

(No Model.)

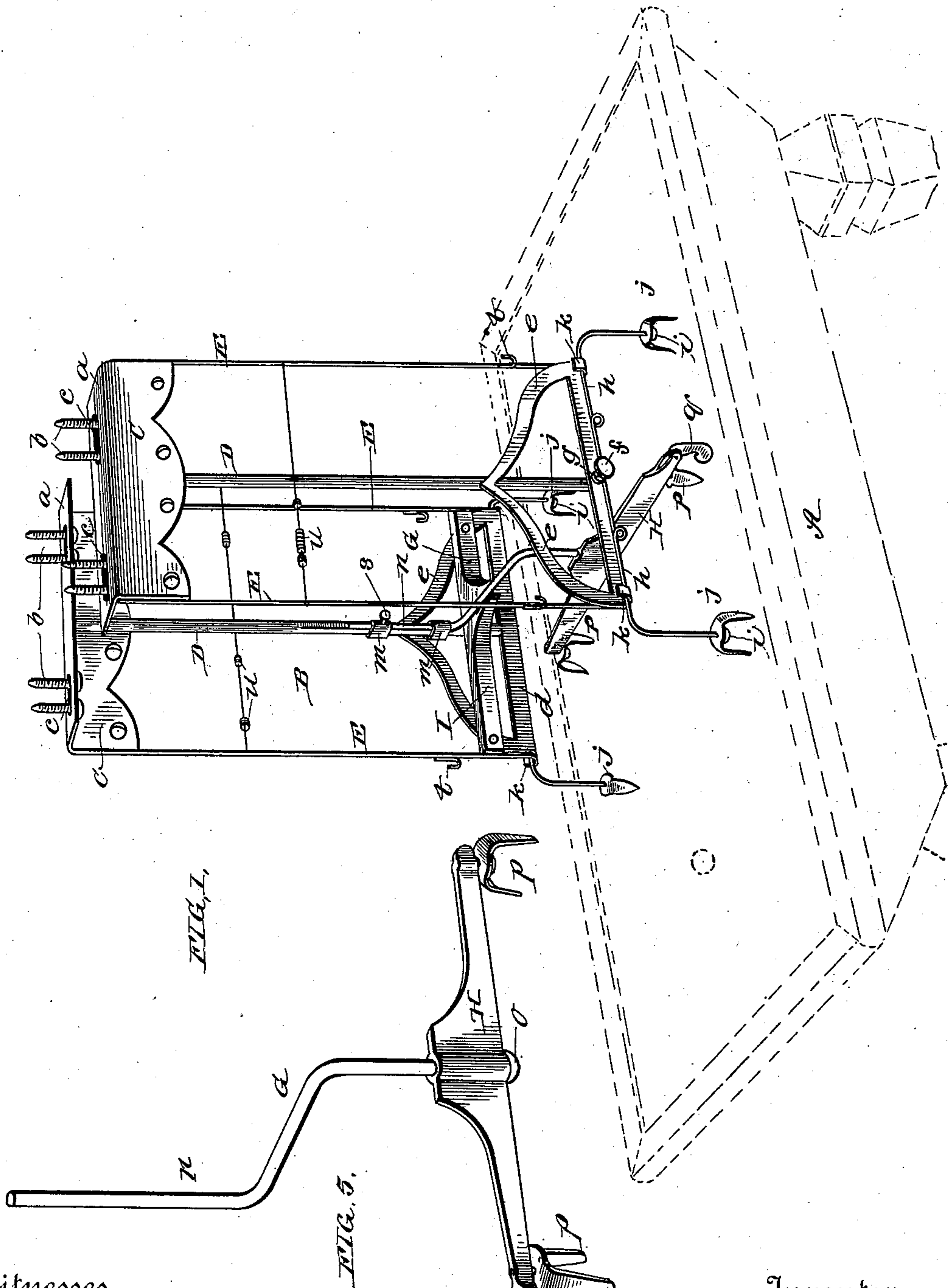
3 Sheets—Sheet 1.

