

(No Model.)

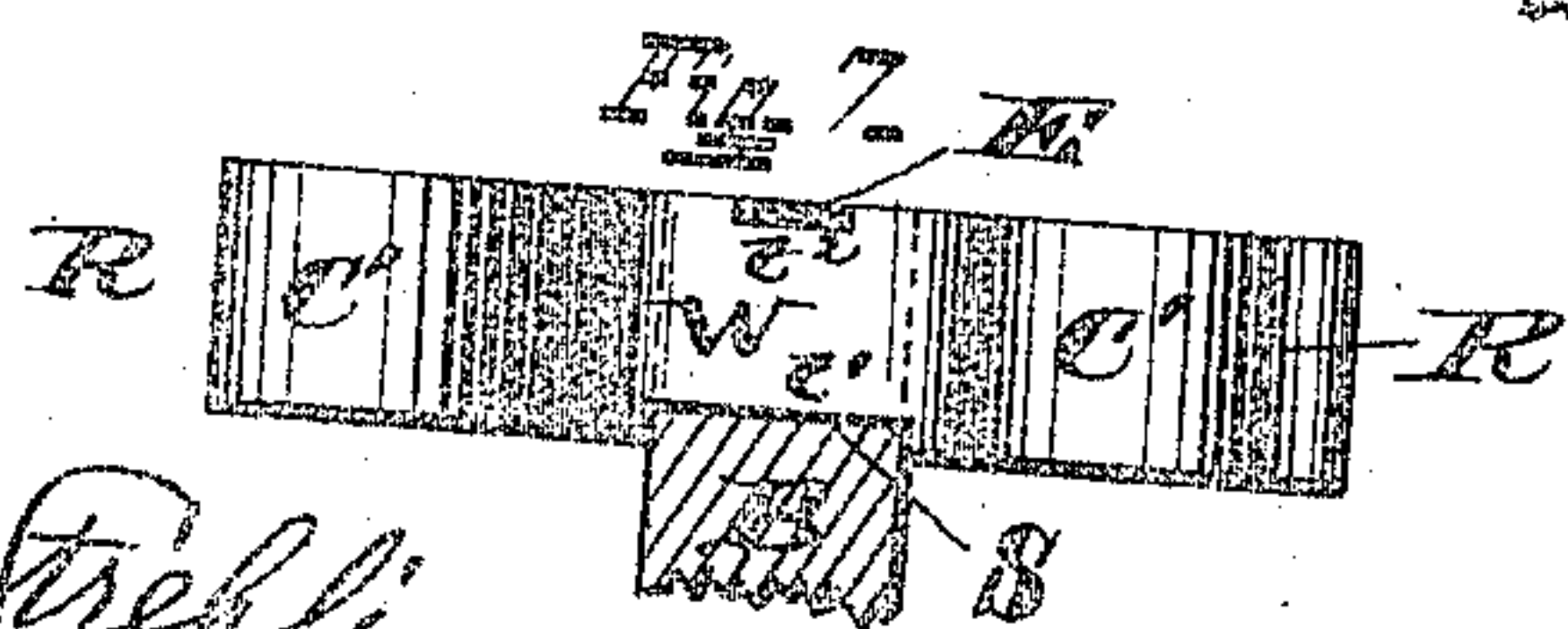
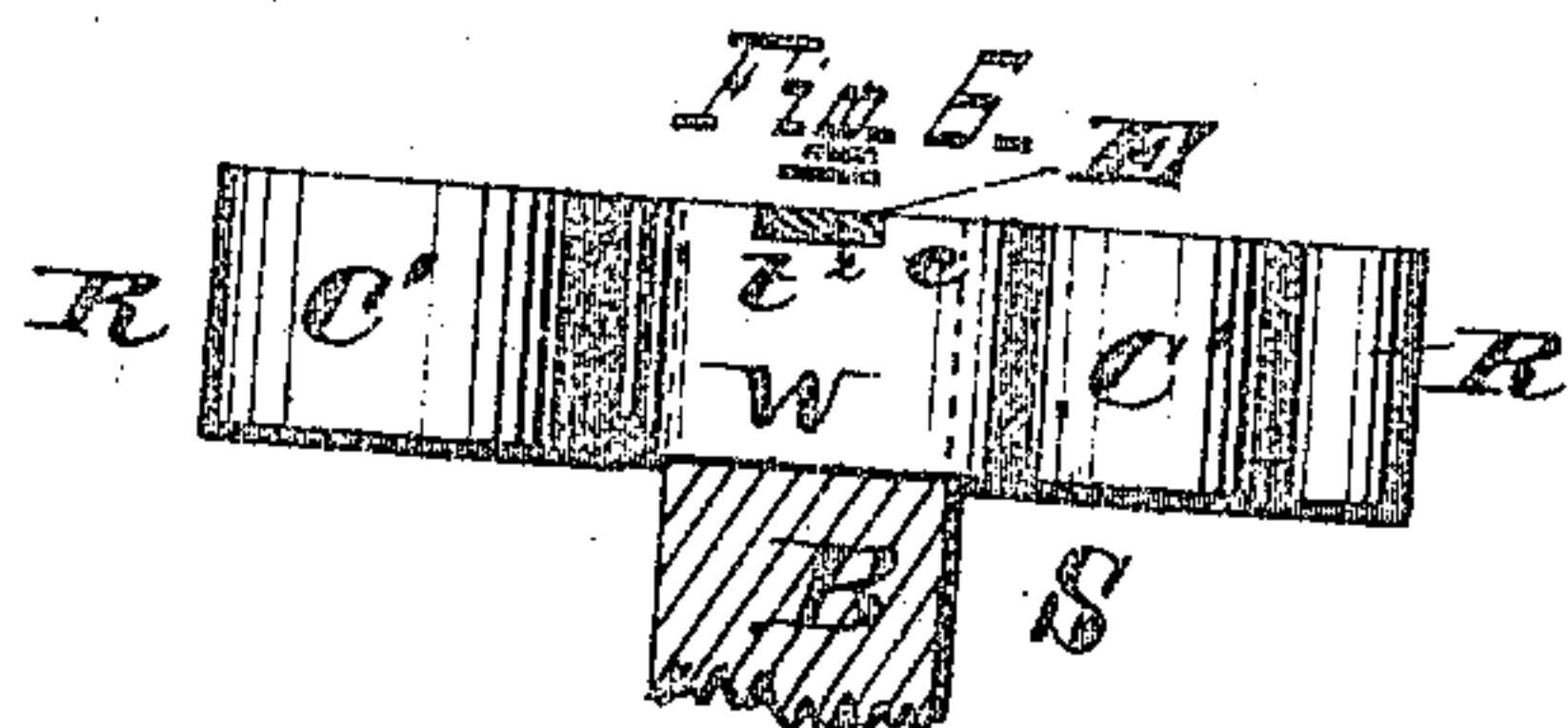
