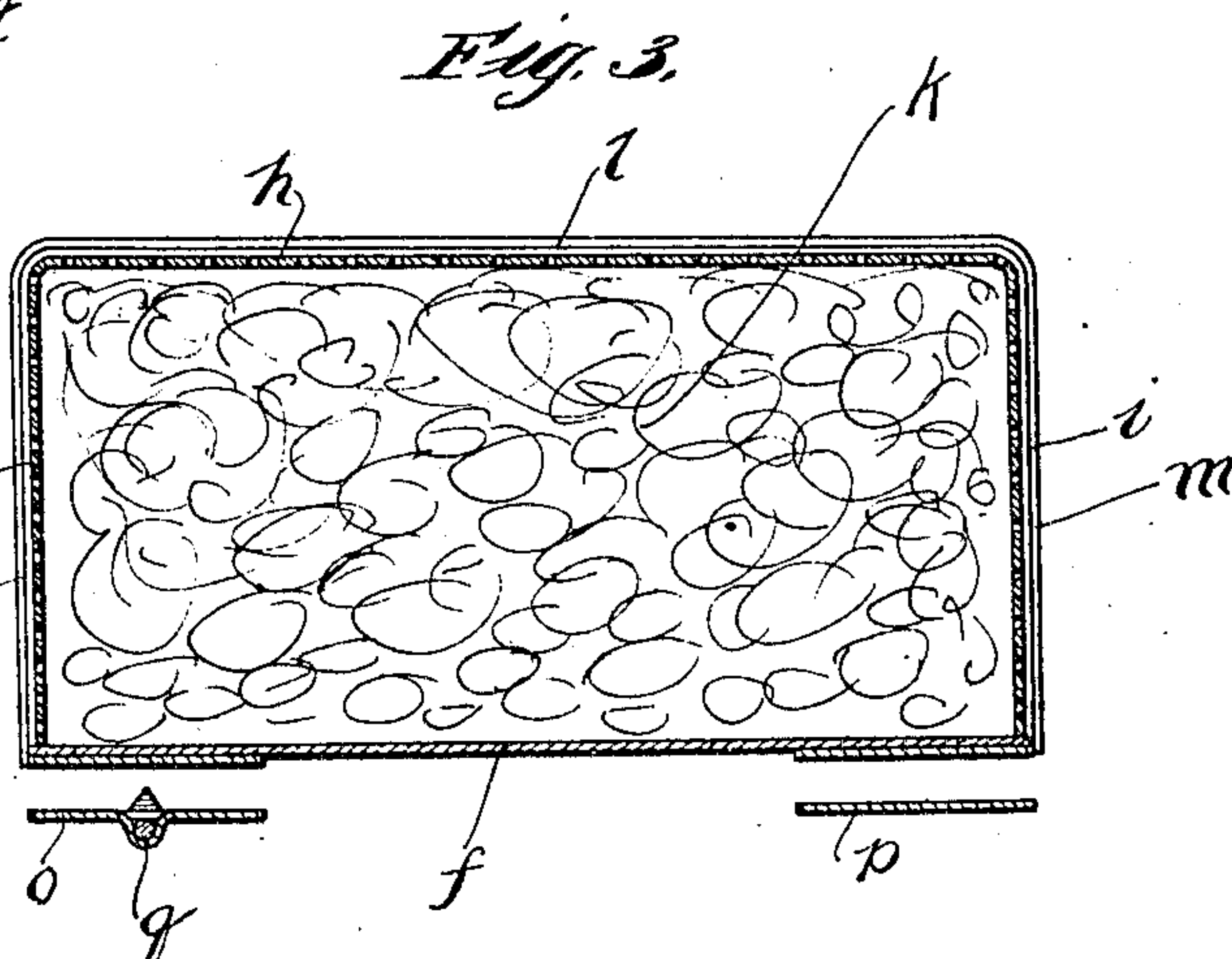
