

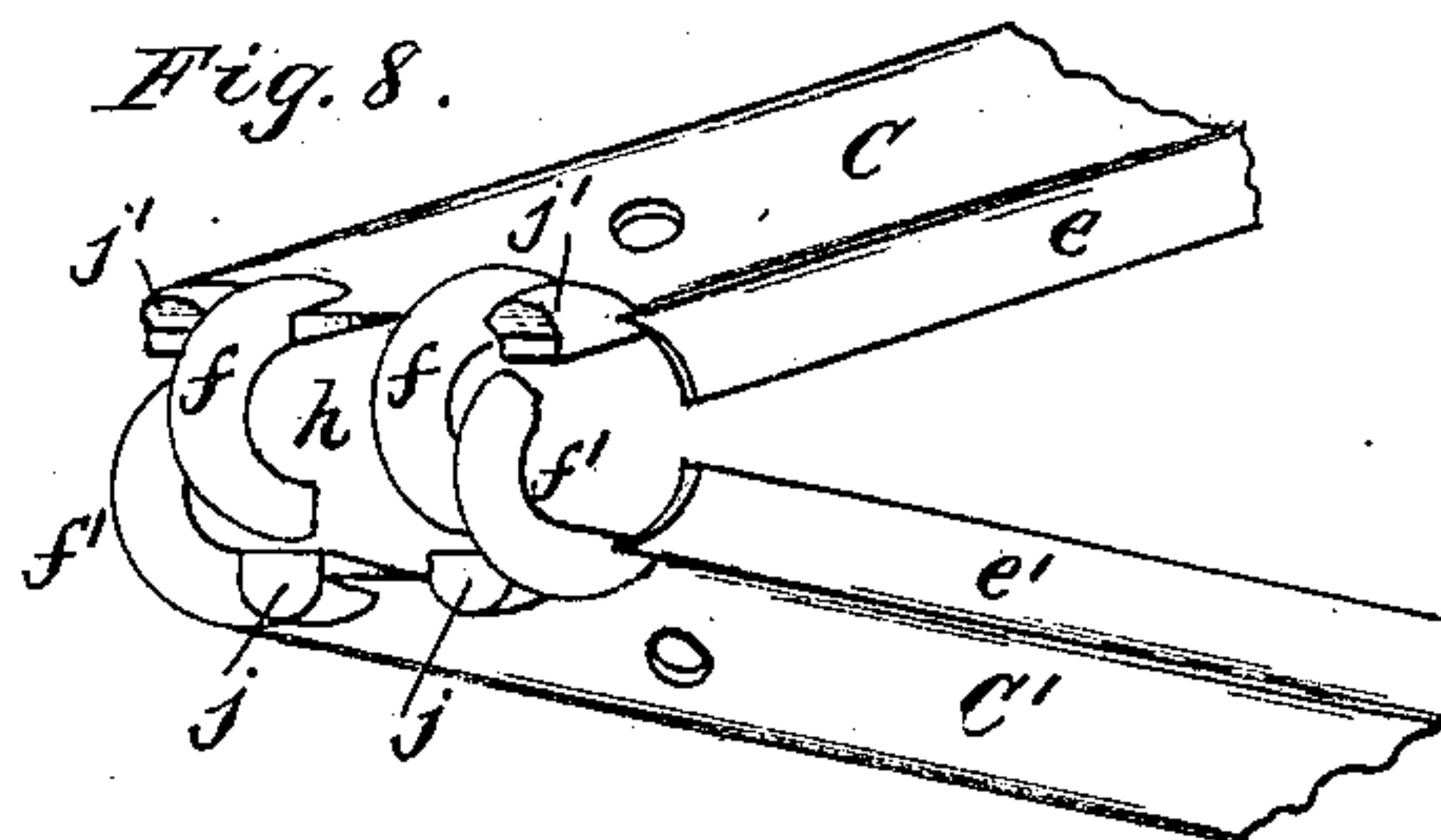
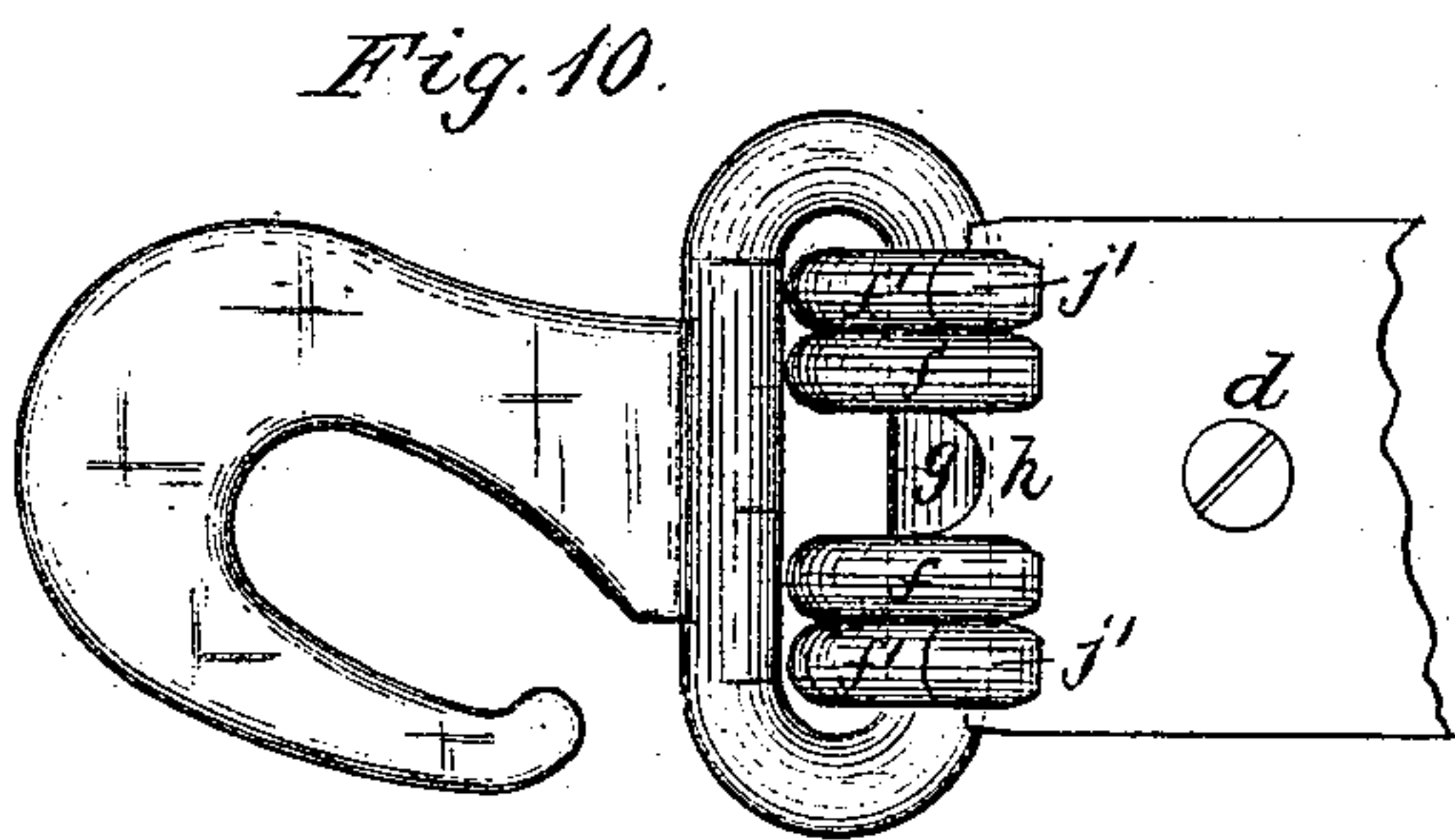
