

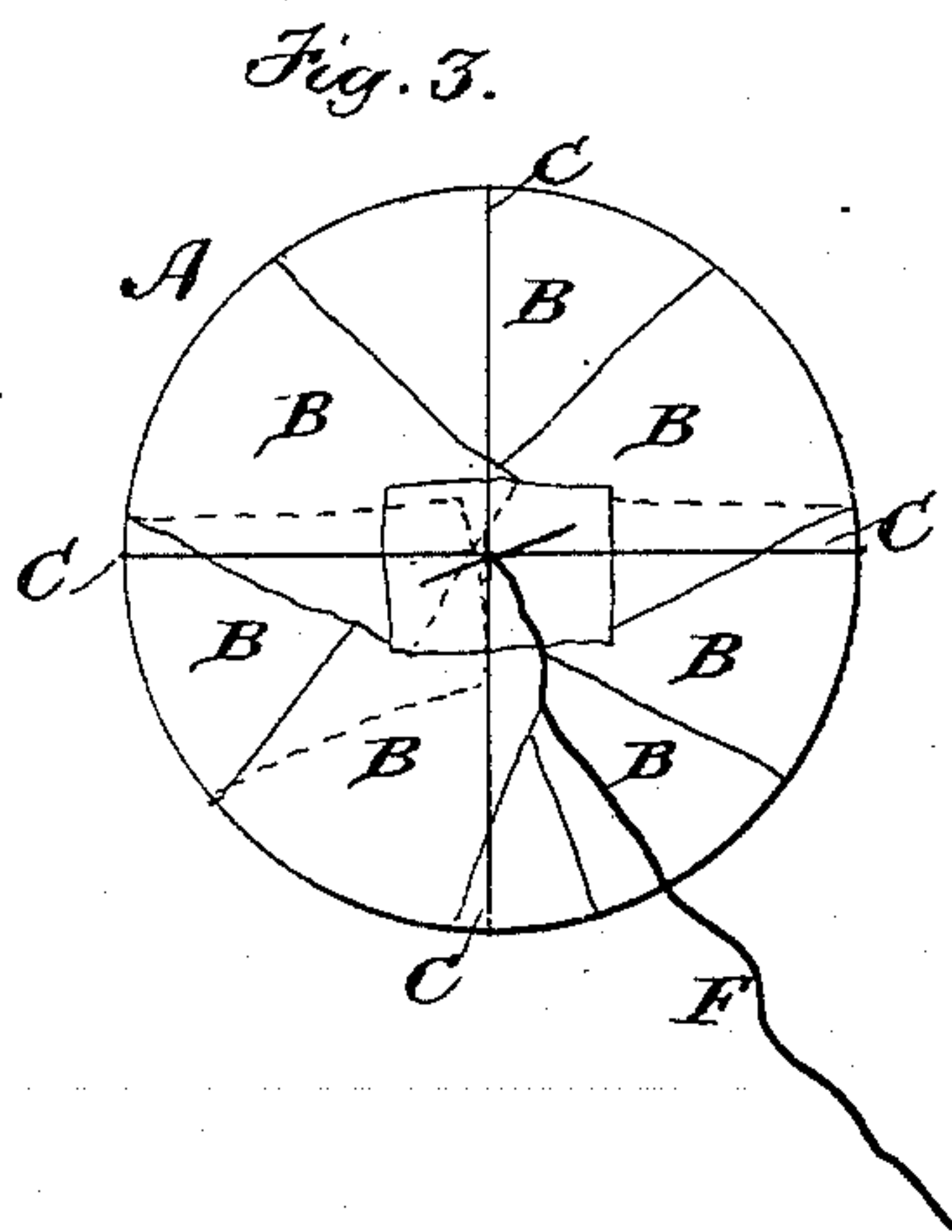
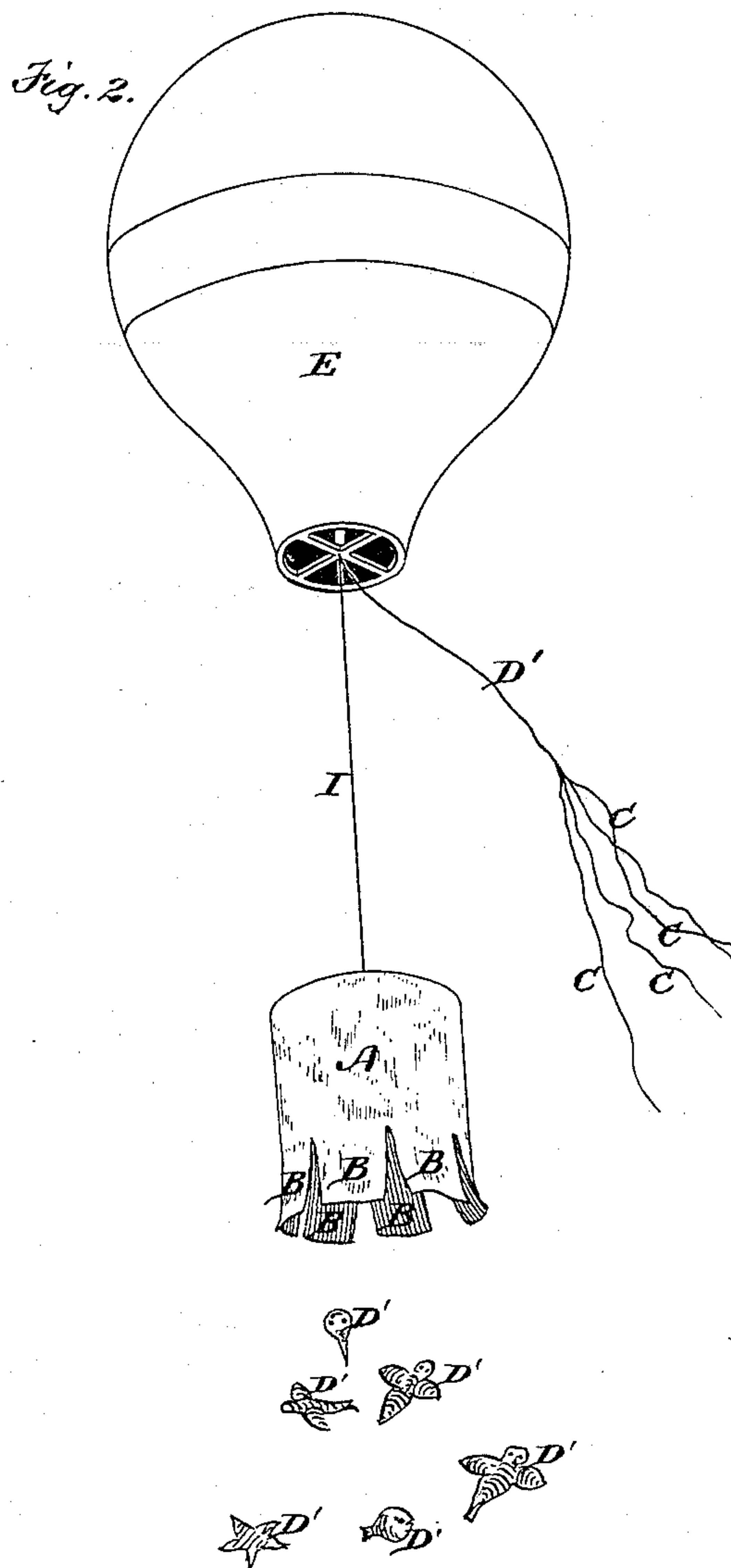