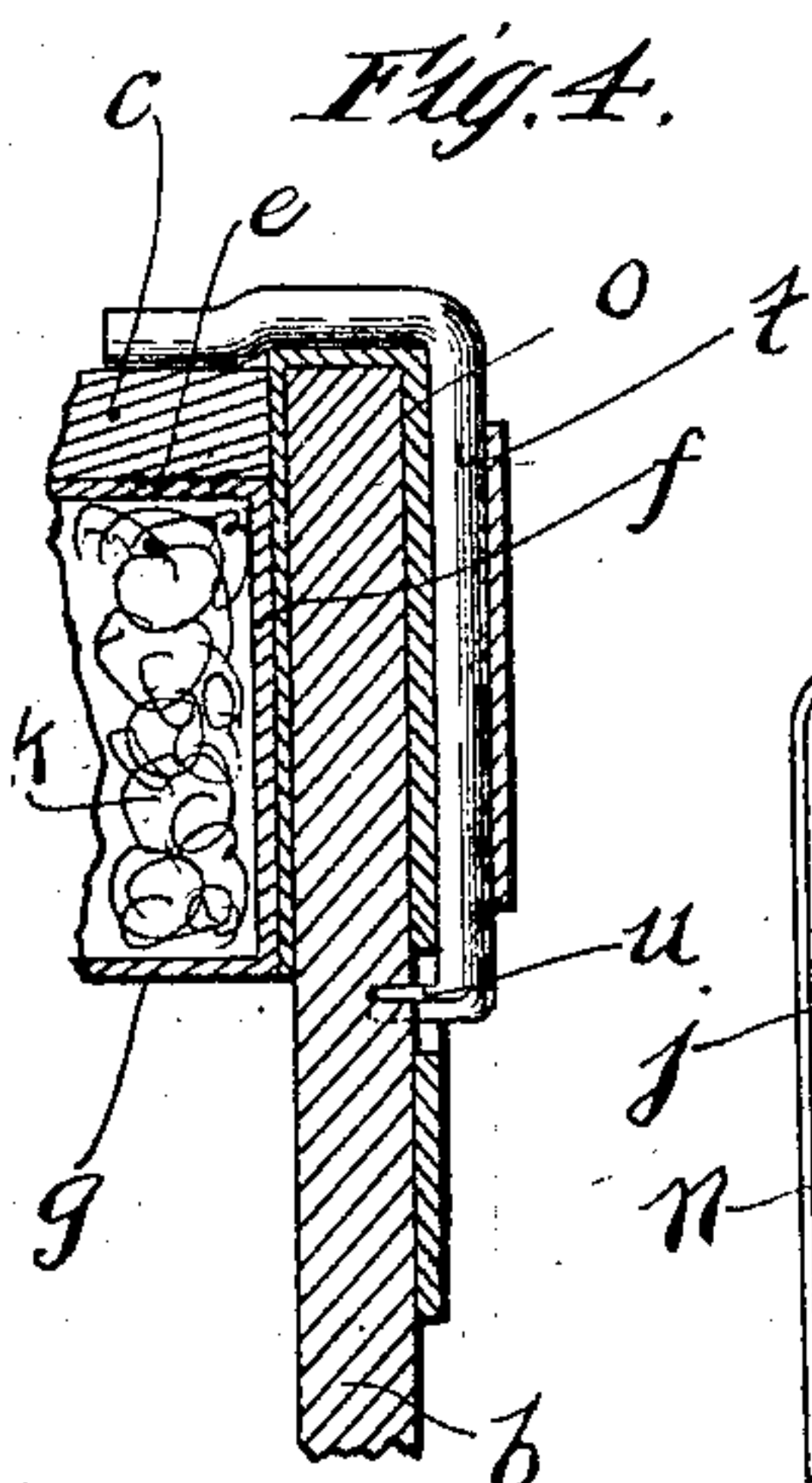
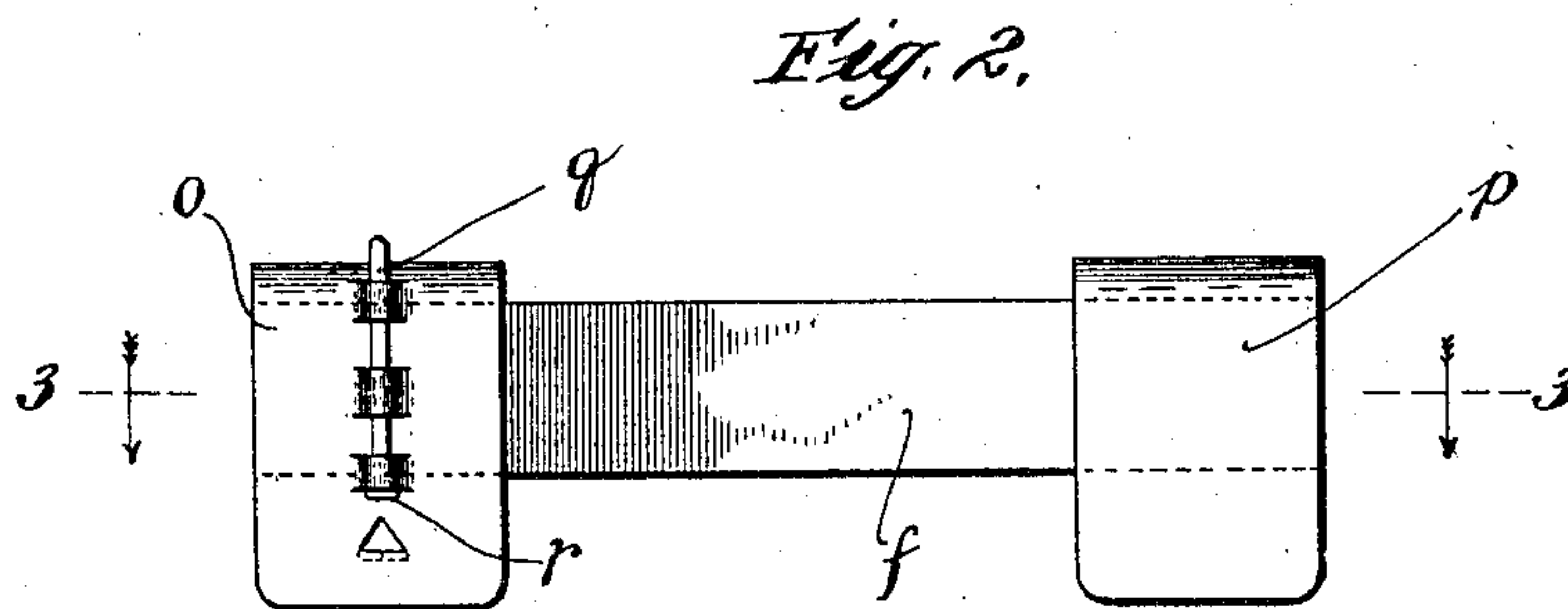