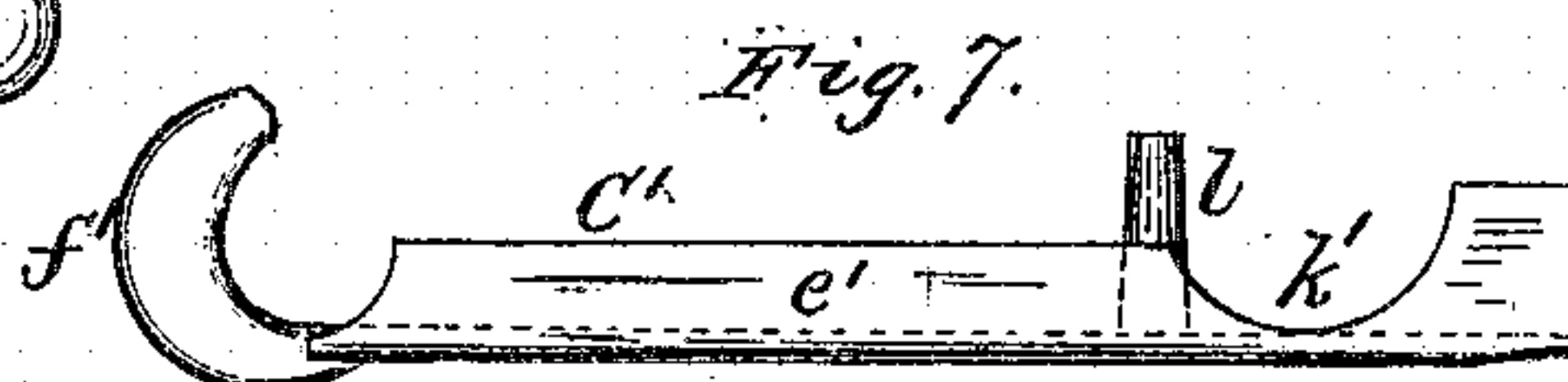
