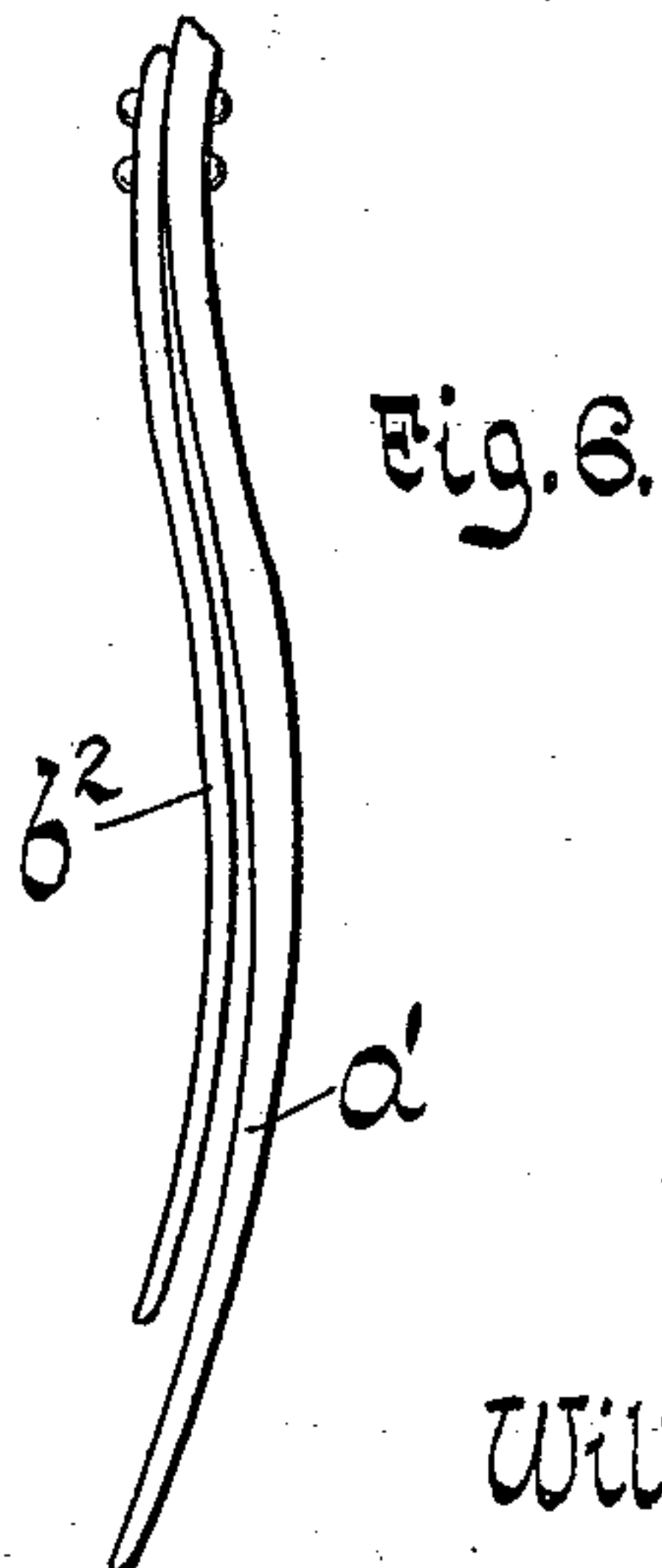
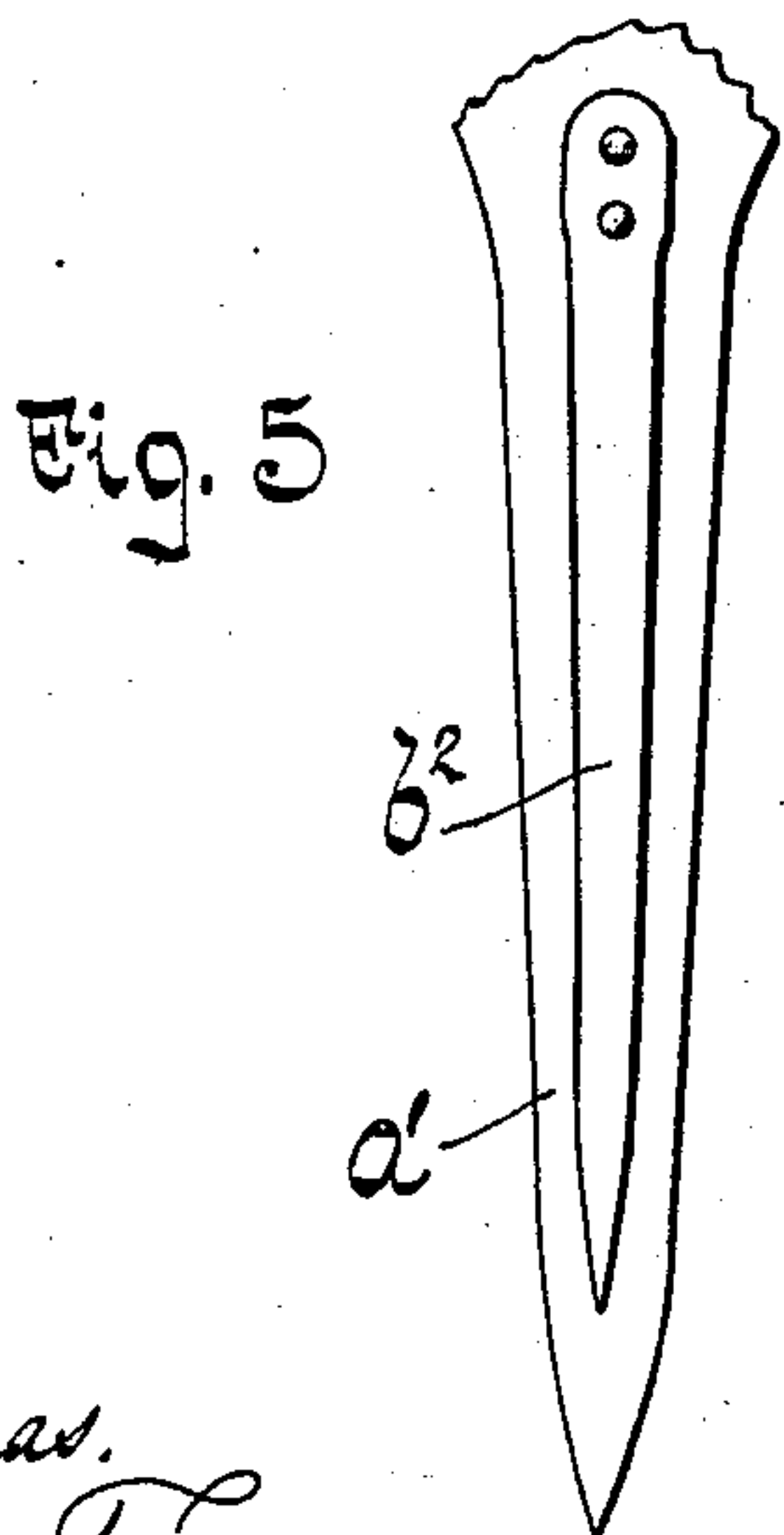
