

L. J. POWERS.
BROOM HOLDER.
APPLICATION FILED APR. 27, 1908.

915,886.

Patented Mar. 23, 1909.

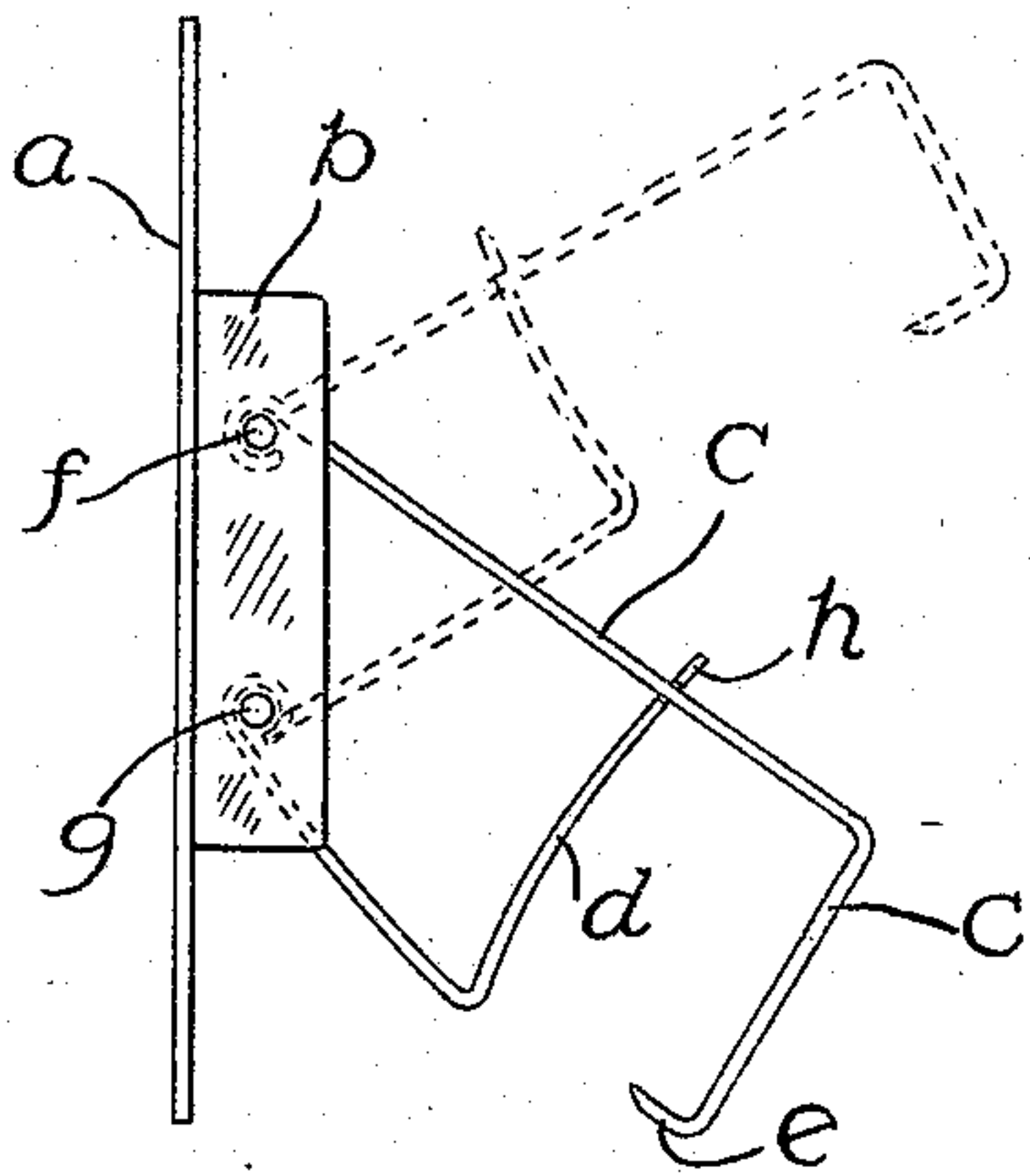


Fig. 1.