T. E. MATHER.

ATTACHMENT FOR POOL AND BILLIARD TABLES.

No. 363,837.

Patented May 31, 1887.



Witnesses

Jos. A. Ryan  
E. J. Siggers

Inventor

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By his Attorneys

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(No Model.)

3 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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FIG. 2.

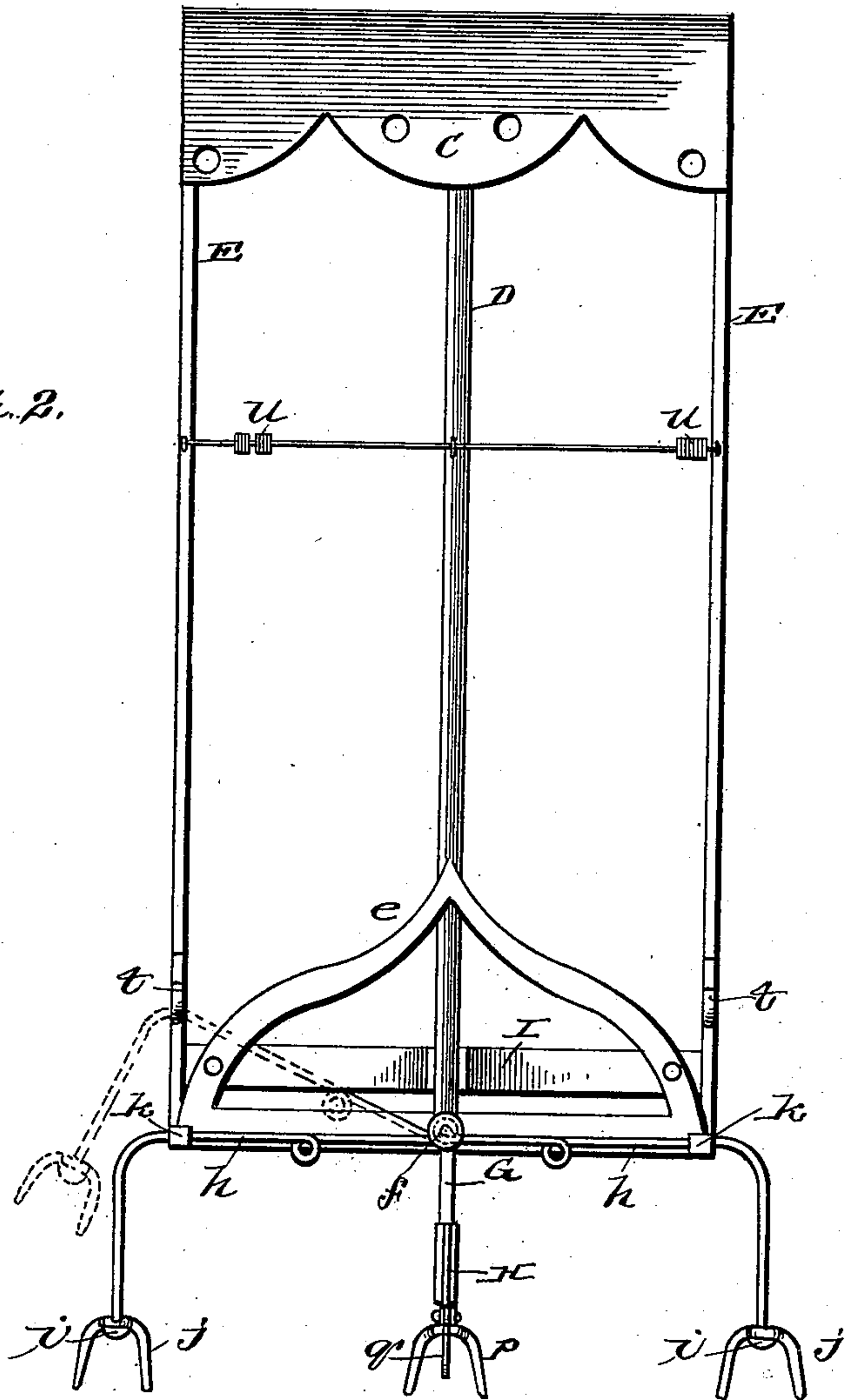
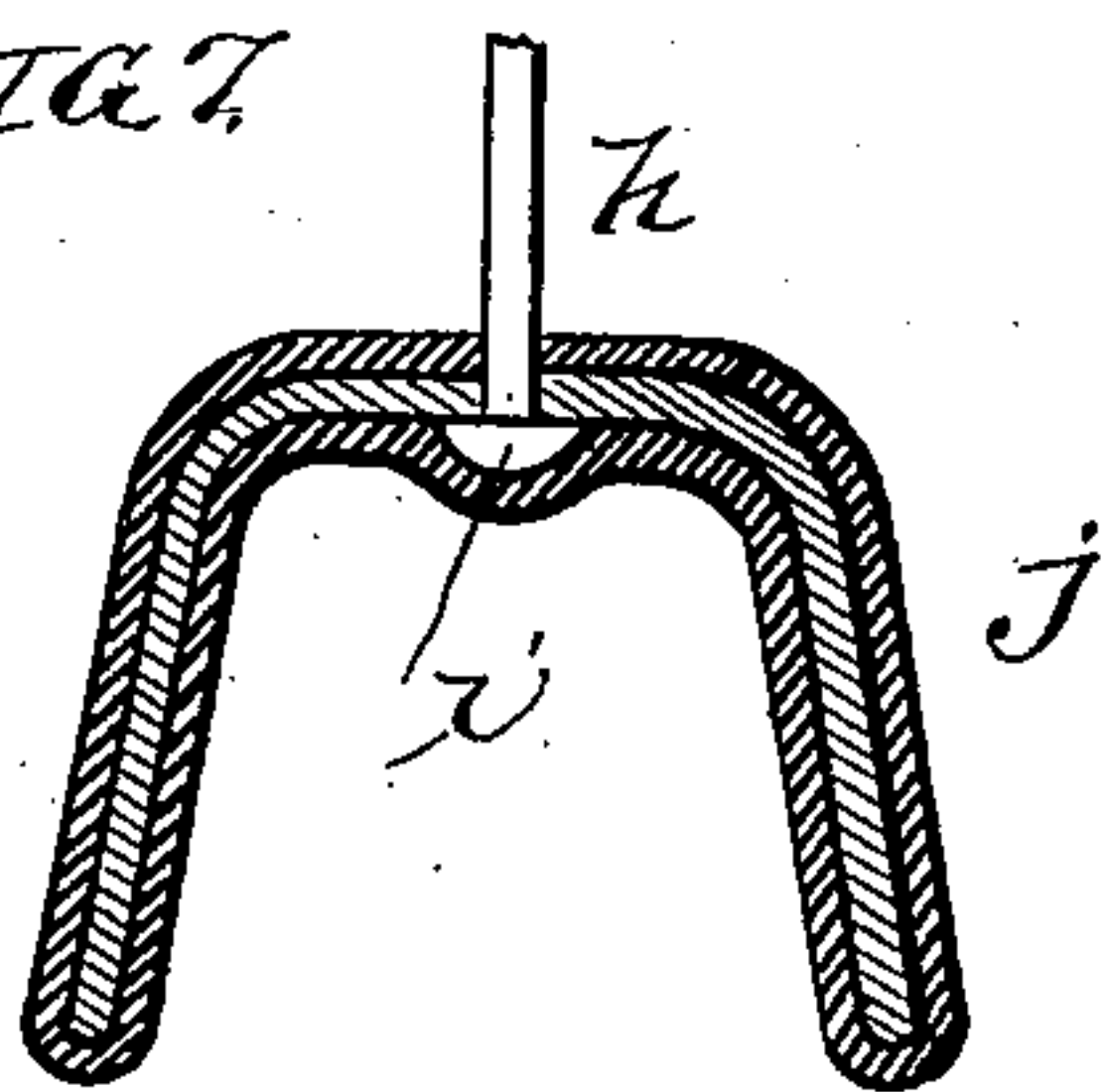


FIG. 7.