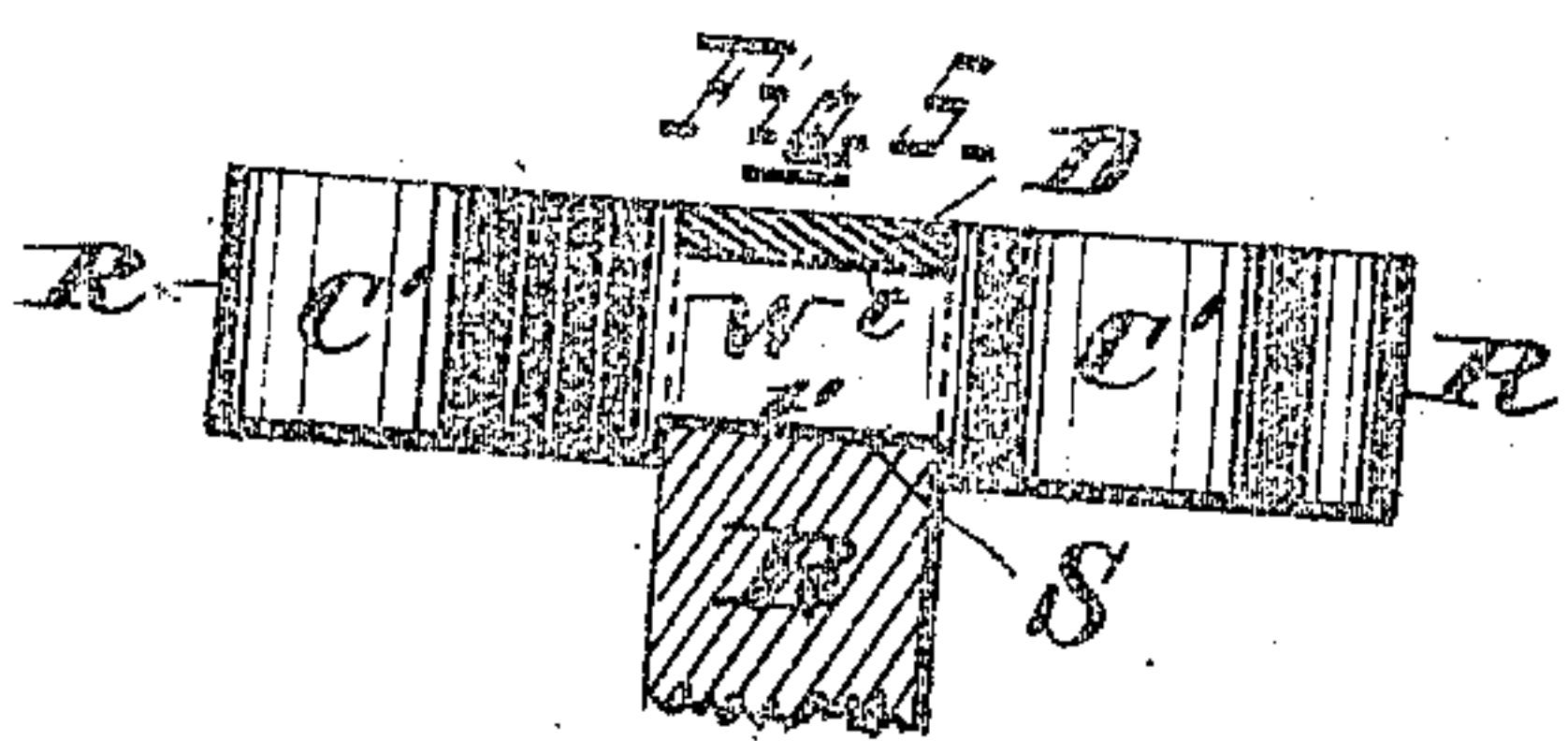