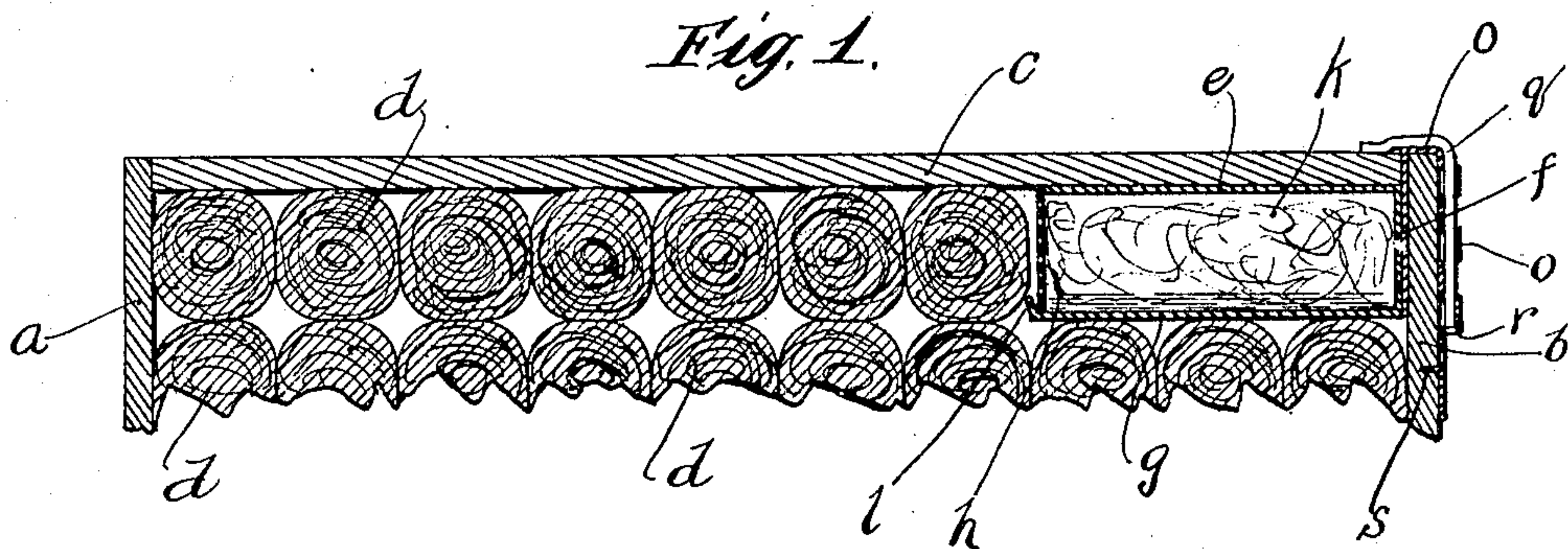


