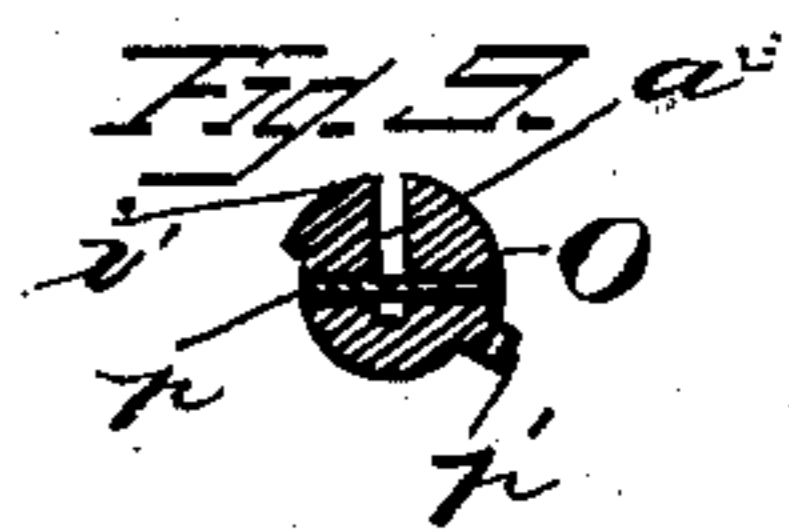
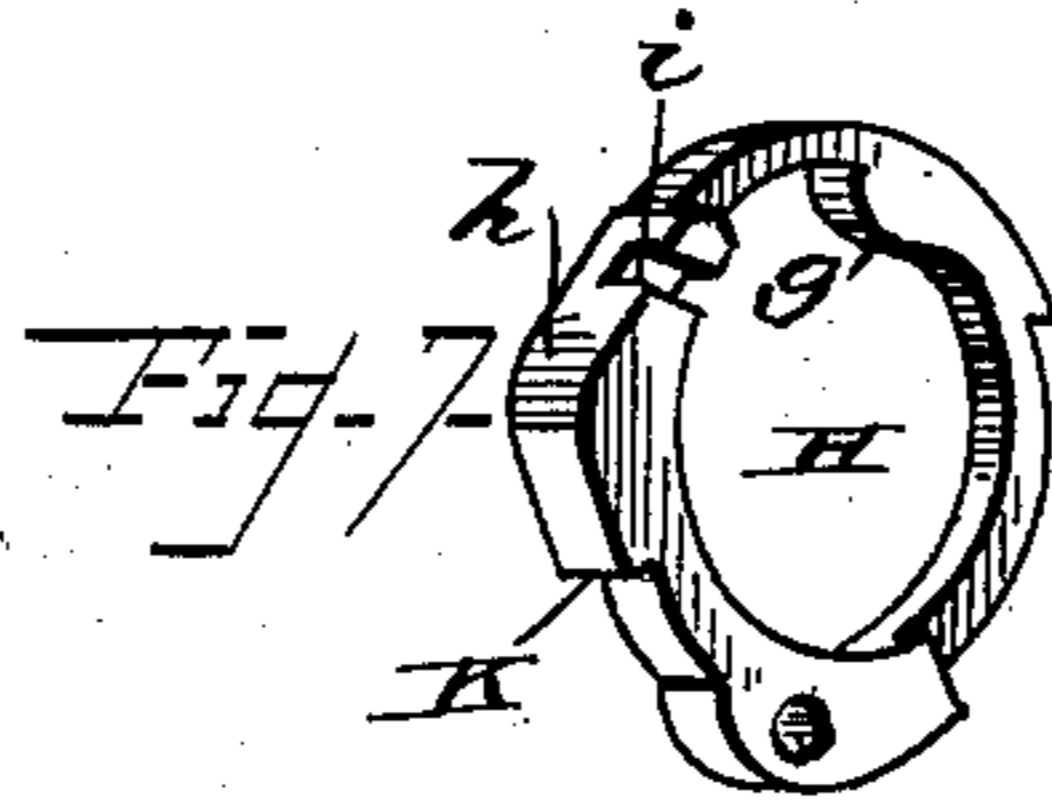
