

(No Model.)

L. D. HELLER.

PEN SUPPORT AND HAND REST.

No. 281,876.

Patented July 24, 1883.

Fig. 1.

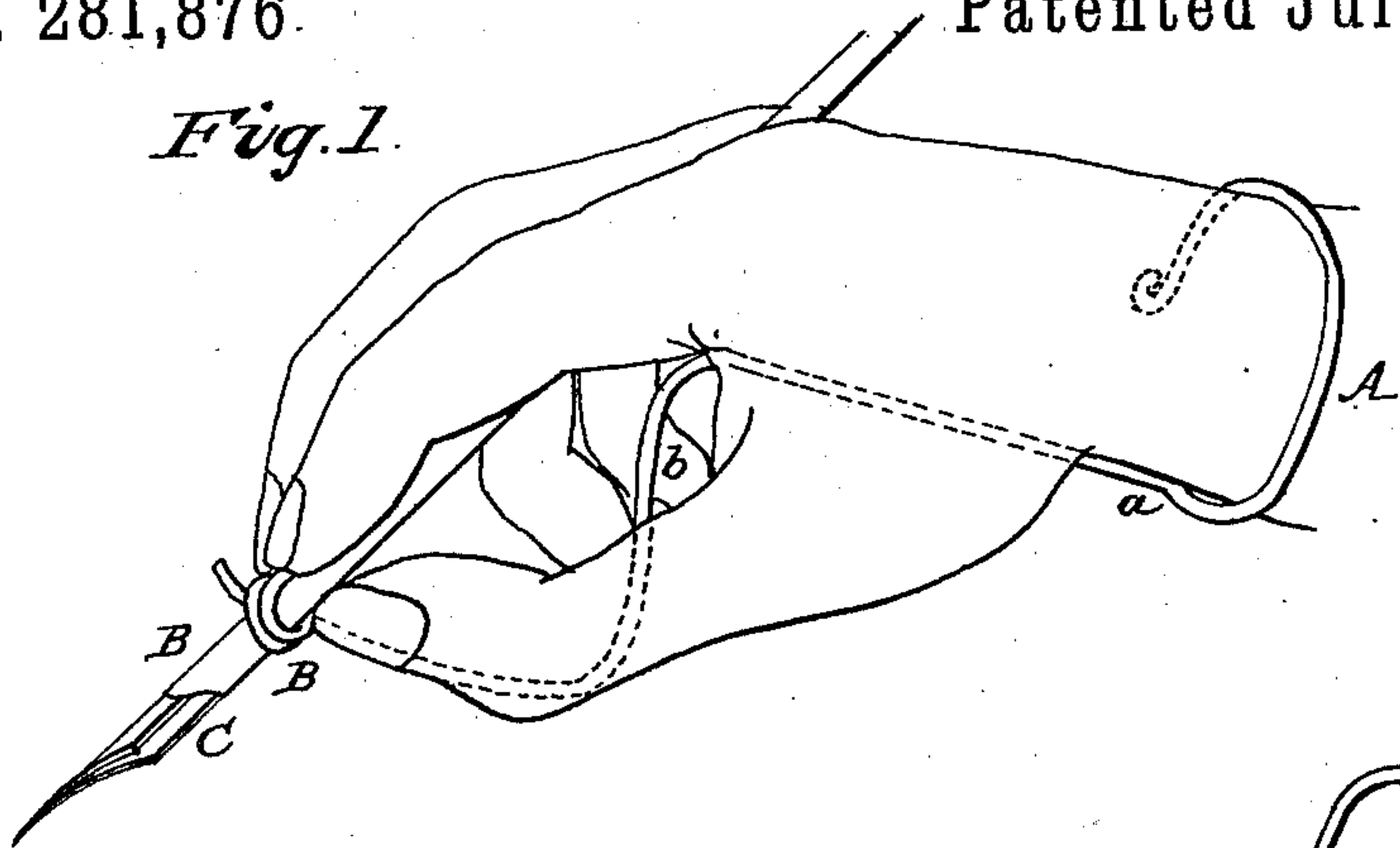


Fig. 2.