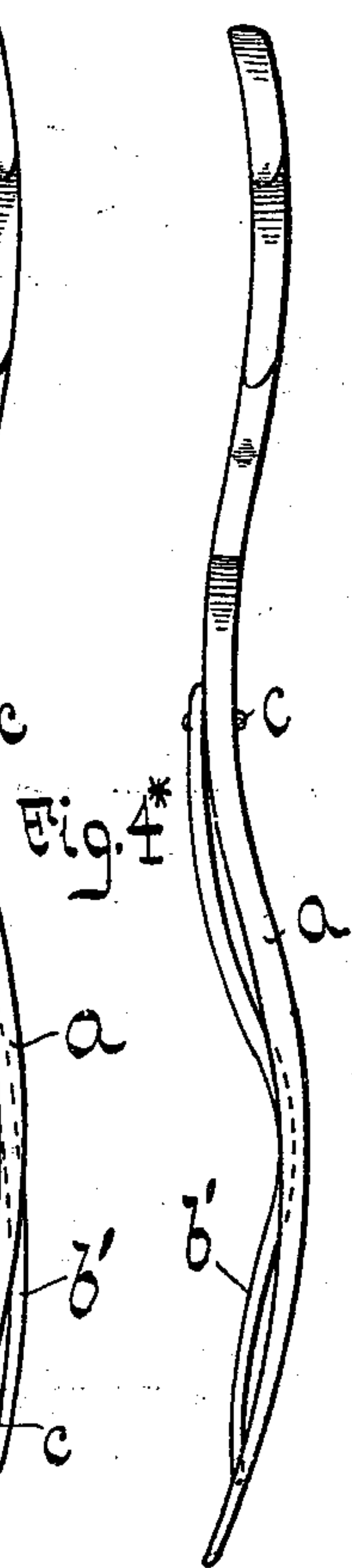
