

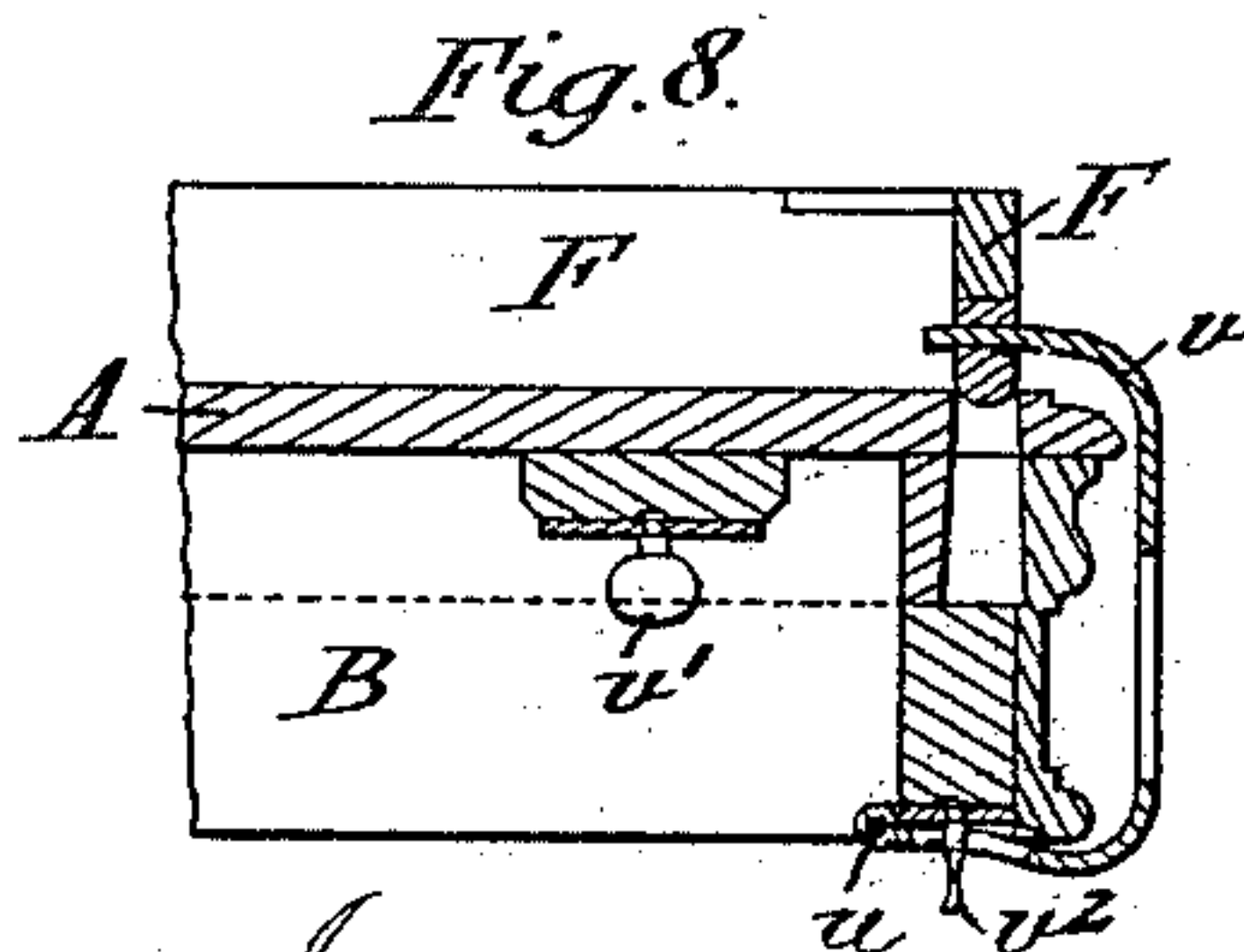
