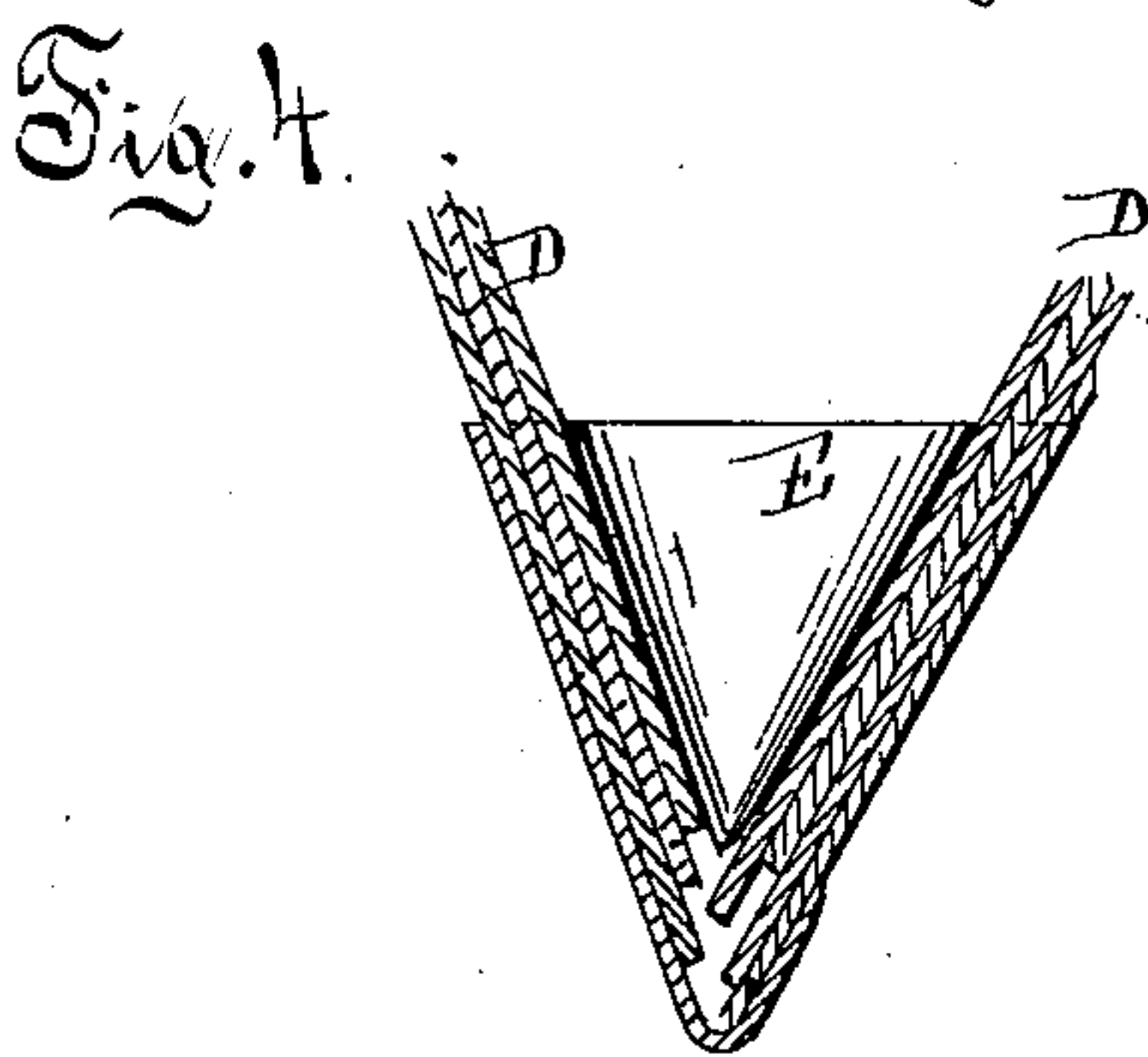
