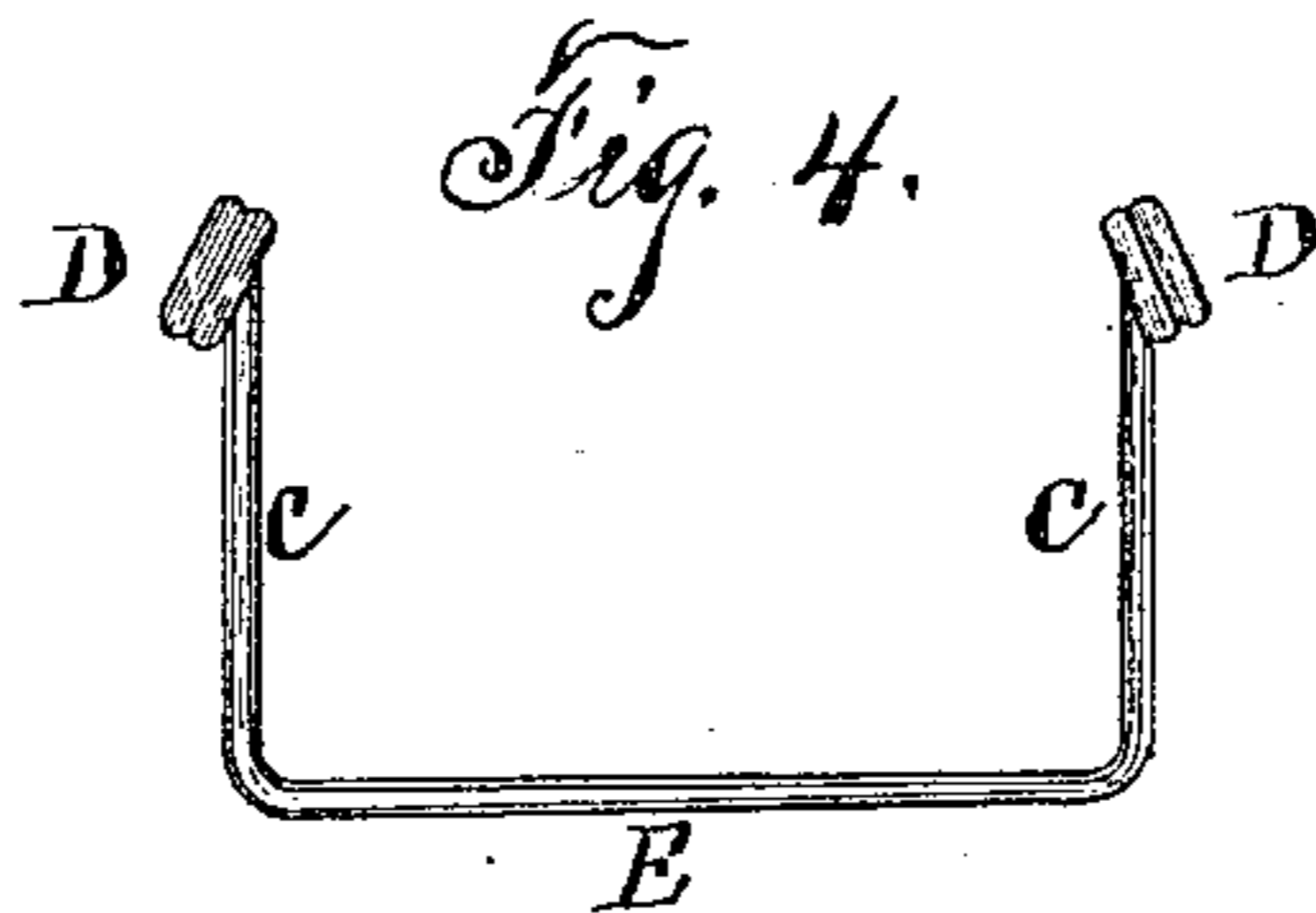