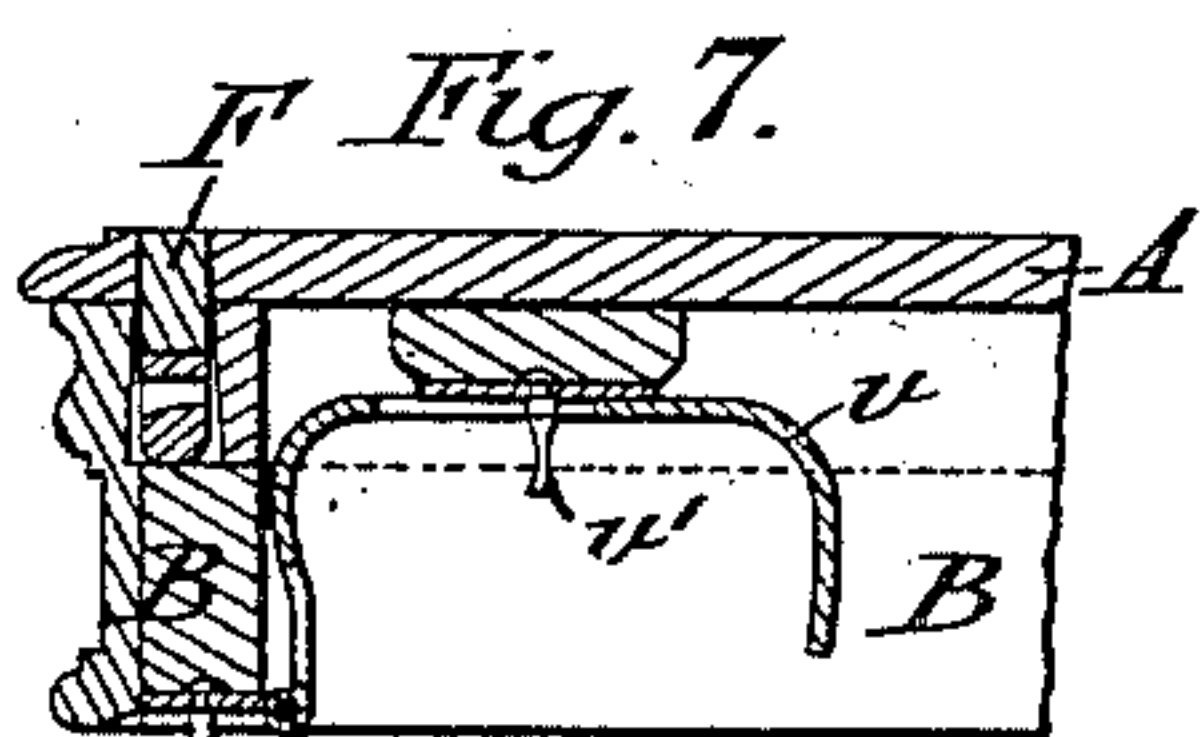
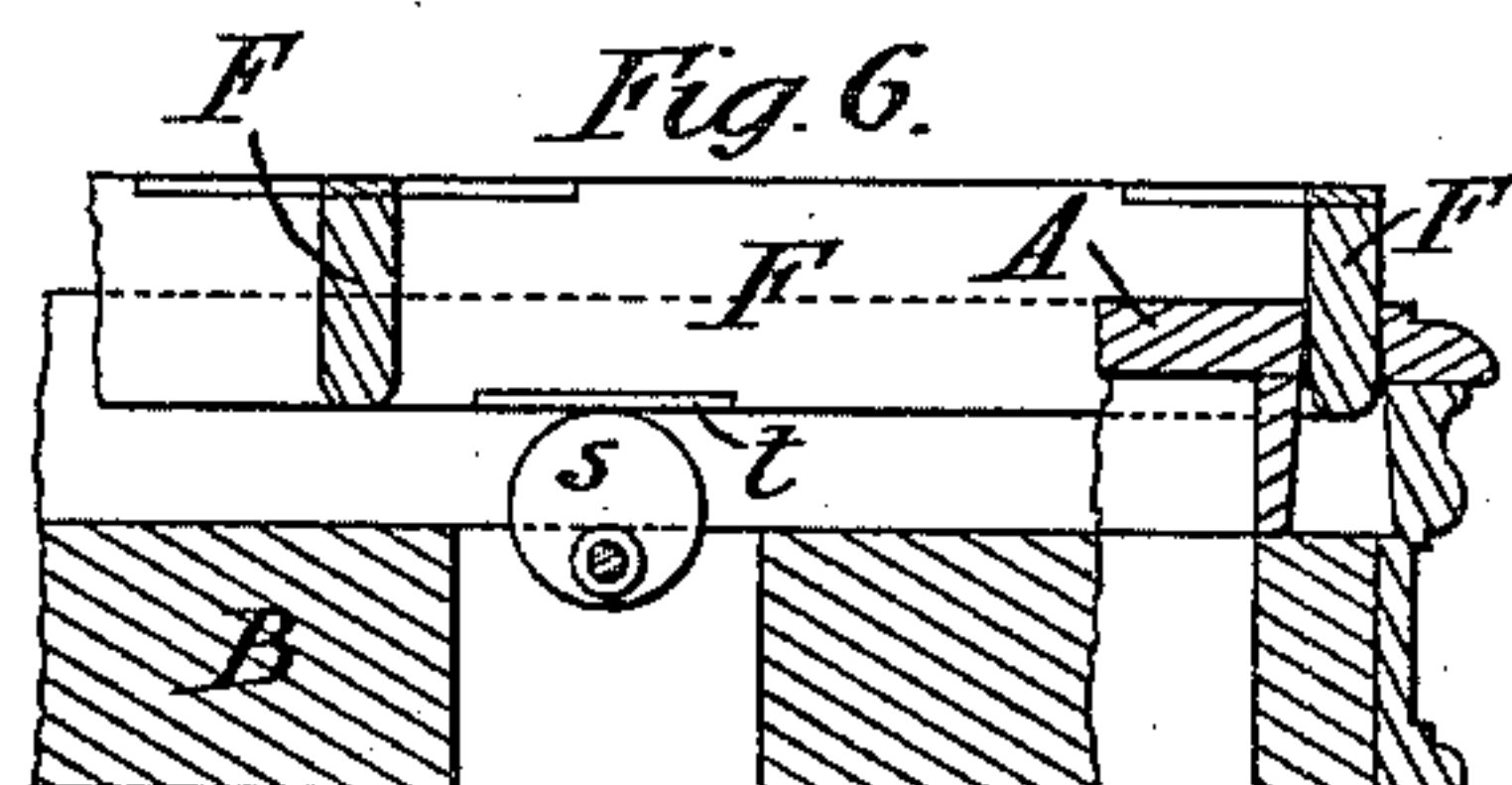