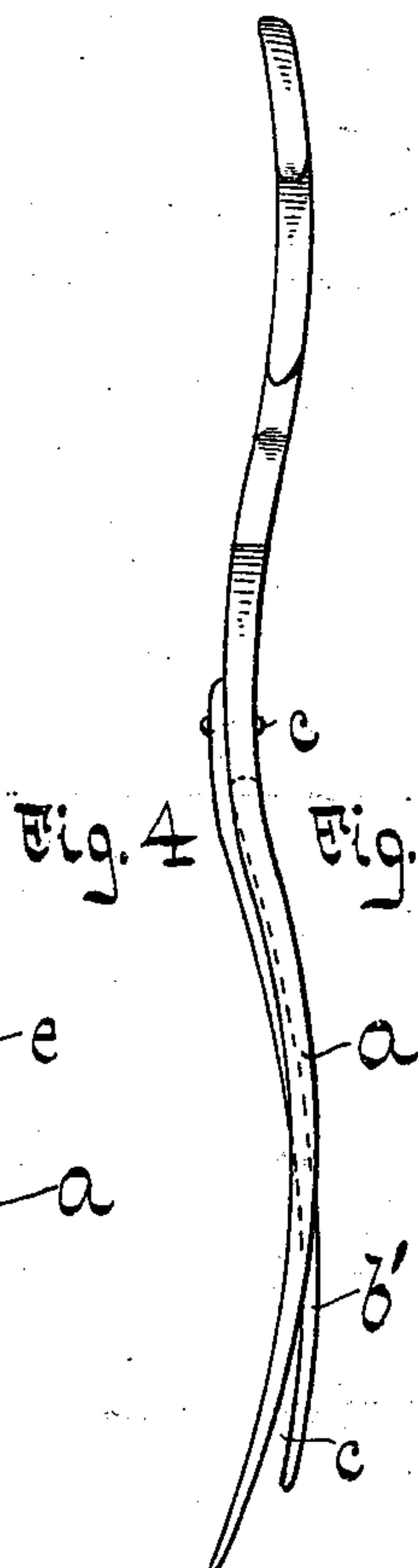
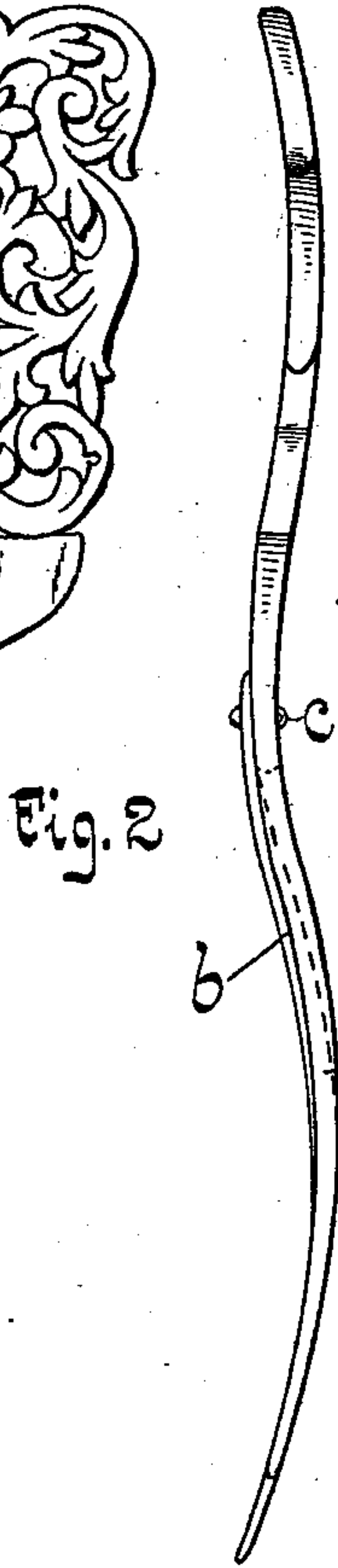
