

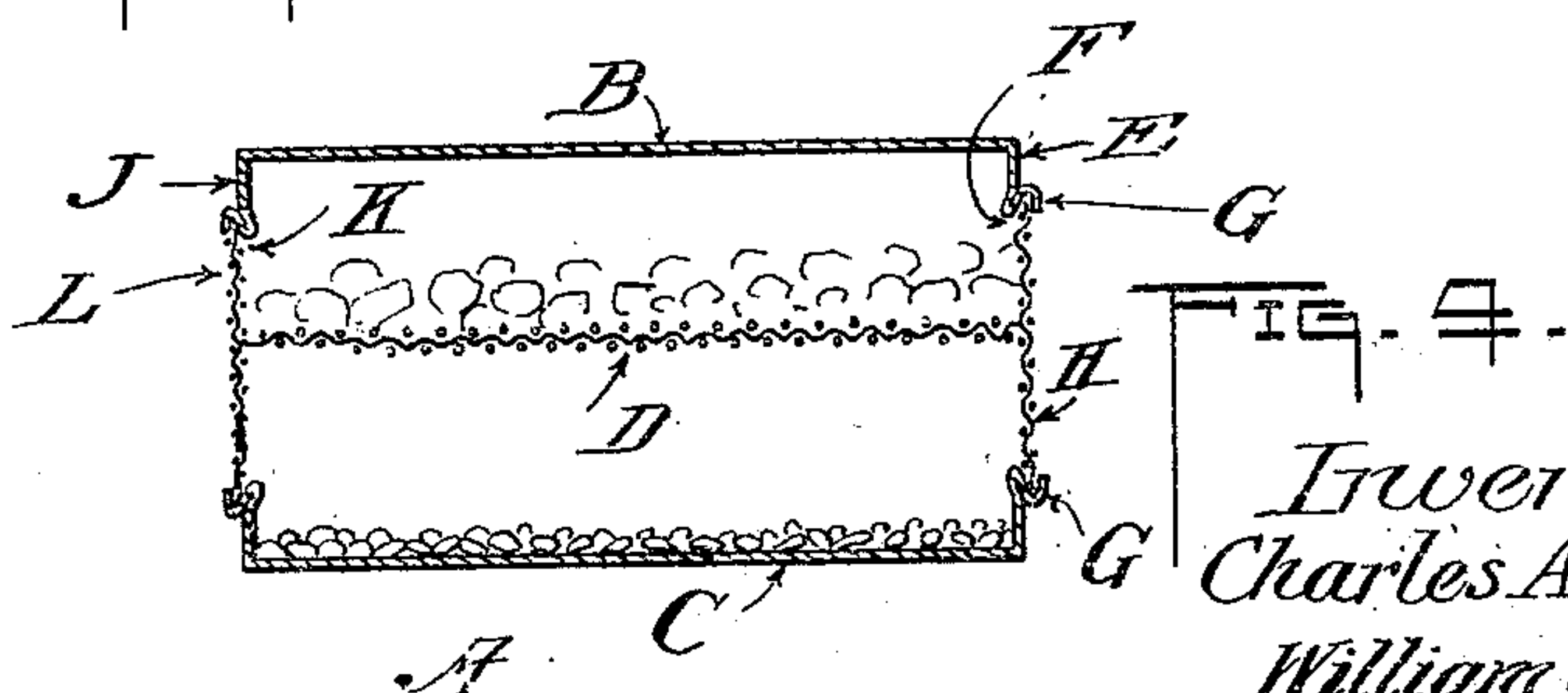
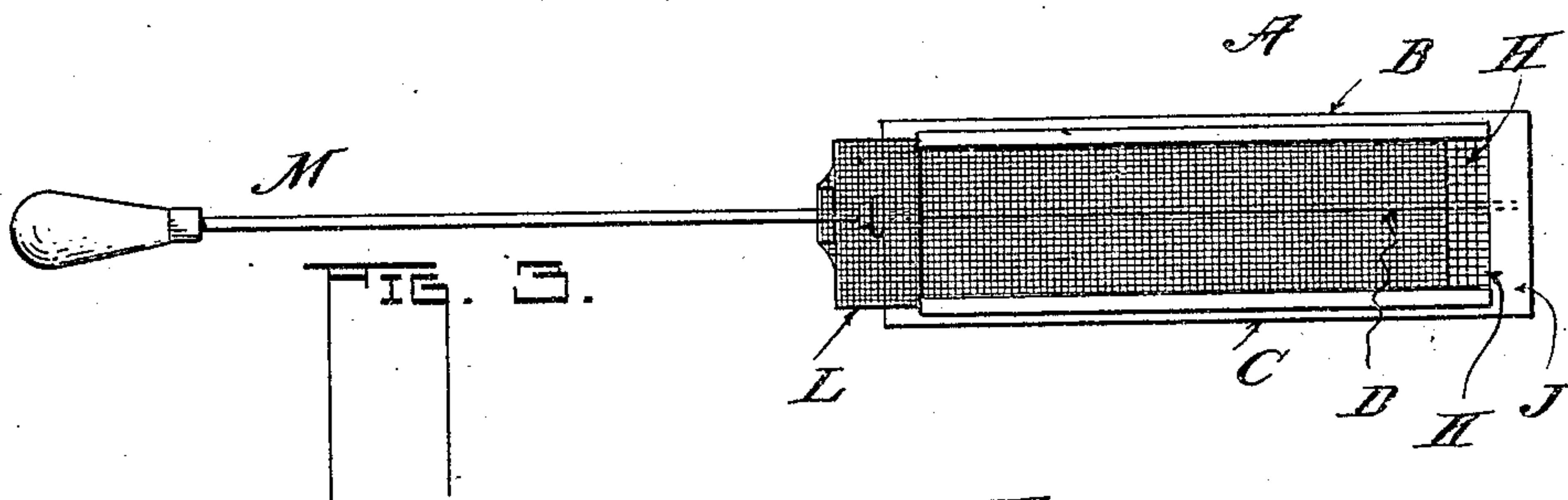
