

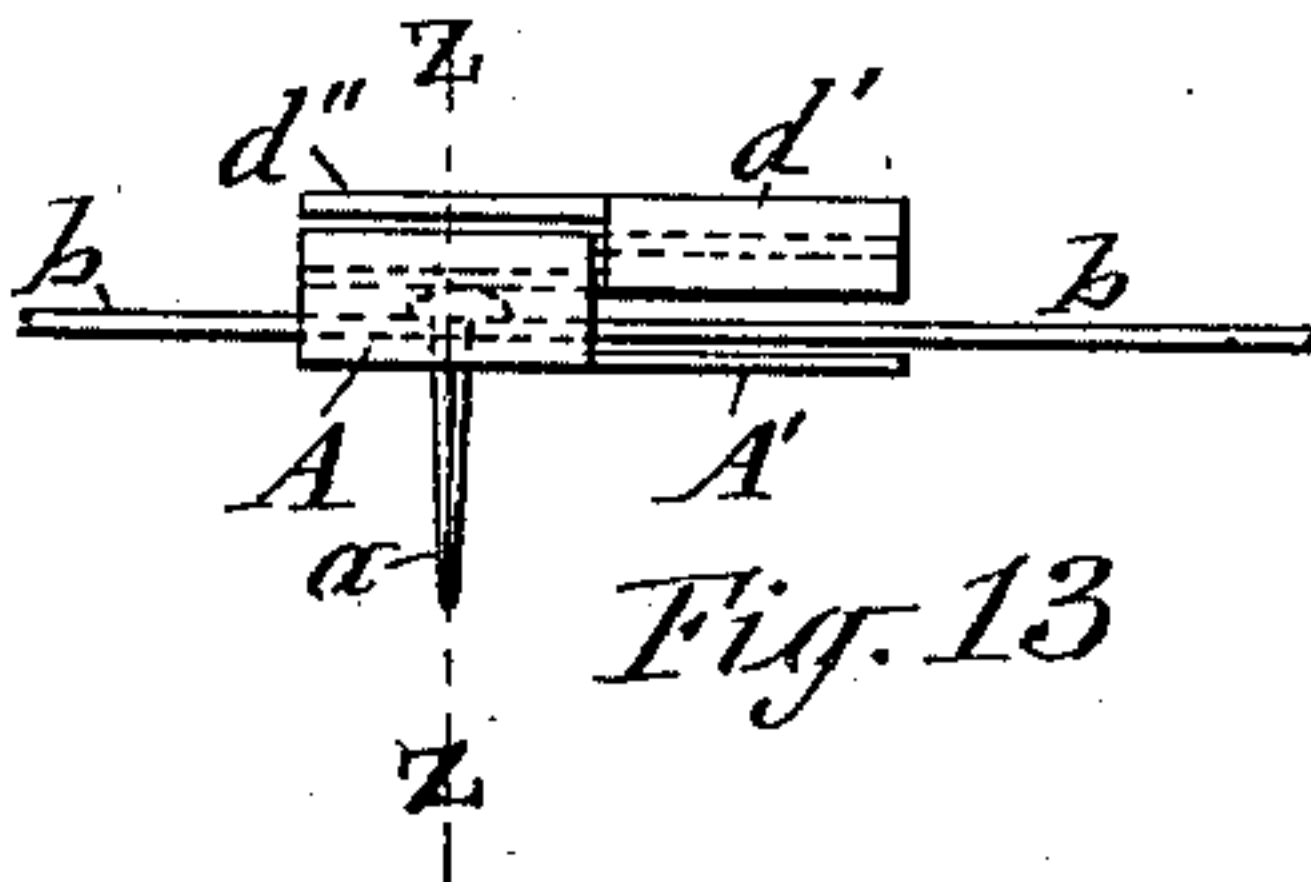
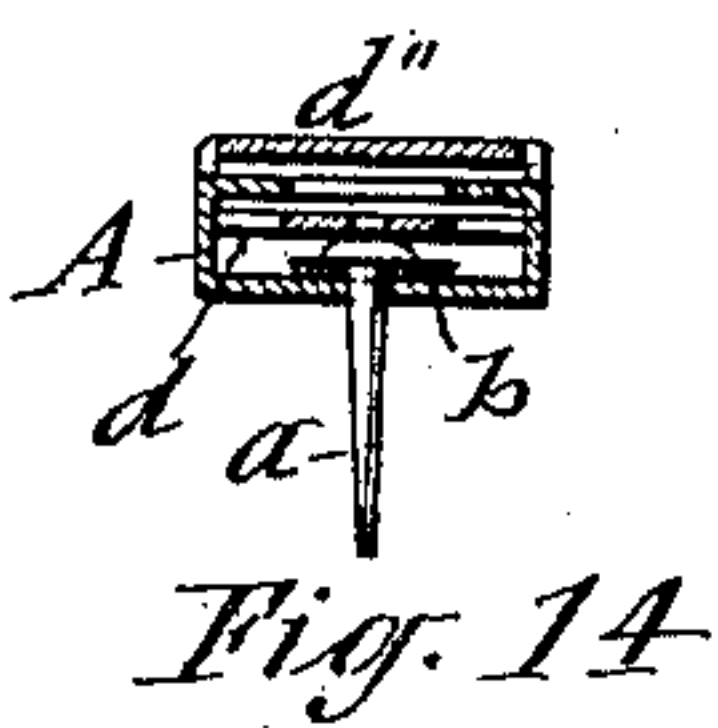
