

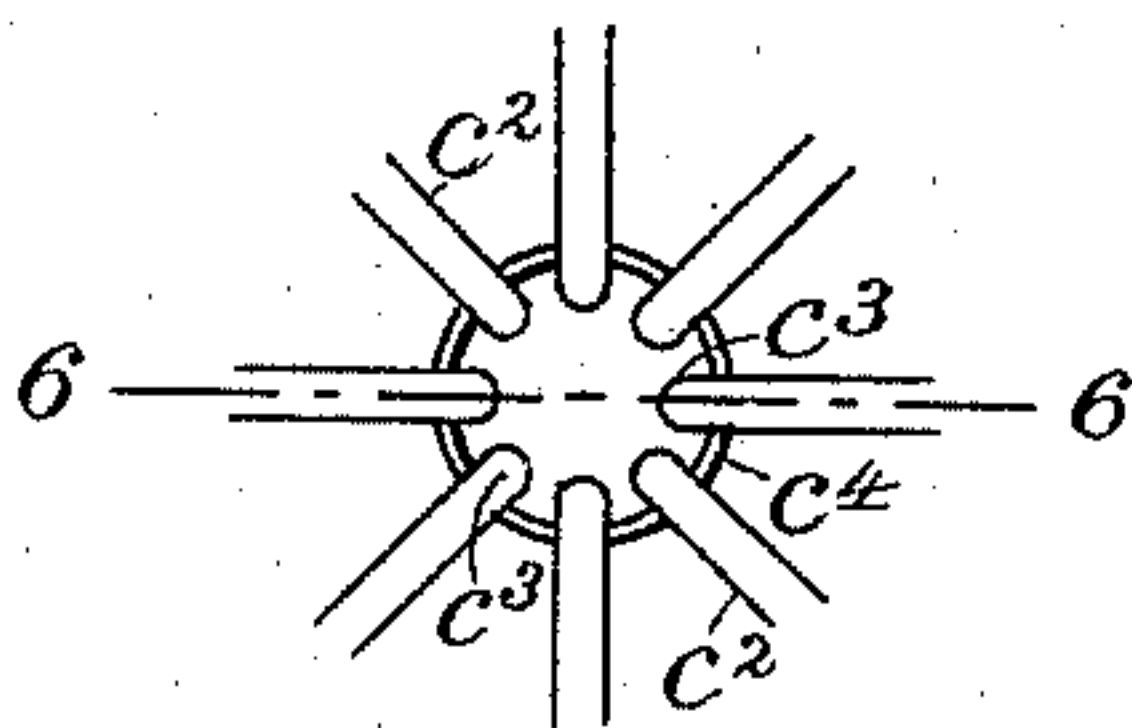
(No Model.)

