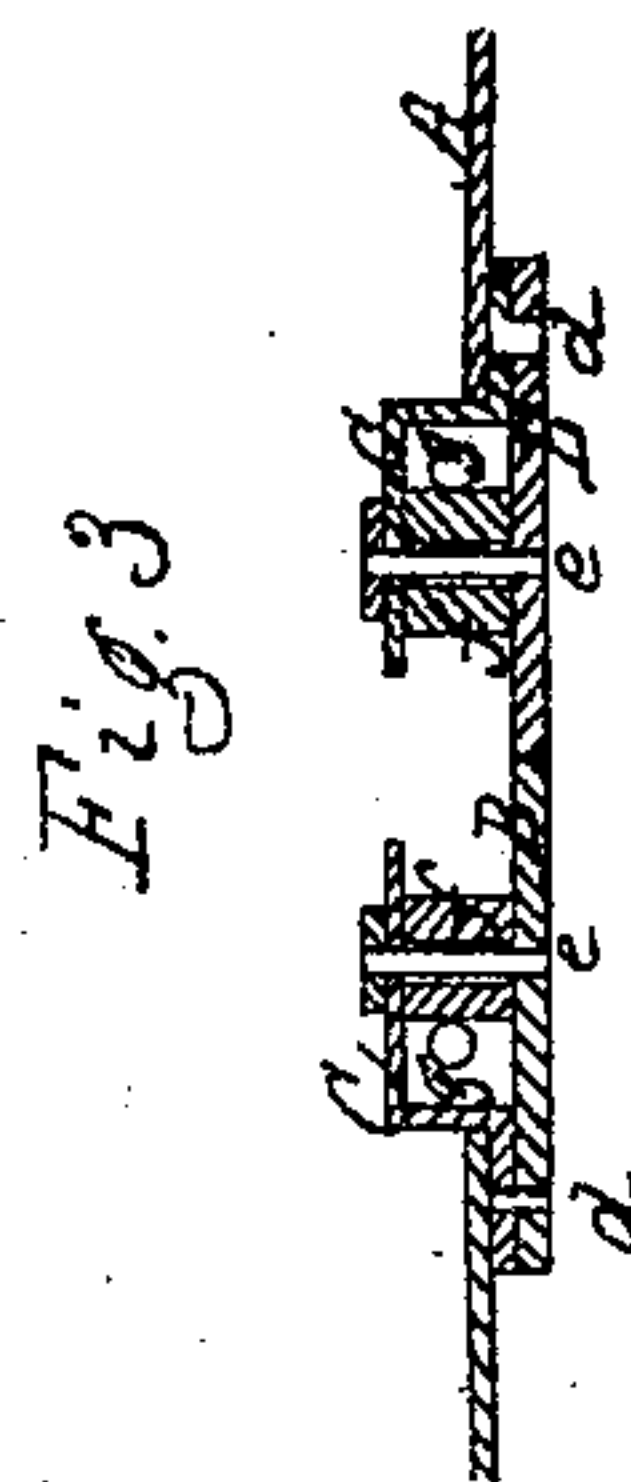
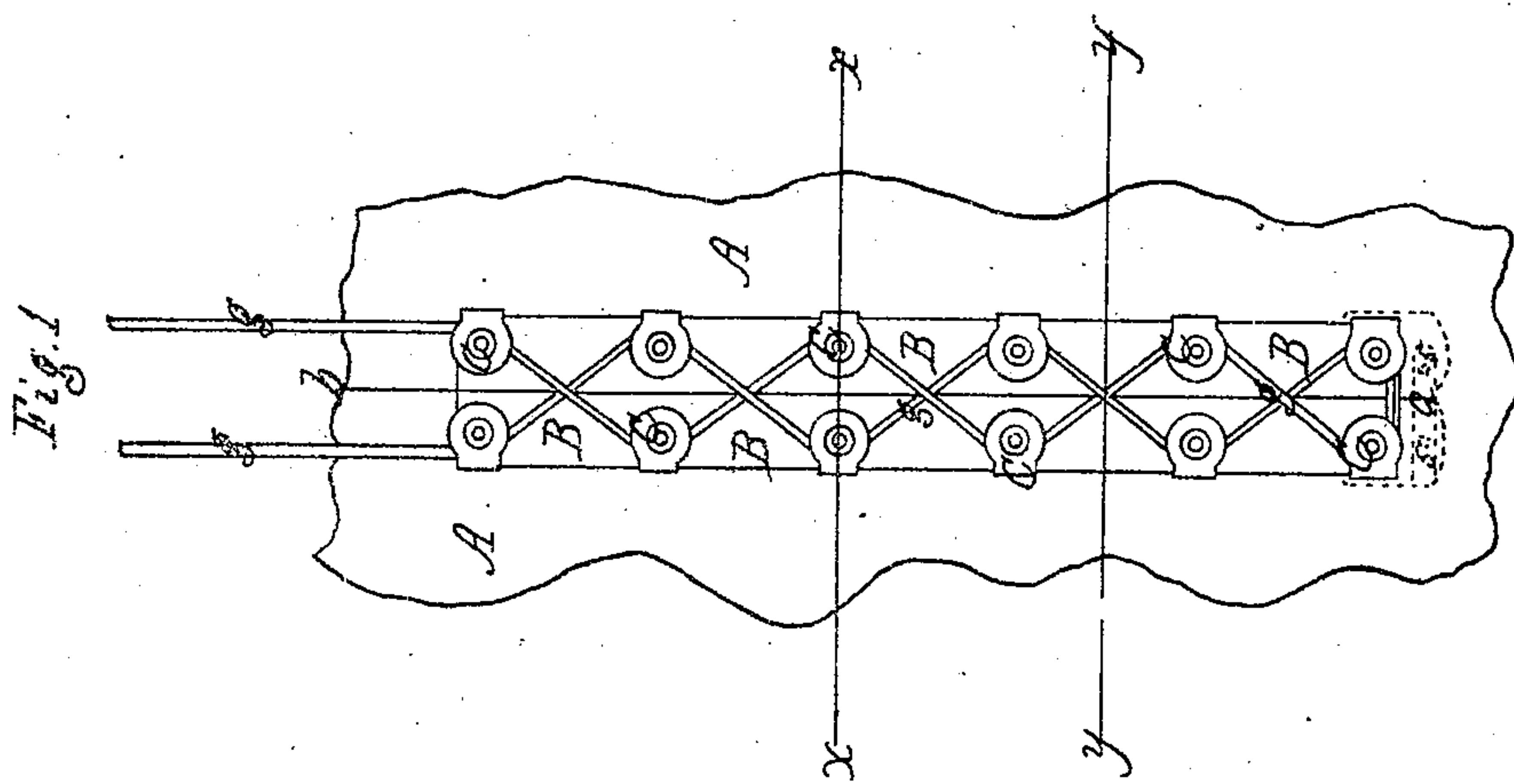
