

(No Model.)

J. P. A. GALIBERT.
LIFE BUOY

No. 461,956.

Patented Oct. 27, 1891.

Fig. 3.

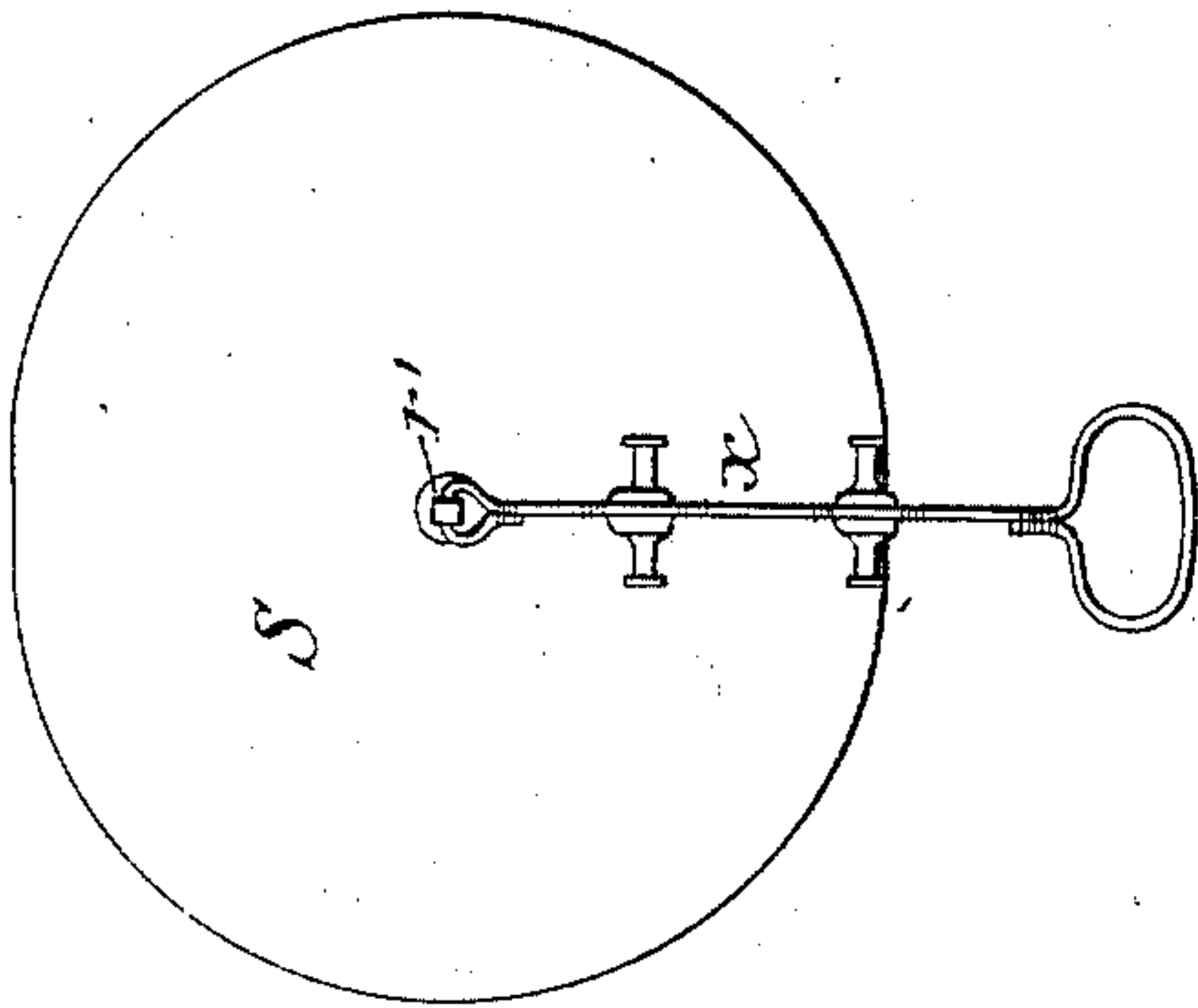


Fig. 4.