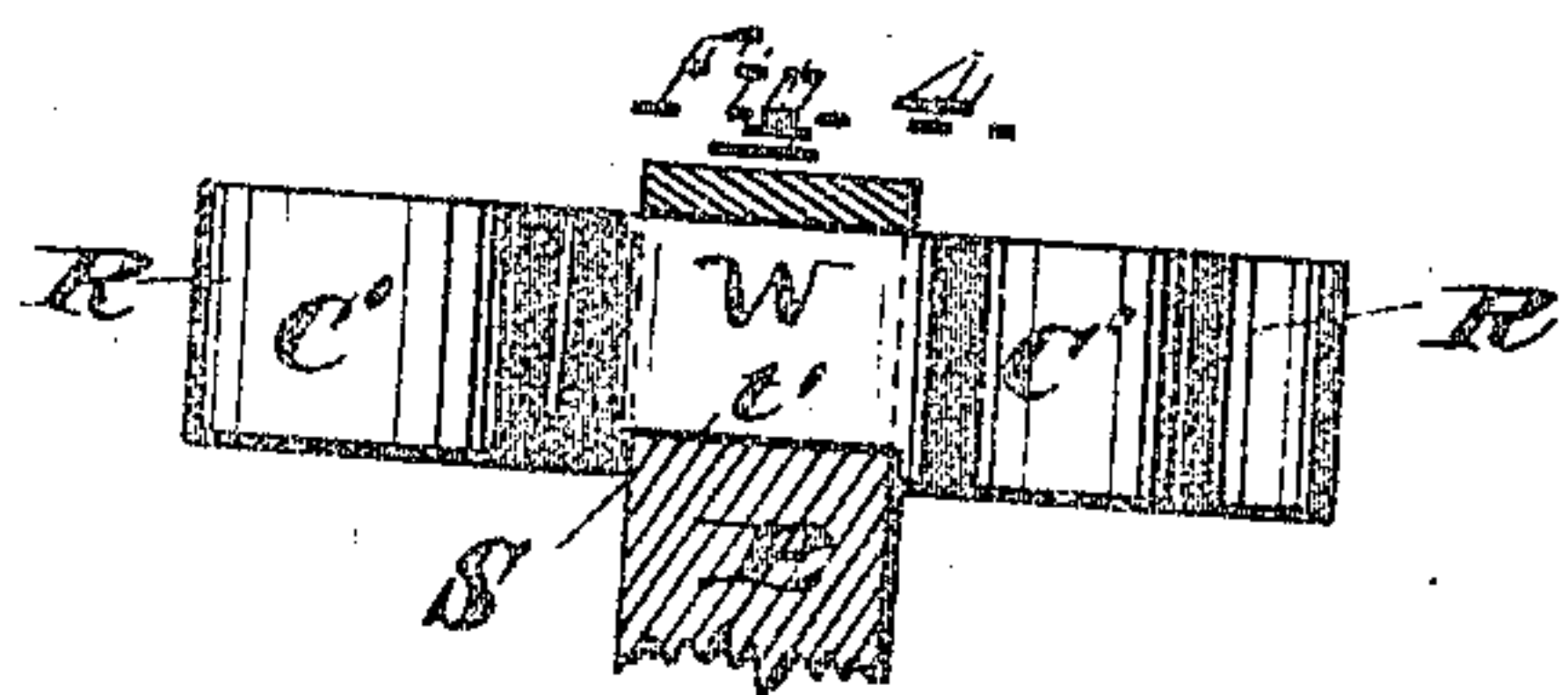
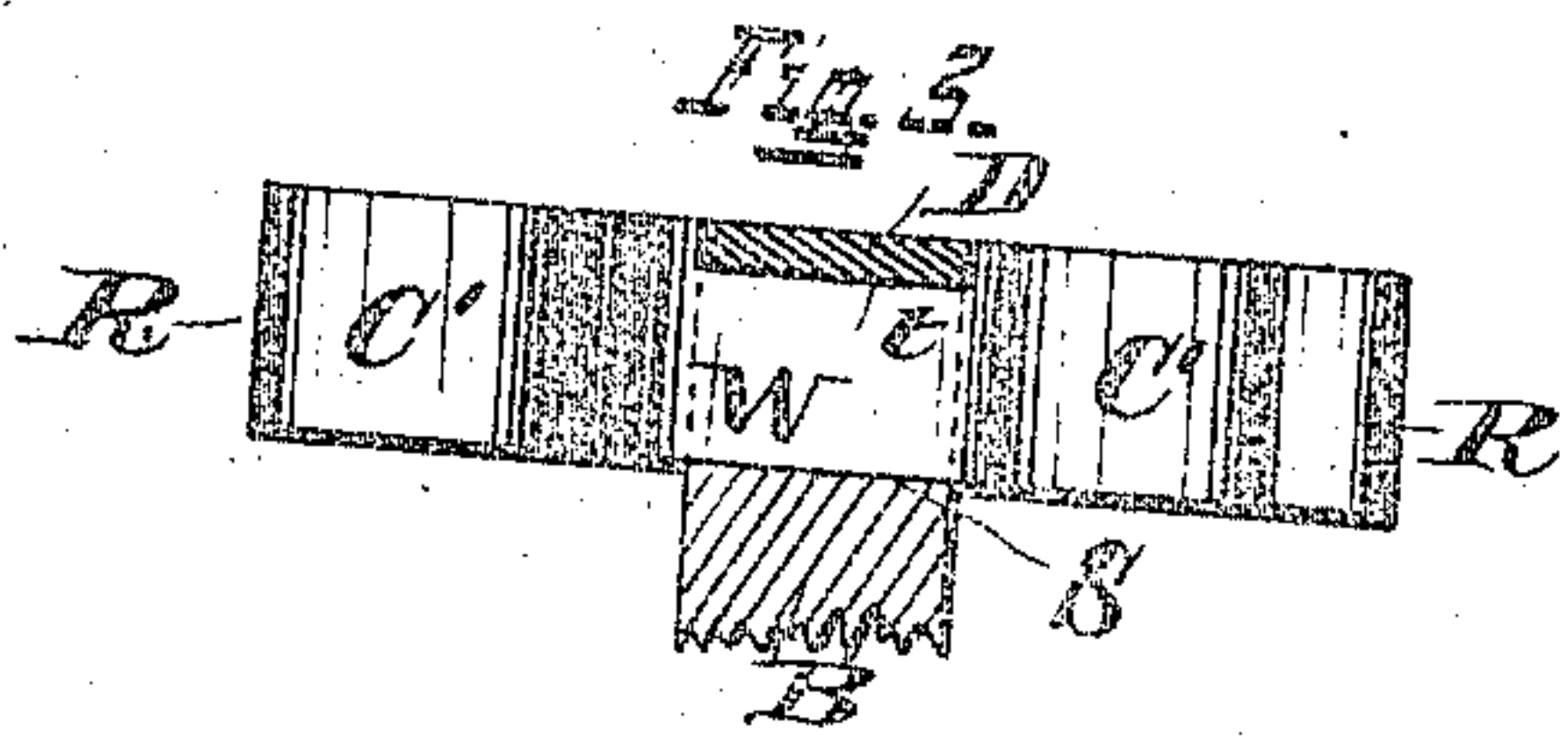