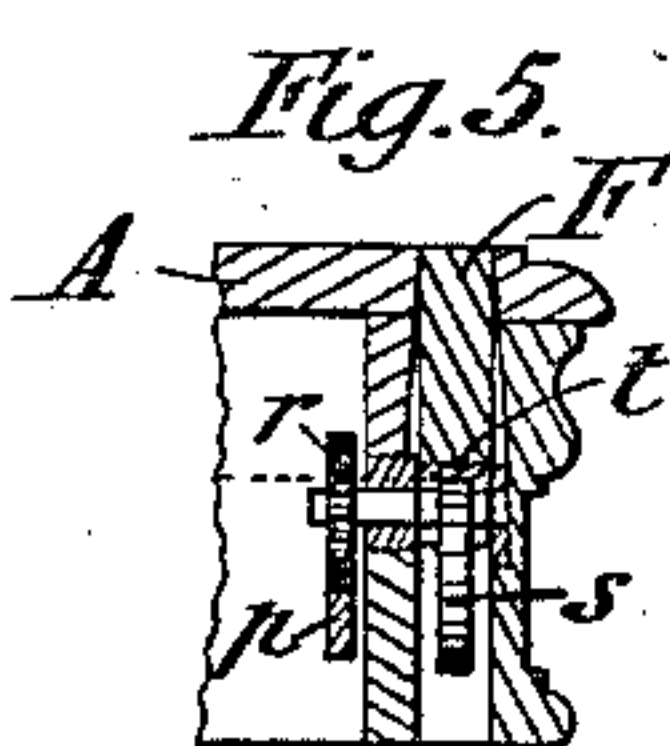