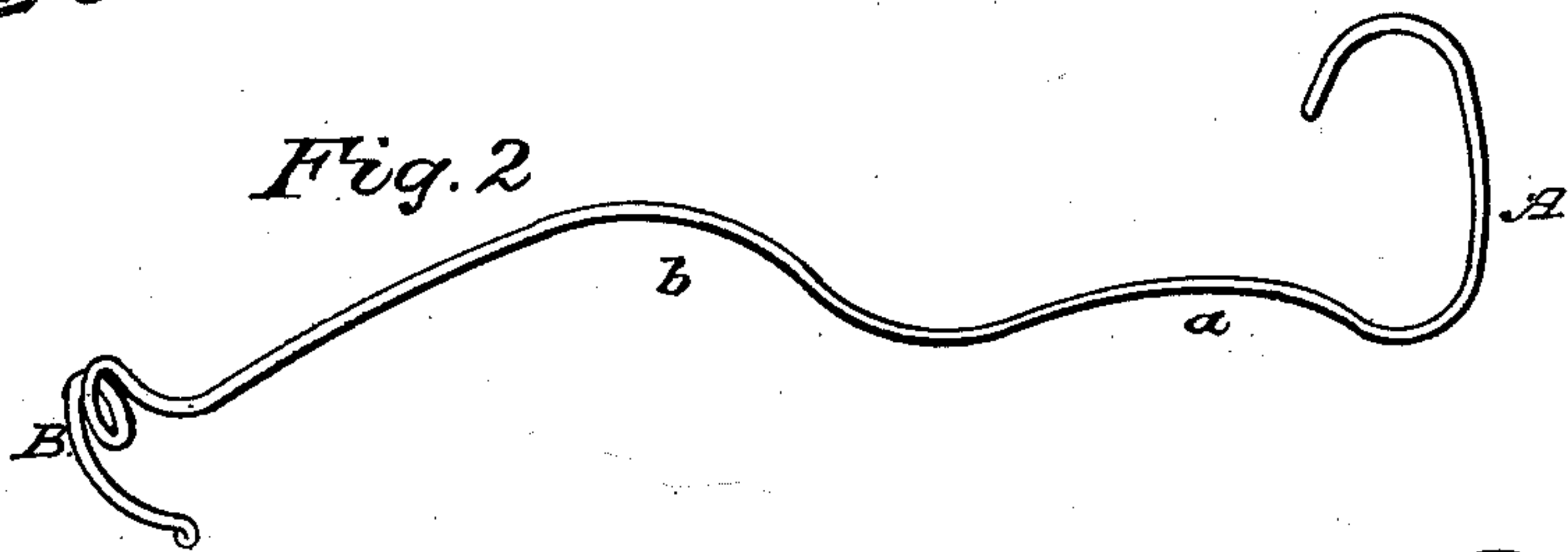


Fig. 3.