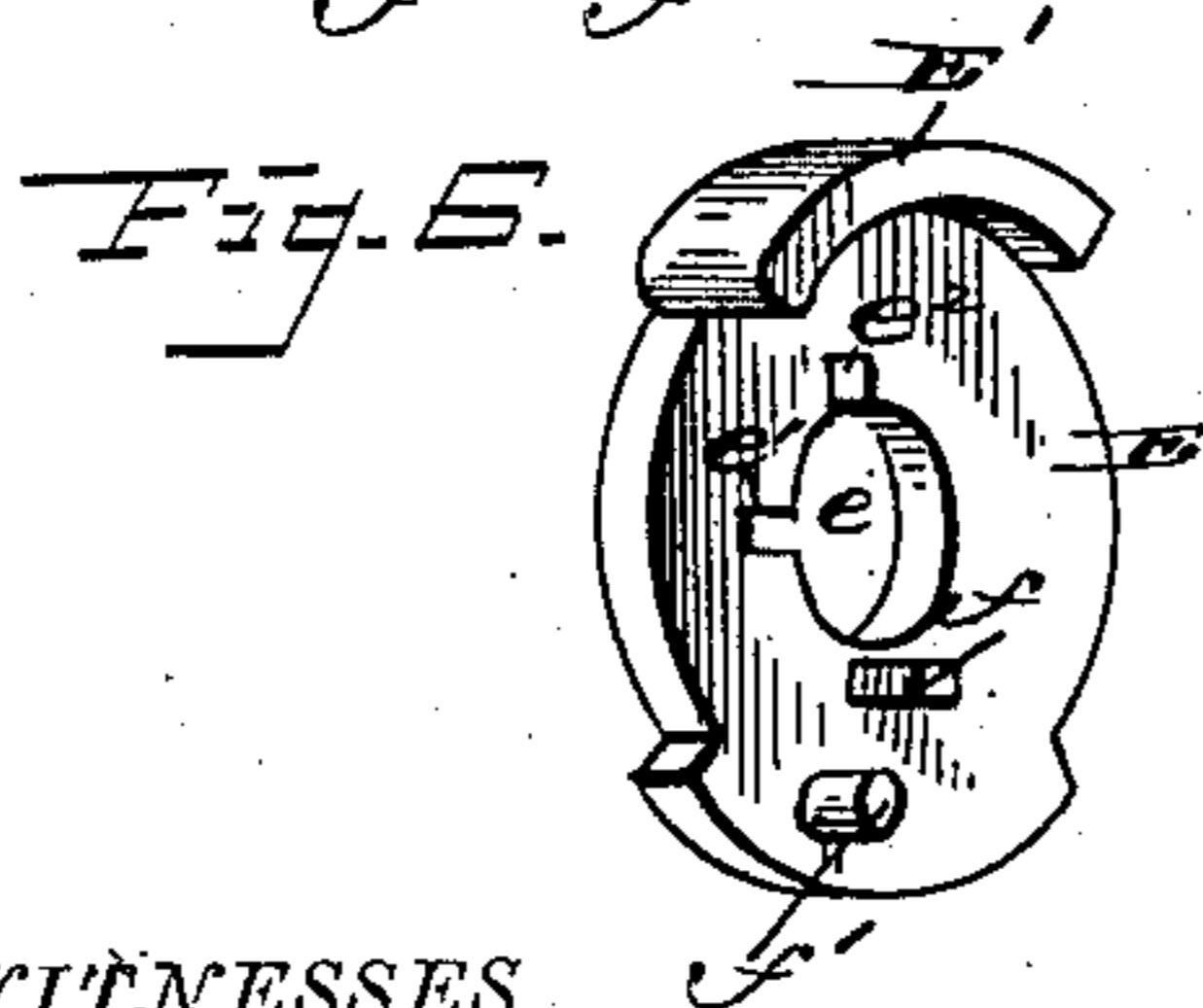
