

No. 887,907

PATENTED MAY 19, 1908.

W. R. ATKINSON.

SWITCH BASE.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 16, 1906.

Fig. 1.

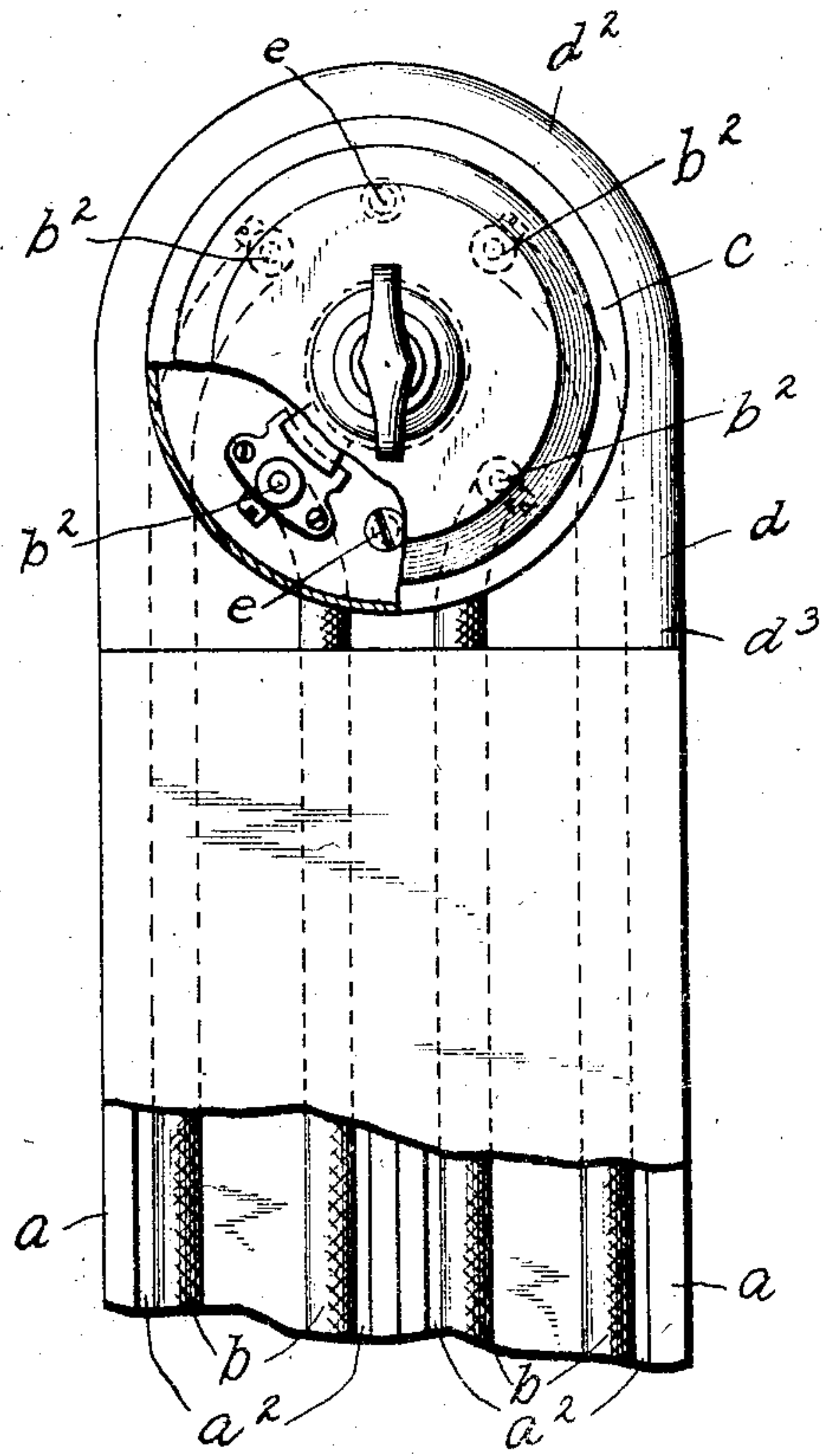


Fig. 2.