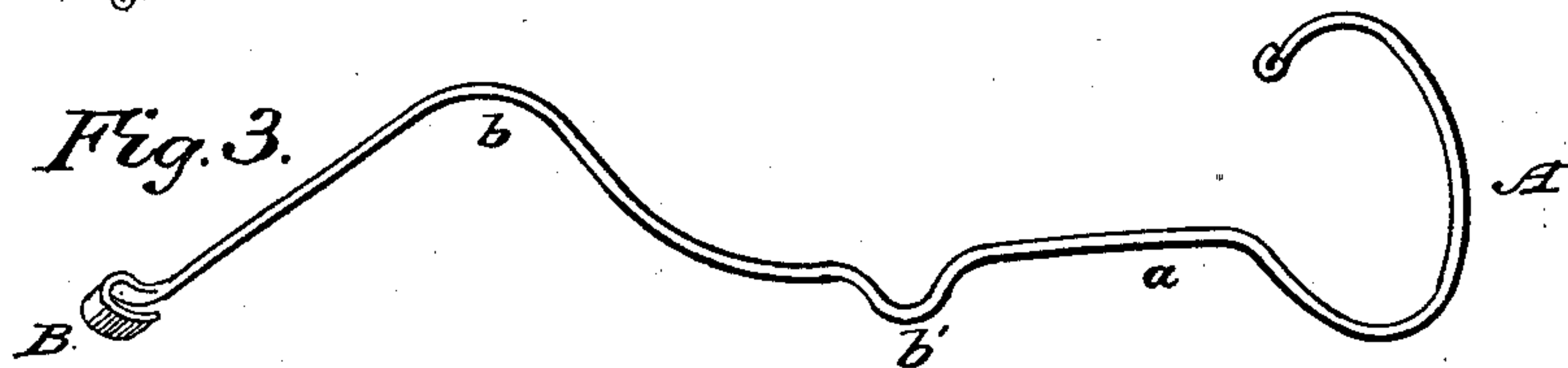


Fig. 4.

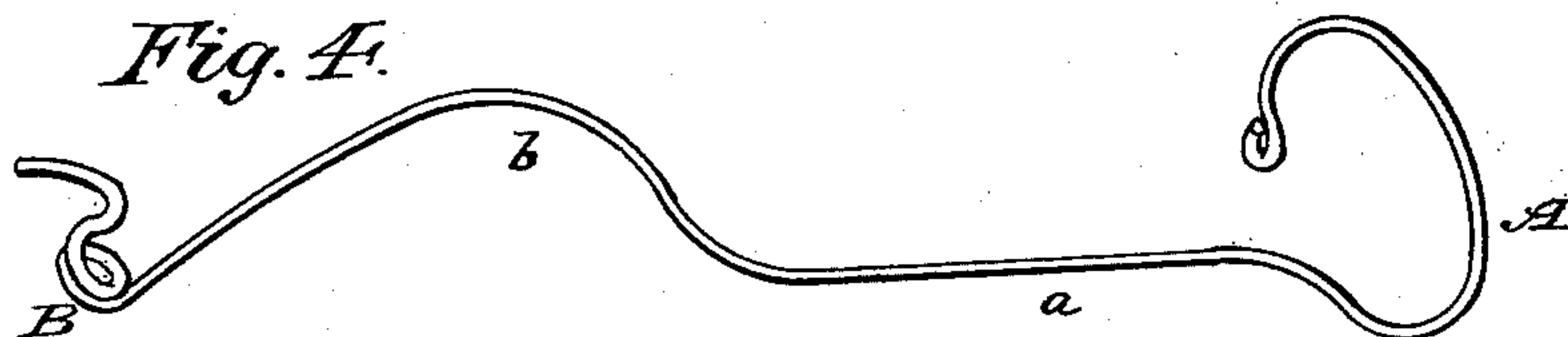
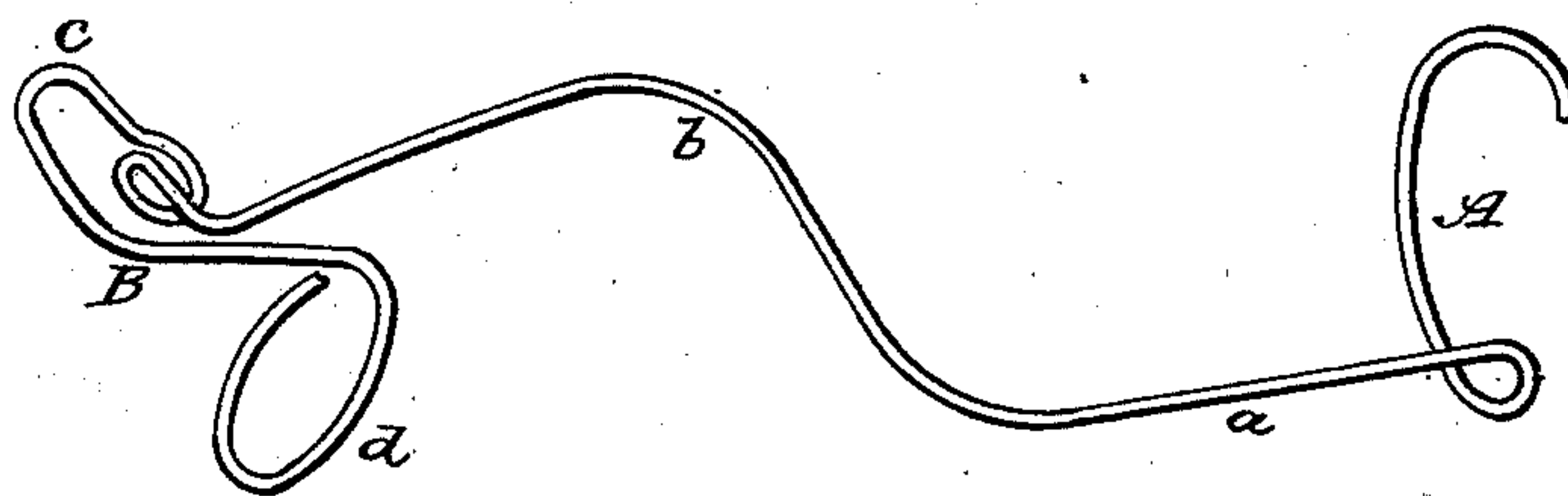