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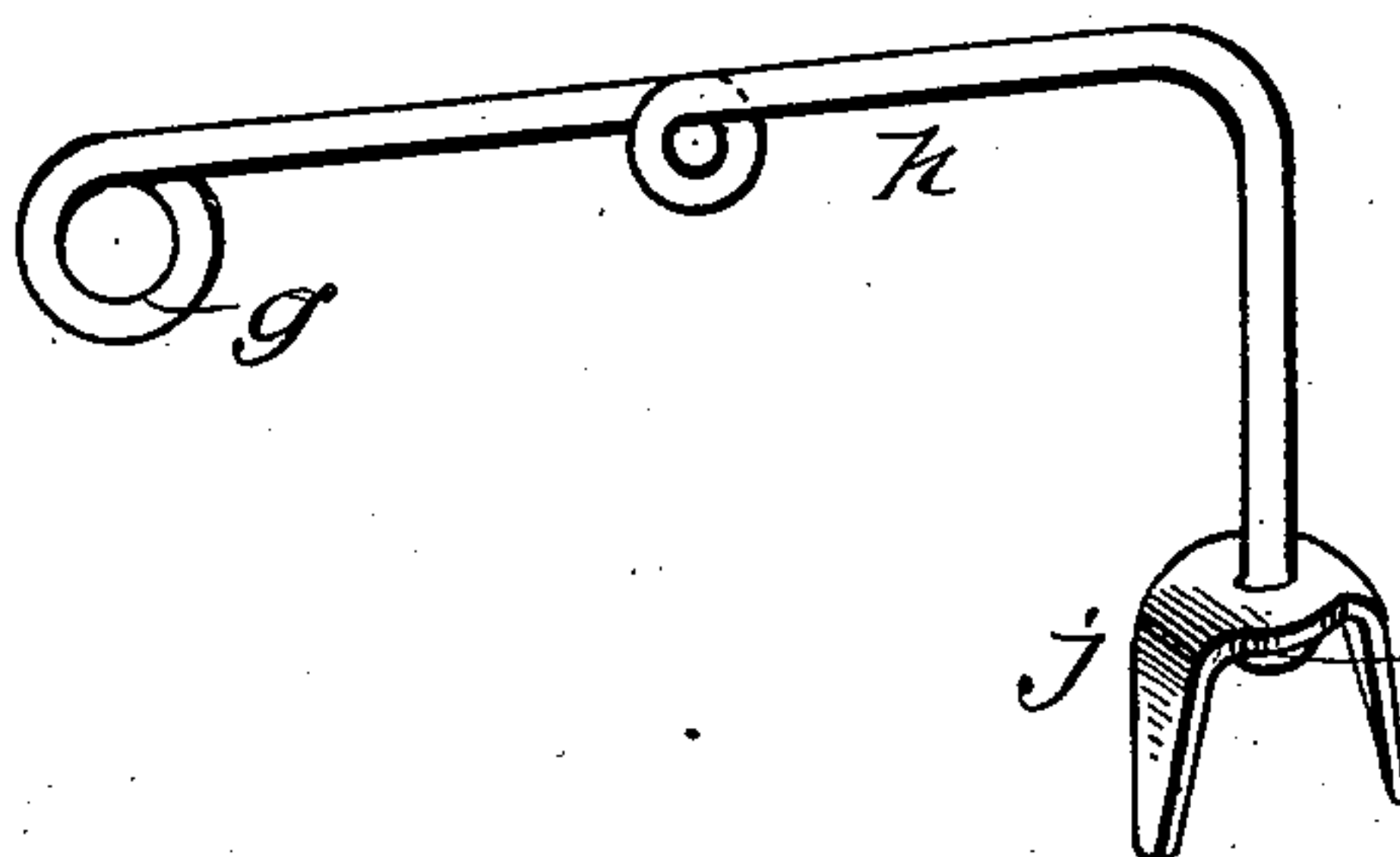
