

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

G. M. WHEELER.
EXHIBITION STRUCTURE.

No. 506,291.

Patented Oct. 10, 1893.

Fig. 1.

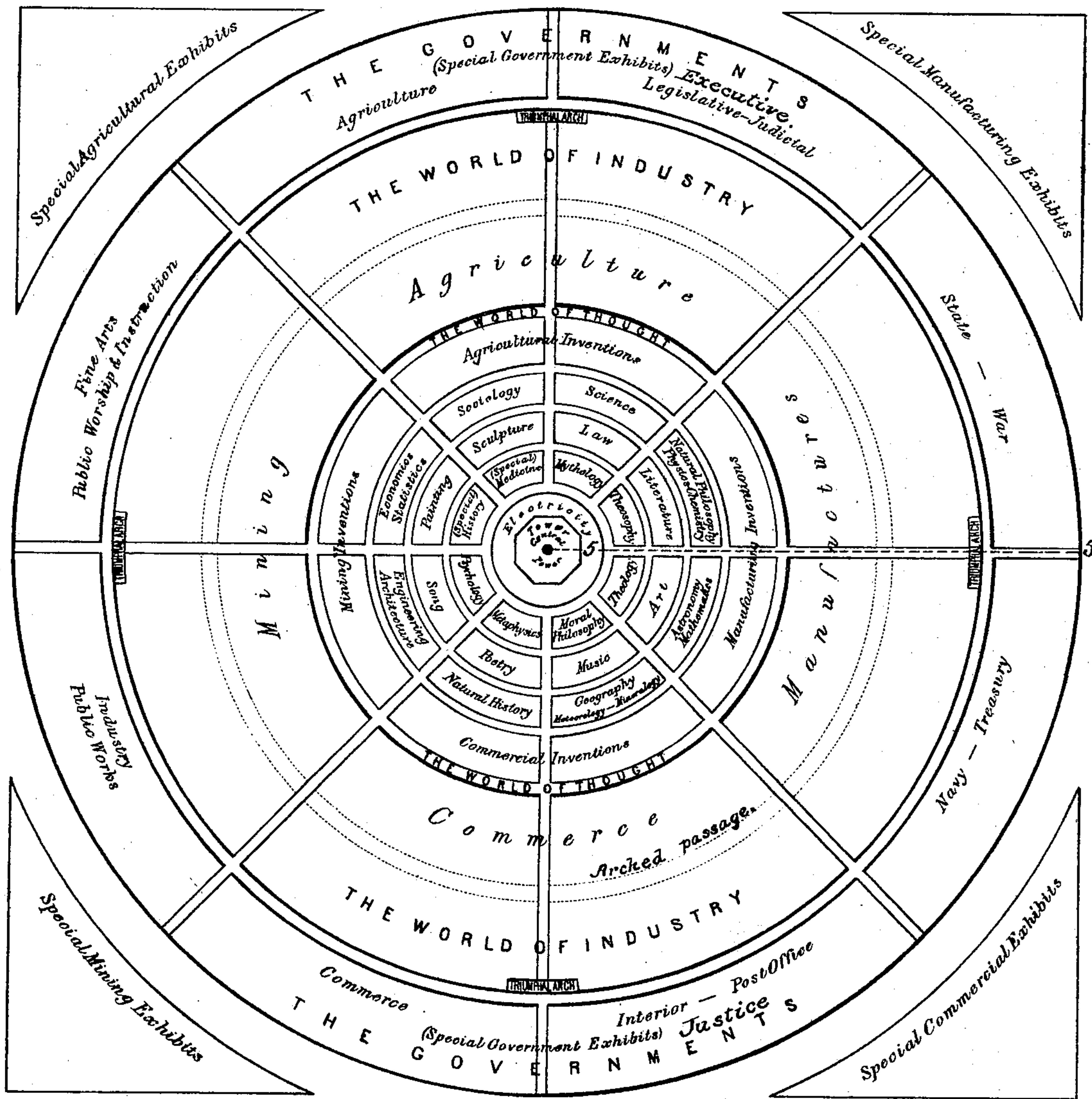
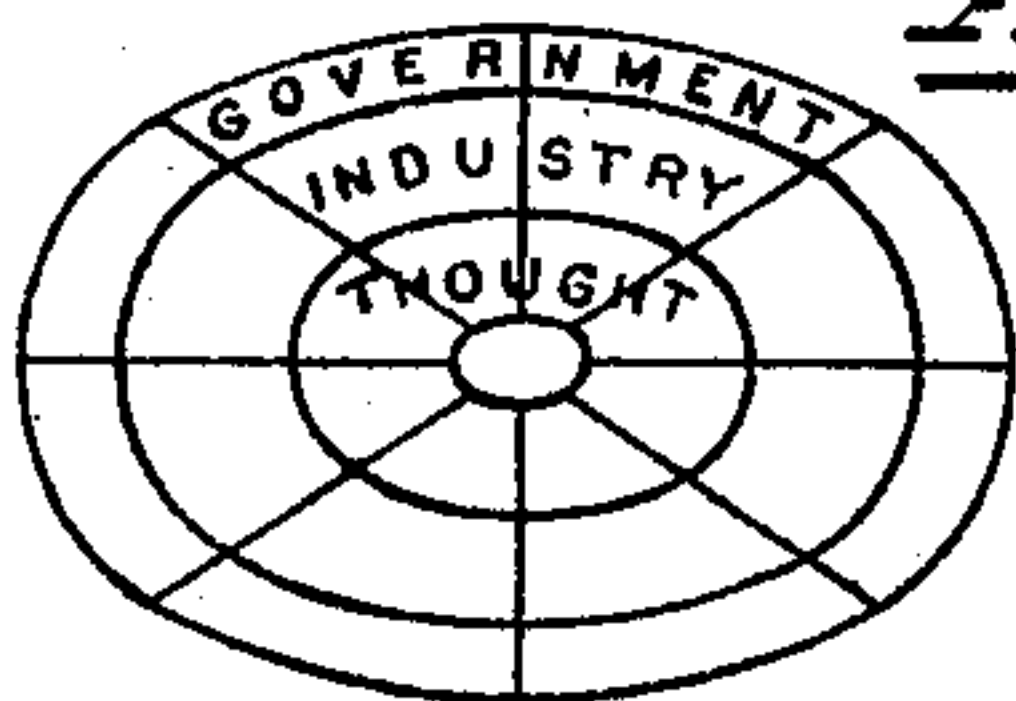