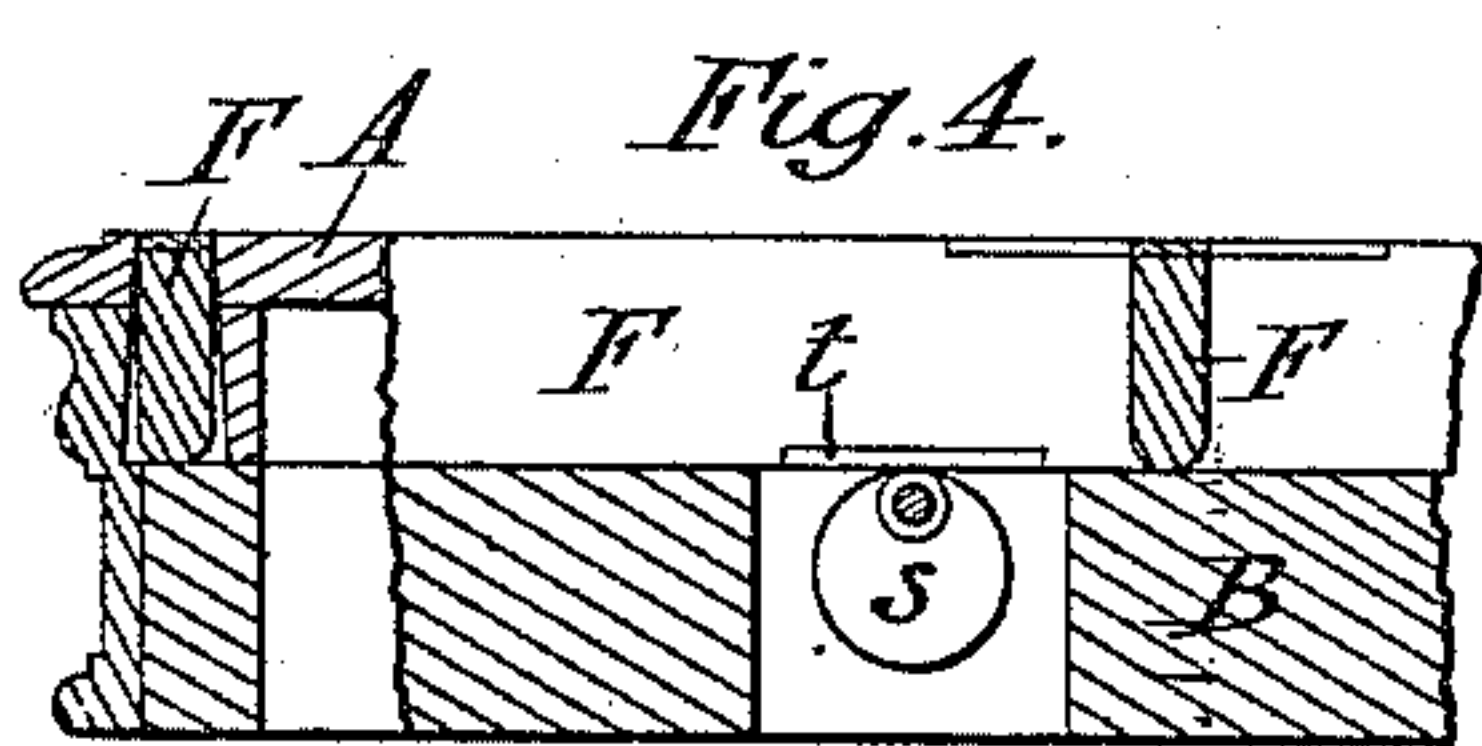
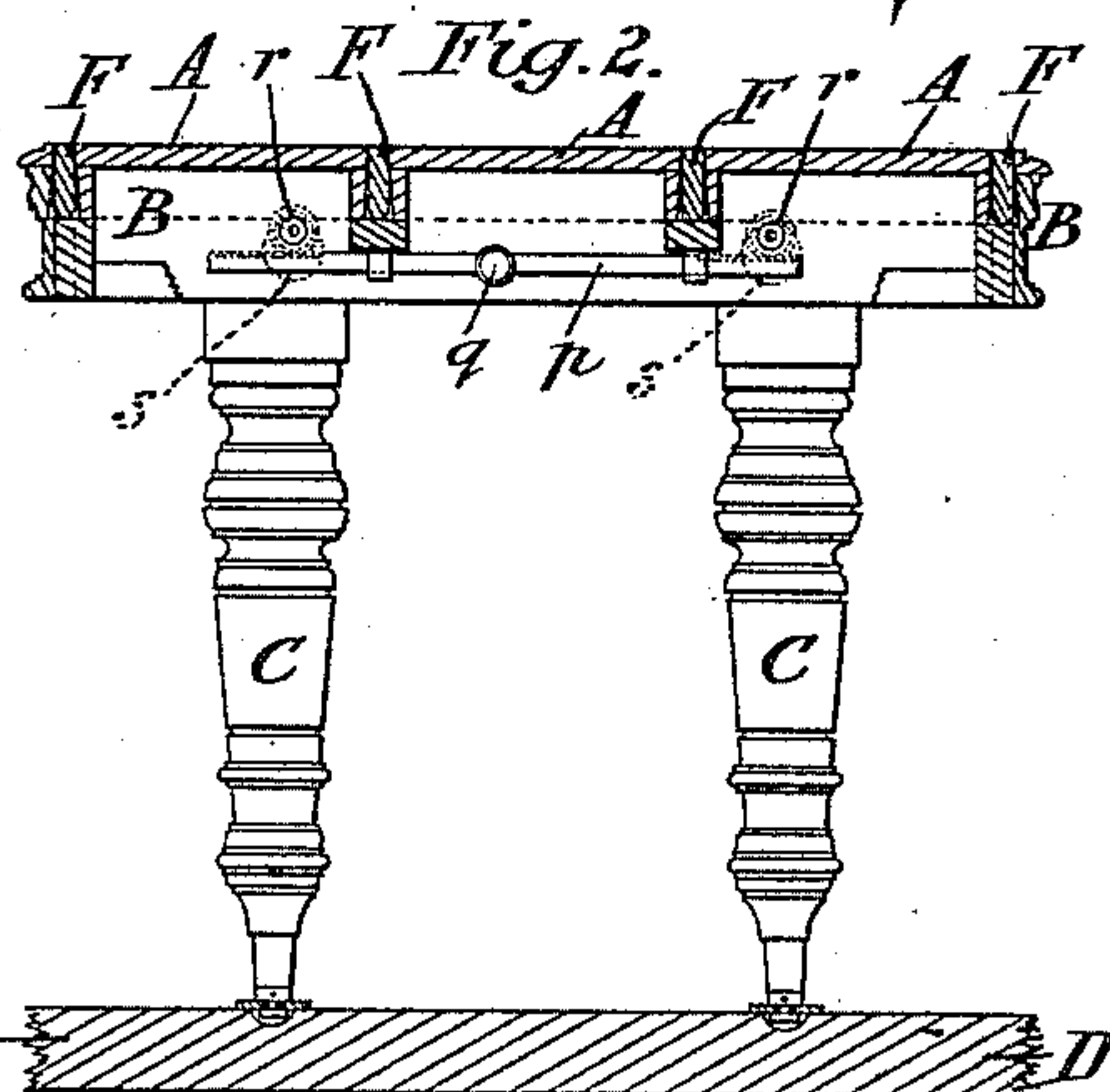
