

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

C. C. DEANE.  
HAT DISPLAY RACK.

No. 562,809.

Patented June 30, 1896.

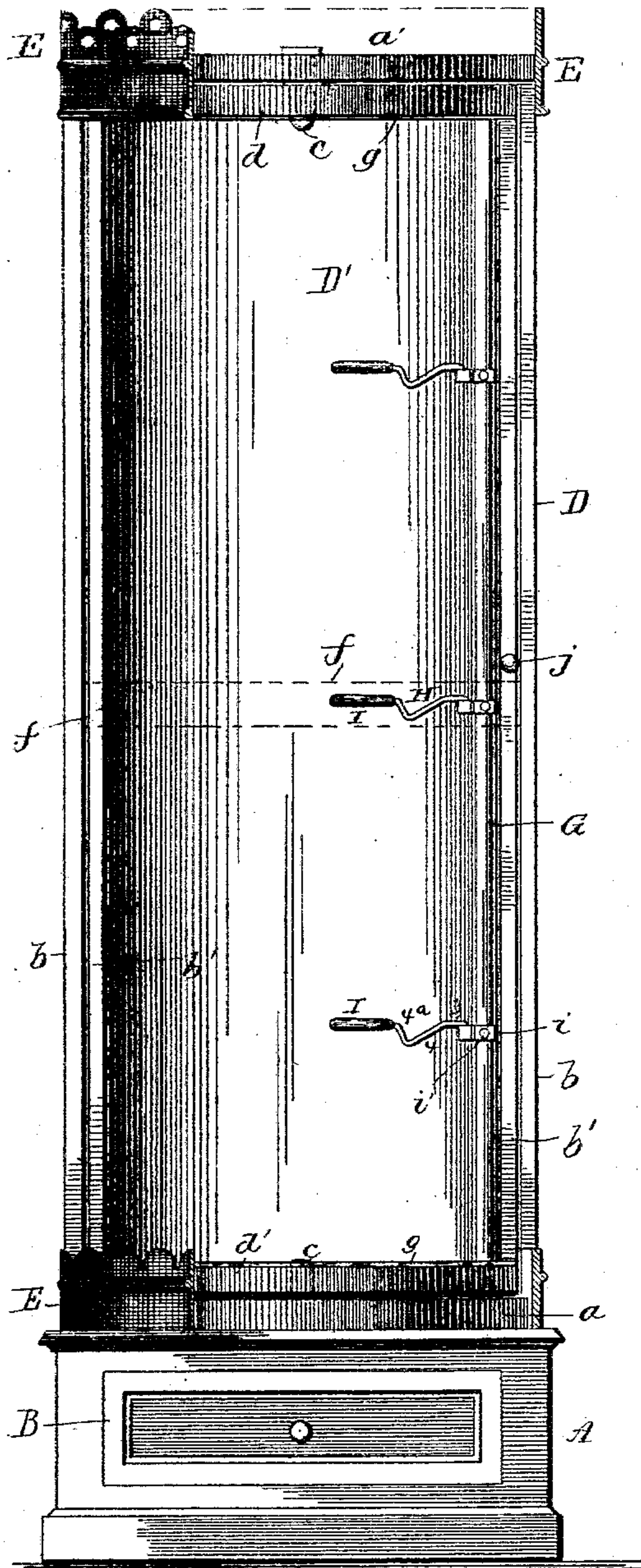


Fig. 1.

