

(No Model.)

C. W. HUNTINGTON.
CEILING BLOCK CONNECTOR.

No. 434,509.

Patented Aug. 19, 1890.

Fig. 1.

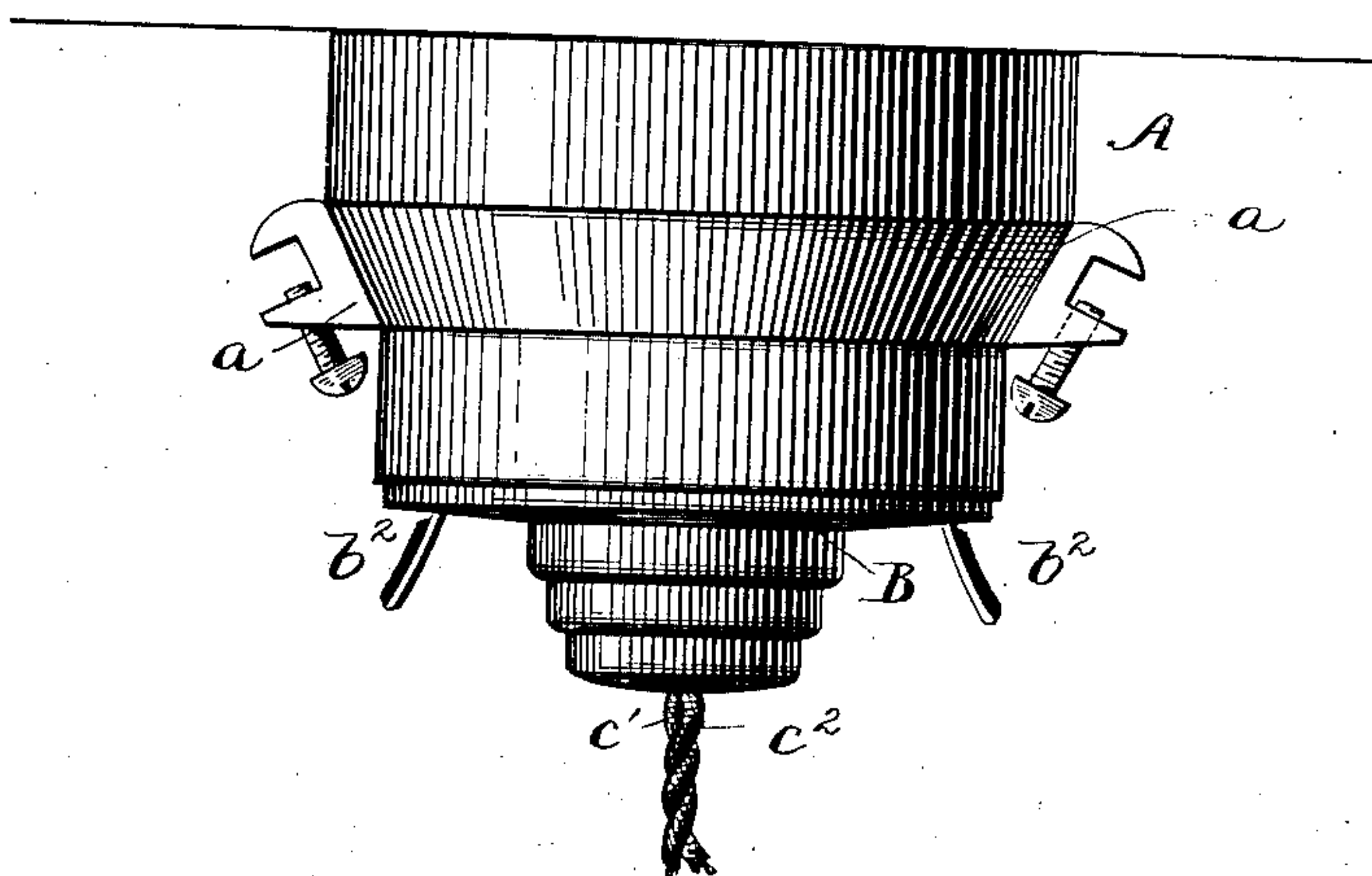


Fig. 2.

