably the spring *j*.

The holder *b'* having been partly filled with stamps *i'*, the latter may be removed one at a time and caused to adhere to envelopes by means of the rectangular affixer manipulated in precisely the same manner as the seal-affixer.

A convenient form of spur and means for attaching it to the affixer have been illustrated and described; but any suitable substitution may be resorted to provided the proper projection and angle are maintained, it being necessary that at least one of the spurs be inclined relative to the surrounding or supporting surface or bottom of the affixer-body in order to produce the best results. The spurs are all shown as being inclined in the drawings; but it is plain that the device would be operative if only those on one side of the cleft were so disposed, the others standing parallel with the longitudinal center of the affixer, or in the event of three spurs being used instead of four either the one stationed alone on one side of the cleft may be inclined or the two stationed on the other side, provided it is not deemed expedient to incline all three.

The device may be constructed to handle any desired shape of stamps, seals, or similar objects other than round or rectangular, and various changes besides those already pointed out may be made without departing from the nature of my invention.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination, in a device for handling stamps, seals, &c., with an affixer having a cleft base, capable of being vibrated to open and close the cleft, and provided with means to engage such stamps, seals, &c., of a receiver for said stamps, seals, &c., adapted to admit said base.

2. The combination, in a device for handling stamps, seals, &c., with an affixer having a cleft base, capable of being vibrated to open and close the cleft, and provided with spurs projecting from such base on opposite sides of such cleft to engage such stamps, seals, &c., of a receiver adapted to hold such articles as stamps, &c., and to admit said base.

3. The combination with a suitable receiver, of an affixer separable at one end and there provided with projecting spurs arranged on opposite sides of the line of separation, one or more of said spurs being inclined relative to the surrounding surface.

4. The combination with a suitable receiver, of an affixer having a cleft base and inclined projecting spurs fixed thereto on opposite sides of the cleft therein.

5. The combination, in a device for handling stamps, seals, &c., with an affixer having a cleft base, capable of being vibrated to open and close the cleft, and provided with
5 spurs projecting from such base for a distance approximately equal to the thickness of the stamp, seal, or other object, to be acted upon, of a receiver adapted to hold such articles as stamps, &c., and to admit said base.

10 6. The combination with a suitable receiver, of an affixer separable at one end and there provided with spurs projecting for a distance approximately equal to the thickness of the stamp, seal, or other object, to be
15 acted upon, one or more of said spurs being inclined relative to the surrounding surface.

7. The combination with a receiver capable of holding a bunch of stamps, seals, and the like, of an affixer having a body separated by a cleft into sections and adapted to enter said receiver and provided with spurs adapted to penetrate a stamp or seal when the cleft sections of said body are compressed and to release the same when such compression is relaxed.
25

8. The combination with a receiver capable of holding stamps, seals, and the like, of an affixer comprising a body having a cleft extending through the same and adapted to
30 enter said receiver and provided with spurs projecting from the base thereof each side of

the cleft therein, and means to limit the separation of the sections of said body.

9. The combination with a receiver capable of holding stamps, seals, and the like, of
35 an affixer comprising a cleft body provided with spurs projecting from the base thereof each side of the cleft therein, and means to normally separate the sections of said body.

10. The combination with a receiver capable of holding stamps, seals, and the like, of
40 an affixer comprising a cleft body provided with spurs in the base thereof at each side of the cleft therein, means to normally separate the sections of said body, and means to
45 limit the amount of separation.

11. The combination with a receiver provided with a comparatively soft block for the reception of stamps, seals, and the like, of an affixer cleft at the base and provided on its
50 bottom with projecting spurs, said block being adapted to be penetrated by the spurs when the latter are brought into contact therewith.

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

GEORGE B. KILBON.

Witnesses:

ALLEN WEBSTER,
F. A. CUTTER.