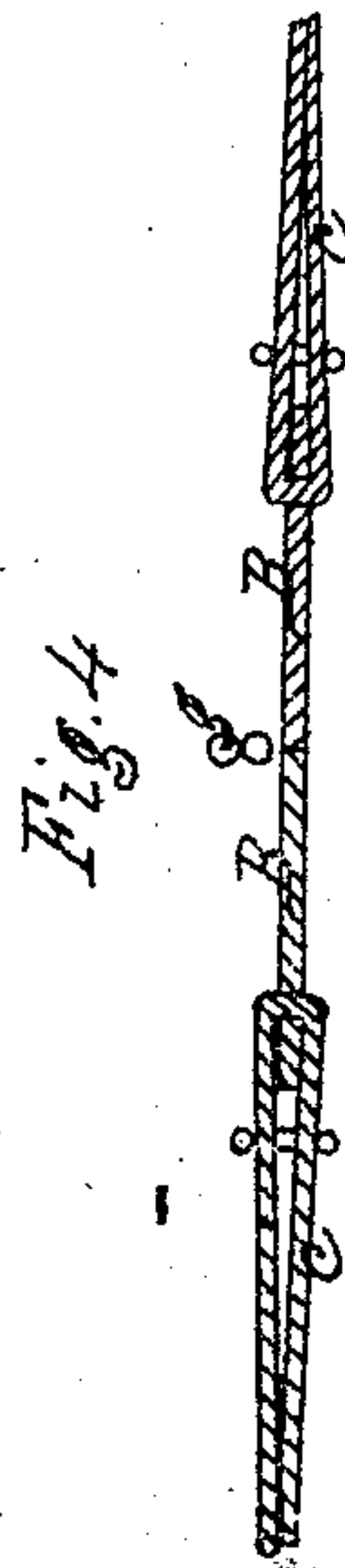
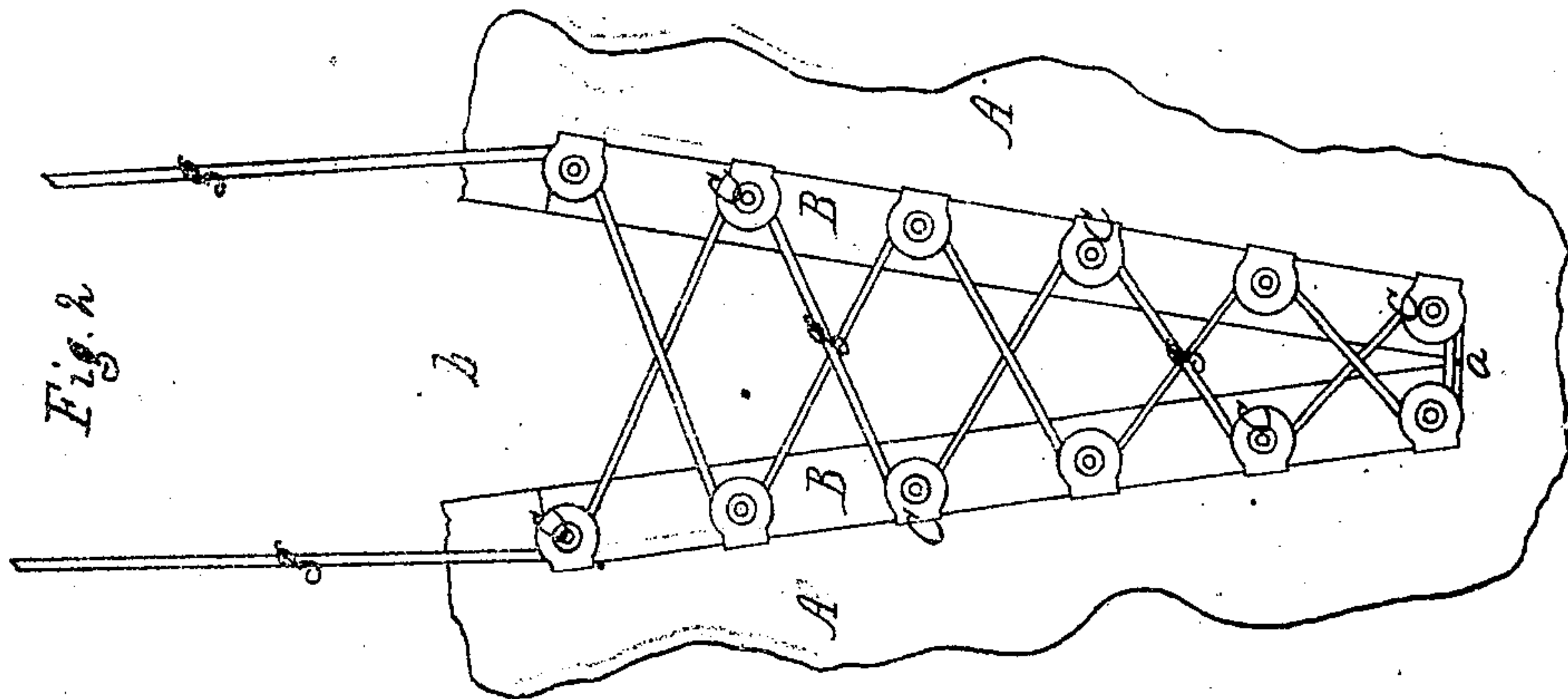


