

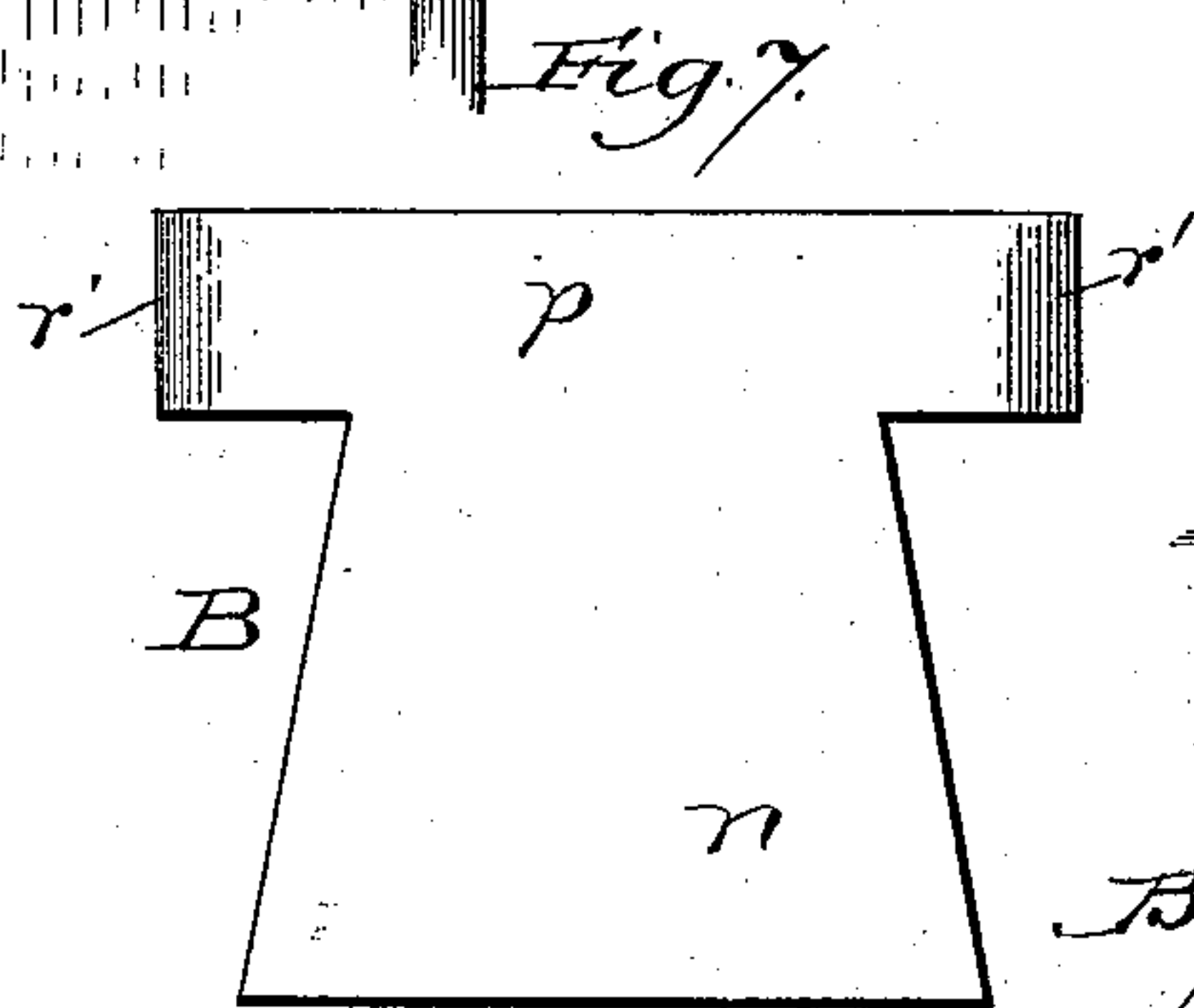