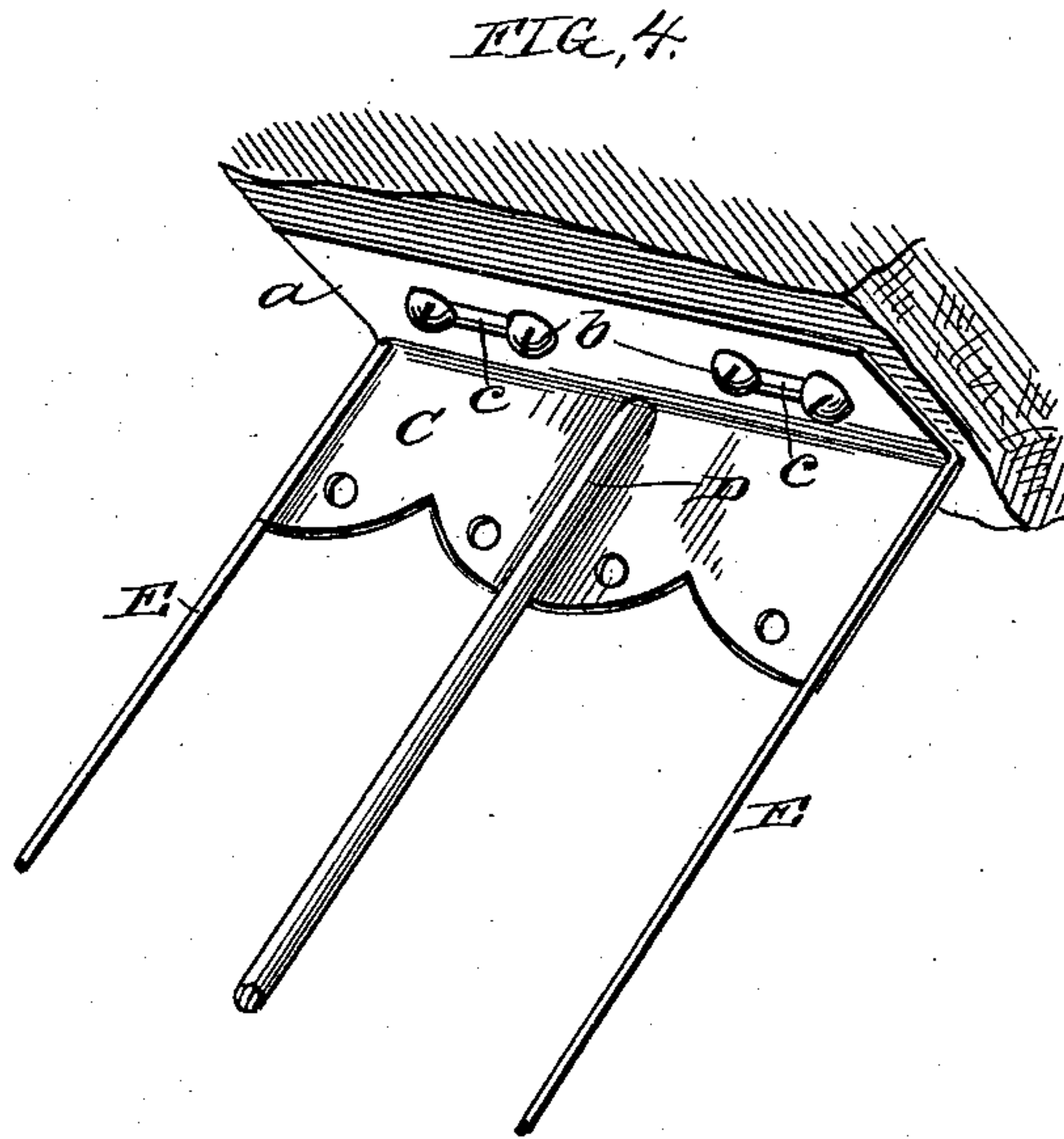
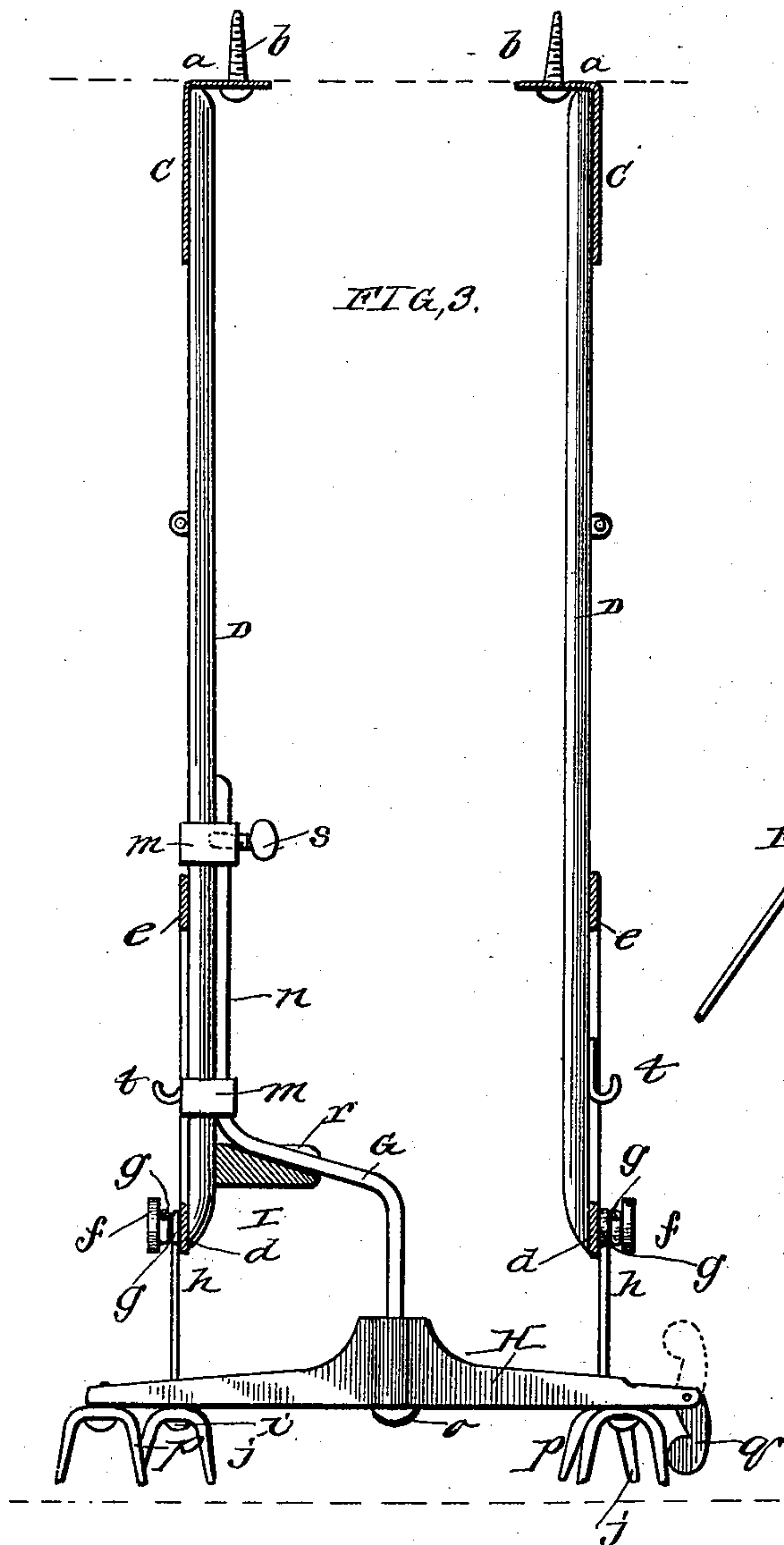
3 Sheets—Sheet 3.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS E. MATHER, OF MINNEWAUKON, DAKOTA TERRITORY.

