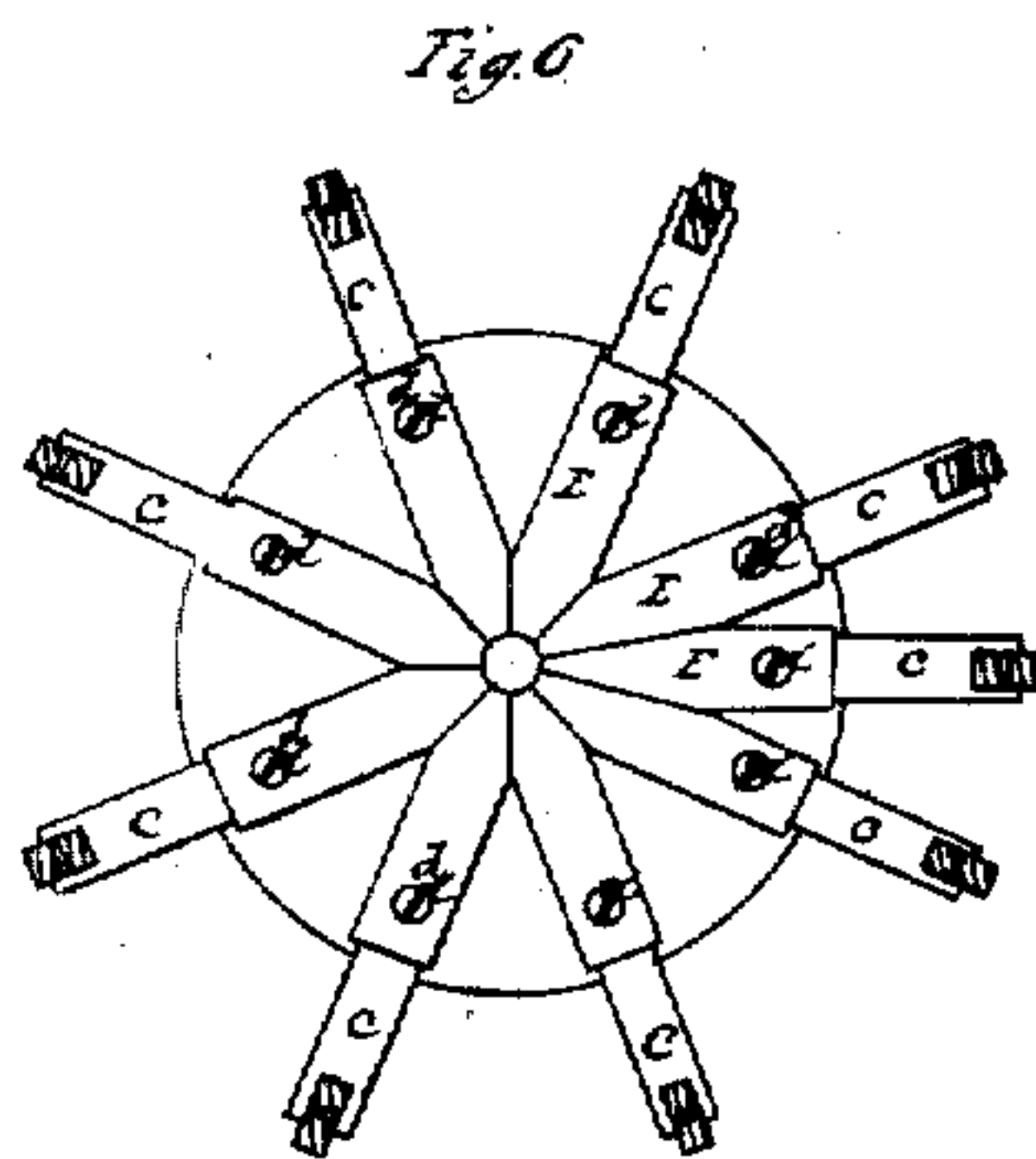