E. G. BAKER.
TABLET DISPLAYING DEVICE.

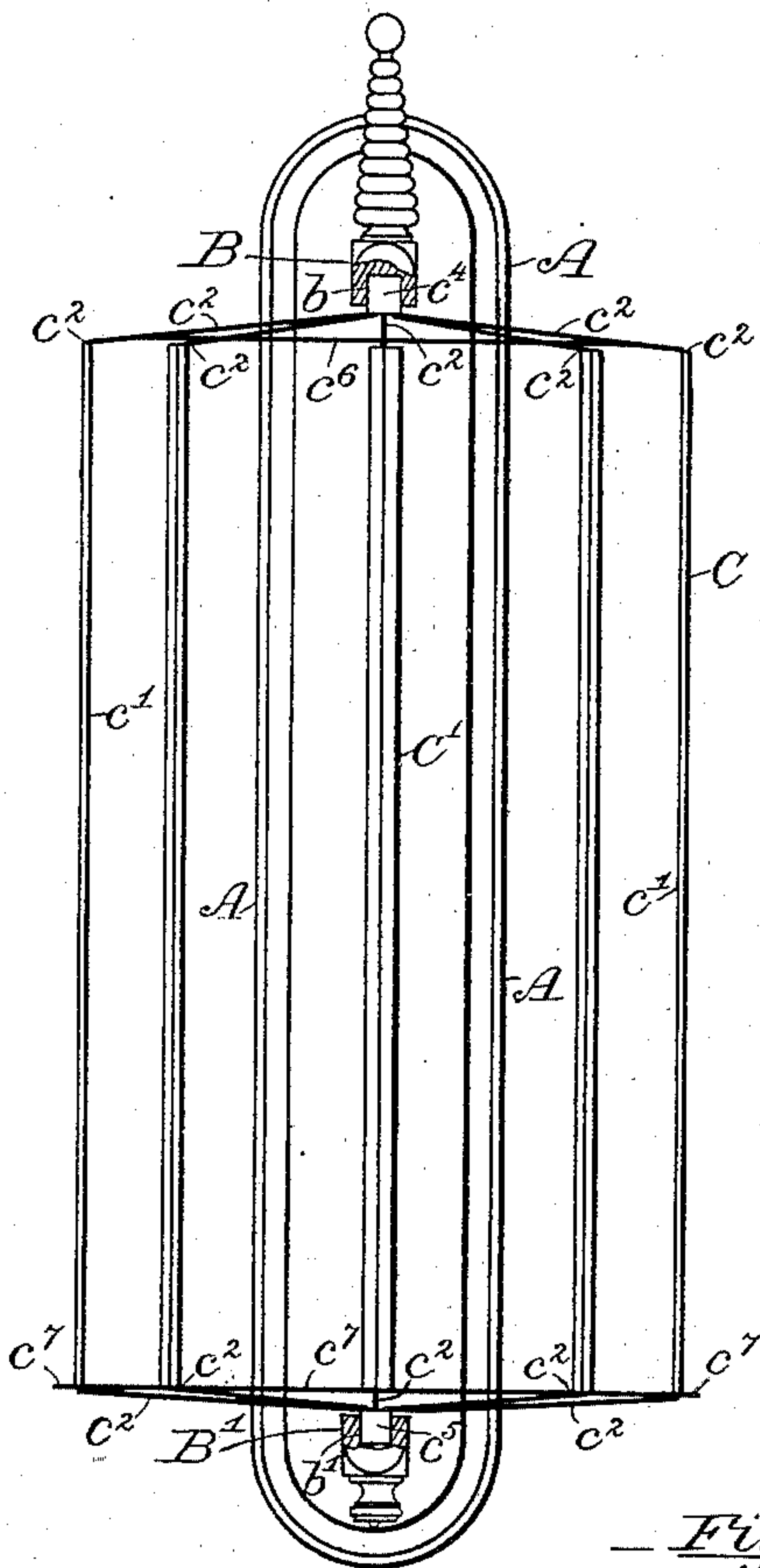
No. 476,182.

Patented May 31, 1892.