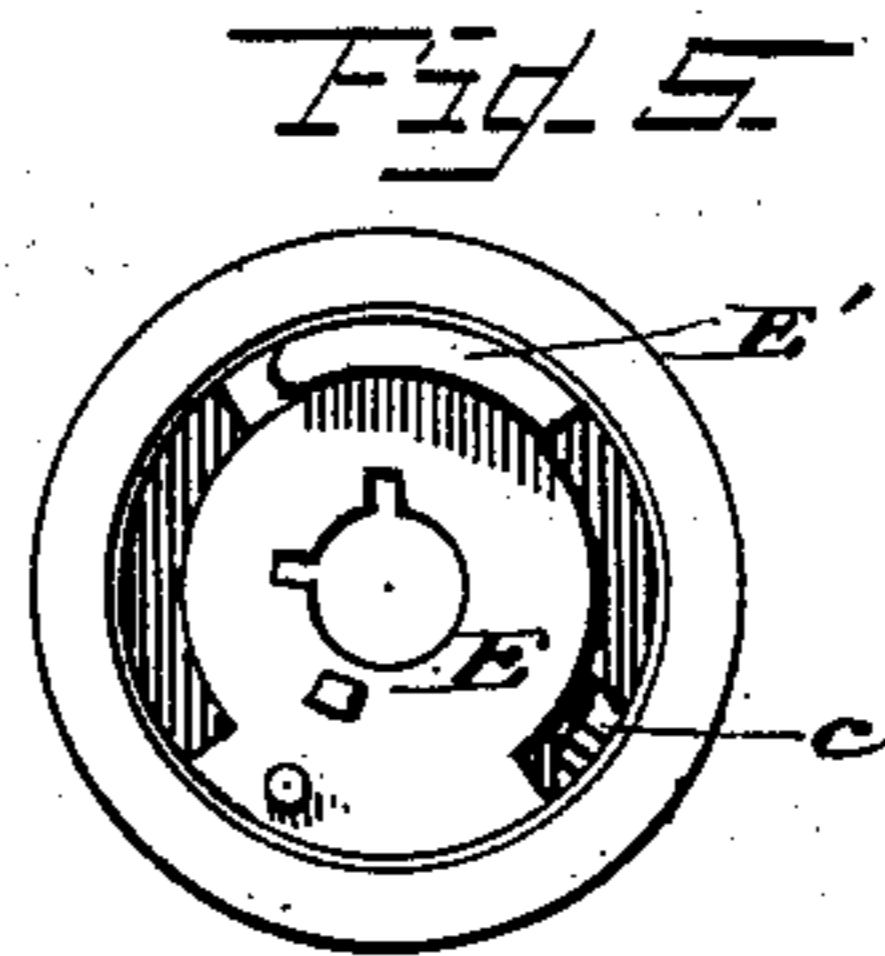
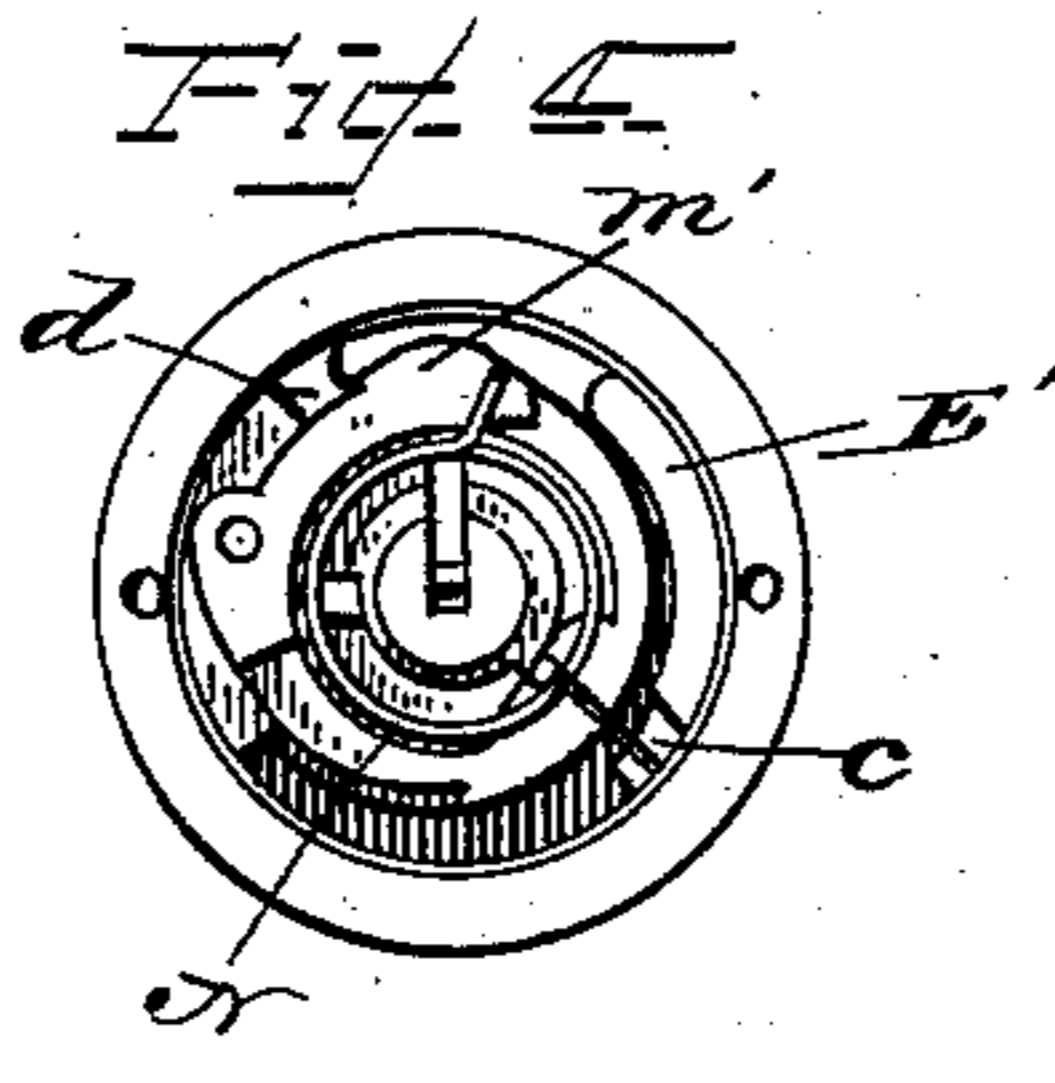
