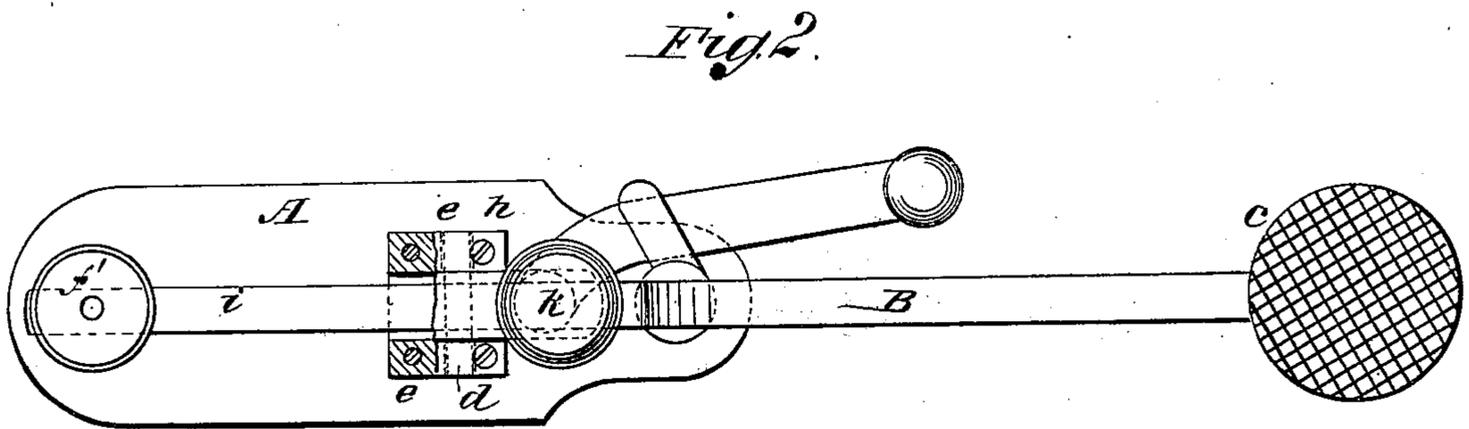
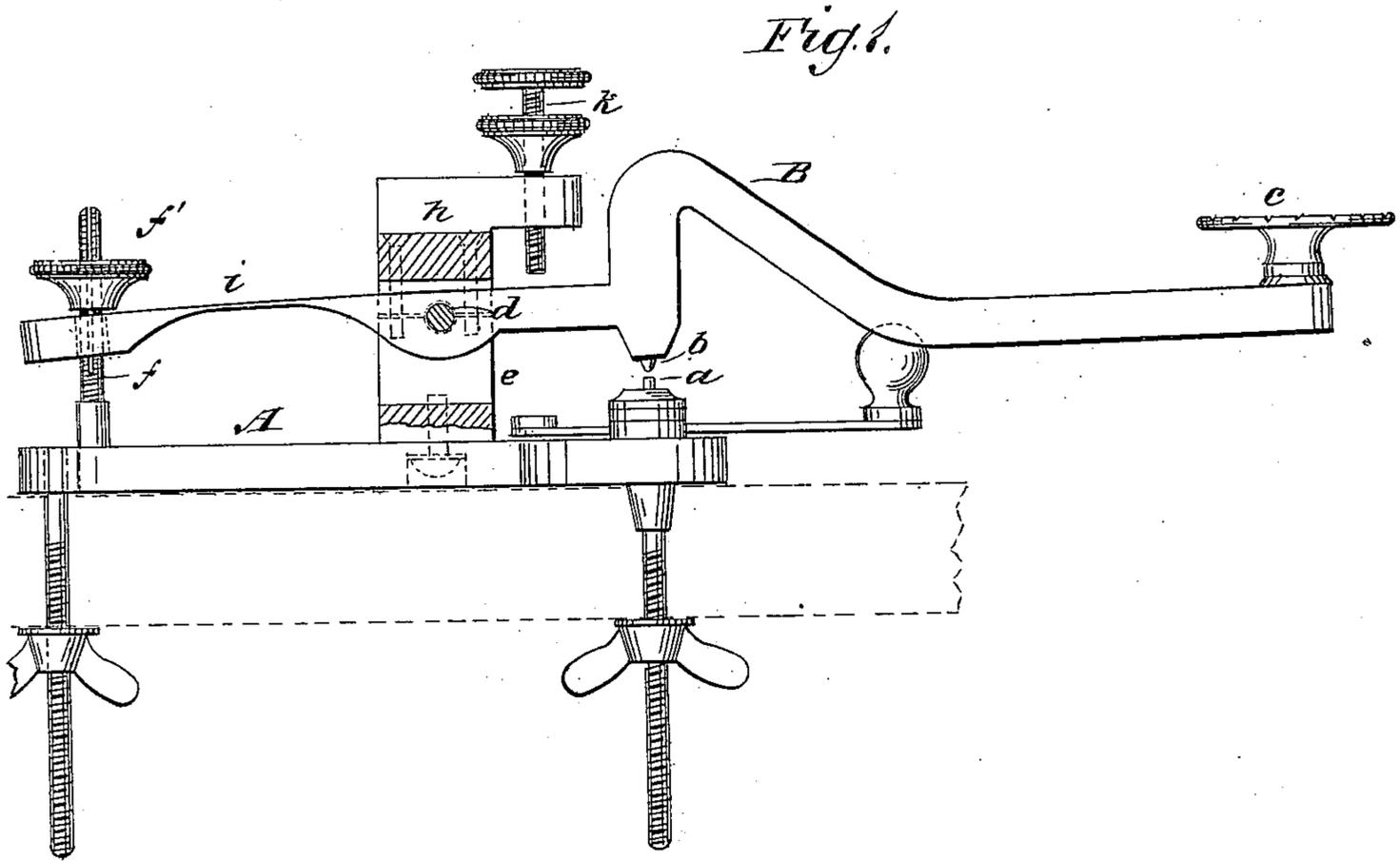