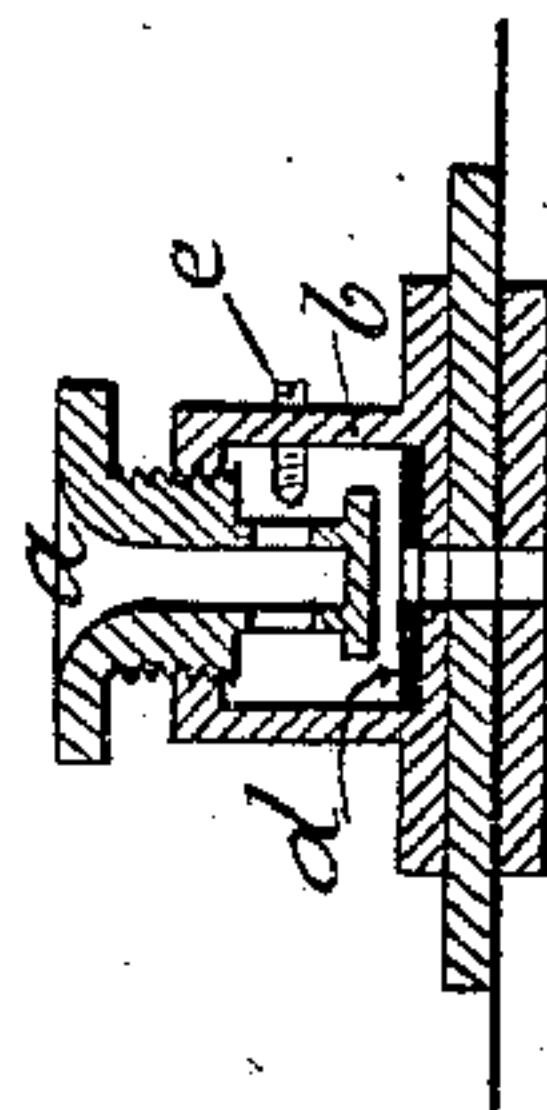


Fig. 1.

