

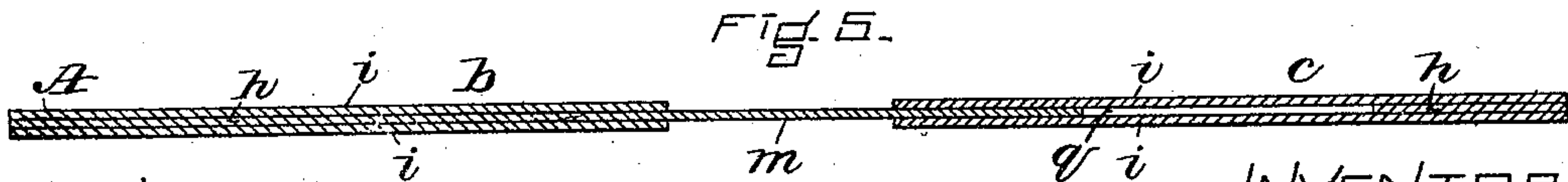
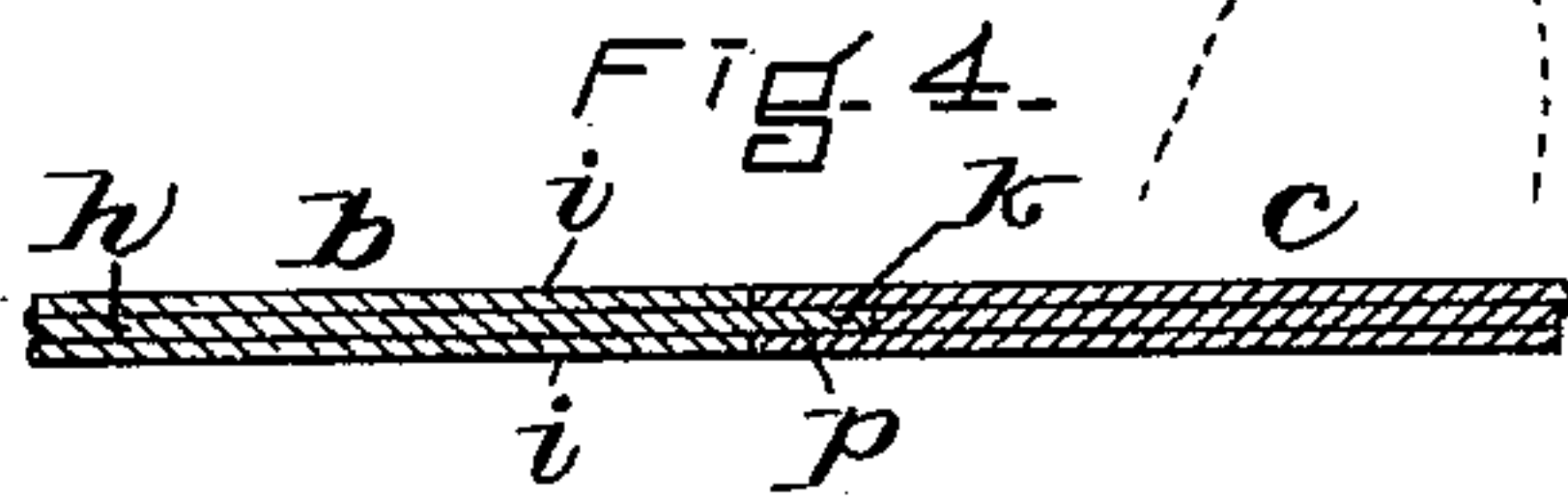
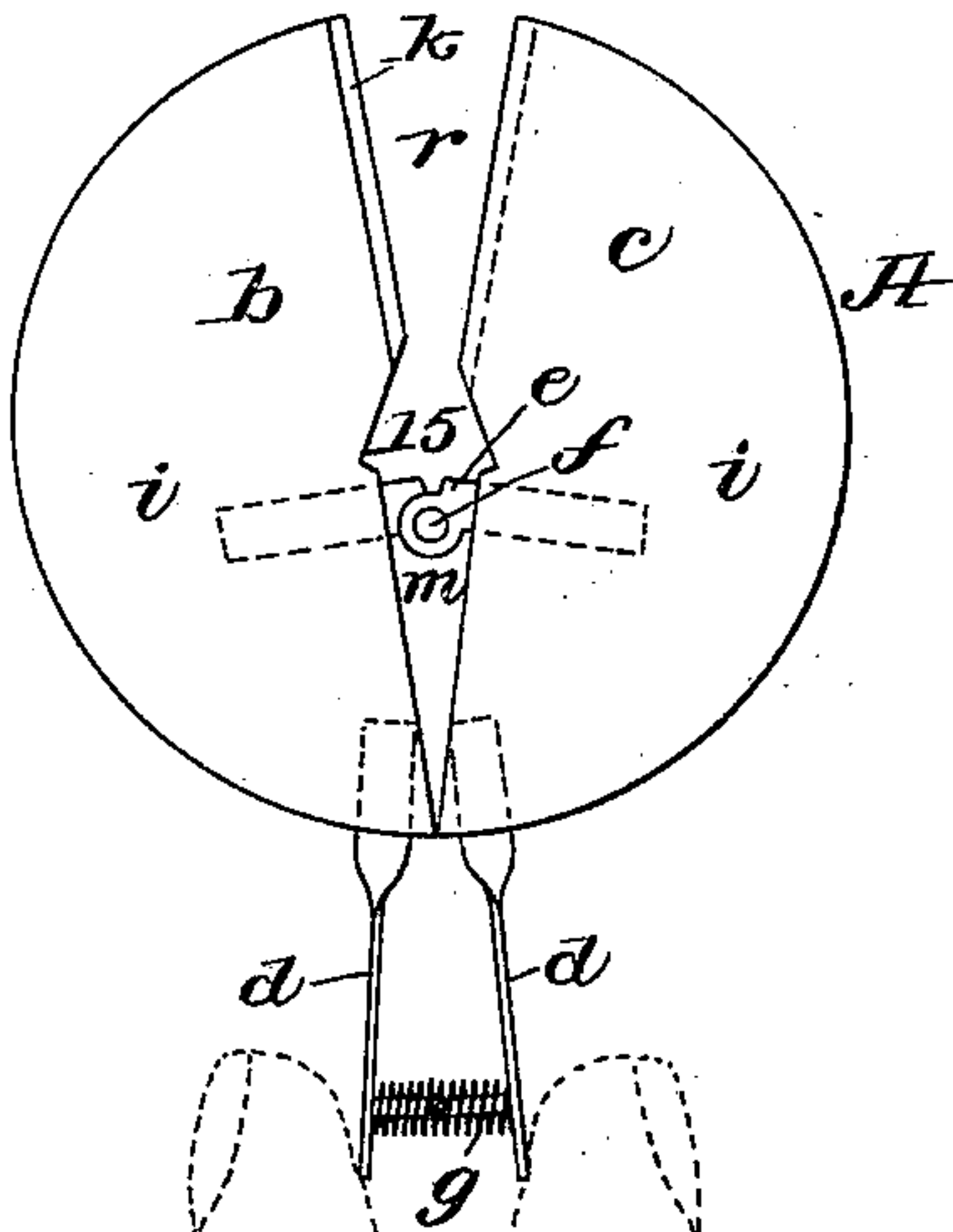