(No Model.)

A. E. PETERMAN.  
TELEGRAPH KEY.

No. 246,811.

Patented Sept. 6, 1881.



WITNESSES:  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ADDISON E. PETERMAN, OF HANDSBOROUGH, MISSISSIPPI.

## TELEGRAPH-KEY.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 246,811, dated September 6, 1881.

Application filed May 25, 1881. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ADDISON E. PETERMAN, of Handsborough, in the county of Harrison and State of Mississippi, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Telegraph - Keys, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention consists in a spring-lever key of novel construction and arrangement, the object being to obtain uniform tension with ease in working, and to avoid the objections that exist to the use of a lever and separate spring.

The construction and operation will be described with reference to the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a side elevation, partly sectional, of a telegraph-key of my invention; and Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same, partially sectional.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A is the base-plate, provided with platinum point *a*; and B is the lever, provided with point *b* and with a knob or finger-piece, *c*, that has a roughened surface to prevent the operator's fingers from slipping. The lever B is hung by side pivots, *d d*, in posts *e e*, that are fixed to the base A, the pivots being formed upon the lever or by a solid pin secured through the lever. The back end, *i*, of the lever extends to a fixed screw-post, *f*, and is apertured to set over the post. On the post is a set-nut, *f'*, by which the end of the lever is pressed down more or less, according to the tension required.

This rear end of the lever constitutes the spring, and is given the requisite elasticity by grind-

ing out the lever, as shown. The lever will be made of spring-steel, plated to prevent rust.

It will be understood that the lever swings on the pivots *d*, and when pressed down the rear spring portion, *i*, is compressed or bent, so that when the lever is released the spring returns it upward. The key will have a uniform tension at all times, and the movement be easy and most desirable for the purposes.

To prevent the platina points *a b* from sticking the lower one is formed flat and the upper one of rounded or conical form. With this form the upper point will not adhere, and the rebound of the lever will be quick.

The upper ends of posts *e* are fitted with a bar, *h*, formed with half-boxes for the pivots *d*, and attached by screws that hold the parts firmly. In a projection from bar *h* is tapped a screw, *k*, the end of which projects downward to the lever B, so as to limit the upward movement of the lever.

The spring of the lever may be formed by a separate piece attached, instead of being in the same piece as the lever.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The pivoted finger-lever B, formed with back spring, *i*, in combination with the base A, sustaining-posts *e*, and post *f*, provided with nut *f'*, substantially as shown and described.

ADDISON E. PETERMAN.

Witnesses:

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