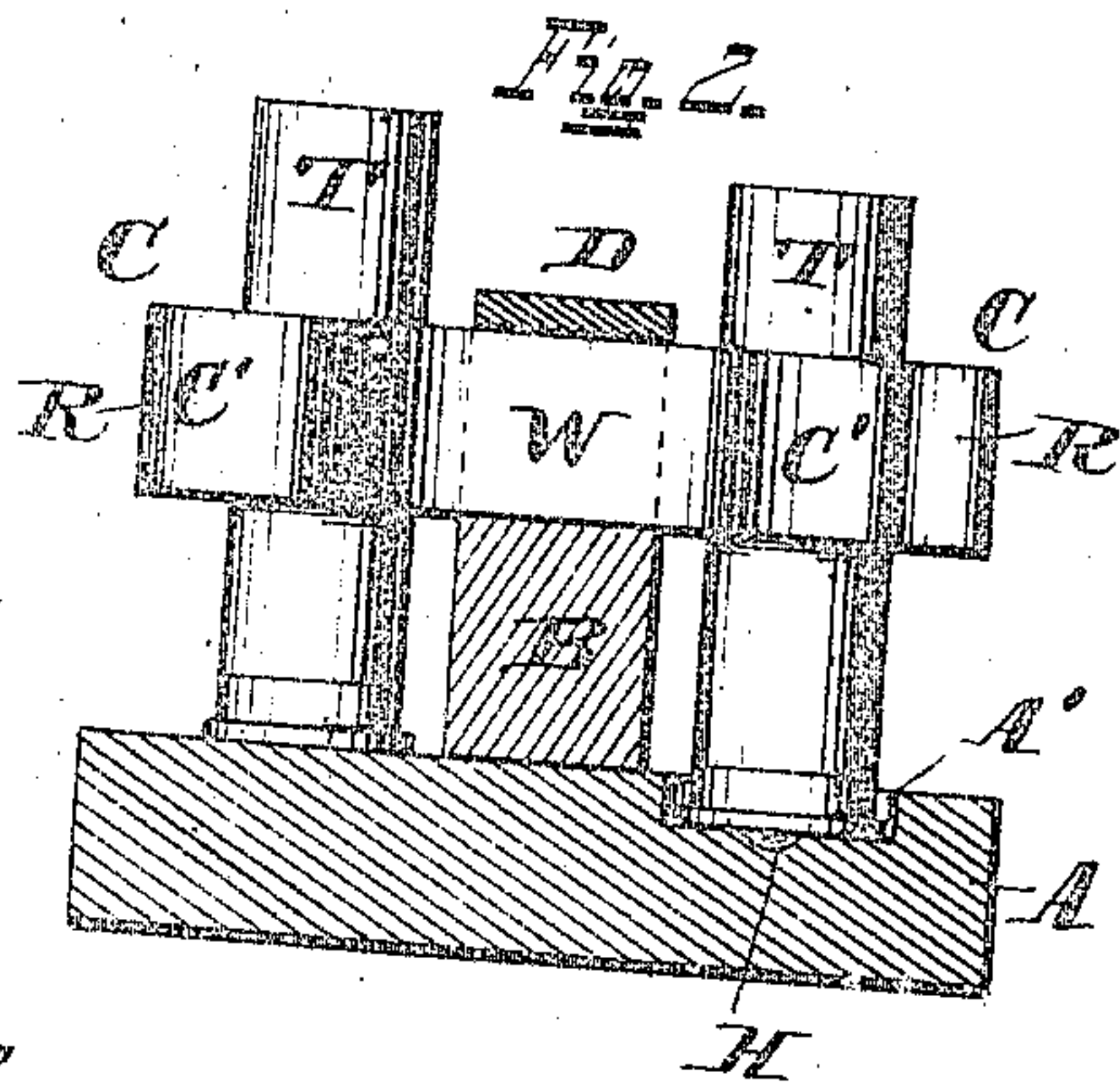
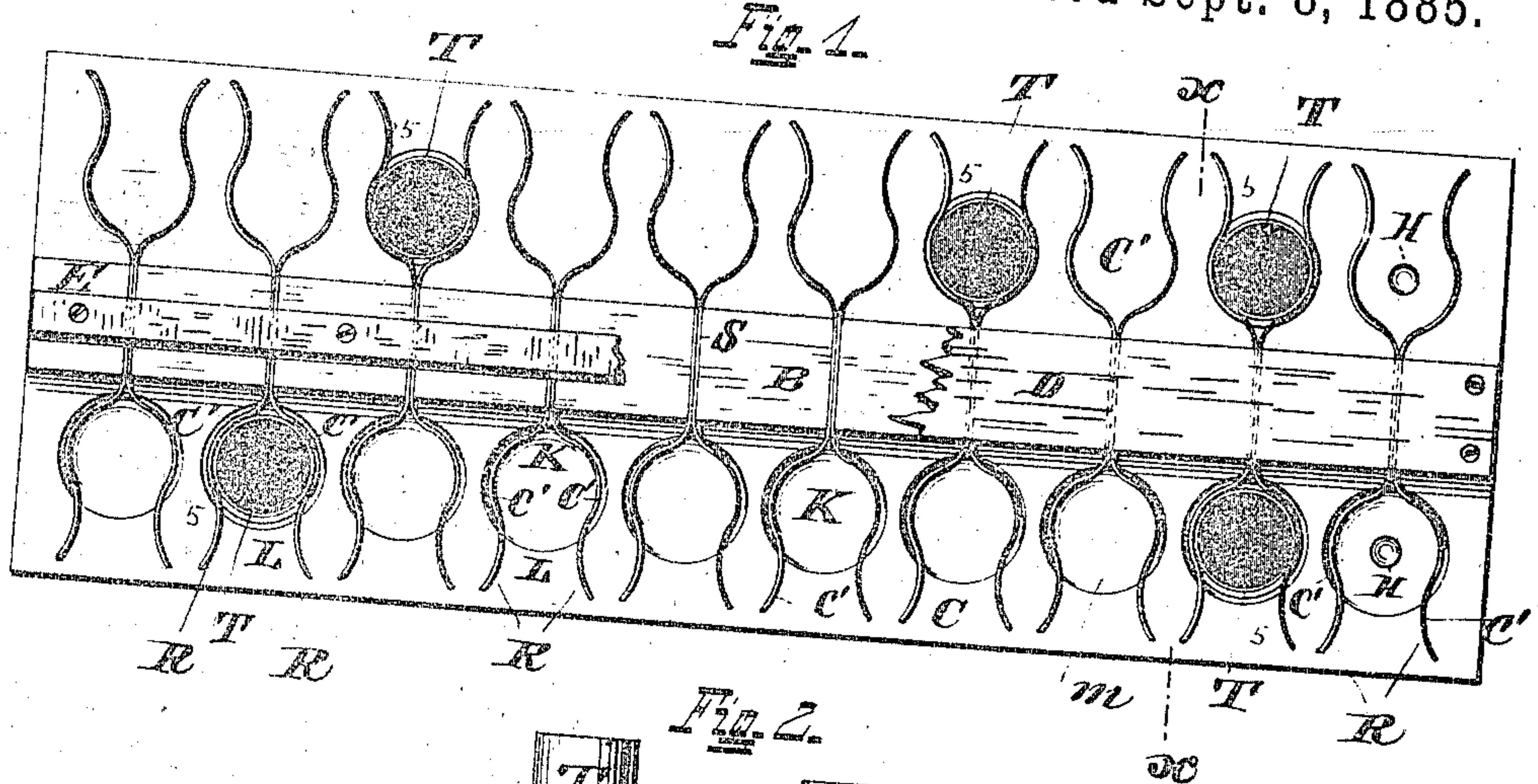
W. H. FISHER.

