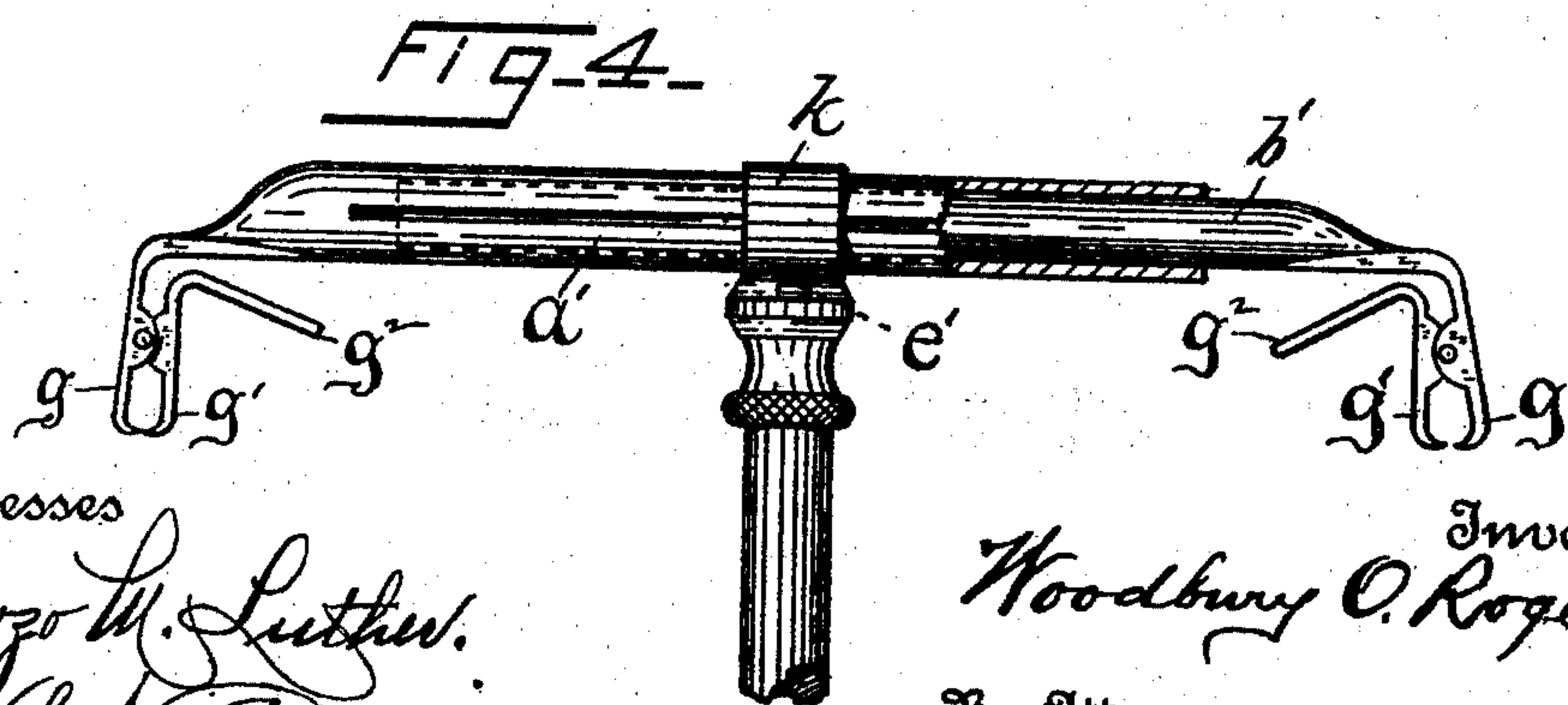