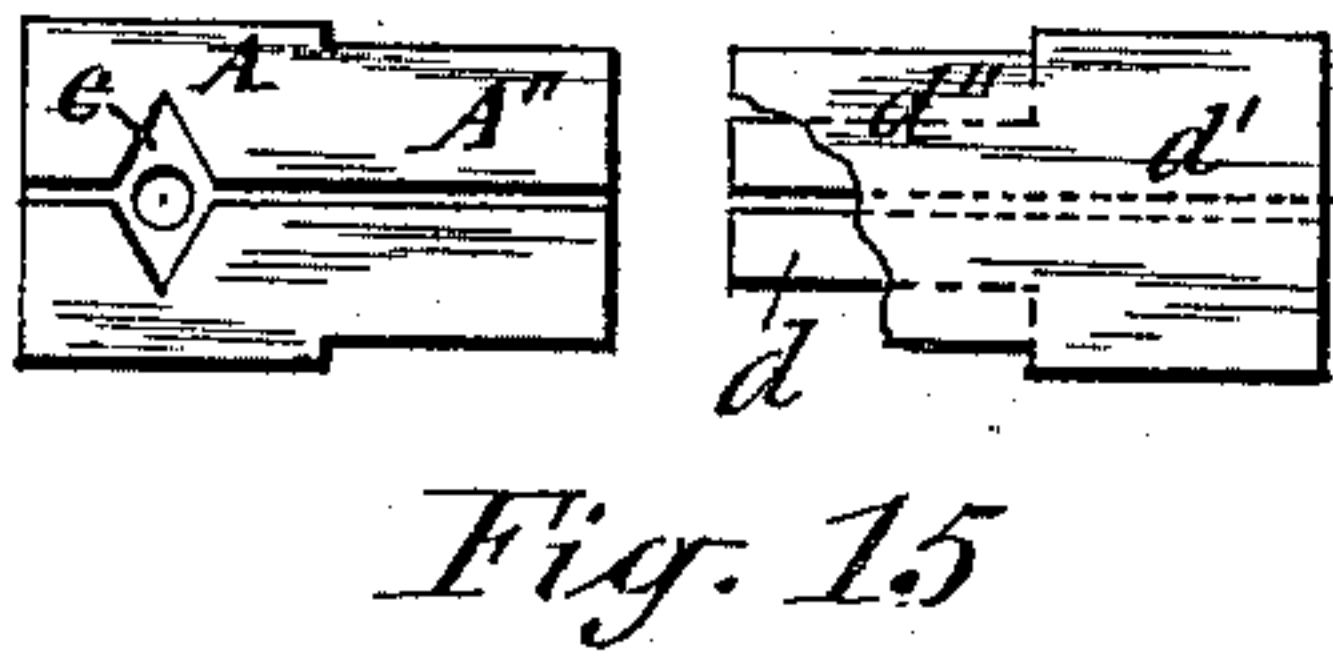