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

HOLDER FOR CARTRIDGE SHELLS.

No. 325,666.

Patented Sept. 8, 1885.



Attest *Geo. W. Frellix*
O. M. Hill

Inventor
William Hubbell Fisher

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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

W. H. FISHER.

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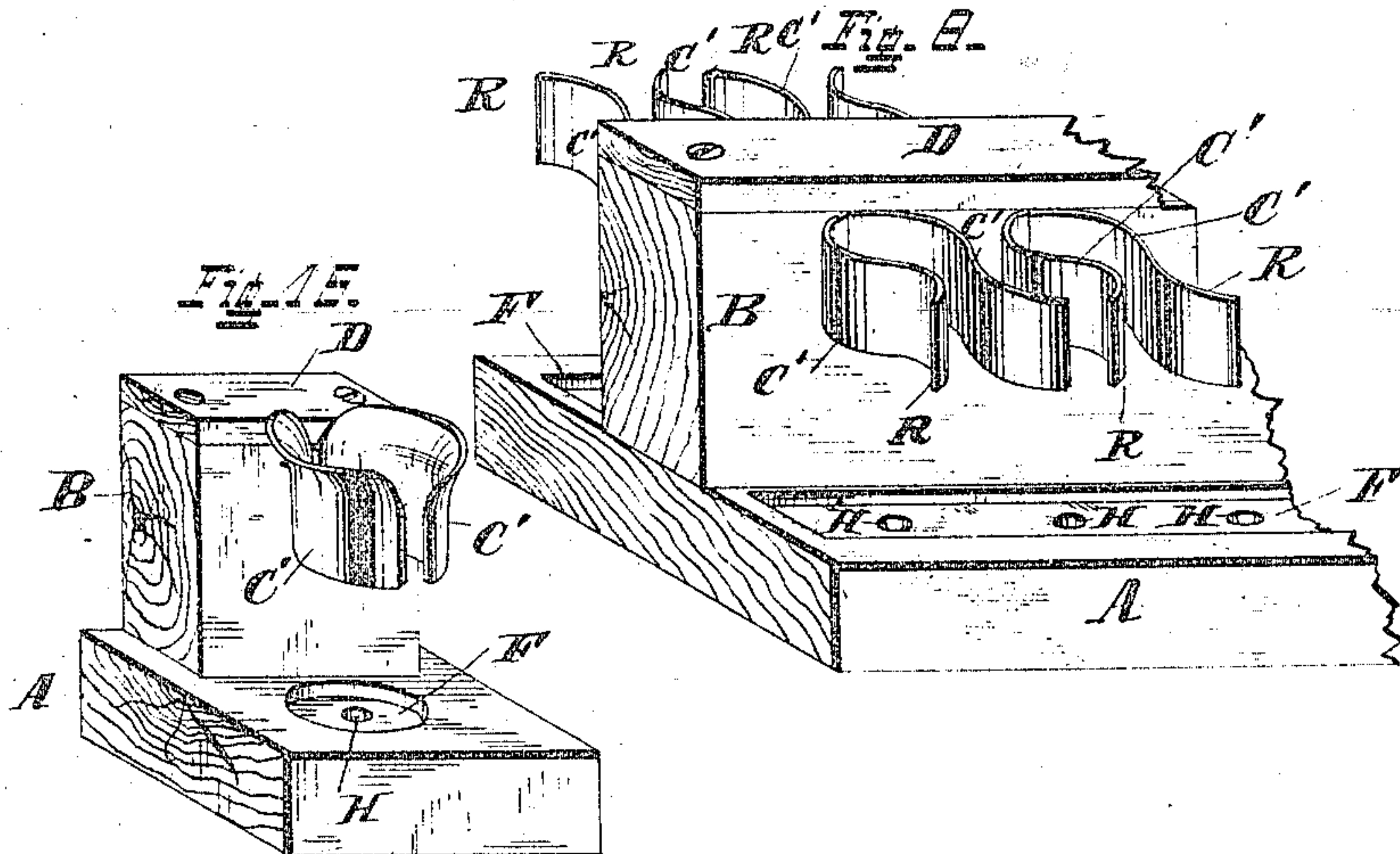


Fig. 5.

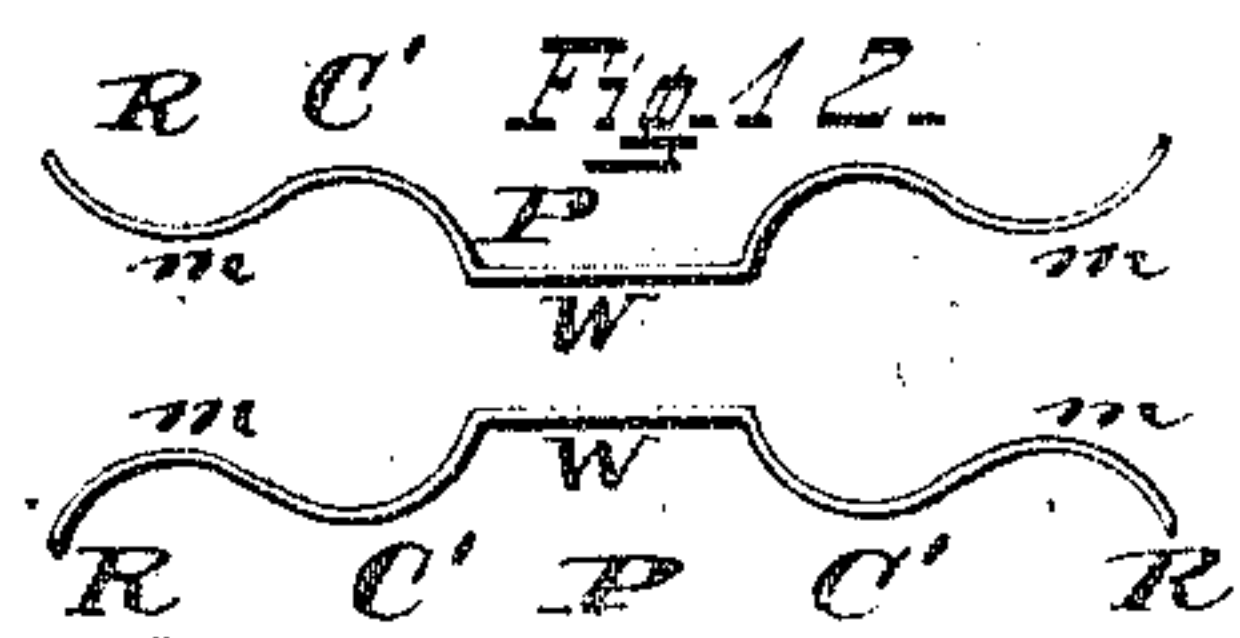
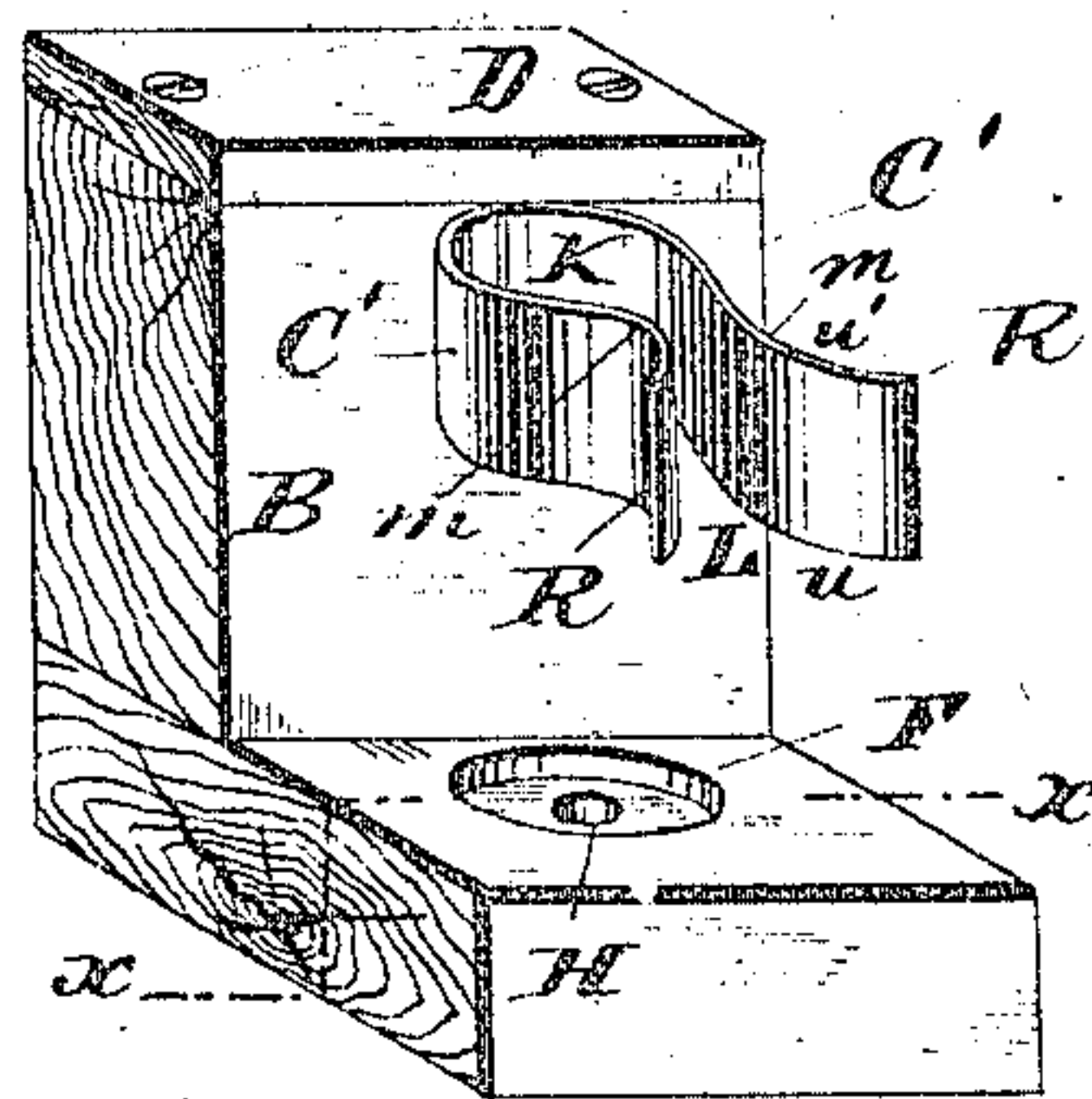


