

(No Model.)

T. CLAERY.

SPINNING TOP.

No. 286,177.

Patented Oct. 9, 1883.

Fig. 1.

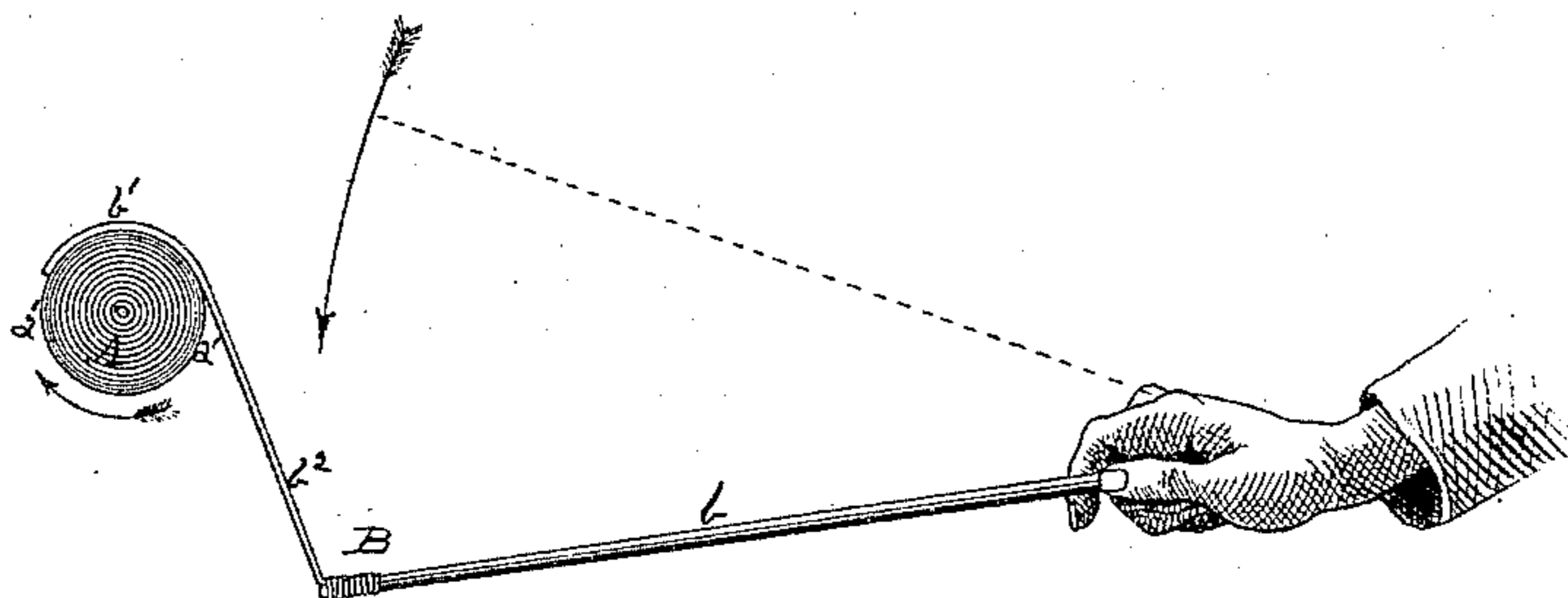
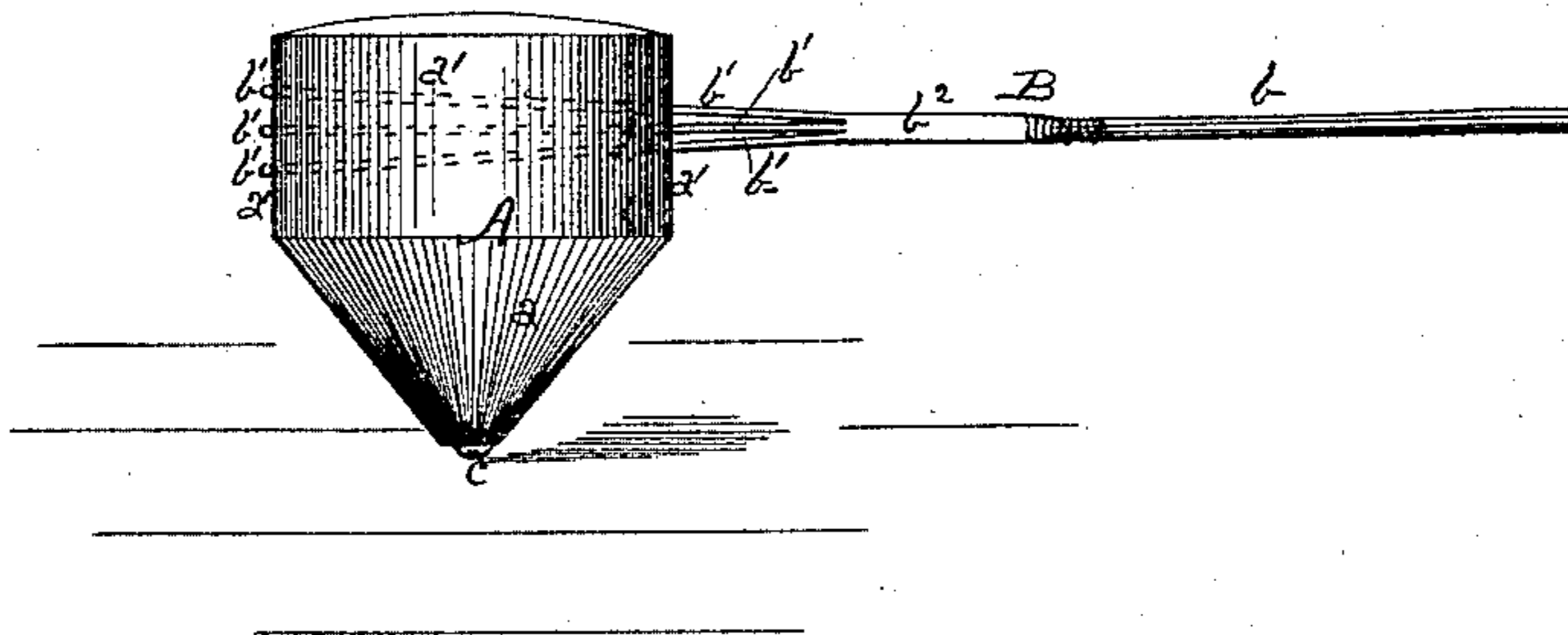