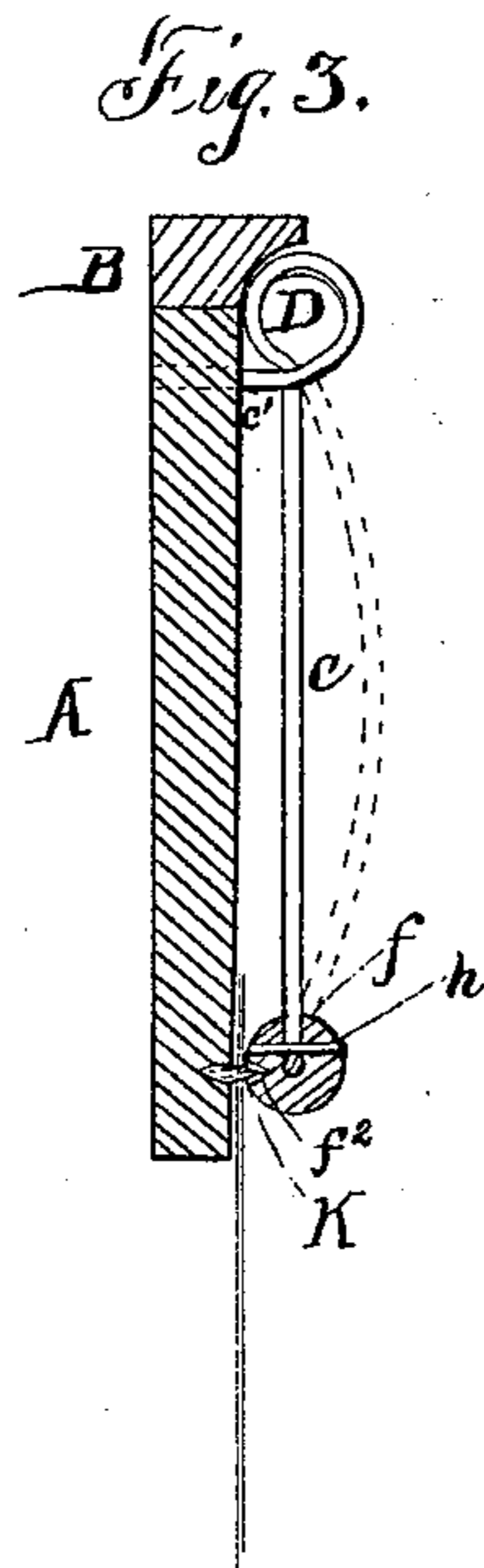
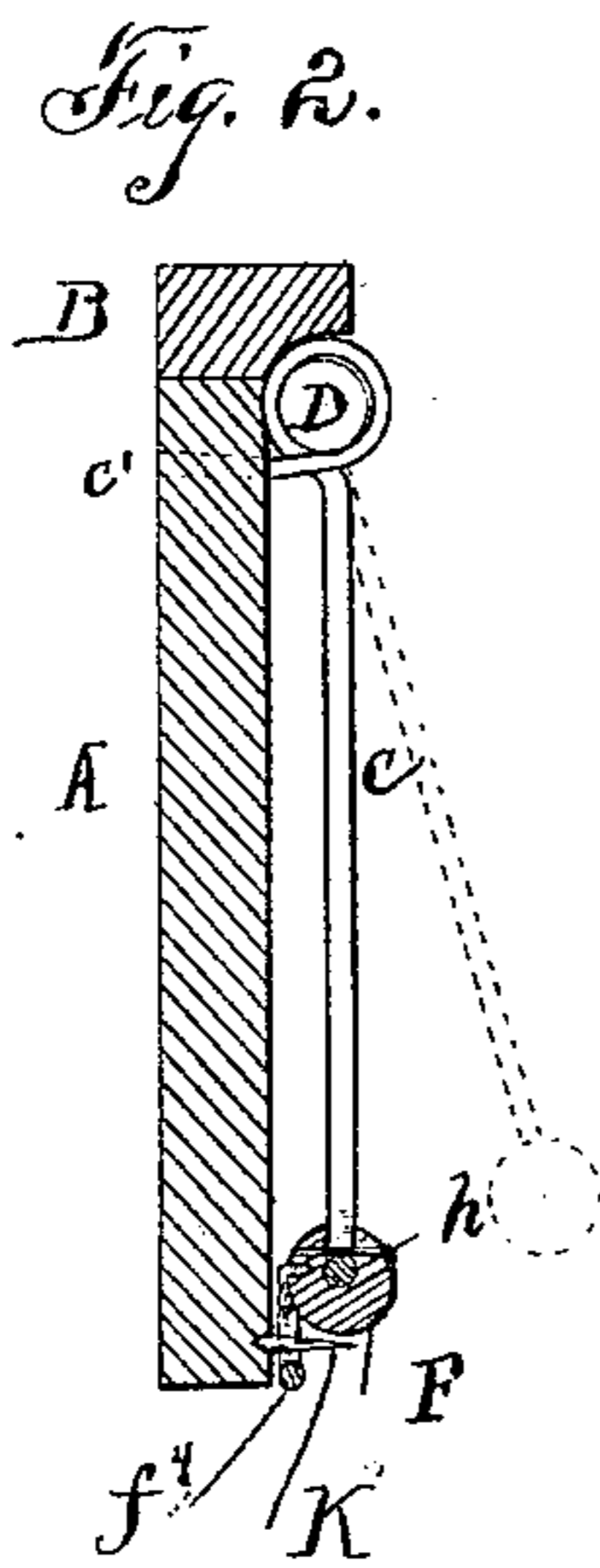