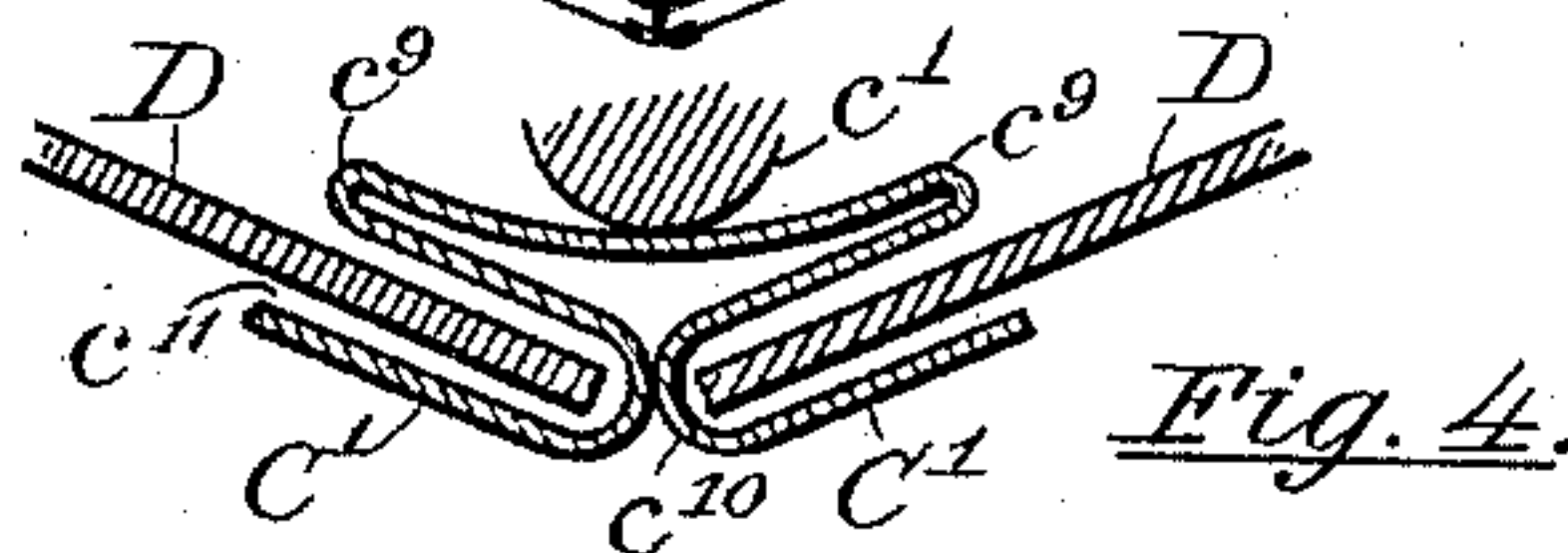
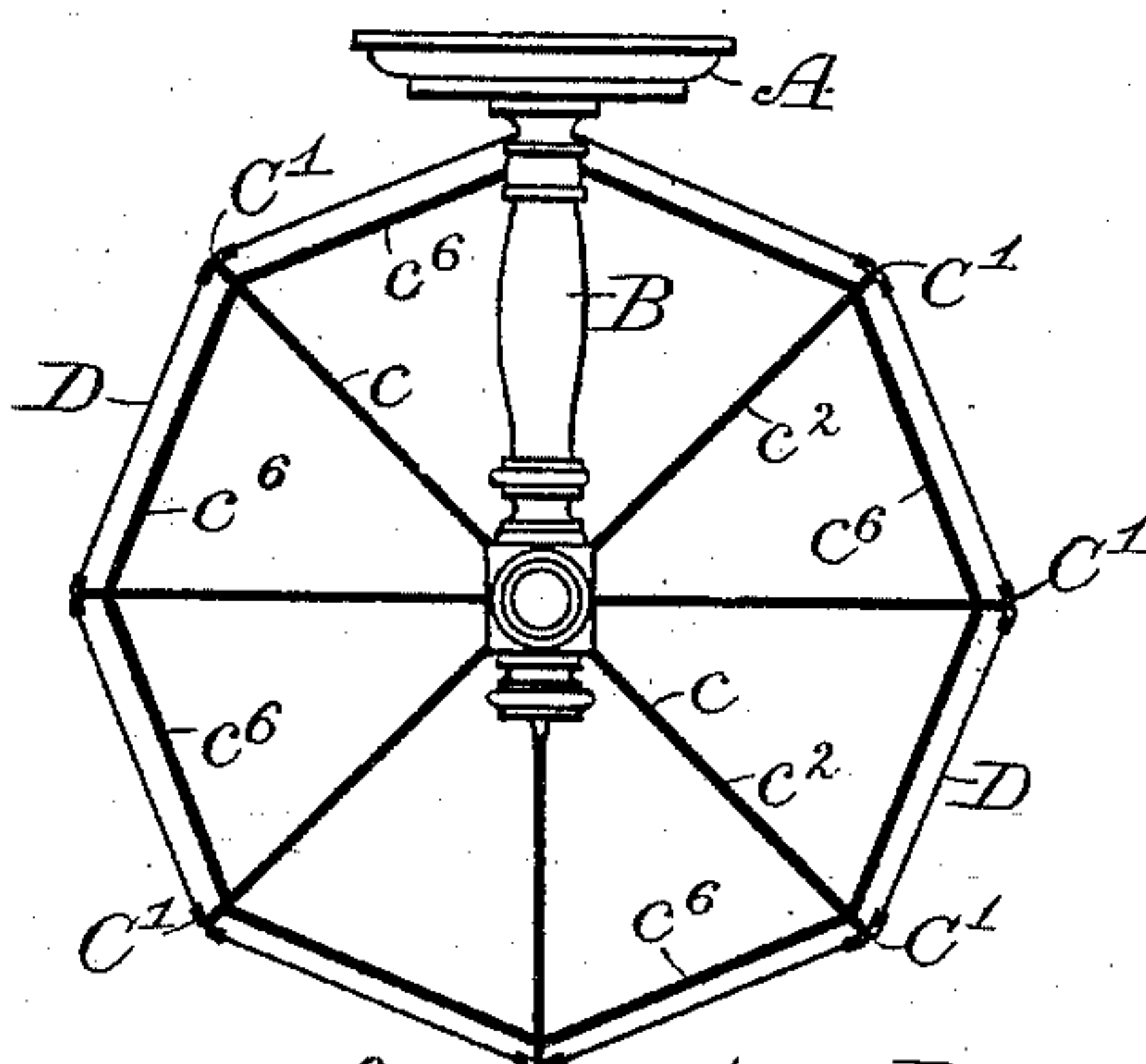
— Fig. 2. —



