

C. L'ENFANT.

CIGAR CASE.

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976,190.

Patented Nov. 22, 1910.

Fig. 1.

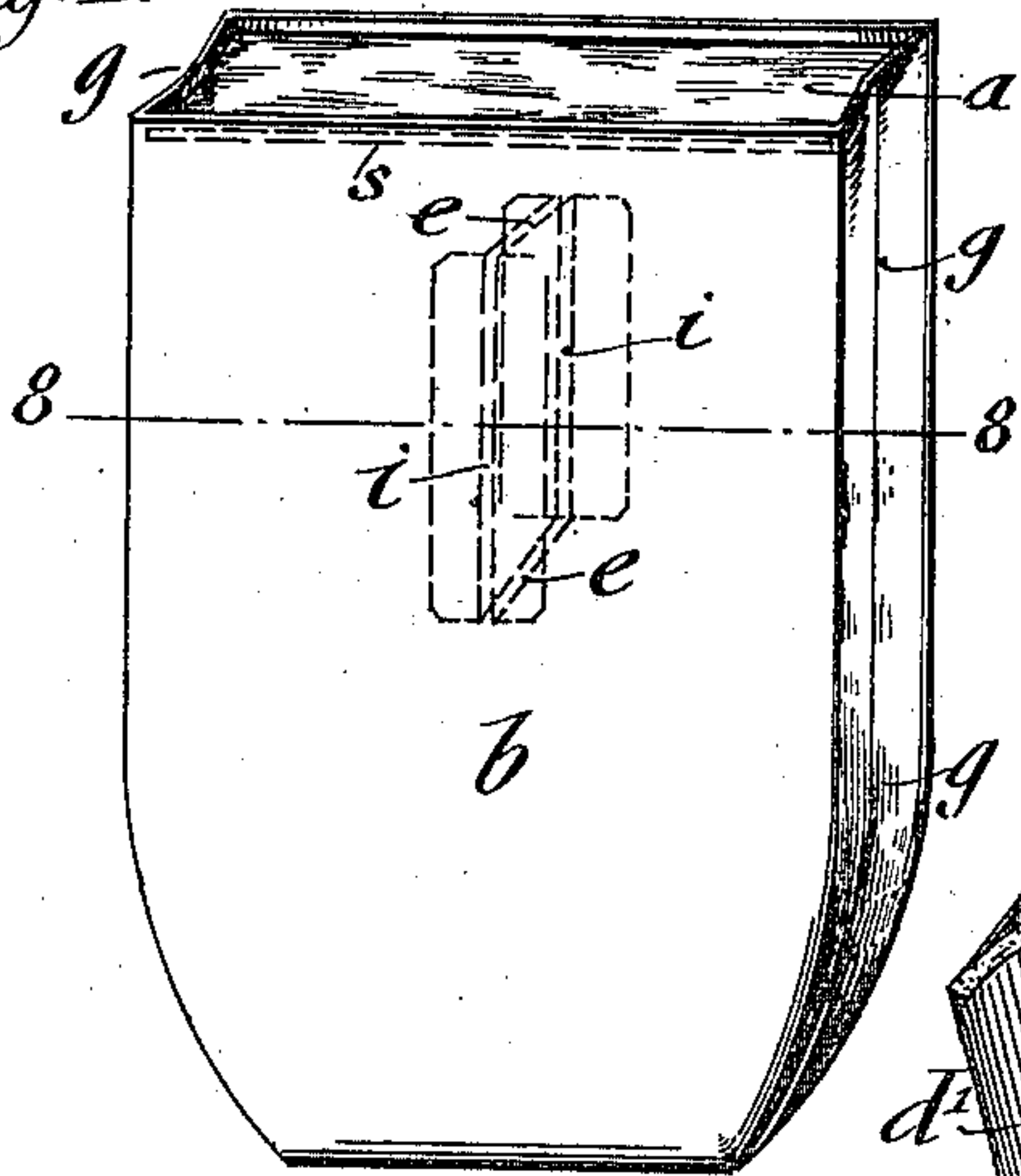


Fig. 2.