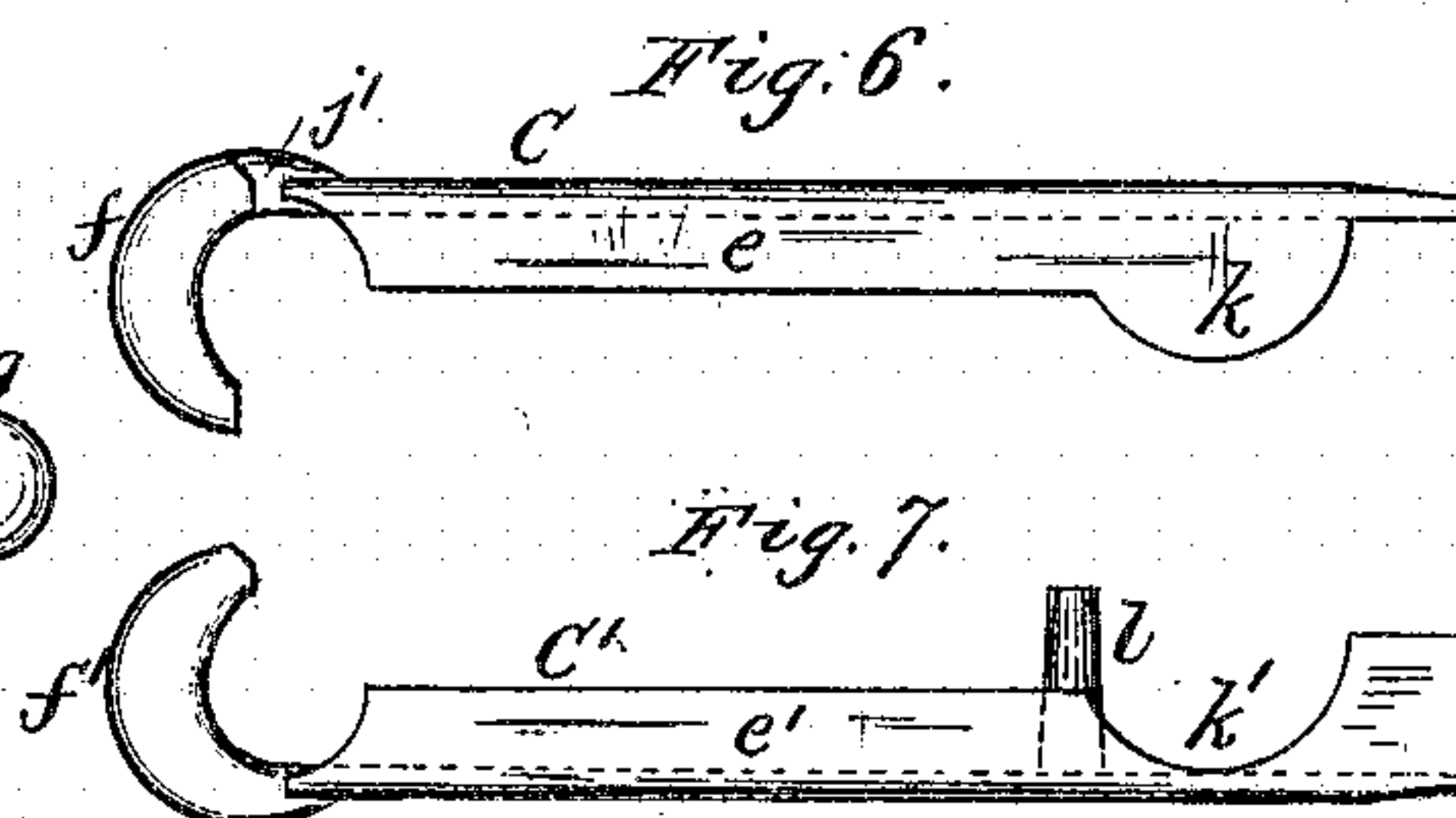
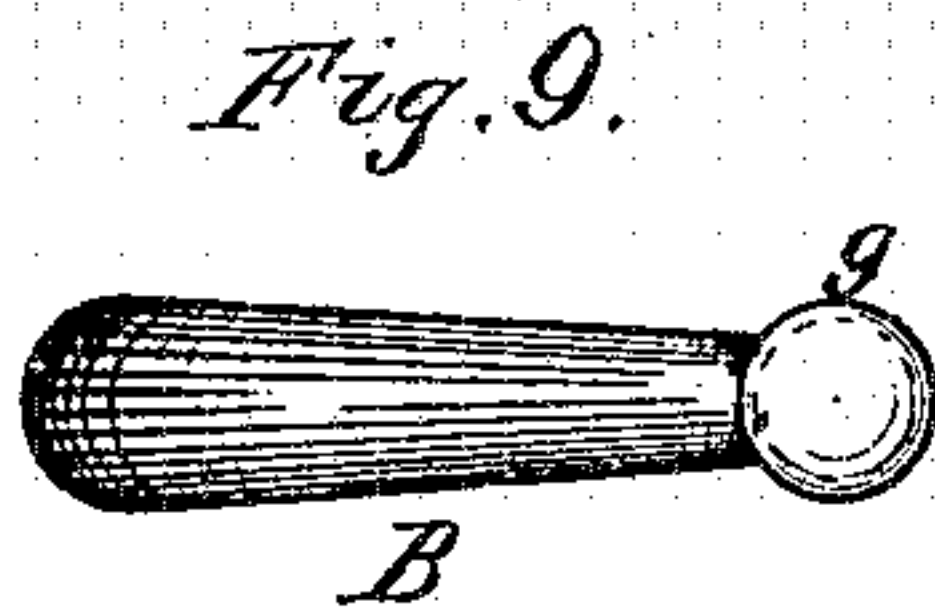