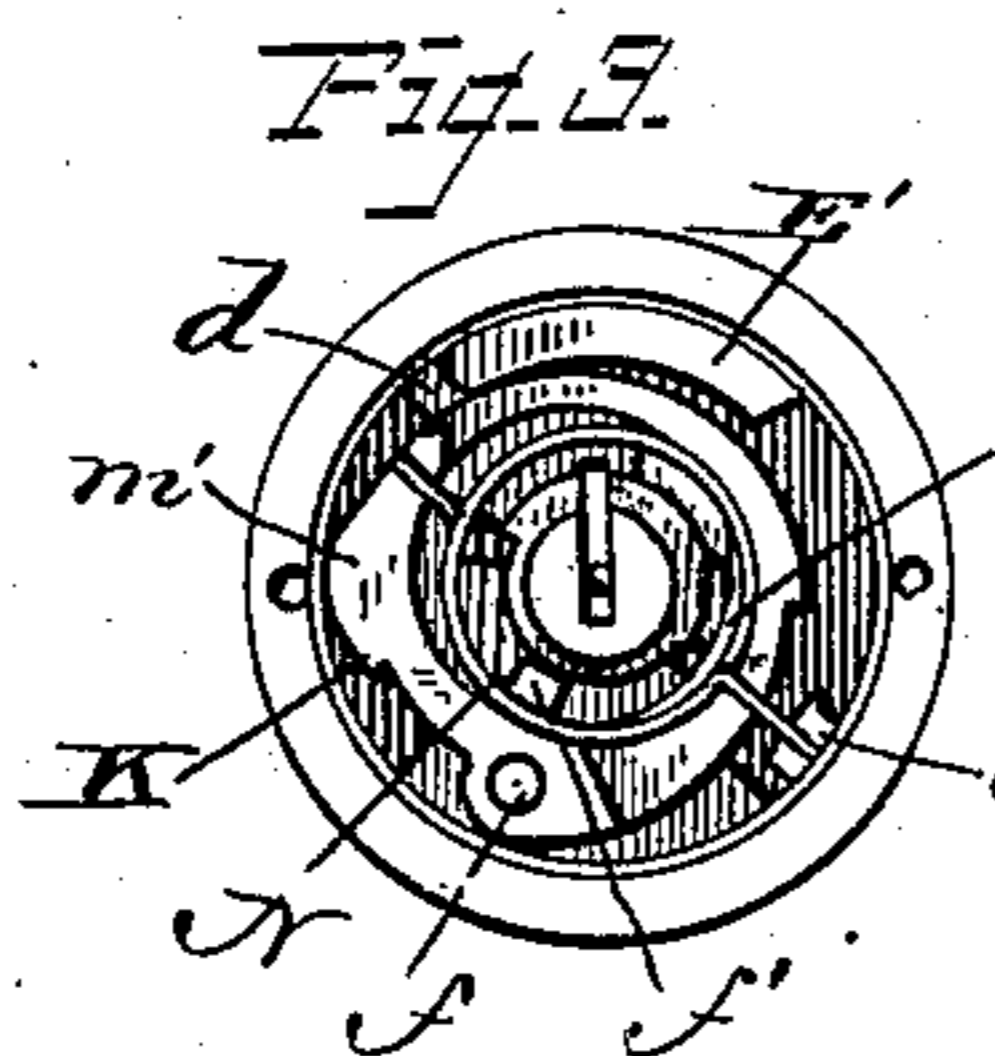