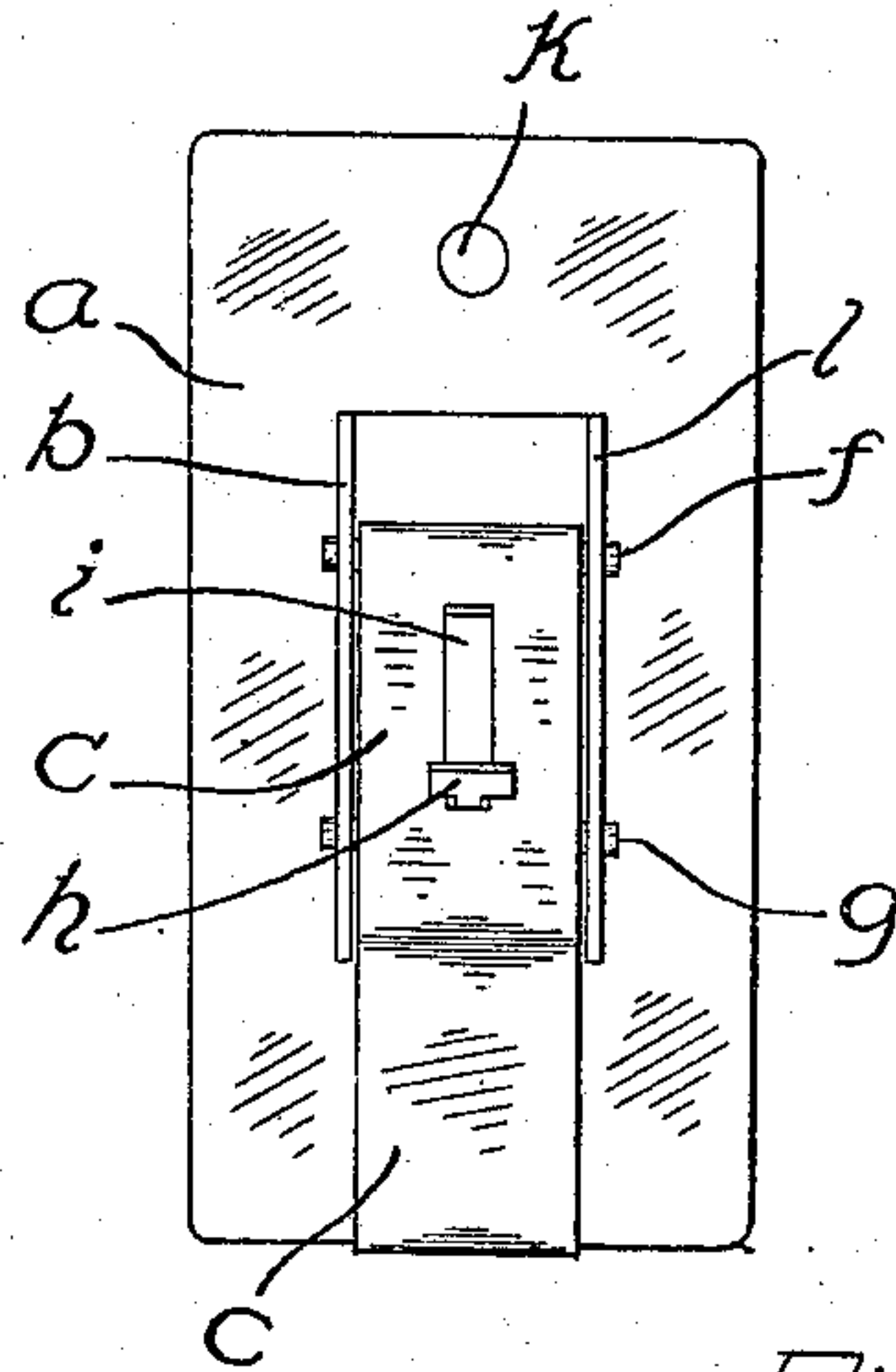


Fig. 3.