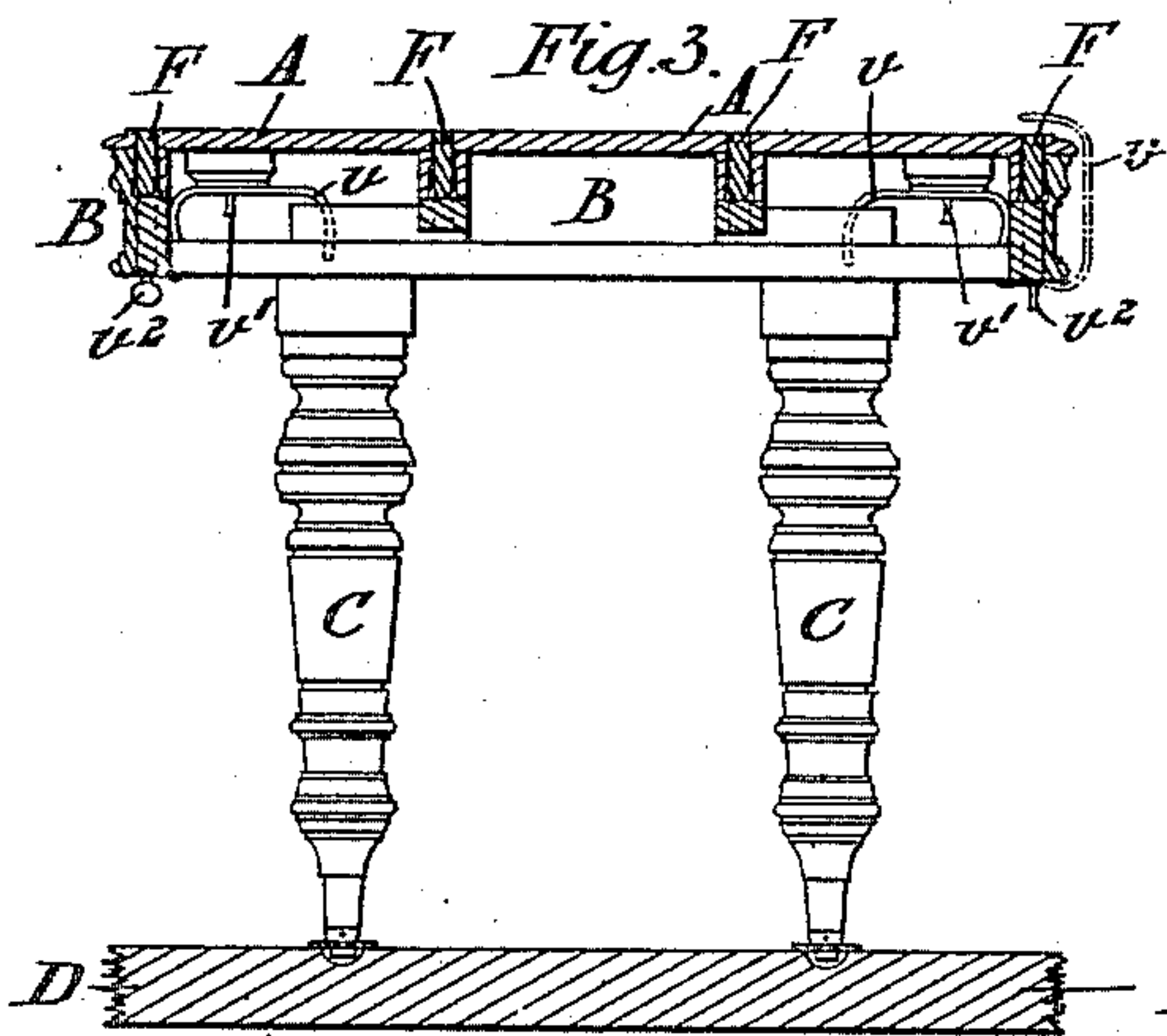