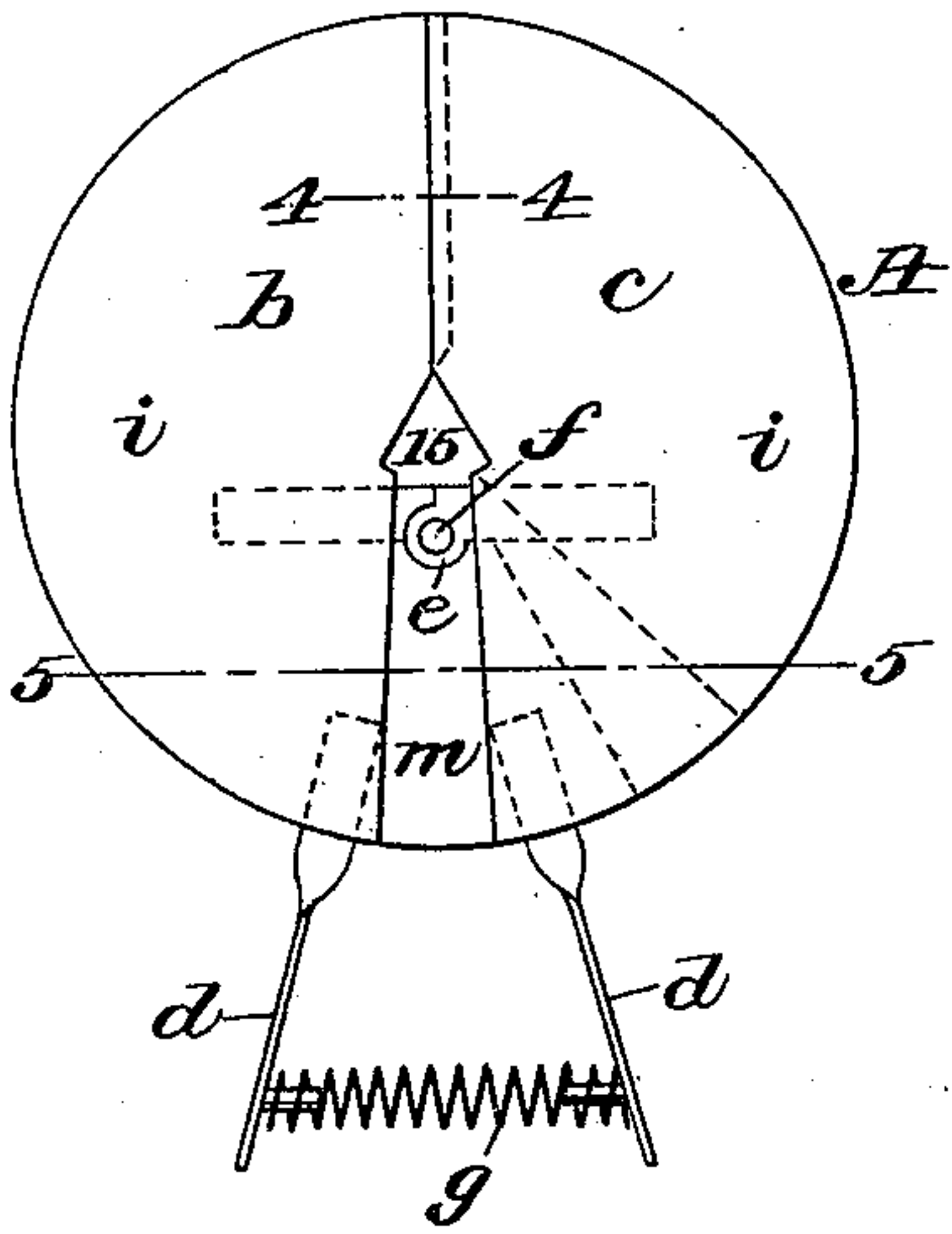
