

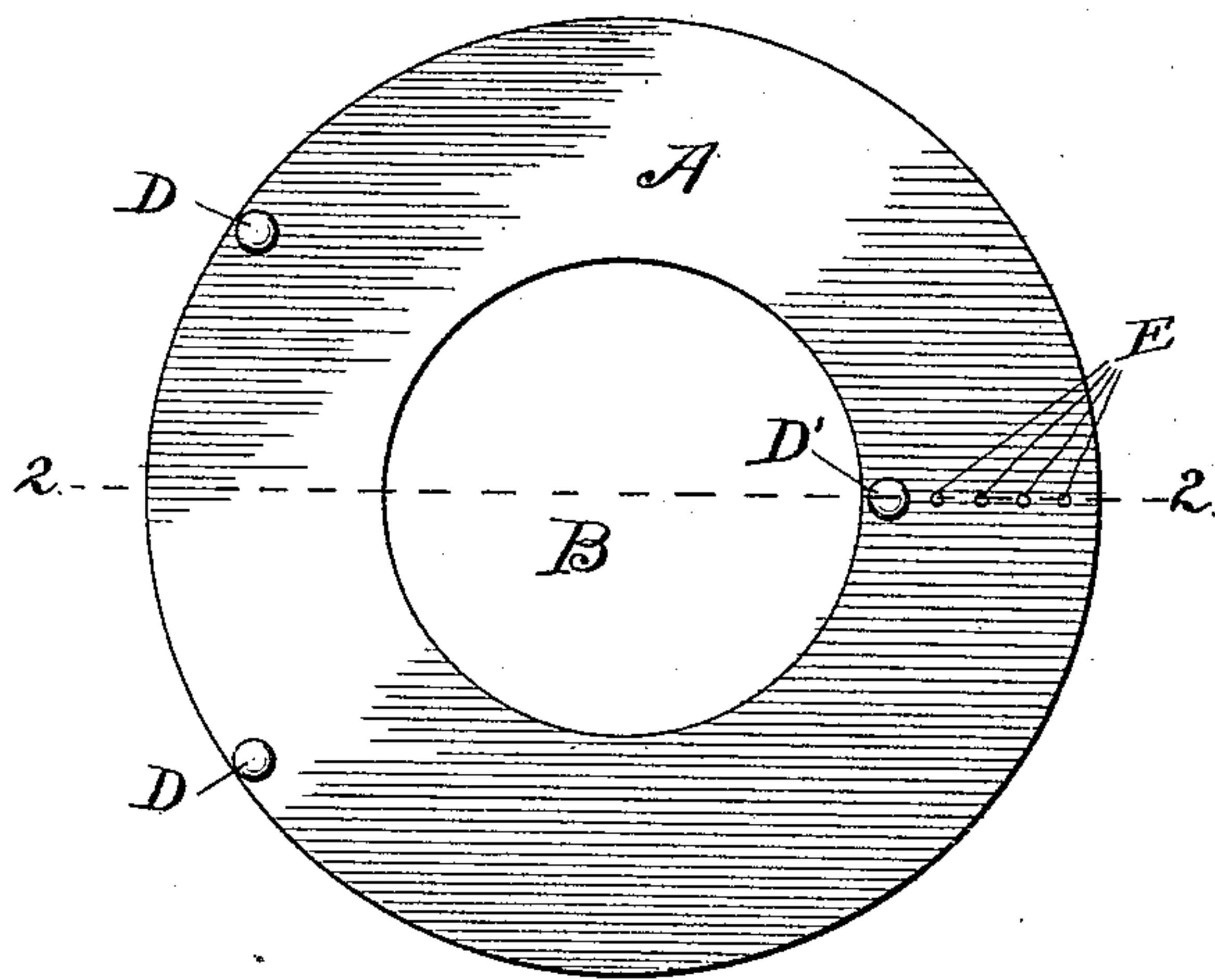
(No Model.)