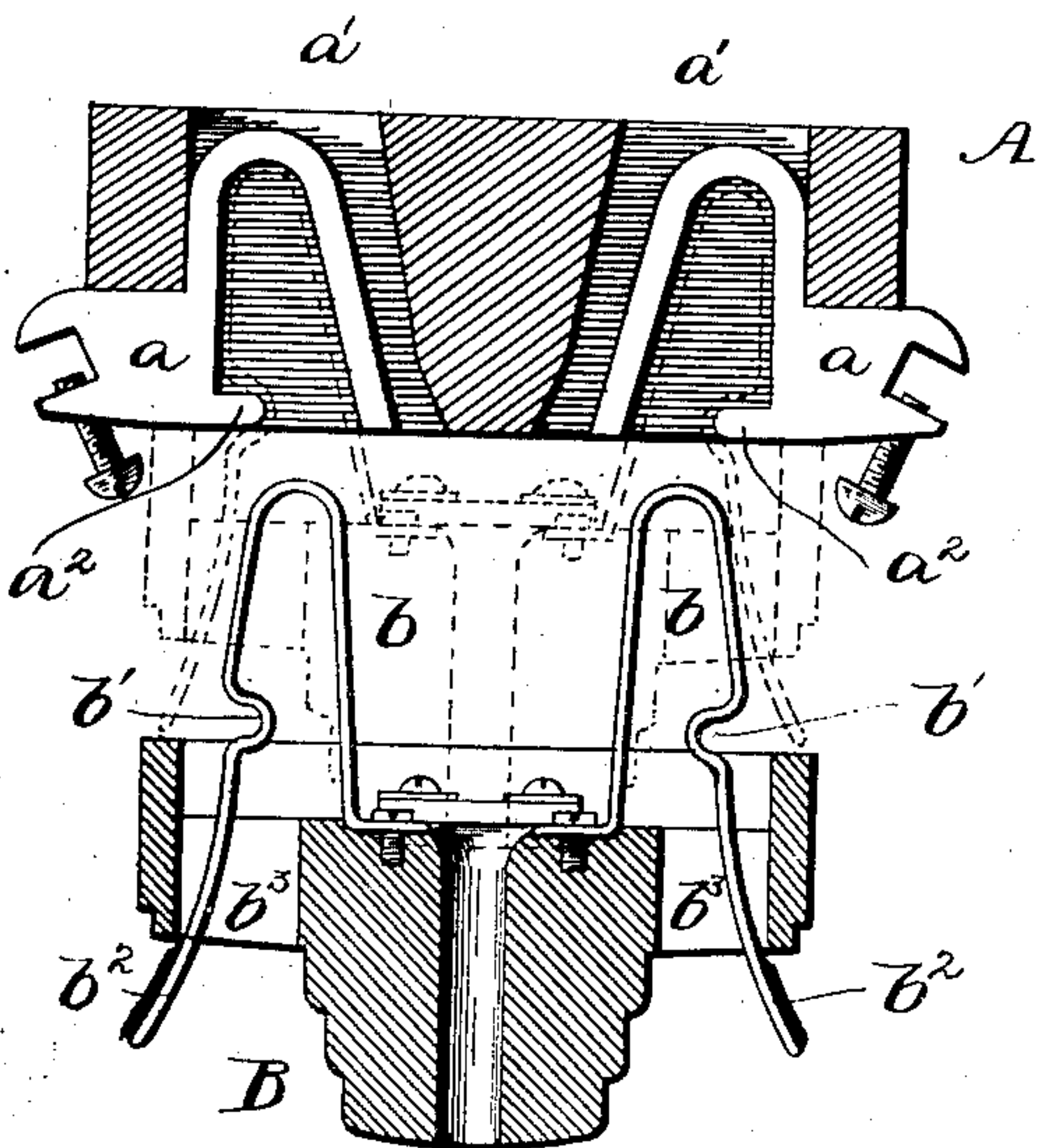