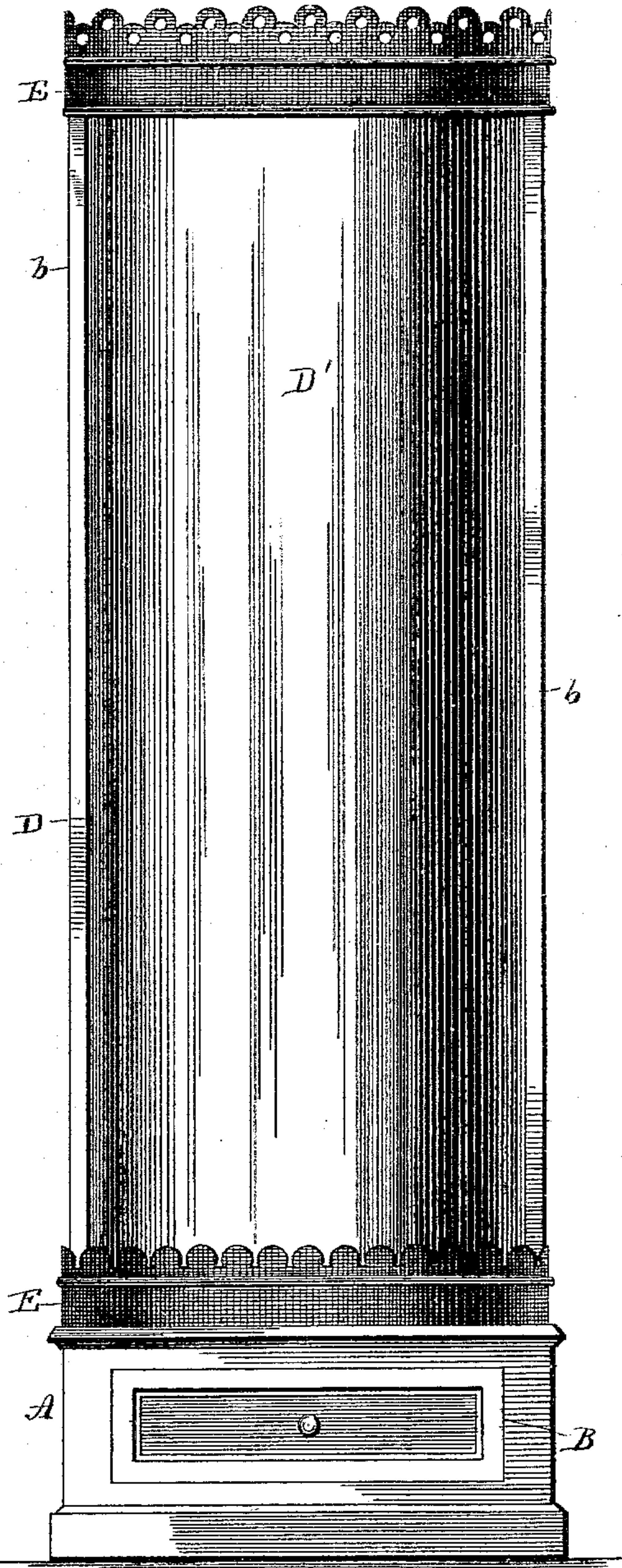


Fig. 2.