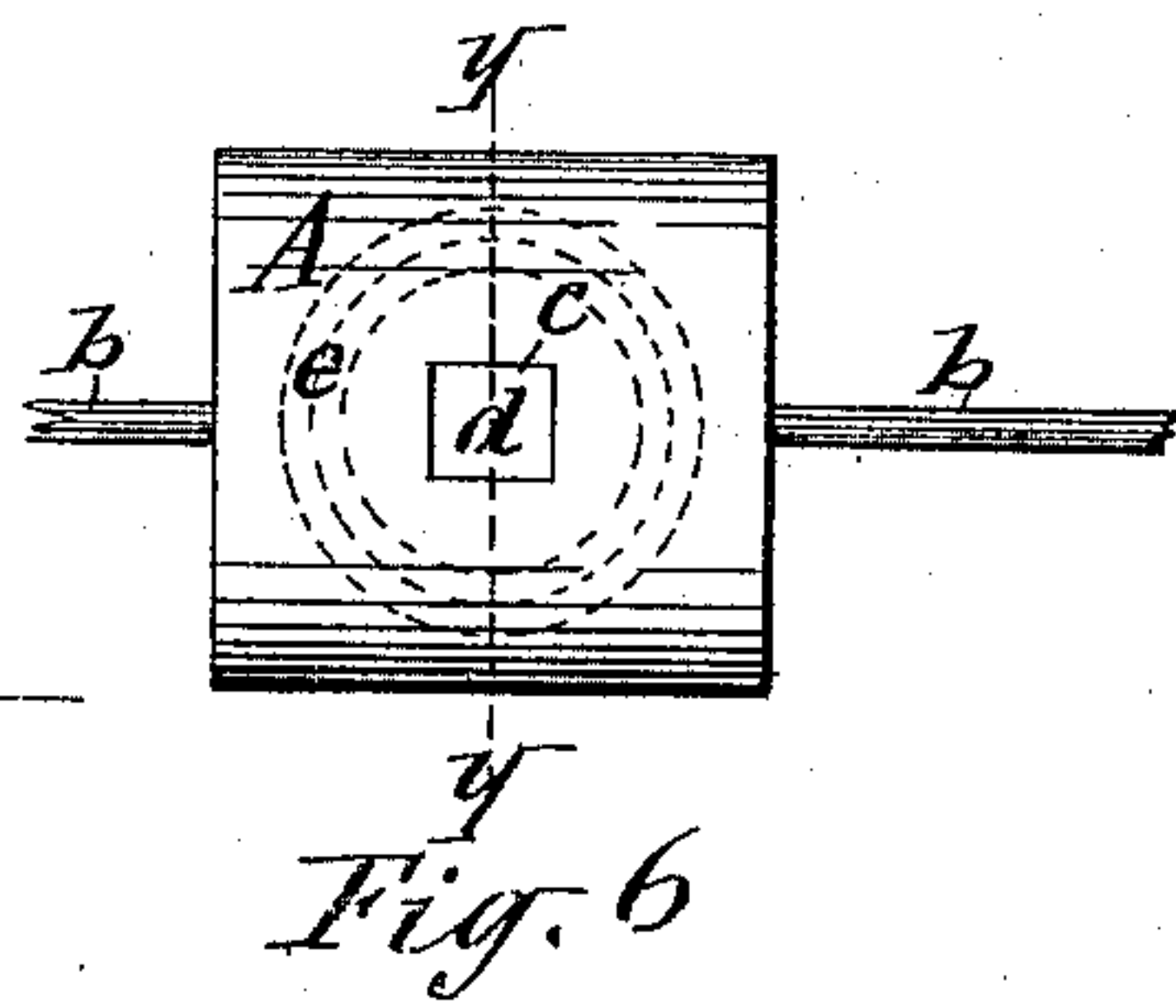
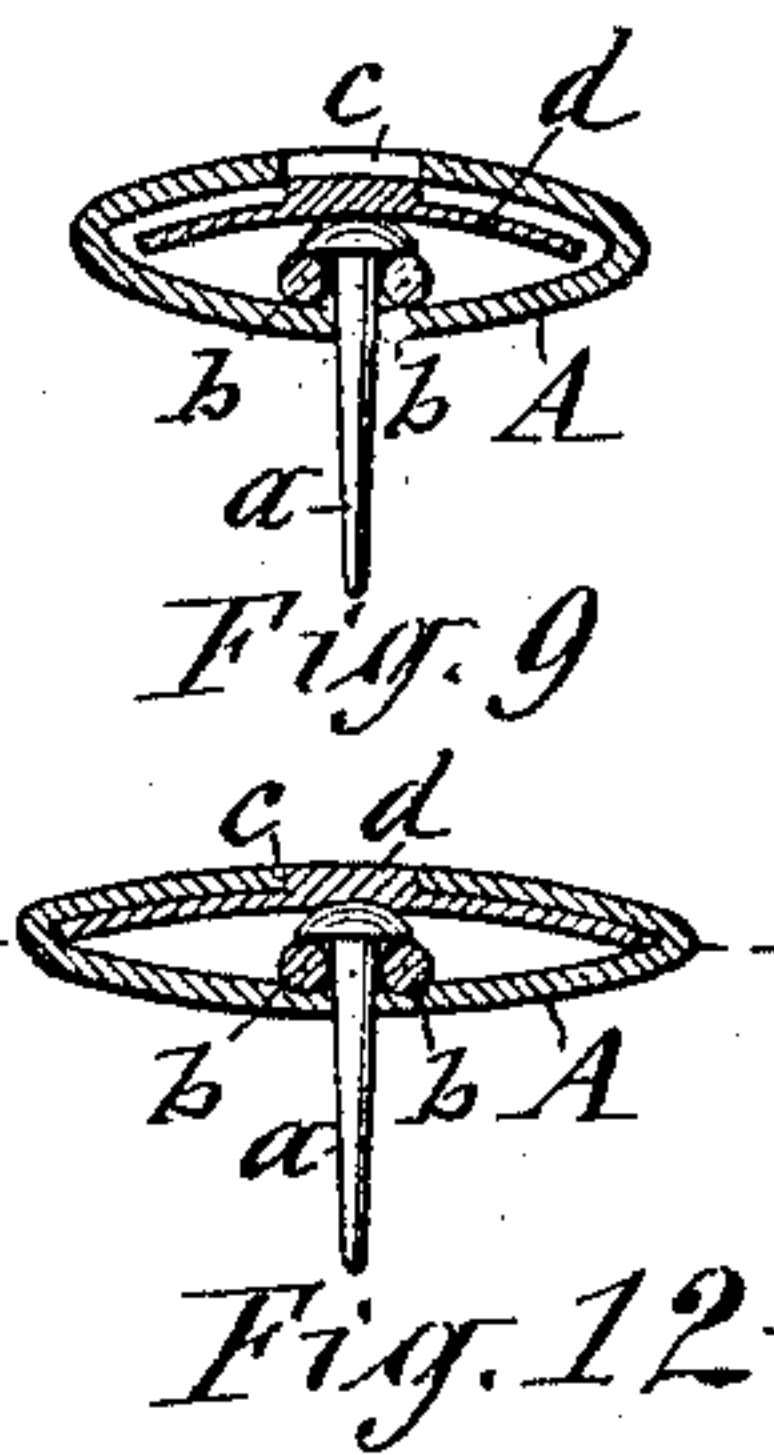