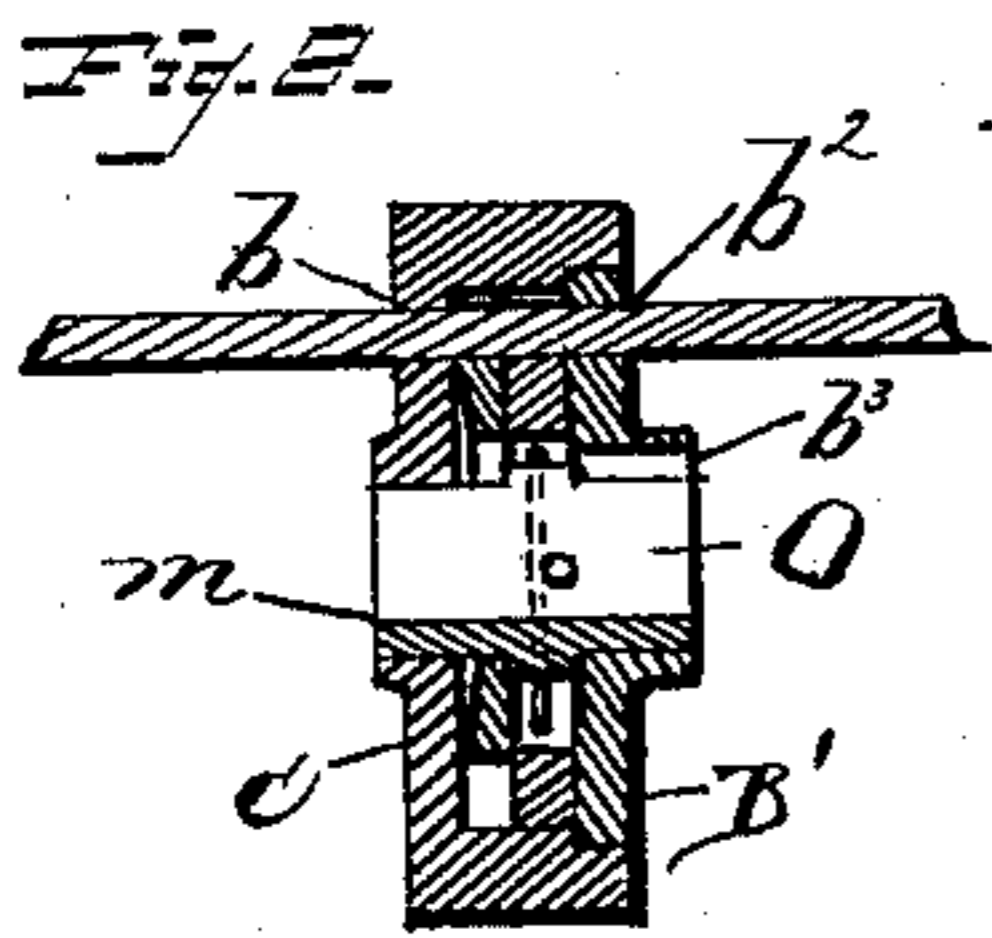
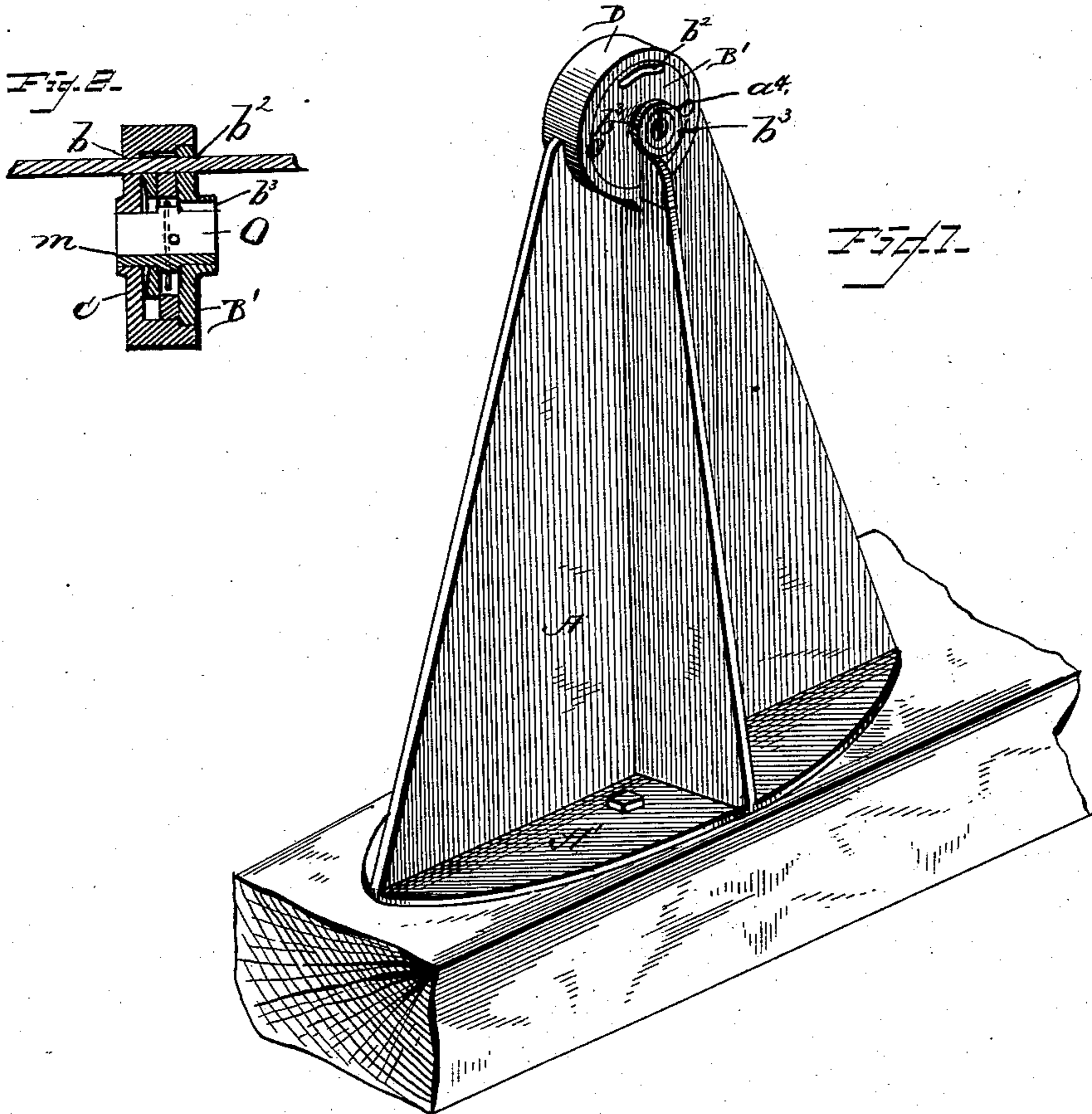