No. 872,068.

PATENTED NOV. 26, 1907.

O. L. JOHNSON.
CIGAR MOISTENER.
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 7, 1906.



Witnesses:

J. A. Pauberschmidt
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Inventor:

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By Charles A. Brown
Atty

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

OSCAR L. JOHNSON, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO JOHN GLOSSINGER, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

CIGAR-MOISTENER.

No. 872,068.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 26, 1907.

Application filed March 7, 1906. Serial No. 304,654.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, OSCAR L. JOHNSON, citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Cigar-Moisteners, (Case 1,) of which the following is a full, clear, concise, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification.

My invention relates to cigar moisteners and is intended particularly for use in the boxes in which cigars are ordinarily sold.

In accordance with my invention I provide a receptacle having perforated walls, which is packed with suitable absorbent material, such as mineral wool, the size of the receptacle being such as to occupy the space of a plurality, say, for example, of two or three cigars. The receptacle is provided with clips for holding the receptacle in proper position within the box.

In accordance with my invention I provide means also whereby the lid of the cigar box may be retained in its closed condition.

My invention will be more clearly understood by reference to the accompanying drawings, in which

Figure 1 illustrates a cross-sectional view of the upper portion of a box of cigars with the moistener in place; Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the moistener of my invention; Fig. 3 is a cross-sectional view of the moistener taken on line 3 3 of Fig. 2; and Fig. 4 is an enlarged view showing a modification of the lid fastening device.

Similar reference characters are applied to like parts in all of the drawings.

The side walls of the cigar box are shown at *a* and *b* in Fig. 1, the lid being represented at *c*, the cigars are represented at *d d*, etc. As indicated in this Fig. 1 the moistener is placed in the upper right-hand corner of the box. The moistener proper comprises a top wall *e*, a back wall *f* and a bottom wall *g*, all of which are preferably formed of a single piece of sheet metal. The front wall *h* and the end walls *i* and *j* are preferably formed of perforated sheet metal of a suitable metal gauze or screen. The absorbent material, such as mineral wool, shown at *k* completes the receptacle. The front edge of the lower

wall *g* is bent up to form a small lip at *l* and the ends of the bottom wall are bent up in a similar fashion at *m* and *n*. These lips, together with the back wall *f* of the receptacle, form a shallow tray. In using the moistener the entire receptacle is dipped into water until the absorbent material is more or less completely saturated and the device is then placed in the cigar box.

The tray above described prevents any water from dripping from the bottom of the receptacle into the cigar box in case the water should settle to the bottom of the moistener. In order to retain the receptacle in a proper position within the cigar box it is provided with a pair of sheet metal clips *o* and *p* which are attached to the rear wall *f* of the receptacle and extend upwardly and thence over the top of the end wall of the cigar box and thence downwardly on the outside. One or both of the clips is provided with a catch *q* in the form of an L-shaped piece of wire having a head *r* at its lower end. The right angle projection at the upper end of this wire may be rotated so as to bring it above the lid *c* of the cigar box, as best illustrated in Fig. 1. This catch prevents the lid from springing open, as the lids of cigar boxes frequently have a tendency to do. The catch rotates in suitable bearings, preferably punched out of the spring clip as illustrated in the drawing. In order that the tendency of the cigar box lid to spring open may not raise with it the cigar moistener, one or both of the clips is provided with a pointed projection *s* which can be pressed into the wooden end or the cigar box with the thumb; this holds the moistener firmly in position.

In Fig. 4 I have illustrated a modified form of the catch and means for holding the moistener in place within the cigar box. It consists of an L-shaped piece of wire *t* having at its lower end a pointed projection *u* extending in the same direction as the upper end of the catch, thus when the catch is swung into position to hold down the lid of the cigar box, the pin at the lower end of the catch which passes through a suitable opening in the clip, cuts into the end of the cigar box and thus serves to assist in holding the lid in place. The cutting edge of the pin *u* is preferably formed at slightly more than a

right angle with respect to the rotating shaft of the catch, so that in turning the catch into position there is a tendency to draw it downwardly. The size of the moistener is not of

5 great importance, although I have found it preferable to make it of a size such that the removal of one, two or three cigars from a box will permit the insertion of the moistener.

While I have herein shown and described
10 one embodiment of my invention, it will be apparent to those skilled in the art that changes and modifications can be made without departing from the spirit of my invention.

