

No. 846,970.

PATENTED MAR. 12, 1907.

W. A. ZIMMERMAN.
SIGN CHARACTER.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 16, 1906.

Fig. 1.

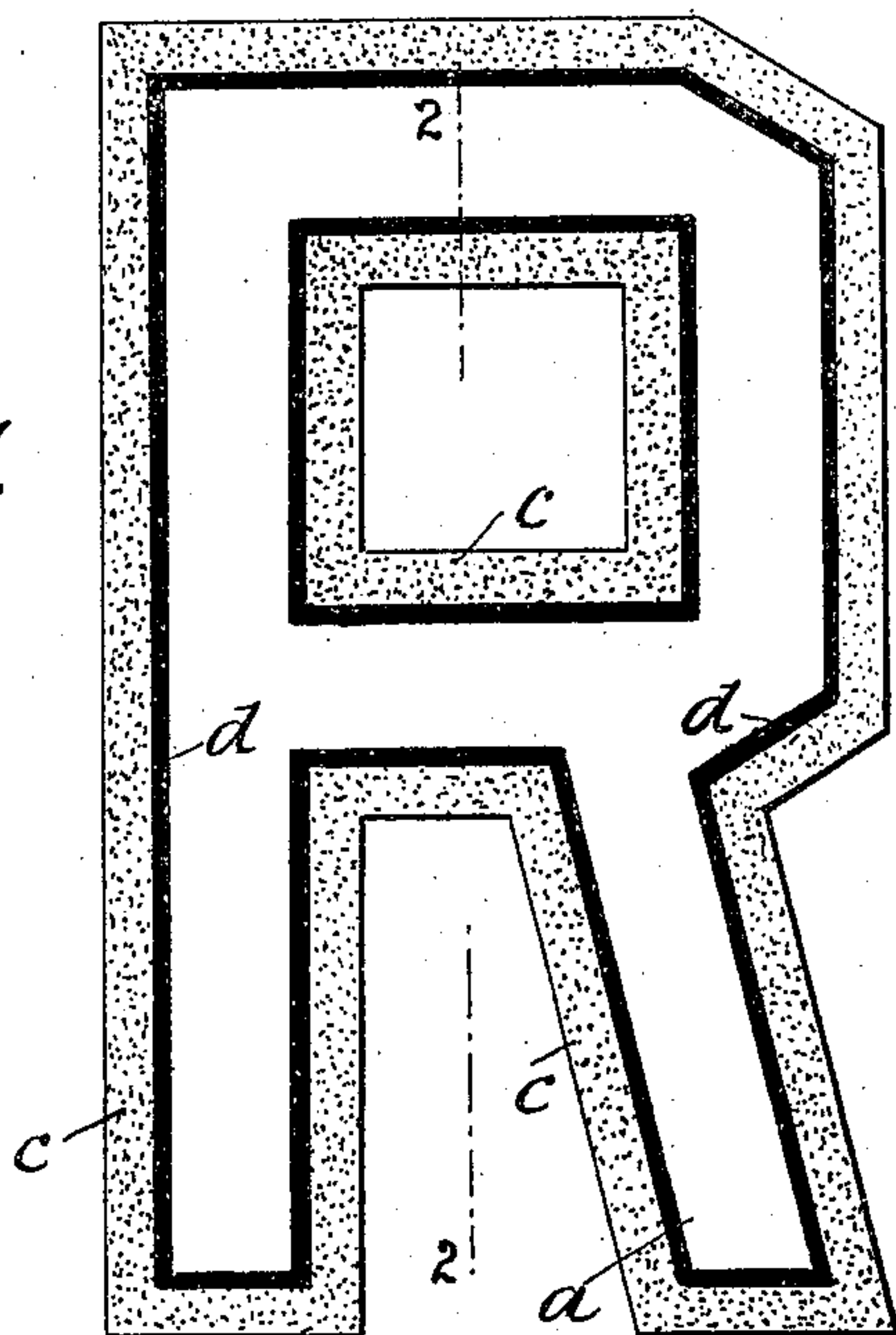


Fig. 2.