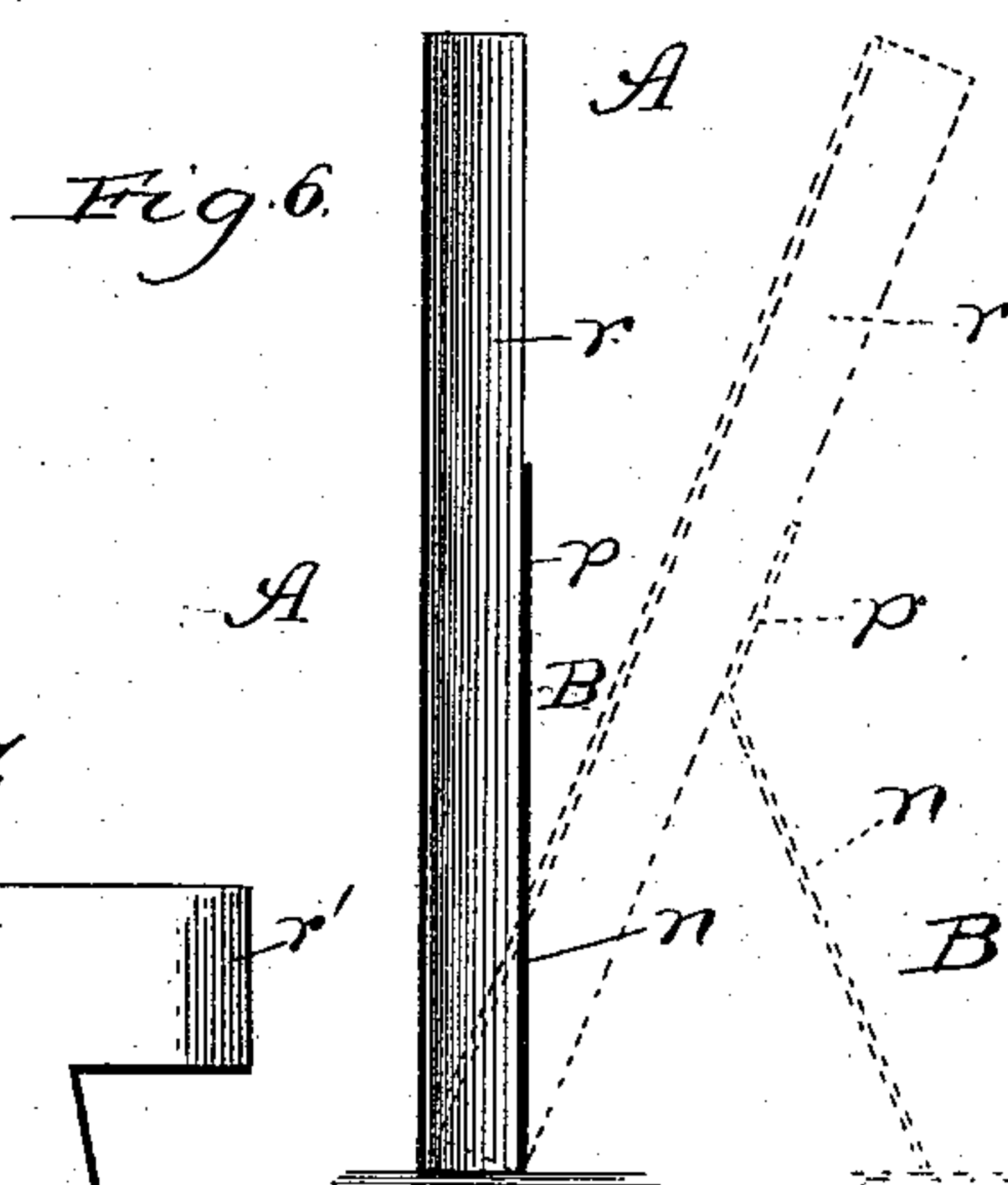