Fig. 2.

Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS CLAERY, OF GREENBUSH, NEW YORK.

SPINNING-TOP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 286,177, dated October 9, 1883.

Application filed June 7, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS CLAERY, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the town of Greenbush, county of Rensselaer, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Whip-Tops and Whips Operating with the same, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to that class of toy tops and whips for spinning the same; and it consists of a top having a solid body, with the upper half or portion of its height of body made with plain cylindrical sides from their top edges down to the base of the inverted-cone-like lower half or portion, and a whip having a series of two or more lashes attached to the same stock, whereby the said plain cylindrical sides of the top will be adapted to receive the windage of the series of two or more lashes of said whip simultaneously as the whip is applied to the same.

Heretofore whip-tops and whips for operating tops have been so constructed that a windage of only a single lash on the sides of the top would be had, for the reason that the portion of the sides, having a uniformly-same largest diameter in the top, have been made to have such a small extension in a vertical direction as to be insufficient (in extent of parallel or vertical sides) to receive the windage of more than a single lash of the whip, and the whips employed were made to have but a single lash. With this old form of top and whip the operator was liable to miss effecting a windage of the lash in many of the strokes of the whip, and the top could not be steadily spun, except by an expert competent to strike unerringly the top exactly on its limited portion of vertical sides.

My object is to provide means by which an operator (not an expert in striking exactly the same place on the sides of the top) may readily and unerringly strike the top at some point on its vertically-extended parallel or vertical sides with some one or more of the series of lashes of the whip provided; and will be enabled to maintain several of my improved tops in spinning motion at the same time with the same whip applied successively to each top. I attain these objects by means illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which there are two (2) figures illustrating my invention, in all

of which the same letters of reference indicate like parts throughout the several views.

Figure 1 represents a side elevation of my improved whip-top and whip employed therewith, and Fig. 2 is a vertical view of the same.