Fig. 5.



WITNESSES:

Med. L. Dietrich
Edgar C. Welford

INVENTOR.

L. D. Heller
By *J. H. Macdonald*
and
J. W. Hallmark
ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEVI D. HELLER, OF COLUMBUS, OHIO.

PEN-SUPPORT AND HAND-REST.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 281,876, dated July 24, 1883.

Application filed March 21, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, L. D. HELLER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Columbus, in the county of Franklin and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Pen-Supports and Hand-Rests, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to means for assisting a person to acquire the art of writing, and to prevent the strain upon the muscles of the wrist and fingers when in the act of writing, which also acts as a guide and support for the pen when writing.

To this end the invention consists in a single piece of wire of suitable size for the purpose, curved at one end to form an open loop to encircle the forearm, then extending forward into a straight or curved portion to support the wrist and ball of the hand, and finally curved outwardly to a coil, in which the pen or pencil is placed.

The construction and operation will be hereinafter more fully described in the specification, and pointed out in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my device with a pen-holder inserted in the end coil and grasped by the hand. Figs. 2, 3, 4, and 5 are perspective views of same, showing the different ways of supporting the pen.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, the end A is curved into an open loop to encircle and support the forearm. The portion *a* forms a support for the wrist, and the bend *b* a support and rest for the ball of the hand. The return-bend of *b* terminates in a coil, B, into which the pen-holder C is placed. This coil, as shown in Fig. 1, comes immediately under the forefinger, and usually midway between the end of the forefinger and the first joint of the thumb, the end of the thumb always pressing against the coil. In every instance the first and second fingers and the thumb are always used in grasping the pen-holder. In Figs. 1, 3, 4, 5 the pen is held between the thumb and first finger, resting

against the second finger. In Figs. 2, 4, and 5 the pen-holder is held between the first and second fingers, with the end of the thumb against the coil. In Fig. 5 the third and fourth fingers are inserted in the loop *d*, the end of the thumb resting on the coil, the loop *d* coming up over the third and fourth fingers back of the first joints. Thus I provide for nearly all the ways that different persons will hold a pen in writing.

This device presents a guard or check on the movement of the hand by means of the muscles of the forearm, preventing the hand being extended or drawn back to a greater extent than desired by the writer, and thus gives uniformity in the movement, besides preventing the contraction of the muscles of the wrist and those muscles of the fingers near the ball of the hand. It is this undue extension of the hand and muscles described which gives rise to pen-paralysis and the cramped feeling caused by constant writing. By my device the writing is all done by means of the muscles of the forearm, the hand and fingers being used only in holding the pen, and the fatigue incident to writing is avoided.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. A pen-support and hand-rest consisting in a single piece of wire of suitable size having a bent loop at one end to encircle the forearm, a coil at the opposite end to receive the pen, and an intermediate portion to support the wrist and ball of the hand, substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. A pen-support and hand-rest consisting of a single piece of wire having the forearm-loop A, wrist-support *a*, hand-rest *b*, finger-rest *d*, and pen loop or coil B, substantially as shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

LEVI D. HELLER.

Witnesses:

W. O. HENDERSON,
D. F. SAUM.