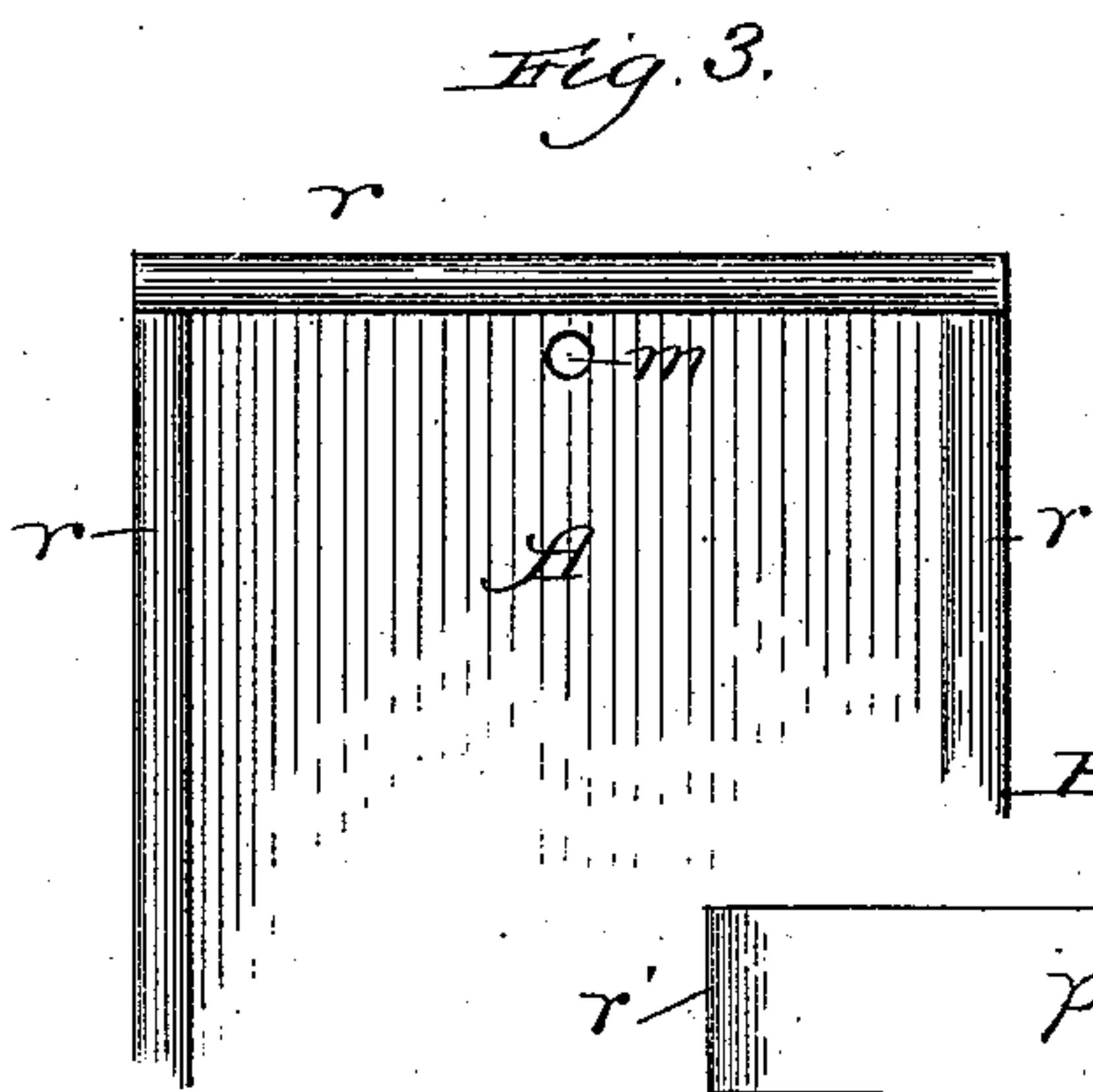
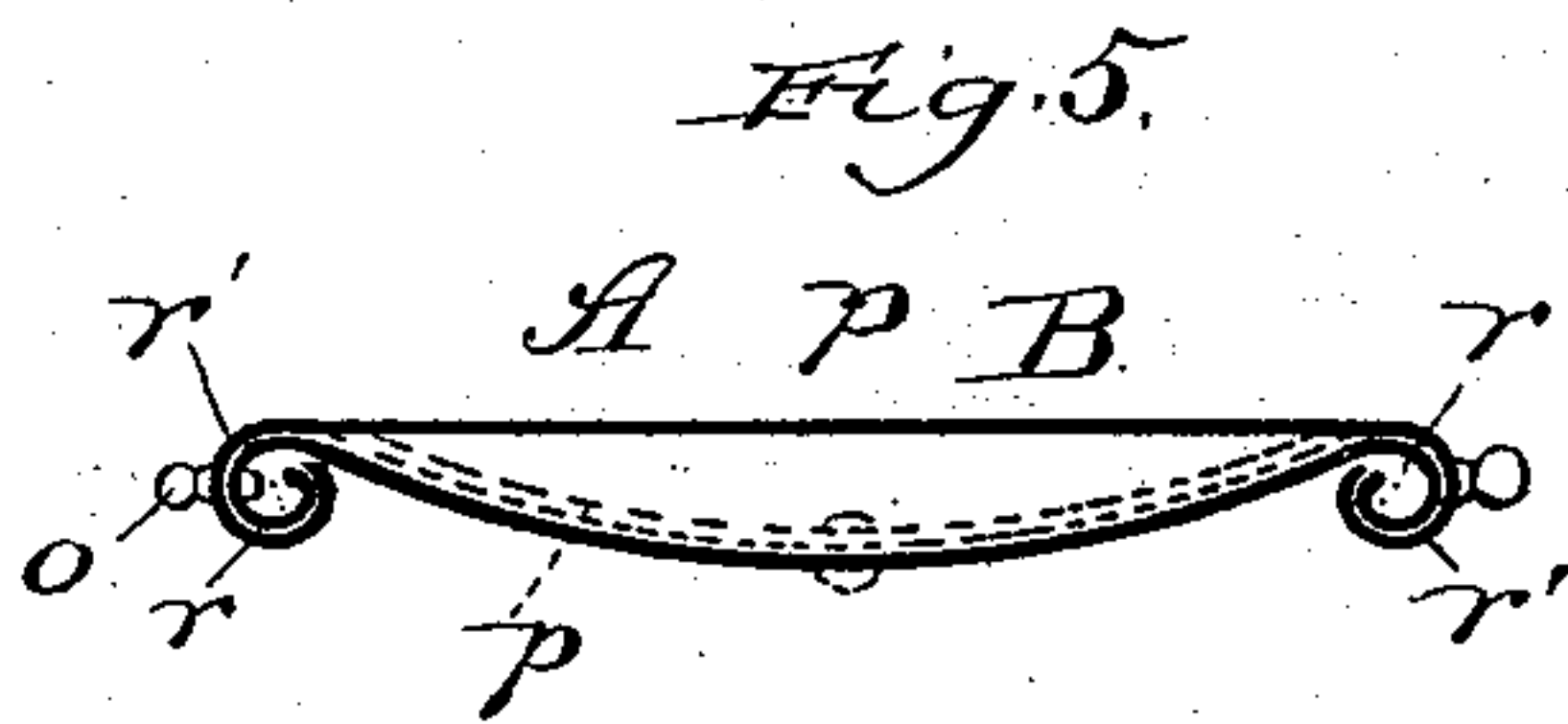
