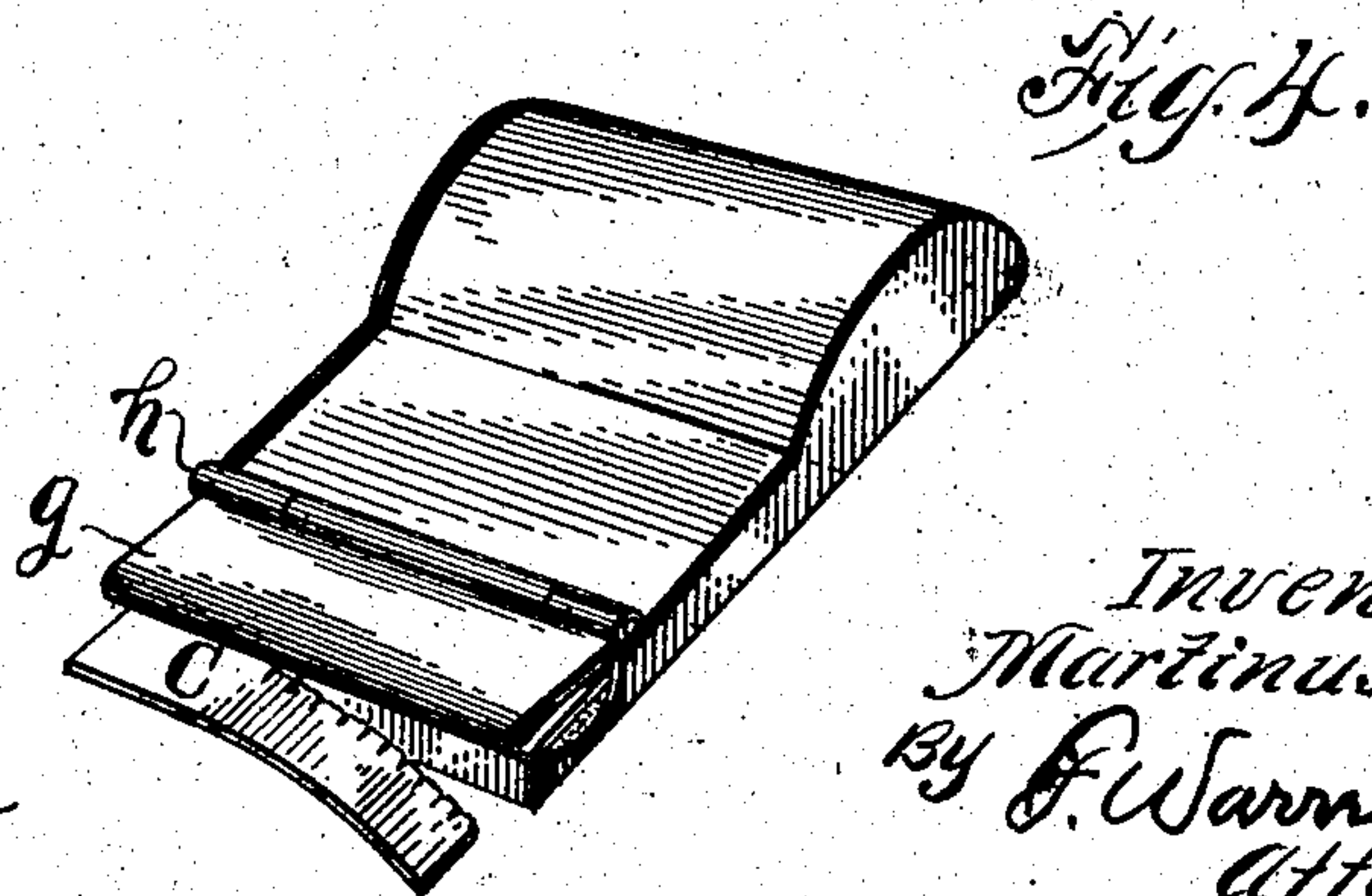