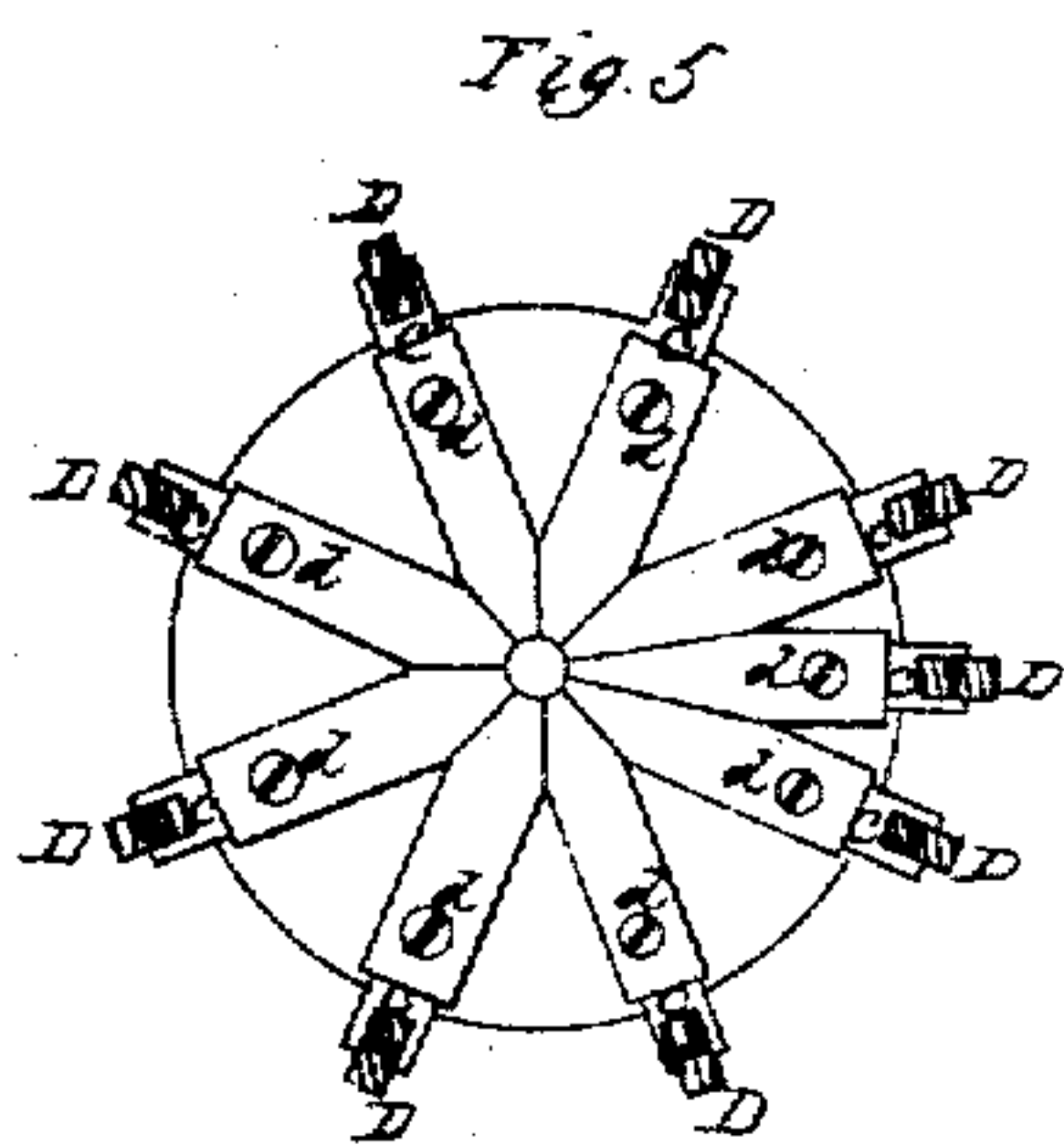
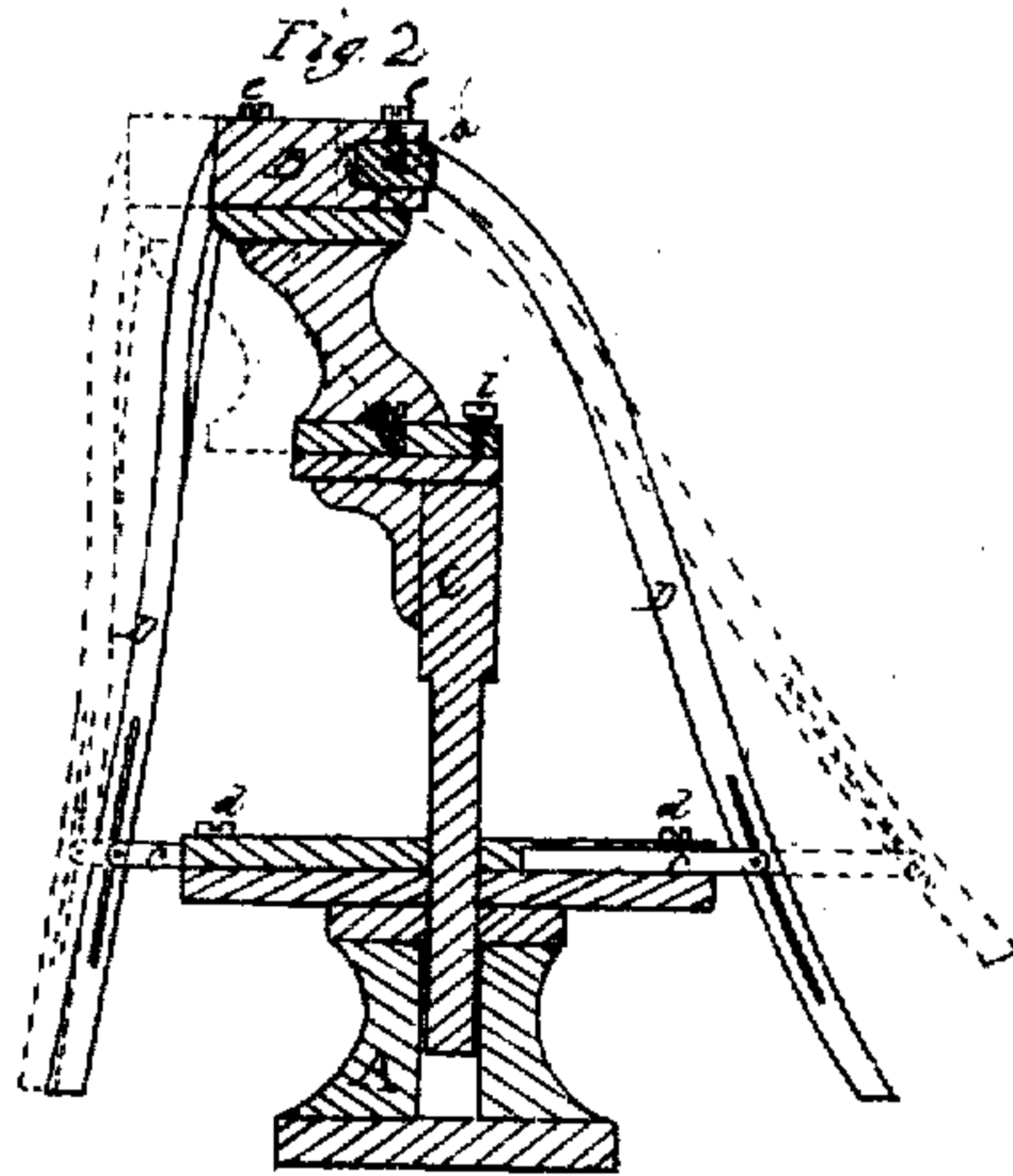