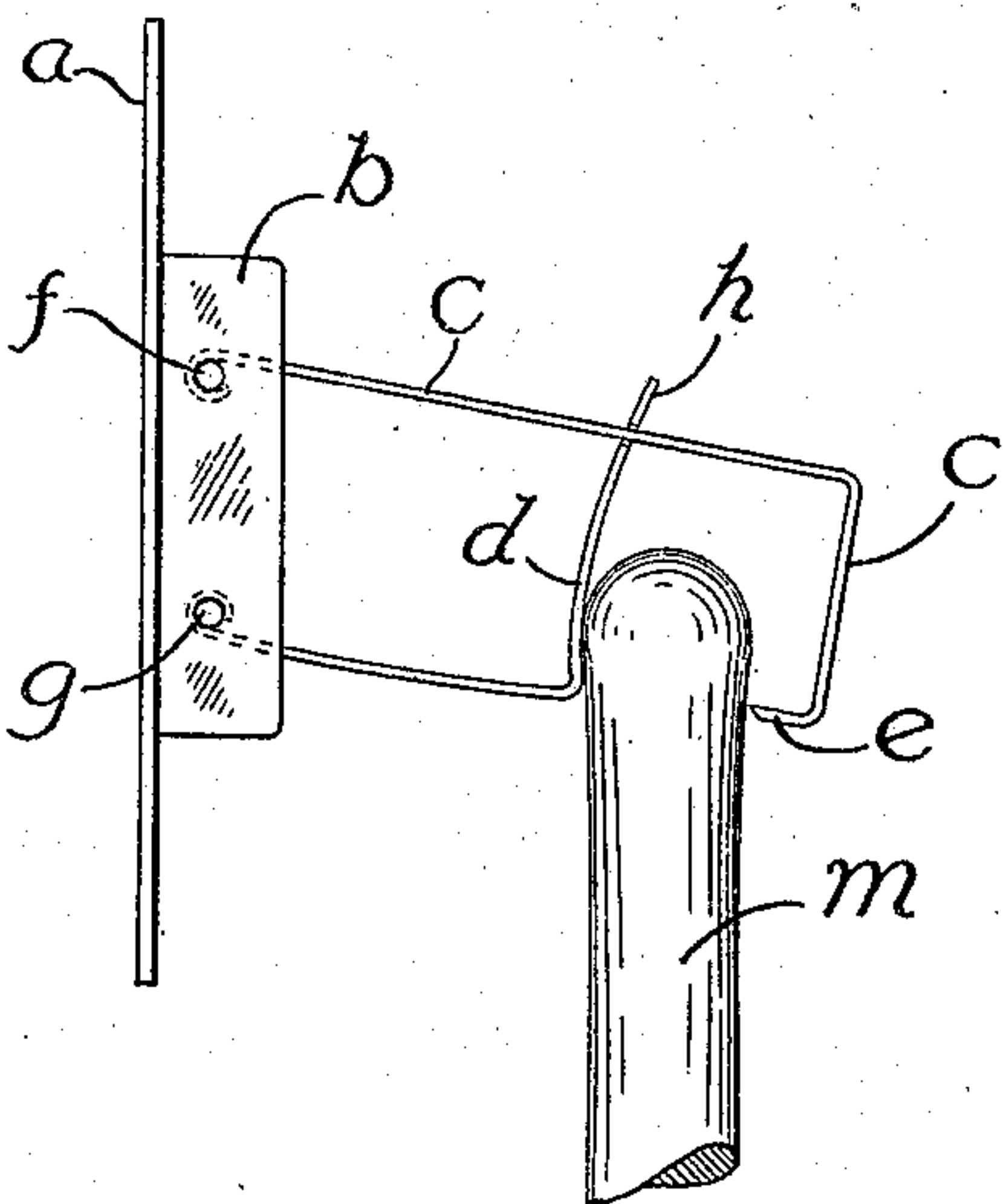


Fig. 2.

