

(No Model.)

J. FLINN.  
COUCH PILLOW.

No. 370,772.

Patented Oct. 4, 1887.

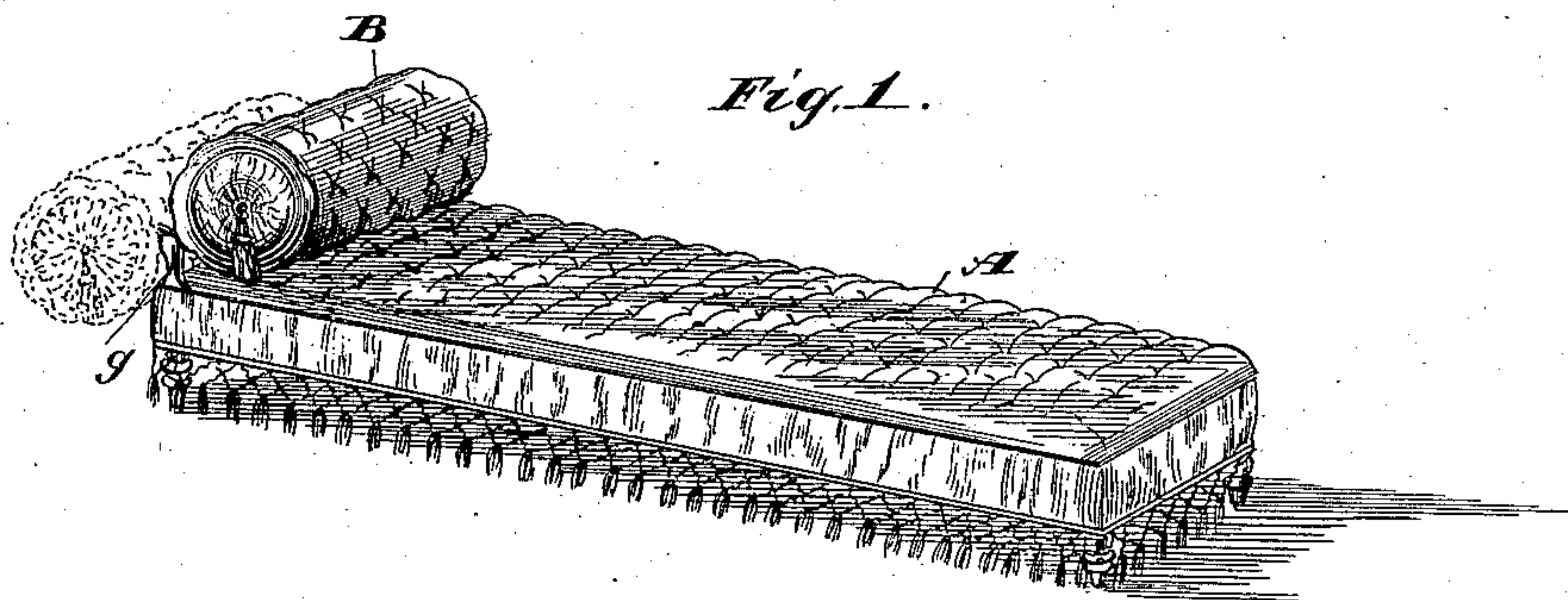


Fig. 2.