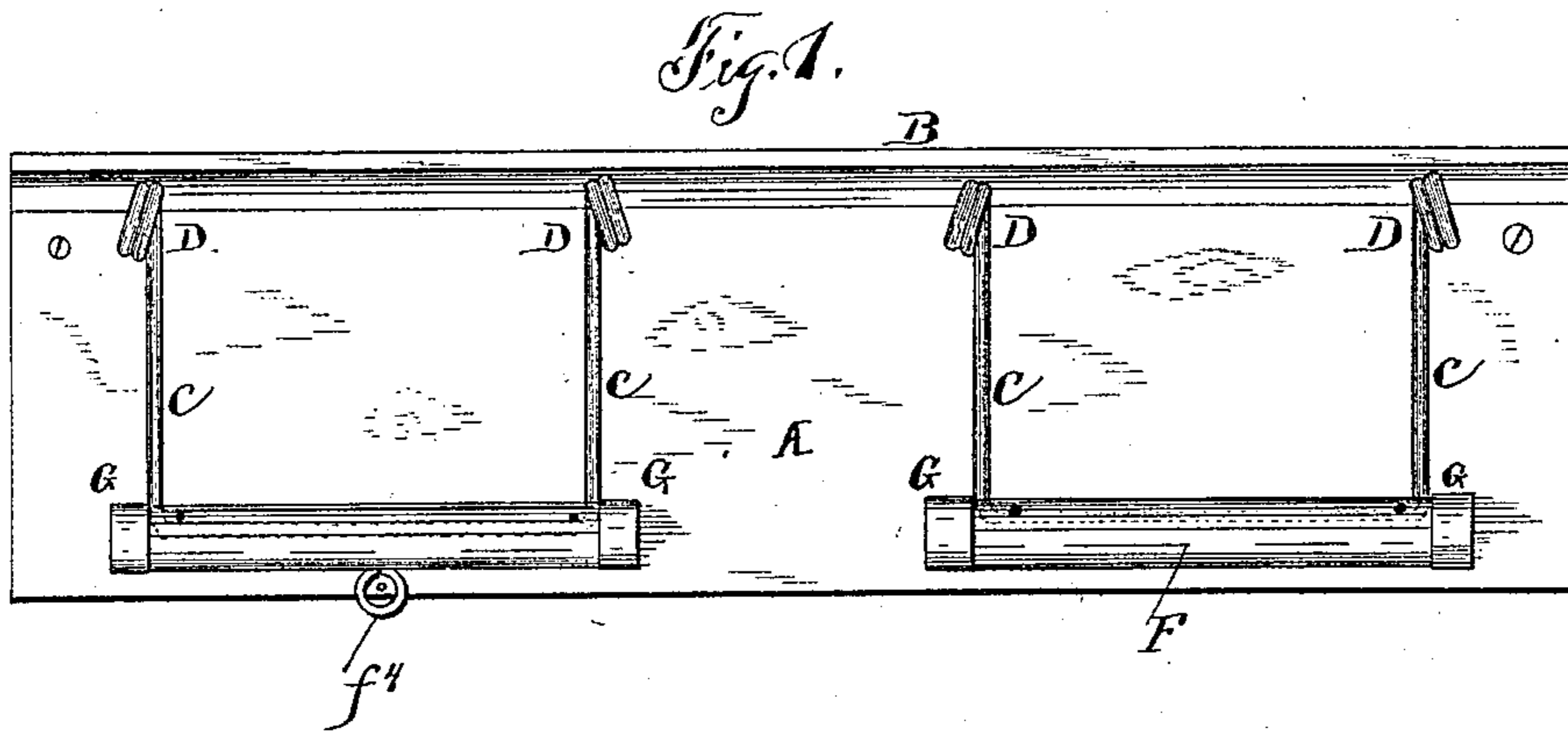