(No Model.)

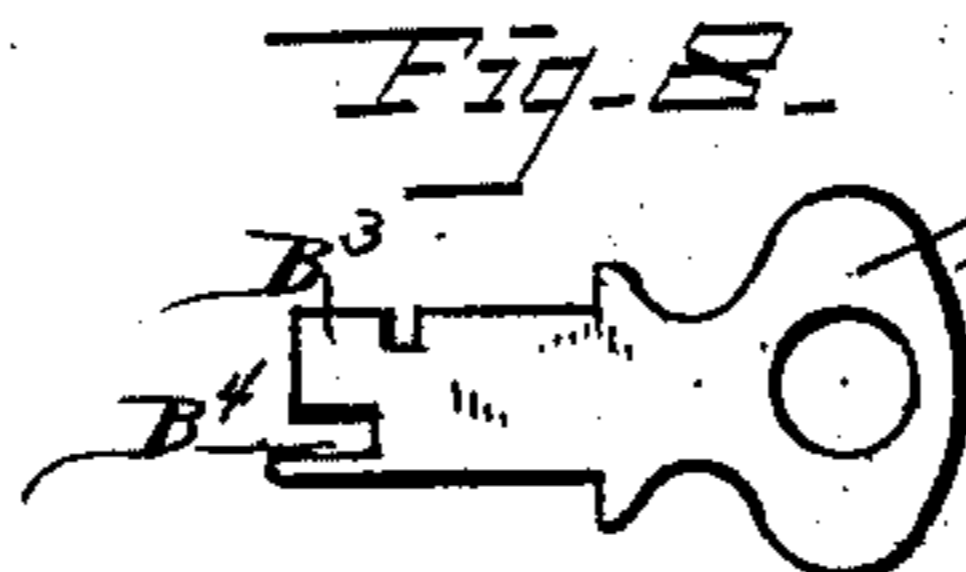
F. GIFFORD.
HITCHING BLOCK.