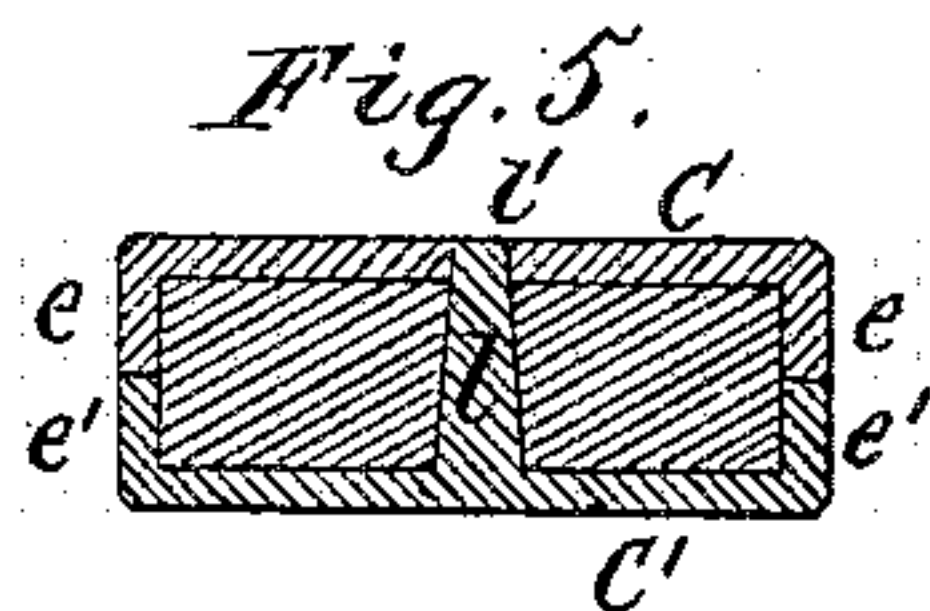
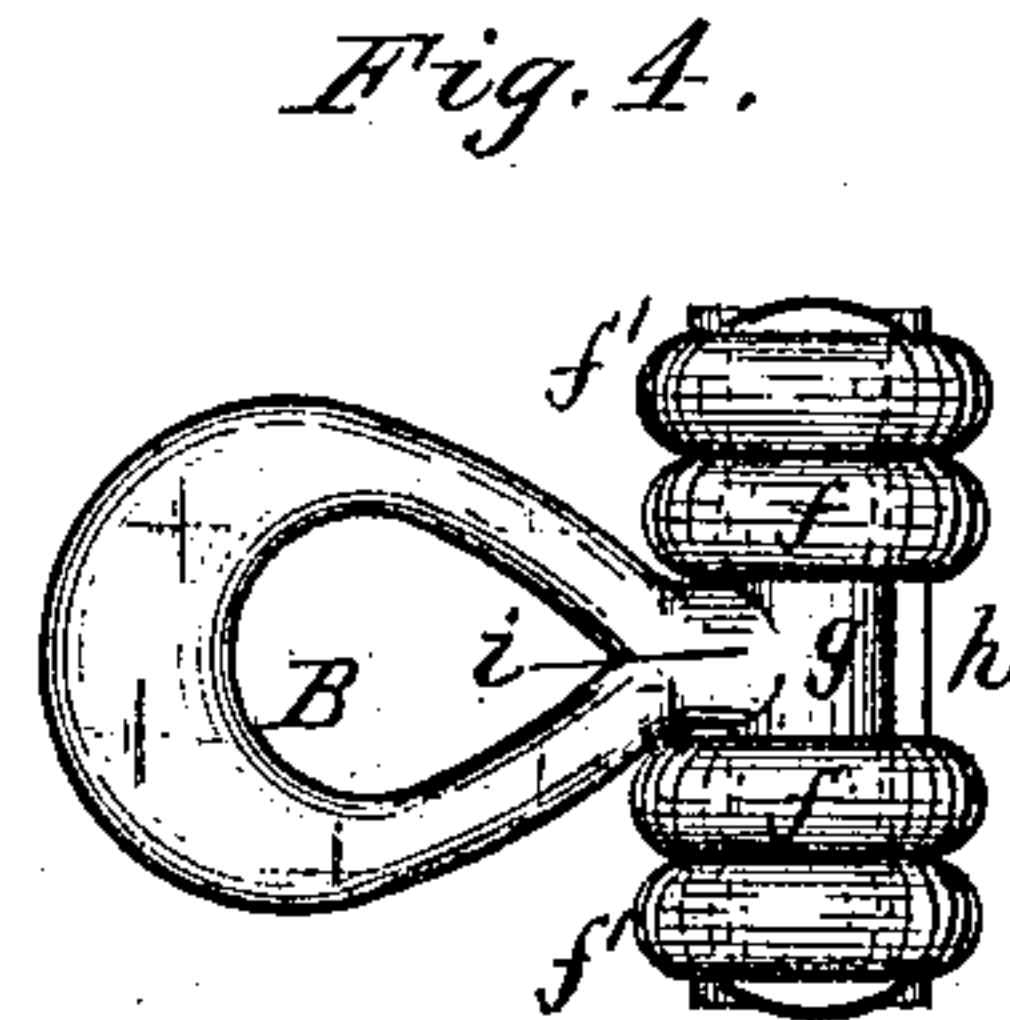