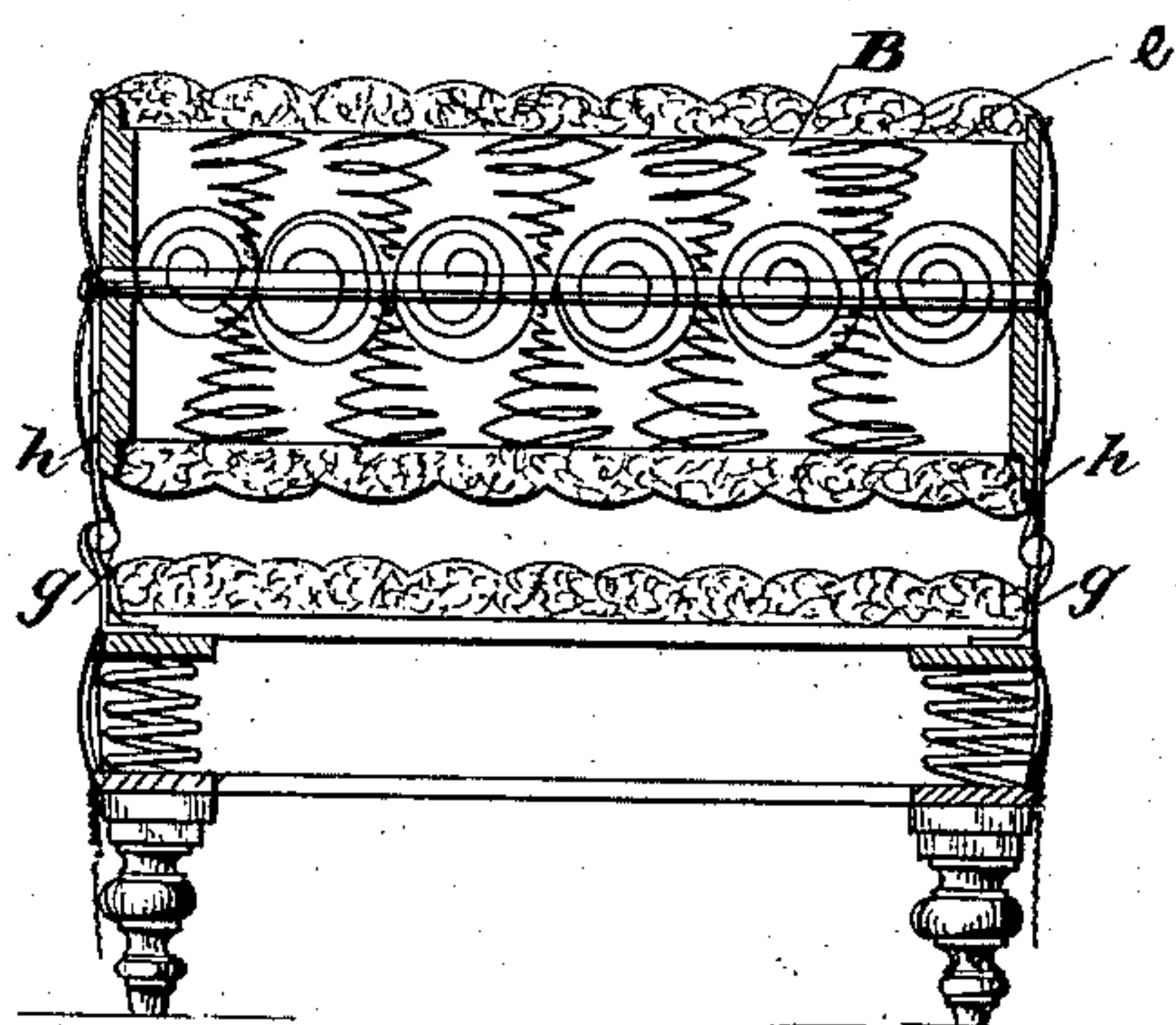


Fig. 3.