No. 302,125.

Patented July 15, 1884.



WITNESSES
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANKLIN GIFFORD, OF SPRINGFIELD, OHIO, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO
LOUISA KRULL AND FREDERICK W. RALPH, BOTH OF SAME PLACE.

HITCHING-BLOCK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 302,125, dated July 15, 1884.

Application filed May 10, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANKLIN GIFFORD, of the city of Springfield, county of Clark, and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hitching-Blocks; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings and the letters of reference marked thereon.

This invention has relation to hitching-posts for horses; and it consists in the construction and arrangement of parts, as will be hereinafter described, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved hitching-post. Fig. 2 is a transverse section thereof. Fig. 3 is a view of the casing with the front plate removed, showing the device locked. Fig. 4 is a similar view with device unlocked to apply the strap thereto. Fig. 5 is a view of the casing with the plate having the projection for closing the slots of the front and back plate. Figs. 6 and 7 are detail views. Fig. 8 is a view of the key, and Fig. 9 is a longitudinal view of the spindle.

The letter A designates my improved hitching-post, provided with inclined ribs at the sides, front, and rear thereof, the rear one of which is not shown. The bottom portion of the post is provided with a base, A', secured to a curbstone or other support in any suitable manner. On the top portion of this post, and recessed therein, is a cylindrical casing, B, provided with a stationary back plate, C, having a slot, b, and a central circular opening, m. On the inner surface of the casing are secured lugs or projections c d, the purposes of which will be hereinafter described.