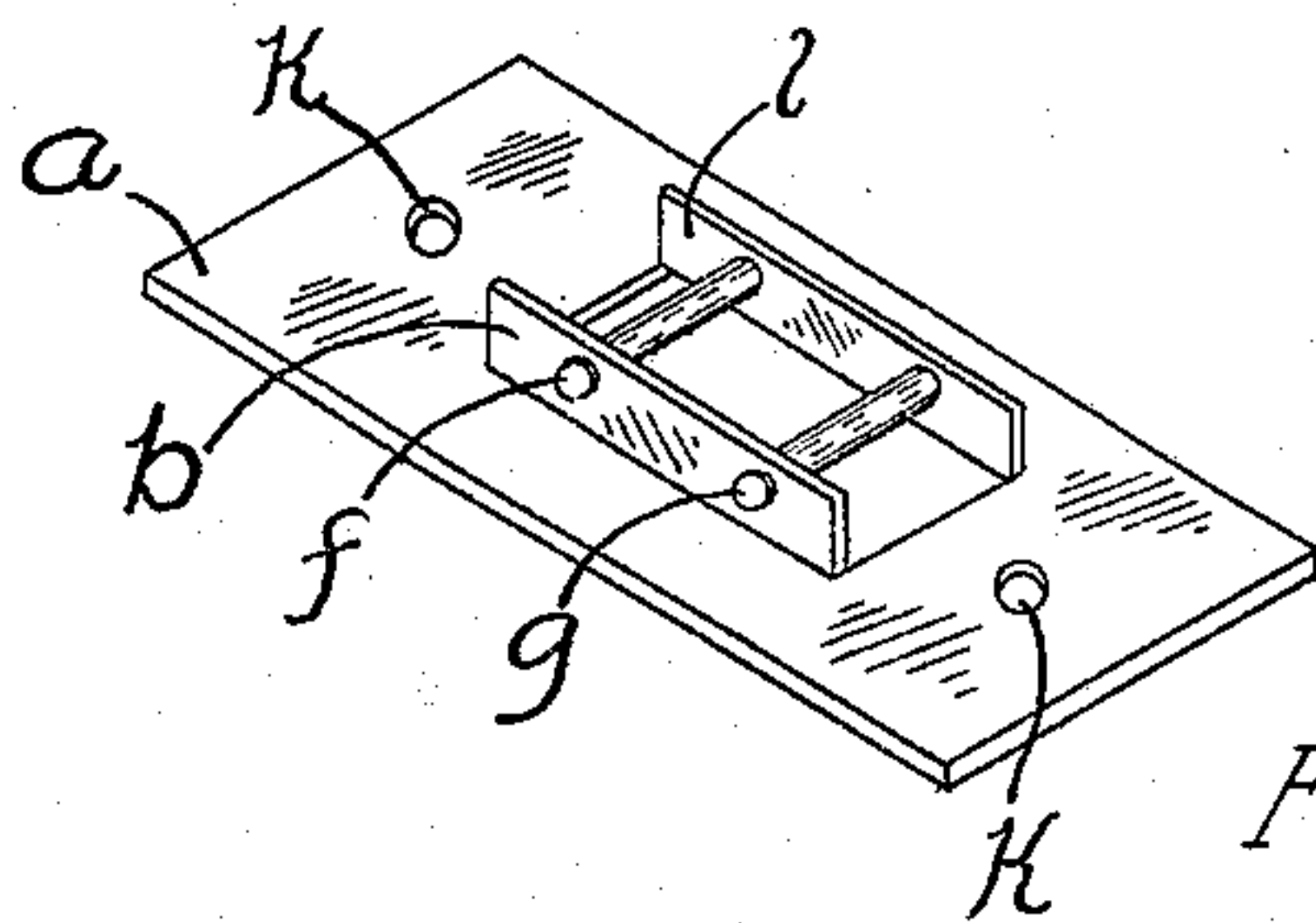


Fig. 4.