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Attorney



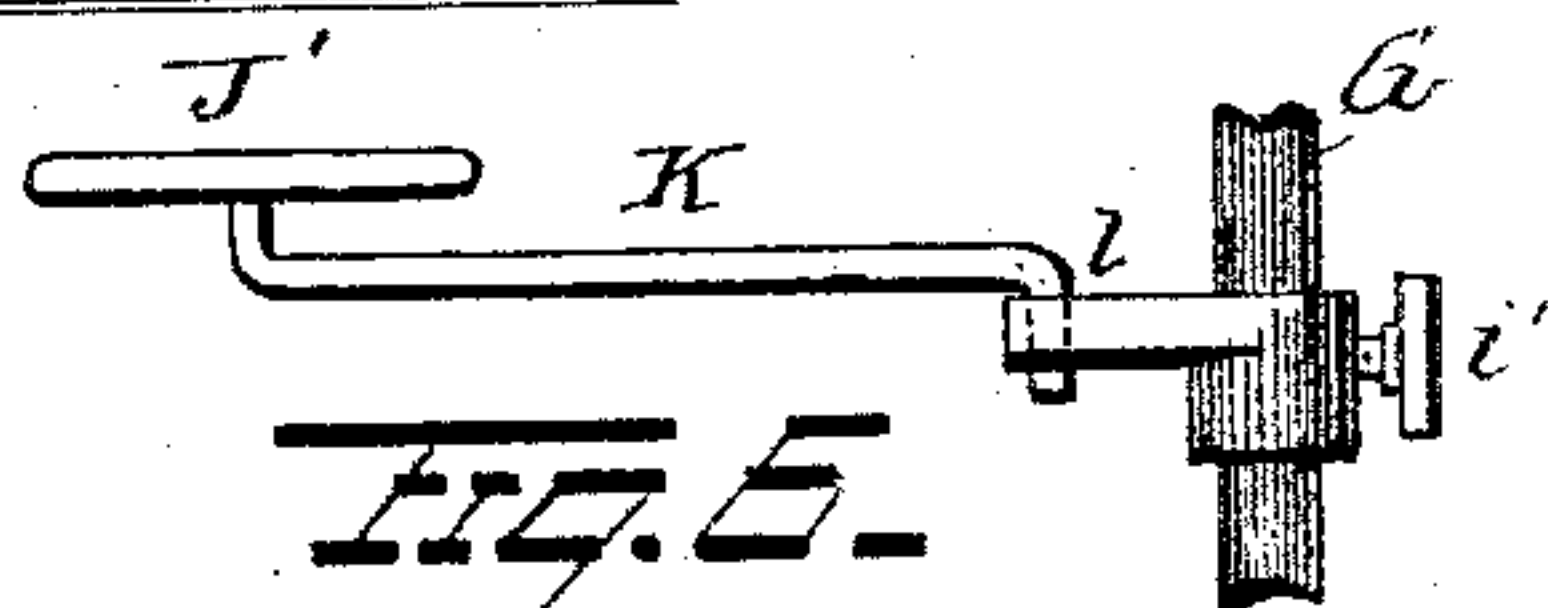