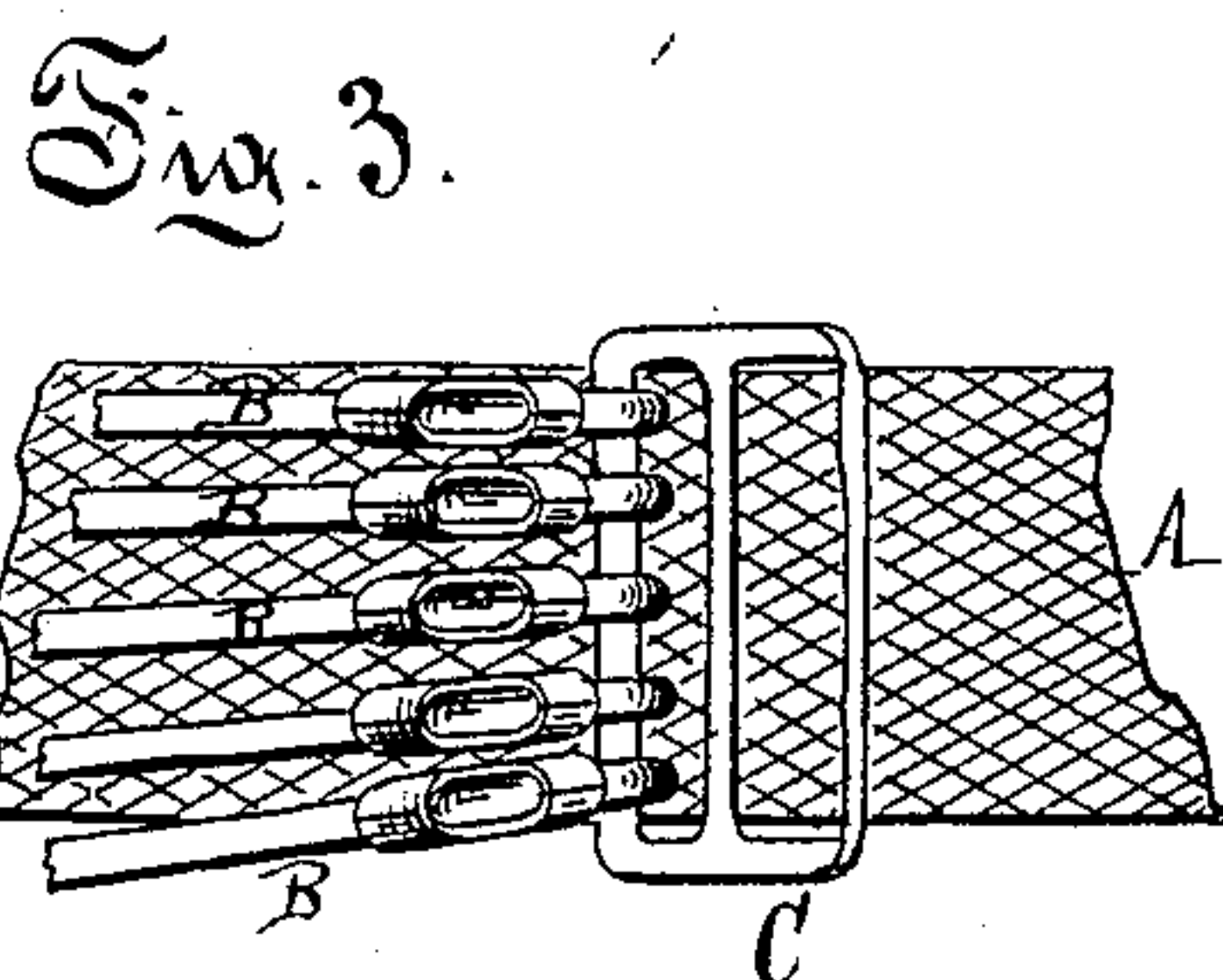
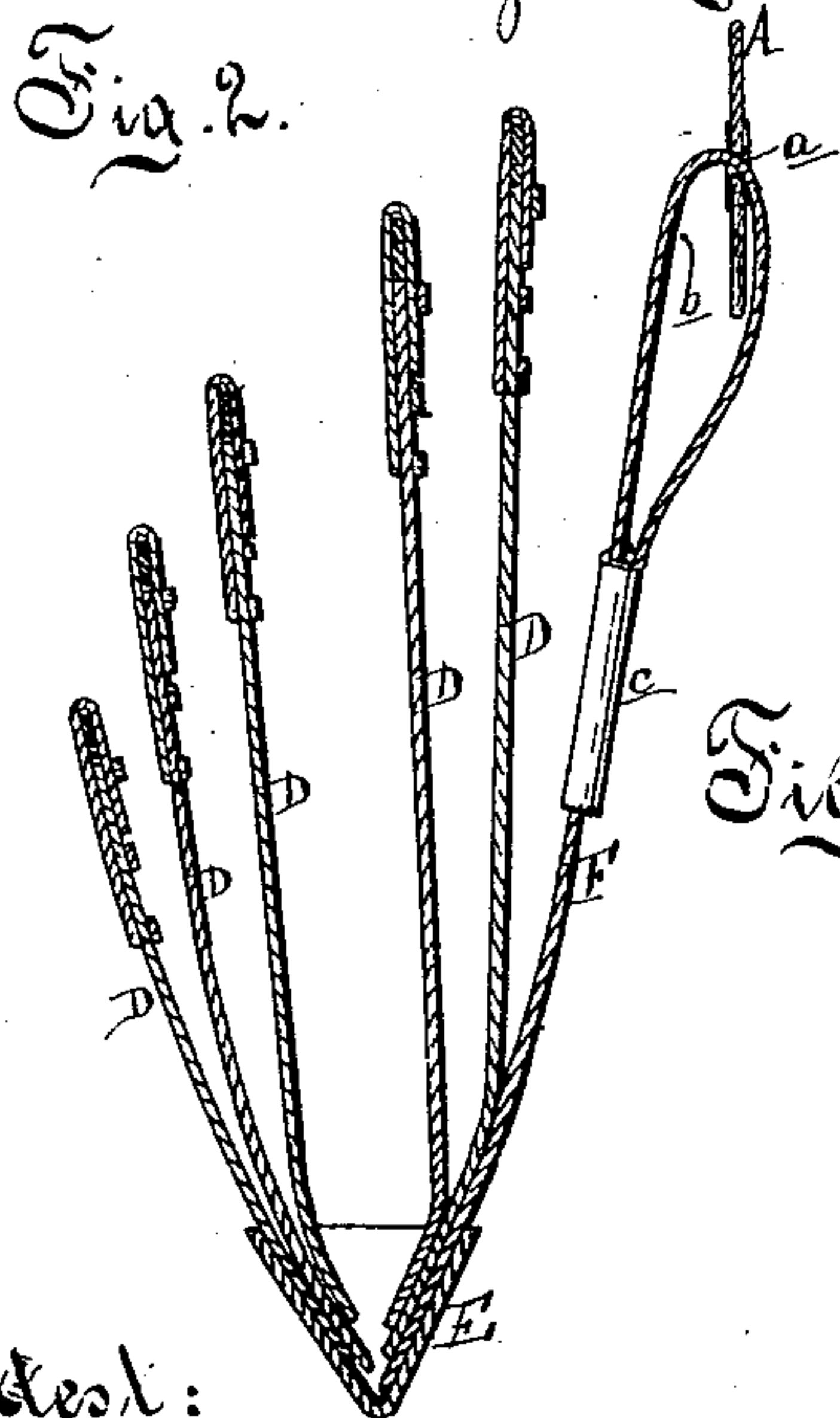
