

(No Model.)

C. H. SPARKS.

INDIAN CLUB.

No. 325,987.

Patented Sept. 8, 1885.

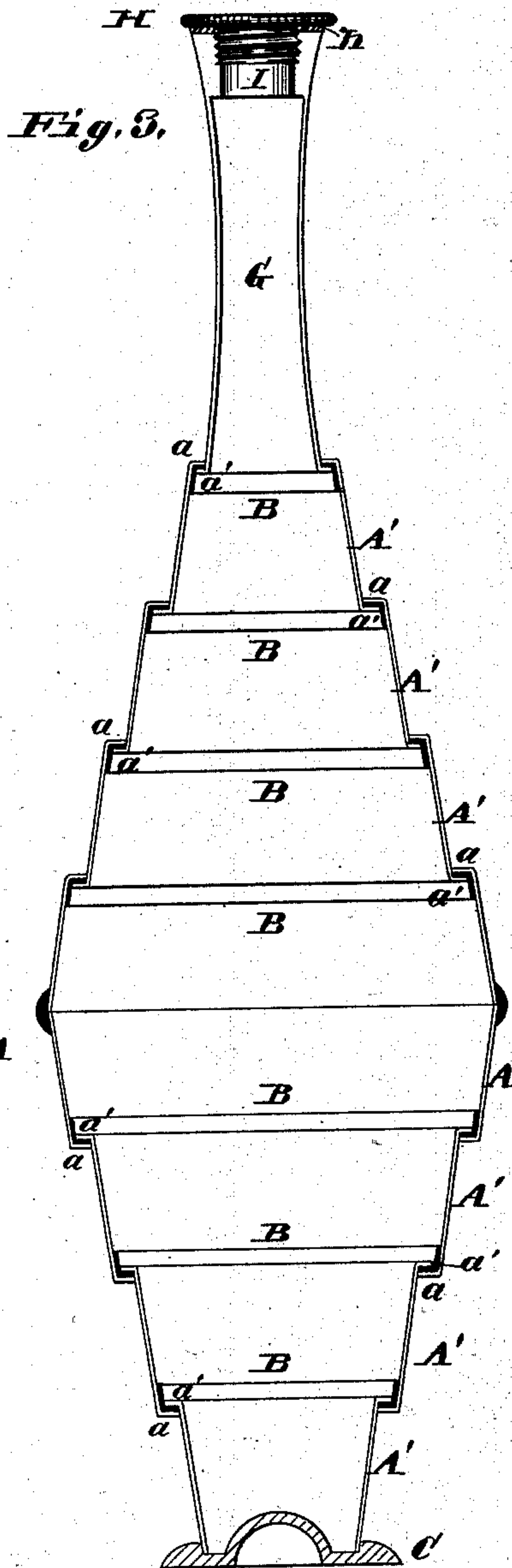
