

J. J. B. FREY.
Telegraph Key.

No. 95,014.

Patented Sept. 21, 1869.

Fig: 1.

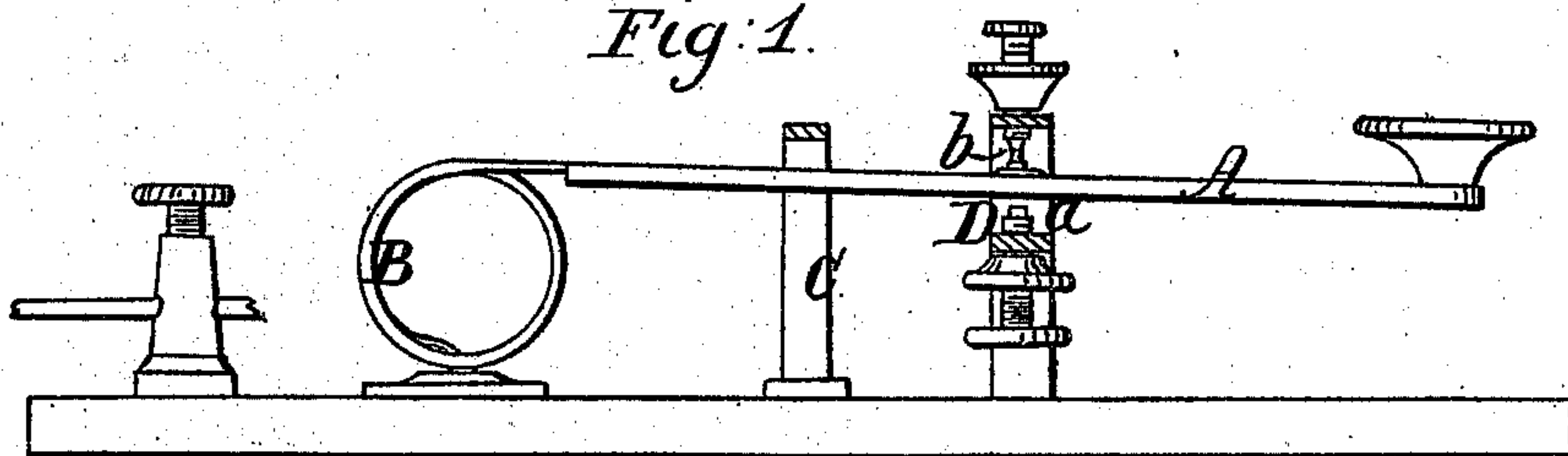


Fig: 2.

