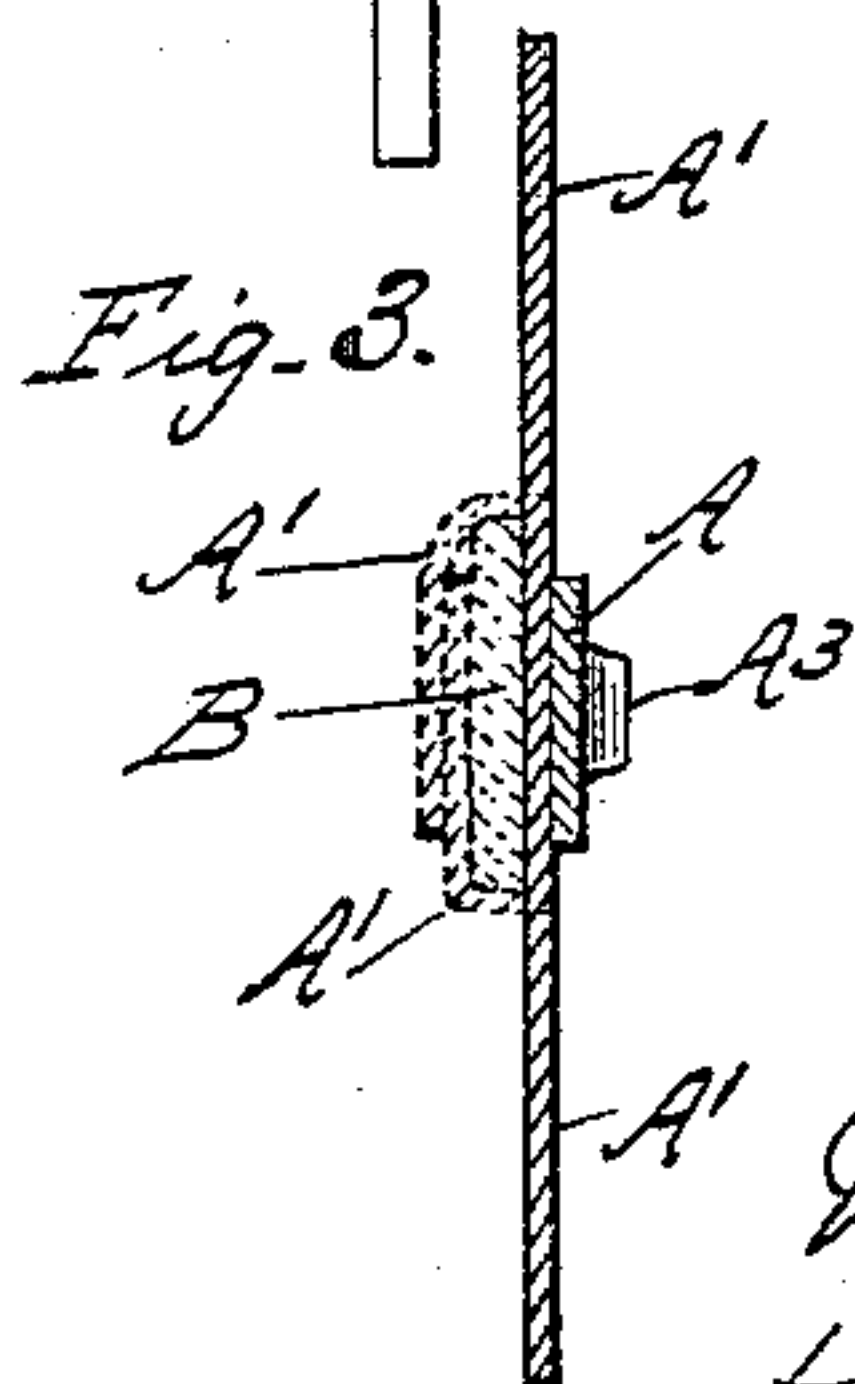
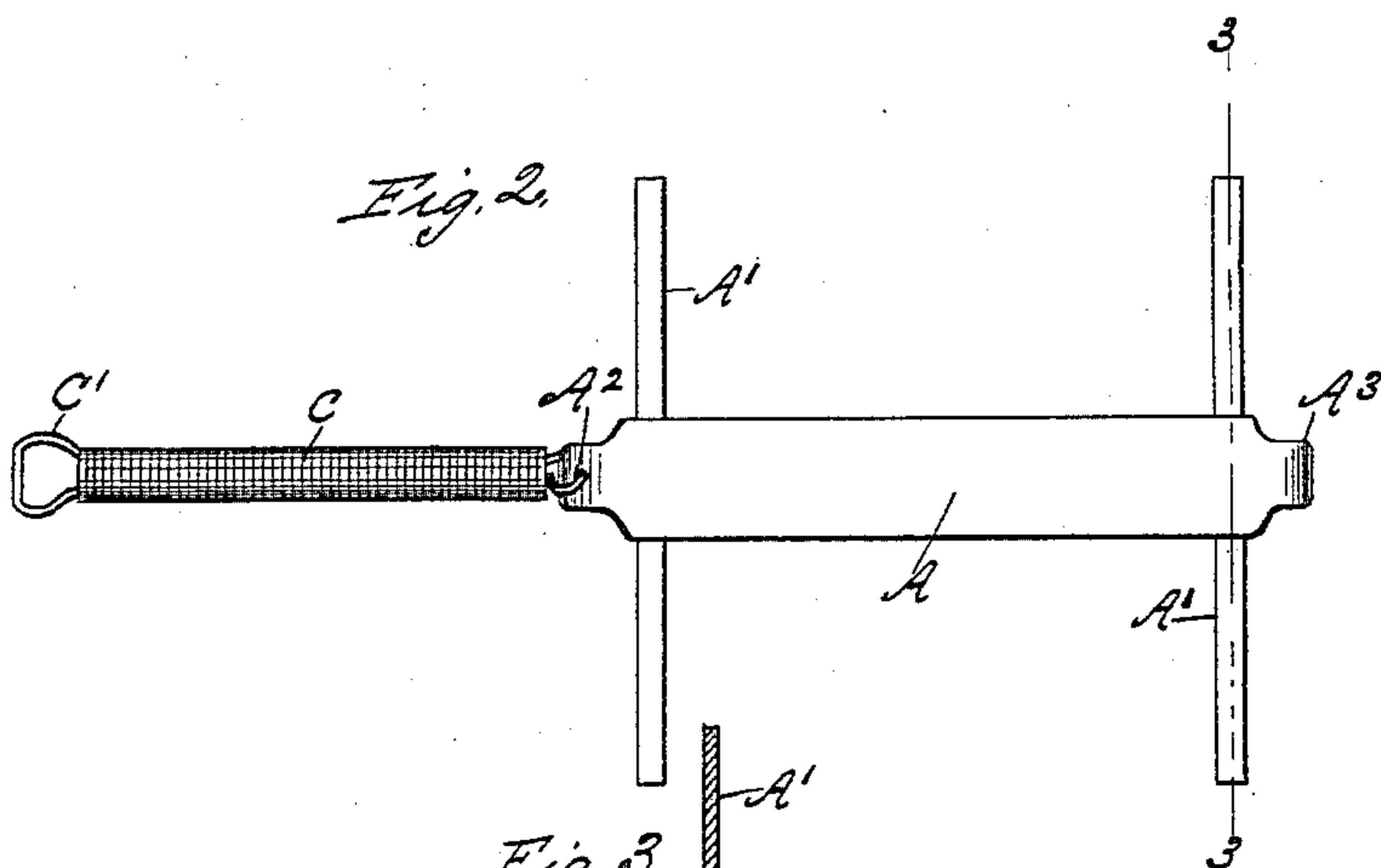