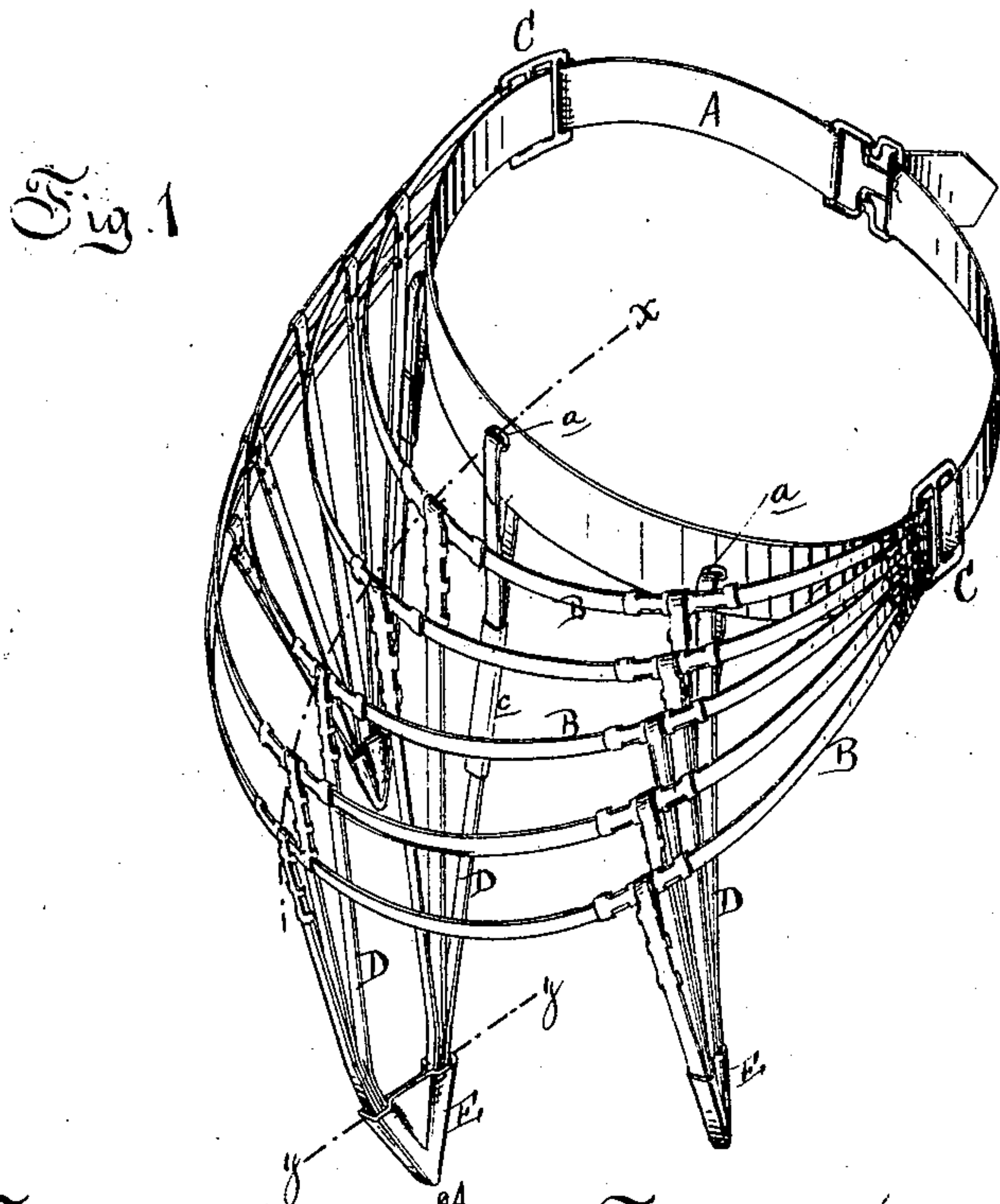