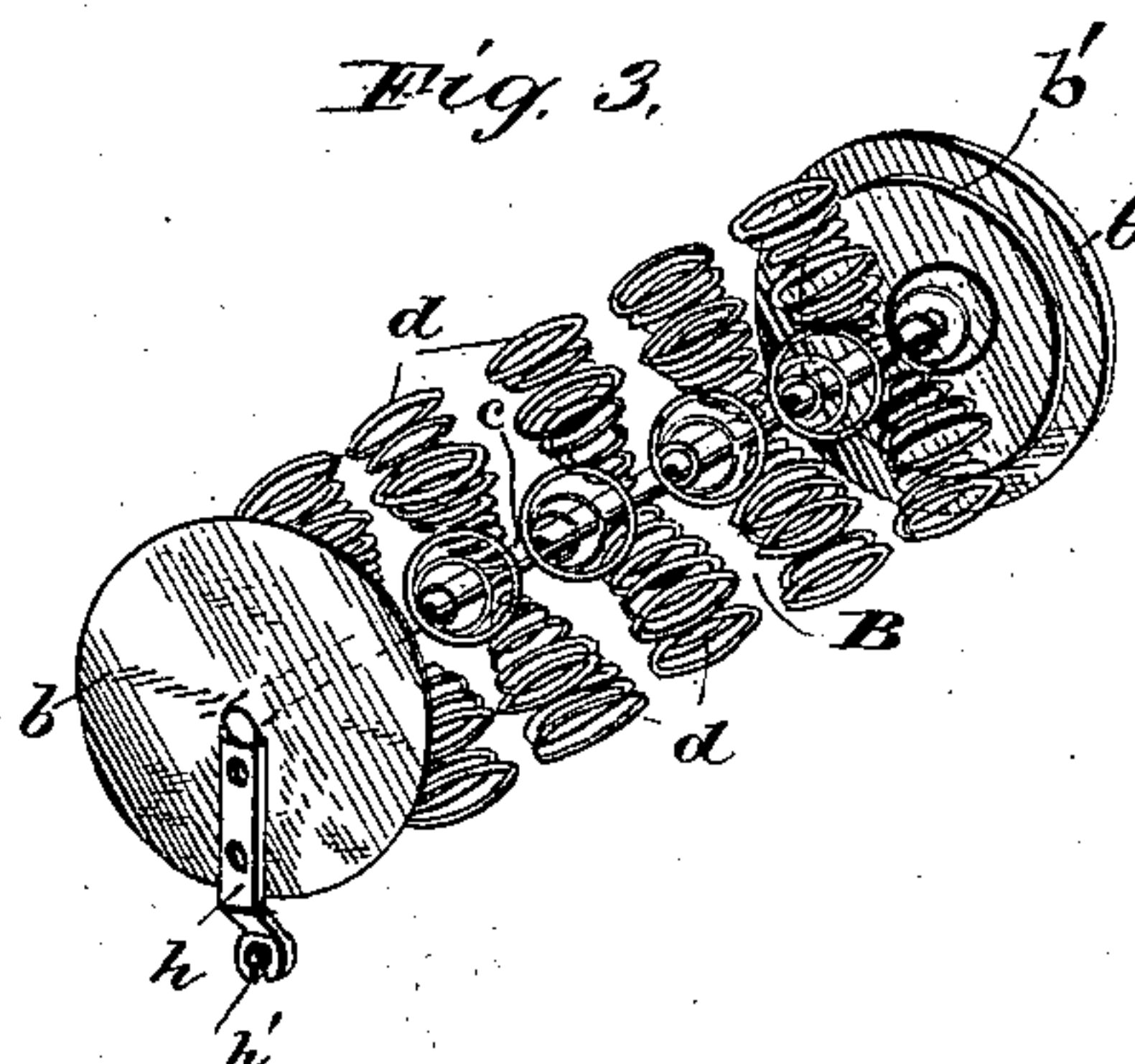


Fig. 6.