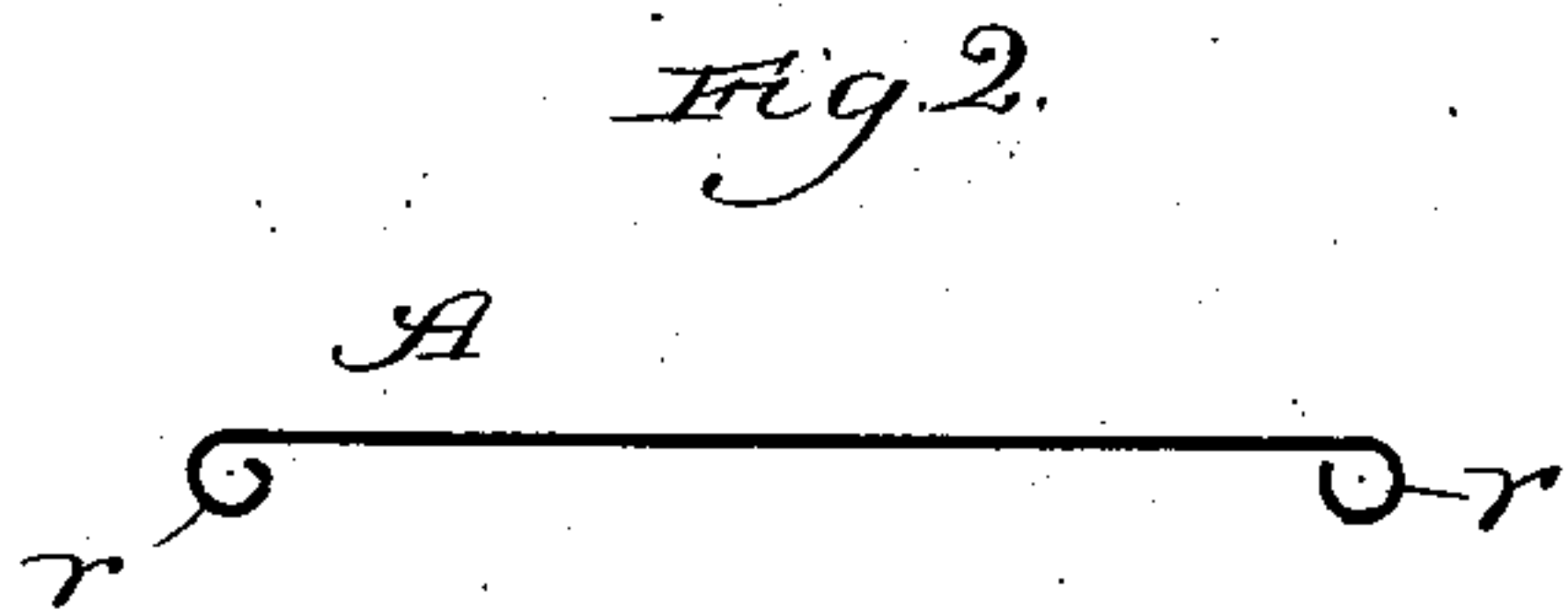