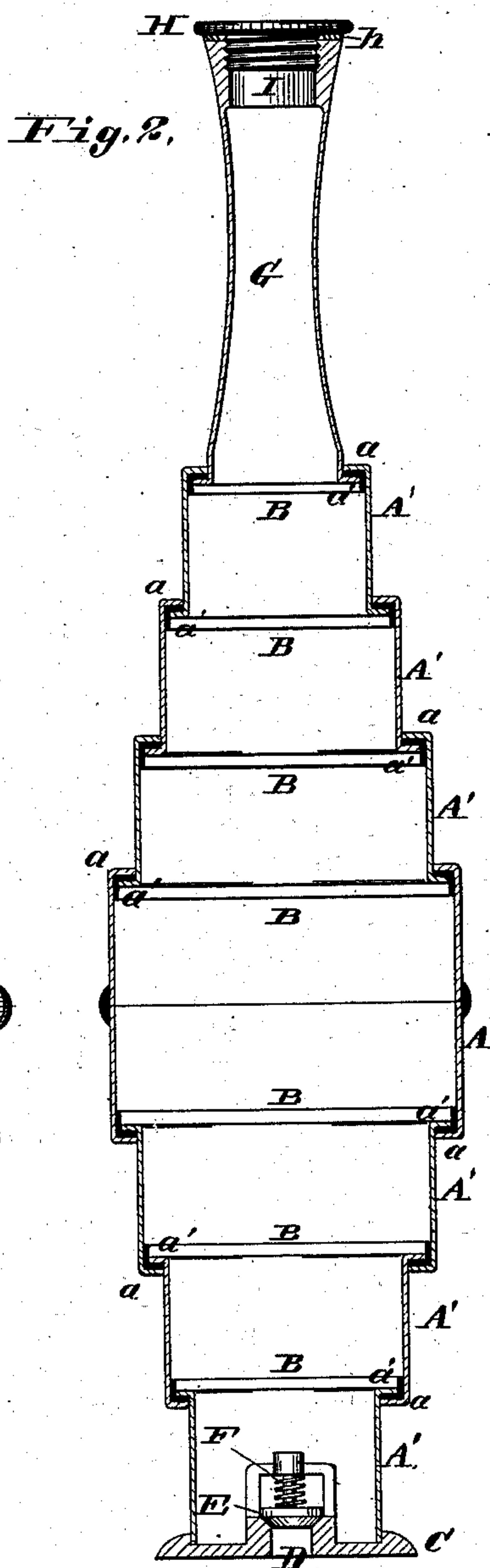
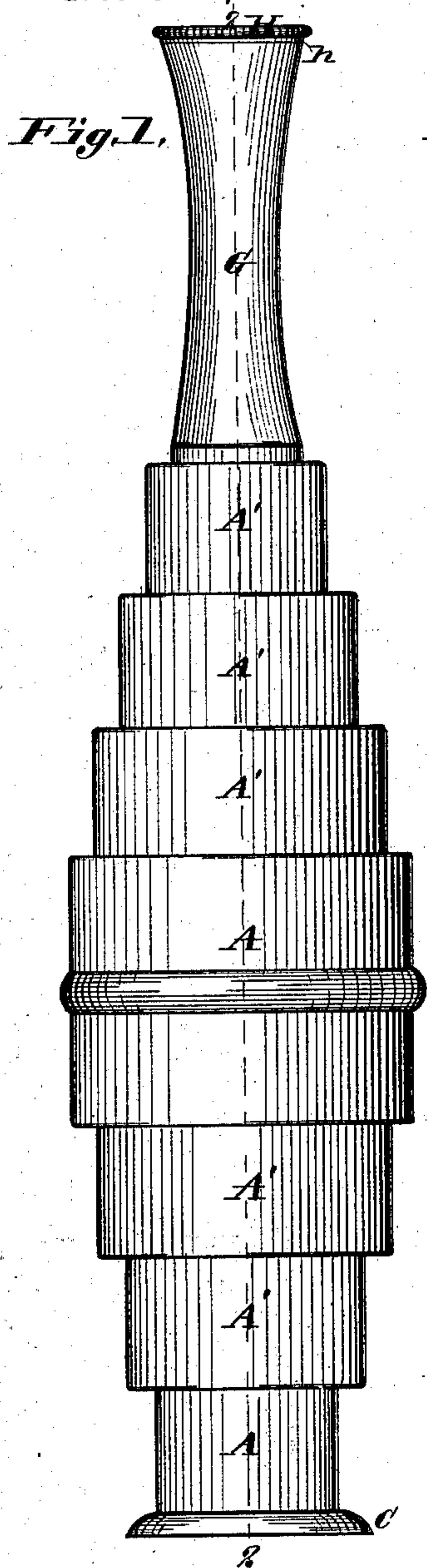
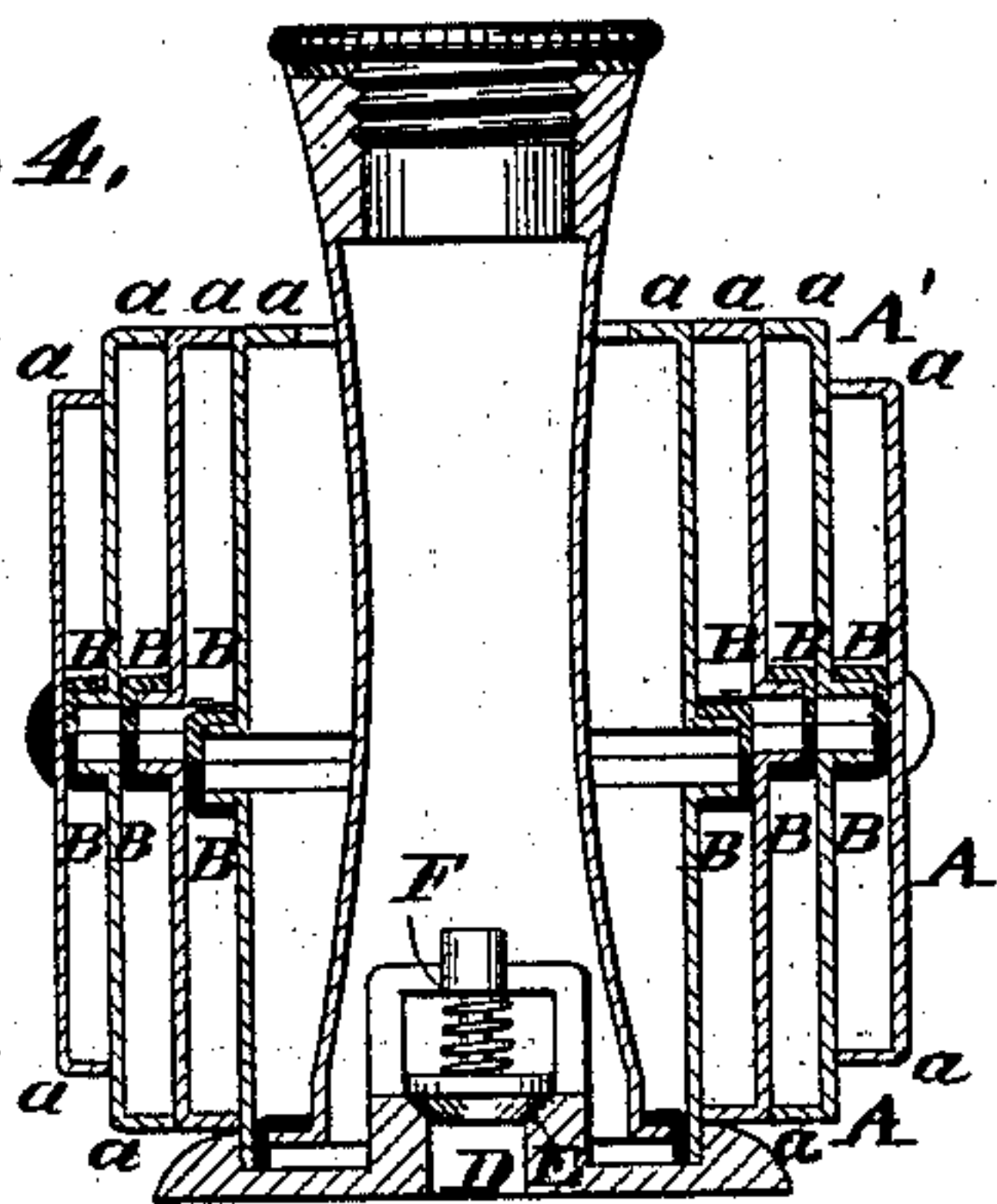