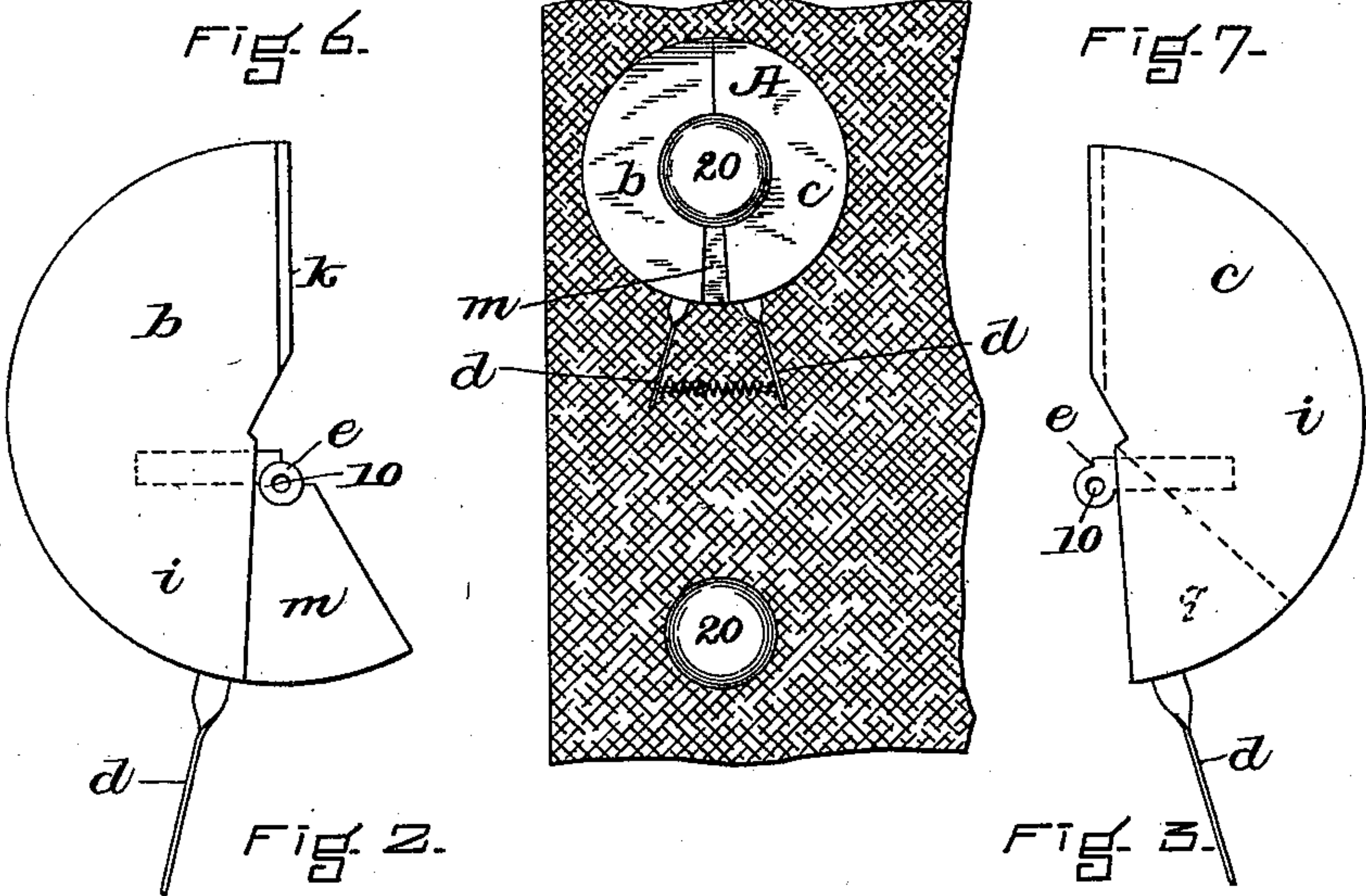
(No Model.)