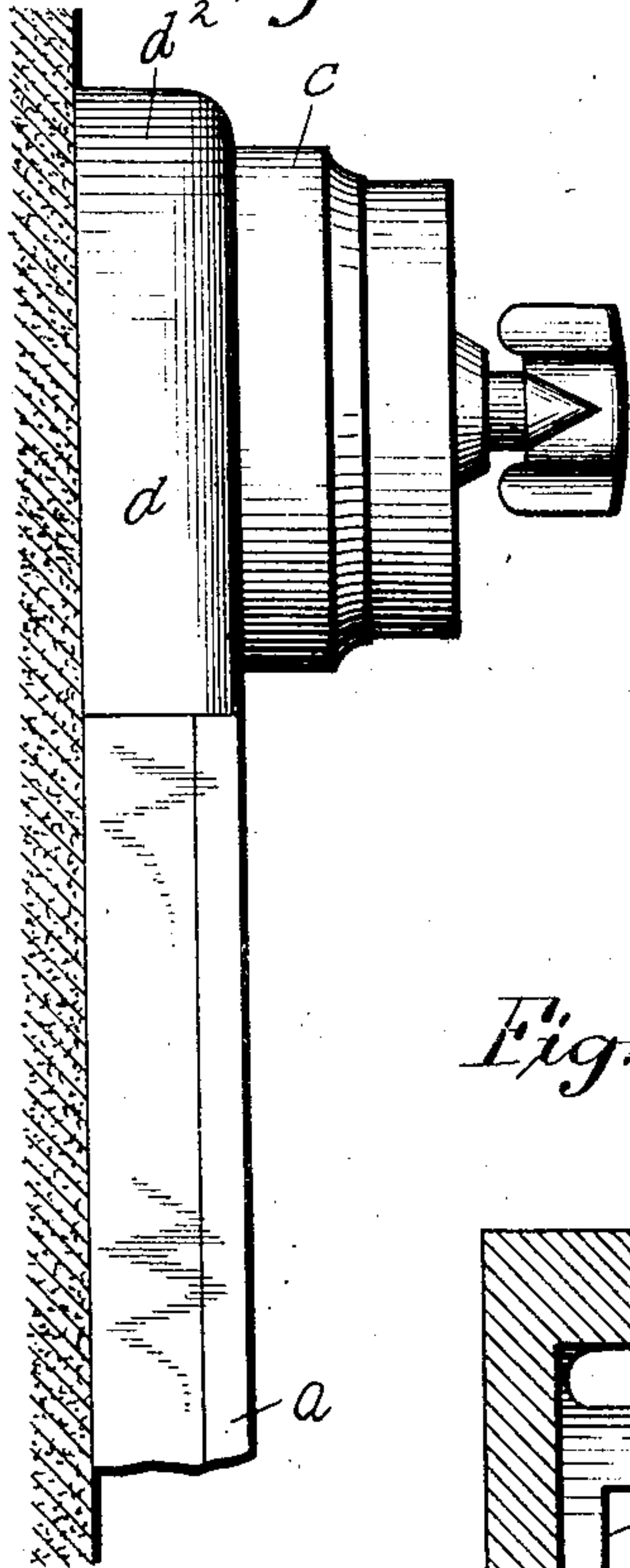


Fig. 3.

