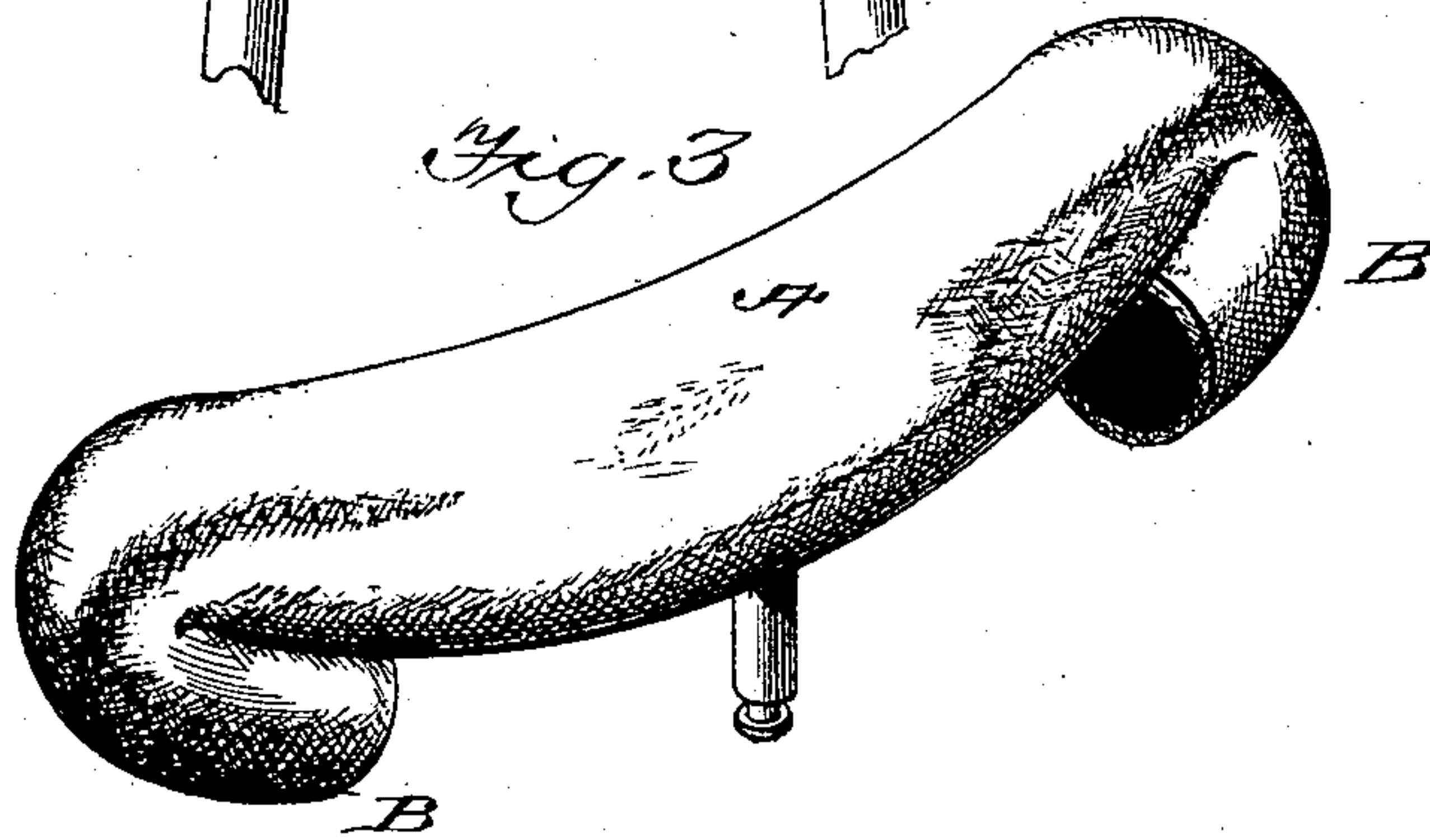
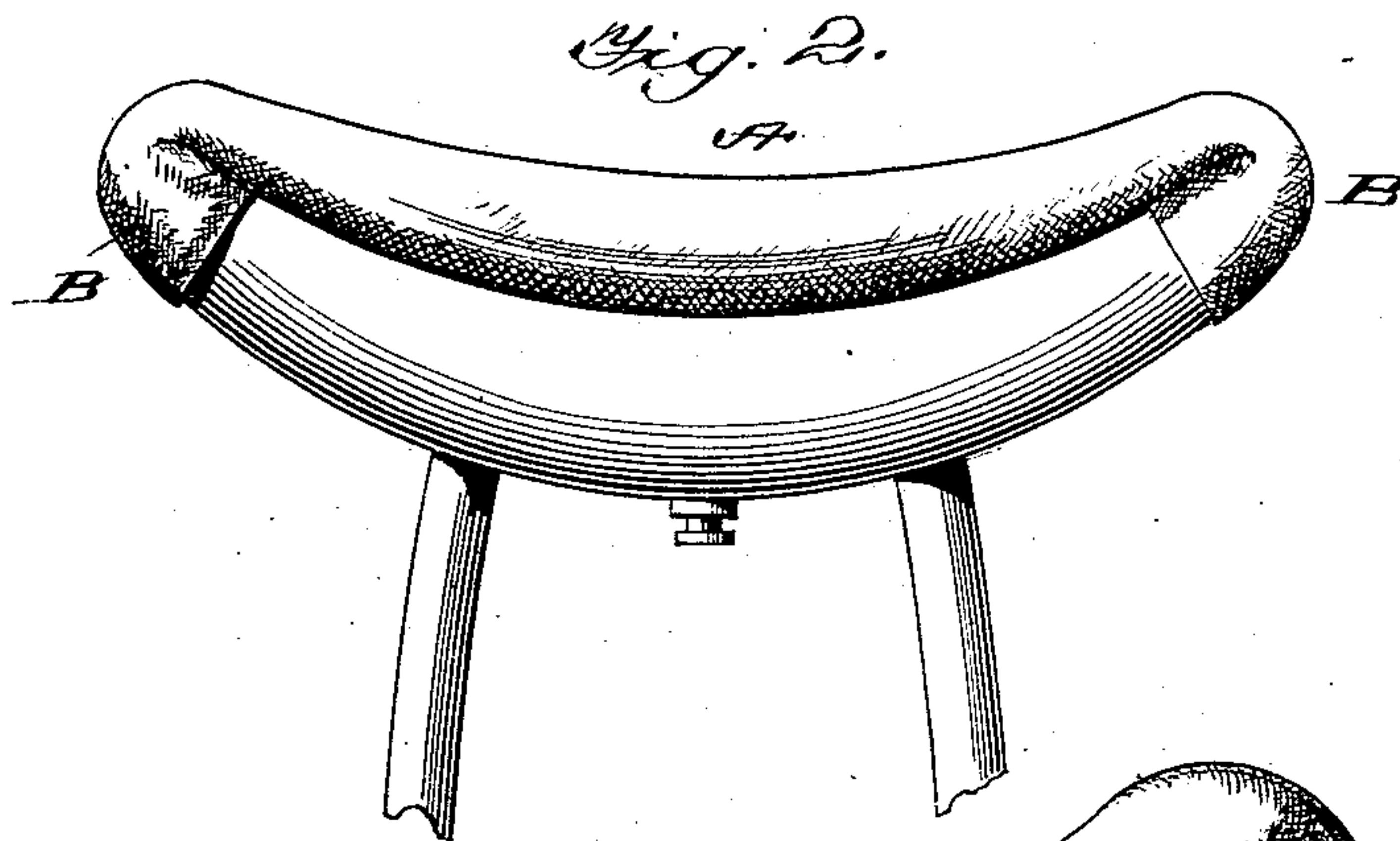