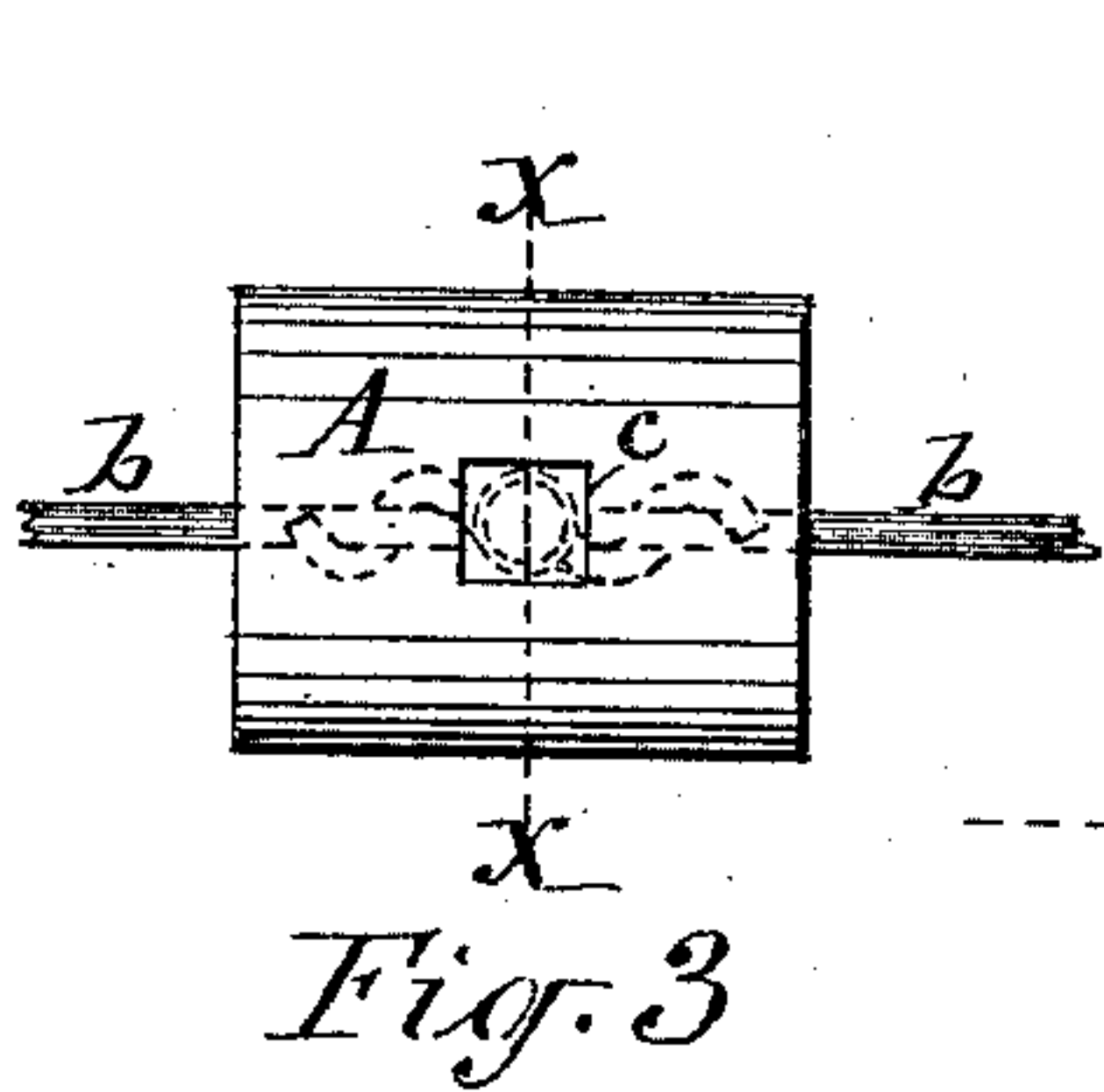
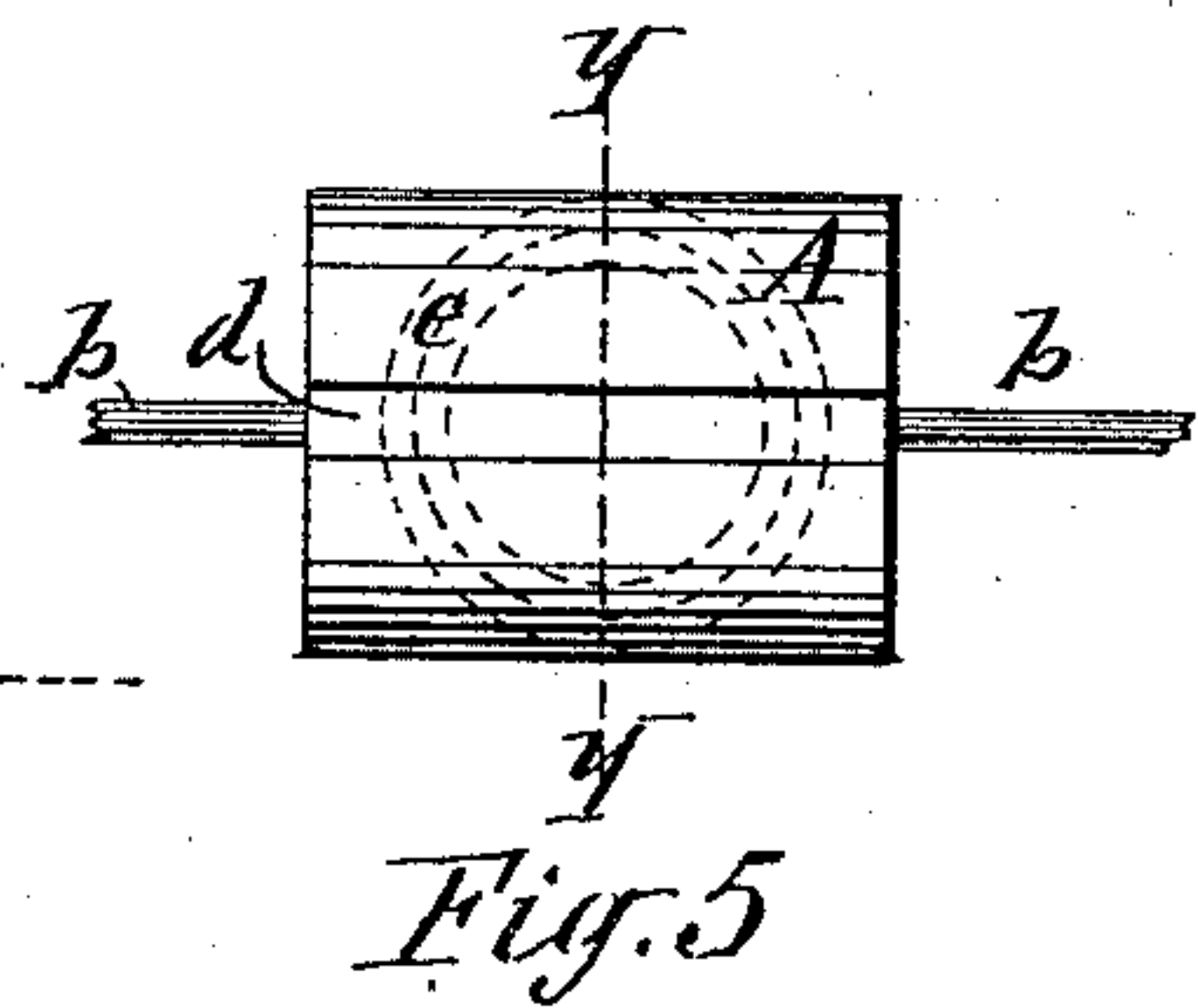