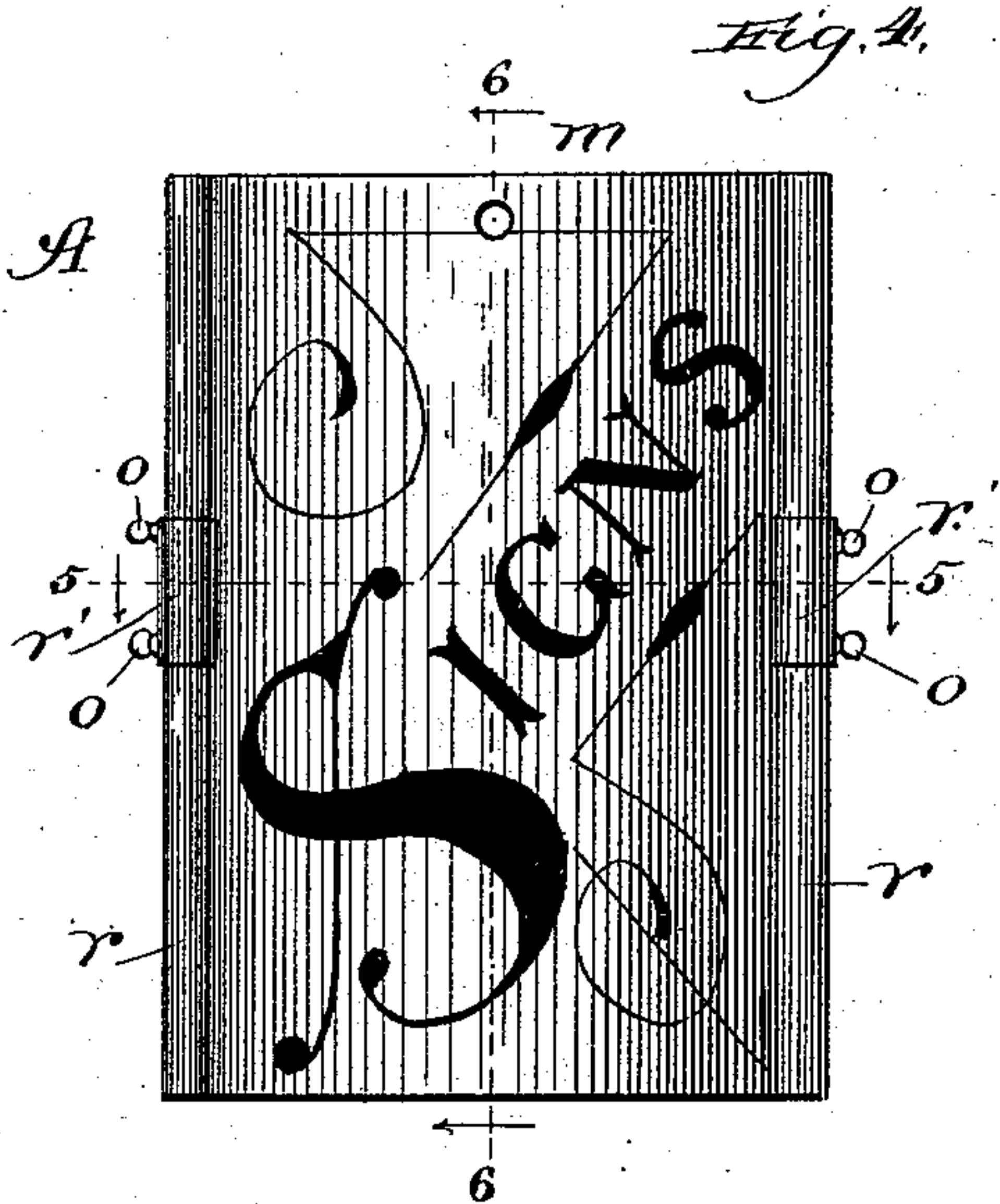