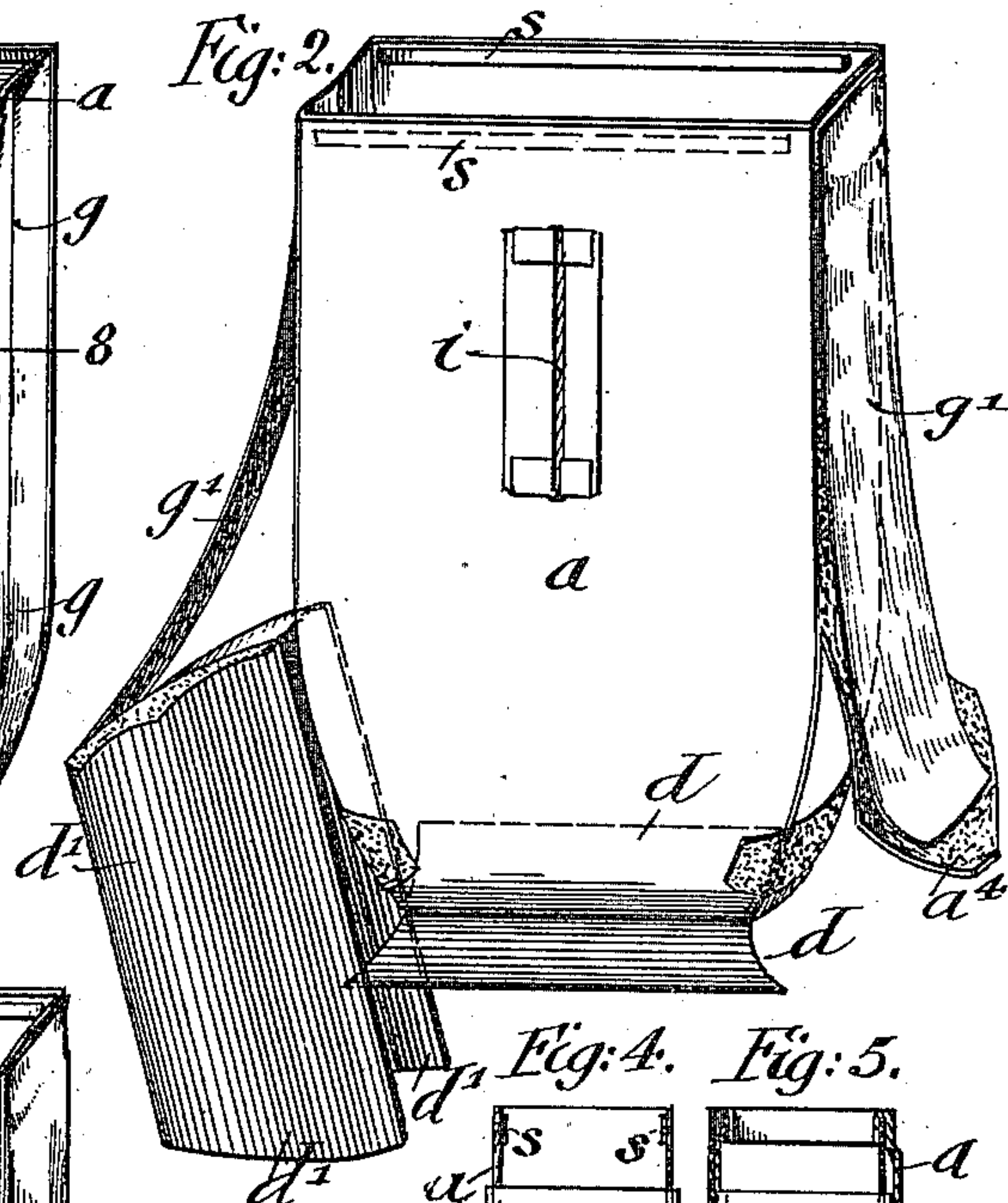


Fig. 3.