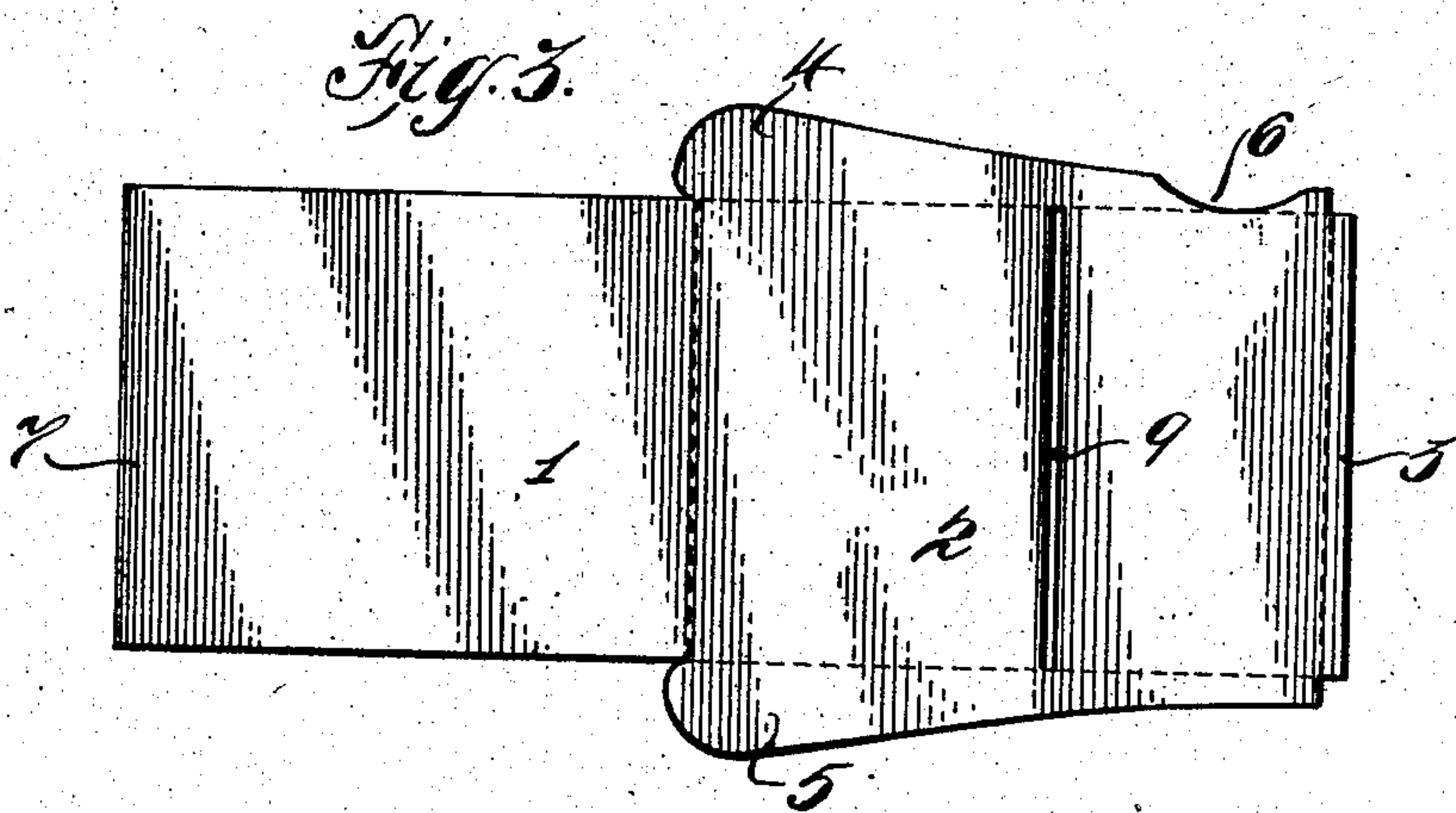
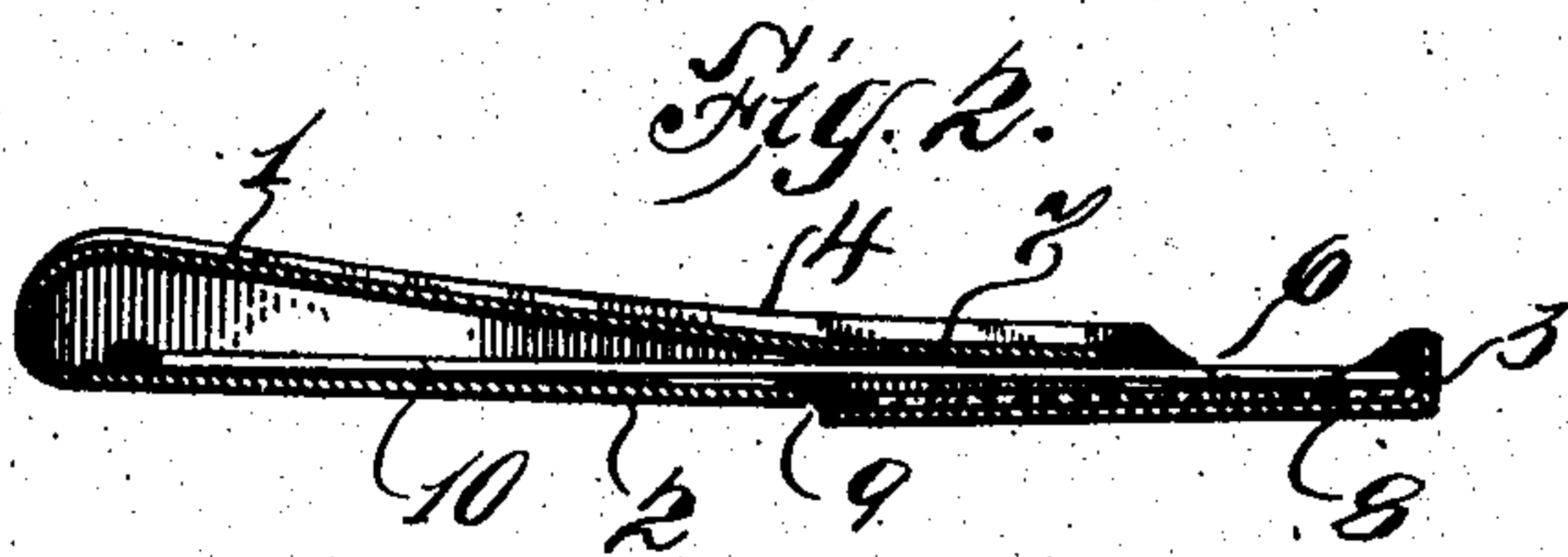