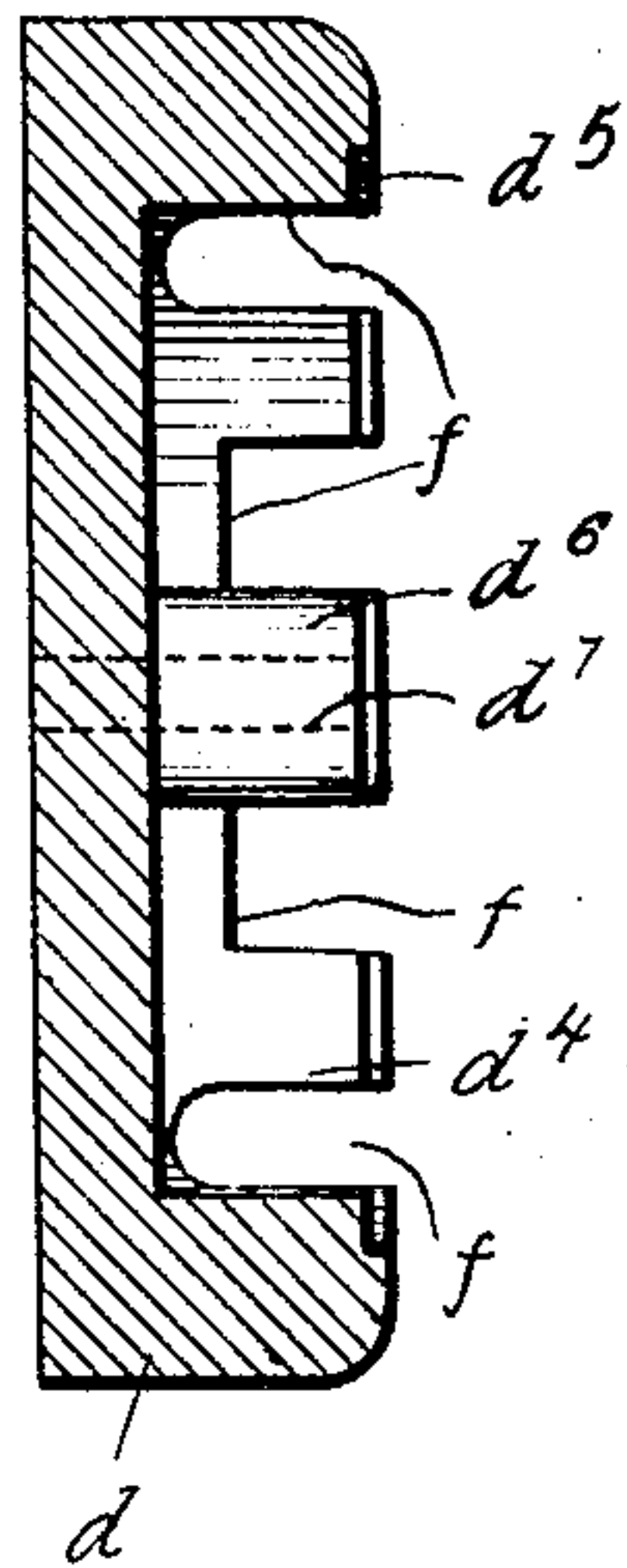
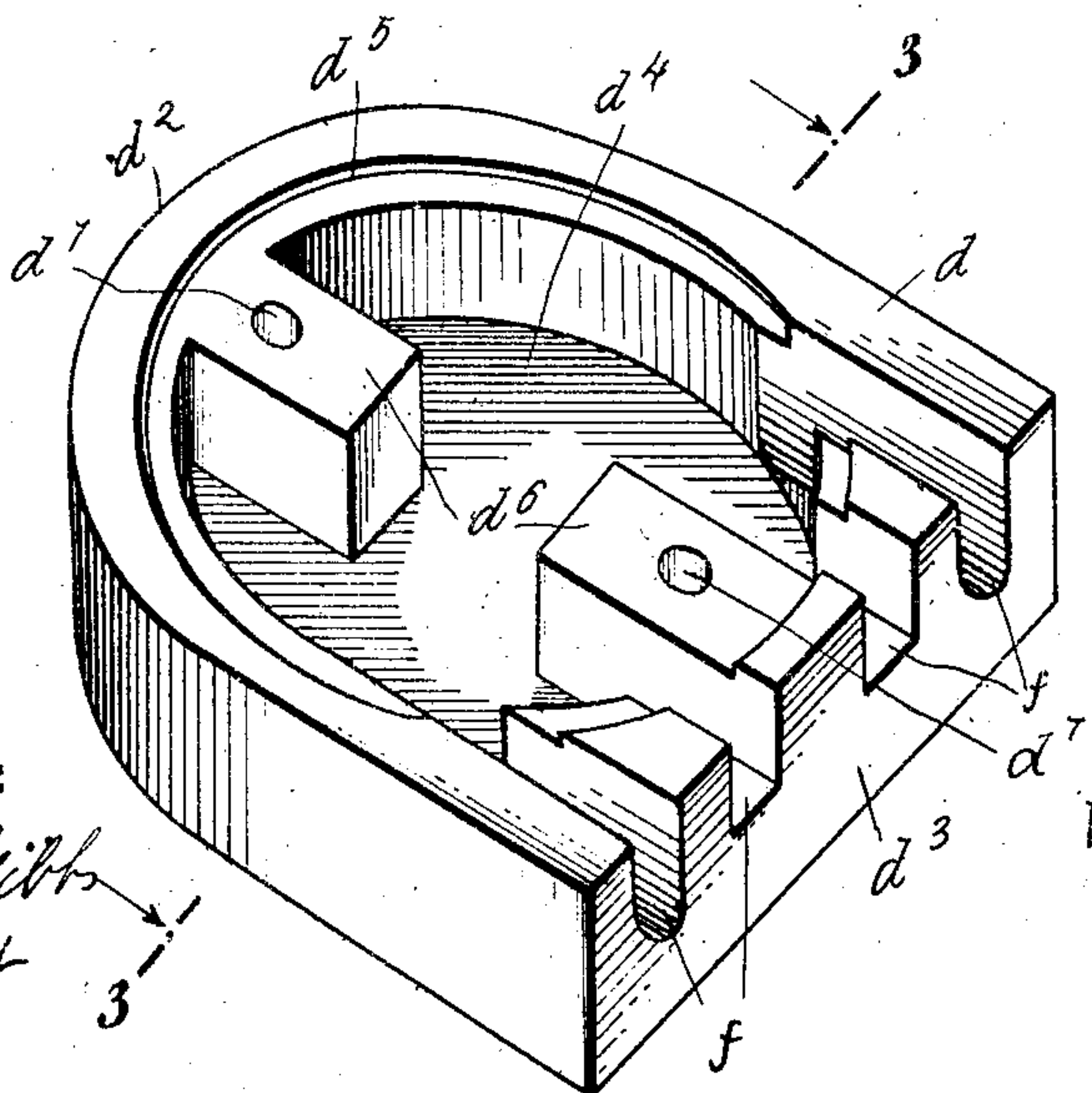