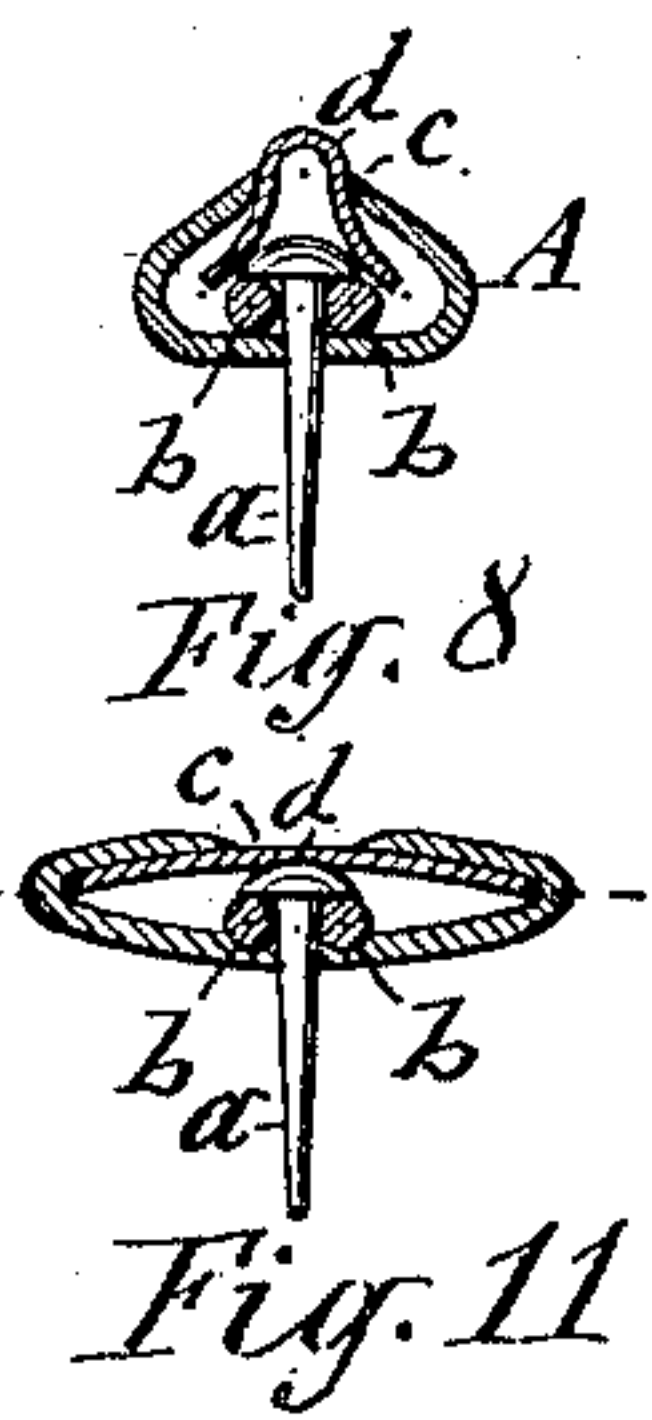
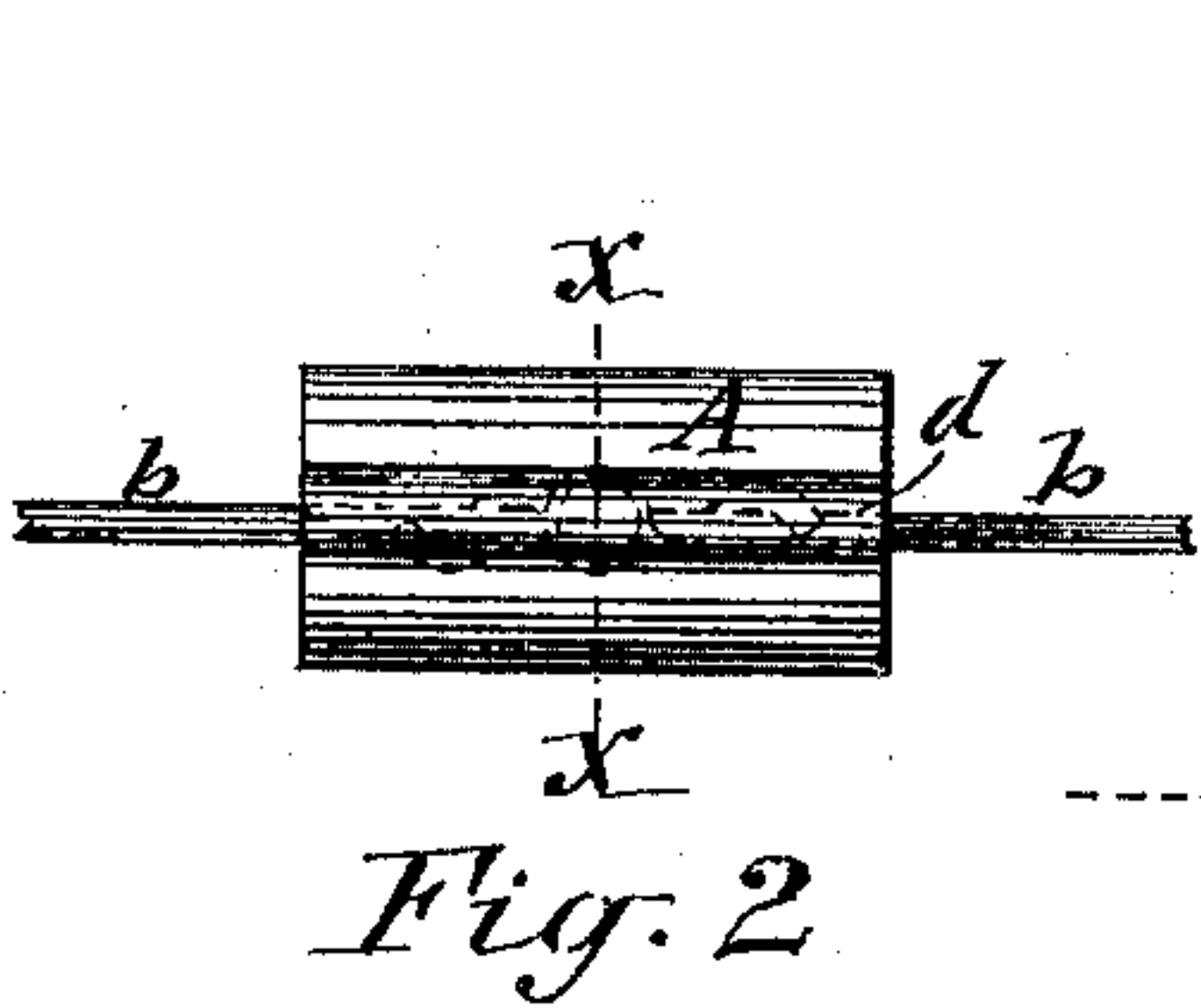