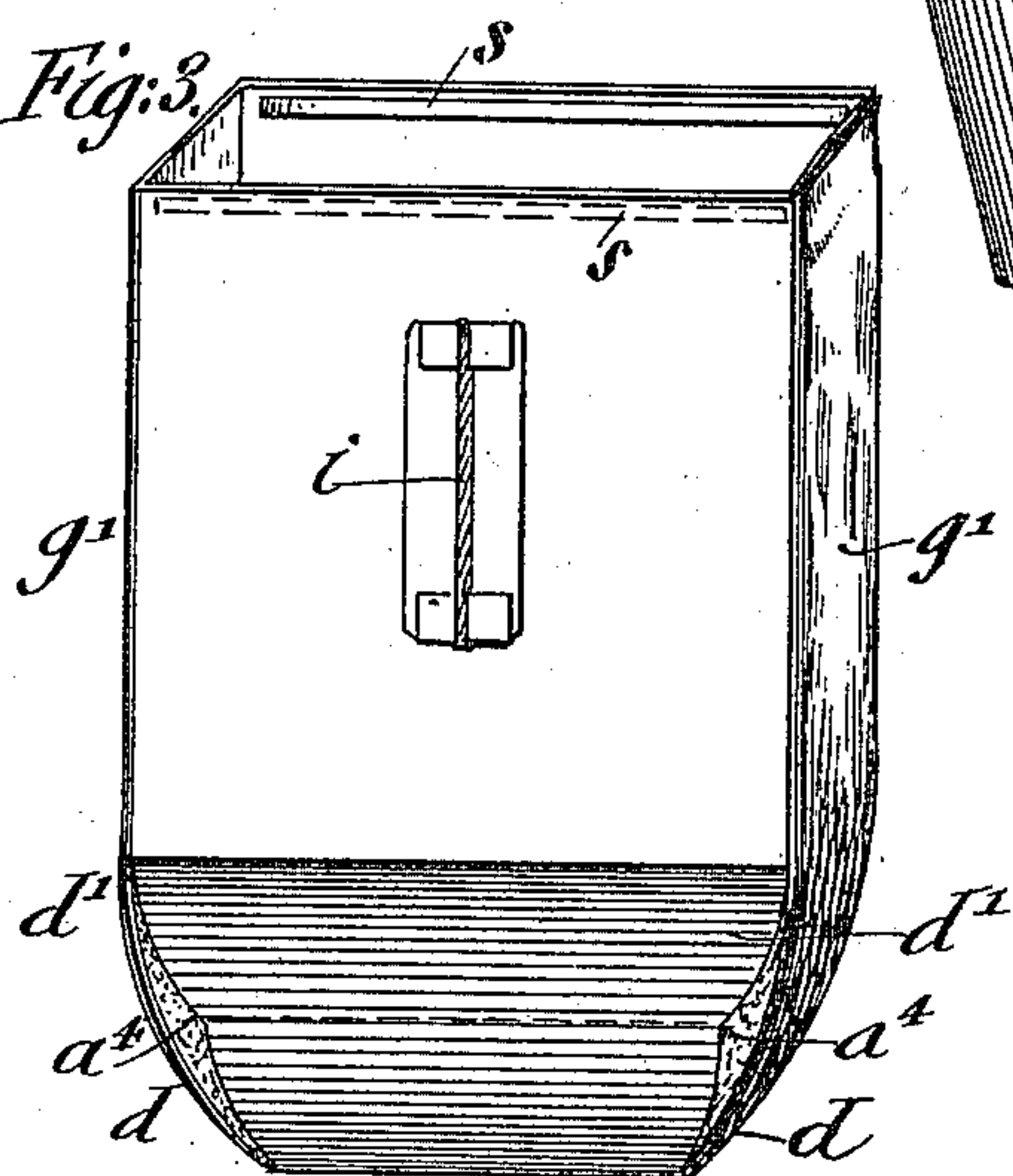


Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.