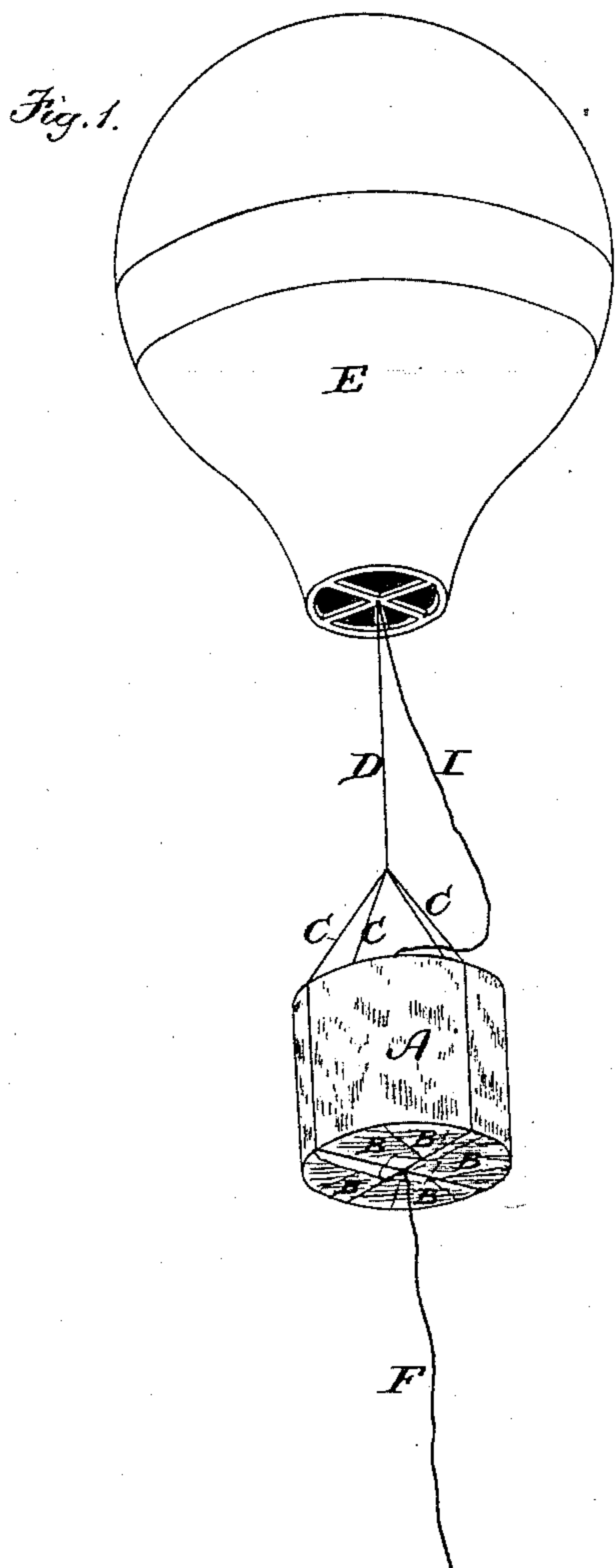
(No Model.)