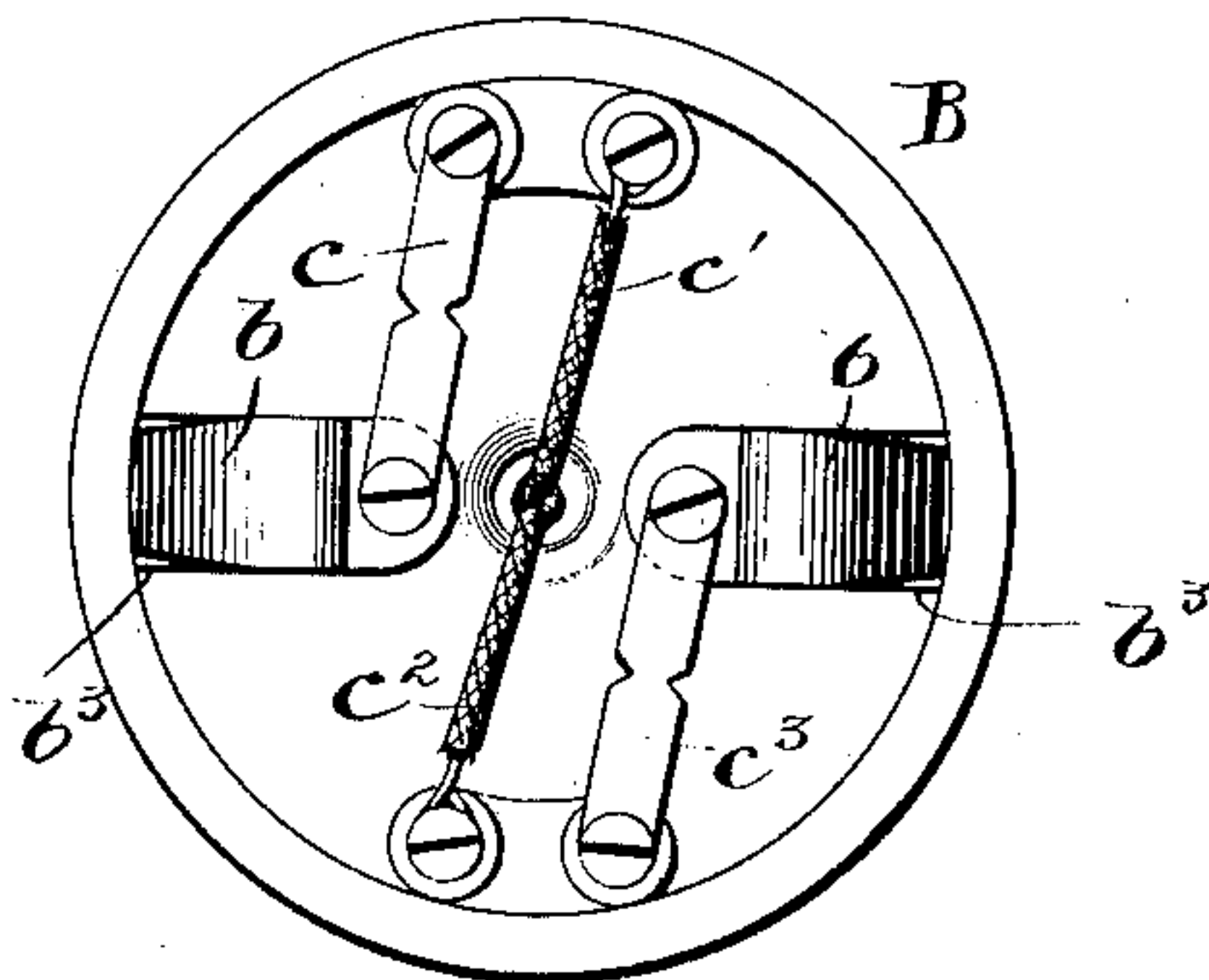