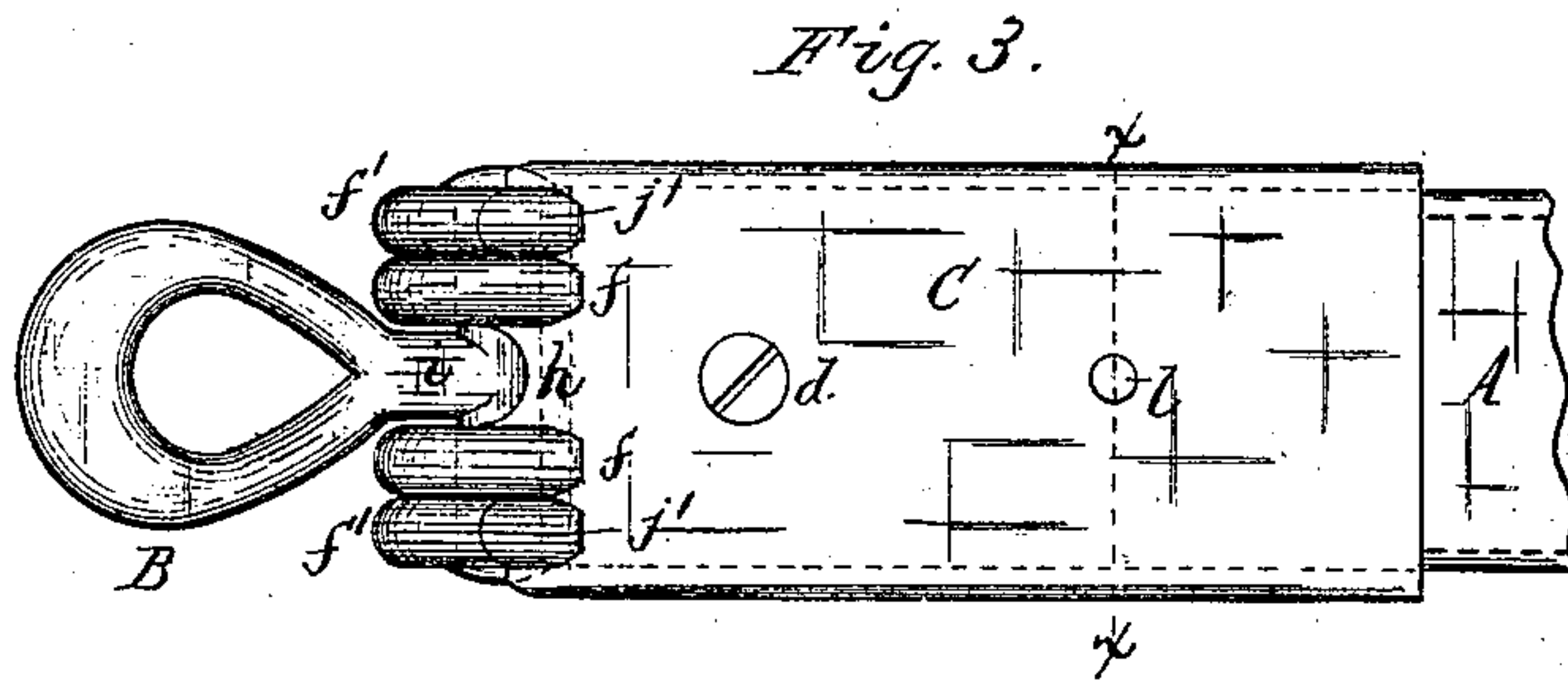
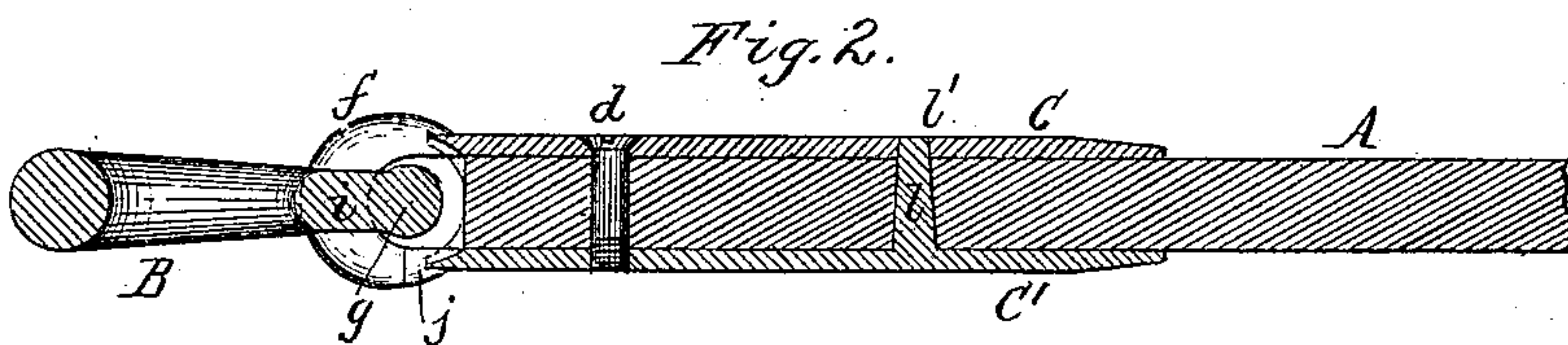