## ATTACHMENT FOR POOL AND BILLIARD TABLES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 363,837, dated May 31, 1887.

Application filed February 11, 1887. Serial No. 227,292. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, THOMAS E. MATHER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Minnewaukon, in the county of Benson and Territory of Dakota, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Attachments for Pool and Billiard Tables, of which the following is a specification.

My invention has reference to attachments for billiard and pool tables; and it consists in the improved structure hereinafter described, whereby the games of billiards and pool may be diversified by introducing features in connection therewith not before contemplated.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my improved attachment, its relative position with respect to a billiard or pool table being shown by dotted lines, which indicate the table. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the improved attachment. Fig. 3 is a central vertical sectional view of said attachment. Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view showing the connection of the attachment with the ceiling. Figs. 5, 6, and 7 are detached views of various parts.

A refers to the dotted position of the table. Centrally suspended above said table and depending from the ceiling is my improved attachment B. It consists at its upper end of two parallel plates or brackets, C C, which are each of right-angular form, the horizontal portion *a* of each bracket bearing against the ceiling, to which it is secured by means of bolts or screws *b*, which pass through elongated slots *c* in the plate, thus admitting of a limited adjustment to vary the position of the attachment as may be desired.

Rigidly secured to and depending centrally from each bracket is a rod, D, and from the ends of each bracket rigidly depend smaller side rods, E, which are vertically parallel with the central rod. An artistic frame-work composed of a horizontal bar, *d*, and inclined bars *e* connects the lower ends of each pair of side rods with the central rod between them, and thus serves to brace the rods together.

A thumb-screw, *f*, is located on the outer side of each bar *d*, midway between its ends, and upon this thumb-screw is pivotally hung the inner looped end, *g*, of a pair of curved

arms, *h*, the outer portions of which are bent substantially at right angles with the rest of the arm. The extremity of each arm is enlarged to form a head, *i*, upon which is swiveled a target, *j*, in the form of an arch. Each side rod, E, is provided at its lower extremity with a hook, *k*, within which the horizontal portion of each arm bears when in operative position. A second hook, *t*, is located on each side rod above the hook *k*, and is designed to engage and suspend each arm out of operative position.

On the inner side of one of the rods D are located a pair of loops, *m*, in which plays and is guided the vertical shank *n* of an angle-arm, G, which is of the form most clearly shown in Fig. 3, in which figure it is represented as being thrown out of operative position. The lower portion of said arm *n* is represented as being vertical, and terminates in an enlargement or head, *o*, upon which is centrally suspended a horizontal bar, H. The said bar H is provided at each end with a swivel-head, from which is suspended a target, *p*, similar in form to the targets *j* of the arm *h*.

Pivotally attached to one extremity of the bar H is a dog, *q*, the free end of which is enlarged, for a purpose to be explained hereinafter. The said dog may be moved to either of the positions illustrated by dotted and full lines, Fig. 3.

On the inner side of the attachment, adjacent to the point where the angle-arm G is located, is rigidly secured a cross-bar, I, which is enlarged at its center and recessed thereat to present a vertical slot, *r*. A thumb-screw, *s*, passing through one of the guide-loops of the angle-arm G, is adapted to bear against and bite the vertical portion of the angle-arm and retain the latter in any desired vertical position. Wires are extended from the rods E to the rod D, and upon said wires are strung a series of buttons or disks, *u*, to enable a "tally" or register of the game to be kept.

