

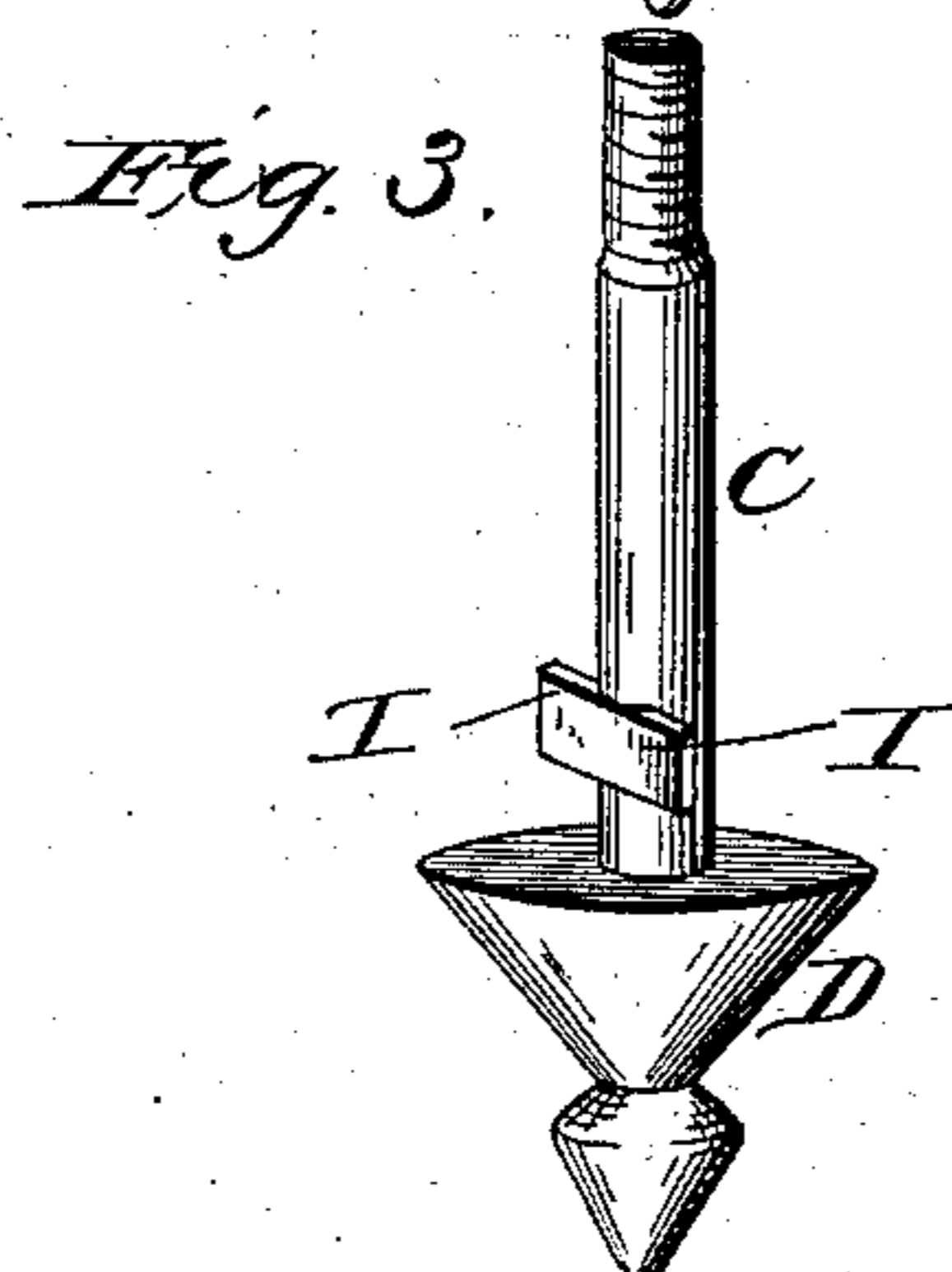