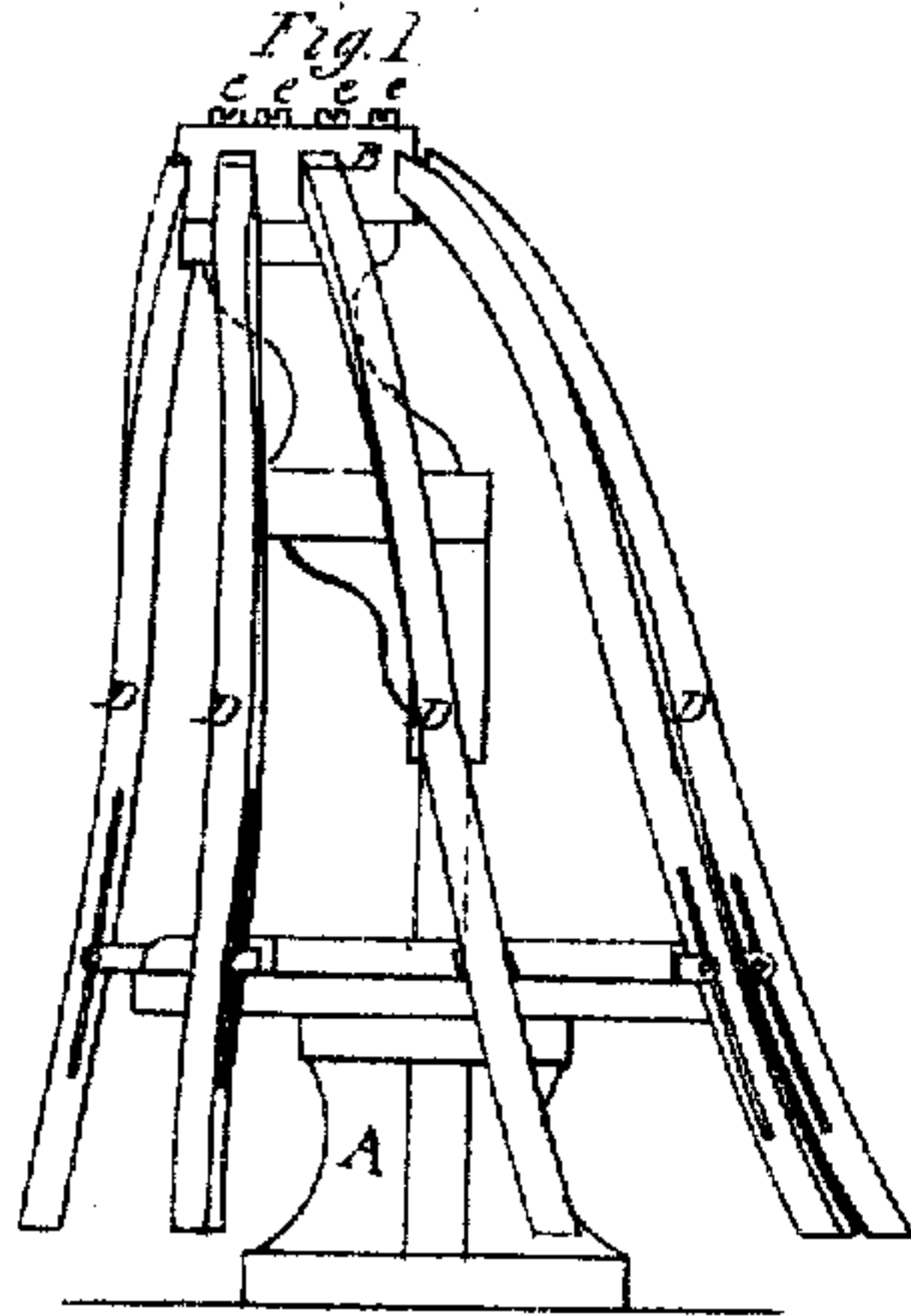