C. H. TROTT.  
DRESS SKIRT GAGE.

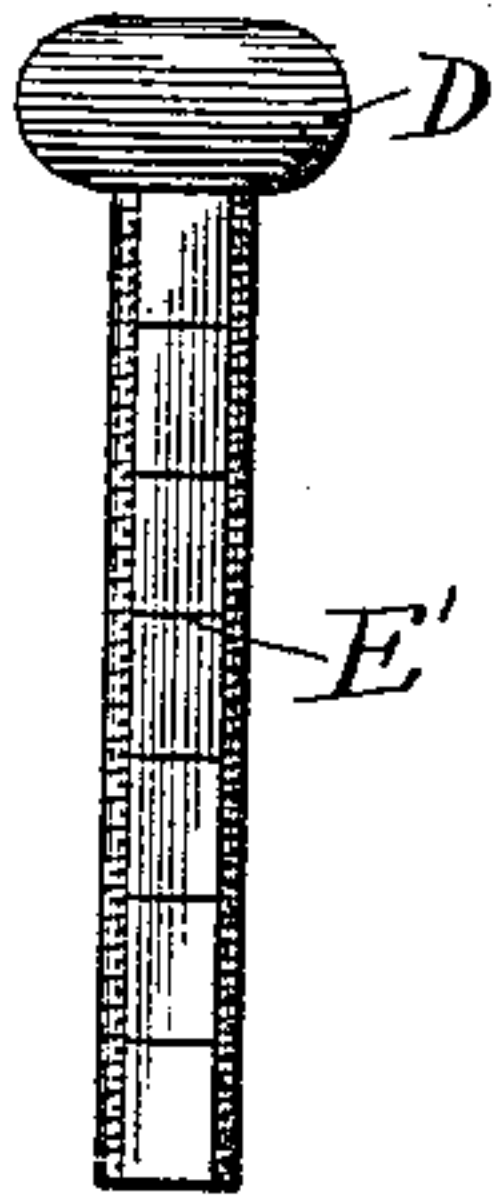
No. 450,265.

Patented Apr. 14, 1891.