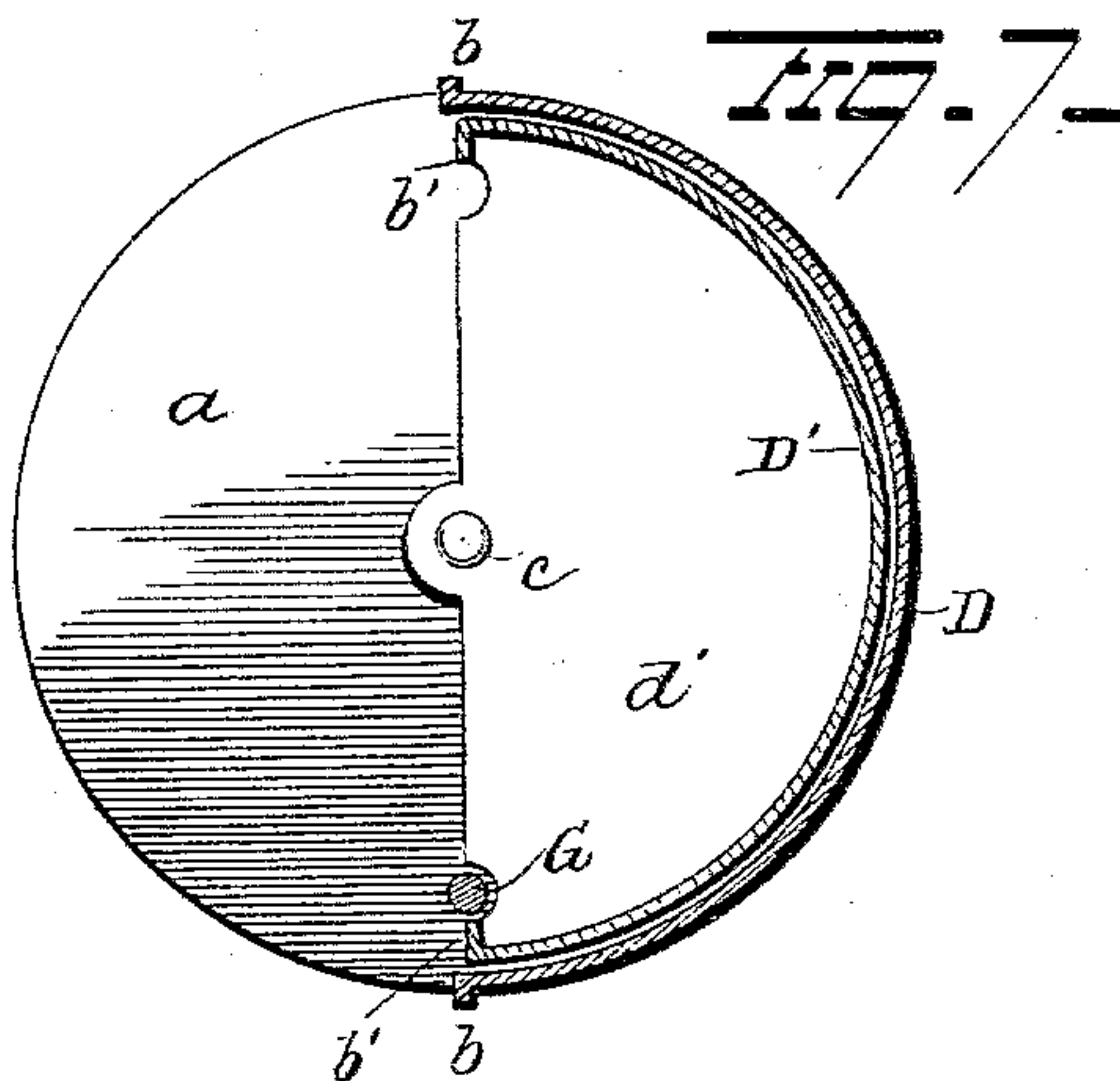
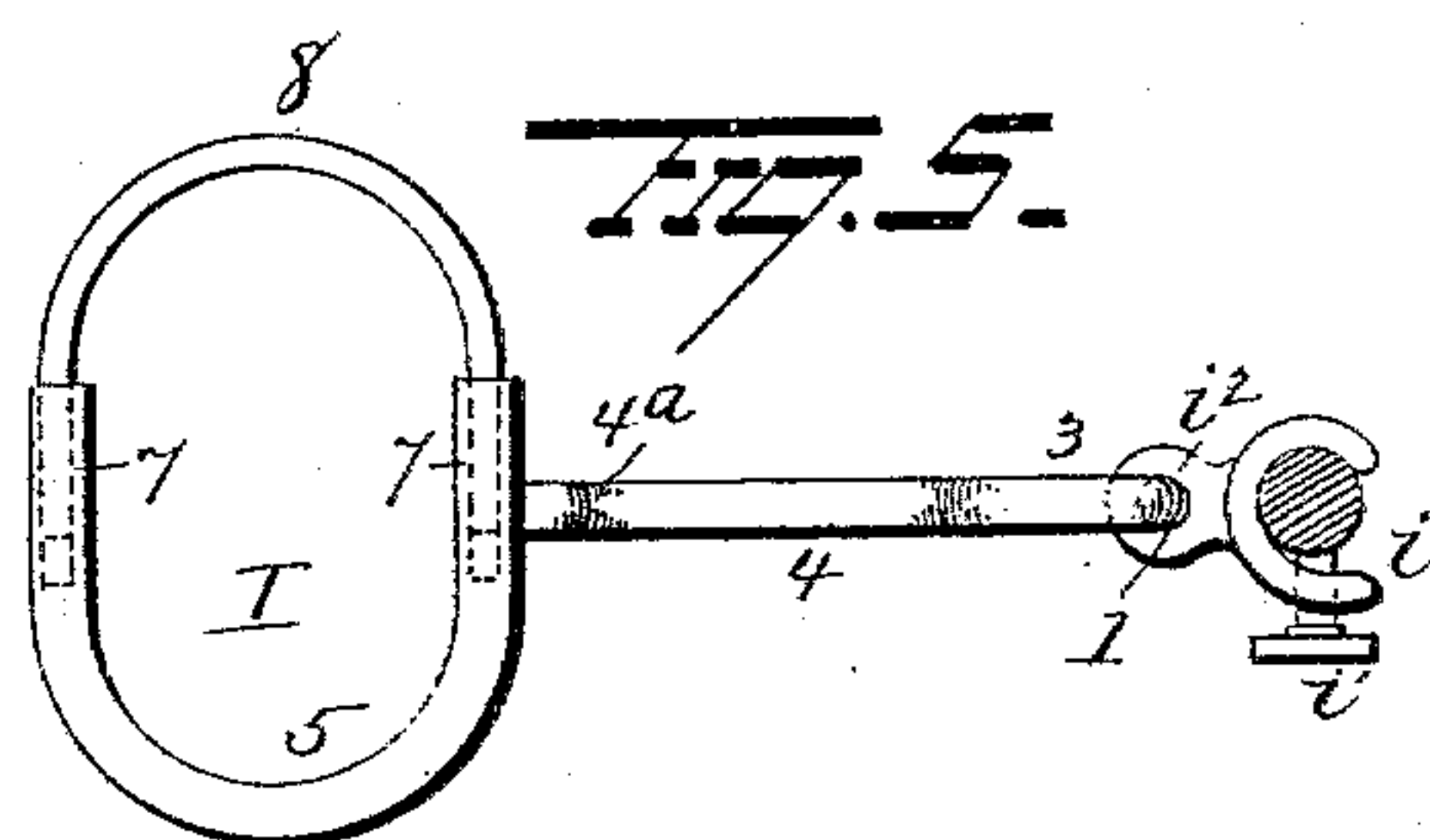