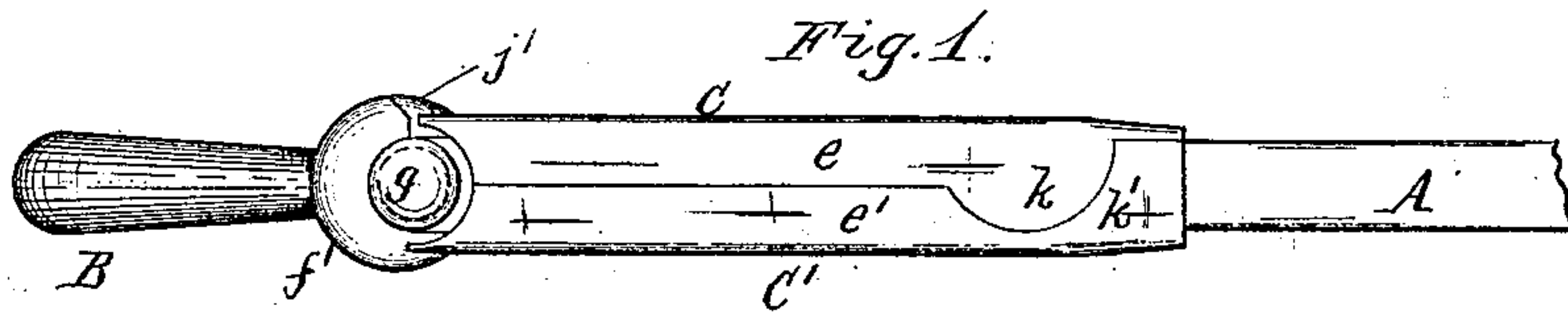
(No Model.)