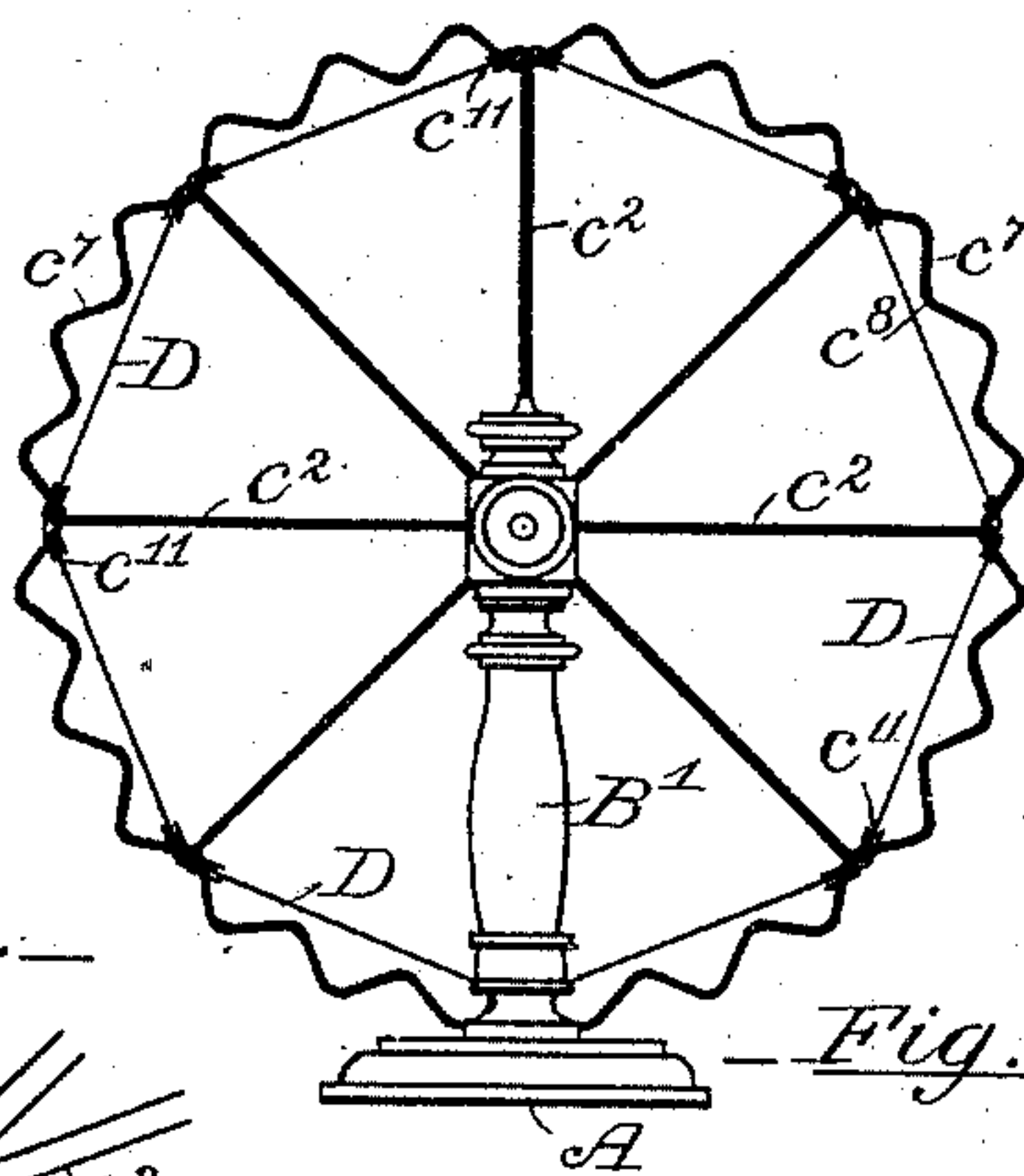
— Fig. 1. —



— Fig. 3. —

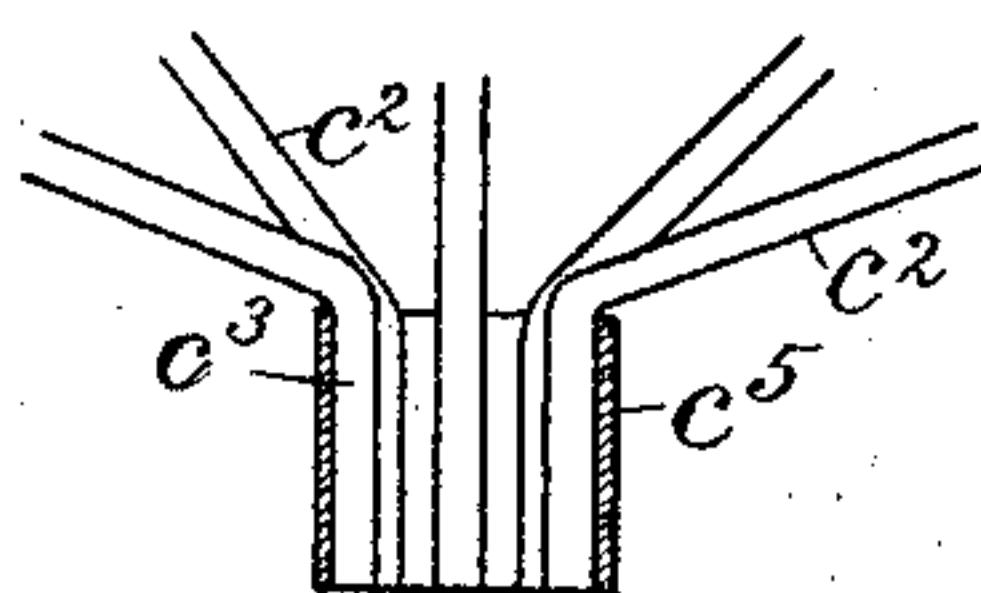


— Fig. 4. —



— Fig. 5. —

— Fig. 6. —



Witnesses.

Saml. G. Stephens.
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E. G. Baker.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ERI G. BAKER, OF LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO THE BAKER
TELEPHONE INDEX AND TABLET COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

TABLET-DISPLAYING DEVICE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 476,182, dated May 31, 1892.

Application filed June 8, 1891. Serial No. 395,461. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ERI G. BAKER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lowell, in the county of Middlesex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Tablet-Displaying Devices, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to tablet-displaying devices adapted to hold in a convenient form a series of tablets or cards on which are written or printed lists of names, prices, or discounts, or other things, or written or printed indexes, and capable of being turned to bring any such tablet or card in sight of the observer.