In the drawings, A represents the body of the top, which is made solid and of wood. The lower half portion of this body is made in the form of an inverted cone. The upper half portion of this body is made cylindrical in form and with its sides *a'* parallel or vertical. This upper half portion is the whip-windage portion of the top, and is made for best results to have its diameter about equal to the length of vertical extension of the top from its spinning end below to the top edge of its vertical sides *a'*. These vertical sides have their extension (from the line of its junction or intersection with the taper lines of the sides of cone-section *a* to the line of top edge of vertical sides *a'*) about equal to one-half of the whole height of the top from its spinning-point to line of top edge of said vertical sides *a'*. The cone-shape lower portion of the upper surface bounded by the upper marginal edges of vertical sides *a'*, may be finished with polish; but in no case should the surface of the vertical sides *a'* be polished, as the lashes of the whip would not hold with such polished sides, though they would receive the windage of the lashes of the whip.

B is the whip, composed of stock *b* and a series of lashes, *b'* *b'*, two or more, made with a uniform length of from nine (9) to ten (10) inches, and arranged side by side, as shown in Fig. 1. These lashes are preferably made of leather, though they may be made of cord. They join with a flattened-head end portion, *b*², (with which they are continuous,) by which these lashes are securely connected with stock *b*.

To spin the top the operator will first start the top in its rotary movement by giving it a slight rotary movement with his two hands, and then applying the whip with a quick movement, so as to strike the windage portion of the top, as shown in Fig. 1, when the lashes will spread slightly apart and have temporarily a tight windage and holding on the unpolished surface of the windage portion of the top, and impart to the top a rapid whirl at the same time the lashes are being unwound by the

operator carrying the lash end of the whip forward. The strokes of the whip may be applied rapidly or at short intervals after a rapid spinning movement has been imparted to the top, when the operator may start and give a rapid spinning movement to a second top, and at the same time maintain a rapid spinning movement of the first top by occasionally whipping the same, and also start and keep spinning a third or fourth top, or a larger number of tops, and keep the whole number spinning simultaneously. In these operations the vertical extension of surface of the windage portion of the top operates to catch the several lashes of the whips on as many places or lines as there are lashes, and the holding of the lashes in their windage is made to be increased over that which would be had with the windage of a single lash, as heretofore had in this class of top, while at the same time each lash of the series, in its windage on the windage portion of the top, will counteract the tendency of the others to knock the top over, so that the top will be made to stand more steady under each stroke of the whip.

I am aware that whipping-tops have been made with a lower cone-shaped portion, and a windage portion having vertical sides and with an annular projecting fillet at near the lower termination of the windage portion and above the (inverted) base of the cone-shaped lower portion of the top. Tops with such a fillet form no part of my invention, and will not operate as will my improved top above described, for the reason that the lateral projection of the annular fillet above the conical lower portion of the top operates to so reduce the vertical extension of the windage-surface of the same as to prevent more than a single lash of a whip to have a holding with the same, and when the fillet is struck by a lash in a slightly-down-

wardly direction with the force of the blow of the lash received on the upper side of the same, this old form of top will be made to jump or topple over, while by my improved form of sides of the windage portion of the top no such defective operations will be had.

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

1. A whip-top which is solid in its body and having the surface of its windage portion unpolished, and the windage portion made with extensions both diametrical and vertical, in the proportions substantially described, whereby the top will be adapted to receive and hold with the windage of a series of two or more lashes of the same whip simultaneously, for the purpose set forth.

2. A top-whip composed of stock *b* and a group or series of two or more lashes, *b' b'*, each of equal length with the others and arranged side by side and continuous with a connecting portion, *b²*, all substantially as described, whereby the whip, when operated with the top, will be adapted to effect a simultaneous windage of two or more of its lashes evenly on the windage-surface of the above-described top, for the purpose set forth.

3. The combination of a top-whip having a series or group of two or more lashes arranged neighboring to each other and connected with a stock, as above described, with a whip-top having a plain unpolished windage-surface, made with relative proportions of extensions, both diametrical and vertical, as set forth, for the purposes specified.

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Witnesses:

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