E represents a plate seated in the casing, and having on its upper surface a projection, E', a central circular opening, e, square openings e', e'', communicating with the central opening, and below said central opening a lug, f, while the bottom portion is provided with a pin, f', to which is pivoted a tumbler-plate, H, provided on one side with a tumbler, h, having a slot, i, and a catch, K. The other side of this plate H, toward the upper portion, is provided with a swell, g.

The letter N denotes a coiled spring, resting on the top of the tumbler-plate H. One end of this spring engages the notch or slot i in the tumbler, its other end engaging a similar notch in the lug c of the casing.

O is the spindle, extending through the casing and seated in the circular opening m of the back plate, and it is provided with a slot, a³, extending through the body thereof from its center to its top portion. The top portion, at one side of the slot, is provided with a projection, i'. This spindle is also provided with a pin, p, which extends transversely across the slot a³, and has its bearing in the sides of the spindle. It is further provided with a lug, p', at one side thereof.

B' is the front plate of the casing, having a slot, b², corresponding in shape to the slot of the back plate, and communicating therewith when the projection E' of the plate E is thrown back. It is also provided with a central circular opening, b³, and has a slot, a⁴, communicating with the slot of the spindle, to admit the key. This plate B' is secured to the casing by means of screws or other suitable fastening devices. The slots b and b² of the front and back plates may be closed to exempt dust and rain by means of slides arranged in any suitable manner to said plates.

B² is the key, having a boss, B³, and a slotted portion, B⁴, whereby the device is operated.

I attach importance to the fact that the inclined or tapering ribs prevent a strap or other hitching means from being attached to the post, as such inclinations or taperings will not admit of a strap being securely tied or secured thereto—that is to say, the strap, if not secured in the slot, will slip over the top of the post, as will be seen by a post constructed as shown.

The operation of my invention is as follows: By inserting the key in the key-hole slot, Fig. 1, and turning it over to the right, the projection i' of the spindle will come in contact with the swell g of the tumbler-plate and bear firmly against the same. This movement brings the pin p' of the spindle against the projection f of the plate E, which causes the tumbler-plate H, spindle O, and plate E to lock together, whereby they revolve together by means of the key to throw the projection E' of the plate E out of

contact with the slots of the front and back plates, and are held in position by means of the catch K of the tumbler-plate coming into engagement with the lug *d* of the casing, as shown in Fig. 4. This brings the tumbler *h* in contact with the slots of the front and back plates, and the spindle can be revolved to its original position and the key withdrawn. The strap, as shown in Fig. 2, is passed through the slots of the front and back plate, and comes in contact with a projection, *m'*, of the tumbler *h*, which is forced downward, and the catch K thereby thrown out of engagement with the lug *d*, in which position the parts remain while the strap is in said slots. When the strap is withdrawn, the slots of the front and back plates are closed automatically by the spring *l*, which throws the tumbler-plate H and plate E, with its projection *E'*, back into their original position, as shown in Fig. 3. The purpose of the lug *c* of the casing is to form a stop for the projection *E'* when thrown out of engagement with the slots of the front and back plates, as shown in Fig. 4.

Having described my invention and the operation thereof, what I claim is—

1. The hitching-post herein described, having the platform *A'*, provided with tapering

ribs, and a slotted casing at the upper extremity of the post, provided with mechanism adapted to attach and detach an animal by means of a strap, as shown and described.

2. The combination, with a hitching-post having at its top portion a casing provided with a plate, E, having the projection *E'*, and a tumbler-plate, H, pivoted to said plate E, the front and back plates, provided with central circular openings and slots, and the spring *l*, of the spindle O, having its bearings in the front and back plate and provided with key-hole slots, and a key, *B*², for operating the mechanism, as shown and described.

3. The combination, with a hitching-post having the base-plate and inclined ribs, of the casing recessed into the top of the post and having the plate E, provided with projection *E'*, circular opening *e*, and pin *f'*, the tumbler-plate H, pivoted to said plate E, and having the tumbler *h*, swell *g*, and catch K, the spring *l*, the spindle O, and the key *B*², as shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.

FRANKLIN GIFFORD.

Witnesses:

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CHASE STEWART.