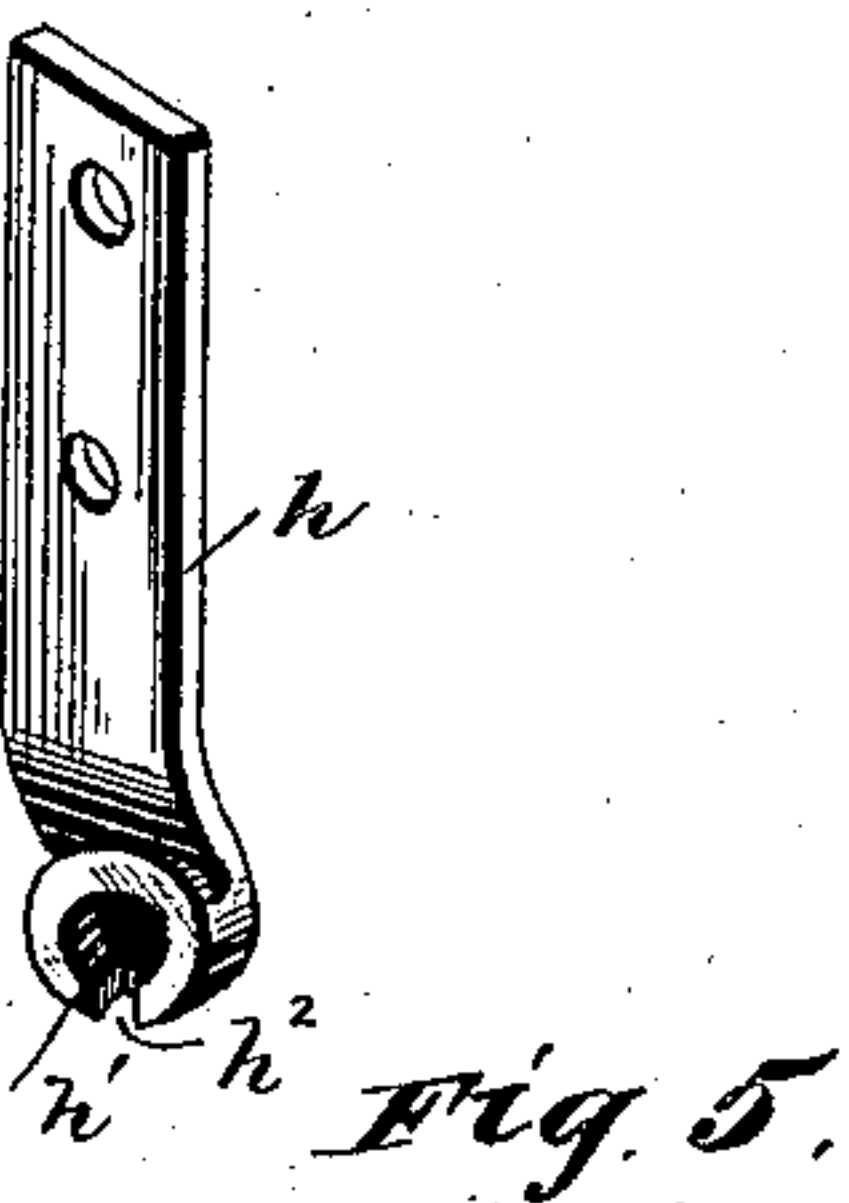
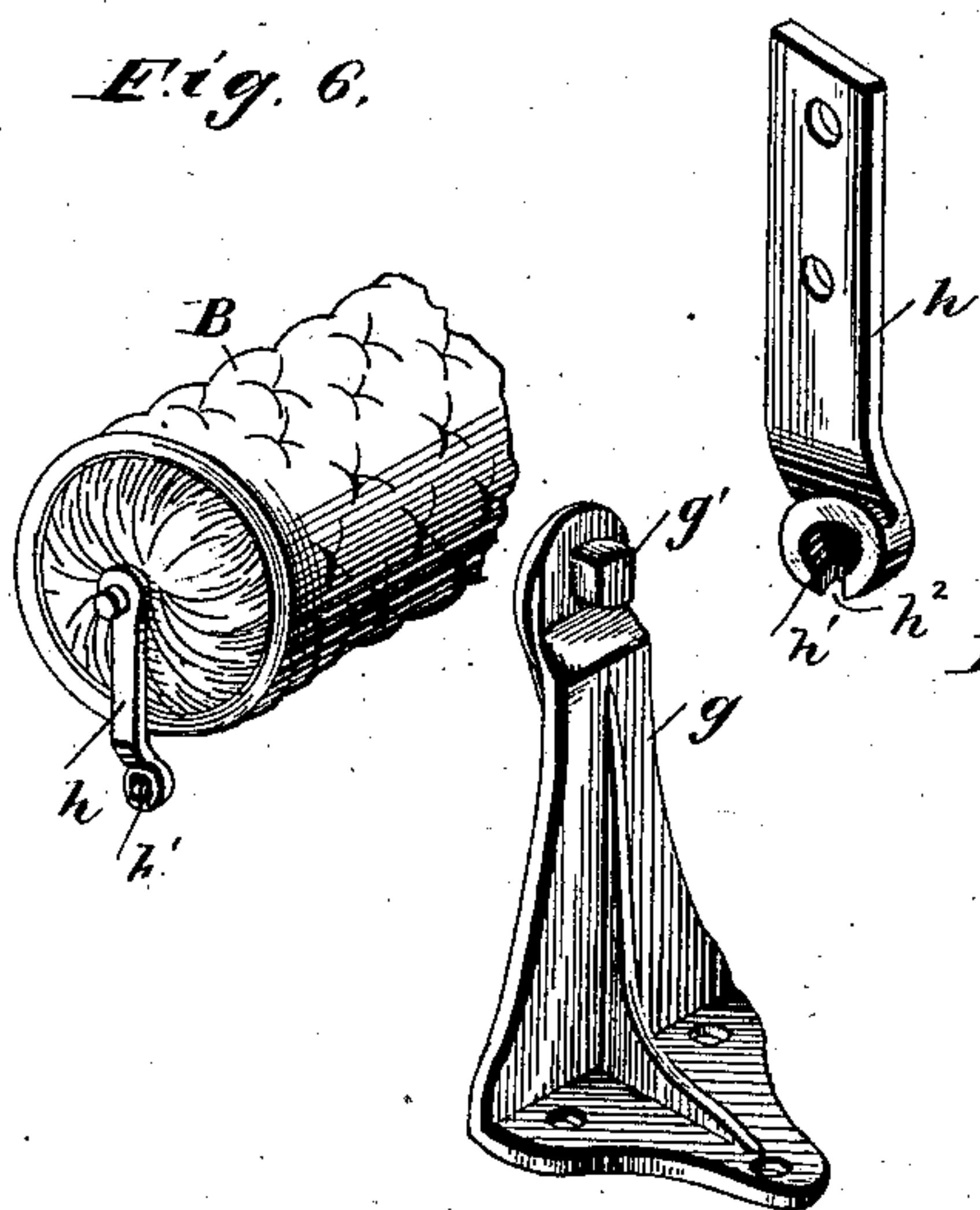