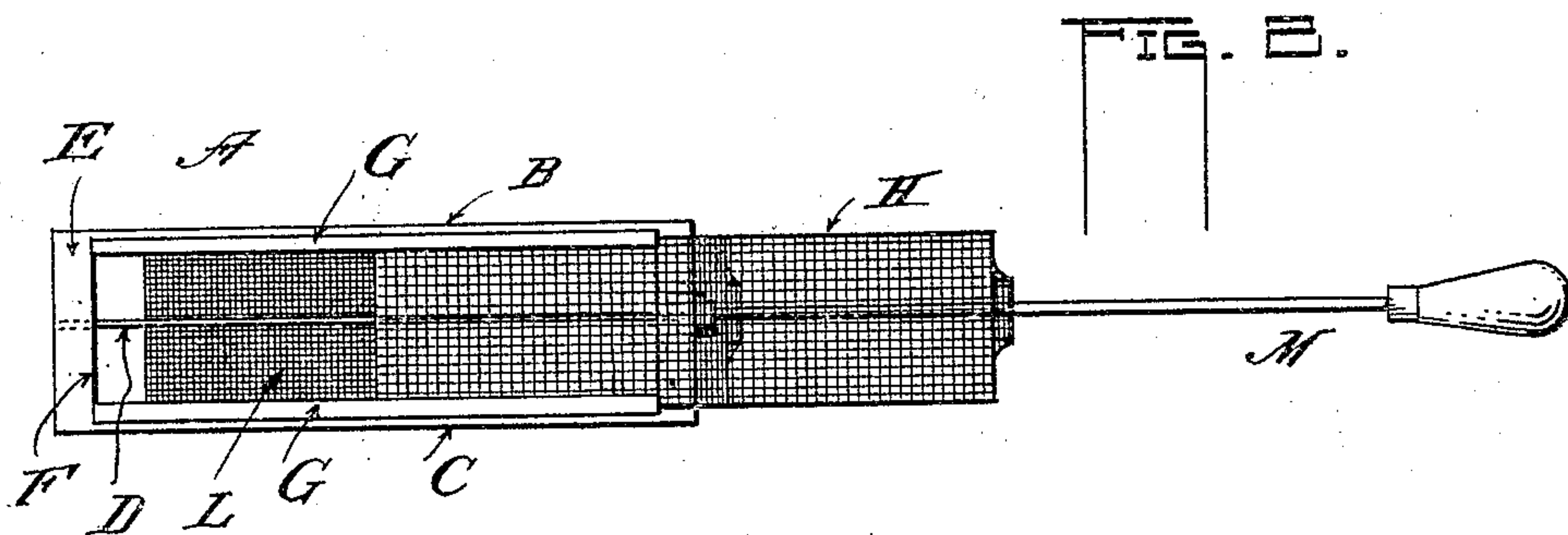
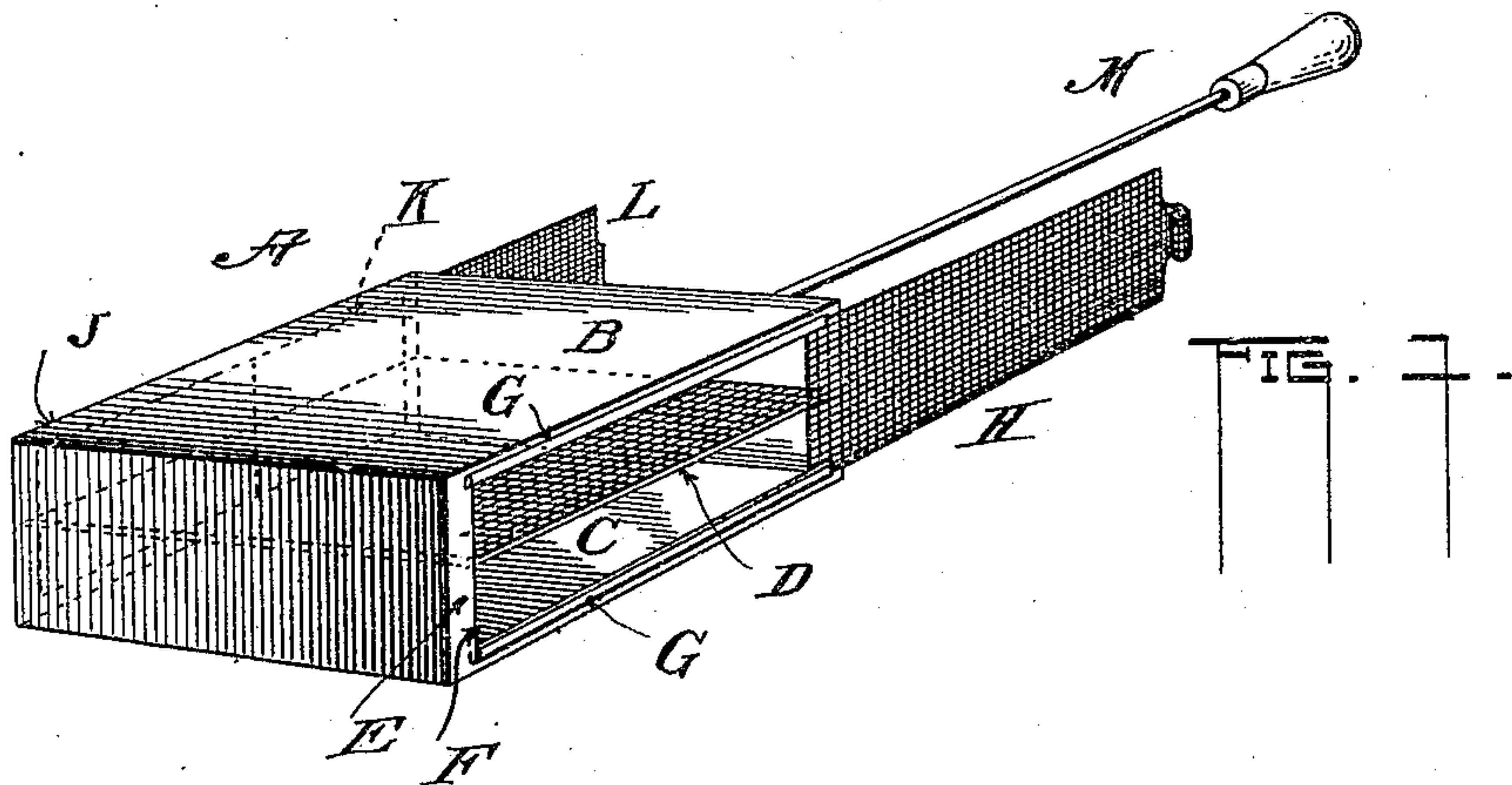
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CORN POPPER.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CORN-POPPER.