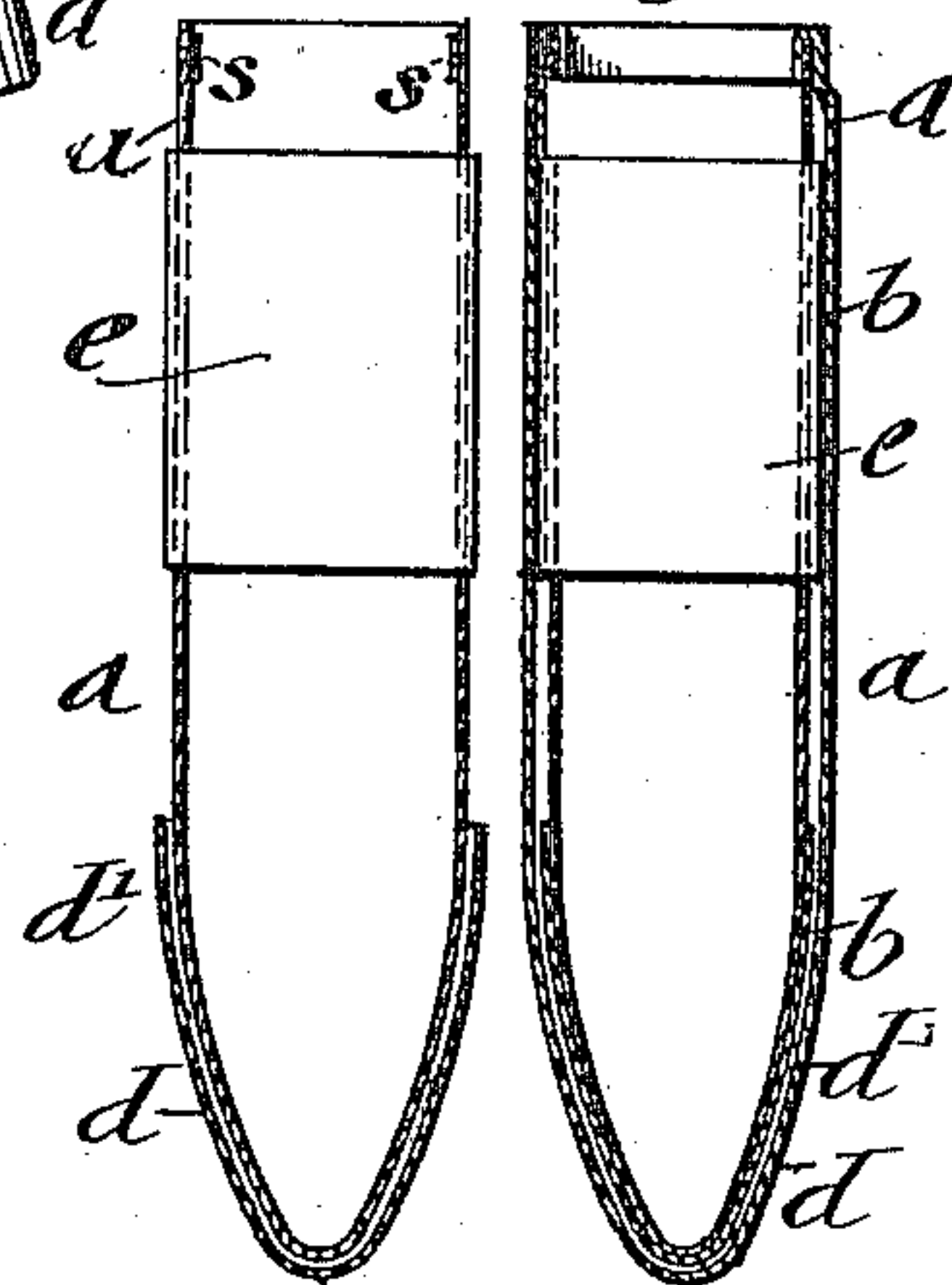


Fig. 6.

Fig. 7.