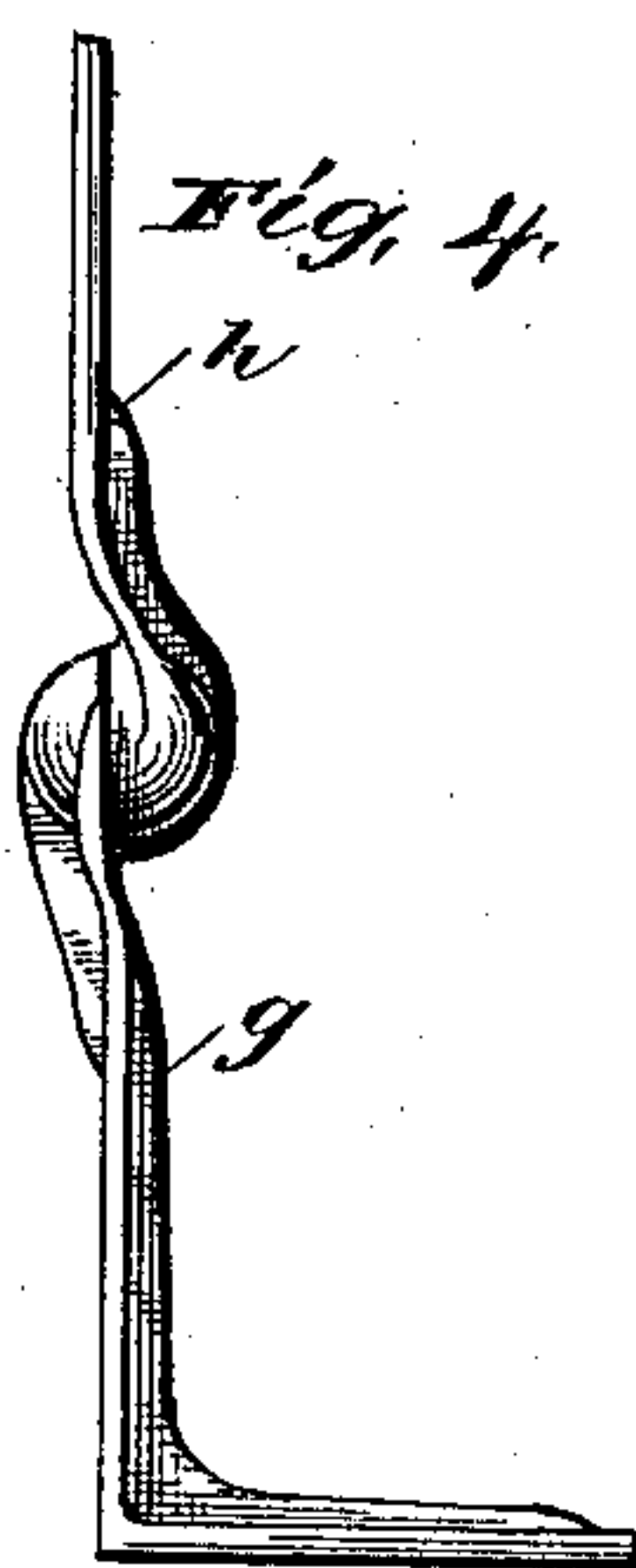