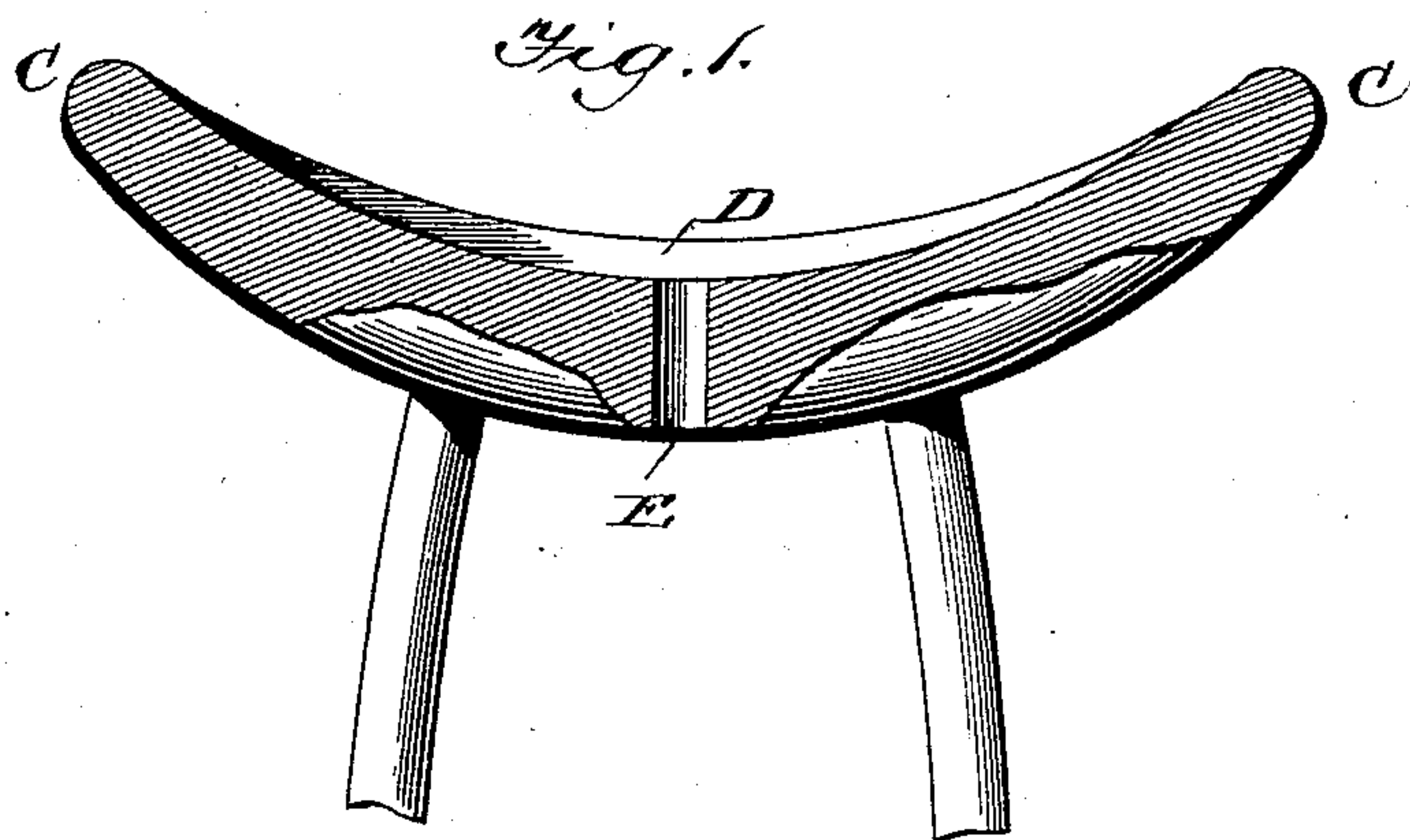