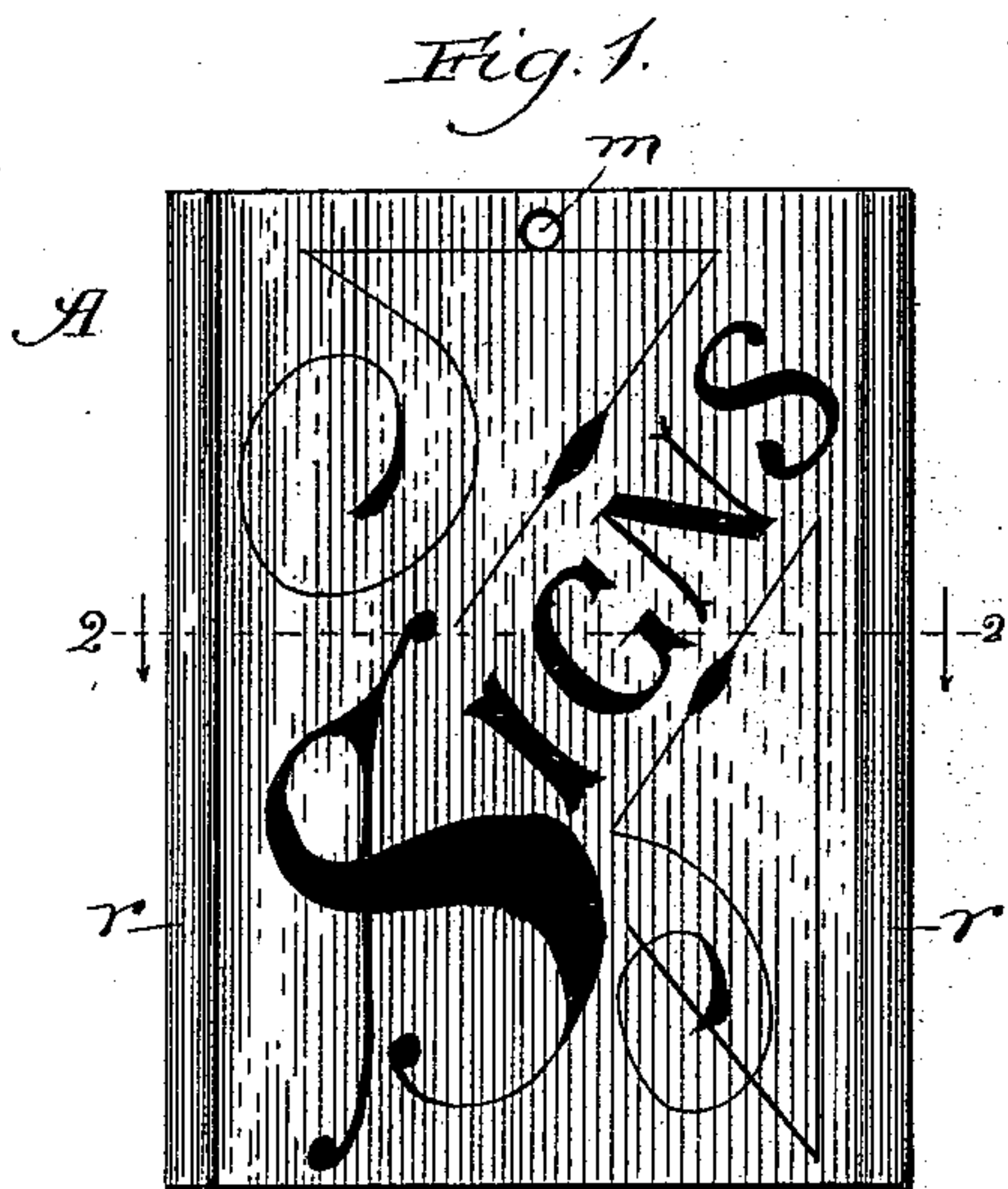
(Model.)