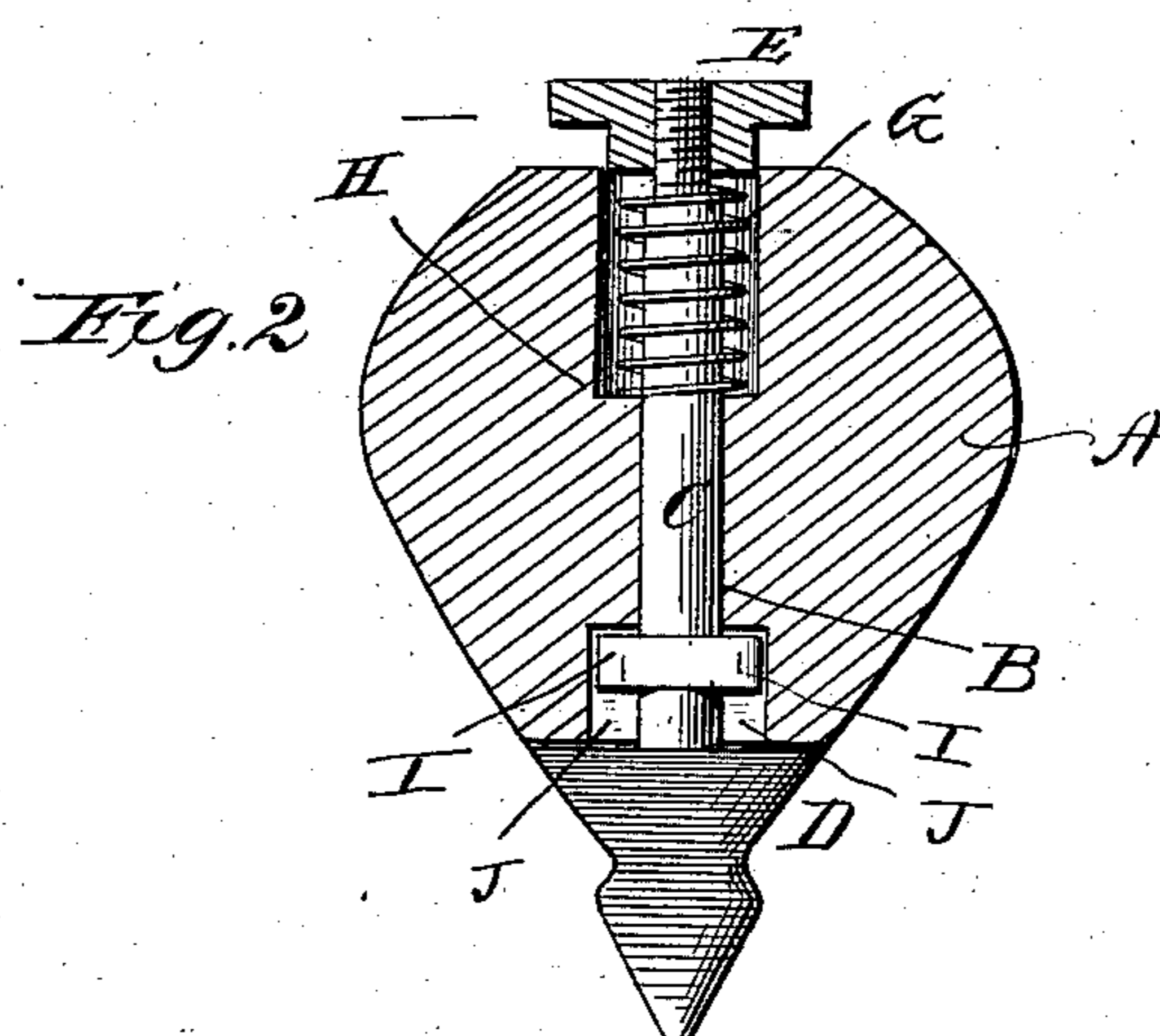