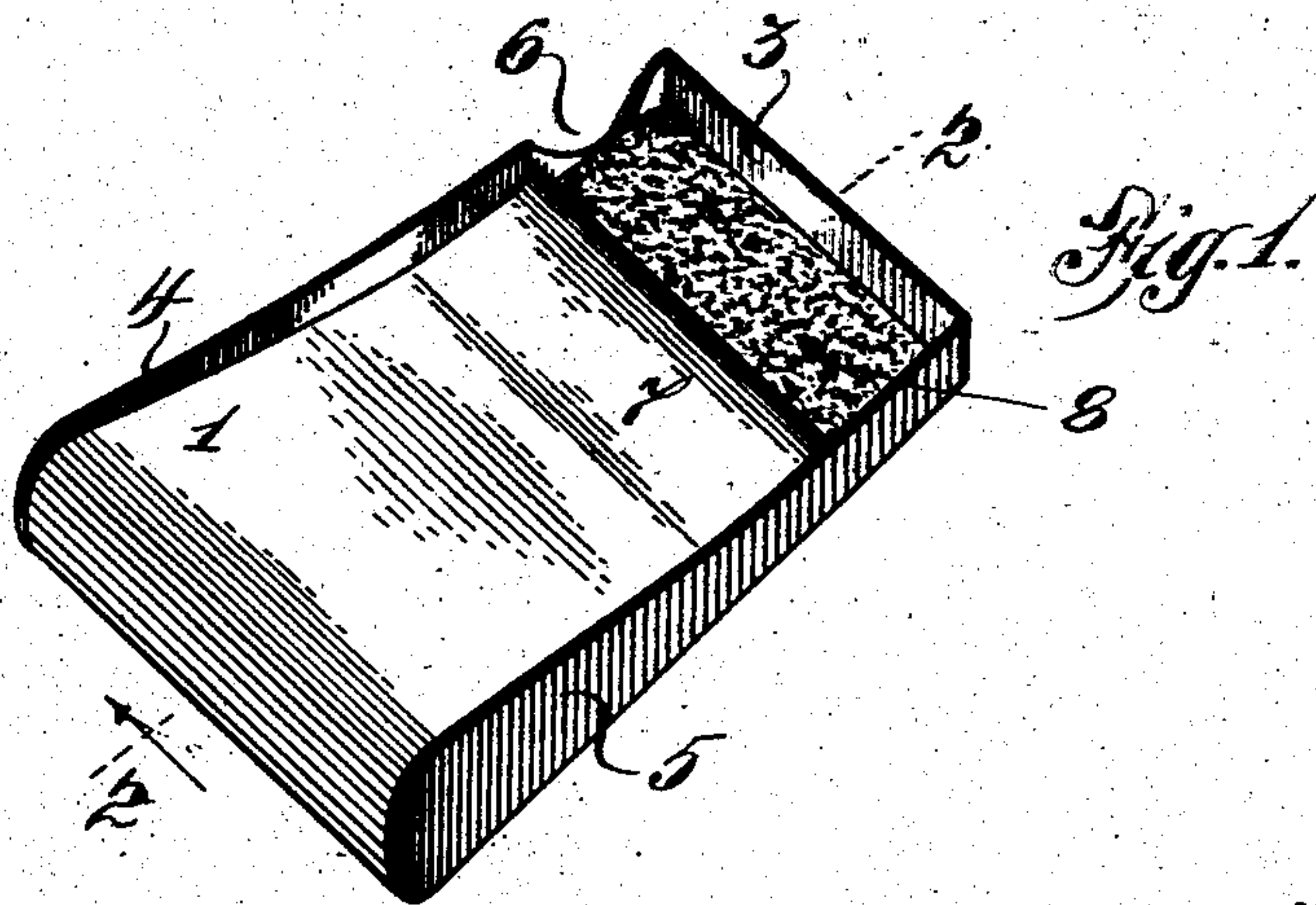