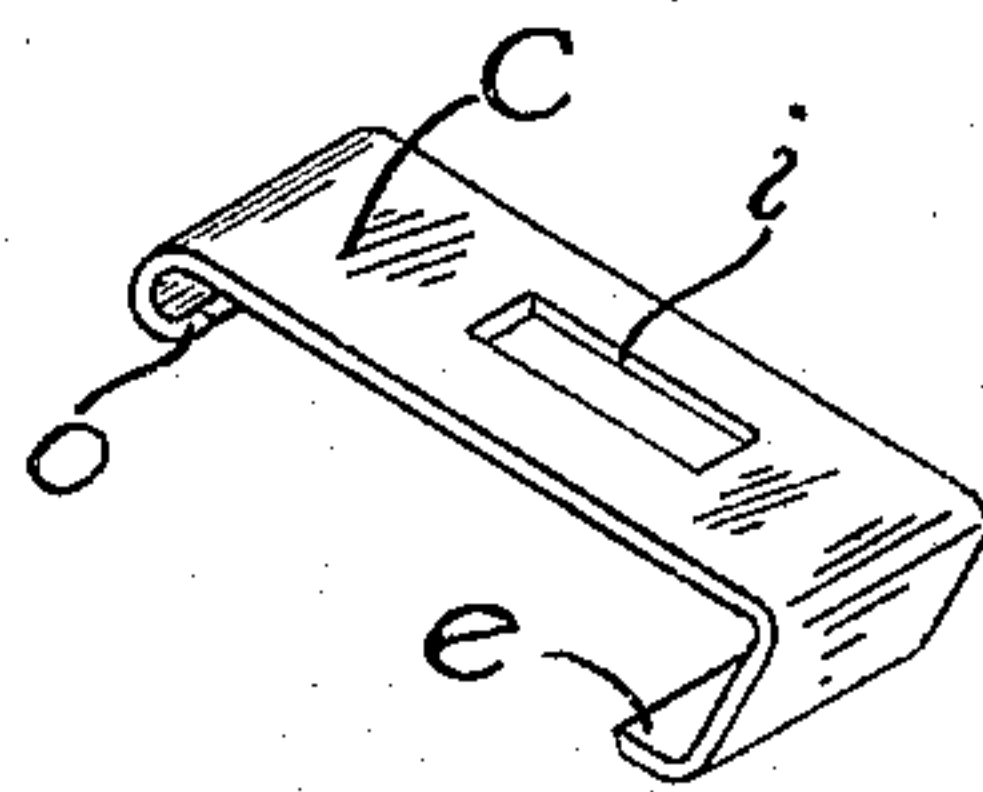


Fig. 5.

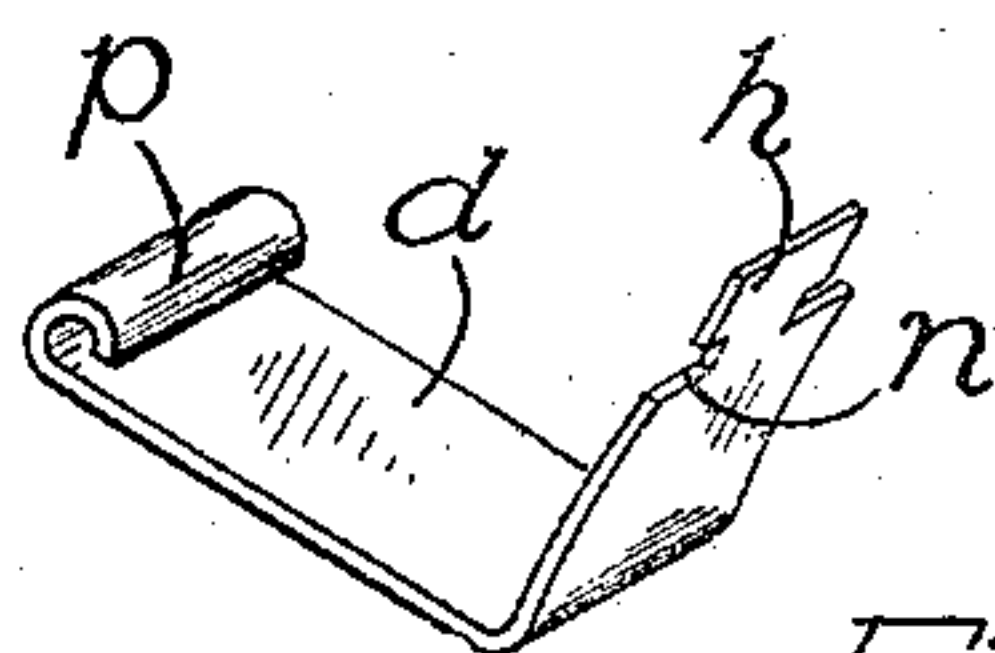


Fig. 6.

WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEONARD J. POWERS, OF WATERLOO, IOWA.

BROOM-HOLDER.

No. 915,886.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 23, 1909.

Application filed April 27, 1908. Serial No. 429,354.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEONARD J. POWERS, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of Waterloo, Blackhawk

5 county, Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Broom-Holders, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements for holding or supporting brooms and other ob-
10 jects, and the object of my improvement is to furnish means for this purpose which co-operate with the object held by reason of the gravity of the latter to support such object
15 securely, such means furthermore being so arranged and adapted as to permit of the ready withdrawal of such object when the latter is elevated, without the necessity for manually operating or grasping the former otherwise. This object I have accomplished by the
20 means which are hereinafter fully described and claimed, and which are illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my broom-
25 holder, with its clutches depicted in full lines in the grasping position, and in dotted lines in the released position. Fig. 2 is another side elevation of such device, showing its clutches supporting a broom-handle. Fig. 3 is a front elevation of such device.
30 Fig. 4 is a perspective of the base-plate and its bearings. Fig. 5 is a perspective of the upper clutch, and Fig. 6 is a perspective of the lower clutch in detail.

