

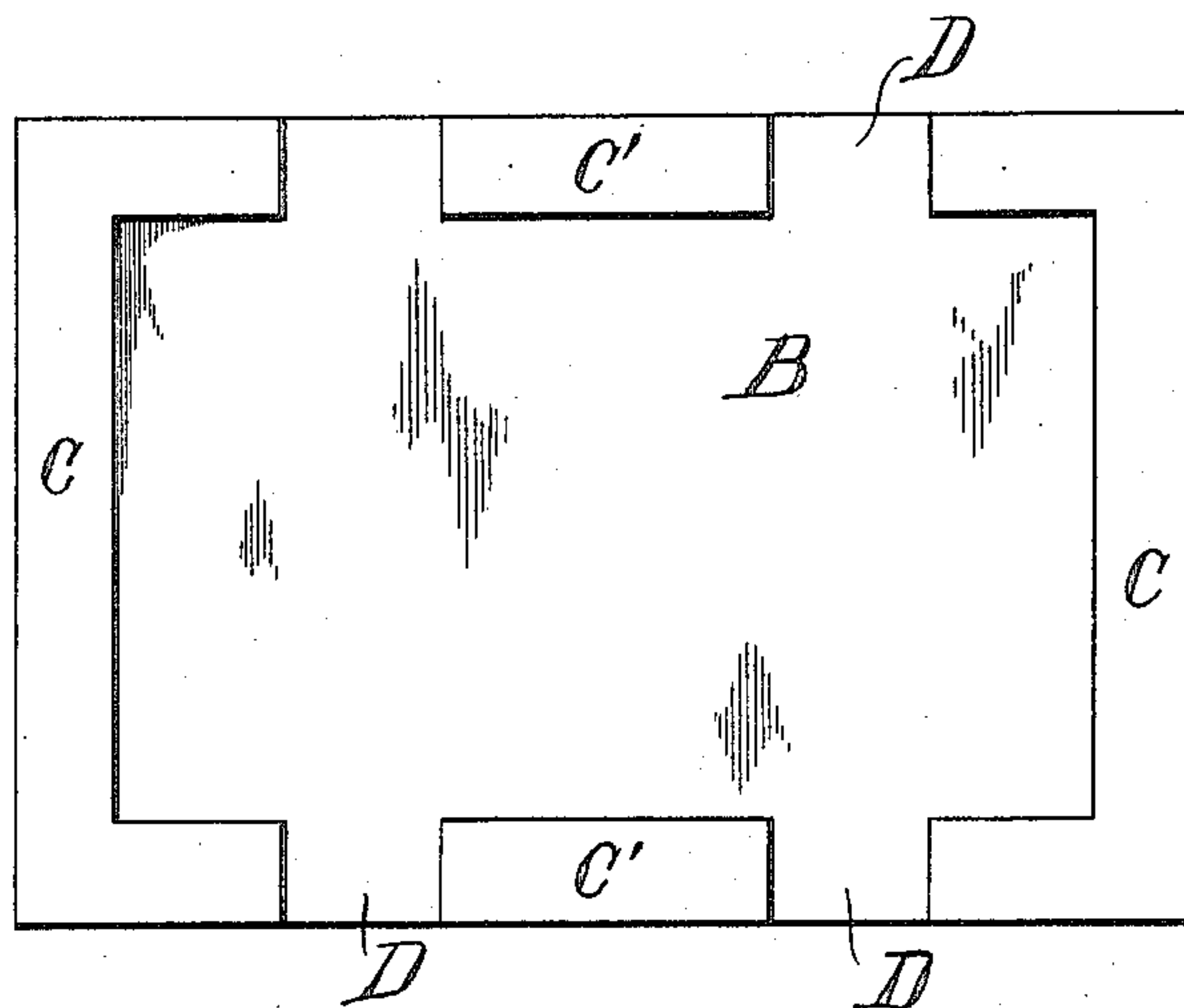
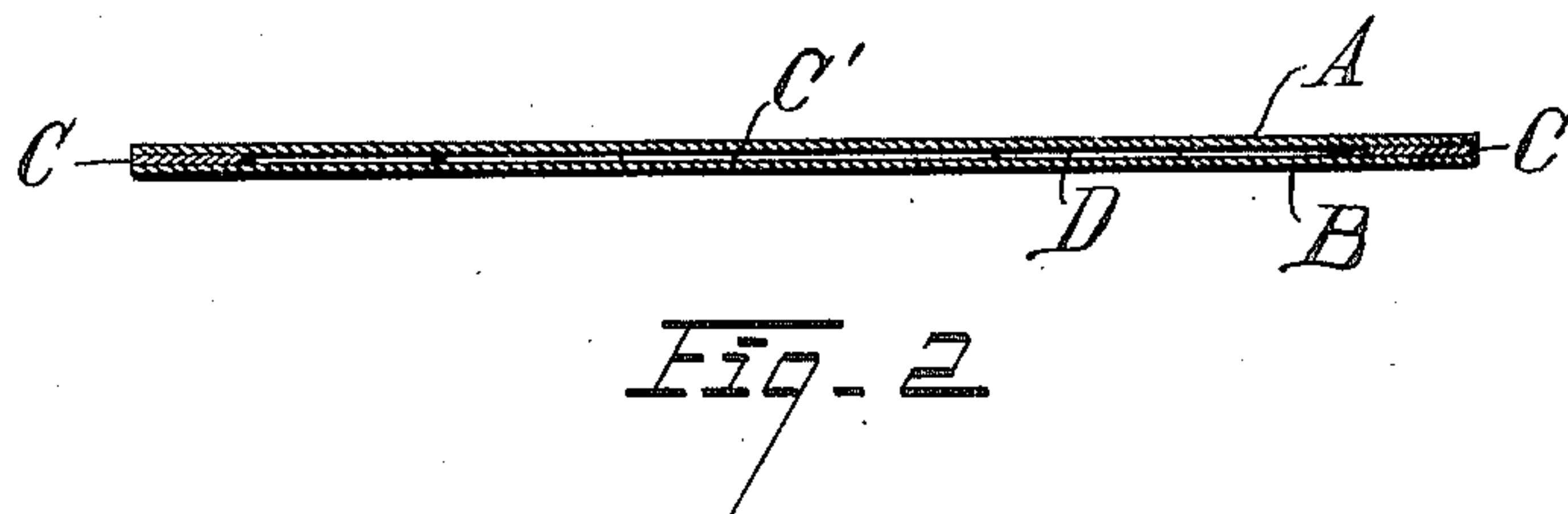