No. 815,596.

PATENTED MAR. 20, 1906.

M. LARSEN.  
SELF STRIKING MATCH BOX.  
APPLICATION FILED DEC. 13, 1905.



Witnesses:  
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Attorney.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

MARTINUS LARSEN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## SELF-STRIKING MATCH-BOX.

No. 815,596.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 20, 1906

Application filed December 13, 1905. Serial No. 291,502.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MARTINUS LARSEN, a subject of the King of Denmark, residing at 183 Harrison street, borough of Brooklyn, city and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Self-Striking Match-Boxes, of which the following is a clear, full, and exact description.

The object of this invention is to improve and cheapen the construction of self-striking match-boxes.

In carrying out the invention I preferably form the box from one single blank of metal, forming the part which is to be the back of the box with a suitable depression to contain a striking material, which may be removed when the match-supply is exhausted, but is held in place while matches are still in the box.

The front and sides are formed of turned-up parts of the blank, the front being shorter than the back to leave the butt-ends of the matches exposed to view, in some cases at all times, in other cases when a hinged top is turned back. The exposed matches lying, as they do, between an upturned end of the back and the edge of the front expose a length of match which must be grasped, slightly lifted, and then drawn out, not by straight pull but by a pull at an angle which is very effective in securing a sure ignition of the match as it is drawn past the igniting material. The certainty of fire is increased by forming the cover substantially parallel with the back for quite a distance from the edge beneath which the igniting-paper is located.

My invention will be pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my preferred form of box. Fig. 2 is a section of the same on line 2 2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a plan of a blank from which the box of Figs. 1 and 2 is cut, and Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a modified form of box.

As shown in the drawings, the box is preferably formed of a single blank of sheet metal having a back portion 2 with a slot 9 across its width, the metal being slightly depressed toward the slot, as shown in Fig. 2. A front 1 of less length than the back is curved at its end of joinder with the box and bent forward on an arc of more than one hundred and eighty degrees, so as to taper toward the back of the box. A flat portion 7 is formed on the front, so as to be substan-

tially parallel with the back, particularly over that part which holds the igniting material 8, to be referred to hereinafter. The forward edge of the front is preferably formed upturned to permit the resilient front to be readily lifted away from the back for the insertion of the matches.

The slotted back is formed, as shown in Fig. 2, first, so that a strip of igniting material may be readily forced in from the back, and secondly and principally, so that a depression shall be made to hold the strip in place without use of extraneous means.

One edge of the blank is turned up to form a turned-up end 3 for the box to prevent the accidental displacement of the matches to prevent one from drawing the matches out lengthwise and thus perhaps causing them to miss fire, and it also forms a convenient knife-like edge over which the matches may be broken off, if too long for the box. This latter function is illustrated in Fig. 4, in which C is the paper strip which holds assembled the ordinary paper matches. The severing of the strip, as shown, after the matches are placed in the box results in each paper match being separate and ready for use individually. The same function is present, however, whatever type of match is used.

The sides 4 and 5 of the box are preferably formed higher at one end, and I prefer to cut one side away, as at 6, to increase the ease with which one may grasp a match by its shank below its end.

Instead of leaving open the space between the part 7 and the end 3 I may secure a cover g to a hinge h, formed on the front of the box, as shown in Fig. 4, in which case obviously the cover when turned back will leave the matches exposed, as shown in Fig. 2.

I claim as my invention—

1. A self-striking match-box having a back, a front of lesser length resiliently held toward said back, an unobstructed space for matches between said front and back, igniting means on the back adjacent to the free end of said front, and the back at its free end being turned up, substantially as described.

2. A self-striking match-box having a back with a turned-over end and a front of lesser length resiliently held toward said back and a strip of striking material adjacent to the upper edge of said front, said back having a depression formed therein to act as a retaining means for the striking material.



3. A self-striking match-box having a back with a turned-over end and a front of lesser length resiliently held toward said back and a strip of striking material adjacent to the upper edge of said front, said back having a slotted opening, depressed from the surface, through which the striking material may be inserted and by which it may be retained after insertion.
4. A self-striking match-box formed from a single blank of sheet metal and having when formed into shape a back having a turned-over end, a front formed as a continuation of said back but of lesser length and bent over from said back on a curve of more

than a half-circle, the end of said cover being formed flat and parallel to the back, sides bent up from the back, at least one side being cut out adjacent to the turned-over end of the back, the back having a slotted opening slightly depressed below the plane of the back and a piece of striking material held in place between the upturned end and the slightly-depressed slot.

Signed at New York city this 11th day of December, 1905.

MARTINUS LARSEN.

Witnesses:

OLE. PUGERUD,  
F. WARREN WRIGHT.