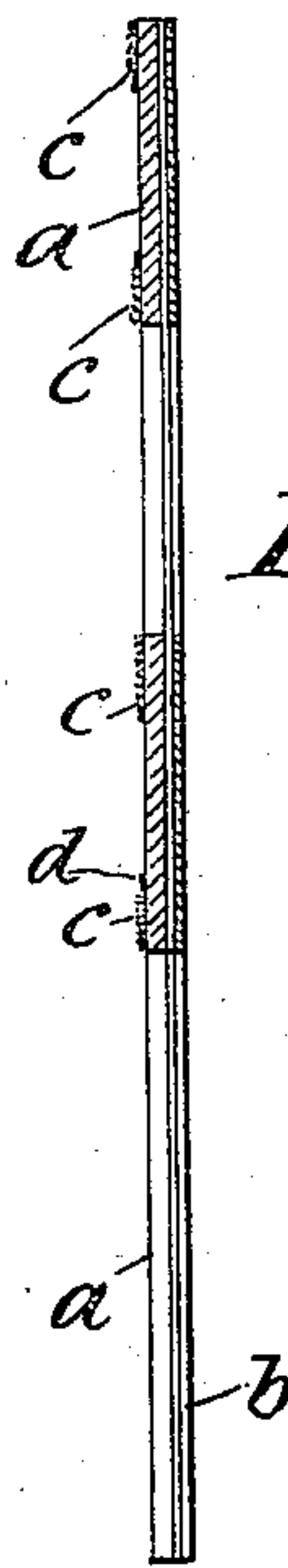


Fig. 3.

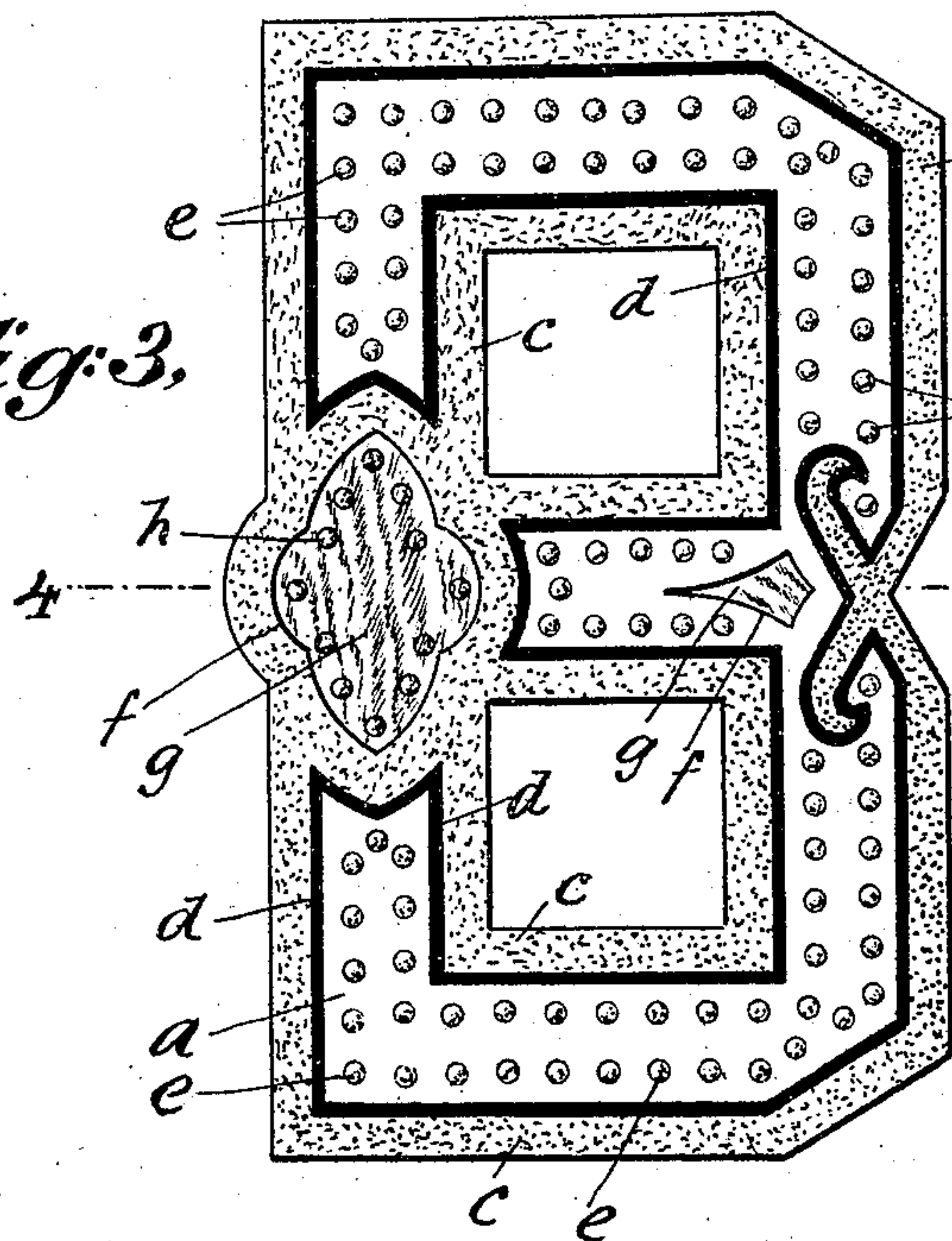
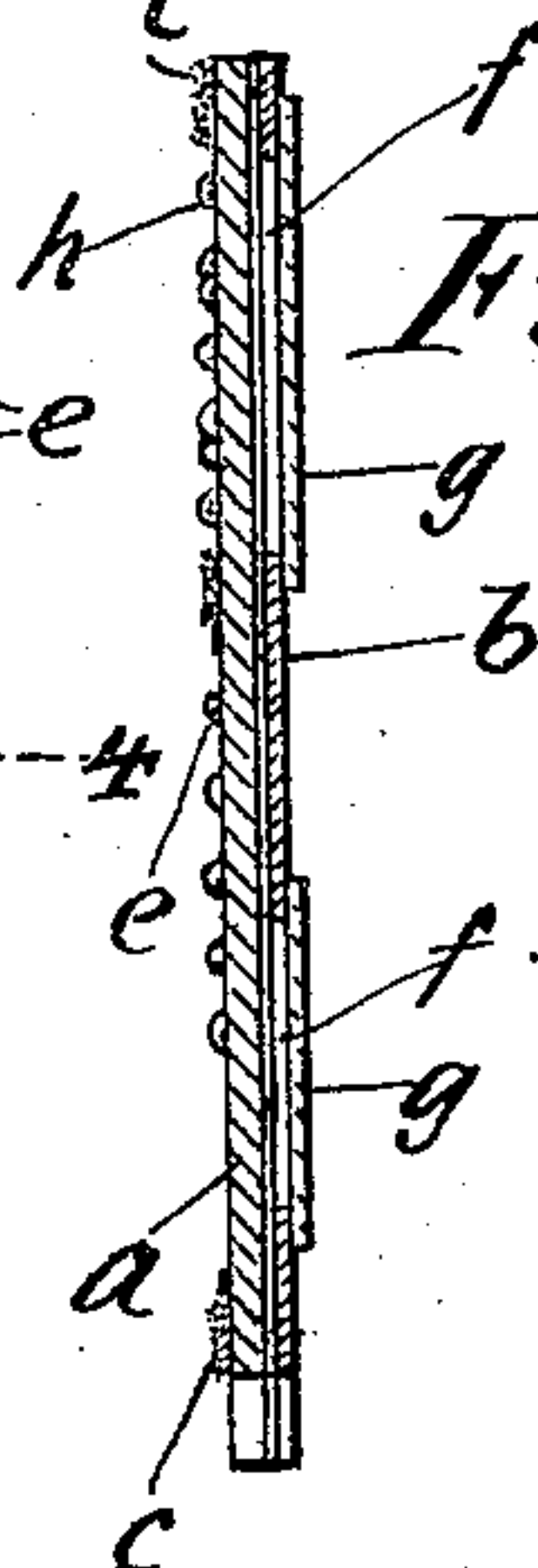