Fig. 2.

PLAN OF A UNIVERSAL WORLD'S EXHIBIT

Geo. M. Wheeler
1890

Fig. 3.



Witnesses:

Albert Speiden.

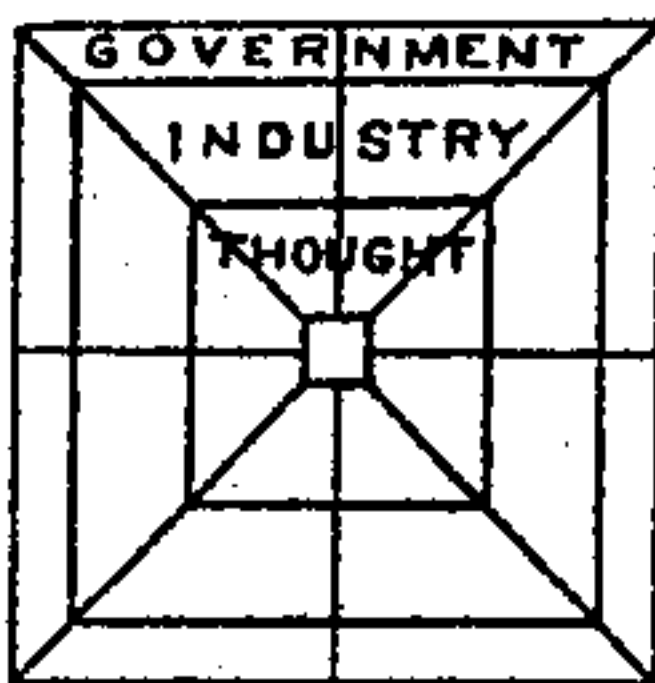
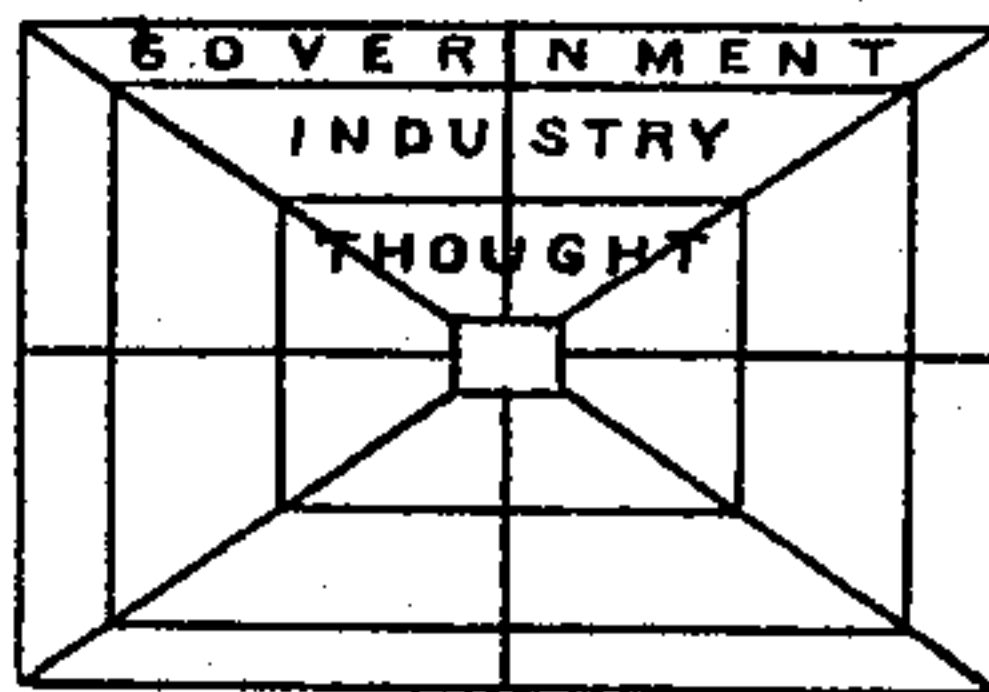


Fig. 4.



Inventor:

George M. Wheeler
by his Atty Woodbury Lowery

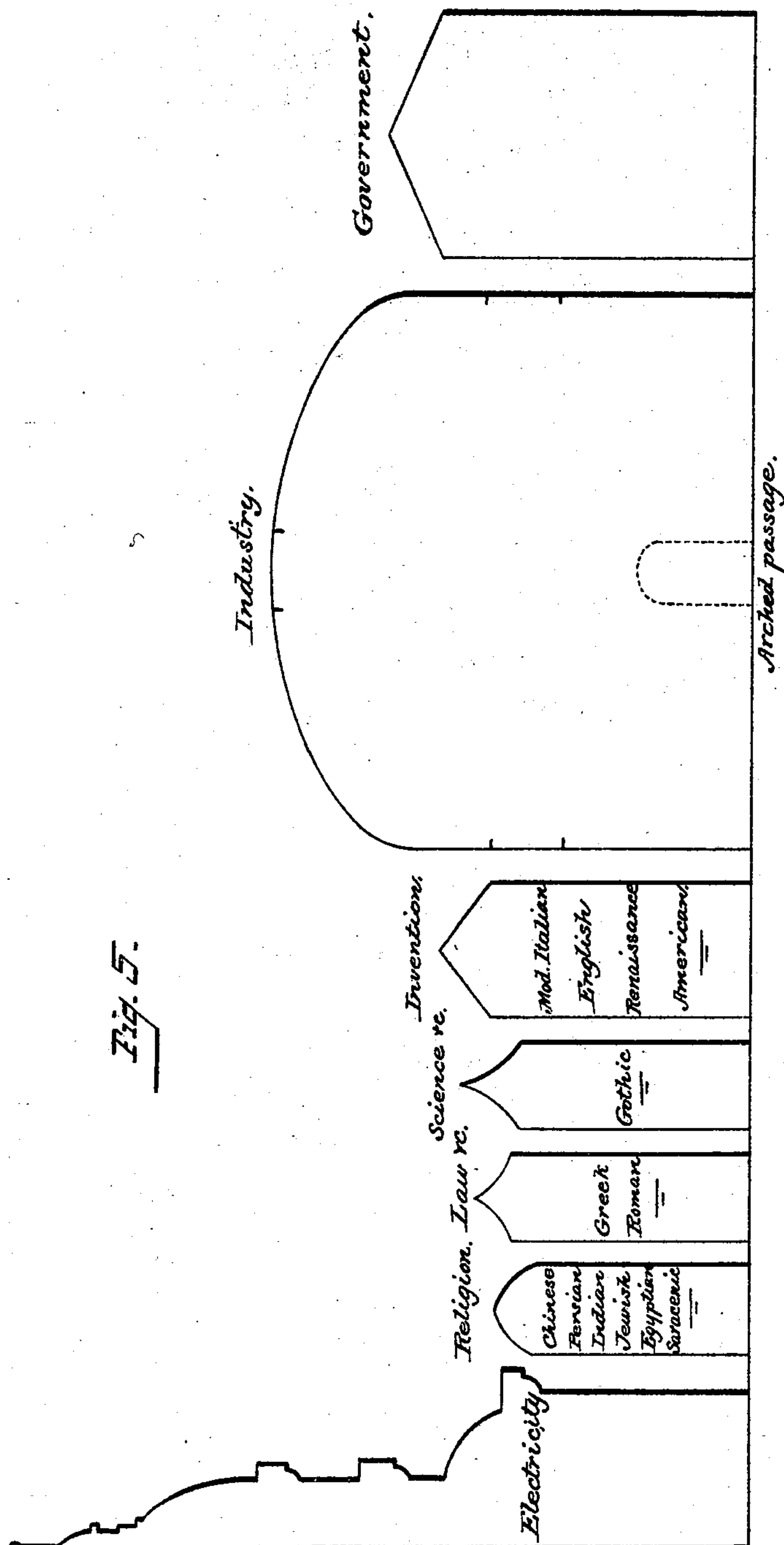
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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

G. M. WHEELER.
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No. 506,291.

Patented Oct. 10, 1893.



Witnesses:
"H. D. Spinden."
Albert Spinden.

Inventor:
George M. Wheeler
by his atty. Woodbury Lowrey

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE M. WHEELER, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

EXHIBITION-STRUCTURE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 506,291, dated October 10, 1893.

Application filed December 20, 1890. Serial No. 375,351. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE MONTAGUE WHEELER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented new and useful Improvements in Exhibition-Structures and a System for the Classification of Exhibits in the Same, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a method of classification of exhibits which consists in so locating the various exhibits or groups of exhibits in respect to each other that contiguous groups shall always present both their relation, correlation and an order of development; and for this purpose I have also devised a structure comprising one or more parts in which advantage may be taken of any possible site, whether the structure be in the shape of a circle, a square, an ellipse, a trapezoid, a rectangle or parallelogram without departing from the order in which the various groups may be exhibited.

In the accompanying drawings which illustrate my invention—Figure 1 is a plan view illustrating the grouping and arrangement of various buildings constituting the exhibition structure, and also showing my system of classification of exhibits. Figs. 2, 3, and 4 are modifications of the same. Fig. 5 is a cross section on the line 5—5 of Fig. 1 of the group of buildings showing an architectural arrangement of the same with respect to height.

While I have shown this part of my invention as consisting in the order of grouping a series of buildings each to contain some special exhibit, it is obvious that the same plan may be followed in the space comprised under one roof in which the divisions illustrated in the plan by separate buildings will be formed by partitions or railings with passage ways disposed in the same manner; or that it may be a combination of simple buildings and sub-divided buildings; and for this reason I have used the word "structure" in my specification and claims to indicate both a single building having the described divisions or series of buildings, in which each building constitutes a division.