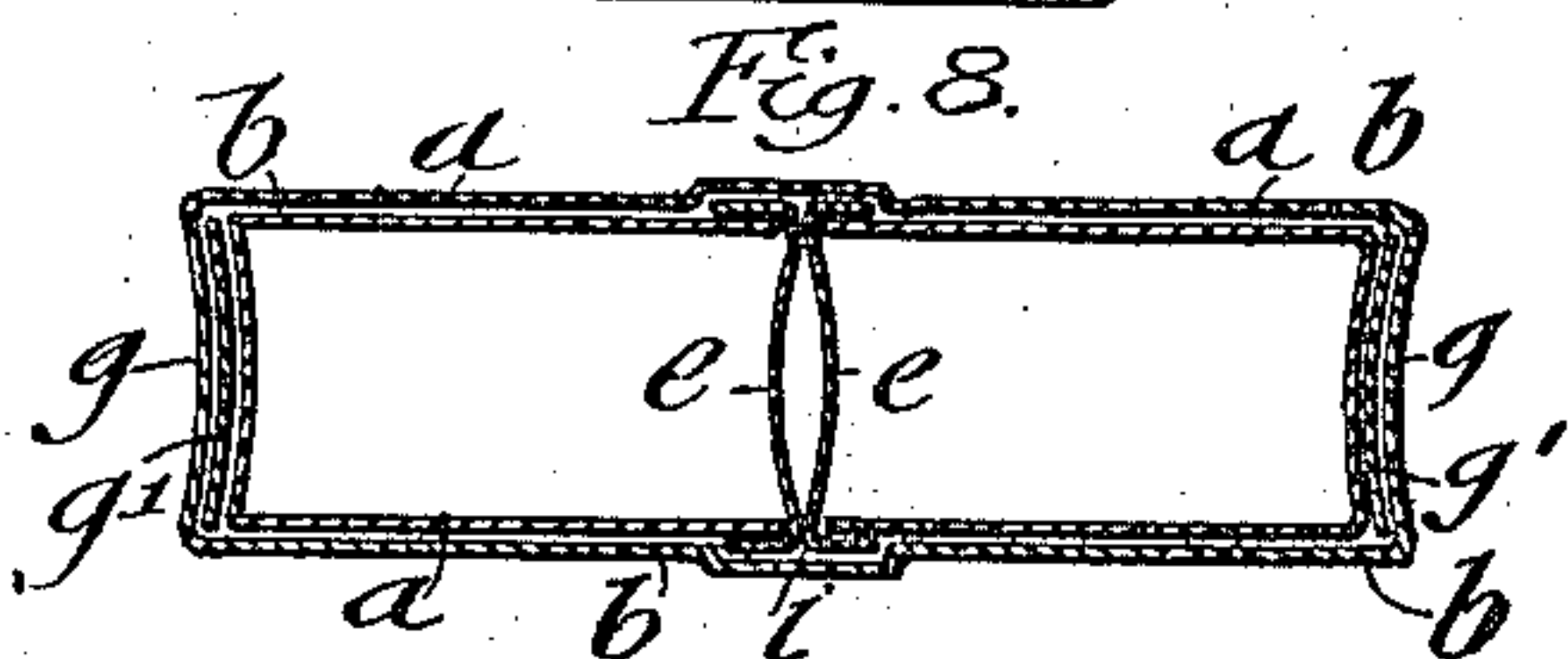
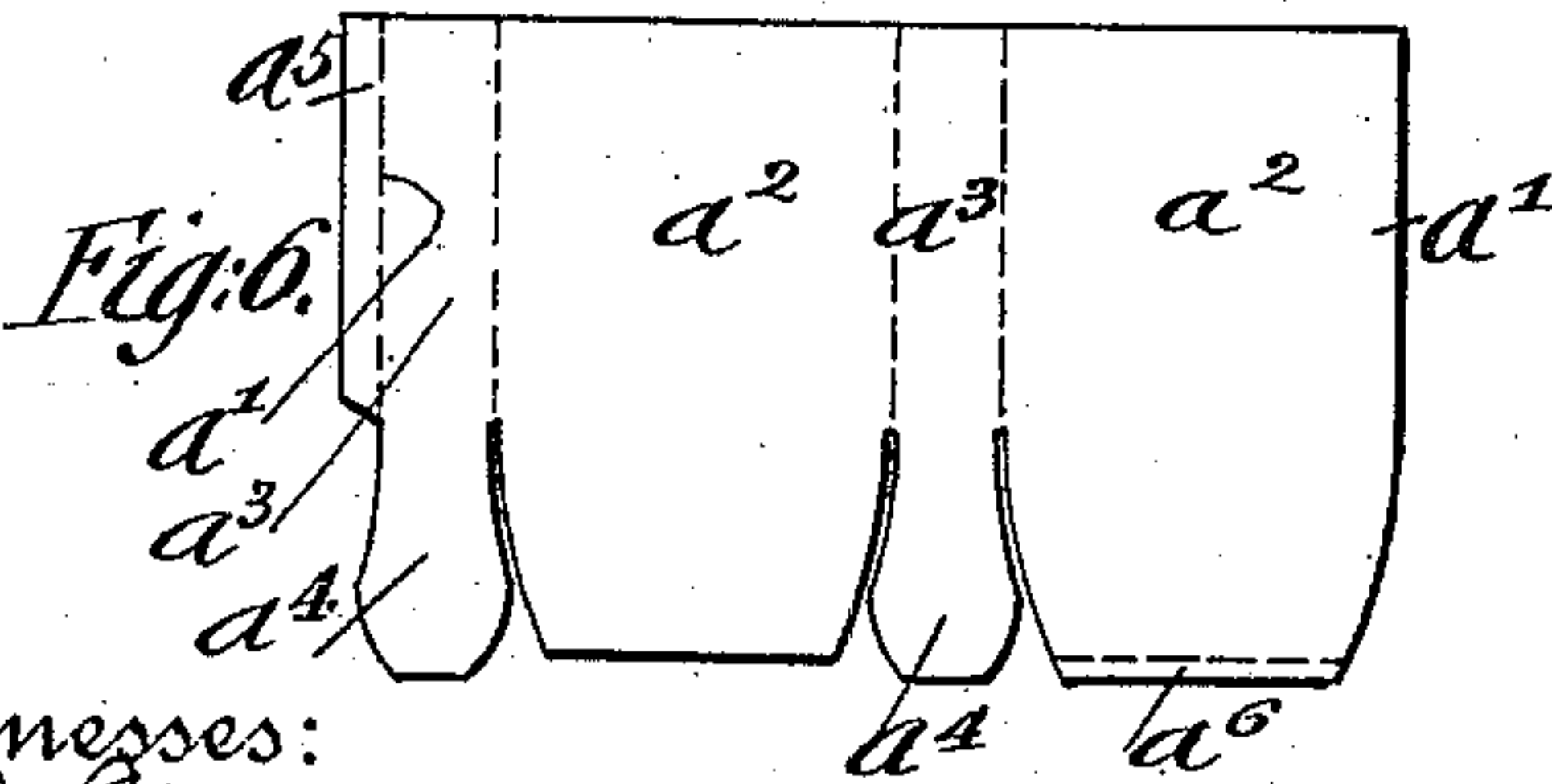