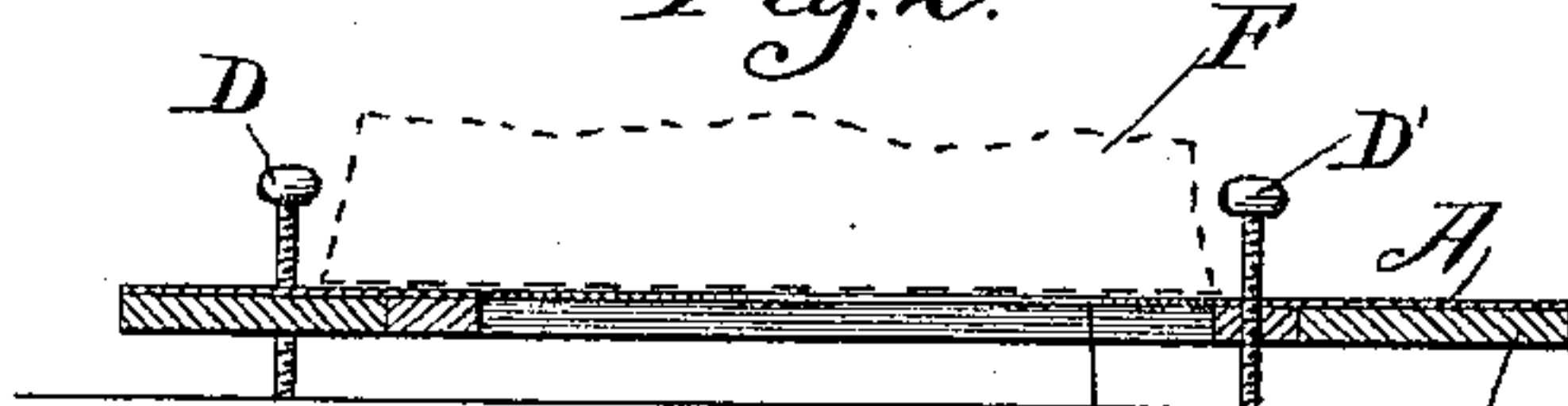
*Fig. 1.*



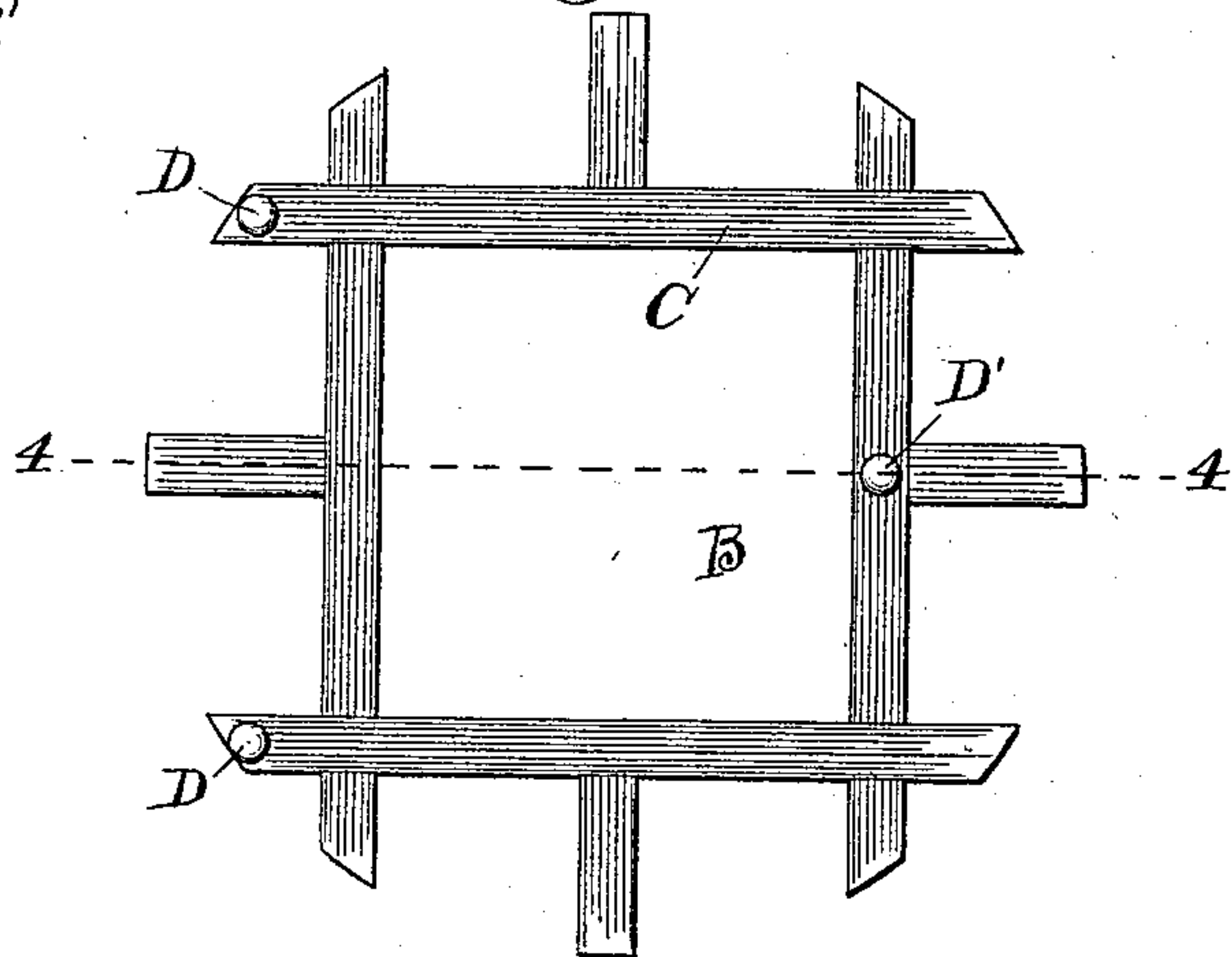
*Fig. 5.*



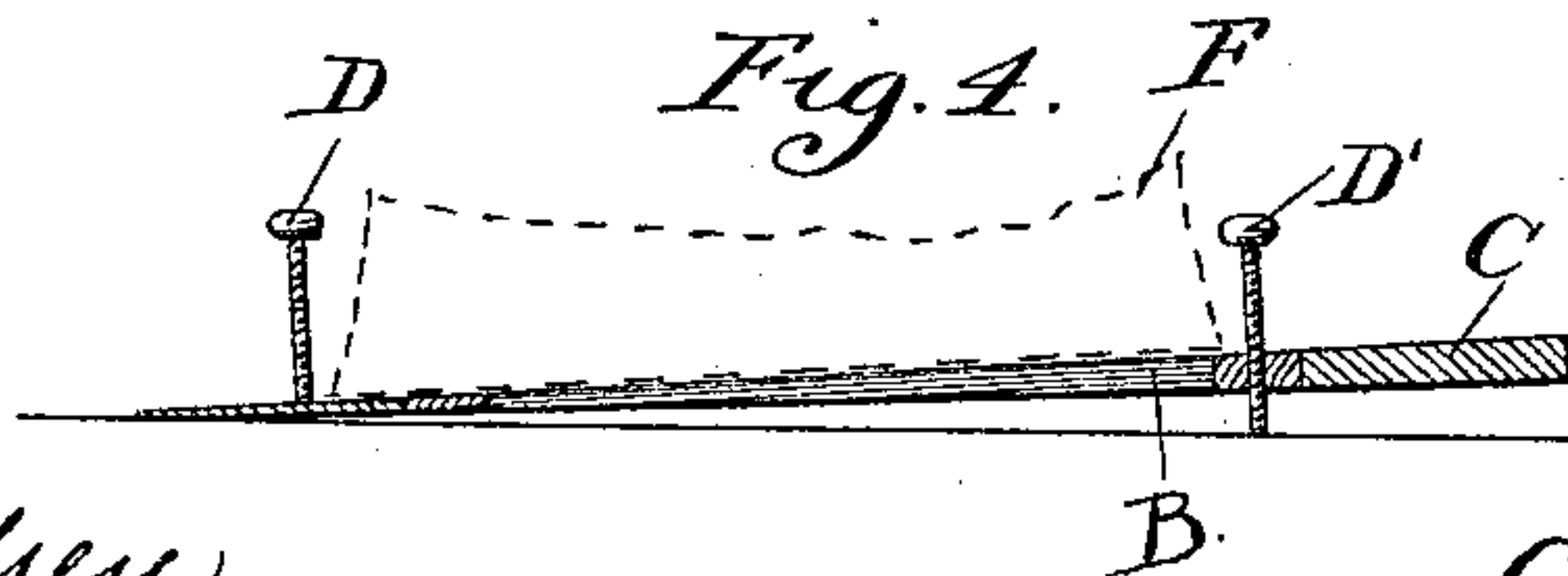
*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