T. H. AMBROSE.
METAL BUTTON CLEANING SHIELD.

No. 582,572.

Patented May 11, 1897.

FIG. 1.



WITNESSES.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS H. AMBROSE, OF WINCHESTER, MASSACHUSETTS.

METAL-BUTTON-CLEANING SHIELD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 582,572, dated May 11, 1897.

Application filed February 12, 1897. Serial No. 623,137. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS H. AMBROSE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Winchester, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Metal-Button-Cleaning Shields, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a view of my improved cleaning-shield, illustrating the manner in which it is applied to a metal button on a coat to protect the cloth while cleaning or polishing the button. Fig. 2 is a plan of the shield with the two members closed together in the position which they occupy when the shield is in use. Fig. 3 is a plan showing the shield open to permit of its being slipped over the neck of the button. Fig. 4 is an enlarged section on the line 4 4 of Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is an enlarged section on the line 5 5 of Fig. 2. Figs. 6 and 7 are plans of the two members or halves of the shield detached from each other.

My invention has for its object to improve the construction of shields for protecting uniforms while cleaning or polishing the metal buttons thereof; and to this end my invention consists in a shield composed of two segmental members pivoted together at or near the center of the shield and provided with handles whereby they may be partially rotated in opposite directions against the resistance of a spring to form a radial opening through which the neck of the button can pass to an opening at the center of the shield, the two members being afterward tightly closed together by the spring to prevent the powder or cleaning material used in polishing or cleaning the button from coming into contact with the cloth beneath, as hereinafter more fully set forth.

In the said drawings, A represents my improved shield, which is composed of two parts or members *b c*, preferably of segmental or approximately semicircular form, as shown in Figs. 6 and 7. These two members are each provided at the bottom with a handle *d* and at a point near the center of the inner edge with a lug or projection *e*, having an aperture 10, through which passes a pin *f*, Figs. 2 and 3, by means of which the two members

are pivoted together so that they can be partially rotated in opposite directions by pressing the handles *d d* together with the thumb and finger against the resistance of a light spiral spring *g*, placed between them, said spring *g* serving to normally hold the two members closely together, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The members *b c* are each provided with a notch located near the lug *e*, said notches forming a central opening 15 for the reception of the neck of a metal button 20 when the shield is placed around the same, as shown in Fig. 1.

Each of the members *b c* is preferably composed of an inner plate *h* and two outer plates *i i*, soldered or otherwise suitably secured together, as shown in Figs. 4 and 5. The inner plate *h* of the member *b* projects beyond the edges of the outer plates *i i* on one side, forming a narrow tongue *k* above the pivot *f* and a sector-shaped tongue *m* below said pivot. These tongues fit within corresponding spaces *p q* between the outer plates of the opposite member *c*, the inner plate *h* being cut away for this purpose and the space *q* being sufficiently large to permit the tongue *m* to move freely therein when the two members are oscillated on their pivot, and in this manner perfectly tight joints are formed which effectually prevent the polishing powder or paste used in cleaning the button from passing through the shield into contact with and soiling or injuring the cloth beneath.

In placing the shield around a button it is held by the handles *d d* between the thumb and finger. Pressure is then applied to force the two handles toward each other against the resistance of the spring *g*, as shown in Fig. 3, which oscillates the two members *b c*, separating them above the pivot *f* and forming a radial opening *r*, as shown in Fig. 3, when the shield can be slipped over the button-neck until the latter enters the central opening 15. The handles *d* are then released, when the spring *g* will return the parts to their normal position, closing the radial opening *r*, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3, and leaving the button entirely surrounded by the shield, which then affords ample surface on all sides of the button upon which to polish and clean the same without soiling or injuring the cloth beneath, after which the shield can be opened

by pressure on the handles *d d* and removed from the button to be again used on another button in the same manner as before.

What I claim as my invention, and desire
5 to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A metal-button-cleaning shield composed of two members connected by a pivot located at or near the center of the shield and normally closed together by a spring, said mem-
10 bers being provided with handles by which they may be partially rotated in opposite directions on said pivot to open a radial space between them from the periphery of the shield to an opening at its center for the pas-
15 sage of the neck of the button to said central opening, substantially as described.

2. In a metal-button-cleaning shield, the combination of the two segmental members pivoted together at or near the center of the

shield and each provided with a handle and 20 having a notch, forming when said members are closed together, a central opening for the reception of the neck of the button, said members being normally closed by a spring and being each composed of an inner plate and 25 two outer plates, the inner plate of one member projecting beyond its outer plates on one side, forming tongues fitting corresponding spaces between the outer plates of the other member to form tight joints when said mem- 30 bers are closed together around the neck of the button, substantially as described.

Witness my hand this 10th day of February,
A. D. 1897.

THOMAS H. AMBROSE.

In presence of—

P. E. TESCHEMACHER,
B. L. MARDEN.