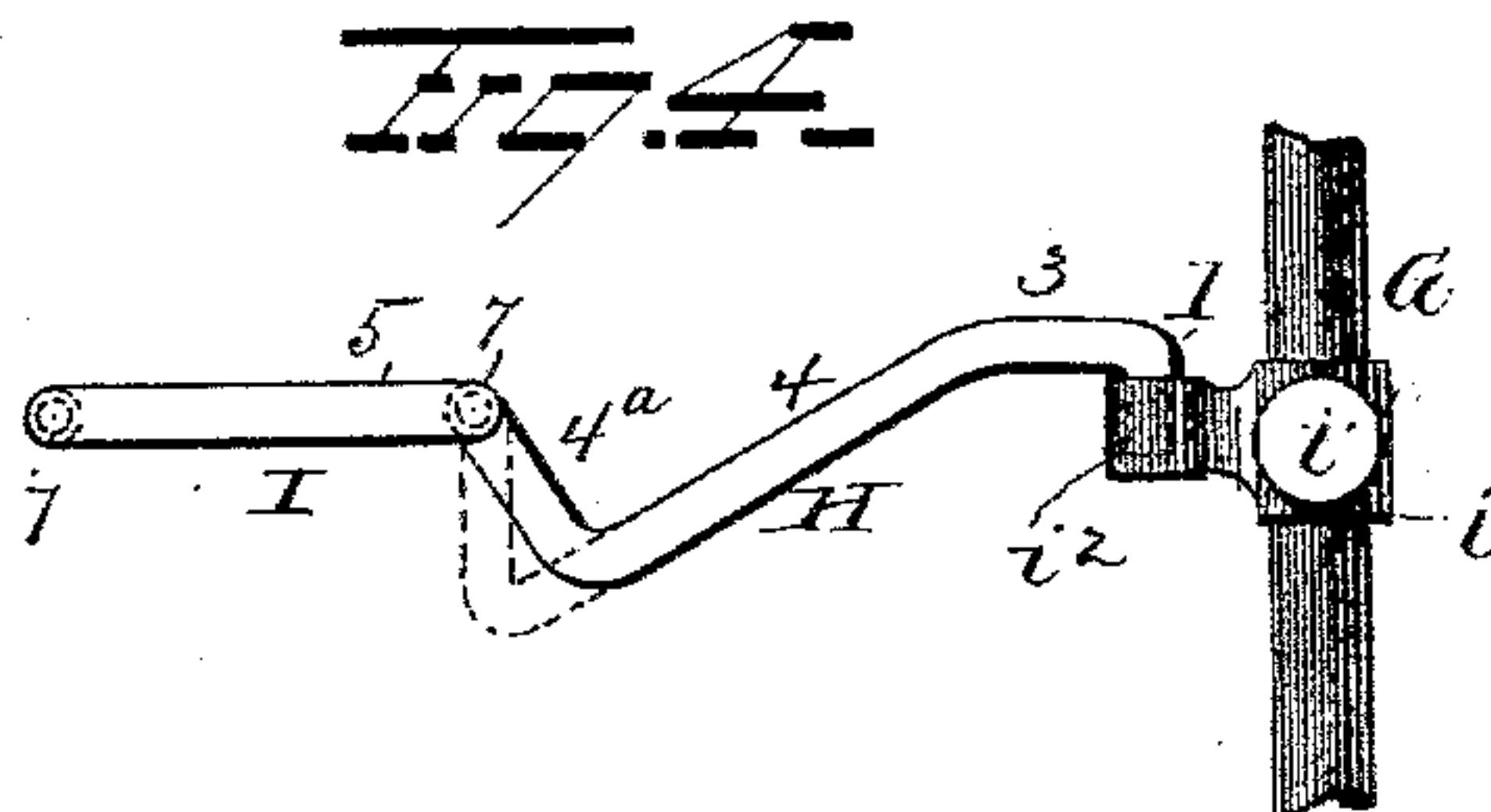
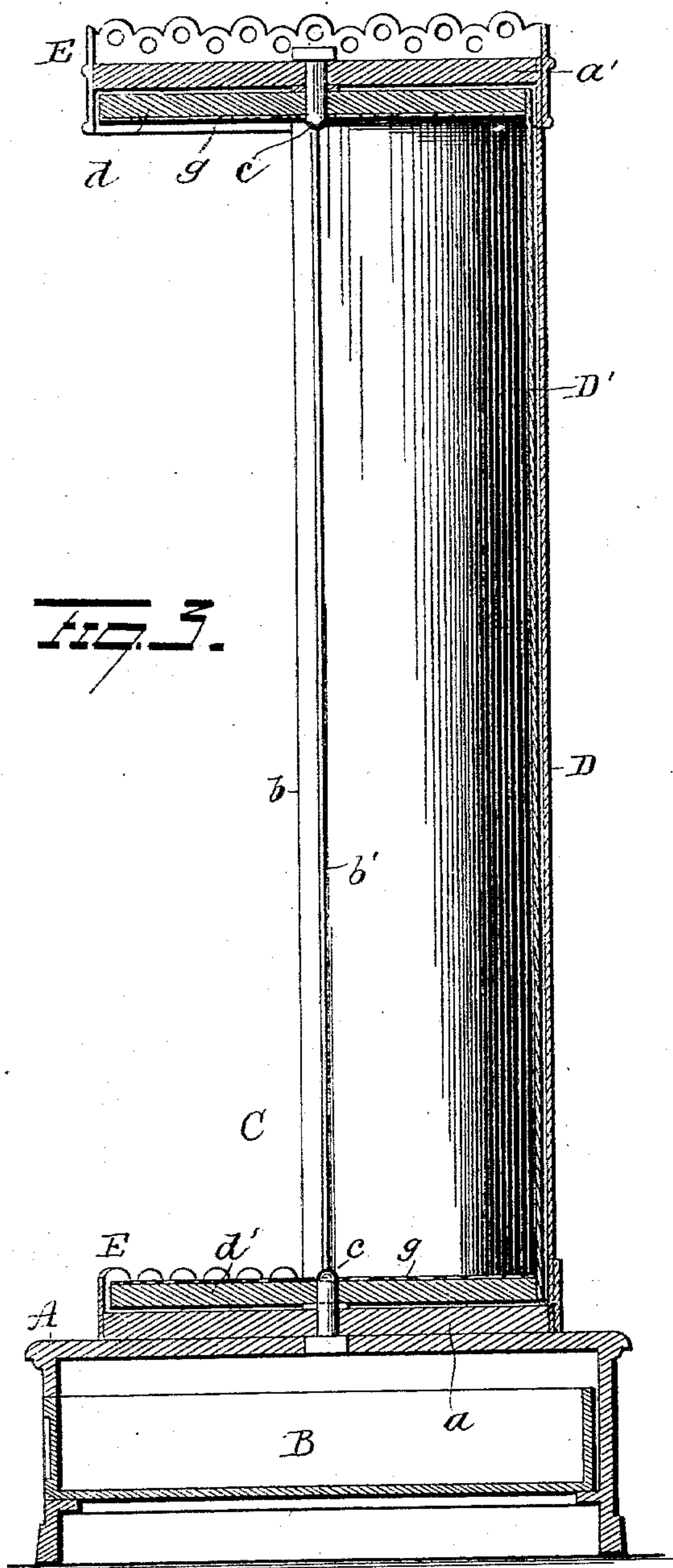
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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES C. DEANE, OF WAYLAND, MICHIGAN.