J. M. BASINGER.

TRACE COUPLING.

No. 272,624.

Patented Feb. 20, 1883.



Chas. J. Buchheit
Edw. J. Brady
Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES M. BASINGER, OF BUFFALO, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR OF ONE FOURTH
TO PRATT & LETCHWORTH, OF SAME PLACE.

TRACE-COUPLING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 272,624, dated February 20, 1883.

Application filed October 21, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES M. BASINGER, of the city of Buffalo, in the county of Erie and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Couplings for Traces, &c., of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improvement in clasps or couplings designed for use on traces and other harness-straps for the purpose of attaching cockeyes, hooks, buckles, or other contrivances of this sort, to the end of the traces or straps.

The object of the invention is to construct the clasp or coupling in such manner that the cockeye, buckle, or other device which is attached to the trace by means of the clasp or coupling can be readily removed and another device substituted in its place.

My invention consists of the peculiar construction of the clasp or coupling whereby this end is accomplished, as will be hereinafter fully described, and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is an edge view, Fig. 2 a longitudinal section, and Fig. 3 is a side elevation, of my improved coupling. Fig. 4 is an end view thereof with the cockeye turned to one side. Fig. 5 is a cross-section in line *x x*, Fig. 3. Figs. 6 and 7 are edge views of the two parts of the coupling detached. Fig. 8 is a perspective view, showing the two parts of the coupling partially put together. Fig. 9 is an edge view of the cockeye. Fig. 10 is a side elevation of the end of the coupling, showing a hook substituted for the cockeye.

Like letters of reference refer to like parts in the several figures.

A represents a trace, tug, or other harness strap, to the end of which a cockeye, B, or a hook, buckle, or other similar fastening device, is designed to be attached.