Fig. 4.



Witnesses  
Wm. M. Monroe.  
A. Lombas

Inventor:  
John Flinn  
by  
A. T. Fisher  
Attorney.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN FLINN, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO.

## COUCH-PILLOW.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 370,772, dated October 4, 1887.

Application filed October 22, 1886. Serial No. 216,981. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN FLINN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Couch-Pillows; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to improvements in couch-pillows; and it consists in a pillow of cylindrical shape, cushioned all around with springs, and in the mechanism by which it is pivotally and detachably connected to the couch, lounge, cot, or other similar article of furniture.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a couch in perspective, with my improved pillow in full lines, and its position when reversed in dotted lines. Fig. 2 is a vertical transverse section of the couch and pillow when the pillow is raised over its pivotal center and ready to swing in either direction. Fig. 3 is an isometric view of the skeleton or frame-work of the pillow, as seen when ready to be covered. Fig. 4 is an edge view, in elevation, of the standard and pivot-link by which the pillow is attached to the couch; and Fig. 5 is a view showing the construction of said parts in detail. Fig. 6 shows another method of attachment, in which the pillow is adapted to revolve on its axis.

A represents the couch, which may be made in any desired shape or fashion, provided it be adapted for the attachment of my improved style of pillow.

B is the pillow shown here as cylindrical in form, and consisting of disk-shaped heads  $b$ , axial rod  $c$ , rigidly secured to the disks, and helical springs  $d$ , arranged radially about the axial rod. The springs being constructed as shown and fixed upon the rod or bar  $c$  at their smaller or reduced ends, they can be so disposed in relation to each other as to furnish a uniform and unbroken bearing-surface around the rod from disk to disk and yet leave each spring or adjoining springs free to act without obstruction by those about them. The manner of setting the springs is immaterial; but the number employed should be such as will wholly occupy or cover the surface or

bearing space, and provide spring action and resistance wherever the pillow may be touched. The heads or disks  $b$  are rabbeted at  $b'$ , so as to extend the cushioned surfaces as near as possible to the ends of the pillow, and to form a seat for attaching the cover  $e$ , which incloses and compresses the springs.