## HAT-DISPLAY RACK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 562,809, dated June 30, 1896.

Application filed January 22, 1896. Serial No. 576,450. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES C. DEANE, a resident of Wayland, in the county of Allegan and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Display-Racks; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to an improvement in hat racks or holders, its object being to produce a hat rack or holder capable of supporting and displaying soft as well as stiff hats, so that the hats will be prevented from becoming injured or having their proper shape affected.

A further object is to construct the device in such manner that the hats may be inclosed and thus protected from dust, or so that said hats may be displayed to great advantage without injury.

A further object is to produce a device for the purpose stated which shall be simple in construction, ornamental in appearance, and effectual in the performance of its functions.

With these objects in view the invention consists in certain novel features of construction and combinations and arrangements of parts, as hereinafter set forth, and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a view of the device open. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the device closed. Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view. Figs. 4 and 5 are detail views of the racks for holding the hats. Fig. 6 is a view of a modification. Fig. 7 is a plan, partly in section, of a modification, in which the rod G is connected with the outer section and serves as a stop for the inner section in each of its extreme movements.

A represents a base or casing in which a drawer B (one or more) is placed for the reception of price-tickets, number-tickets, hat-brushes, or other devices which it may be desired to place in the drawer or drawers.

Secured to the top of the box or casing A by means of screws, or in any other suitable manner, is my improved hat rack or case C. The box or casing A may be made square for the accommodation of a single rack, and it

may be made of any desired length for the accommodation of a number of racks.

The base or bottom of the rack or casing C is composed of a circular plate or block *a*, to about one-half of the periphery of which the lower end of a thin sheet metal, tin, veneer, or papier-mâché case or shell D is secured, said case or shell being semicircular in cross-section.

The edges of the shell or case D are turned outwardly to produce flanges *b*, whereby to strengthen said shell or case, and at the upper end said shell or case is secured to a circular block or plate *a'*.

A bolt *c* is passed through the center of the plate or block *a'* and secured to it, and said bolt passes loosely through the center of a circular revoluble plate or block *d*, located immediately under the block or plate *a'*.

Another bolt passes through the lower block or plate *a* and is secured thereto, said bolt passing loosely through a block or plate *d'*, of slightly less diameter, located immediately above the block *a*. A semicircular sheet-metal case or shell D' is secured at its ends to the blocks or plates *d d'*, and is provided at its ends with flanges *b'* to strengthen said shell or casing D'. In order to hide the operating parts of the case or shell and lend an ornamental appearance to the device, strips of crimped metal or other ornamental device E are secured to the peripheries of the blocks or plates *a a'*, and project over the peripheries of the blocks or plates *d d'*.

The casing produced by the shells or cases D D' may be of any suitable height to accommodate any desired number of hats, and when said casings are made very high, the shell or case D will preferably be braced by means of a strip *f*, located about midway between its ends.

The upper surface of the lower block or plate *d'* and the lower surface of the block or plate *d* are preferably covered with plush or similar material *g*.

Secured at its ends to the blocks or disks *d d'* is a rod or standard G, (one of any desired number,) which adjustably supports a series of racks or holders which will now be described in detail, a description of one sufficing for all. A clamp *i* is secured on the rod or standard



G, of wood or other suitable material, and adapted to slide thereon, being retained at any desired position by means of a thumb-screw  $i'$ , which passes through an arm  $i$  of said clamp and impinges against said rod or standard. The clamp  $i$  is made open, so that it can be applied to the rod G at any point, thus avoiding the necessity of removing the rod to apply the clamps. The clamp  $i$  projects laterally from the rod or standard G and is provided in proximity to its free end with a socket or perforation  $i^2$  for the reception of the shank 1 of a bracket (preferably of wire) H.