Fig. 13.



Fig. 10.

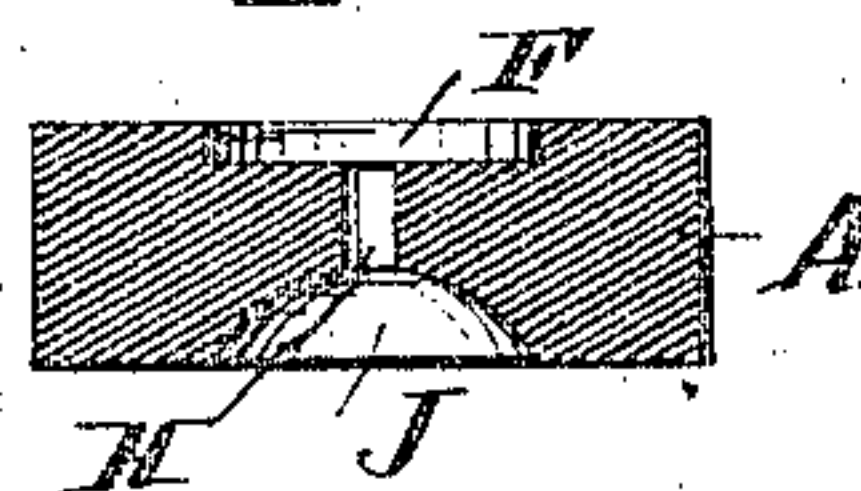


Fig. 11.

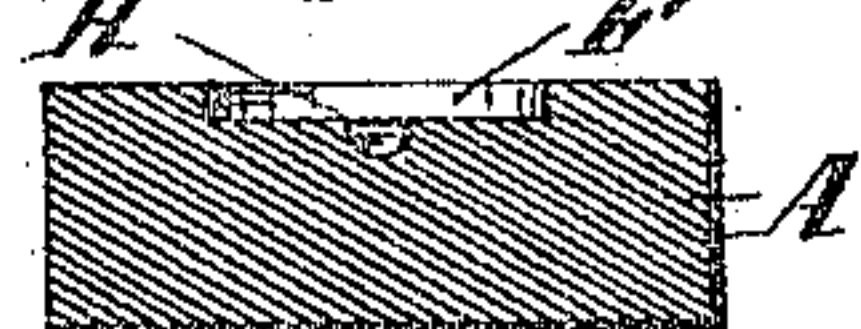
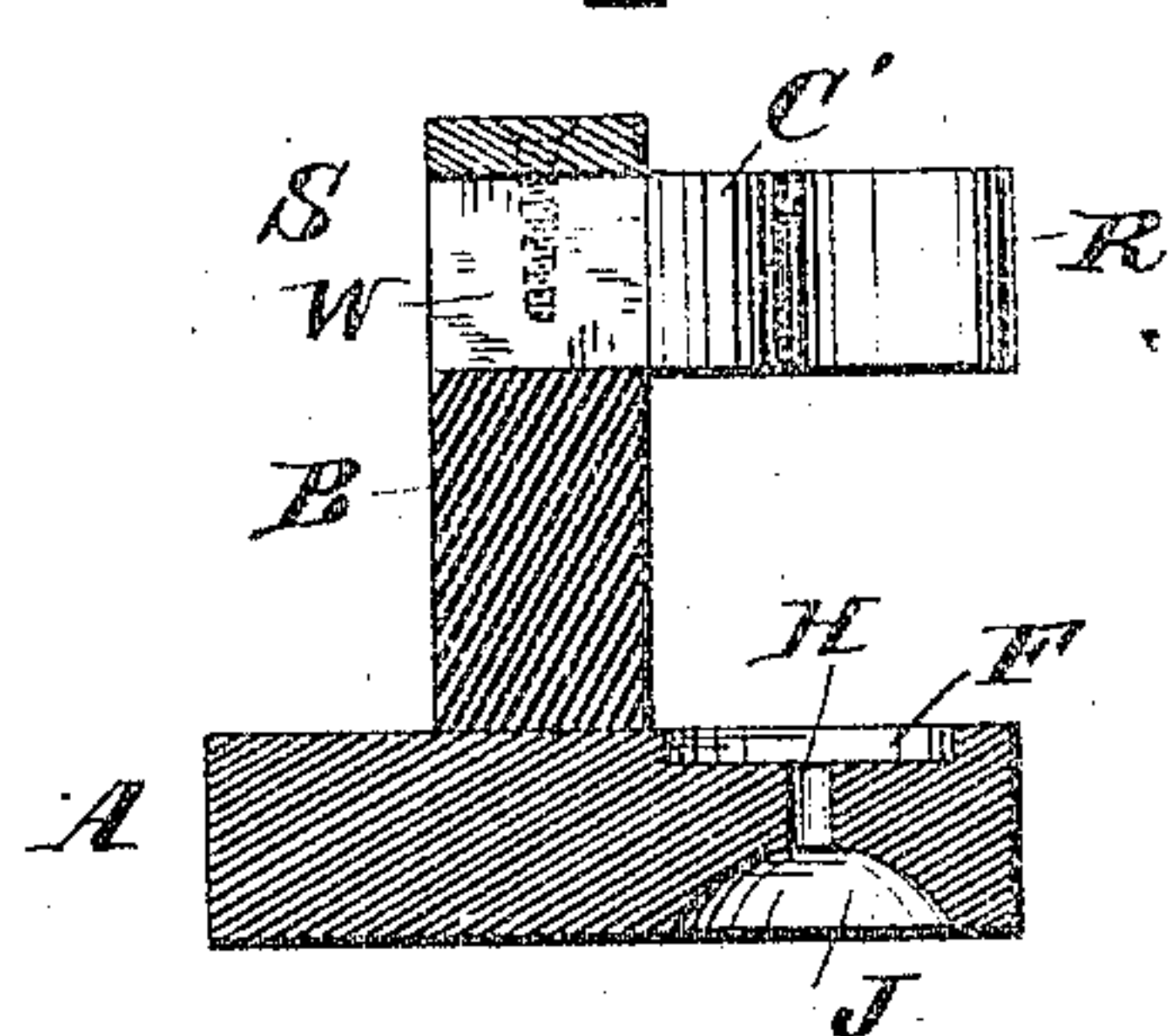