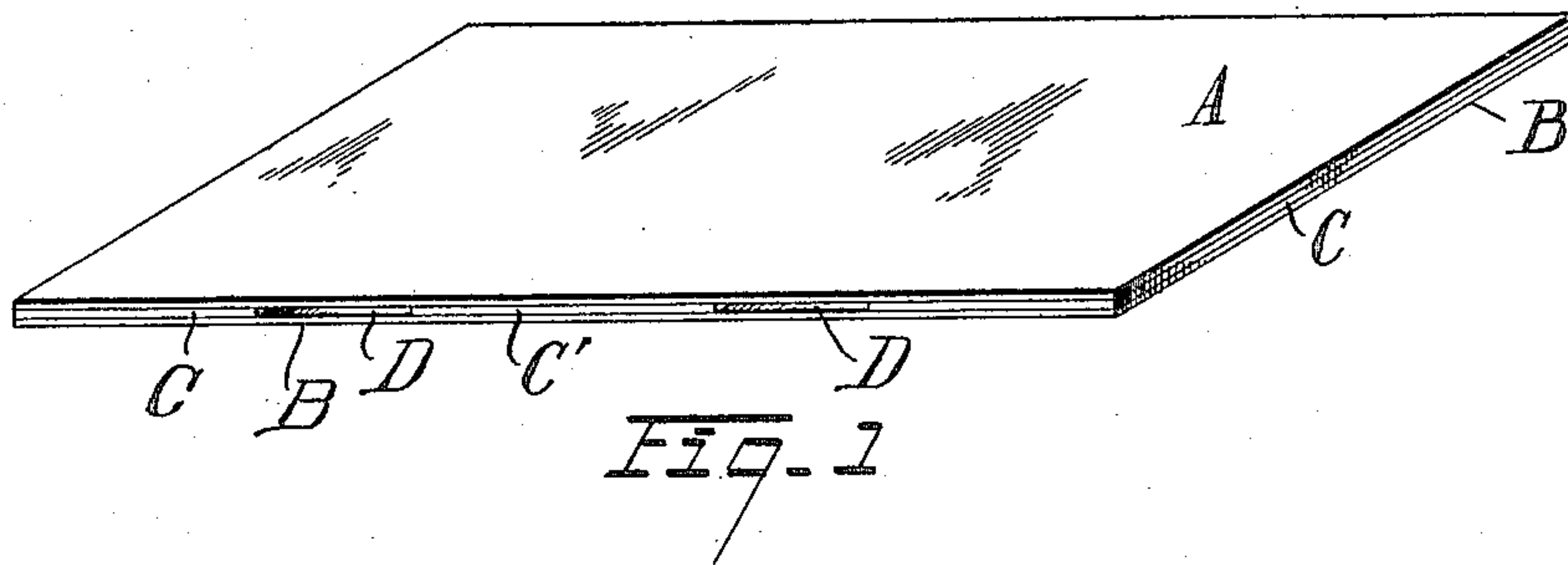
No. 875,076.