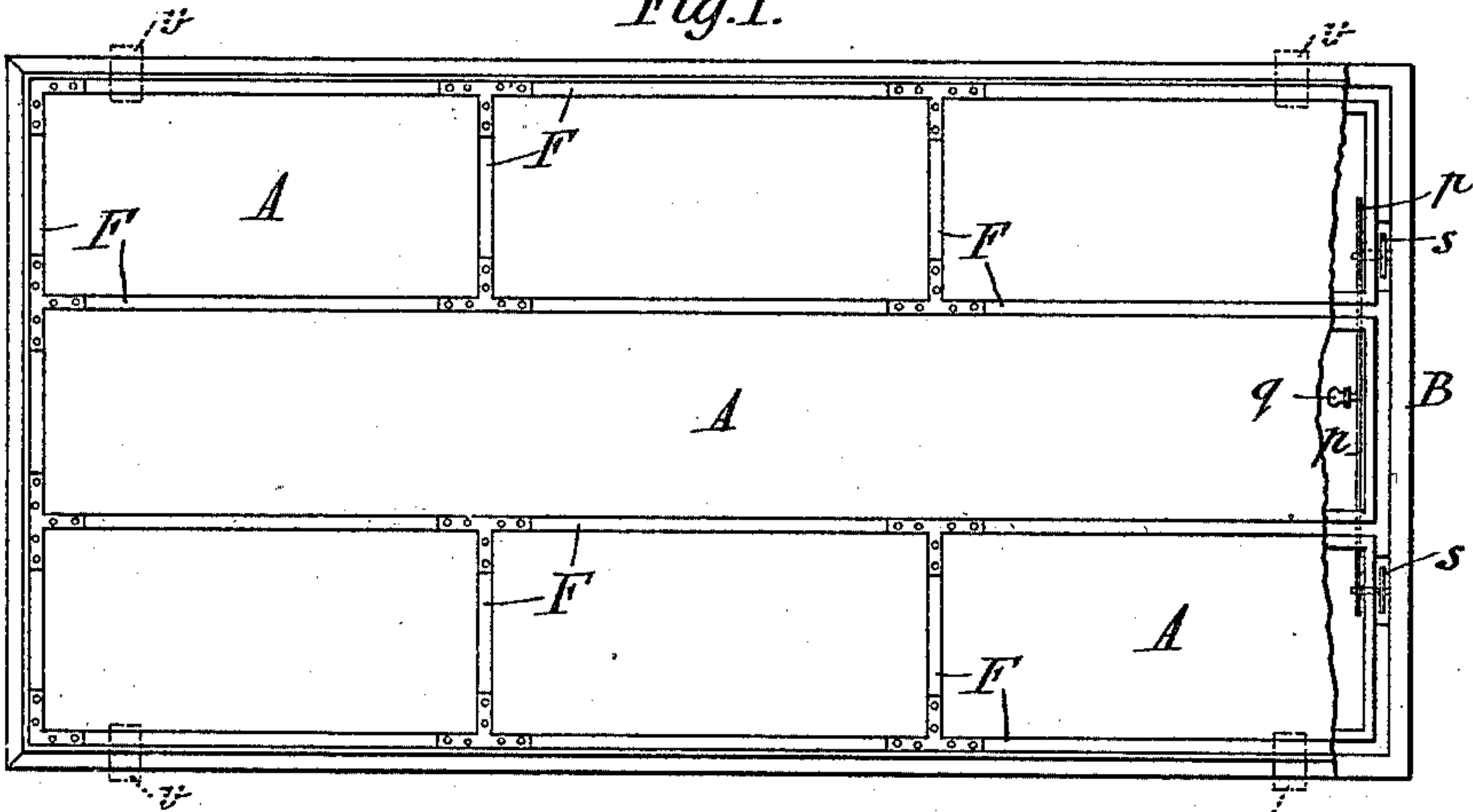
(No Model.)