(No Model.)

G. D. BURDICK.  
CRUTCH.

No. 563,358.

Patented July 7, 1896.



WITNESSES

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE D. BURDICK, OF MADISON, WISCONSIN.

## CRUTCH.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 563,358, dated July 7, 1896.

Application filed March 27, 1896. Serial No. 585,077. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE D. BURDICK, a citizen of the United States, residing at the city of Madison, in the county of Dane and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Arm-Cushions for Crutches; and I do 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The invention relates to improvements in arm-cushions for crutches.

The invention consists in a novel construction of inflatable cushion to form the bearing-surface of the crutch-head provided with sockets formed integral with the cushion adapted to slip over the ends of the arm-piece.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a vertical section of a crutch-head, showing the longitudinal groove therein to form a recess for the inflatable cushion. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of a crutch-head, showing the improved inflatable cushion applied thereto. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the inflatable cushion detached.

The inflatable cushion A is preferably made of soft rubber and in outline in substantially the form of the ordinary crutch-head, and in the present instance is shown provided at each end with a socket B, formed integral with the cushion, for fitting over or engaging the ends of the permanent crutch-head C.

The cushions may be inflated in the process of manufacture or may be provided with the

ordinary valve to permit the same to be inflated at will, the last-named means being the most desirable, in which case the valve could extend through a central perforation in the crutch-head, as shown at E, so as not to be in the way of the user in any manner.

The cushion may, if found desirable, be covered with leather or other material.

The cushion is adapted to be applied to any crutch-head, but it is preferred to provide the head with a longitudinal groove D, substantially as shown in Fig. 1, so that the cushion shall rest therein for a portion of or the entire length of the head.

Other means may be employed for connecting or attaching the cushion to the crutch-head, and the same may be attached to heads composed of any material, as will be readily understood, it being only necessary where the sockets are employed to first slip one socket over one end of the head and then elongate the cushion to allow of its being slipped over the other end.

The cushion may be inflated with air or otherwise, as shall be found most desirable.

Having now described the invention, what is claimed as new, and sought to be secured by Letters Patent, is—

An inflatable cushion to form the bearing-surface of the crutch-head provided with sockets formed integral with the cushion and adapted to slip over the ends of the arm-piece, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE D. BURDICK.

Witnesses:

JAMES B. KERR,

WILLIAM E. FOGG.