956,224.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, WILLIAM A. STINE and CHARLES A. MEALS, citizens of the United States, residing at Peoria, in the county of Peoria and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Corn-Poppers; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to a corn popper and has for its several objects the provision of a popper-body having a perforated partition by means of which at any time during conversion the popped corn can be separated from the unpopped corn and held in a separate compartment so that it cannot become burned while the unconverted portions are being finished over the fire, and also to provide the popper-body with an opening in one of its sides provided with a closure of netting and with which both compartments can communicate so that after the corn is all popped the unpopped grains can be sifted out through said closure; and also the provision of a second opening in one of its sides provided with a closure of wire netting of fine mesh through which the chaff and small foreign particles can be sifted without the kernels of corn passing through but this will be better understood in the following specification aided by the accompanying drawing in which:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the popper. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of one side of the same. Fig. 3 is an elevation of the opposite side and Fig. 4 is a vertical transverse section of the popper.

A indicates the body of the popper of any desired form, preferably rectangular, and made preferably of sheet metal though it may be constructed of "wire cloth" as well. Secured within the body and parallel to its broadest sides B and C; which, in practice are its top and bottom, and preferably midway between them, is a perforated partition D which may be of wire netting or a plate provided with suitable holes; the former being preferred. But whatever form is employed the openings therein are of a size that the unpopped kernels of corn can pass through them but the popped or converted corn will be held back.

In one of the narrow sides E of the body

is an opening F of the desired size the edges of the metal at two opposite sides of which are bent so as to provide suitable guide-ways G, for a door or closure H preferably a perforated one consisting for example, of a piece of wire netting in the form of a slide adapted to move within the said guide-ways, said closure lying close to the edge of the partition D at the said opening F as shown in Fig. 4 so that neither of the compartments created by the partition can communicate with one another except through the said perforations. The opposite side J of the body, as shown in Fig. 3, may also be provided with an opening K closed in the same manner as that just described, by means of a closure L also preferably a perforated one, the perforations of which, however, are smaller than those of the closure H. It is to be noted that both openings F and K communicate with both compartments and the advantage of these will be understood by the following: The corn to be popped having been placed in the body and both sides being closed said body, by means of the handle indicated at M is then turned on one side so as to place the opening K, beneath it. The closure L therefor permits chaff and small particles to be sifted out by agitating said body such chaff being thus eliminated and which if left in the popper will be burned and thereby impart an unpleasant taste to the finished converted product, and while provision is made for removing undesirable particles, the apertures are small enough to prevent the kernels of corn passing therethrough. After this operation is completed the body is placed upon the fire and as the lower compartment in which the corn is being popped becomes filled with the popped corn the body is inverted so as to place that compartment uppermost and thereby the partition D becomes in effect a shelf on which the popped corn now rests. As the body is agitated the unpopped kernels held among and upon the popped product are shaken through the latter and fall into the lower compartment the relation of both the converted and unconverted corn being shown in Fig. 4. The popped corn is now far from the fire and in no danger of burning or scorching and is therefore kept perfectly white and presents a pleasing appearance and will not have an undesirable or unpleasant smoked or burned

taste, but at the same time it is kept hot while the unpopped kernels are once more in position to undergo the desired conversion.

When the popping is finished the body is
 5 turned upon its side so as to place the closure H beneath. Then by shaking the body all the burned and unconverted kernels of one compartment and the unconverted kernels from the other compartment are readily
 10 separated from the clean popped corn and discharged simultaneously through the guarded opening which is common to both said compartments. Either closure can then be withdrawn to expose the contents of both
 15 compartments the finished product can then be delivered at the same time and at one operation through the opening thus uncovered. It is evident, then, that since both compartments of the popper are ex-
 20 posed to and can communicate with both the openings, sifting from either or both of such compartments through either opening can be readily accomplished and by merely withdrawing either one of the slides or clo-
 25 sures both compartments can immediately be emptied at one operation. The depth of each compartment below the openings F and K is sufficient to hold the proper amount of corn to be popped.