H. BURRELL.
TABLE FOR USE AT SEA.

No. 427,669.

Patented May 13, 1890.

Fig. 1.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY BURRELL, OF GRAVESEND, COUNTY OF KENT, ENGLAND.

TABLE FOR USE AT SEA.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 427,669, dated May 13, 1890.

Original application filed December 4, 1888, Serial No. 292,666. Divided and this application filed April 8, 1889. Serial No. 306,394. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY BURRELL, merchant, a subject of the Queen of Great Britain, residing at Gravesend, in the county of Kent, England, have invented new and useful Improvements in Tables for Use at Sea, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to tables intended to be used as dining-tables and for similar purposes at sea, in railway-trains, or wherever tables are subject to motion, and more particularly to apparatus for preventing the undue motion of plates, dishes, and other articles thereon.

This invention is in certain respects a division of my application for Letters Patent in the United States, filed December 4, 1888, Serial No. 292,666, for improvements in tables for use at sea.

According to my invention I construct my said tables in the manner illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view with part of the table-top removed to show the mechanism beneath. Fig. 2 is a transverse section showing the lifting mechanism, and Fig. 3 is a similar section showing the hooks by which the fiddles are held when in use. Figs. 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 represent details of the same and are drawn to a larger scale.

A indicates the face or surface of the top of the table; B, the frame; C, the legs; D, the floor or deck; F, the fiddles or frame, which, when raised above the surface of the table, serves to divide the table-top into spaces and support the plates, dishes, and the like, or to prevent or check their undue motion, and said frame or fiddles is made to lie, when not required for use, in grooves or recesses in or through the table-top and frame, as shown on the sectional drawings, and to have the upper surface flush with that of the table.

p is a bar having a rack or racks on its upper edge and sliding horizontally in bearings fixed to the frame of the table. *q* is a knob or handle by which the said bar is moved in order to raise or lower the fiddles.

r r are pinions gearing with the rack or racks on the bar *p*, and thus cause to revolve when the bar is moved to the right or left. Keyed to the same axle with each pinion *r* is

an eccentric *s*. (Shown more plainly in Figs. 4, 5, and 6, in which Fig. 4 represents the position of the eccentric when the fiddles are lowered—that is to say, when the tops of them are flush with the surface of the table—and Fig. 6 represents one of the eccentrics in the position it assumes when the fiddles are raised.)

tt are metal plates let into the lower surface of the fiddles for the eccentrics to work against; and Fig. 5 is a transverse section of part of the table-frame, showing the same parts.

v v are hooks, (shown more plainly in Figs. 7 and 8, the former figure showing the hook turned under the table when the fiddles are not in use and held there by the turn-button *v'*, which passes through a slot made for the purpose in the hook *v*.)

u is a hinge by which the hook is attached to the frame B.

Fig. 8 shows the same parts with the fiddles raised and one of the hooks *v* engaged with the fiddle, thus supporting and holding it in its place, the end of the hook being made to pass into a slot in the fiddle.