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES

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SIGN CHARACTER.

No. 846,970.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 12, 1907.

Application filed July 16, 1906. Serial No. 326,369.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM A. ZIMMERMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Sign Characters, of which the following is a specification, such as will enable those skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to letters and other characters used in making window or other transparent signs; and the object thereof is to provide improved characters of this class by means of which ornamental signs of any kind or class may be made, together with ornamental designs for various purposes, such as trade-marks, coats of arms, and the like.

The invention comprises a thin transparent sheet of celluloid made in the form of a character or letter, a backing-sheet of gold-leaf, silver, or other gilt material, such as "flitters" or "metallics," secured to one side of the celluloid sheet, and ornamental borders formed in connection with the celluloid sheet around the parts of the letter or character by means of transparent cement, paint, or in other ways, it being understood that the side of the sheet of celluloid to which the gilt material is secured constitutes the back of the letter or character and that the other side of said sheet forms the front of the letter or character, which in practice is secured to a window or other glass or transparent support, the back of the letter or character formed by the gold-leaf or other gilt or ornamental material being covered in practice with a coating of paint or other material by which the letter or character is protected.

The invention is fully disclosed in the following specification, of which the accompanying drawing forms a part, in which the separate parts of my improvement are designated by suitable reference characters in each of the views, and in which—

Figure 1 is a front view of the letter "R," made according to my invention; Fig. 2, a section thereof on the line 2 2; Fig. 3, a view similar to Fig. 1, but showing the letter "B" and showing a modification and the method of making the letter; and Fig. 4, a section on the line 4 4 of Fig. 3.