(No Model.)

W. D. MARTIN.
BILL FILE.

No. 438,352.

Patented Oct. 14, 1890.



Witnesses:

W. Johnson.
J. R. Nottingham

Inventor:

W. D. Martin
By W. A. Bartlett
att'y

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM D. MARTIN, OF WARSAW, NEW YORK.

BILL-FILE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 438,352, dated October 14, 1890.

Application filed May 19, 1890. Serial No. 352,298. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM D. MARTIN, residing at Warsaw, in the county of Wyoming and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bill-Files, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to bill-files, letter-files, and the like.

The object of the invention is to produce a bill-file which may be conveniently suspended on the wall or otherwise used and which will hold papers and similar small articles firmly and permit their convenient removal and replacement.

Figure 1 is a face view of the file. Figs. 2 and 3 are cross-sections. Fig. 4 is a view of the spring removed from the base and clamp-bar. A indicates the base of the file. This is preferably a flat strip of wood of convenient length to hold two or more of the clasps hereinafter described. Any number of the clasps may be used on the strip.

B is a piece of molding applied to the upper edge of the base-strip to give a neat and ornamental finish and to cover the springs of the clasp.

C C are wire or similar metallic springs which have loops D by preference. One end c' of the spring enters the base-piece. That part of the wire removed from end c' lies near the surface of the base A and may be parallel therewith or may be suitably curved, as indicated in dotted lines, Fig. 3.

The body portion E of the wire connects the two spring portions. That is, by preference, a single piece of wire forms the body E and the spring portions C C, having spring-loops D.

A wooden rod F has a longitudinal slot f in one side, and this slot receives the straight body portion E of the wire. At the ends of the rod F, beyond the body E of the wire, ornamental and strengthening ferrules G may be applied. The rod F is held firmly to the body E of the wire by pins h , passing through the rod at the side of the wire. It will be seen that the wire springs C act to hold the rod firmly against the base A, yet the rod can be sprung away from the base to permit the application of papers or similar articles between the rod and base.

To hold a letter or bill firmly, a pin K is placed in the base and projects outward therefrom. As shown in Fig. 3, this projects into a hole f^2 in rod F. When bills or letters are placed on the pin, the rod is allowed to spring down on them and hold them fast.

In Fig. 2 a ring projecting from the rod F surrounds the pin K when the rod is against the base-piece. This ring may be a staple or screw-eye bent at a suitable angle.

It will appear that the bill-file is simple and neat in appearance. The rod F is a much more convenient piece to handle than if the wire E were allowed to lie flat on the papers.

What I claim is—

1. The combination, in a bill-file, of a base-piece, a holding-rod normally near the face of said base, and a spring-wire extending from each end of the holding-rod, forming a loop, and then entering the base-piece, substantially as described.

2. The combination, in a bill-file, of the base-piece, a spring-wire projecting from said base and having a central portion about parallel with the base, and a slotted rod embracing the central body portion of the wire, substantially as described.

3. The combination of the base-piece, the spring-wire having its central portion parallel with the base, a slotted rod embracing the central part of said spring-wire, and pins which secure the rod to the wire, substantially as described.

4. The combination of the base-piece, springs having loops D and with their ends entering the base, a rod connecting the outer ends of these springs, a pin on the board, and a pin-receptacle on the rod, all combined substantially as described.

5. The combination of the base-piece, springs C C, having a straight body portion, slotted rod F, embracing the body E of the wire, pins for retaining the rod to the wire, and ferrules at the ends of the rod beyond the body E of the wire, all substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM D. MARTIN.

Witnesses:

N. L. BURR,
GEO. A. LEWIS.