Fig. 1 shows a circular structure having concentric and radial divisions or buildings separated by concentric circular aisles which

in turn are intersected by radial aisles which terminate in or near the center of the structure. In this wise, the entire group of buildings is readily subdivided into compartments or exhibit reservations and each part is rendered readily accessible along least distance lines by a direct passage from any one point to any other given point in the group however remote. But I do not limit myself to the circular shape there shown, as it is obvious that the reservations and divisions may be bounded by right lines, provided always that the aisles leading from the center be radial, and that the concentric passages be parallel.

In Figs. 2, 3, and 4 I have shown various modifications of my invention as applied respectively to an ellipse, a square, and a parallelogram. Where a circular or elliptical form is given to the structure, boundary divisions may be added as in Fig. 1, either one or more, dependent upon the available ground space to be occupied. These boundary divisions are separated from the central structure by surrounding passages as shown. In place of having the radial passages intersect at the center of the structure I may provide a central reservation having a surrounding passage in which terminate the radial passages. In the center of the exposition space may be placed the initial motive power necessary for all the exhibits, and rising therefrom may be constructed an octagonal tower, in size and height proportioned to the magnitude of each undertaking and overlooking the whole field. Whenever the particular surrounding building is of sufficient size to require it, I provide a continuous central arched passage lighted from the top, and upon which the different exhibits front, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1. It is thus seen that whatever the shape of the ground space allotted for an exhibition, a structure can be erected thereon in conformity with my invention, availing itself of the entire surface with the greatest possible economy of space and preserving whatever its contour may be, a uniform and unvarying arrangement and sequence of divisions and an orderly and accessible means of passage along least distance lines from one division to the other.

Another advantage of the structure which I have described consists in its perfect adap-

tation to my system of classification of exhibits, and its capacity for illustrating such system. My system of classification is based upon the grand departments within which are comprised all the mental and manual work of the world. These are the domains of thought, industry and government, to the first of which is allotted the central circle of the structure. In consonance with a possible or an assumed law of evolution, the next concentric circle is that of the domain of industry, and the exterior circle that of government. The combined functional parts, such as theosophy, &c., of the world of thought as defined by my classification are taken from the cardinal developments up to the present epoch and follow, to a great extent at least, the evolution of the human mind, through its emotional, imaginative and reasoning faculties. The world of industry comprises all that mental and manual work have produced in this branch of the world's economy. The governments (from those based on one-man power to that of every man power, controlled by law) have followed also a species of evolution and are placed on the exterior as being and to become the natural and actual outgrowth of the relations and results of the worlds of thought and industry. Each space or world is again subdivided into smaller divisions occupied by groups, those on the same circumference being located with respect to their correlation while they exhibit radially a species of development according to the following series: Around the central reservation represented in my structure by a tower, I have grouped for convenience and illustration the most important current and historic results in electricity, a power from among the imponderable now already so wide, and which promises to become universal in its application. The structure inclosing these will be of modern style of architecture. This for mechanical convenience occupies the first or inner circle of the whole space.

Proceeding now in the order already stated, the central portion of the exposition space allowed to the domain of thought is assumed as the point whence the various arts resulting from the application of mind (subdivided into its emotional, imaginative and reasoning faculties) subjectively and objectively emanate sequentially and radially outward, noted by the types of (1) mythology, (2) law, including literature and the fine arts, (3) science, (4) invention, (5) industry, (6) government; and *pari passu* outward from the center the schools of architecture from the ancient to the modern times are represented. The concentric banded spaces allotted to, aggregating and comprehending the domain of the world of thought are as follows:

1—Mythology, theosophy, theology, metaphysics, moral philosophy and psychology, with special subjects of history, physiology and medicine.

2—Law, literature, art, music, poetry, song, painting and sculpture.

3—Science, natural or experimental philosophy, physics, chemistry, astronomy, mathematics, geography, geology, mineralogy, meteorology, natural history, biology, engineering, architecture, economics, statistics, sociology.