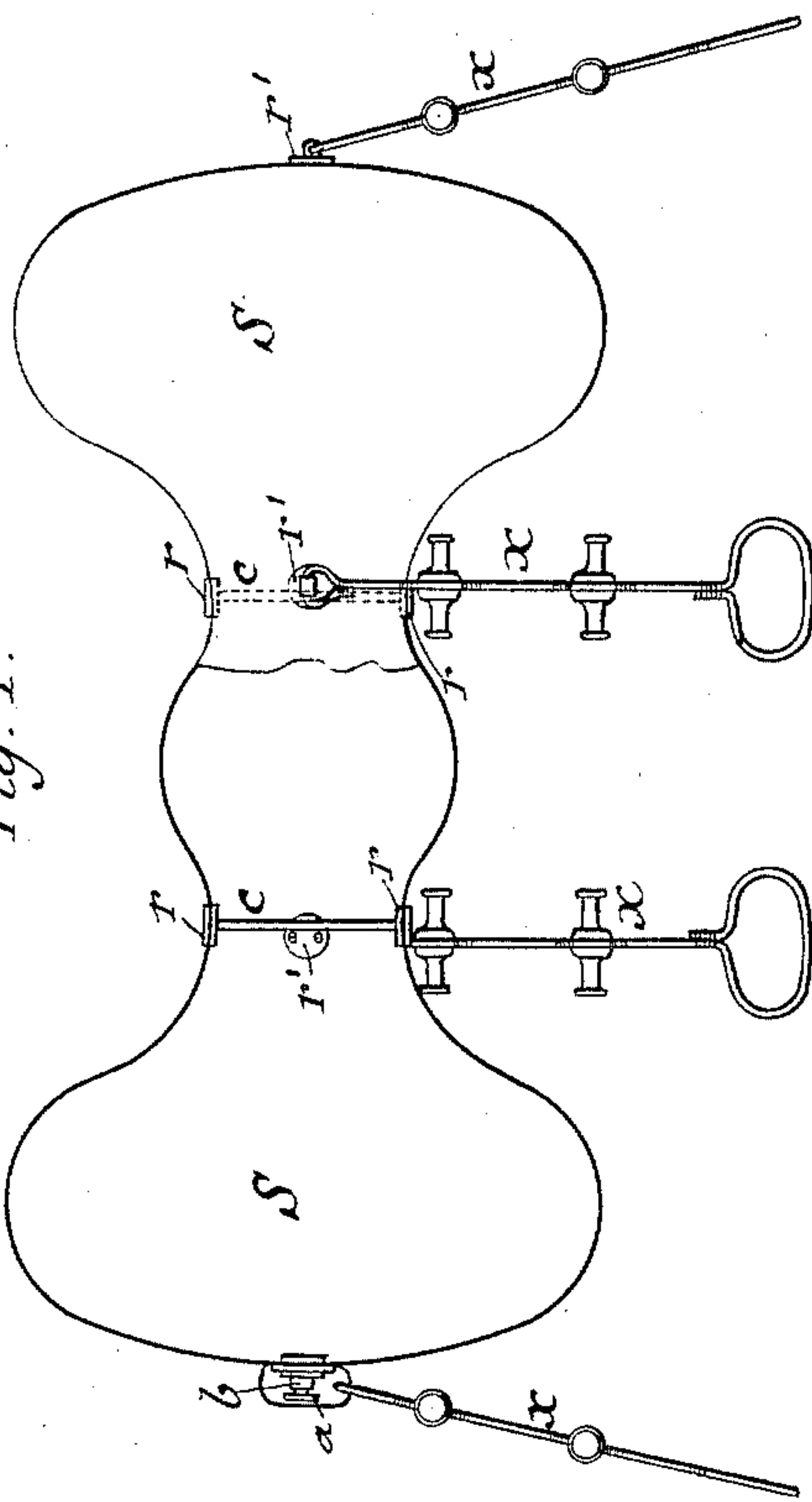
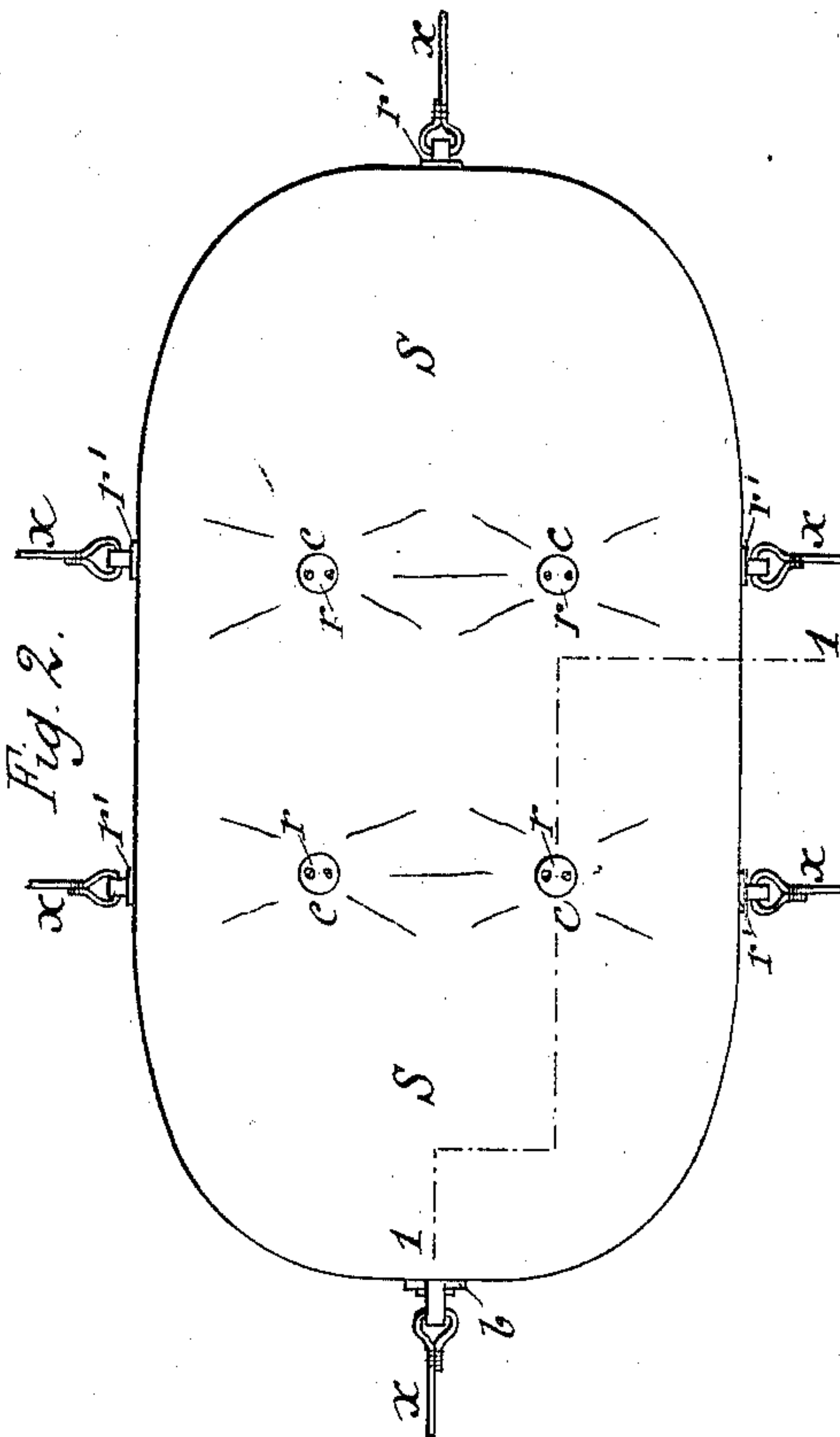