H. S. Loper.

Hoop Skirt Machine.

N^o 58949.

Patented Oct. 16, 1866.



Witnesses:
H. B. Bves.
Julius Helanford

Inventor:
H. S. Loper
By *John G. Cook*

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY S. LOPER, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF
AND COLLINS, PECK & CO., OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN ADJUSTABLE FRAMES FOR FORMING HOOP-SKIRTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 58,949, dated October 16, 1866.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY S. LOPER, of New Haven, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Hoop-Skirt Forms; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, and which said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1, a side view; Fig. 2, a vertical central section, and, in Figs. 3, 4, 5, and 6, illustrate the adjustment of the form to various shapes and sizes.

My invention relates to an improvement in the construction of forms for making hoop-skirts, whereby the several parts of the form may be adjusted to various shapes and sizes.

To enable others skilled in the art to construct and use my improved forms, I will proceed to fully describe the same as illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

A is the base which supports the form. B is the waist or band block, adjustably fixed to a support, C. D D are pieces of wood or other material, adjustably fixed to the band-block B, and each strip or piece formed according to the position which it occupies on the former. The said pieces D are hinged to slides *a*, (see Fig. 4,) which slides may be moved so as to carry the upper end of the pieces D to or from the block B, for the purpose of extending or diminishing the upper portion of the form, and are secured in their proper position by means of set-screws *e*. The lower ends of the said pieces D are fixed to a slide, *c*, (see Figs. 2, 5, and 6,) which said slides are moved in proper guides E, for the purpose of extending or contracting the lower part of the form, and are secured in the required position by means of set-screws *d*. The frame is made so as to be turned around on the base A in the usual manner for skirt-forms.

The band-block B is movable on its support

C, as from the position in black to that denoted in red, for the purpose of giving greater extension to the skirt without changing the form of the front—that is, to make the extension entirely in the back part of the skirt—and is secured in its proper position by means of the set-screw *i*.

The several pieces D may be moved out, as in Figs. 2, 4, and 6, or in, as in Figs. 3 and 5, each to its proper distance to give to all parts of the skirt the form desired.

Skirt-forms have heretofore been made adjustable at the bottom, but all moving equally from the center and extending alike in all directions. Therefore where a different-sized body is required different-sized forms are also required.

As the lower part of the skirt is contracted it is necessary to extend the upper portion; and, also, as more or less trail is required, the position of the band should remain in the same relative position to the front of the skirt.

By my improvement—by which the band-block B and the upper and the lower ends of the form are made adjustable—all the requisites for making different shaped and sized skirts are embodied in one form, whereby but comparatively few forms are required for extensive manufacturing.

Having, therefore, thus fully described my invention, which consists in making the band-block adjustable relatively to the center of the form, combined with the several bars of the form, each made adjustable independent of the other in both the band-block and base, what I claim as new and useful, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination of the band-block B, adjustable upon its support C, with the bars D, adjustable in the band-block and upon the base, substantially in the manner and for the purpose herein set forth.

HENRY S. LOPER.

Witnesses:

JOHN E. EARLE,

RUFUS H. SANFORD.