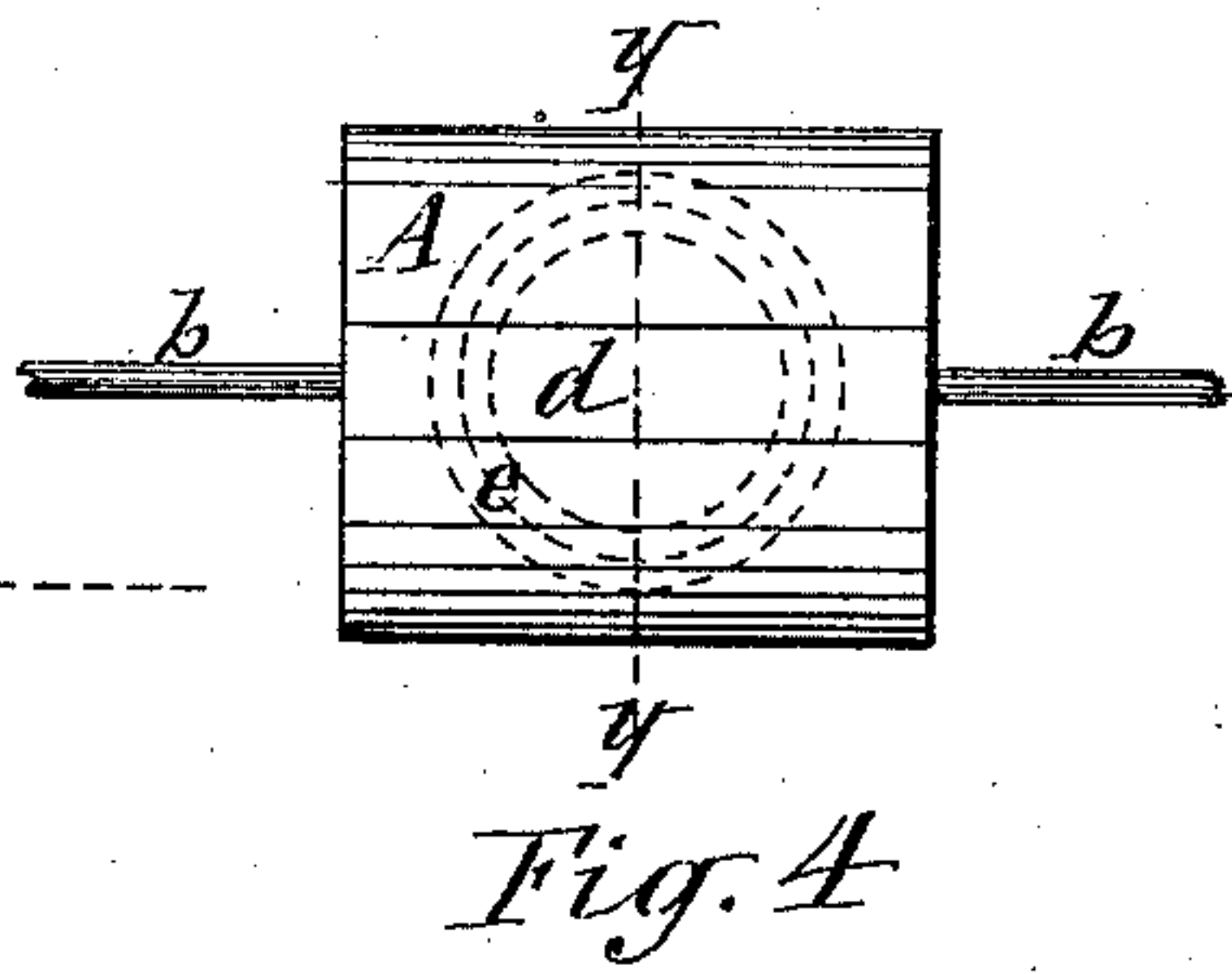
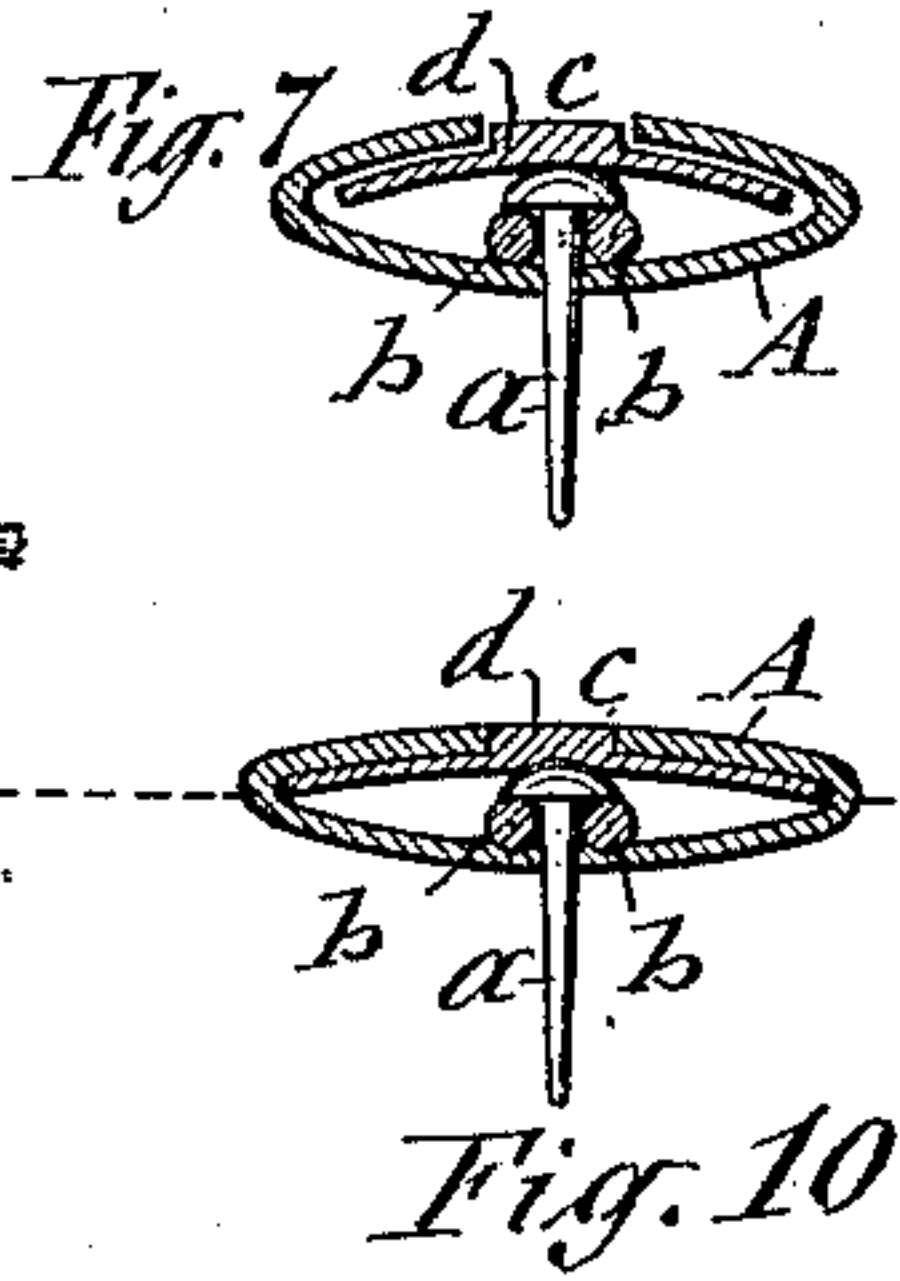