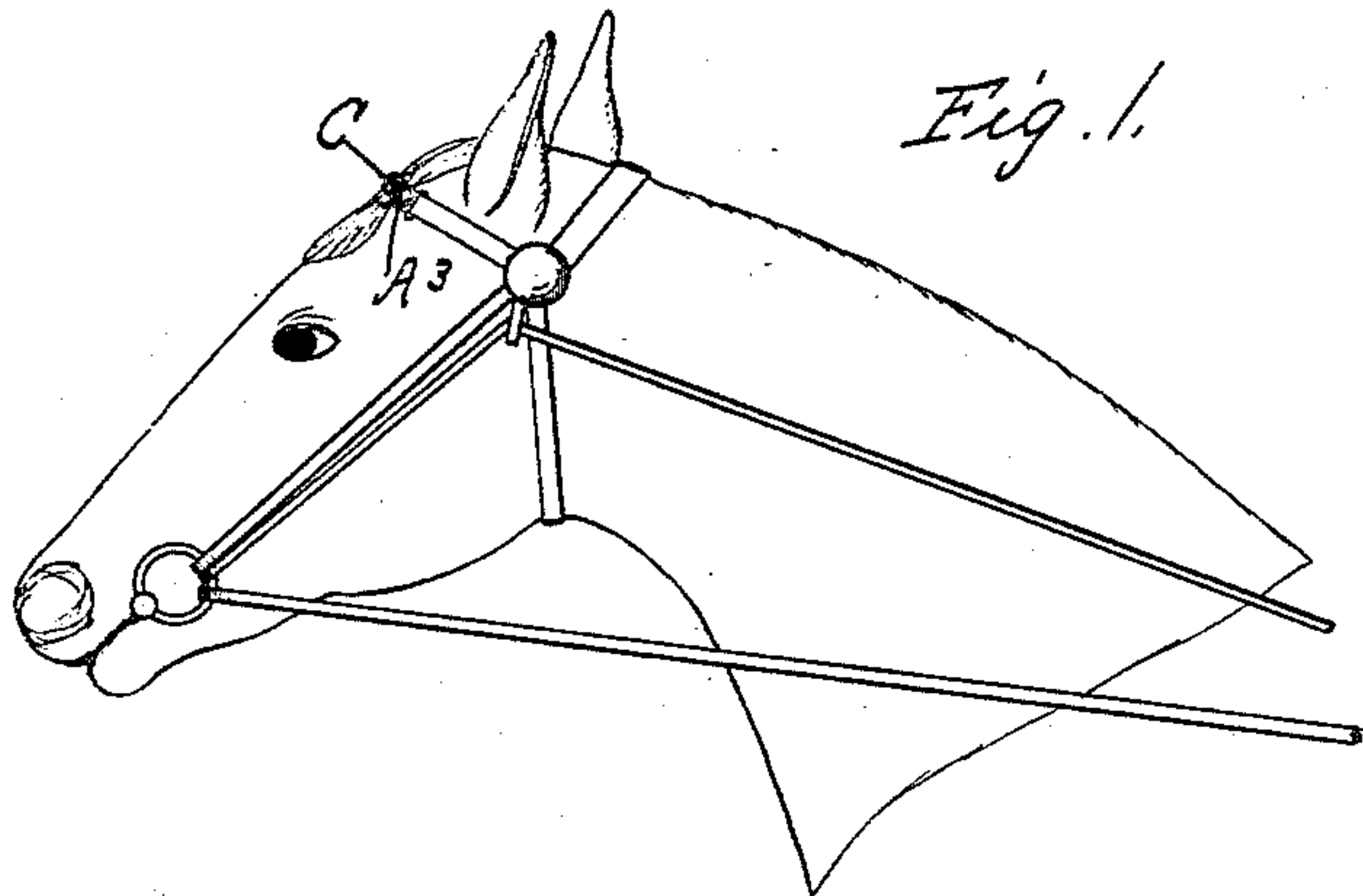