Fig. 14.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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HOLDER FOR CARTRIDGE-SHELLS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 325,666, dated September 8, 1885.

Application filed December 15, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM HUBBELL FISHER, a resident of the city of Cincinnati, in the county of Hamilton and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Holders for Cartridge-Shells, of which the following is a specification.

The kind of cartridge-shells which my holder is especially designed to hold are those to be used in breech-loading fire-arms, more particularly breech-loading shotguns.

The several features of my invention, and the various advantages resulting from their use, conjointly or otherwise, will be herein- after fully set forth.

In the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, Figure 1, Sheet 1, is a top view of a device illustrating my invention. Fig. 2, Sheet 1, is a vertical cross-sectional elevation of the device shown in Fig. 1, the section being taken at the dotted line *x x* of Fig. 1, and looking from left to right. Figs. 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7, Sheet 1, show modifications of the method of retaining a series of spring-holders in position. Fig. 8, Sheet 2, is a perspective view of one end of a device illustrating my invention. Fig. 9, Sheet 2, is a device embodying certain features of my invention. Fig. 10, Sheet 2, is a section through the dotted line *x x* of Fig. 9, showing one form of basal socket for the reception of the rear or closed end of the cartridge-shell, and also showing a chamber for receiving the cap after the shell has been decapped. Fig. 11, Sheet 2, is a sectional view showing the socket illustrated in Fig. 10, the cap-receiving chamber being omitted. Fig. 12, Sheet 2, represents a top view of the preferred form of the spring-arms and their connections where two spring cartridge-shell holders are employed, back to back. Fig. 13, Sheet 2, represents a side view of the device shown in Fig. 12. Fig. 14, Sheet 2, illustrates a preferred mode of connecting the spring-holder arms to the upright where but one holder is used, or a series of holders located on one side only of the supporting-upright. Fig. 15, Sheet 2, represents a modification of one feature of my invention.

The device shown in Fig. 9 illustrates the following features of my invention, viz:

First. A pair of spring clasping-arms, as *C'*, extending out laterally from a vertical sup-

port, and adapted to elastically yield laterally and allow a shell to be readily introduced between them or withdrawn therefrom, and adapted to firmly hold in a vertical position the shell placed between them. It is desirable that each arm be deep, as shown—that is, the distance from the top edge, *u'*, to the bottom *u* should be considerable—to better assist in holding the shell upright and steady.

Second. The combination of these arms and a base which is united to the vertical support, to which the arms are secured, and which is extended out under the arms and is there present as a foundation or base upon which the closed or cap end of the cartridge-shell rests while the shell is firmly embraced and held by the arms. Such a base is illustrated in Figs. 9 and 14.

It is desirable that base *A* be provided, as shown, with the following adjuncts, viz: first, the large depression or opening *F*; second, the smaller depression or recess *H*; third, the chamber or cavity *J*. Both opening *F* and recess *H* are concentric with the space *K* inclosed by the arms *C'*. Of these adjuncts opening *H* is most essential, as it prevents the percussion-cap in the end of a central-fire cartridge from impinging on the base, and thus avoids all chance of exploding the cap and any load which is being placed in the shell or is already there.

Recess *F* receives the closed (lower) end of the cartridge-shell when the latter is embraced by the arms *C'*, and aids in holding the shell steady by preventing lateral motion of the lower portion of the shell. Recess *F* becomes particularly valuable when the arms *C'* are narrow from their top to bottom edge.

Chamber *J*, connected with opening *F*, is of use when shells are to be decapped preparatory to being recapped and loaded. Chamber *J* receives the caps as they are driven off from and out of the shell by a rammer inserted in the shell, the latter being meanwhile held by the arms *C'*. The spring-arms *C'* are provided with means for guiding the shell between them, and a preferred form of such means is shown, and consists as follows: The free end *R* of each spring-arm of a holder is bent laterally. The direction in which these free ends are bent is outward and away from each other.

The shell T to be inserted in the holder is held upright, placed between the said free ends R, and then moved toward space K. Thus moved it wedges or pushes apart the arms, and passing the point *m*, where the arms are left free to act approach near together, it enters the space K. The arms now close on the shell, clasp and hold it tightly in position. (See Figs. 1, diagrams 5 5 5 5 and Fig. 2.)

In withdrawing the shell it is moved from space K toward the ends R of the arms, thereby separating the latter and passing out of the holder.

The arms may be secured to the upright in any suitable manner. A desirable method, shown in the drawings, is as follows: Each arm terminates in a shank, W. There may be one shank for the two arms or a shank for each. The shank or shanks placed together are inserted tightly in a vertical slit, S, in the holder or otherwise secured to said holder, which is of rigid material, so as to retain the spring-arms firmly, and also to hold the cartridges always upright.

Where two or four or the like spring-holders are to be employed, I prefer to construct the spring-arms and shanks as follows: Two opposing pieces, P P, are each formed from a blank of thin sheet metal, (see Fig. 12,) which is stamped up so as to form near each end a curved arm, C', and an outwardly flaring extremity or end portion, R. These pieces P P thus formed are made to face each other, as shown in Fig. 12, and are then made to approach so that the shanks or necks W are together, as shown in Fig. 1, and are suitably secured to the upright, a desirable means being by inserting the shanks into the slit S in the upright B.