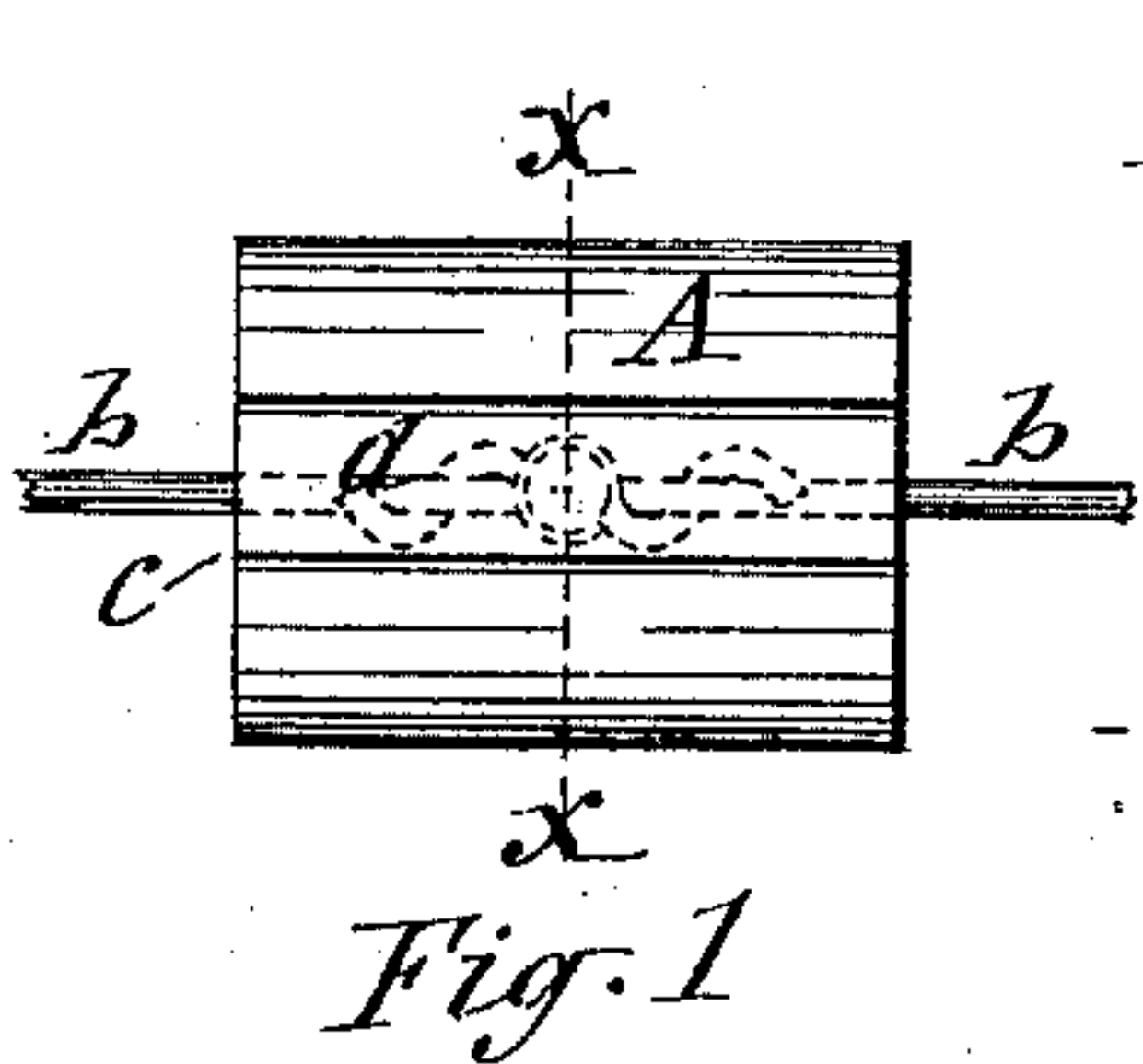
(No Model.)