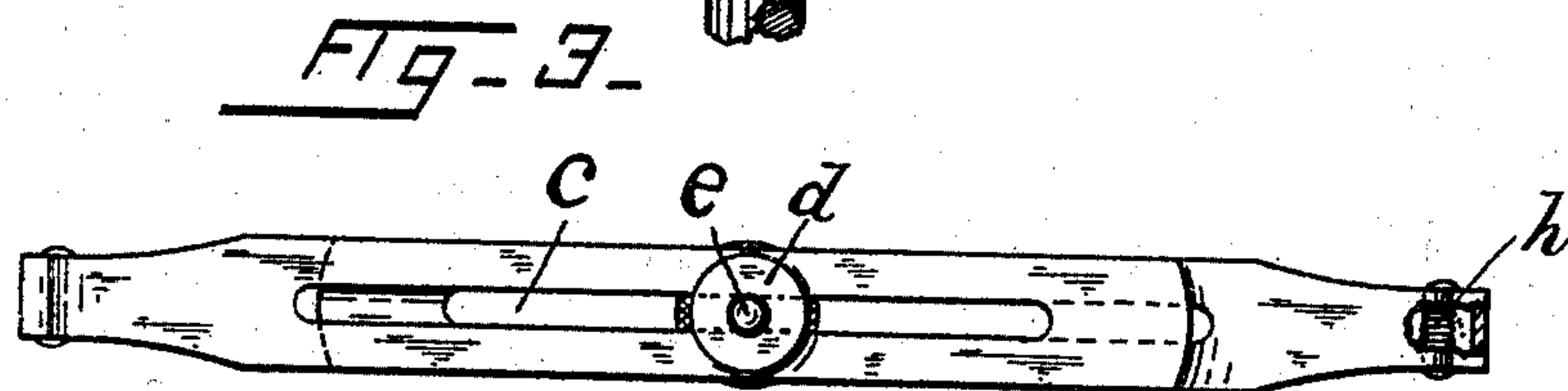
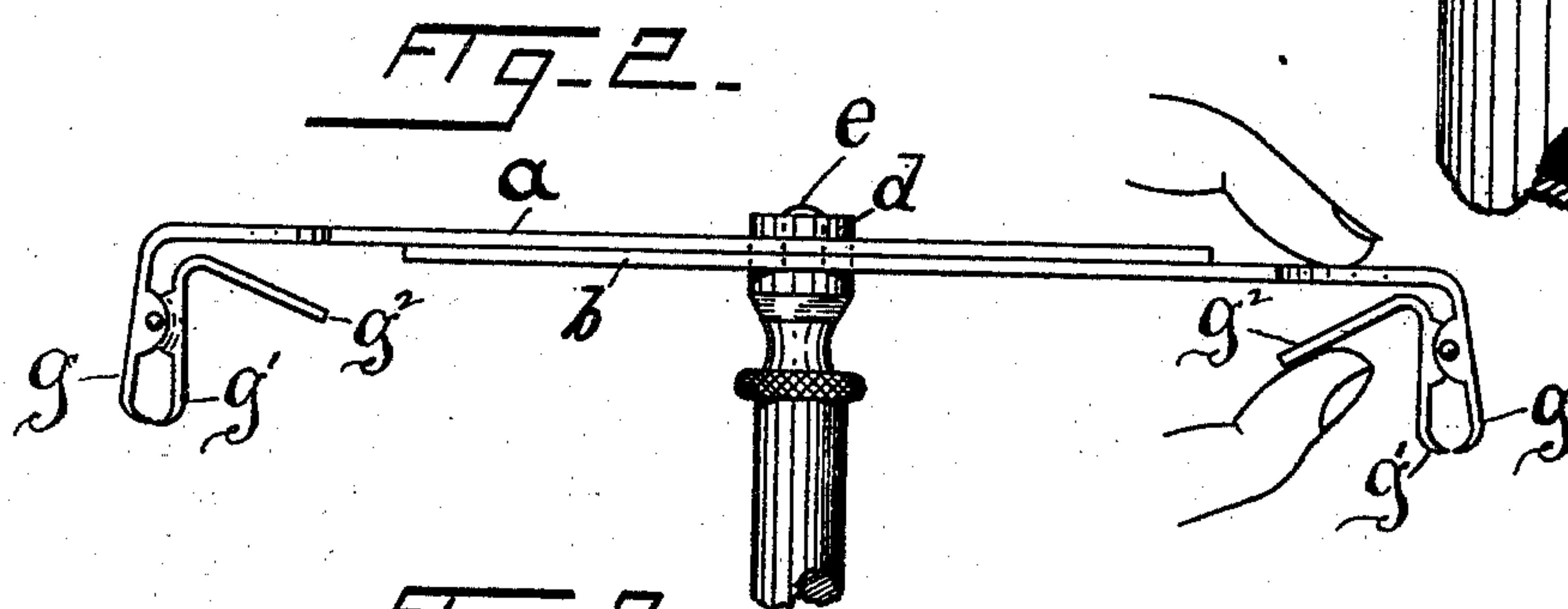