In use the pivoted arms are dropped into the lower hooks, which keep them in proper position against lateral movement, the arched targets being located within a short distance of the table-cushion beneath. The inner angle-arm, G, is so adjusted in its guide-loops that a portion of said arm will lie in the vertical



slot of the cross-bar and be held immovable against any lateral swinging movement. The scheme is then to make any desired or predetermined shots by projecting the balls through the arched targets and in striking them so as to turn them upon their pivots and prevent the opposing party from conveniently projecting a ball through from the point from which he is to shoot.

- 10 The position of either of the arched targets on the cross-bar H may be varied by simply shooting a ball thereagainst; but if it be desired to change the position of both target-arches at one shot the ball should be shot so as to contact with the depending dog, which will cause the central cross-bar to turn on its pivot, so as to change the position of both target-arches.

20 The outer faces or all of the target-arches may be protected with a yielding cushion of any suitable material—such as rubber, buckskin, or the like, as shown in Fig. 7—so as to prevent the balls from becoming defaced when they contact with the same.

- 25 It will be obvious that the attachment is neat and simple, and greatly adds to the pleasure of a billiard or pool table.

I do not wish to be limited to the construction of the turn devices *j p* in the form of an arch.

I claim—

1. The combination, with a support, of an arm pivoted thereto, a target swiveled on the end of said arm, and a hook device for receiving and retaining said arm, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination, with a support, of an arm pivoted thereto, a target swiveled on the end of said arm, and a lower and upper hook for respectively engaging said arm in an operative and an inoperative position, substantially as set forth.

3. The combination, with a support, of an arm depending therefrom, a cross-bar swiveled on said arm, and a turning target located at each end thereof, substantially as set forth.

4. The combination, with a support, of an arm depending therefrom, a cross-bar swiveled on said arm, and a turning target swiveled at each end of said cross-bar, substantially as set forth.

5. The combination, with a support, of an arm depending therefrom, a cross-bar swiveled on said arm, an arched or turning target located at each end of said bar, and a depending dog, substantially as set forth.

6. The combination, with a supporting-frame, of an arm, devices for vertically adjusting the same, and an arched target swiveled on the end of the arm, substantially as set forth.

7. The combination, with the supporting-frame and notched cross-bar connected thereto, of a vertically-moving arm adapted to engage said notch, and an arched target swiveled on the end of said arm, substantially as set forth.

8. The supporting-frame having the arm depending therefrom provided with a swiveled arched target, said frame having upper horizontal portions, slotted as described, and fastening devices passing through said slots, substantially as set forth.

9. An attachment for billiard and pool tables, having one or more swiveled targets suspended above and out of contact with the table and capable of turning freely on its pivot, said targets having an opening through which the balls may be shot, as and for the purpose described.

10. An attachment for billiard and pool tables, comprising a fixed support, and a target swiveled to the support and suspended thereby above and out of contact with the table, so as to be capable of turning freely on its pivot, said target having an opening through which the balls may be shot, as and for the purpose described.

11. An attachment for billiard and pool tables, comprising a suitable fixed support, and an arched target swiveled on the support and having a yielding cushion fixed thereon, to thereby prevent injury to the missile when the latter strikes the target, as and for the purpose described.

12. The combination of the support having the fixed depending rods and two or more arms pivotally connected to the rods, and each carrying a swiveled target, as and for the purpose described.

13. The combination of a fixed support depending from the ceiling, and having the rods, two or more arms connected to the rods and carrying swiveled targets which are capable of turning freely on their pivots, and devices on the rods for holding the arms in an elevated or depressed position, substantially as described, for the purpose set forth.

14. The combination of a bracket fixed to the ceiling, the fixed rods depending from the bracket, the horizontal bar fixed to the rods and having a guide slot or opening, a vertically-adjustable arm, H, connected to the depending rods and fitted in the guide-slot, and a swiveled target carried by the arm at its lower end, substantially as described.

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

THOMAS E. MATHER.

Witnesses:

M. H. RODGERS,  
J. M. CUBBISON.