C C' represent two metallic plates adapted to be placed against opposite sides of the trace, tug, or strap A, and secured thereto by means of a screw or rivet, *d*.

e e' are flanges formed, respectively, on the longitudinal edges of the plates C C', so as to overlap the edges of the trace, tug, or strap and come in contact with each other when the two plates C C' are secured to the trace, there-

by forming a metallic casing inclosing the end of the trace.

ff represent two hooks formed on the outer end of the plate C, and *f' f'* are two similar hooks formed on the outer end of the plate C'. The two sets of hooks *ff* and *f' f'* are turned in opposite directions, each set forming a half-bearing for the cross-bar *g* of the cockeye, hook, or buckle, and both sets of hooks forming, when the plates are secured to the trace, a socket in which the cross-bar *g* of the cockeye, hook, or buckle turns or rests. As shown in the drawings, the hooks *f' f'* are arranged on the outer side of the hooks *ff*, and a sufficient opening, *h*, is formed between the inner hooks, *ff*, to permit the shank *i* of the cockeye to play therein. The ends of the hooks *f* close against projections *j*, formed on the outer end of the plate C', so as to form a continuation of the hooks *f* and close the opening thereof when the plates C C' are secured to the trace, and the ends of the hooks *f'* close against similar projections, *j'*, formed on the outer end of the plate C.

The flanges *e* of the plate C are provided with projections *k*, and the flanges *e'* of the plate C' are provided with recesses *k'*, which receive the projections *k*, as clearly shown in Fig. 1, and whereby the plates are retained in the proper relative position longitudinally.

The plate C' is provided with a stud, *l*, which penetrates the trace and enters an opening, *l'*, in the plate C, and which serves as an additional fastening connecting the plates with the trace. When the plates are disconnected from each other, the cockeye, hook, buckle, or other device which is to be attached to the trace or strap, is placed with its cross-bar in one set of the hooks. The other half of the clasp or coupling is then applied to the opposite side of the strap, whereby the socket containing the cross-bar of the cockeye or other device is completed, and the plates are firmly secured to the trace or strap by the screw or rivet *d*.

If at any time it becomes desirable to substitute another device for the cockeye, this is readily accomplished by removing the screw or rivet *d* and separating the plates.

Each of the parts constituting my improved clasp or coupling is readily cast complete of malleable iron or other suitable metal, and the

device forms a neat and durable trimming for the strap, and avoids the necessity of doubling the strap around the cross-bar of the cockeye or other device, thereby effecting a saving both
5 in leather and in labor.

If desired, the socket may be constructed wholly upon one of the plates, and the other plate, when in place, may rest with its end against the end of the socket, whereby the cock-
10 eye or other device is kept in place; but in so constructing the clasp the strain or draft falls principally upon the plate upon which the socket is formed, and tends to disarrange the plates, and I therefore prefer to form each plate with
15 a portion of the socket.

The flanges along the edges of both plates may be omitted, if desired, or the flanges may be constructed wholly upon one of the plates, and the other plate may rest upon the edges
20 of the flanges or between the flanges; but I prefer to construct both plates with flanges, as hereinbefore described.

I claim as my invention—

1. The combination, with the plates C C', of
25 the hooks *f f'*, turned in opposite directions, and constructed to form a socket for a cockeye or other similar device when the plates are secured to opposite sides of the trace or strap, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination of two plates, C C', provided with hooks *f f'*, turned in opposite directions, and projections *j j'*, against which the hooks close when the plates are secured to the trace or strap, substantially as set forth.

3. The combination of two plates, C C', each
35 provided with a portion of a socket for the reception of a cockeye or similar device, and longitudinal flanges *e e'*, adapted to overlap the edges of the strap to which the plates are secured, substantially as set forth.

4. The combination of two plates, C C', each
40 provided with a portion of a socket for the reception of a cockeye or similar device, flanges *e*, provided with projections *k*, and flanges *e'*, provided with recesses *k'*, substantially as set
45 forth.

5. The combination of two plates, C C', each provided with a portion of a socket for the reception of a cockeye or similar device, a stud, *l*, formed in one of the plates, an opening, *l'*,
50 formed in the opposite plate, for the reception of the stud *l*, and a screw or rivet, *d*, whereby the plates are secured to the strap, substantially as set forth.

JAMES M. BASINGER.

Witnesses:

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