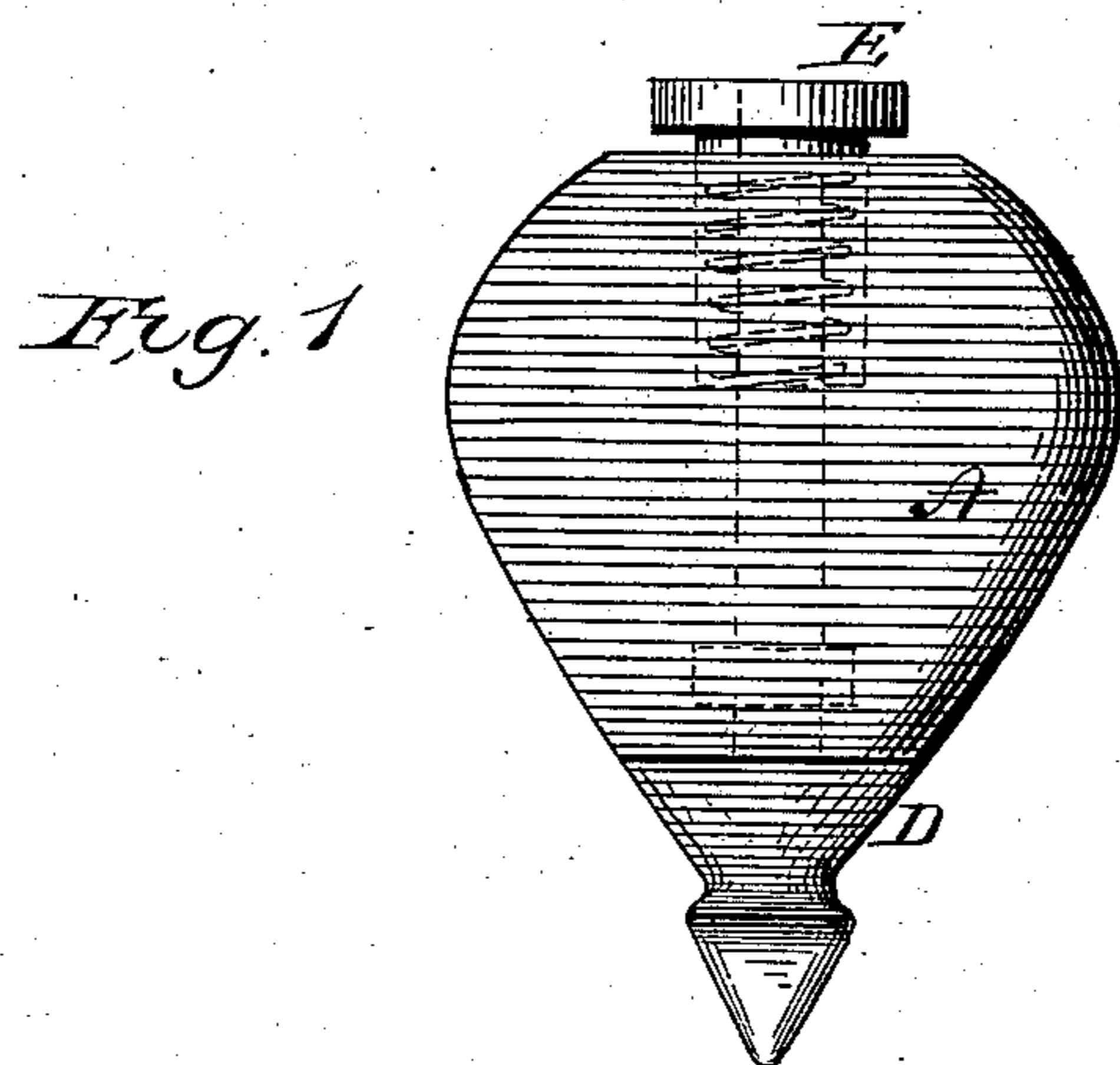
(No Model.)

