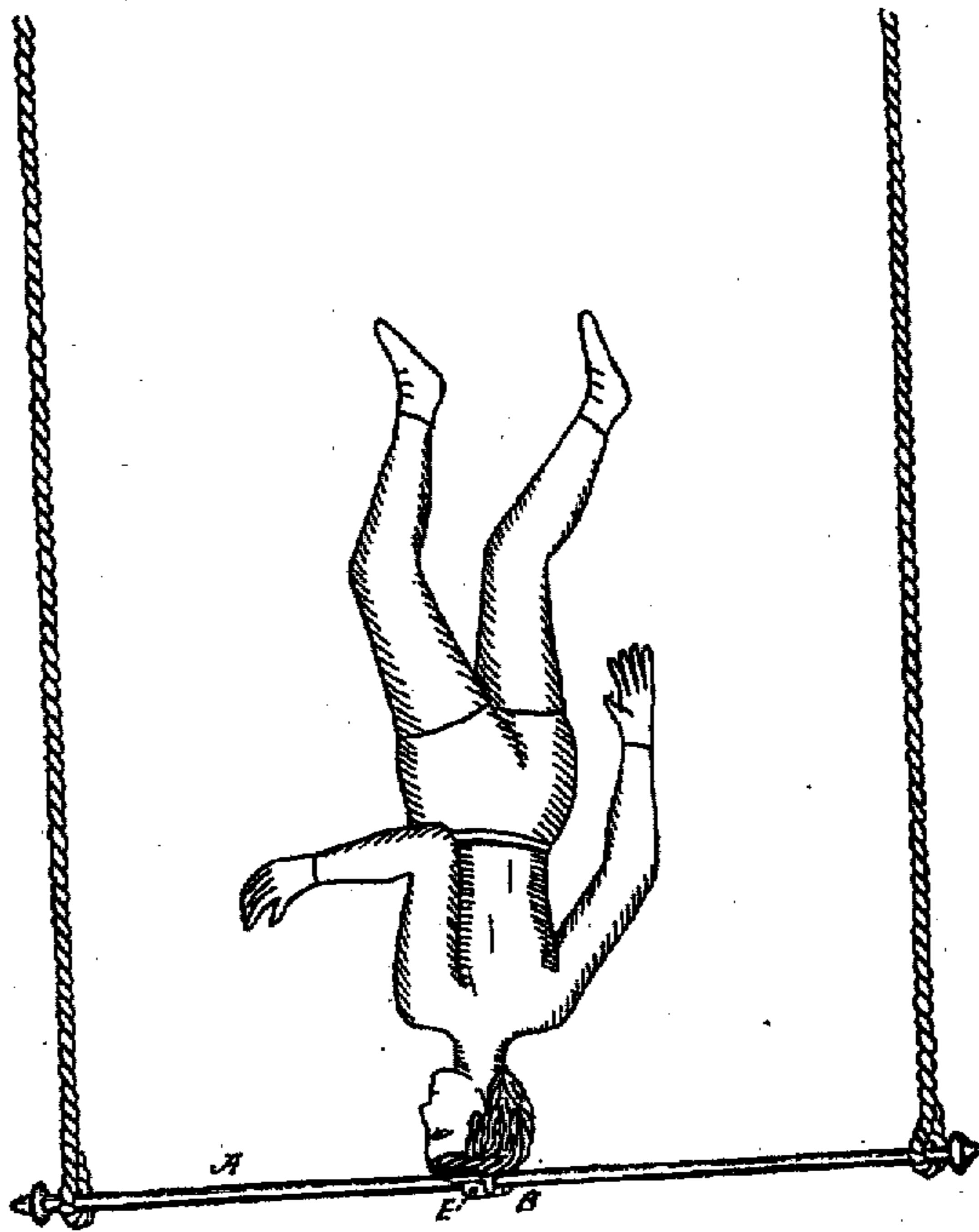


(No Model.)