C. W. SHONK.

SIGN.

No. 376,919.

Patented Jan. 24, 1888.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES W. SHONK, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

SIGN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 376,919, dated January 24, 1888.

Application filed October 28, 1887. Serial No. 253,627. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES W. SHONK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Signs, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates particularly to an improvement in the class of portable signs formed of sheet metal; and my object is to provide a desirable novelty in signs for the trade involving a peculiar construction adapting it to its purpose.

To this end my invention consists in the general construction of my improved device; and it still further consists in details of construction and combinations of parts.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation of the sign before it is bent to a concavo-convex form in accordance with my improvement; Fig. 2, a section taken on the line 2 2 of Fig. 1 and viewed in the direction of the arrows; Fig. 3, a broken front elevation of the same, showing a modification; Fig. 4, a front elevation showing the concavo-convex form of the sign produced by the permanently-attached rear brace; Fig. 5, a section taken on the line 5 5 of Fig. 4, viewed in the direction of the arrows, and illustrating by dotted lines a modification; Fig. 6, a section taken on the line 6 6 of Fig. 4, viewed in the direction of the arrows, showing the sign as vertical by the full lines, with the sheet-metal brace in its original position for shipment of the article, and showing by dotted lines the position of the sign when supported by the leg bent to form the support; and Fig. 7, a view in elevation of the form of sheet-metal brace I prefer to employ.

A is a sign formed of a thin metal sheet, which may be suitably ornamented by japanning and scroll-work or the like, and preferably of dimensions to render the sign readily portable, (in fact, my improved device is intended, principally, as a small article to rest upon a table, counter, or show-window floor, or to be suspended in a show-window,) and having its lateral edges rolled forward, as shown—that is, toward the face of the sign—or backward, if preferred. The rolling of the edges produces hollow cylindrical strengthening-beads r , which ornament the device, be-

sides protecting its edges against disfigurement by bending, to which, owing to the ordinarily extreme thinness of the metal, it is highly susceptible even with careful handling.

If desired, the upper and lower edges of the metal sheet may also be rolled, as shown of the upper edge in Fig. 3, to produce hollow cylindrical beaded edges r' , and other forms of beads for strengthening and ornamenting the edges of the sheet may be provided without departing from the spirit of my invention.