C. B. LINTON.

APPARATUS FOR DISPLAYING ARTICLES IN THE AIR.

No. 286,718.

Patented Oct. 16, 1883.



Witnesses:

C. P. Judd.
A. L. White

Inventor:

C. B. Linton
by Wright & Birney
Attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES B. LINTON, OF READING, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF, AND HYDE & CO.,
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APPARATUS FOR DISPLAYING ARTICLES IN THE AIR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 286,718, dated October 16, 1883.

Application filed May 15, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES B. LINTON, of Reading, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain Improvements in Apparatus for Displaying Articles in the Air, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has for its object the displaying of articles, such as comic paper figures, handbills, banners, &c., which are to be released and conspicuously displayed while suspended from a balloon at an elevated point in the air.

To this end my invention consists, as a whole, in the combination, with a balloon, of a receptacle containing articles for display, and having a frail bottom, adapted to be broken by the weight of said articles, and combustible fastenings, holding said bottom in place, and a time-fuse adapted to destroy said combustible fastenings, and thereby simultaneously release the articles in a group from the receptacle.

The invention consists, also, in certain details, all of which I will now proceed to describe.

Of the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of an embodiment of my invention suspended from a hot-air balloon. Fig. 2 represents a view showing the condition after the combustible fastenings have been destroyed by the time-fuse. Fig. 3 represents a bottom view of the suspended receptacle before its fastenings have been destroyed.

The same letters of reference indicate the same parts in all the figures.

In the manner of carrying out my invention (shown in the drawings) a receptacle, A, is employed, composed, preferably, of a paste-board cylinder, having a covering of light paper formed at its lower end in strips or flaps, B, which are folded inwardly and secured so as to form a fragile easily-ruptured bottom for the receptacle, said bottom being supported mainly by combustible cords C, passed around the receptacle, crossed on the bottom thereof, and connected to a cord, D, which is attached to a hot-air or other suitable balloon, E, the receptacle being suspended by said cord.

F represents a time-fuse attached at one

end to the cords C at the point where they cross at the bottom of the receptacle and depending from said point. Any suitable objects or articles, D'—such as Japanese kites, comic figures, handbills, &c.—which are to be displayed and scattered in the air are placed in the receptacle, so as to rest on the fragile bottom thereof. The lower end of the time-fuse being ignited the balloon is released. When the fuse is consumed up to its point of attachment with the cords C, it burns and severs said cords, thereby depriving the bottom of the receptacle of the support afforded by said cords, and allowing the bottom to yield and release the articles contained in the receptacle. The severing of the cords also disconnects the receptacle from the suspending-cord, D, thereby allowing the receptacle to fall until it is arrested by a second suspending-cord, I, which connects the receptacle with the balloon. The sudden arrest of the receptacle in its descent by the cord I insures the rupturing of the bottom of the receptacle by the weight of the articles resting thereon in case said bottom does not yield when the cords are first severed. It will be seen, therefore, that the articles D' inclosed in the receptacle are scattered and displayed in the air at a height proportioned to the length of the fuse.

I am aware that it is not new to attach folded printed papers at intervals to a long slow-match attached to a balloon, the papers being released consecutively by the burning of the match. The end sought by said contrivance was only to distribute papers over a wide extent of country, and each paper was released separately, remained in a folded condition after its release, and was not rendered more conspicuous by its release. My invention, on the other hand, is intended solely for the purpose of suddenly displaying and rendering conspicuous at an elevated point a group or flock of articles previously concealed, as when the receptacle A is employed, or a single object, such as a flag previously folded in a compact form. Therefore, while I do not claim, broadly, the method of releasing articles in the air by means of a slow-match or time-fuse,

What I claim as new is—

1. The combination, with a balloon, of a receptacle, A, containing articles for display,

and having a frail bottom adapted to be broken by the weight of said articles, and combustible fastenings C, holding said bottom in place, and a time-fuse adapted to destroy said combustible fastenings, and thereby simultaneously release the articles in a group from the receptacle, as set forth.

2. The combination of a balloon, a receptacle, A, connected to a suspending-cord, D, by combustible fastenings C, holding the bottom of the receptacle in place, a time-fuse adapted to sever the fastenings C, and thereby disconnect the receptacle from the suspending-cord D, and a second loose suspending-cord, I,

adapted to arrest the receptacle suddenly in its downward movement after it is released from the cord D and insure the rupture of the bottom of the receptacle by the momentum of the contents thereof, as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses, this 11th day of May, 1882.

CHARLES B. LINTON.

Witnesses:

M. J. LINTON,
C. F. BROWN.