PATENTED DEC. 31, 1907.

H. M. HINMAN.

TABLE MAT.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 28, 1906.



WITNESSES:

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W. L. McGarrell.

Fig. 3

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HOWARD M. HINMAN, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO.

TABLE-MAT.

No. 875,076.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 31, 1907.

Application filed June 28, 1906. Serial No. 323,962.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HOWARD M. HINMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Table-Mats, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

The object of this invention is to provide an efficient table mat to be used on a dining table under hot dishes to prevent marring the table.

Various forms of solid and woven table mats have been used, but the mats with which I am familiar, while to some extent retarding the passage of heat from the dish, do eventually become hot and allow the table to be marred.

My invention provides a ventilated mat made of heat-resisting material and so arranged that while it is very neat in construction, it still provides sufficient ventilation space so that it is kept cool, protecting the table, no matter how long the hot dish may remain on the mat.

The invention is hereinafter more fully described and its essential characteristics set out in the claims.

The drawings show a mat embodying my invention.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the same. Fig. 2 is a cross section, and Fig. 3 is a plan of the mat with the upper plate removed.

My mat consists of an upper plate A and a lower plate B, each made of thin heat-resisting material, as sheets of asbestos, and suitable separating intermediate strips near the edges of the plates A and B. The drawings show four of these strips, viz. two end strips C and two side strips C'. These strips not only maintain the plates A and B separated so that there is a large air space between them, but by being omitted at certain points as D, openings are provided into the interior of the mat.

The mat is constructed entirely of asbestos with a silicon cement. The plates A and B and the intermediate strips being cut out of sheet stock, the strips are cemented to the plate B, and cement is then put on the upper side of the strips and plate A put in place. The strips C and C' are flush at their outer edges with the edges of the plates A and B. This makes a very neat construction and at the same time a very strong one. The upper

plate A, for example, which receives the dish is supported only at its outer edges, as shown, but being securely fastened to the intermediate strips, it is sufficiently stiff so that it does not bend intermediately under the weight of the dish thereon. It will be noticed that the end strips C are formed integrally around the corners of the mat. This presents a very strong corner, preventing the breakage at this point. In mats of the smaller size, two openings D on opposite sides are sufficient, in which case, the additional strips C' may be omitted and the inwardly projecting ends of the strips C continued further toward each other to reduce the space between them.

My mat may be used either side up indiscriminately. When a heated dish is placed upon it, the layer of air beneath the top plate becomes heated and expands, passing outwardly through the openings D. This outward current of air continues as long as the heat passing through the upper plate is increasing. As this heat begins to decrease, the contraction of the air reverses the current and the cooler air passes into the mat. The result is that the intermediate air is sufficiently agitated to prevent its serving as a communication of heat to the lower plate of the mat, and that plate is thus kept cool.

It is to be particularly noted that my mat is very flat. A mat of any considerable height is unsightly and is not suitable for use on any dining table. My mat attracts practically no attention, and, when observed, is more ornamental than otherwise. It is very cheap to construct,—cheaper in fact than if it were a solid piece of asbestos, while possessing very much greater efficiency.

I claim.

In a table mat having corners, in combination, two sheets of heat-resisting material, thin separating strips secured between the sheets with their outer edges flush with the outer edges of the sheets, said separating strips being located along opposite edges of the mat and passing integrally around the corners thereof, and there being space between the ends of such strips to provide admission openings into the interior of the mat.

In testimony whereof, I hereunto affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

HOWARD M. HINMAN.

Witnesses:

J. B. HULL,
S. E. FOUTS.