J. H. SUNDERMAN.

TOP.

No. 287,591.

Patented Oct. 30, 1883.



WITNESSES
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN H. SUNDERMAN, OF QUINCY, ILLINOIS.

TOP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 287,591, dated October 30, 1883.

Application filed September 18, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN H. SUNDERMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Quincy, in the county of Adams and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Top, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to that class of toys which are known as "spinning-tops;" and it has for its object to produce a device of the class named, whereby caps may be exploded when the top is thrown upon the floor in the act of spinning, as will be hereinafter fully described, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings hereto annexed, Figure 1 is a side view of a spinning-top embodying my improvements. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view of the same, and Fig. 3 is a side view of the shank or central stem removed from the top.

The same letters refer to the same parts in all the figures.

A in the drawings hereto annexed refers to the body of the top, the lower end of which is cut off, so as to form a plane surface. The said body has a central vertical perforation, B, which serves to receive a stem or shank, C, the lower end of which has a conical enlargement, D, fitting closely against the lower plane surface of the body of the top. The upper end of the shank C is screw-threaded to receive a nut, E, having a milled annular flange, F, by which it may be easily turned or manipulated, so as to tighten or loosen a spring, G, which may be made of rubber, metal, or other suitable material, and which is interposed between the said nut and a shoulder, H, formed at the upper end of the vertical perforation B in the body of the top. The lower end of the enlargement D is shaped to form a point such as is usually formed upon spinning-tops.

The shank C is provided near its lower end and above the enlargement D with laterally-projecting wings, I I, fitting in recesses J J in the body of the top. By this construction the central shank is prevented from revolving in the body of the top when the latter is spun, thus insuring a successful operation.

The operation of this invention will be read-

ily understood from the foregoing description, taken in connection with the drawings hereto annexed. By depressing the central stem or shank, which may be done by a simple pressure of the thumb upon the nut at the upper end of the latter, the said stem may be depressed, thus enabling a paper cap to be inserted between the lower end of the body of the top and the enlargement D upon the stem C. The cap is held and retained in this position by the pressure of the spring G. When the top is spun, the concussion caused by its being thrown upon the floor will serve to explode the cap.

By this improvement the lower end of the central stem or shank has been considerably weighted by the enlargement D at its lower end, thus insuring, under all circumstances, the successful operation of the exploding device without interfering with the spinning of the top, as is the case when, as has usually been the objection in this class of devices, the top is weighted at its upper end, or top-heavy.

Having thus described my invention, I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States—

1. As an improvement in spinning-tops, the combination, with a suitable body having a central vertical perforation, of a stem sliding vertically in the said perforation, and having at its lower end an enlargement abutting against the lower end of the body, and a suitably-arranged spring, whereby the said enlargement and body are held automatically in contact with each other, substantially as set forth.

2. As an improvement in spinning-tops, the combination of a suitable body having a central vertical perforation, a stem sliding vertically in the said perforation, an enlargement at the lower end of the said stem, abutting against the lower end of the body, a spring forcing the said stem in an upward direction, and flanges projecting laterally from the said stem, so as to prevent it from turning or revolving in the body, substantially as set forth.

3. In a spinning-top, the combination, with a suitably-constructed body having a central vertical perforation, and the lower end of which is cut off, so as to form a plane surface, of a stem vertically movable in the said body,

and having flanges, whereby it is prevented
from revolving, an enlargement at the lower
end of the said stem, a nut fitted at the upper
end of the said stem, and a spring interposed
5 between the said nut and a shoulder formed
at the upper end of the central perforation in
the body of the top, substantially as and for the
purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as
my own I have hereto affixed my signature in 10
presence of two witnesses.

JOHN H. SUNDERMAN.

Witnesses:

RICHD. JANSEN,
J. C. THOMPSON.