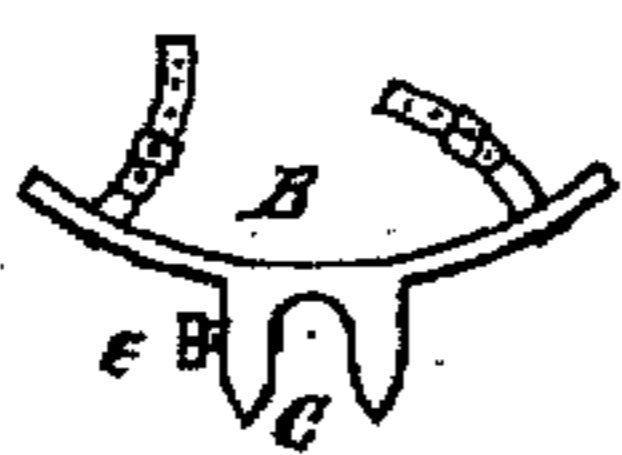
J. THEURER.  
Trapeze and Tight Rope Accessory.

No. 232,216.

Patented Sept. 14, 1880.



*Fig 1*



*Fig 2*

WITNESSES:

*Geo. R. Woods.*  
*Geo. P. Fargumman*

*John Theurer* INVENTOR

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN THEURER, OF HAMILTON, OHIO.

## TRAPEZE AND TIGHT-ROPE ACCESSORY.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 232,216, dated September 14, 1880.

Application filed August 12, 1880. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN THEURER, of Hamilton, Butler county, Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Trapeze and Tight-Rope Accessories, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a device for enabling the properly skilled performer to support himself, head downward, upon a trapeze or tight-rope, and thus perform novel evolutions while his feet are in the air.

By the use of my invention I am enabled to walk a tight-rope by means of my head and hands, and to perform numerous novel feats of balancing, posing, &c., upon a tight-rope, a trapeze, or a horizontal bar.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a performer balanced, head downward, upon a trapeze provided with my improved accessory, and Fig. 2 represents one form of said accessory.

My accessory is a head-rest adapted to form part of or be attached to a trapeze, horizontal bar, or tight-rope.

The drawings clearly show the form chosen for depiction.

The device, when used for trapeze or bar performances, should be so constructed as to form a seat for the performer's head, and should be provided with means for fixing it firmly to the bar.

In Fig. 1, A is the bar of a trapeze, and B is my improved accessory, attached thereto by means of a set-screw, E. Any other form of attachment will answer, so long as it is adapted to retain said head-seat upon the bar.

Instead of being attached to the bar, the head-seat may be formed as part of the trapeze-bar by expanding or forming a part of the bar into a seat adapted to receive the performer's head.

The head-seat must have a concave curve to the surface intended to receive the head. This concavity may be double, so as to give the head-seat a dish form, or the curve may be one way only and the transverse lines of the head-seat may be straight, as shown in the side view, Fig. 2.

The material of the head-seat may be cast-iron or any other proper material.

For tight-rope walking the accessory must be attached to the walker's head, which is accomplished by providing the head-seat with straps, as shown in Fig. 2, and the attach-

ment of the head-rest to the rope is temporary—that is, a simple rope-seat is all that is required.

The performer straps the device shown in Fig. 2 to his head, and takes his position on a tight-rope with the groove C over the rope. He rests his balancing-pole on the rope while holding the pole, and by a series of steps, first with his head, then with the pole, he traverses the rope.

For evolution on the rope the head-rest would be fixed to the rope, and not to the performer's head.

In practice I prefer a combined device, as shown in Fig. 2, so that it will answer for sundry and various performances; but, as before stated, a trapeze-bar may be prepared so as to contain within itself the essential feature of my invention, as a fixed head-rest in a trapeze.

In trapeze performance with my accessory it is desirable that the trapeze-bar should be so firmly held in its supports as to prevent as much as possible all twisting or revolving of the bar.

For tight-rope operations in which the accessory is fixed to the performer's head a concave upper surface is not absolutely essential.

I claim as my invention—

1. The combination, with the horizontal element of a trapeze or other similar gymnastic device, of a concave head-seat, formed with or upon the same or attached thereto, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

2. A concave head-seat, combined with a means for attaching the same to the horizontal element of a trapeze or other similar gymnastic device, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

3. The combination, with a head-piece and a means for attaching the same to the head of a performer, of a bottom groove or seat adapted to engage with a rope, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

4. The combination, with a head-seat, a means for attaching the same to a performer's head, and a bottom groove or seat adapted to engage with a rope, of a means for attaching said head-seat to the horizontal element of a trapeze or other similar gymnastic device, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

JOHN THEURER.

Witnesses:

J. W. SEE,

NELSON WILLIAMS.