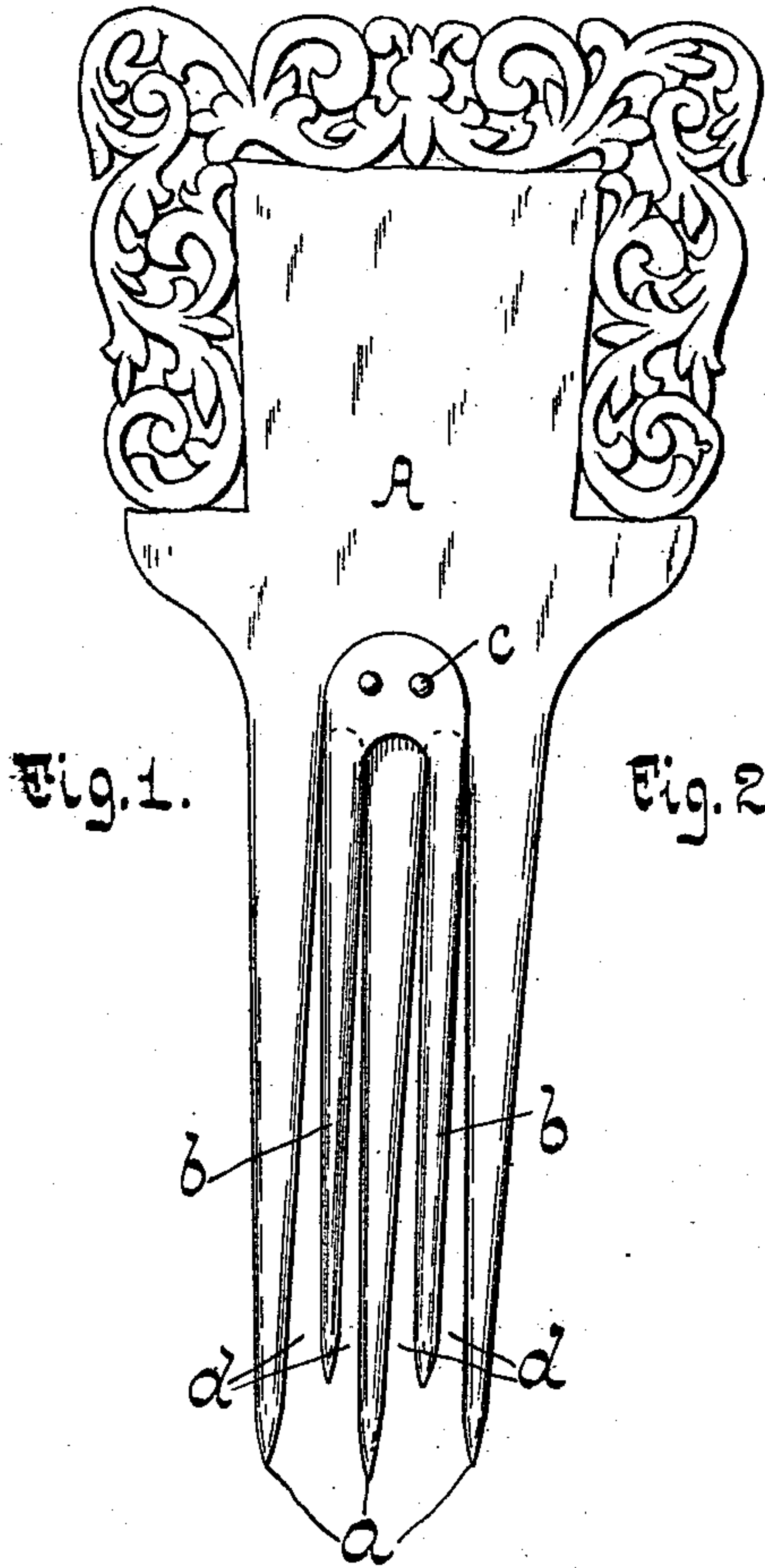