(No Model.)

W. J. HALL.
FORETOP HOLDER.

No. 440,894.

Patented Nov. 18, 1890.



witnesses=
Frank C. Curtis
John T. Dool.
John T. Dool.

Inventor=
Wilbur J. Hall,
by Geo. Amosher
att'y.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILBUR J. HALL, OF TROY, NEW YORK.

FORETOP-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 440,894, dated November 18, 1890.

Application filed September 15, 1890. Serial No. 364,952. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILBUR J. HALL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Troy, county of Rensselaer, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Foretop-Holders, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to such improvements; and it consists of the novel construction and combination of parts hereinafter described, and subsequently claimed.

Reference may be had to the accompanying drawings and the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Similar letters refer to similar parts in the several figures therein.

Figure 1 of the drawings is an end view of my improved foretop-holder attached to the brow-band of a headstall and in position for use upon a horse's head. Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the holder detached and in an open position. Fig. 3 is a vertical cross-section taken on the broken line 3 3 in Fig. 2, showing by the dotted lines a method of attaching the holder to the harness.

The holder consists of a plate or bar, means for attaching the plate to the harness, and a longitudinally-expansible spring band or clasp hinged at one end to one end of the plate, and provided with means for detachably securing the other ends of the clasp and plate together.

The object of the invention is to cheaply provide a convenient holder for securing the foretop of a horse to the harness, which will readily adjust itself to foretops of different sizes.

A is a plate or bar, which is provided at each end with the arms A', projecting at right angles thereto, and adapted to be bent around the brow-band B of the headstall to secure the plate to such brow-band, as shown by dot-

ted lines in Fig. 3, on its front side. The spring-clasp C, formed of coiled wire, is hinged by one end to one end of the plate at A², and the other end of the spring is provided with an eye C', adapted to receive the hook A³ on the opposite end of the plate.

To tightly secure the foretop in place upon the brow-band of the harness after the holder has been secured to the same, as hereinbefore explained, it is only necessary to place the foretop upon the plate of the open holder and, drawing the spring-clasp over the foretop, slip the eye C' upon the hook A³, thereby closing the holder and inclosing the foretop between the plate and the spring-clasp. The longitudinal recoil or resilient force of the spring will draw it closely against the smallest foretop and securely hold it in position, while the longitudinal expansibility of the spring permits of its inclosure of the largest foretop.

I do not wish to be limited to the use of any particular material or form for the spring-clasp or method of securing the plate to the brow-band, as any known forms and means may be employed.

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

As an improved article of manufacture, a foretop-holder consisting of a plate provided with means for attaching the same to the brow-band, and a longitudinally-expansible spring-clasp hinged at one end to one end of the plate and provided with means, substantially as described, for detachably securing the swing end of the hinged clasp to the holder-plate, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 13th day of September, 1890.

WILBUR J. HALL.

Witnesses:

GEO. A. MOSHER,

W. H. HOLLISTER, Jr.