

M. C. BROWNE.
 STRIP MOISTENING DEVICE.
 APPLICATION FILED MAY 13, 1908.

900,352.

Patented Oct. 6, 1908.

Fig. 1.

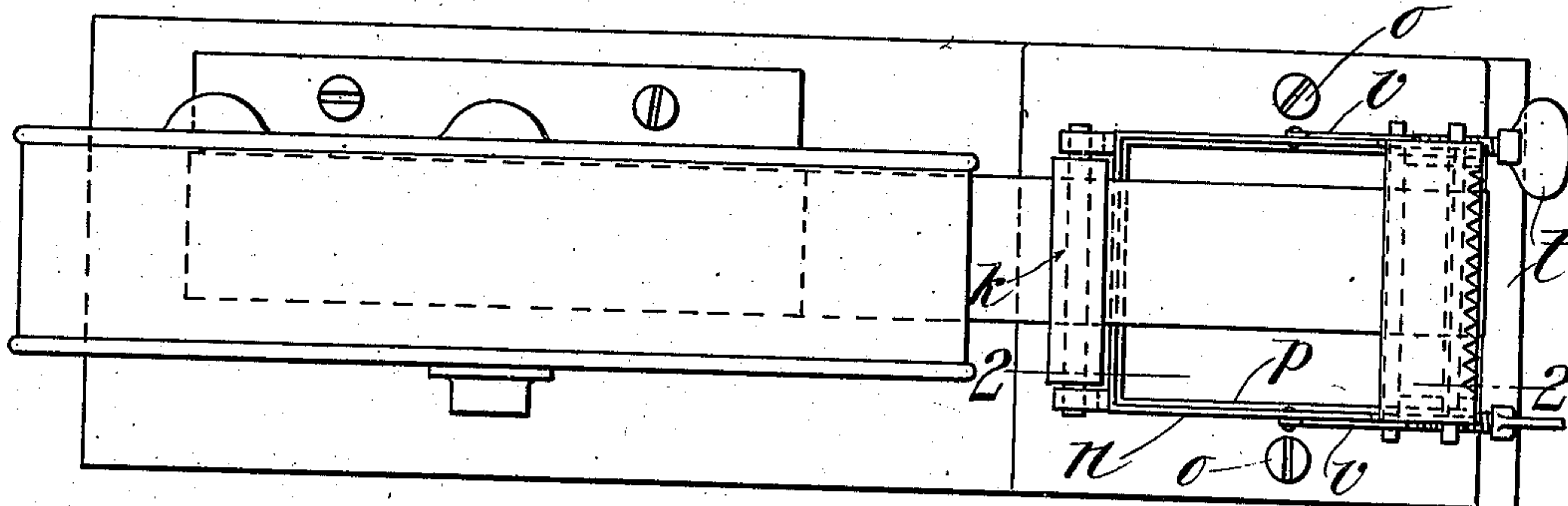


Fig. 3.