M. K. BORTREE.

Bustles.

No. 164,515.

Patented June 15, 1875.



Attest:  
Edward Barthel.  
*E. Barthel*

Inventor:  
M. K. Bortree  
By Atty  
Thos. S. Sprague



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MOSES K. BORTREE, OF JACKSON, MICHIGAN.

## IMPROVEMENT IN BUSTLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **164,515**, dated June 15, 1875; application filed March 6, 1875.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MOSES K. BORTREE, of Jackson, in the county of Jackson and State of Michigan, have invented an Improved Adjustable Bustle, of which the following is a specification:

The nature of my invention relates to certain improvements in bustles of that class wherein a series of elastic bows have their ends secured to a waistband, and are supported at intervals by braces attached to said waistband.

The invention consists, first, in the peculiar manner of adjusting the convexity of the bows by securing their ends to lever-buckles sliding on the waist-belt; secondly, in the peculiar construction and combination of the braces and hangers with a clip-socket which secures the lower ends of each set together; thirdly, in the arrangement of the hangers to rise or slide up when the wearer of the bustle is seated, thereby preventing damage to the bustle and discomfort to the wearer.

Figure 1 is a perspective view. Fig. 2 is a cross-section at *x x*. Fig. 3 is an enlarged detail elevation of the sliding bow-buckle. Fig. 4 is an enlarged section of the clip-socket at *y y* in Fig. 1.

In the drawing, A represents a waistband, whose ends may be joined in front by a buckle. B are bows of elastic and flexible hoop-skirt wire, covered with cotton braid: their ends are all secured to the loops of two lever-buckles, C C, sliding on the waist-belt, said buckles being fastened at any point thereon by their levers. The uppermost bow is the shortest, and the others are successively longer, so as to give the proper contour to the tournure of the bustle, whose convexity may be increased or diminished at will by sliding or shifting the positions of the buckles upon the waistband. In the present case five bows are shown, each being supported at three points by a brace, D, of the same material. The lower ends of all the braces are received in a triangular sheet-metal socket, E, which also receives the lower end of a flexible and elastic metallic strip or hanger, F. The ends of the braces and hanger, composing a group, are divided

into two parts—one at the inner and the other at the outer edge of the socket, whose sides are then pressed together between the parts, which process secures their lower ends in said sockets, with a tendency of the projecting portions to spread radially apart. The upper ends *b* of the hangers are passed through eyelets *a* in the waistband, bent down upon themselves to form a loop, and secured in a sheet-metal ferrule, *c*, on the body of each, so that when the wearer is seated, the lower ends of the braces, coming in contact with the seat or back of a chair or sofa, will not be forced against the person of the wearer, but the whole tournure will be free to slide or rise upwardly the length of the loops *b* through the eyelets in the belt, which will also prevent the hangers from being bent or broken, which would be very liable to occur if said hangers were so attached to the belt as to be unyielding or immovable in the direction of their length. When in use the hangers of the bustle rest upon or against the person of the wearer.

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

1. In a bustle, a series of elastic bows, B, having their ends secured to buckles C, arranged to slide on the waist-belt, substantially as described.

2. The combination, in a bustle, of a series of elastic bows, each supported at intervals by a brace, which in turn is suspended from a waist-belt by a hanger, which has a limited movement in the direction of its length, independently of said waist belt, substantially as described.

3. The combination, in a bustle, of the elastic bows, two or more separate or independent braces for each bow, a clip-socket to receive each group of braces, and a hanger to suspend them from the waist-belt, which hangers are arranged to move or yield in the direction of their length, substantially as described.

MOSES K. BORTREE.

Witnesses:

H. S. SPRAGUE,  
C. E. HUESTIS.