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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INDIAN CLUB.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 325,987, dated September 8, 1885.

Application filed June 15, 1885. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES H. SPARKS, of the city of St. Louis and State of Missouri, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Indian Clubs, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

This is an Indian club made hollow in telescoped sections with water-tight joints, so that it may be expanded and filled with water or folded together into a small compass.

Figure 1 is a side view of the club extended. Fig. 2 is an axial section on the line 2 2, Fig. 1, and Fig. 3 is a similar section except that the sections are made frusto-conical instead of cylindrical. Fig. 4 is an axial section showing the club in its contracted condition.

A is the central hollow section having at the ends intumed flanges *a*, which engage the outturned flanges *a'* of the next sections, A'. The joints between the flanges *a* and *a'* are made water-tight by cup packing B, which I prefer to make of caoutchouc. There may be as many as desired of the hollow sections A', three being shown at each end of the central section. In the lower one of these sections is fixed an end or bottom, C, with an orifice, D, therein closed by a check-valve, E, which is held down by a spring, F, except when water is entering the orifice from the outside. G is the tubular handle of the club, having at the outer end a screw-stopper, H, by which it is closed. A gasket, *h*, may be placed beneath the edge of the stopper.

Within the screw-threaded part of the neck I prefer to form a smooth part, in which is a cylindrical plug, I, of caoutchouc, whose lower end when the club is full of liquid bears upon the liquid, and as the stopper is screwed in the pressure upon the ends of the plug causes its circumferential expansion and seals the orifice.

The club may be filled with water or other

liquid in two ways. First, its lower end may be held in the water and the handle drawn upward, the water running through the valve-orifice D to fill the vacuum. Then when the club has been stretched to its limit the screw-cap or stopper and plug I may be removed and the interior completely filled, if such is not already the case. Second, the filling may be done altogether from the top, and in that case the check-valve E would not be necessary, and the bottom C may be without any water-orifice, as seen in Fig. 3, where the shape of the sections A' is such that the joints *a a'* would be tight only when the club should be fully extended.

It will be seen that the neck or handle G is connected to the upper section A' by a joint, *a a'* B, like those between the sections A', and that when the club is in its contracted condition the inner end of the handle reaches the bottom C. This of course is not essential, but conduces to compactness.

I claim—

1. An Indian club made of hollow sections telescoped together, substantially as set forth.
2. An Indian club made of hollow sections telescoped together and having flanges *a a'*, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.
3. The combination, in an Indian club, of the hollow sections, telescoped together and having flanges *a a'*, and the packing B at the joints, substantially as set forth.
4. An Indian club made of hollow sections telescoped together, and provided with a check-valve for the entrance of liquid, and with a stopper, for the purposes set forth.
5. In an Indian club, the combination, with the hollow neck thereof, of the screw-stopper H and the expansion-plug I, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

CHARLES H. SPARKS.

Witnesses:

SAML. KNIGHT,
BENJN. A. KNIGHT.