4—Agricultural, mining, manufacturing and commercial inventions, placed in immediate juxtaposition to these classes of exhibits respectively.

The buildings to be placed within the first concentric band are to be representative of Saracenic, Egyptian, Jewish, Indian, Persian and Chinese architecture.

The construction in the circular band dedicated to law, &c., will represent each an individual of the Greek as well as the Roman schools, and the various other architectural schools or epochs.

The circular banded space dedicated to science may have all the buildings of the Gothic order of architecture.

The inventions are to be inclosed under well lighted and commodious structure illustrative of the modern Italian and English schools, the Renaissance and the current American.

Again concentric and exterior to the perimeter of the circle representing the domain of thought, comes the more ample space devoted to the world of industry, subdivided into agriculture, mining, manufactures and commerce.

Encircling the space for the industries, is placed a banded inclosure in which all the functions of government may be displayed, the legislative and judicial (each separated from each other) and the present known administrative divisions of the executive branch, such as State, War, Navy, Post Office, Interior, Justice, Commerce, Industry, Public Works, Public Worship, and Instruction, and Fine Arts.

Special exhibits for the government are provided for as shown in Fig. 1 and disposed in various directions (noted cartographically at the exterior corners) may be appropriate spaces for objects too bulky for the main body of the industrial exhibit.

In functioning my system of classification within the structure or exposition buildings which I have described, certain architectural features may be employed for the sake of greater convenience.

Buildings placed within the first concentric band and illustrative of the world of thought and its architectural development may be uniform as to height, usefully subdivided, and may increase in size radially outward until those employed for inventions shall be subordinate only to the grand structure devoted to the industries and perhaps to certain buildings used by the governments.

Central as to the banded space belonging

to the world of industry will be a continuous arched passage lighted from the top, and upon which the different exhibits shall front.

5 The grand structure for the industries encompassing the space appropriated to the world of thought may be a building with vertical sides, elliptic-shaped roof, well lighted at sides and top. This space may be approached from cardinal points and entered through triumphal arches, appropriate each to the special
10 industry. The most convenient intercommunication possible has been provided for all points of the entire space along radial and circumferential lines that may be varied in proximity as required. The scale of distance is
15 arbitrary, dependent upon the scope of each undertaking, and need not be proportionate to that of the chart herewith. Such in brief is a methodical and comprehensive general plan
20 and system for a temporary or permanent world's exhibit, the details of which admit of being modified in the location, construction, and arrangement according to the departments, without departing from the spirit or
25 intent of my invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

30 1. An improvement in the art of building, which consists in a covered structure for the disposition of exhibits having radial and concentric exhibit divisions and corresponding thereto, radial avenues and intersecting therewith a series of parallel concentric avenues
35 leading around the area, said avenues freely communicating with each other, and the said structure and sub-divided area being adaptable in its own shape and configuration to every kind of site, substantially as described.

40 2. An improvement in the art of building, which consists in a structure for the disposition of exhibits having radial and concentric

exhibit divisions separate exterior exhibit divisions bordering on a communicating avenue coincident with the perimeter of the more
45 central divisions and corresponding to said central divisions, radial avenues and intersecting therewith a series of parallel concentric avenues leading around the area, said
50 avenues freely communicating with each other and with said separate exterior exhibit divisions, substantially as described.

3. An improvement in the art of building which consists in the combination with a
55 structure for the disposition of exhibits having a central reservation, of a motive power located in said central reservation, and from whence emanates and is distributed the power necessary for the successful illustration of the
60 exhibits, and of a tower which rises from the interior of said central reservation, dominating the whole structural field substantially as described.

4. A structure for the disposition of exhibits, having a central reservation, contiguous
65 divisions surrounding it in bands, aisles separating said banded divisions, aisles extending from said central reservation to the perimeter of the structure and intersecting said
70 surrounding divisional bands and aisles, and boundary divisions having a communicating aisle co-incident with the perimeter of the central divisions, whereby to illustrate scientifically the successive development relation
75 and correlation of the various groups of exhibits.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

GEO. M. WHEELER.

Witnesses:

WOODBURY LOWERY,
JOSEPH ROY.