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

Frank S. Ober

Wm. A. Rumbaugh

INVENTOR

Charles W. Huntington

BY

W. J. Johnston
ATTORNEY.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES W. HUNTINGTON, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

CEILING-BLOCK CONNECTOR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 434,509, dated August 19, 1890.

Application filed November 29, 1889. Serial No. 331,962. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES W. HUNTINGTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Baltimore, in the State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Electric Cut-Outs, of which the following is a specification.

The invention pertains to electric cut-outs, with particular reference to the form of cut-out known as a "ceiling-block."

The object of the invention is to provide a ceiling-block from which the cap may be removed and replaced with facility and dispatch.

A further object is the production of a ceiling-block which shall be of simple and cheap construction.

The invention consists, in general, of the combination of a base and cap, the former provided with metallic sockets and the latter provided with metallic springs adapted to enter said sockets and hold the cap in place against the base. These metallic pieces, while serving to secure the parts together, also convey the electric current. The springs on the cap have a peculiar shape and extend to the outside of the same, where they may be grasped by the hand and manipulated to remove the cap from the base.

The details of the invention will be described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

Figure 1 represents a side elevation of the ceiling-block in position. Fig. 2 represents a central vertical section of the base and cap, the two being disconnected, and the dotted lines indicating the position of the cap when in engagement with the base; and Fig. 3 represents a plan of the inner side of the cap, showing the fuses and connections.

Referring to the drawings by letter, A represents the base of the block, formed of wood or any other suitable insulating material. It is of general circular shape, as usual, and is fitted with two metallic sockets a , which fit into chambers a' , formed in the base for their reception. These sockets extend to the outside of the block and are there provided with binding-screws and a socket to receive the main wires of the circuit. The inner ends of these pieces a are curved upward and back again to form the inverted-U shape shown.

At the lower end of one of the legs of the U a lip a^2 is provided, for a purpose which will appear later.

B represents the vertical cap, which consists of a circular block of some less diameter than the base. Its upper side is somewhat dished to accommodate the heads of screws, fuses, &c. These are shown in Fig. 3. The cap carries two bent spring contact-strips b , which are formed to fit closely into the U-shaped sockets a in the base. These springs are formed with an engaging shoulder b' , which when the cap is in place engages with the lip a^2 on the sockets a and prevents the removal of the cap from the base. Each spring has a tail-piece b^2 , which extends downward through openings b^3 in the cap. When the cap is in place, the electric circuit is from one main conductor through a socket a to a spring b , through a safety-fuse c , conductor c' , to the incandescent lamp or other translating device in multiple arc, back through the conductor c^2 , the safety-fuse c^3 , the other spring b , the other socket a , and the other main.

This general form of ceiling-block—i. e., with the connecting-pieces a extending outside—I am aware is old; but in such instances the cap has been secured to the base-piece by means of screws or by threads cut in the cap and base piece. In all such blocks it requires considerable time and is oftentimes a bothersome operation to remove the cap from the base for the purpose of inspecting or replacing a fuse. By my invention in order to perform this operation it is only necessary to grasp the projecting springs b^2 and press them toward each other, thus releasing the shoulders b' from the lips a^2 and removing the cap from the base-piece. To replace the cap, it may be grasped bodily, and after properly directing the springs into the sockets a it is pressed home and is securely held in place.

The operation is therefore very simple. To prevent shocks in case it becomes necessary, the projecting ends of the springs b may be insulated.

Having described my invention, I claim—

The combination of the base-piece provided with two U-shaped socket-pieces, each of

which has an integral lug or bracket extending
outside of the base-piece, where it is formed
into a binding-post, and a cap-piece provided
with two U-shaped metallic springs adapted
5 to engage with said U-shaped sockets to hold
the cap and base together and complete an
electric circuit.

In witness whereof I have hereunto signed
my name in the presence of two subscribing
witnesses.

CHAS. W. HUNTINGTON.

Witnesses:

HENRY BERNHEIMER,
JOHN F. OLDFIELD.