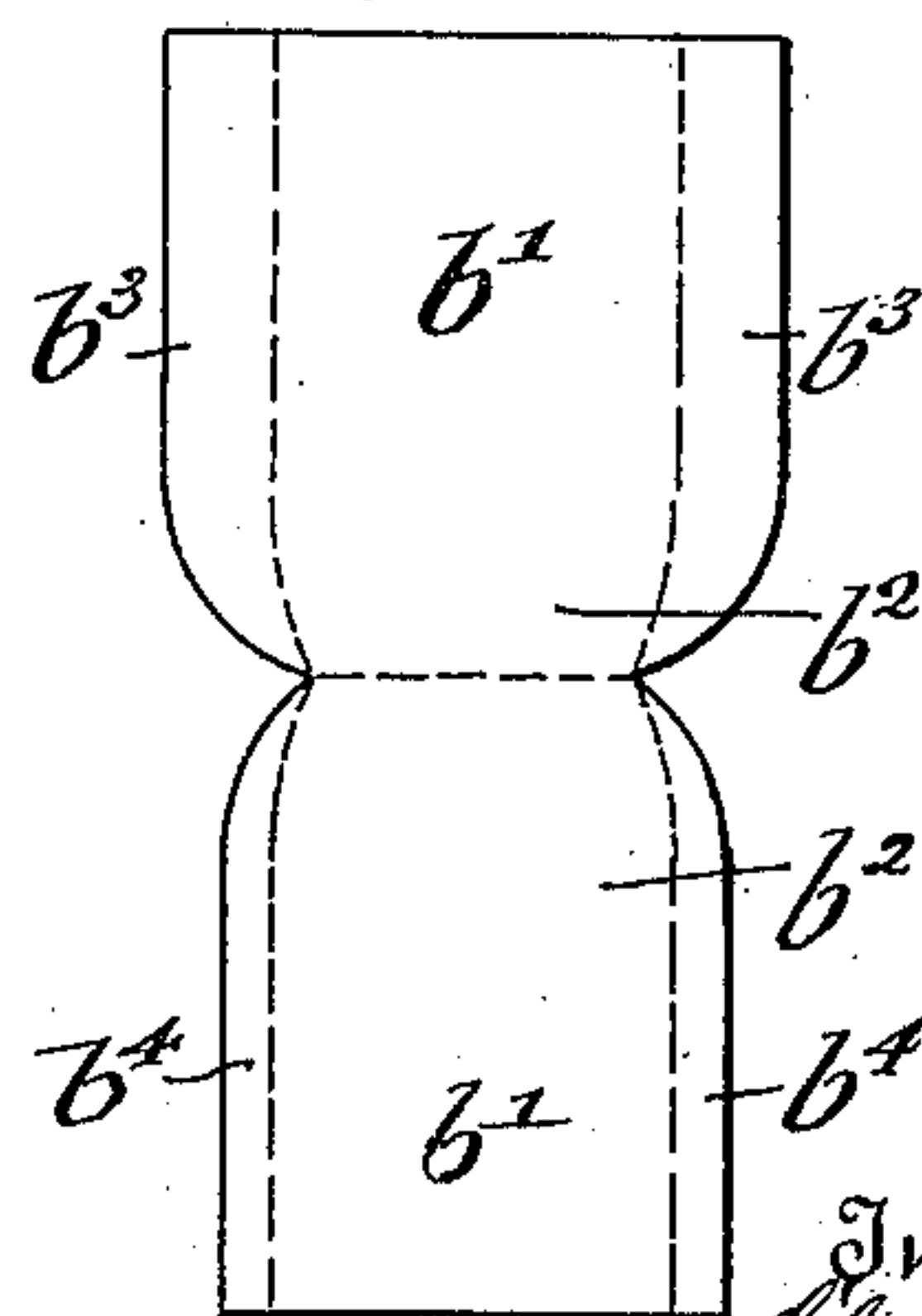