J. Barbier.

Fastening for Shoes.

N^o 72961

Patented Jan. 7, 1868.



Witnesses

E. C. Schumacher
W. W. Stearns

Inventor

John Barbier

United States Patent Office.

JOHN BARBIER, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 72,961, dated January 7, 1868.

IMPROVED FASTENING FOR SHOES.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, JOHN BARBIER, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk, and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improved "Fastening for Boots and Shoes," of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan of my improved fastening, closed.

Figure 2 is a plan of the same, open.

Figure 3 is a section on the line *x x* of fig. 1.

Figure 4 is a section on the line *y y* of fig. 1.

The object of my invention is to lace and unlace a boot or shoe in a convenient and expeditious manner, without the liability of the lacing being soon worn out by friction, as is the case with the ordinary methods now in use; and my invention consists in a series of rolls, the bearings of which are secured to the edges of the opening in the boot or shoe, or to plates or strips attached thereto, the lacing passing over these rolls, so that, when it is drawn in either direction, in the operation of putting on or removing the boot or shoe, the rolls will be revolved, and the friction and wear on the lacing, in a great measure, consequently avoided.

To enable others skilled in the art to understand and use my invention, I will proceed to describe the manner in which I have carried it out.

In the said drawings, A is a portion of the "upper" of a boot or shoe, open from *a* to the ankle at *b*. To each side of this opening is secured a strip of metal, B, hinged at *5*, slots being provided therein for the passage of tongue-portions, *c*, of the side of the "upper," under which they are turned, and to which they are attached by sewing. C are bent arms or plates, (of the form shown,) the inner ends of which are secured, at *d*, to the strips B. Between each strip B, and the outer ends of the plates C, secured thereto, pass short stationary pins, *e*, which serve as shafts, upon which rolls, *f*, are made to revolve when the lacing *g* is drawn in either direction in the operation of putting on or removing the boot or shoe, whereby the edges of the strips B may be quickly drawn together or separated without the usual friction, and without the wearing of the lacing, incident to the ordinary method of fastening boots and shoes.

In using a boot or shoe of my improved construction, the upper ends of the lacing need never be drawn down below the upper rolls *f*, and, being always at hand ready to be grasped, the operation of lacing is very much facilitated.

The above-described improvement can be removed from an old pair of shoes and fitted to a new pair, or it may be readily fitted to a pair of shoes already made in the ordinary way. Instead of securing the strips B, with their rolls *f*, at the top of the "upper," they may be placed at the side thereof, without departing from the spirit of my invention.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The bent arms or plates C, when constructed and attached as set forth, in combination with the entire strips B, as herein described, as and for the purpose set forth.

JOHN BARBIER.

Witnesses:

P. E. TESCHEMACHER,

N. W. STEARNS.