30 It is not our intention to confine ourselves to the precise structure shown and described since equivalents may be provided without departing from the spirit and intent of the invention.

35 Our device is distinguished from others of its class in having no hinged sections to be opened thus making it of a simple and cheap form and one more readily handled. Furthermore in having two compartments
 40 covered by a door each said compartment can be reached in one operation or in the opening of a single door, both can be emptied of their contents simultaneously. Again, the two doors shown, in having dif-
 45 ferent sized perforations admit of sifting the kernels of unpopped corn or chaff in the simplest possible manner.

Having thus described our invention, we claim:—

50 1. A corn popper comprising a body for receiving the corn to be popped, an opening in one of its walls, a closure for said opening and a perforated partition in said body hav-
 55 ing a position substantially at right angles to said closure.

2. A corn popper comprising a rectangular box shaped body for holding the corn to be popped, there being an opening in one of its side walls, a closure for said opening
 60 and a perforated partition in said body perpendicular to the closure and dividing the body into two compartments each of which is in communication with the said opening.

3. A corn popper comprising a closed
 65 body having an opening in one of its walls,

a perforated closure for such opening through which to sift the unconverted kernels of corn, a perforated partition in said body dividing it into two separate com-
 70 partments and for separating the popped and unpopped corn and holding them in said separate compartment each of the latter having communication with the opening.

4. A corn popper comprising a body of a single member consisting of a hollow
 75 closed body, a perforated partition therein dividing its interior space into two compartments, there being an opening in one of the walls of said body communicating with the compartments, the said partition
 80 extending across the opening, and a perforated closure for said opening.

5. A corn popper consisting of a rectangular hollow body having an opening in one of its side walls, a closure for the same, a
 85 perforated partition in said body lying parallel to its upper and lower sides and extending across and sub-dividing the opening substantially as set forth.

6. A corn popper consisting of a rectangu-
 90 lar hollow closed body having an opening in one of its walls, a perforated closure for the same, a perforated partition in said body lying parallel to its upper and lower sides and having its edge extending across and
 95 sub-dividing the said opening of one of the walls.

7. A corn popper consisting of a rectangular hollow closed body having an opening
 100 in each of two opposite walls, closures for the openings, a perforated partition in said body lying parallel to its upper and lower sides and perpendicular to the walls having the openings and extending across said open-
 105 ings.

8. A corn popper consisting of a hollow closed body for receiving the corn to be
 110 popped, there being an opening in one of its walls, a perforated closure for said opening, a perforated partition in said body dividing the latter into two compartments, the same lying in a plane substantially at right angles to the plane of the wall having the opening, both said compartments com-
 115 municating with said opening.

9. In a corn popper a hollow closed body for containing the corn to be popped, there being two openings therein, a perforated closure for each of said openings, the per-
 120 forations of one of the said closures being larger than those of the other, and a perforated partition in said body for dividing it into two compartments, both said openings communicating with one of said compart-
 125 ments.

10. In a corn popper a hollow closed body for containing the corn to be popped, there being two openings therein, a perforated closure for each of said openings, the per-
 130 forations of one of the said closures being

larger than those of the other, and a perforated partition in said body for dividing it into two compartments both said openings communicating with both said compartments.

11. In a corn popper a hollow closed body having two openings therein in opposite walls, a perforated closure for each, the perforations of one being of a different size than those of the other, and a perforated partition in said body dividing the latter into two compartments, said partition extending across both openings.

12. A corn popper consisting of a hollow closed sheet metal body having an opening in one of its sides, a closure for the opening

a perforated partition in said body dividing it into two compartments and lying parallel to the upper and lower sides of said body and perpendicular to the side having the opening, and extending across and subdividing said opening, said partition together with the closure separating the compartments and prevent their communication one with the other at the opening.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures, in presence of two witnesses.

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Witnesses:

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