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation of the device, omitting the tablets or cards, the bearing-studs being partly in cross-section in the plane of the centers or hubs of the cylinder; Fig. 2, a plan of one of the hubs (the top of the lower hub or the bottom of the upper hub) and adjacent parts of the frame-wires; Fig. 3, a plan of the back board, the upper bearing-stud, the upper part of the cylinder, and the tablets or cards in position; Fig. 4, an enlarged horizontal section of the vertical part of one of the frame-wires, the groove-plate, and parts of adjacent tablets arranged in the grooves of said plate; Fig. 5, a plan of the bottom of the back board lower bearing-stud, the lower part of the cylinder, and the tablets or cards in position; Fig. 6, a section on the line 6 6 in Fig. 2, showing a hub and adjacent parts of frame-wires.

A is a back board, adapted to be secured by screws or nails to the wall of an office or room in which the device is to be used. B B' are bearing-studs secured to the back board A and projecting horizontally therefrom in the same vertical plane with each other. The "cylinder" C, so called by analogy and not because it is cylindrical in a strictly geometrical sense, may be made of any suitable material, but, as represented in the drawings, consists principally of a frame-work of wires *c*, to which are secured groove-plates C', adapted to receive the edges of tablets or cards D. Said frame-wires *c* have vertical parallel parts