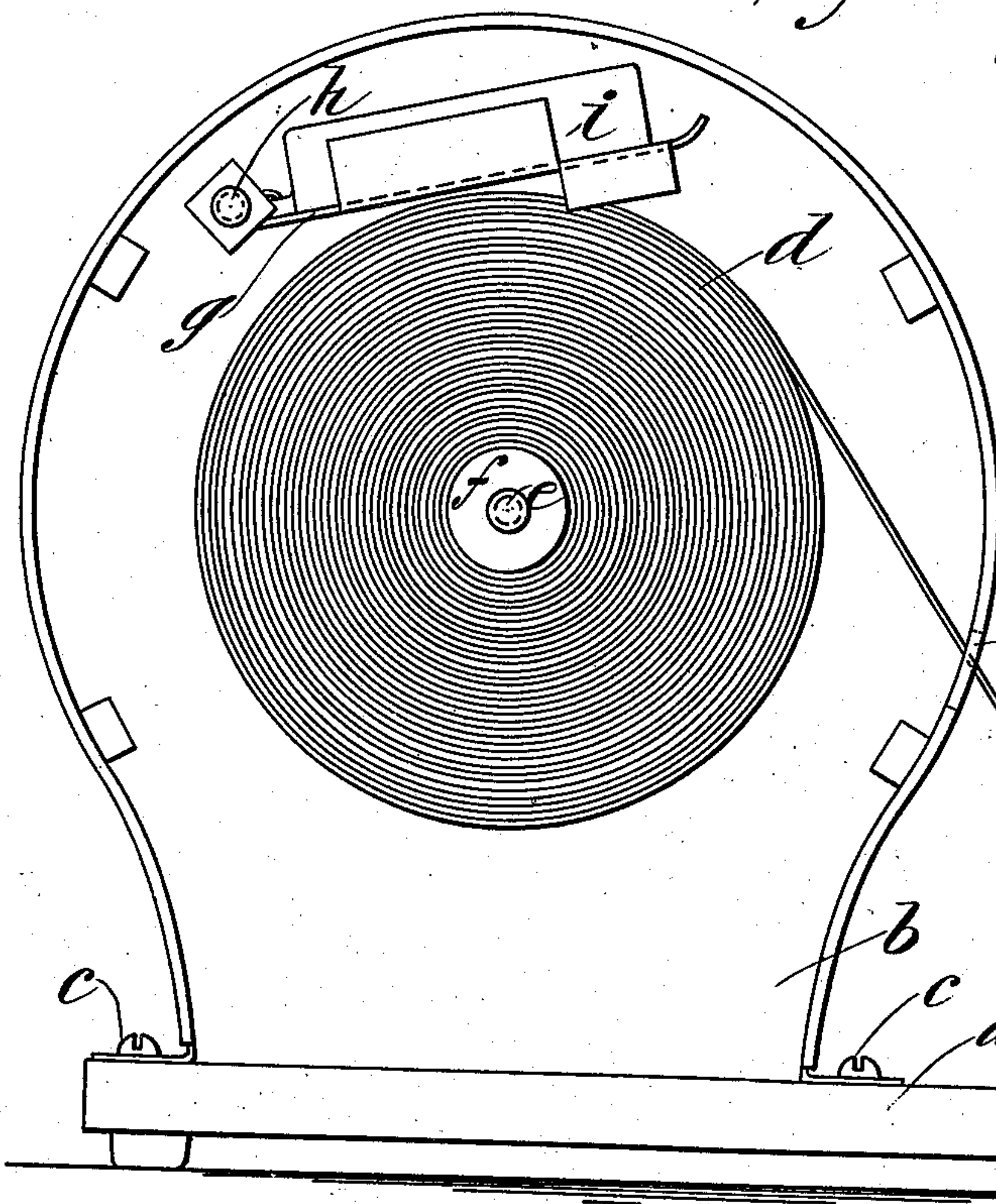
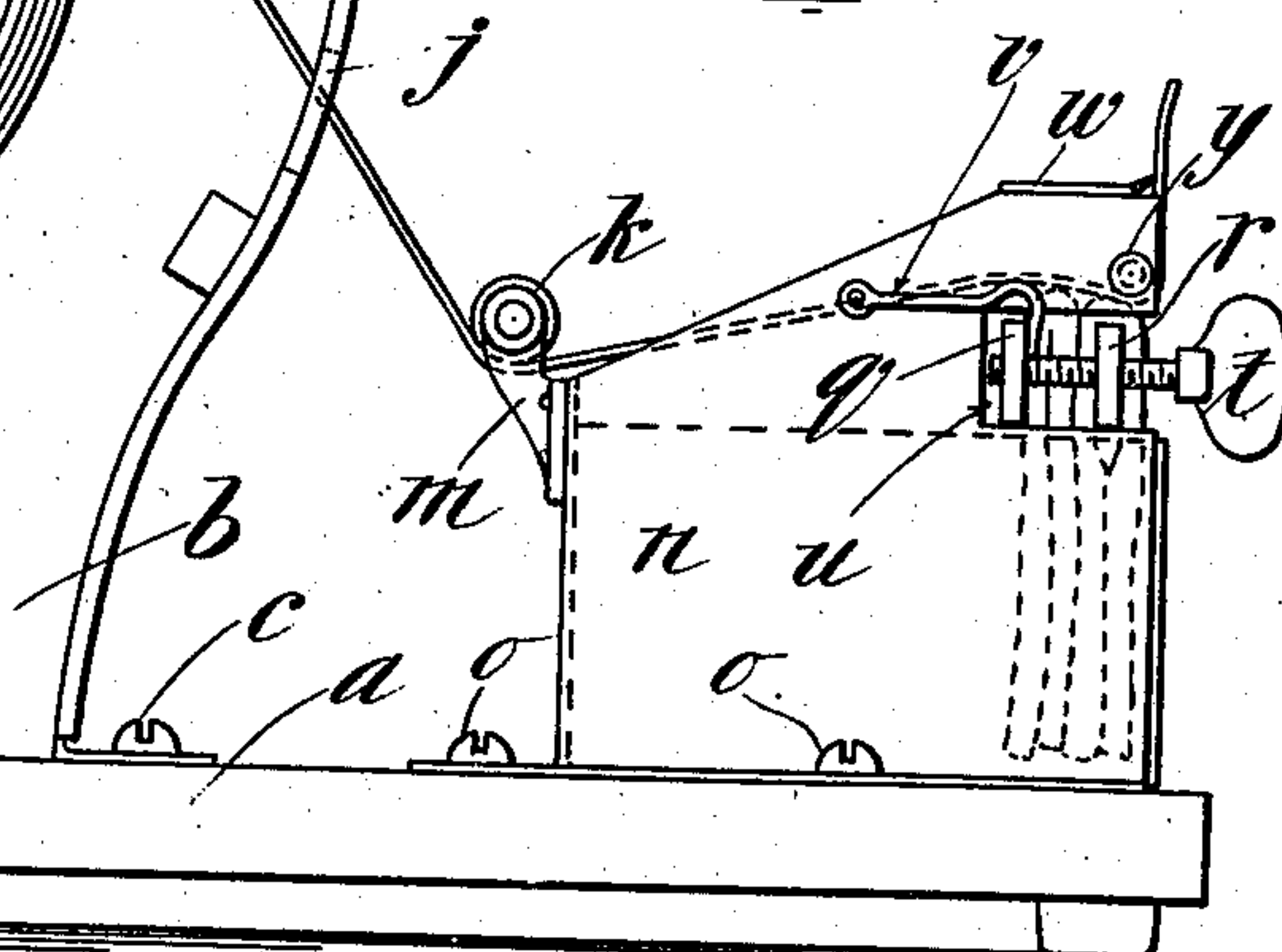