A. J. PHELPS.

METALLIC SEAL.

No. 397,384.

Patented Feb. 5, 1889.



WITNESSES:

C. L. Bendison
J. J. Laass

INVENTOR,

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BY

Hull, Laass & Hull

ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANDREW J. PHELPS, OF SYRACUSE, NEW YORK.

METALLIC SEAL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 397,384, dated February 5, 1889.

Application filed June 11, 1888. Serial No. 276,714. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANDREW J. PHELPS, of Syracuse, in the county of Onondaga, in the State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Metallic Seals, of which the following, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to the class of seals which are employed for protecting the tied ends of a wire or metallic hoop or analogous binder encompassing a box or package.

My present invention is a specific improvement over the seals shown in my prior patents, No. 358,880, of March 8, 1887, and No. 368,780, of August 23, 1887, and is designed to afford greater security against malicious tampering with the box or package to which the seal is applied; and it consists, essentially, of a soft-metal case having opposite open ends and an aperture in its top, the binder passing through the case at the open ends thereof, and a separate soft-metal plate inserted into the case endwise thereof and over the binder, and forming with the top of the case two thicknesses of soft metal over the said binder, as herein-after more fully described, and specifically set forth in the claim.

In the annexed drawings, Figures 1, 2, and 3 are top plan views of seals embodying my improvements and showing the seals in their condition before the impression of the stamp is applied thereto. Figs. 4, 5, and 6 are top plan views of the same seals, showing them in their condition after the stamp has been impressed thereon. Figs. 7, 8, and 9 are transverse sections on lines *x x* in Figs. 1, 2, and 3. Figs. 10, 11, and 12 are transverse sections on lines *y y* in Figs. 4, 5, and 6. Fig. 13 is a side view of a modification of my improved seal. Fig. 14 is a transverse section on line *z z* in Fig. 13, and Fig. 15 is a detached plan view of the component parts of said modification.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A represents the soft-metal case, which may be of any suitable form, having diametrically-opposite open ends and adapted to receive inside of it the ends of the binder *b*, which may be either wire or hoop-iron encompassing the box or package. The bottom portion of said

case is provided with an aperture through which to drive into the box either a nail, *a*, or screw or staple or other suitable fastener to which to tie or otherwise secure the ends of the binder. The top portion of the case is provided in its center with an aperture, *c*, to permit the aforesaid fastener to be inserted and driven into the box, as aforesaid.

d is a separate soft-metal plate, which is adapted to slide endwise into the case over the fastener *a* and binder *b*, attached thereto, and when introduced said plate extends across the interior of the case and closes the top aperture, *c*.

For simplicity of construction, I prefer to form the aforesaid case of a soft-metal tube, having either a longitudinal slot extending through its top portion, as shown in Figs. 1, 2, 4, and 5 of the drawings, or a perforation in the center of the top portion, as represented in Figs. 3 and 6 of the drawings, said slot or perforation constituting the aperture *c*, hereinbefore referred to. In either of the described constructions the plate *d* lies with its main portion completely under the top portion of the case and closes the aperture and covers the fastener and binder connected thereto, and when the stamp is impressed on the seal two thicknesses of soft metal lie over at least a portion of the binder, and the edges of the aperture *c* of the case *A* become so impressed and united with the underlying plate *d* as to render it nearly impossible to separate said parts and reunite them without defacing or destroying the impression of the stamp, (represented by dotted circles *e*,) which latter is designed to bear the name of the shipper or the consignor of the box or package.

In the form of the seal represented in Figs. 13, 14, and 15 of the drawings the case *A* has its bottom and top portions formed with longitudinal extensions *A'* and *A''* at one end, and in connection therewith I employ a similar case, *d'*, having its bottom and top portions formed at one end with extensions *d* and *d''*. This latter case is placed inversely in relation to the case *A*, and the extension *d* is inserted into the latter case and over the fastener and binder connected thereto, while the other extension, *d''*, slides over the top of the case *A* and closes the central aperture thereof.

Having described my invention, what I claim

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

5 The improved seal consisting of a soft-metal
case having opposite open ends and an aper-
ture in its top, the binder passing through
the case at the open ends thereof, and a sepa-
rate soft-metal plate inserted into the case
over the binder and forming with the top of
the case two thicknesses of metal over the
10 binder, substantially as described and shown.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed
my name, in the presence of two witnesses, at
Syracuse, in the county of Onondaga, in the
State of New York, this 9th day of June, 1888.

ANDREW J. PHELPS. [L. s.]

Witnesses:

C. L. BENDIXON,
MARK W. DEWEY.