From the top of the shank 1 the wire composing the bracket is first extended laterally in a straight line, as at 3, and then downwardly and obliquely, as at 4. From the lower end of the portion 4 the wire projects upwardly in an oblique direction, as at 4<sup>a</sup>, and is provided at its upper or outer end with a rack or holder I.

The rack or holder I is preferably made of two parts, so as to be expansible to accommodate hats of different sizes, and the part 5 of said holder may be made integral with the arm or portion 4<sup>a</sup> of the bracket H or it may be made separate therefrom and secured thereto in any suitable manner. The free ends of the curved portion 5 of the rack are provided with sockets 7 for the reception of the free ends of the portion 8 of said rack, thus permitting the size of the rack or holder to be increased or diminished to accommodate hats of different sizes, as above alluded to, or the portion 8 may be omitted, if desired.

Instead of so bending the wire composing the bracket as to produce an obtuse angle at the meeting-point of the arms 4 and 4<sup>a</sup> the arm 4<sup>a</sup> may be made vertical, so as to produce an acute angle at the meeting-point of said arms, as shown by dotted lines in Fig. 4.

By means of a rack or holder constructed and arranged as above described, soft or stiff hats may be supported thereby without the slightest danger of becoming injured or their shape disadvantageously affected.

By the employment of this device the disadvantageous and annoying effects of hat-boxes are avoided, as well as the injurious consequences of storing hats on shelves and in ordinary show-cases. Again, the device may be closed and the hats incased therein when desired to protect them from dust, &c. When the device is open, the holders may be swung out and the hats displayed to great advantage.

If desired, the case D' may be closed by a glass plate. Said case or shell D' will also be provided with a knob  $j$  by means of which to operate it.

To adapt the device for millinery, the bracket and holder will be displaced by a bracket K, Fig. 6, supported by the block  $l$  and provided with a disk or ring J'.

In the construction shown in Fig. 7 the rod G is secured to the parts  $a$  and  $a'$ , instead of to the parts  $d$  and  $d'$ , as in former construction. Of course when secured to stationary

parts  $a$  and  $a'$  it is located adjacent to one of the edges  $b$  of the shell D, and in order to allow the inner shell D' to swing far enough to close the ends  $d$  and  $d'$  are recessed or cut away a trifle, as shown, to receive the rod.

The device is very simple in construction, ornamental in appearance, and effectual in the performance of its functions.

Slight changes may be made in the details of construction of my invention without departing from the spirit thereof or limiting its scope. Hence I do not wish to limit myself to the precise details of construction herein described; but,

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

1. In a display-rack, the combination of an outer semicircular shell, an inner semicircular shell pivoted and adapted to turn therein, and rod extending vertically from an end of the outer shell, and acting as a stop for the inner shell in each of its extreme movements, substantially as set forth.

2. In a display-rack, the combination with an outer semicircular shell and an inner semicircular shell, of a rod extending from the top to the bottom of the rack-casing said rod acting as a stop for the inner shell in each of its extreme positions, and serving as a support for a vertically-adjustable open clamp, constructed to be readily applied and secured to the rod at any desired point, said clamp being provided with a horizontal hat-supporting arm or bracket, substantially as set forth.

3. In a display-rack for hats, the combination with a semicircular shell having end pieces connected therewith, and an inner semicircular shell adapted to be partly revolved, and having semicircular end pieces attached thereto, of a rod connected to the top and bottom of the outer shell, and serving as a stop for the upper and lower ends of the inner shell, said end pieces being cut away to allow of the complete half-revolution of the inner shell, substantially as set forth.

4. In a display-rack, the combination with a rod, an open clamp constructed to be applied and secured at any point on the rod, of a bracket pivotally connected at one end to the clamp and constructed with an adjustable loop-support at its outer end, substantially as set forth.

5. In a display-rack, the combination with a rod, of an adjustable clamp, and a bracket consisting of a U-shaped arm having sockets in its ends, and a U-shaped adjustable extension, the ends of which enter the sockets in said arm, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CHARLES C. DEANE.

Witnesses:

H. J. TURNER,  
L. COOPER.