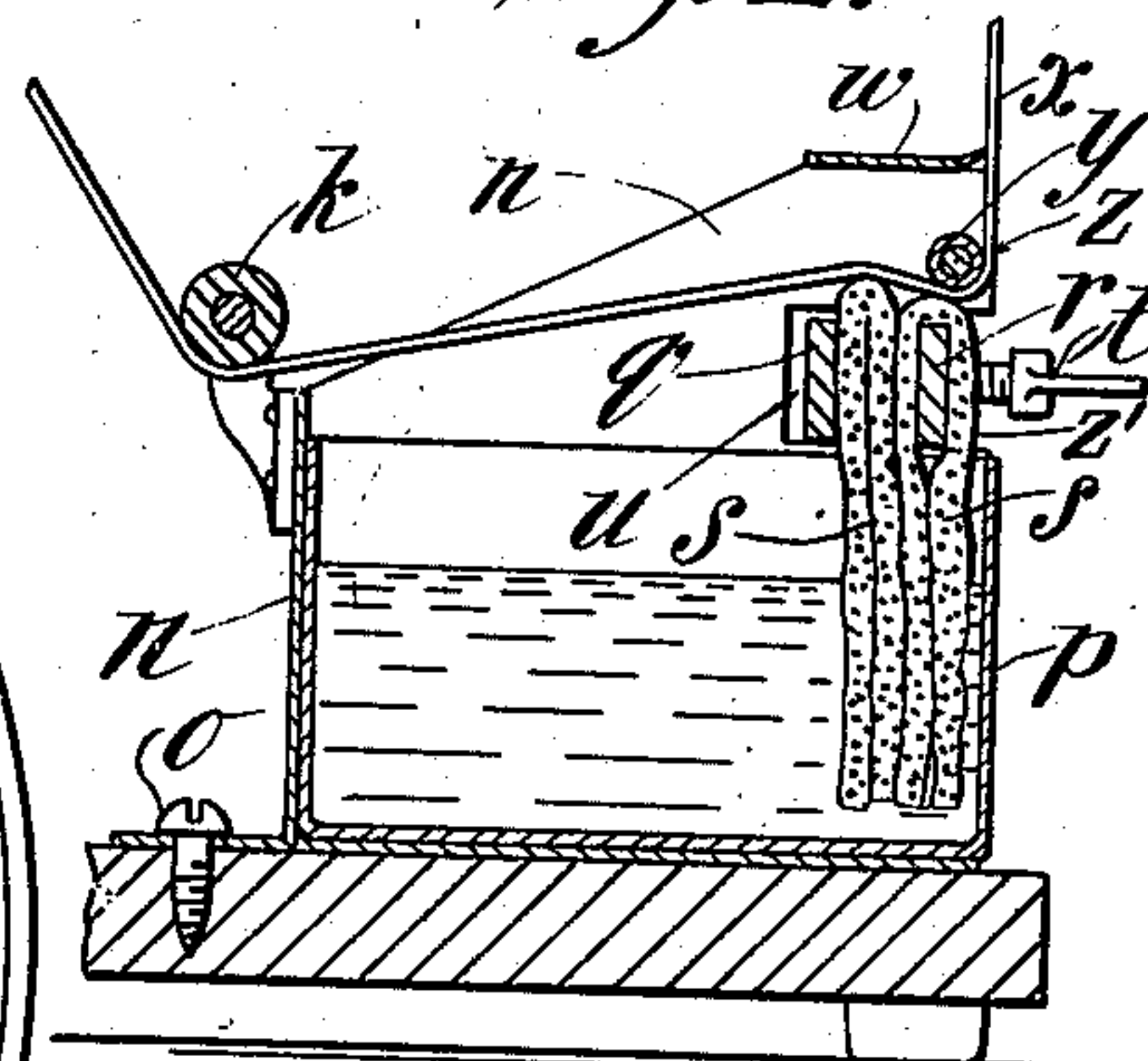