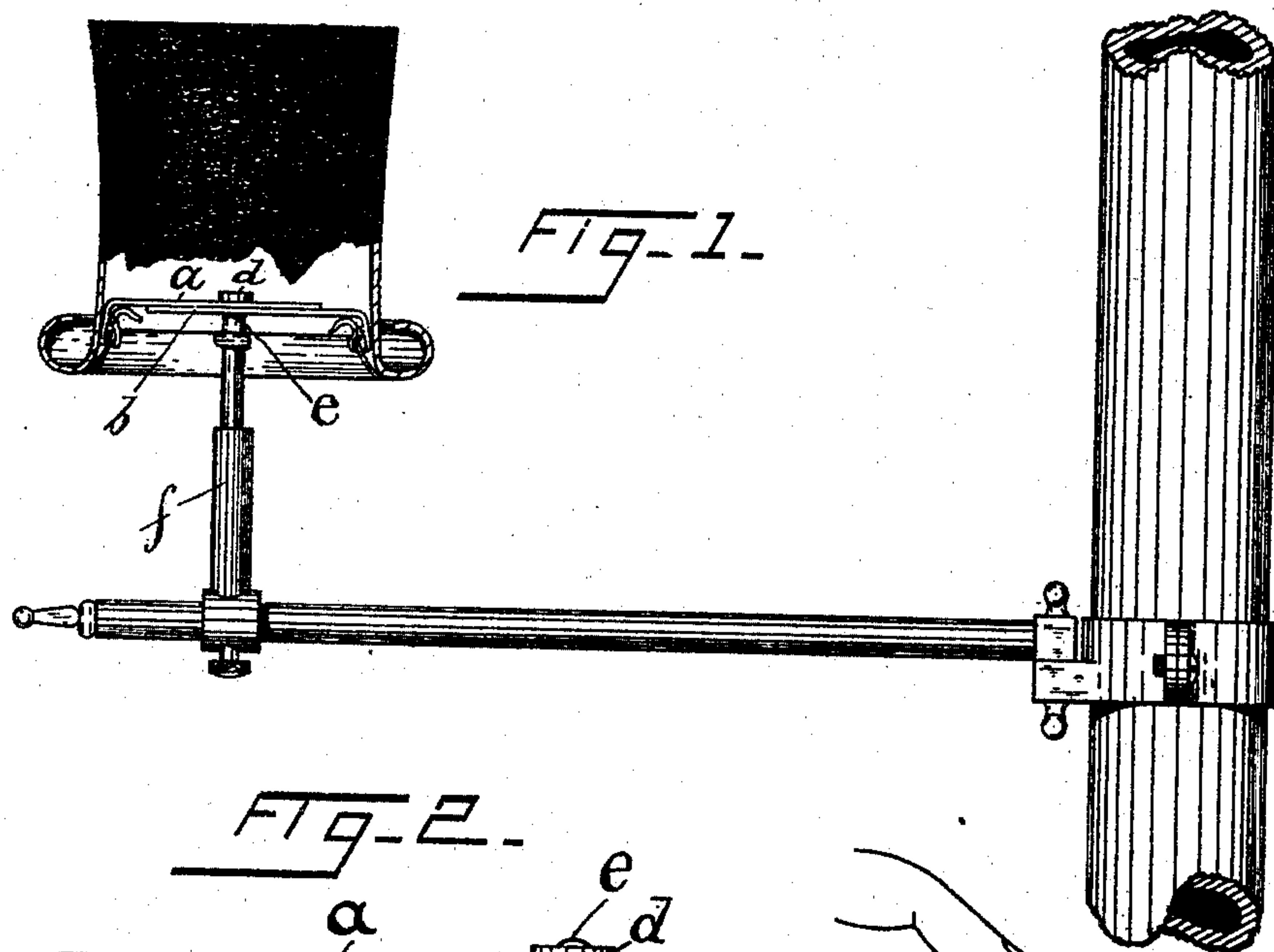