In actual use, when the cloth is about to be spread, the steward or attendant seizes the knob *q* and slides the bar *p* horizontally in its bearings, thus raising the fiddles to the position shown in Fig. 6. The fiddles may then be lifted entirely out of their grooves and off the table. The cloth is then spread and the fiddles replaced, but on the cloth, the thickness of the cloth preventing the fiddles sinking back into their grooves. The hooks *v* are then released from the position shown in Fig. 7 by turning their respective turn-buttons *v'* parallel with the slot in the hook, as represented in Fig. 8, and the hook is turned on its hinge into the position shown in the same figure, and secured there by turning the turn-button *v''*. The bottom edges of the fiddles may conveniently be rounded off, so as to prevent their damaging the table-cloth, and the hooks may be arranged to hold the fiddles either tightly down on the cloth or, preferably, slightly raised from it.

It will be obvious that the lifting mechanism may be altogether dispensed with and the fiddles be made to be lifted out of their grooves

by means of sunk rings or flush handles attached to them for the purpose.

By the use of tables constructed according to my said invention the comfort of the passengers on board ocean-going and other ships, long-journey trains, &c., will be greatly increased. The trouble and inconvenience attending the getting out and fixing the loose laths heretofore in use for the same purpose will be almost entirely avoided, and the fiddles will probably, therefore, be brought into use much oftener than were the old ones, to the great advantage of both passengers and stewards, and to the increased security of the table-service and diminution of breakages.

The frame or fiddles represented in the drawings divide the table-top into seven spaces. It will be obvious that the frame may be made with a greater or less number of divisions or subdivisions, or be made, especially for small tables, round the edges of the table only without any internal division.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. A table for use at sea and the like, having grooves or recesses, in combination with a frame composed of connected fiddles normally lying within said grooves or recesses, with their upper edges flush with the surface of the top of said table, said fiddle-frame, however, being unattached to said table, substantially as set forth, whereby said fiddle-frame is free at all times to be lifted in said grooves or recesses, or to be entirely removed from said table.

2. A table for use at sea and the like, having grooves or recesses in its top, said grooves or recesses extending around the rim of the table, in combination with a frame composed of a series of connected fiddles normally lying within said grooves or recesses, with their upper edges flush with the surface of the top of said table, said fiddle-frame, however, being unattached to said table, substantially as set forth, whereby said fiddle-frame is free at all times to be lifted in said grooves or recesses, or to be entirely removed from said table.

3. A table for use at sea and the like, having grooves or recesses and rotary eccentrics mounted on said table and in line with said grooves or recesses, in combination with fiddles fitting in said grooves or recesses and resting on said eccentrics, substantially as set forth.

4. A table for use at sea and in analogous situations, having grooves or recesses, and rotary eccentrics mounted on said table and in line with said grooves, in combination with fiddles fitting in said grooves or recesses and resting on said eccentrics, said fiddles being unattached to said table, substantially as set forth.

5. A table for use at sea and in analogous situations, having grooves or recesses, and rotary eccentrics mounted on said table and in line with said grooves, in combination with a frame consisting of connected fiddles, said frame fitting in said grooves or recesses and resting on said eccentrics, substantially as set forth.

6. The combination of the frame F with the eccentrics *s*, the pinions *r*, and rack-edged bar *p*, substantially as described.

7. A table having grooves or recesses and a fiddle-frame fitting in said grooves or recesses and vertically movable therein, in combination with hooks pivoted to said table and adapted to hold said fiddle-frame in an elevated position, substantially as set forth.

8. A table having grooves or recesses and a fiddle-frame fitting in said grooves or recesses and vertically movable therein, said fiddle-frame being unattached to said table, whereby it may be lifted away therefrom, in combination with hooks pivoted to said table and adapted to hold it in an elevated position, substantially as set forth.

9. A table having grooves or recesses and a fiddle-frame fitting in said grooves or recesses and vertically movable therein, the fiddles of said frame having apertures in their sides, in combination with hooks pivoted to said tables and adapted to have their ends inserted in said apertures, substantially as set forth.

10. The table and fiddles F, in combination with the pivoted hooks *v*, having slots therein, and the turn-buttons *v'* *v*², fitting in the slots in said hooks, substantially as set forth, whereby said hooks may be retained in their several positions.

HENRY BURRELL.

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