The base of the upright is usually extended under the spring-arms of each holder, substantially as shown, (see Figs. 1 and 2,) and the base, for the reasons heretofore mentioned in connection with a single shell-holder, had best be provided with the depression F and opening H and chamber or cavity J. This chamber J may be extended so as to pass beneath two or more spring-holders. In like manner the depression F may be extended for the depression F be connected) so as to form a continuous groove in the spring-arms. (See Fig. 8.)

Of course the spring-holders may all be on one side of the upright, but I prefer to arrange a series of arms on one side and another series of arms on the other side of the upright, as shown.

Ordinarily the shanks W of the holder or holders when driven tightly into a slit, S, in the upright will be sufficiently secured, but additional means for securing the spring-holders to the uprights may be employed. Certain descriptions of such means are illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and will now be described.

In Fig. 2, and on the right-hand portion of

Fig. 1, is shown a broad strip, D, resting on the top of the upright and against the upper edge of the shank W of the holder.

In Fig. 3 the shank W is shown provided with a recess, *t*, in its upper side. The lower edge of this recess is flush with the top of the upright B, and the strip D fits down in the recess and against the top of the said upright B and the said lower edge of said recess. The strip is of the same width as the upright.

In Fig. 4 the lower edge of the shank W is provided with a recess, *t'*, and that part of the upright which is at the bottom of the slit S fills said recess, while strip D, secured to the top of the upright, rests on said top of the latter and upon the upper edge of the shank.

In Fig. 5 the lower edge of the shank W has recess *t'*, into which the upright fits, as described in reference to Fig. 4, and the upper edge of the shank is provided with recess *t*. The bottom of the recess *t* is flush with the top of the upright, and the strip or piece D is secured to the top of the upright and fits into the recess *t* and down upon the bottom of said recess, as described in Fig. 3.

In Fig. 6 the upper edge of the shank W is provided with a narrow recess, *t''*. The bottom of this recess may be flush with the top of the upright, in which case the strip or piece E will rest upon and be secured to the upright and fit into the recess *t''*; but in preference to the form last described the top of the shank is flush with the top of the upright, and the strip E fits into the recess *t''*, and is sunk in a recess or groove in the upright B.

In Fig. 7 the upper edge of the shank W is provided with a recess, *t''*, and the lower edge is provided with a recess, *t'*, and that part of the upright which is directly beneath the slit S in the upright fills said recess *t'*, and strip E occupies recess *t''* and rests upon or fits down in the top of the upright, according as the bottom of recess *t'* or the top of the shank is on a level with the top of the upright.

The most desirable of these combinations of the shank and superincumbent strip is that shown in Fig. 2.

Instead of the free ends of the arms being bent away laterally, as heretofore described, the upper edge of each arm may be bent outwardly, forming a flaring opening, (see Fig. 15,) through which the end of the shell is to be pushed. In this way the shell presses apart the laterally-yielding arms and gets into position in space K.

In both the single and the multiple holder the shell is very quickly placed in position, and when loaded is very quickly withdrawn. Much time in loading is thereby saved; and this is especially the case in the holder for a number of shells, as the time thereby saved in loading them by the aid of my invention is very considerable.

In my invention the shell or shells can be inserted into the holder and held for loading and withdrawn therefrom without turning the holder over or lifting it up or in any wise

moving it. Thus time is saved in loading, and also all tendency of the shell or shells to drop out when the holder is lifted is avoided.

The shell or shells while in the holder can be readily lifted and carried to any desired point. The holder can be upset or turned completely over and the shell or shells will not leave it.

The holder is cheap and easily manufactured, light of weight, and very portable, as well as exceedingly simple in construction and operation.

The well-known cylindrical wad-starter (usually reaching the length of the shell) may be placed over the shell, and it and the shell to which it is applied and surrounds will be firmly held by the embracing spring-arms. Such capacity for receiving the wad-starter is a great advantage in loading, as it expedites the loading as well as adds to the convenience of the operator. The wad-starter may be placed over the empty cartridge-shell and inserted with the shell between the arms of the holder, and the shell can then be loaded without removing the wad-starter, the shell and the wad-starter being held firmly in and by the holder.

What I claim as new and of my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A cartridge-holder consisting of a rigid upright having an extended supporting-base, and a pair of spring-arms projecting from the side of the upright, substantially as described.

2. A cartridge-holder consisting of an inflexible upright having an extended supporting-base, and having a series of spring-arms, arranged in pairs, projecting from each side of the upright, substantially as described.

3. A spring cartridge-shell holder having horizontal laterally-yielding spring-arms, and rigid upright and basal portion extending under the said arms, said base provided with depression F under the space between the arms, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

4. A spring cartridge-shell holder having horizontal curved laterally-yielding opening-arms, and rigid upright and basal portion provided under the space K, with a depression or opening, H, centrally under the space between the spring-arms, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

5. A spring cartridge-shell holder having horizontal laterally-yielding spring-arms, and base provided under space, with depression F, and opening H centrally under said space, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

6. A spring cartridge-shell holder having curved horizontal laterally-yielding arms, and base having depression F, opening H, and chamber J, said opening and space centrally under the space between the spring-arms, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

7. The combination of the laterally-yielding spring-arms C' and extensions R and shanks W, upright B, into which said shanks

extend, and base A, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

8. The combination of the yielding spring-arms C' with extensions R and shanks W, upright B, provided with slit S, receiving the shank, and base A, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

9. The combination of the laterally-yielding pieces P, provided with central shank W and at each end with an arm, C', and an extension, R, upright B, having slit receiving the shanks of the pieces P, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

10. The combination of the laterally-yielding pieces P, provided with central shank W and at each end with an arm, C', and an extension R, upright B, having slit receiving the shanks of the pieces P, and base A, extending outwardly under the arms, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

11. The laterally-yielding arms having extensions R and shanks W, and the upright and base, the upright having a slit, S, receiving the shank, and a superimposed securing-strip, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

12. The pieces P, each composed of a shank, W, having at each end a laterally-yielding arm and bent extensions, and the base, and upright secured to base and provided with slit S, receiving the said shanks, each shank having a recess *t'* at bottom and a superimposed securing-strip, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

13. The pieces P P, constructed with shanks and arms and extensions, each shank being provided with upper recess, *t*, and superimposed securing-strip entering therein, and upright receiving said shanks, and base extending under said arms, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

14. The combination of pieces P P, constructed with shanks and arms and extensions, each shank being provided with upper recess and lower recess, and upright receiving said shank, and superincumbent strip entering said upper recess, and base, as A, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

15. A series of spring-holders composed of pieces P, having central shanks, and at each end an arm and extensions, and an extended upright having slits S, receiving said shank, part of said holders being on one side of said upright and part on the other side of said spring-holders, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

16. A cartridge-holder consisting of an upright and a pair of spring-arms extending from the side thereof, the proximate faces of the arms being concave and the arms flaring at the top.

WILLIAM HUBBELL FISHER.

Witnesses:

JNO. W. STREHLI,

O. M. HILL.