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES:

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SWITCH-BASE.

No. 887,907.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 19, 1908.

Application filed August 16, 1906. Serial No. 330,931.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM R. ATKINSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county of New York, State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Electrical Switch-Bases, 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.

My improvement comprises a switch base block to which the ordinary electric switch box may be applied, and the object thereof is to provide an improved device of this class designed particularly for use in connection with molding strips to which the electric wires or conductors are secured, and especially where said molding strips are used on or in a limited space as on door frames, window frames and other wood work of this class; a further object being to provide a switch base block which will give a finished appearance to work of this class and insulate the switch or switch base from the wood work.

My improvement is particularly designed for use in connection with what is known as a switch or switch base of the "two wire rotary snap type", and is fully described in the following specification of which the accompanying drawing forms a part, in which:

Figure 1 is a front view showing my improved switch base block, a switch connected therewith and showing also two pieces of molding with the electric wires, cables or conductors connected therewith, the said moldings being provided with a cover, and part of the construction being broken away, Fig. 2 a side view of the device as shown in Fig. 1; Fig. 3 a transverse section of my improved switch base block on the line 3—3 of Fig. 4, and Fig. 4 a perspective view of said block.

In the drawing forming part of this specification I have shown at *a* two molding strips of the kind usually employed in work of the class herein referred to, and said molding strips are provided with longitudinal grooves *a*² in which the wires or conductors *b* are placed. I have also shown at *c* an ordinary switch box of the two wire rotary snap type, and in the practice of my invention, I provide a switch box base or block *d*, one end of which is preferably semi-circular in form as shown at *d*² and the other end straight as shown at *d*³ and the transverse

width of the straight end *d*³ is exactly the same as the width of the molding strips *a*. The block *d* is provided with a central circular chamber *d*⁴ in the front thereof around which is a circular groove *d*⁵, and the opposite end portions of said block are provided with radially and inwardly directed projections *d*⁶ which extend into said chamber and are provided with screw holes *d*⁷, and in practice screws *e* are employed to secure the switch box *c* to the block *d*, said screws being passed into the screw holes *d*⁷, and when the switch box *c* is secured to the block *d* in this manner the perimeter thereof fits in the groove *d*⁵. The block *d* is also provided in the end thereof with longitudinally arranged grooves or passages *f* which correspond with the grooves *a*² in the molding strips and register therewith, and in practice the wires *b* are passed into the block *d* through the grooves or passages *f* and are connected with the switch apparatus in the switch box *c* in the usual manner, the ends of one of said wires being shown in full lines at *b*² and the others being indicated in dotted lines.

It will be seen that the back of the block *d* is solid, the chamber *d*⁴ and the grooves or passages *f* being so formed as not to pass through said back, and in this way the switch and all the parts connected therewith are insulated from the wood work to which it is or may be attached.

The block *d* may be composed of porcelain or any other insulating material, and by employing my improvement for making electrical connections of the class described the danger of fire is largely obviated, and my said improvement is particularly applicable where a pair of feed wires come to a point where a switch is located to control a group of electric lights and the molding carrying the return wires is placed close to the feeders; and also where it is desired to permit of two lines of molding carrying electric light wires to be placed side by side as is sometimes the case where the moldings have to be placed on narrow casings, window frames or other finishings, but my improvement is not limited to any special use thereof, and the same may be employed wherever found to be applicable.

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

An electric switch base block designed for use in connection with molding strips having

longitudinal grooves, said block being provided with a circular chamber formed in one side thereof and with one straight end, the transverse dimensions of which are the same
5 as the transverse dimensions of the molding strips, said block being also provided in the straight end portion thereof with parallel grooves or passages communicating with said chamber, and adapted to register with
10 the grooves in the molding strips, the inner

walls of said chamber being also provided at opposite sides thereof with inwardly directed members arranged parallel with said grooves or passages and which serve as securing means.

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Witnesses:

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