Fig. 7.



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CHARLES L'ENFANT, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

CIGAR-CASE.

976,190.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES L'ENFANT, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at New York, in the borough of Manhattan, county and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cigar-Cases, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improved cigar-case of that type which is known as a flexible cigar-case and which is used without a cover.

The flexible cigar-cases heretofore in use and which are carried in the vest or coat pockets have the disadvantage that the last cigar or cigars assume an inclined or diagonal position in the case and are thereby easily injured and broken by the slightest pressure on the case. At the same time the closed bottom of the case is not reinforced and furnishes but little resistance against pressure.

The object of this invention is to supply a flexible coverless cigar-case in which the cigars are always held in proper position and protected against accidental injury, so that it is especially adapted for the use of traveling salesmen and others who desire to carry a supply of cigars along with them; and for this purpose the invention consists of a cigar-case open at the top and closed at the bottom and provided with one or more partitions, said case being composed of a lining reinforced at the sides and bottom, and an exterior layer of leather or other suitable material. The partition of the case is formed of a single or double layer and passed through slits in the lining and attached at the bent-over ends to the lining.

The invention consists further of the construction of the cigar-case provided with a tapering lower part corresponding to the outline of the cigars, and reinforced at the bottom of the case by extra layers or caps so as to stiffen the same.

The invention consists further of certain details in the construction of the lining and exterior or covering layer of leather, and lastly in the novel forms of blanks for the lining and covering layer, as will be fully described hereinafter and finally pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my improved cigar-case, Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the lining, partly closed at the bot-

tom, Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the lining closed at the bottom and sides, and showing the partition and reinforcing cap-pieces, Figs. 4 and 5 are respectively vertical transverse sections through the lining and through the lining and case, Figs. 6 and 7 are detail views of the blanks for the lining and covering layer, and Fig. 8 is a horizontal section of the case on line 8, 8, Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts throughout the several figures.

Referring to the drawings, *a* represents the lining and *b* the covering layer of my improved flexible coverless cigar-case. Both the lining and the covering layer are made each of a one-piece blank *a*¹, *b*¹, which blanks are cut by suitable knives. The lining is preferably made of thin calfskin or other suitable material, and the covering layer of black walrus leather or other stout leather or other material.

The blank *a*¹ for the lining is shown in Fig. 6, and consists of two wider portions *a*² and two narrower portions *a*³ provided with tongue-shaped ends *a*⁴. A narrow strip *a*⁵ extends along one of the narrower portions *a*³, and a narrow strip *a*⁶ along the transverse end of one of the wider portions *a*². The ends of the wider and narrower portions are curved, conforming to the outline of a cigar. The lining is shaped from the blank *a*¹ on a block having the shape of the cigar-case when finished, and which is provided with a central longitudinal slit. The lower ends of the wider portions *a*² are overlapped and pasted together so as to be closed at the lower end. One end of the blank *a*¹ is pasted by its side-strip to the opposite end of the blank so as to close it at the side. A slit *i* is then made into both side-walls of the lining by inserting a knife, said slits extending approximately to near the upper end of the lining and to some distance from the bottom of the same, as shown in Fig. 2. A reinforcing cap *d*, of muslin or other fabric, is then placed over the lower closed end of the lining *a*, and a second longer cap *d*¹, also of muslin or other suitable fabric, placed over the shorter cap, both caps forming a cap-piece serving for reinforcing the lower end of the case. The tongue-shaped ends *a*⁴ of the narrower portions of the blank are skived at the edges and are then pasted over the longer reinforcing cap and the lower corners of the

lining, as shown in Fig. 3, the tongues being of sufficient length and width to be brought over the slightly rounded-off corners and bottom-edge of the lining.

5 A single or double layer *e*, of leather or other suitable fabric, is then passed through the slits *i* of the lining, said layer being provided with skived edges along its longitudinal sides, which are folded over and
10 pasted on the side-portions of the lining alongside of the slits, as shown in Fig. 3. The layer *e* forms a partition for the case when finished. Said partition extends across the case solely at the upper part of the same,
15 its lower end being spaced at a considerable distance from the bottom of the case, as shown. When the partition *e* is made of a single layer it is made of greater thickness, its longitudinal sides being reduced by skiving to the required degree of thinness and
20 pasted in position on the outside of the lining, but when the partition is made of two pieces it forms a sleeve which extends through the greater length of the case, either at the median line or at one or the other side
25 of the same, which sleeve can be used as a receptacle for a cigar-cutter, pencil, nail-file or other article which is desired to be carried in the case. For smaller cases, containing four or more cigars, one transverse
30 partition, while for wider cases two or more partitions, may be used, so as to divide the interior of the case into several compartments in which the cigars are placed. When
35 the cigar-case is made up for four cigars, the partition is located at the center of the case. When it is made up for five cigars, the partition is placed at one side of the center. When the case is made up for six
40 or more cigars, two or more partitions are used. Whether one or more partitions are used, the object of the same is to protect the cigars from shifting their position in the case, and to protect the last cigar or
45 cigars from slipping into inclined or diagonal position in the case, in which position they are liable to be injured or broken when carried in the vest or coat pocket.