(No Model.)

W. S. BECHTOLD.
BACK COMB.

No. 551,175.

Patented Dec. 10, 1895.



WITNESSES:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM S. BECHTOLD, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY.

BACK COMB.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 551,175, dated December 10, 1895.

Application filed August 23, 1895. Serial No. 560,236. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM S. BECHTOLD, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Newark, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Back Combs, of which the following is a specification.

My invention has reference to improvements in back or side combs, and especially to means for more securely holding the same in the hair. With the ordinary prongs the combs are insecurely held, especially when the hair is thin or loosely dressed, and are frequently lost.

The object of my present invention is to so construct the prongs that the comb is securely held, while at the same time it does not fasten itself into the hair in such a manner as to pull the latter when drawn out.

To this end my invention consists, essentially, in a back comb or the like, comprising in its structure a pointed main prong and a supplemental pointed prong, the latter extending in the longitudinal direction of the main prong and diverging in a plane at an angle to the plane of the same, both said prongs being adapted to enter the hair and to co-operate in retaining the comb.

The nature of my invention will best be understood when described in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a front view of a back comb embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a side view of the same. Figs. 3, 4, and 4* are side views illustrating different forms of the invention. Fig. 5 is a face view, and Fig. 6 a side view, of another form embodying my invention.

Similar letters of reference designate corresponding parts throughout the several views of the drawings.

Referring at present to Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings, the letter A designates a back comb provided with three prongs *a* and constructed according to a usual shape. To the face of this comb I secure, intermediate of the main prongs *a*, two supplemental prongs *b*. In the present example I have shown these prongs formed from one piece of material and united to the comb by means of rivets *c*. They may, however, be made separate and separately secured to the comb. I have also shown the supplemental prongs made shorter than the

main prongs to facilitate the insertion of the comb. They may, however, be made equal in length to the main prongs, or longer, if so desired.

In the present example I have shown the supplemental prongs *b* starting in a plane outside of the plane of the main prongs *a*, then gradually diverging inwardly and terminating in one and the same plane with the main prongs. In this manner the hair is received by the tapering portions *d* between the several prongs *a* and *b*, while at the same time it enters between the fronts of the main prongs *a* and the backs of the supplemental prongs *b*, thus doubly wedging the comb.

In Figs. 3 and 4 I have shown the supplemental prongs *b'* starting, as before, in a plane outside of the plane of the main prongs *a*; but in Fig. 3 the supplemental prongs remain outside of the plane of the main prongs throughout their entire length, while in Fig. 4 the supplemental prongs cross the main prongs and terminate at the rear of the same. In these figures the spaces *e* form passages into which the hair enters. It is of course to be understood that if the back comb is provided with but two main prongs one supplemental prong arranged intermediate of said main prongs in the manner above described is sufficient. When the comb is provided with but one prong, two supplemental prongs may be arranged to embrace the main prong, or, as shown in Figs. 4 and 5, one supplemental prong *b²* may be arranged directly in front of the main prong *a'* and gradually diverged outward from its beginning to its termination.

Instead of the supplemental prong being in the form of a simple curve, as shown in the preceding figures, it may have imparted thereto, by bending, a compound curvature, as shown in Fig. 4*. In said figure the supplemental prongs are shown as entering between the main prongs, leaving the same about centrally at the front of the comb and then re-entering between said prongs. This form further increases the hold of the comb on the hair.

What I claim as new is—

1. A back comb, or the like, comprising in its structure a pointed main prong and a supplemental pointed prong, the latter extending in the longitudinal direction of the main prong

and diverging in a plane at an angle to the plane of the same; both said prongs being adapted to enter the hair and to co-operate in retaining the comb, substantially as described. 5

2. A back comb, or the like, comprising in its structure two or more main prongs, and one or more pointed supplemental prongs located intermediate of the main prongs and diverging 10 in a plane forming an angle with the plane of the latter to co-operate in retaining the comb, substantially as described.

3. A back comb, or the like, comprising in its structure two or more main prongs, and one 15 or more supplemental prongs located intermediate of the former and starting in a plane outside of the plane of the main prongs and diverging in a plane at an angle to the plane of the latter, substantially as described.

20 4. A back comb, or the like, comprising in its structure two or more main prongs, and one

or more supplemental prongs located intermediate of the former and starting in a plane outside of the plane of the main prongs and diverging in a plane at an angle to the plane 25 of the latter; their terminals returning substantially to the plane of the terminals of the main prongs, substantially as described.

5. A back comb, or the like, comprising in its structure pointed main prongs and a pointed 30 supplemental prong diverging from the main prongs and having a compound curvature; both said prongs co-operating to retain the comb, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as 35 my invention I have signed my name in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM S. BECHTOLD.

Witnesses:

ADAM OHL,

WALTER R. PEMBERTON.