

T. J. LEVERING.

Combined Hat-Measurers and Stretchers.

No 157,845.

Patented Dec. 15, 1874.

Fig. 1.

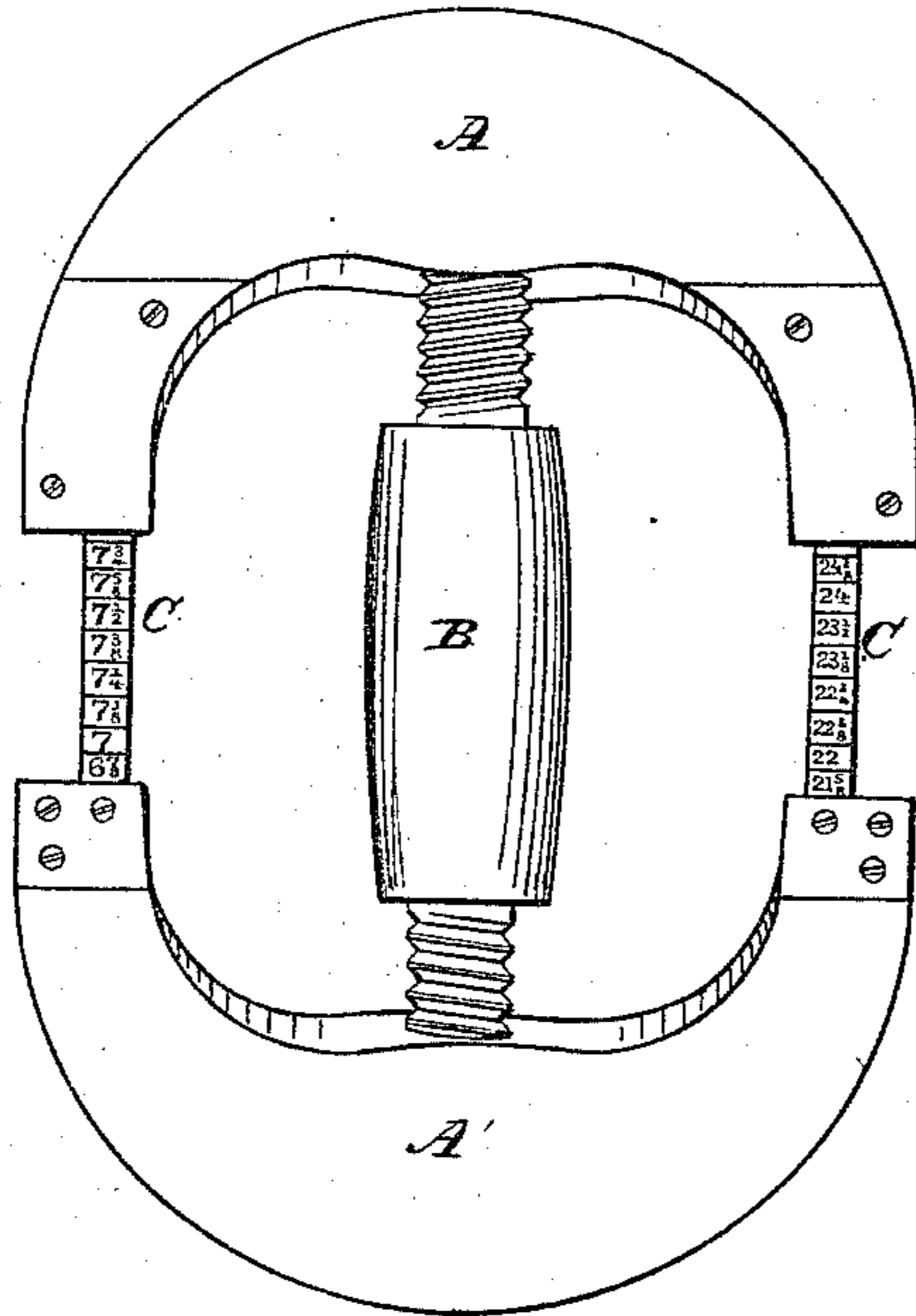
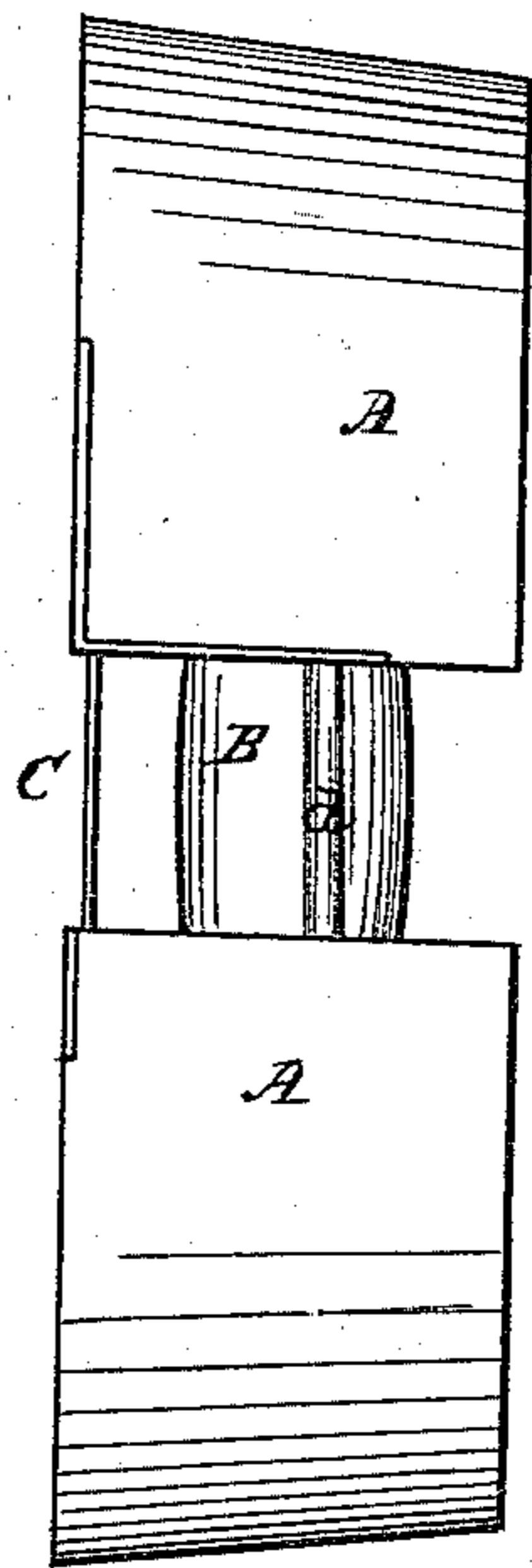