B is the brace, of flexible sheet metal, but stiffer than that forming the sign proper, particularly if the latter shall be of the very thin variety referred to, and comprising the cross-piece p , having its opposite edges rolled like the lateral edges of the sign to produce the hollow cylindrical beads r' , and adapted to fit over the latter, as shown, if the edges of the sign are rolled forward, which is the preferred construction, or inside, if rolled backward. The cross-piece p is preferably shorter than the width of the sign, so that to apply the beads r' to the beads r , which is accomplished by sliding them upon the latter from an end of the sign, it will be necessary to produce the desired coincidence of the parts r and r' to bend the sign longitudinally into a concavo-convex form, in which it is maintained by the cross-piece p when adjusted, and which is permanently secured in position by means of rivets o , passed through the beads r' and r and secured, and of an ornamental kind, if desired, or by any other convenient means that will serve to secure the cross-piece in position against removal. If the cross-piece shall be of the same or substantially the same width as the sign proper, the latter may be maintained in its curved or concavo-convex condition by first adjusting the cross-piece and then bending or curving it toward the back of the sign, to which it may be permanently secured at or near its center, all as indicated by the dotted lines in Fig. 5, by riveting, or in any other suitable manner. As the material of the cross-piece is stiffer than that comprising the sign, the former will obviously maintain the latter in its longitudinally-bowed condition. A leg, n , extends from the lower edge of the cross-piece p , with which it is integral, and which, consequently, is composed of sheet metal, and it is preferably of a form flaring

toward its extremity to extend toward its lower edge transversely across the rear side of the sign nearly to the opposite edges of the latter, whereby, when in the original or normally-straight condition illustrated by the full lines in Fig. 6, it forms, with the cross-piece *p*, a flat back for the sign, extending from the lower edge of the latter a considerable distance toward the upper edge thereof, whereby the signs may be packed for shipment in pairs back to back and present opposing broad surfaces of contact. The flaring form of the leg *n* is not, however, for the obvious reason that the flat back would be afforded by any other suitable form, vitally important. While the brace *B*, thus also forming a back, is in its original or a straight condition, the sign may be supported by suspending it with a cord or the like passed through the orifice *m*, near the top; and if the device is intended for use only as a hanging sign the leg-portion of the brace need not be provided. To support the sign in the desired inclined position on a flat base—table, counter, or the like—the leg *n* is bent back to the desired angle of inclination from its line of junction with the cross-piece *p*, as shown by the dotted lines in Fig. 6.

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

1. A sign comprising, in combination, a sheet of metal provided with beaded edges and having the character-matter permanently and directly upon its surface and bent to a concavo-convex form, and a brace permanently secured to the metal sheet to extend transversely of the bend therein across its rear side and operating to maintain the concavo-convex form, substantially as described.

2. A sign formed of sheet metal having beaded edges and bent to a concavo-convex form and provided with a rear brace, *B*, comprising a cross-piece, *p*, permanently secured to the sign and operating to maintain the concavo-convex form thereof, and a leg, *n*, the leg and cross-piece affording also a flat back, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

3. A sign formed of sheet metal bent to a concavo-convex form, having its lateral edges rolled into the form of hollow cylinders, affording ornamental strengthening-beads *r*, and provided with a rear brace, *B*, comprising a cross-piece, *p*, shorter than the width of the sign, having its lateral edges rolled into the form of hollow cylinders *r'*, to fit the rolled lateral edges of the sign, and permanently secured to the said sign, and a flaring leg, *n*, the said leg and cross-piece affording also a flat back, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

4. A sign formed of sheet metal bent to a concavo-convex form, having its lateral edges rolled toward the face of the sign into the form of hollow cylinders, affording ornamental strengthening-beads *r*, and provided with a rear brace, *B*, comprising a cross-piece, *p*, shorter than the width of the sign, having its lateral edges rolled into the form of hollow cylinders *r'*, to fit over the rolled lateral edges of the sign, and permanently secured at the parts *r'* to the lateral beads *r*, and a flaring leg, *n*, the said leg and cross-piece affording also a flat back, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

CHARLES W. SHONK.

In presence of—

J. W. DYRENFORTH,
CHAS. E. GAYLORD.