Similar letters refer to similar parts
35 throughout the several views.

I am aware that devices have been heretofore contrived to hold brooms and similar articles in suspension but such devices have been so constructed that it has not been possible to release or to place the object held by
40 the use of one hand only, when the other hand of the operator is required for other purposes. In these devices, one hand has been required to hold the object while the
45 other hand was necessary to disengage the clutches of the holder. In my improved device, but one hand is used or necessary, and neither hand of the operator is required to manipulate or touch the holder.

50 My device has a backing or base-plate *a* formed of a single flat piece of metal with a central H-shaped cut. The lipped portions thus formed are pressed out at right angles on one side to form parallel brackets or bearing-plates *b* and *l* transversely orificed in line
55 for the reception of the bearing pins *f* and *g*,

the latter extending horizontally across the rectangular space between the said brackets. The plate *a* has orifices *k*, whereby it may be suspended from nails secured to any vertical
60 surface.

The upper clutch is formed of a single piece of metal, having one end scrolled to inclose the upper bearing-pin *f*, as shown at
65 *o* in Fig. 5. This clutch *c* has a narrow rectangular longitudinal slot *i*, and the outer end of the clutch is bent downward, with its extreme end then bent inward to form a contact-edge *e*.

The lower clutch *d* has its inner end scrolled
70 at *p* to pivot on the lowermost bearing-pin *g*, while the outer portion of such clutch is bent upward. The extreme outer end of the clutch *d* is cut away to present a T-shaped
75 terminal, the horizontal lugs of such terminal being passed through the slot *i* in the clutch *c*, before pivoting said lower clutch on the pin *g*, so that the lugs will, when the lower clutch is assembled with the pin *g*, be prevented from returning through such slot,
80 although the narrower neck of such terminal may freely play within and along the slot. The shoulders *n* of the terminal *h* also restrict the clutch *d* from passing upward
85 through said slot. As shown in Fig. 1, the angle of bend of the clutch *d* is made rather acute in order to provide an opposing contact-edge at such angle for the contact-edge *e* of the upper clutch *c*.

When assembled, the tendency of the
90 clutches is to fall under the influence of gravity to the position indicated by the full lines in Fig. 1. When the upper end of the handle of a broom *m* or other object is introduced or pushed upward between the con-
95 tact-edges aforesaid of said clutches *c* and *d*, as shown in Fig. 2, and then released, the weight of the object *m* draws down said clutches so that their contact-edges firmly grasp the object and hold it securely sus-
100 pended. It will now be obvious that in case the operator wishes to detach such object *m*, the only action necessary will be to slightly elevate the object with one hand and then withdraw it from between said clutches side-
105 wise, when it becomes detached entirely therefrom without any other manipulation or any necessity for touching the clutches *c* and *d*.

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

1. A broom-holder, consisting of a wall-plate adapted for suspension from some fixed support, upper and under clutch-members pivoted one above the other from said wall-plate, the said upper member slotted and its terminal then bent downward and then inward, the free end of the lower member being bent upward acutely toward the said upper member with its terminal adapted to slide in and be restricted within said slot, the acute angle of the lower and the inwardly bent end of the upper member forming clamping-jaws which are separable when moved upward to permit the release sidewise from between them of a contained object.

2. A broom-holder, consisting of a base-plate *a*, supplied with bearing-brackets *b*, bearing pins *f* and *g* in said brackets, a clutch *c* pivoted on the bearing-pin *f*, and supplied with a slot *i*, a clutch *d* pivoted on the bearing-pin *g* and having a lug-bearing terminal *h* adapted to be slidable in the slot *i*, and prevented from escaping by its lugs.

Signed at Waterloo, Iowa, this 9th day of April, 1908.

LEONARD J. POWERS.

Witnesses:

O. D. YOUNG,
G. C. KENNEDY.