Fig. 2.



Inventor.

Thos. Jeff. Levering  
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Witnesses.

John Hastings  
Joe Casowalker

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS J. LEVERING, OF LA FAYETTE, INDIANA.

## IMPROVEMENT IN COMBINED HAT MEASURERS AND STRETCHERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 157,845, dated December 15, 1874; application filed November 21, 1874.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, THOS. J. LEVERING, of La Fayette, in the county of Tippecanoe and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Combined Hat Measurers and Stretchers; 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 which it pertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention consists in the combination of a hat-stretcher, constructed by uniting two blocks or segments by a coupler, with a measure, arranged by attaching to each side of the stretcher a metallic strip marked with a graduated scale, upon one of which the circumference of a hat required is shown, and upon the other its diameter or size, so that, in case it is desired at any time to increase the size of a hat to any given circumference, or to ascertain the size of a hat of any given circumference, this object may be easily accomplished, and the circumference in inches and the size shown by my apparatus without the necessity of measuring with a separate instrument.

To enable those skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a front elevation. Fig. 2 is a side elevation.

Similar letters of reference indicate the same parts.

A A represent the blocks or segments. B is the coupling. C C are the graduated scales; *d d*, metallic guide-rods, for keeping the blocks in place. The segments or blocks A A and the coupler B are constructed of wood, or any other suitable material, and the former are slightly beveled, and so shaped that when brought together by the coupler B the instrument assumes an oblong form, its outer circumference corresponding in shape to the inner circumference of a hat. The coupler B is constructed with a screw at each end, one of

which is right-handed, and the other left-handed. These screws fit into corresponding female screws in the blocks or segments A A, so that by turning the coupler B the segments A A are made to approach or recede from each other, thus distending or contracting the stretcher. Midway between the upper and lower edges of the segments A A are the metallic guide-rods *d d*, which are made fast at one end, and slide into sockets provided for their reception in the corresponding block or segment, thereby keeping the same in place.

The scales C C are thin strips of metal, provided with a graduated scale of numbers, and are situated on each side of the upper edge of the segments A A. They are attached and operate in the same manner as the guides *d d*. The one on the right shows the circumference in inches as the machine is opened or distended, and the one on the left the diameter or size of the hat. For instance, a hat is required to fit a head measuring twenty-three and one-half inches in circumference. The machine is placed in the hat, and is opened or distended by turning the coupler B until the scale on the right indicates  $23\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The scale on the left then shows the size to be  $7\frac{1}{2}$ . The hat may then be made to retain the required size by pressing.

I am aware that segments, or coupling the same, are not new; also, that scales have been used in various ways for measuring the size of hats, and I do not claim them independently; but

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

The combination of the blocks A A, the coupler B, the guide-rods *d d*, and the scales C C, constructed substantially as described, and for the purposes specified.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

THOS. JEFF. LEVERING.

Witnesses:

JOHN LEVERING,

CHAS. T. CLEMENT.