(No Model.)

W. O. ROGERS.
DISPLAY FRAME.

No. 500,745.

Patented July 4, 1893.



Witnesses

Alonso W. Luther.
W. A. Newton

Inventor

Woodbury O. Rogers

By Attorney

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WOODBURY O. ROGERS, OF NORWICH, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO WILLIAM A. AIKEN, OF SAME PLACE.

DISPLAY-FRAME.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 500,745, dated July 4, 1893.

Application filed October 13, 1892. Serial No. 448,789. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WOODBURY O. ROGERS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Norwich, in the county of New London and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Display-Frames, which improvements are fully set forth and described in the following specification, reference being had to the accompanying sheet of drawings.

This invention seeks to provide a display frame, or stand, of simple construction, which may clasp the article to be displayed positively, and it is specially convenient for supporting and displaying hats, although it may be utilized with good results for supporting a variety of articles as, for example, gloves, hosiery, handkerchiefs, &c.

In the annexed drawings Figure 1 illustrates said stand in connection with a bracket-arm and as utilized to display a hat, the latter being cut away, in part, to disclose the clamping portion of the stand. Fig. 2 is an enlarged view in elevation of the said stand (about full size) and Fig. 3 is a plan view of the same. Fig. 4 is a view, in elevation, of a modification of my invention, explained in detail hereinafter.

My preferred form is that illustrated in Figs. 1, 2 and 3 and is of the following described construction.

Two overlapping strips *a*, *b*, of sheet metal, or other inflexible material, are provided, each having a longitudinal slot *c* extending throughout a considerable portion of the length of said strips, as best seen in Fig. 3. Upon the upper face of the top strip is a nut *d* having a rib that enters the slots *c*, as indicated by dotted lines in Figs. 2 and 3, to hold the slots in alignment with each other. Co-acting with the nut *d* is a screw *e* that enters the nut from the lower side and, with it, serves to clamp together the two strips *a*, *b* after they have been properly adjusted. The lower portion of screw *e* is adapted to enter a tubular section *f*, which latter may be supported by a bracket as here shown, or by any other convenient form of stand.

The described arrangement of adjustable, inflexible, strips and the means employed to

clamp them together I do not now seek to claim as my invention, as I am aware that they have been heretofore used in connection with supports for displaying shoes, as fully set forth in Patent No. 388,685, issued August 28, 1888.

The outer end of each of the strips *a*, *b* terminates in a downwardly bent jaw *g*, to which is hinged a movable jaw *g'* having an arm *g''* extending along the under side of the strip *a* or *b*, as the case may be, said arm forming a convenient operating handle by means of which the movable jaw (of which said handle is a part) may be readily forced open, against the tension of a spring *h* that is coiled around the jaw pivot and acts with a constant tendency to close the jaws. This construction permits the handle *g''* and the strip adjacent to it to be grasped between the thumb and finger, as seen in Fig. 2, whenever it is desired to open the jaws.

The described jaws are intended to engage with the sweat-band of a hat, upon opposite sides thereof, as seen in Fig. 1. When it is desired to display a hat the screw *e* is loosened in its nut *d*, thus freeing for a time the strips *a*, *b*. The complete device is then inserted in the hat, the movable jaw of one clasp is opened and slipped downward over the edge of the sweat-band and permitted to clasp said band. The jaws at the end of the other strip are then clasped upon the opposite edge of the sweat-band. Meanwhile, the strips *a*, *b* have adjusted and accommodated themselves to the width of the hat and it is only necessary to screw the screw *e* firmly into its nut.

Suspension devices have been used having clasps at the ends of tape or webbing, whose central portion has been provided with a take-up in the form of an ordinary buckle but in adjusting such a device to meet the varying sizes of hats it is necessary to remove the same from the hat to reach and adjust the buckle before the clasps can be finally clamped upon the sweat-band, whereas in my present invention such adjustment is automatically accomplished as the strips are drawn outward or crowded inward during the act of clamping the clasps upon the sweat-band.

My improved display stand also possesses this marked advantage: Being made of inflexible material the hat is held positively in desired position, whereas when a tape is employed a top-heavy hat (as for example a tall silk hat) will naturally tip to one side instead of standing erect. Very shallow hats may also be supported by my device which requires, for successful operation, a depth of crown only a little more than the width of the sweat-band.

In Fig. 4 I have illustrated a modification of my invention in which is substituted for the strips *a* and *b* a rod *b'* fitted to slide within a split tube *a'*, the split tube being supported by a collar *k* through which is tapped a screw *e'* on the end of the standard of the display stand, said screw being indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 4. After the desired adjustment of the bar *b'* and tube *a'* has been

made the screw *e'* is turned home until its end engages the lower half of the split tube and clamps it against the rod *b'*, thus serving to hold the latter against longitudinal movement within the tube. The outer ends of the tube and rod bear clasps of the form first above described in connection with the strips *a b*.

I claim as my invention—

As an improvement in display frames, two strips of inflexible material longitudinally adjustable upon each other, and means as set forth for clamping said strips together; each of said strips having rigidly secured to its free end a downwardly projecting clasp, all being combined substantially as specified.

WOODBURY O. ROGERS.

Witnesses:

FRANK H. ALLEN,
EDWIN A. TRACY.