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

H. L. Sprague
H. W. Brown

INVENTOR.

Michael C. Brown
 BY *Chapin & Co.*
 ATTORNEY.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MICHAEL C. BROWNE, OF HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS.

STRIP-MOISTENING DEVICE.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MICHAEL C. BROWNE, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Holyoke, in the county of Hampden and State of Massachusetts, have invented new and useful Improvements in Strip-Moistening Devices, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in strip-moistening devices by which term I mean a strip of paper or cloth that is gummed on one side and suitably mounted so that as the free end of the strip is drawn from a roll or package of the same, the gummed side will be automatically moistened during the drawing operation.

The objects of the invention are,—I. To provide a device that will conveniently hold a suitable quantity, preferably a roll, of the gummed strip and so arranged that the operator can readily detach a portion or convenient length thereof from the roll and at the same time provide means for moistening the strip during the detaching or drawing operation, such detached pieces of the moistened gum strip being used in place of twine or other-similar flexible material for doing up packages or articles of merchandise; II. A further object of the invention is to provide a moistening device that will prevent the strip from being drawn away therefrom during the severing operation; and III. A still further object being to so construct the moistening device that the free end of the strip may be conveniently moistened should the same become dry after the severing operation, that is the portion between the cutter and the moistening device proper, as will be fully described in the specification.