$g$   $g$  are standards firmly bolted or screwed to the head of the couch, at either side, and provided with lugs or projections  $g'$  at their upper ends. These lugs project from the inner face of the standards, and have a curved top and bottom and flattened sides.

$h$   $h$  are links or straps firmly secured to the outside of the respective disks, and provided with sockets  $h'$ , having slots  $h^2$  opening to the end of the link. The lugs  $g'$  are adapted to rest in the sockets  $h'$  when the pillow is placed in position, and together they form the pivot-point on which the pillow is reversed from one position to the other. The slot  $h^2$  corresponds in width to the width of the lug  $g'$ , so that the pillow will be locked on the standards and cannot be released or removed except when it is raised to a vertical position and the slot coincides with the sides of the lugs.

In the other form of attachment shown in Fig. 6 the links  $h$   $h$  are pivotally connected with the pillow, and the axial rod  $c$  is free to turn thereon. This provides a pillow which revolves on its axis and brings all parts of its surface equally into exposure and wear. In this case the links necessarily are outside of the upholstering goods, but, if made ornamental, will not detract from appearances, while they add a novel and useful feature to the couch.

The advantages obtained in a couch of this character are, first, in the pillow itself, which, by reason of its equal spring-bearing from all sides toward its axial center, enables me to throw it into any desired position and to expose any part of it to use with the same satisfactory results; second, in its convenience in handling and removal for any purpose whatever; and, third and chiefly, in the fact that it forms a couch which, by the simple movement of the pillow from one position to another, practically lengthens the couch for use equal to the diameter of the pillow and carries the pillow down on the rear edge of the couch in suitable position for sleeping,

It should have been explained above that



the standards  $g$  are of such height and are so placed in relation to the end of the couch and the links  $h$  are of such length that when the pillow is reversed it will be carried over on top of the couch or lowered at its rear, according to the position it occupies, about as shown in Fig. 1. Then, when thrown up, as in Fig. 1, it serves as an arm-rest and the like, while in its lowered position it performs the office of a pillow for the head.

It will be understood that a pillow fashioned as above described is not necessarily limited in its use to what is known as a "couch," but may be adapted to lounges, cots, reclining-chairs, and beds, and similar articles of furniture where adjustable pillows or head-rests are employed.

I am aware that a sofa-bed has been patented in which arms are shown that may rest on the end of the frame in a raised position or be swung down in a lower position against the end of the frame; but in said structure the pillows have hinges along their bottom, attached to the frame, and require locks to hold them when raised; otherwise they would fall back. I employ standards at the side of my frame and have links of such length connecting the standards and pillow that in one position the pillow rests over the end of the couch and in the other upon the couch in front of the standards and removed from the extreme end of the couch. No lock is required, yet the pillow cannot possibly get into the reclining position without being placed there by hand. Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A pillow having a series of springs arranged around its longitudinal center in radial lines, and a support in said center against

which said springs bear, whereby the pressure against the pillow at any point is sustained and limited by the central support, substantially as set forth.

2. A cylindrical pillow provided with a series of spiral springs arranged radially about its longitudinal center, and a rigid support for said springs in said center, substantially as set forth.

3. A pillow having a bar or rod extending through the longitudinal center thereof, a series of helical springs having their smaller ends attached to said rod and arranged radially thereon, and webbing or covering over said springs, substantially as set forth.

4. In a pillow, a pair of disk-shaped heads, a central rod connecting said heads, a series of helical springs bearing upon the rod and extending radially around the same, and webbing surrounding the springs and attached to the heads, substantially as set forth.

5. In a couch or like article, a frame having standards at its side near its end, in combination with a pillow having links connected with its ends, and constructed to engage and pivot upon the standards, whereby the pillow may be thrown forward upon the couch or over its end into a lower plane, substantially as set forth.

6. In a couch or a like article of furniture, a frame having standards, in combination with a pillow provided with bearings at its own axis, and arranged to be thrown into different positions in relation to the end of the couch, substantially as set forth.

JOHN FLINN.

Witnesses:

H. T. FISHER,  
WM. M. MONROE.