In the practice of my invention, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, I provide a thin sheet *a* of transparent celluloid, which is formed into the letter "R" in the form of construction shown and provided with a backing *b*, of gold-leaf or

any other suitable ornamental gilt or similar material, such as silver-leaf, aluminium, flitters, metallics, and the like, said backing being secured to the celluloid sheet by transparent sizing, or transparent cement, or by means of any transparent material. The front of the celluloid sheet *a* is provided with a border *c*, which extends all around the parts of the letter, including the inner parts thereof, and which is composed of transparent cement, said cement being stippled before it is fully dried or set, and in the form of construction shown a supplemental border *d*, of paint, is also placed on the front of the celluloid sheet *a* by means of a brush or in any other way, and the supplemental border *d* may be of any desired color.

It will be understood that any desired number of letters or characters may be made in this manner, and in making a sign or other article from letters or characters so formed the said letters or characters are secured to a window or other transparent article by means of a transparent cement, which is placed on the front of the letter or character and which covers the borders *c* and *d* when said borders are placed on the front of the letter or character, and the stippled ornamental border *c* when placed on the front of the letter or character also serves as an aid in securing the said letter or character to the window or other glass device or article, said ornamental border *c* serving to give a better surface in connection with which the transparent cement used operates in securing said letter or character to its support, consisting of a window or other glass article.

In Figs. 3 and 4 I have shown a modification in which the celluloid sheet *a*, in addition to being provided with the ornamental border *c* around its separate parts and the supplemental border *d*, is also provided with spots or other ornamental configurations *e*, consisting of transparent cement or varnish placed on the celluloid sheet *a* and preferably on the front surface thereof. In this form of construction the gilt backing *b* is also provided with openings *f*, back of which are placed sheets *g*, of pearl or other ornamental translucent material, which give to the letter or character when so made a very attractive and ornamental appearance, and said sheets *g*, of pearl or other material, may be secured to the gilt backing *b* by cement, sizing, or in any other way.

The openings *f* in the gilt backing *b* and

the sheets of pearl or other translucent material *g* may be of any desired shape or form, and in this way a sign letter or character may be ornamented in any desired style or configuration, and in practice I also preferably place on the celluloid sheet *a* in front of the pearl or other translucent backing-sheets *g* spots or other ornamental figures *h*, which give the ornamental designs additional attractions and which resemble pearls.

The character shown in Fig. 3 is the letter "B;" but it will be understood that any letter or character for the purpose specified may be made in the same manner, and it will also be understood that when letters are made in this way the said letters may be of any preferred design, shape, or form.

The thickness of the parts, as shown in Figs. 2 and 4, is much exaggerated, so as to more fully show the construction and to be better able to describe the same, and in said figures there is a thin space between the backing and the transparent celluloid sheet *a*, it being understood that this space is occupied by the sizing or cement when the backing is secured to said sheet.

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

- 30 1. A sign letter or character composed of a thin sheet of transparent celluloid provided with a gilt backing and with an ornamental border composed of stippled transparent cement.
- 35 2. A sign letter or character composed of a thin sheet of transparent celluloid provided with a gilt backing and with an ornamental border composed of stippled transparent cement placed on the front surface of said sheet of celluloid.
- 40 3. A sign letter or character composed of a thin sheet of transparent material having a gilt backing and provided with an ornamental border composed of stippled transparent cement, and a supplemental ornamental border composed of paint, said borders being placed on said transparent material.
- 45 4. A sign letter or character composed of a

thin sheet of transparent material having a gilt backing and provided with an ornamental border composed of stippled transparent cement, and a supplemental ornamental border composed of paint, said borders being placed on the front of said transparent material.

5. A sign letter or other character composed of a thin sheet of transparent celluloid having a gilt backing, said letter or other character being provided with ornamental borders of transparent stippled cement, and the gilt backing being provided with openings covered by translucent ornamental material.

6. A letter or other character composed of a thin sheet of celluloid having a gilt backing, the letter or other character being provided with an ornamental border of stippled transparent cement and with an ornamental border of paint, the gilt backing being provided with openings covered with translucent ornamental material.

7. A sign letter or character composed of a sheet of celluloid having a gilt backing, the letter or other character being provided with an ornamental border of stippled transparent cement and with an ornamental border of paint, the gilt backing being also provided with openings covered with translucent material, the body portion of the letter or character being also provided within said border with ornamental designs composed of transparent cement or varnish placed on the celluloid sheet.

8. A sign letter or character composed of a thin sheet of transparent celluloid provided with a gilt backing, the front of said letter being provided with an ornamental border composed of stippled transparent cement.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name, in presence of the subscribing witnesses, this 23d day of June, 1906.

WILLIAM A. ZIMMERMAN.

Witnesses:

F. A. STEWART,
C. E. MULREANY.