c', arranged at equal angular intervals from each other and at equal distances from the axis of the cylinder C, said frame-wires *c* above and below the vertical part *c'* being bent inwardly at *c*² in radial planes nearly to the center of said cylinder, and then at *c*³ bent away from the ends of the body of said cylinder parallel with each other and with the axis of said cylinder, the parts *c*³ entering ferrules *c*⁴ *c*⁵, to which said parts *c*³ are soldered or secured by filling said ferrules with melted solder or other easily-fusible and quickly-cooling metal or material. The ferrules *c*⁴ *c*⁵ serve as hubs or journals which enter and turn freely in holes *b* *b'* in the bearing-studs B B'. The intervals between the frame-wires *c* are maintained by brace wires or hoops *c*⁶ *c*⁷, soldered to the radial or nearly-radial parts or spokes *c*² of said wires *c*, the upper one *c*⁶ of said hoops being somewhat smaller than the circumference of the cylinder C in order not to interfere with the placing of the tablets or cards D in the groove-plates C', and the lower one *c*⁷ of said hoops being arranged below the lower ends of said groove-plates to serve as a support for said tablets or cards, and being preferably corrugated, as shown at *c*⁸ in Fig. 5, partly to improve the appearance thereof and partly to enable the cylinder C to be turned readily by placing the fingers on said corrugations, which extend outside of the tablets or cards, except at the groove-plates, to prevent soiling said tablets or cards by the fingers in turning the cylinder. The groove-plates C' are strips of sheet metal, as tin-plate or sheet-brass, (best shown in Fig. 4,) each plate C' being attached at the middle by solder to the outside of a vertical part *c'* of a frame-wire *c*, and on each side of said part *c'* bent outward at *c*⁹, and then inward at *c*¹⁰ between the bend *c*⁹ and the side edge of said plate C' to form a groove *c*¹¹, to receive one of the side edges of a tablet or card D. Each tablet or card is inserted in the top ends of a groove *c*¹¹ of one groove-plate and of the adjacent groove *c*¹¹ of the next groove-plate and pushed down until the bottom of said tablet or card near its side edges rests upon the lower brace-hoop *c*⁷, above described.

The tablets or cards are of any suitable sheet material, as paper or card-board, adapted to be painted or to be written or printed upon. The cylinder may be turned easily and quickly to expose each tablet to the same light or to show the tablets successively to the observer without the latter changing his position. Upon the tablets or cards may be written, printed, or painted ledger-page indexes, shipping-lists, address-lists, price-lists, discount-lists, or other tabulated or alphabetically-arranged information to which frequent reference needs to be made and which is usually arranged in book form.

The device is particularly useful as a directory of alphabetically-arranged names of telephone subscribers, and in any of the cases above referred to may be consulted in a small fraction of the time required in turning the leaves of a book and will always be found in the same place, while a book is frequently misplaced.

I claim as my invention—

1. The cylinder comprising hubs or journals, frame-wires secured to said hubs and having parts parallel with each other and with the axis of said cylinder, plates secured to said parallel parts of said frame-wires and having grooves adapted to receive tablets or cards, and brace-wires secured to said frame-wires to hold said frame-wires in their proper positions relatively to each other, one of said brace-wires being arranged nearer to the center of said cylinder than said plates at the top of said cylinder and the other of said brace-wires being secured to said frame-wires below the grooves of said plates to support such tablets or cards, as and for the purpose specified.

2. The cylinder comprising hubs or journals, frame-wires secured to said hubs and having parts parallel with each other and with the axis of said cylinder, plates secured

to said parallel parts of said frame-wires and having grooves adapted to receive tablets or cards, and brace-wires secured to said frame-wires to hold said frame-wires in their proper positions relatively to each other, one of said brace-wires being arranged nearer to the center of said cylinder than said plates at the top of said cylinder and the other of said brace-wires being secured to said frame-wires below the grooves of said plates to support such tablets or cards, and between said plates adapted to extend beyond such cards to enable said cylinder to be turned by applying the fingers to said last-named brace-wire, as and for the purpose specified.

3. The cylinder comprising hubs or journals, frame-wires secured to said hubs and having parts parallel with each other and with the axis of said cylinder, plates secured to said parallel parts of said frame-wires and having grooves adapted to receive tablets or cards, and brace-wires secured to said frame-wires to hold said frame-wires in their proper positions relatively to each other, one of said brace-wires being arranged nearer to the center of said cylinder than said plates at the top of said cylinder and the other of said brace-wires being secured to said frame-wires below the grooves of said plates to support such tablets or cards and between said plates adapted to extend beyond such cards to enable said cylinder to be turned by applying the fingers to said last-named brace-wire, said last-named brace-wire being corrugated in order to be more readily engaged by the fingers, as and for the purpose specified.

In witness whereof I have signed this specification, in the presence of two attesting witnesses, this 3d day of June, A. D. 1891.

ERI G. BAKER.

Witnesses:

ALBERT M. MOORE,
MYRTIE C. BEALS.