In the drawings forming part of this application,—Figure 1 is a plan view of the strip-moistening device clearly showing the relation of the thumb-nuts for varying the degree of capillary attraction of the moistener. Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal section through the moistening tank on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a side elevational view of the device showing clearly the location of the roll package and the path that the strip takes when drawn from the roll to complete the severing of the same.

Referring to the drawings in detail, *a* designates a base-piece or element to which is secured a casing *b* constructed of sheet metal, as copper or tin, this casing being secured to the base-piece *a* by means of the screws *c*.

The roll of gummed strip is designated by *d* and is rotatably mounted on the shaft *e* which carries a loosely mounted spool or cylindrical element *f*.

In order to place proper tension on the strip, I provide a platform or arm *g* pivoted to the casing *b* at *h*, which platform supports a suitable weight *i* causing the platform to place suitable drag or tension on the strip during the drawing off operation.

The free end of the strip leads through an opening *j* in the casing *b* and passes under an anti-friction roller *k* that is mounted in the end of an arm *m* which is secured to a supporting case *n* that is attached to the base-piece *a* by means of the screws *o*.

Within the supporting case *n* is located a water tank *p* which can be readily removed therefrom at the right-hand side of the apparatus, as this side of the supporting case *n* is open.

q and *r* designate parallel bars which extend transversely of the case *n* and between which are clamped moistening wicks *s* by means of the thumb-nuts *t* which are threaded through the bars *q* and *r*. This construction permits the amount or rate of capillary attraction to be varied so that the gummed strip may be moistened more or less during its passage across the wicks. The lower ends of the wicks extend into the tank *p* as clearly shown in Fig. 2, which contains a moistening element, as water.

The supporting casing *n* is provided on each side with a rectangular opening *u* for supporting the ends of the bars *q* and *r*, as clearly shown in Fig. 3.

In order to readily remove the tank *p* and the bars *q* and *r*, which carry the moistening wick, from the case *n*, I provide a hook *v* pivoted to the case *n* so that by simply lifting this hook the water-tank and clamping bars may be readily removed from the supporting casing *n*.

w designates a severing apparatus or knife provided with a serrated edge for severing the strip, the free end of the strip being designated at *x*. This severing knife is mounted on the supporting casing *n* and the teeth of the same are practically in the same vertical plane as the outer edge of the moistening strip *s*. A roller *y* serves to hold the strip down onto the upper edge of the moistening wicks *s* at all times, and especially during the severing operation, so that the strip is never free from the moistening wicks.

After the strip is severed the portion of the strip between the knife *w* and the roller *y*, designated at *z*, may be moistened, should the same become dry from long intervals in the use of the device, by simply folding the same down onto the outer side *z'* of the wick *s*, thus avoiding the waste of any of the gummed strip, as common in these devices now in use. After the strip *z* has been moistened, it may be drawn forward and severed in the usual way.

What I claim, is:—

1. A strip-moistening device having in combination with a suitably mounted roll of gummed material, a strip-moistening element proper comprising liquid absorbent material located in the path of the free end of the strip, means for normally holding the free end of the strip in contact with the absorbent material, means for varying the capillary attraction of the absorbent material, and means for severing the strip.

2. A strip-moistening device having in

combination, a base-piece, a casing mounted thereon and provided with means for supporting a roll of gummed material, a supporting casing mounted on the base-piece and spaced from the casing, a roller secured to the supporting casing for directing the free end of the gummed strip when drawn from the roll, a container tank mounted in the supporting casing, absorbent material supported by the supporting casing, clamping means for varying the rate of capillary attraction of the absorbent material, a device for detachably retaining the absorbent material in the supporting casing, and means for directing the free end of the strip into contact with the absorbent material, and a severing device for the strip, the free end of the strip being in contact with the absorbent material at all times.

MICHAEL C. BROWNE.

Witnesses:

K. I. CLEMONS,

H. W. BOWEN.