15 What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. In a device of the class described, the combination with a perforated receptacle containing absorbent material, of means for
20 supporting said receptacle from the walls of the cigar box, and a rotatable catch on said supporting means adapted to engage the box cover to retain it in its closed position.

2. In a device of the class described, the
25 combination with a receptacle having suitable absorbent material therein, of a clip for supporting said receptacle in a cigar box from a wall thereof, and an arm rotatably mounted in said clip for engaging the cover
30 of said box to retain it in its closed position.

3. In a device of the class described, the combination with a receptacle having suitable openings and absorbent material therein, of means for supporting said receptacle
35 within a cigar box, and a catch associated therewith for retaining the cover of the cigar box in closed position, said catch being in the form of a pivoted arm adapted to engage the cover of said box.

4. In a device of the class described the
40 combination with a receptacle formed in part of perforated retaining walls, a tray-like bottom wall for the receptacle, suitable absorbent material within the receptacle, hook-like clips attached to the receptacle and
45 adapted to hook over the side or end wall of a cigar box to retain the receptacle in position within said cigar box, means for attaching firmly the receptacle to the cigar box, and an
50 L-shaped rotatable catch mounted on one of said clips and adapted to maintain the lid of the cigar box in a closed condition.

5. In a device of the class described the
55 combination with a receptacle comprising top, bottom and rear walls of sheet metal and front and end walls of perforated material, the bottom wall being of tray-like form to prevent the overflow of water from the receptacle, hook-like supporting clips adapted to
60 support the receptacle within a cigar box from a side or end wall thereof, a catch mounted on one of said clips for retaining the lid of the cigar box in a closed position and a pointed projection on the same clip adapted

to be pressed into the wooden wall of the
65 cigar box to retain the moistener in proper position and to assist in maintaining the closure of the cigar box lid.

6. In a device of the class described, the
70 combination with a receptacle having perforated walls and containing absorbent material, of clips therefor for engagement with the wall of the cigar box, and an L-shaped rotatable catch mounted upon one of the
75 said clips and adapted to engage the box lid to retain it in a closed position.

7. In a device of the class described, the combination with a receptacle having perforated walls and containing absorbent material, of hooked shaped clips whereby said
80 receptacle may be suspended from a side wall of the cigar box a rotatable catch mounted upon one of said clips and adapted to maintain the lid of the cigar box in its closed position, and means for fastening said clips to
85 said cigar box wall.

8. In a device of the class described, the combination with a receptacle having perforated walls and containing absorbent material, of clips for supporting said receptacle
90 from a wall of the cigar box, a pointed projection on said clip for engagement with the box wall, and a rotatable arm pivoted to said clip and adapted to engage the box lid to hold it in its closed position. 95

9. In a device of the class described, the combination with a receptacle having perforated walls and containing absorbent material, of clips secured thereto and adapted to engage the wall of the cigar box, a projection
100 for the clips adapted to be pressed into the wall of the box to securely hold the clips in position, and a rotatable catch mounted upon one of said clips and adapted to engage the box lid to maintain it in its closed position. 105

10. In a device of the class described, the combination with a receptacle having perforated walls and containing absorbent material, of clips secured to said receptacle and
110 adapted to engage the wall of the cigar box, an L-shaped catch pivoted to one of said clips, a wall thereof adapted to engage the box lid to hold it in its closed position, and means upon said catch for securing the same
115 to the box wall when the arm engages the box lid.

11. In a device of the class described, the combination with a receptacle having perforated walls and containing absorbent material, of clips secured to said receptacle and
120 adapted to engage the wall of the cigar box, an L-shaped catch pivoted to one of said clips, a wall thereof adapted to engage the box lid to hold it in its closed position, and a
125 projection on said catch for engagement with the box wall when said arm engages the box lid.

12. In a device of the class described, the combination with a receptacle having perforated walls and containing absorbent material, of clips secured to said receptacle and
5 adapted to engage the wall of the cigar box, an L-shaped catch pivoted to one of said clips, a wall thereof adapted to engage the box lid to hold it in its closed position and a
10 projection on said catch, said projection having a cutting edge and being slanted so that

when it is rotated it will cut the box wall inwardly and outwardly and will firmly engage the said wall when said arm engages said box lid.

In witness whereof, I hereunto subscribe 15
my name this 12th day of Feb. A. D., 1906.

OSCAR L. JOHNSON.

Witnesses:

CHARLES J. SCHMIDT,
EDWIN G. ANDERSON.