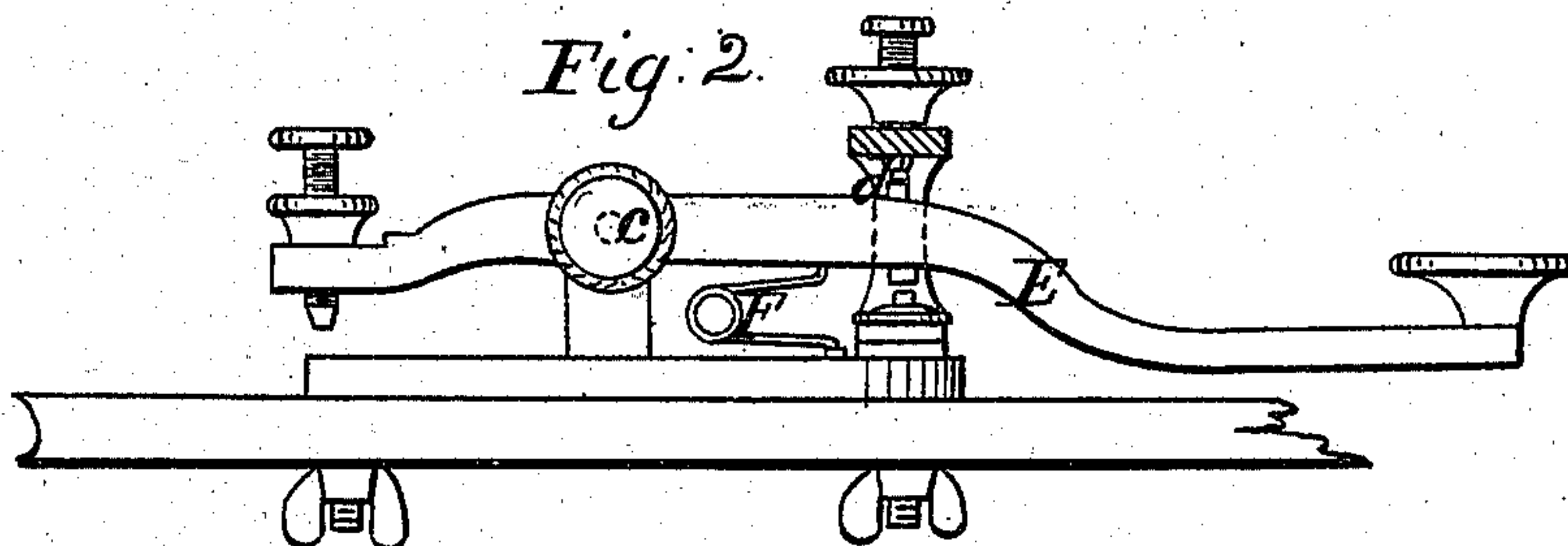
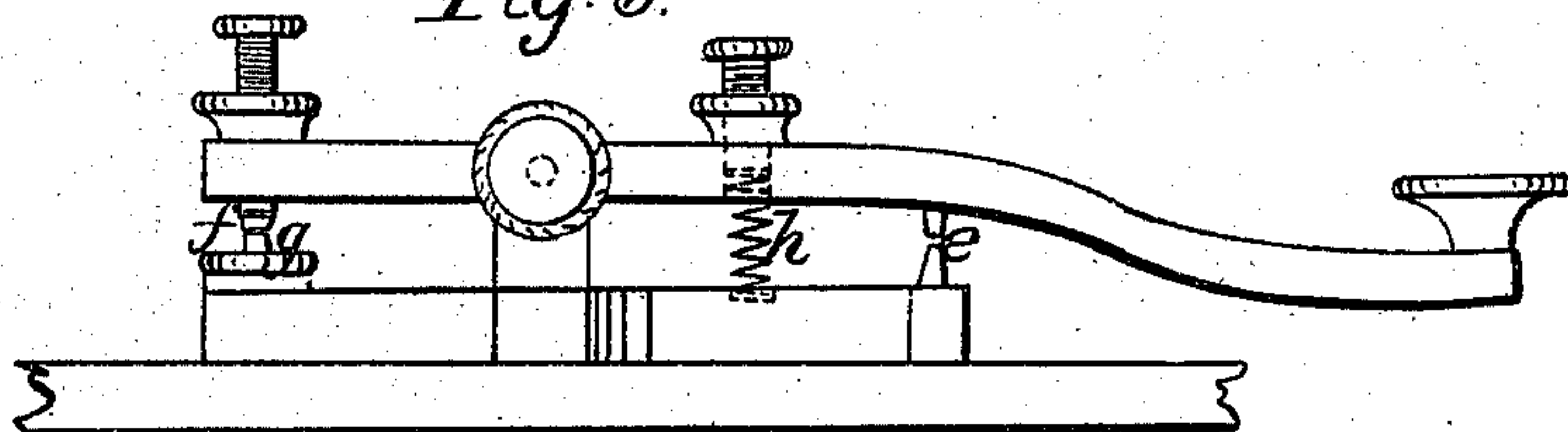


Fig: 3.



Witnesses
A. W. Almqvist
Am A Morgan

Inventor
J. J. B. Frey
per *Munn & Co*
Attorneys

United States Patent Office.

JOSEPH J. B. FREY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

Letters Patent No. 95,014, dated September 21, 1869.

IMPROVEMENT IN SELF-CLOSING TELEGRAPH-KEYS.

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, JOSEPH J. B. FREY, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and improved Self-Closing Telegraph-Key; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

This invention relates to an improved key for telegraph-instruments, whereby the circuit is always kept closed when the instrument is not at work, the key automatically closing when released from the pressure of the finger or hand.

The invention consists in providing the rear end of the key with a coiled spring, which holds the front end, when relieved of pressure, in contact with the platina point for closing the circuit automatically, and, when subjected to pressure, will come in contact with an insulated point placed immediately beneath the key in the same plane with the platina point, whereby the key can be operated without closing the circuit in its downward movement.

I am aware that telegraph-keys have heretofore been hung between two platina points, but great nicety of adjustment is required in such cases to prevent the circuit from being closed accidentally when the key is depressed.

The figure in the accompanying sheet of drawings represents a side sectional view of my improved key.

A represents the key, the rear end of which is attached by a spring, formed of one or more convolutions of a wire, B, to the base E of the instrument.

This spring has a tendency to keep the key elevated above the insulated point *a*, and in contact with the platina point *b*, the circuit being closed when A is in contact with *b*, and broken when the key is pressed down upon the insulated point *a*. Hence it will be seen that the circuit will always be kept closed when the operator ceases to use the instrument, and without manipulating any of the parts whatever.

C is a guide for the key; but this may be dispensed with, and hard rubber strips fitted in the yoke D, for that purpose.

By changing the points of the receiving-magnet, the local batteries are kept from action except when in actual use.

Having thus described my invention,

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

The key A, constructed as described, with the convolute spring B, in combination with the platina point *b*, and insulated point *a*, all arranged and operating as described, for the purpose specified.

JOS. J. B. FREY.

Witnesses:

FRANK BLOCKLEY,

ALEX. F. ROBERTS.