50 The lining is covered while still on the block by the covering layer *b*, which is pasted over the lining and which is made from the blank *b*¹, shown in Fig. 7, the blank being made of two wide side-portions *b*² connected at their shorter ends. One
55 side-portion is provided with wider side-strips *b*³, and the other with narrower side-strips *b*⁴, which are skived, overlapped and pasted together so as to form the inwardly-springing gussets *g* of the case. The side-
60 strips *b*³, *b*⁴ are curved inwardly toward the meeting edge of the side-portions, so as to produce thereby the curved lower portion of the case. The edges of the opposite ends of the covering layer *b* are skived and folded
65 inwardly over the edge of the lining *a* and

pasted to the same. The upper edge of the case may be reinforced by transverse strips *s* of thin whalebone or metal. Between the gussets of the lining and covering layer are
70 interposed strips *g*¹ of waterproof fabric for permitting the independent movement of the layers of the gussets. The cigar-case can also be made in larger or smaller sizes so as to be used for cigars of extra length
75 and thickness and for cigarettes. In the latter case, however, the exterior form of the case is not curved or tapered toward the lower end, but made straight with slightly rounded-off corners, so as to correspond to the shape of the cigarettes carried in the
80 same. The lining and cover, instead of being made of a one-piece blank, can also be made of several pieces united by skived and overlapping edge-strips. The case can also be made in any size and shape and of stiff
85 or flexible material.

The advantages of my improved flexible cigar-case are that the same can be easily carried in the pocket, the smaller cases in the vest-pocket and the larger cases in the coat-
90 pocket; that it holds the cigars in the required upright position up to the last cigar and protects them thereby against shifting and injury; that by the yielding nature of the case the same adapts itself to the shape
95 of the pocket without injuring the cigars in the case; that the case being curved or tapering toward the bottom, can be conveniently placed in the vest or other pocket; that the overlapping seams of lining and covering
100 layer being located in one of the inwardly-springing gussets of the case, are not noticeable and are protected against separating by wear, so that the case presents thereby the
105 appearance as if it were made in one integral piece; and that in the sleeve or pocket formed by the double partition of the case, a cigar-cutter, pencil or other article can be carried.

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

1. A cigar-case open at the top and closed at the bottom and provided with a lining, and a flexible, foldable partition the ends of
115 which are passed through slits in the upper portion of the lining and attached to the outer surface of the lining between the same and the case.

2. A cigar-case open at the top and closed
120 at the bottom and composed of a flexible lining having longitudinal slits in its upper portion, a flexible foldable partition passed through the slits in the lining and folded at its ends over the outside of the lining, and
125 an outer or covering layer attached to the lining.

3. A cigar-case made of a lining closed at the sides, a partition extending across the lining and attached thereto, a reinforcing
130

cap-piece extending over the lower end of the lining, and a covering layer closed at the bottom and having overlapping side-strips forming gussets.

5 4. A cigar-case composed of a lining closed at the sides, a partition extending across the lining and attached thereto, a reinforcing cap-piece extending over the lower end of the lining, and a covering layer closed at
10 the bottom and provided with narrow side-strips along one side-portion and with wider side-strips at the opposite side-portion, said side-strips being overlapped and pasted to-

15 5. A cigar-case comprising a stout flexible covering layer having wide flat sides, side-gussets and a tapering lower end, a thin flexible lining pasted to the inner face and provided with vertical slits near the upper
20 ends of the wide-sides of the covering layer and a foldable flexible partition extending transversely vertically across the case, through said vertical slits and having its ends pasted between the covering and the
25 lining.

6. A cigar-case comprising a stout flexible covering layer having wide flat sides, side-gussets and a tapering lower end, a thin flexible lining pasted to the inner face and provided with vertical slits near the
30 upper ends of the wide-sides of the covering layer and a foldable flexible partition extending transversely vertically across the case, through said vertical slits and having
35 its ends pasted between the covering and the lining, said slits terminating remote from the tapering lower end and said partition comprising two pieces adapted to fold down
40 the middle and to extend in opposite directions when the case is folded flat, and adapted to lie against each other when the case is opened.

In testimony, that I claim the foregoing as my invention, I have signed my name in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CHARLES L'ENFANT.

Witnesses:

PAUL GOEPEL,
J. A. COOK.