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

Walter S. Poir
T. W. Wiman

Inventor:

Jean Pierre Albert Galibert
by Henry Connell
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JEAN PIERRE ALBERT GALIBERT, OF PARIS, FRANCE.

LIFE-BUOY.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 461,956, dated October 27, 1891.

Application filed May 9, 1891. Serial No. 392,242. (No model.) Patented in France August 23, 1890, No. 207,798.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JEAN PIERRE ALBERT GALIBERT, a citizen of the Republic of France, and a resident of Paris, France, have invented certain Improvements in Life-Buoys, (for which a patent has been granted in France, dated August 23, 1890, No. 207,798,) of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to inflated life buoys or preservers; and the object is in part to economize space on board vessels where such life-buoys are especially required and space is valuable, and in part to construct a buoy which shall be staunch and durable and of the proper form to produce the best results.

The invention will be fully described hereinafter and its novel features carefully defined in the claim.

In the drawings serving to illustrate my invention, Figure 1 is a sectional side elevation of the inflated buoy, the plane of the section being indicated by line I I in Fig. 2. Fig. 2 is a plan of the buoy, and Fig. 3 is an end view. Fig. 4 is an enlarged sectional detail view of the mouth-piece for inflating the buoy.

In constructing my buoy I usually proceed as follows: I take a piece of some strong air-tight and water-proof fabric or material and make of it a sack or bag S, having preferably the proportions of about forty inches in length and sixteen inches in diameter. The seams will be made perfectly air and water tight. When distended, this sack has nearly the form of a cylinder, and as a cylinder has very little stability as a float I give to it the flattened or mattress-like form seen in the drawings by means which I will now describe. Four ties *c* are inserted in the sack before it is closed, and these are secured at their ends to the respective walls of the sack by means of plates or disks *r*, arranged in pairs, so as to clamp the material between them, one disk being inside and its mate outside of the sack. The inner disk is secured to the tie *c*. The disks will be of wood by preference. Other disks *r'*, also arranged in pairs, are fixed in a

similar manner to other parts of the buoys, as shown, so as to provide attaching-points for appendices *x*, whereby persons in the water may conveniently seize the buoy and hold to it. These appendices *x* also provide means for uniting any number of the buoys together to serve as a raft. When the buoy is empty or collapsed, it may be compressed into a very small compass and it has very little weight. I have given a convenient size and proportion for the buoy; but it may of course have other proportions and dimensions. When made quite small, the buoy will serve as a life-preserver and will be useful for teaching swimming in swimming-schools.

Fig. 4 illustrates a convenient mouth-piece for inflating the buoy. In the nipple *b*, which is secured to the buoy, is screwed a tubular valve *a*, the inner end of which is closed and forms a disk which seats itself on a packing *d* and closes the air-inlet *b*. When the valve is seated, it may be secured in place by a laterally-arranged set-screw *e*. It will be seen that the ties *c* impart to the buoy a mattress-like form.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

As an improved article of manufacture, an inflatable life-buoy consisting of a sack with flattened faces composed of air-tight fabric or material having ties *c* arranged at intervals within said sack and connecting and distancing its flattened walls or faces, said ties being fastened at their extremities to the material of the sack through the medium of disks *r*, arranged in pairs, which clamp the material at the points where the ties are attached, all as set forth, whereby when the buoy is distended the ties impart to it a flattened or mattress-like form.

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

JEAN PIERRE ALBERT GALIBERT.

Witnesses:

ROBT. M. HOOPER,
MICHEL COQUARD.