*Fig. 4.*



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES H. TROTT, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

## DRESS-SKIRT GAGE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 450,265, dated April 14, 1891.

Application filed August 20, 1890. Serial No. 362,515. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES H. TROTT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Dress-Skirt Gages, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to devices used in fitting ladies' dress-skirts to the wearer.

Its object is to provide a mechanical means whereby such skirt can be so fitted that all the corresponding points of its lower edge will be equally distant from the ground or from the waist of the wearer. I accomplish this object by the device illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of the platform and frame which I deem the best embodiment of my invention. Fig. 2 is a cross-section of the same, taken on the line 2 2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the frame. Fig. 4 is a section of the same, showing it beveled on its lower side. Fig. 5 is a view of a thumb-screw.

Like letters refer to like parts in all the several views.

Referring to the drawings, A is the platform which the lower edge of the dress-skirt is intended to meet, and B is the aperture in the platform in which the wearer is to stand while the skirt is being fitted.

C is a frame secured to the lower side of the platform to support the latter and keep its surface plane.

D D D' are thumb-screws passing through platform and frame, to be used in changing their elevation from the floor. These screws may be divided in any uniform scale, as E', in order that like elevation may be produced on the different sides of the platform and frame. Back of the screw D' the scale E is marked on the frame to measure the length of the trail of the skirt, if one is wanted.

The dotted lines F in Figs. 2 and 4 represent a section of a dress-skirt reaching the platform.

In using the gage the person to be fitted stands in the aperture B. The fitter elevates the platform A by means of the screws D D D', at front, sides, and rear, such distance above the floor as it is desired that the lower edge of the skirt shall be, and then fits the skirt to the wearer's waist and hips, so that

its lower edge will just meet the platform all the way around. It is evident that a skirt thus fitted will hang from the wearer's waist uniformly in all its corresponding parts, even if the wearer's natural form is not symmetrical; and if a wearer, after using a skirt for a time, finds or thinks she finds that it does not continue to hang right, by returning to the fitter and standing again in the gage she can be shown her mistake, if she has made one, or the gage will show the defect, if there is one, and it can be corrected. Thus trouble and unnecessary expense will be avoided.

In the dress-making art in the past the distance of the skirt from the floor has been measured only by the eyes of the fitter, and so, on account of imperfect light at the time of measuring, or inaccurate judgment in the fitter, or other defects incident to so loose a method of measurement, it has been a very rare thing to find a lady whose dress-skirt hung evenly at the bottom.

It is obvious that by using my gage perfect evenness can be obtained and that this can be done though the fitter be an artist of no great skill.

My gage can be made of wood, metal, pasteboard, or any material that will maintain its form unchanged.

The platform can be used without the frame, for the thumb-screws can be made to operate this alone. So the frame and screws can be used without the platform, for the ribs of the frame can be used for the lower edge of the skirt to meet; but I consider the combination of the platform and frame the most convenient form in which my invention can be utilized. If it is desired to have the rear of the skirt reach the ground, then the frame can be beveled from front to rear, as shown in Fig. 4.

Instead of thumb-screws, any other supports may be used which will enable the fitter to elevate and lower the platform.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. A gage for fitting women's dress-skirts, consisting of a platform having a central aperture, combined with adjustable legs designed to raise or lower the platform.

2. A gage for fitting women's dress-skirts,



composed of a platform having a central aperture, in combination with thumb-screws designed to raise or lower the platform, substantially as stated.

- 5 3. A platform having a central aperture large enough for a person to stand in, and several small screw-threaded apertures, combined with thumb-screws fitting in the latter apertures, substantially as and for the purpose stated.
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4. A platform having a central aperture and screw-threaded apertures, in combination with a frame secured thereto, and thumb-screws designed to be used as legs and to raise or lower the platform and frame, as and for the purpose stated.

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