

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

J. STEPPAN.  
TOY.

No. 602,019.

Patented Apr. 5, 1898.

Fig. 2.



Fig. 4.

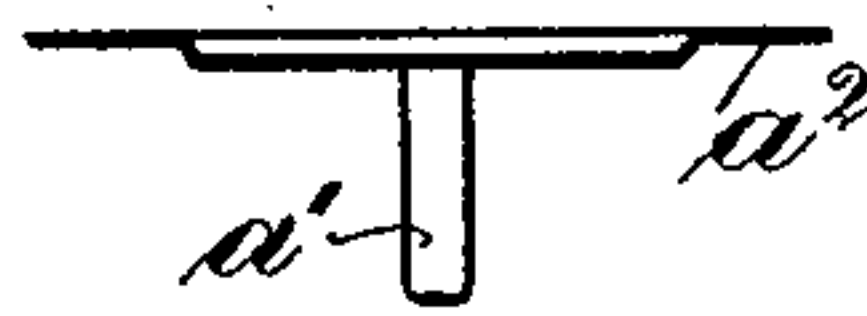


Fig. 1.



Fig. 3.

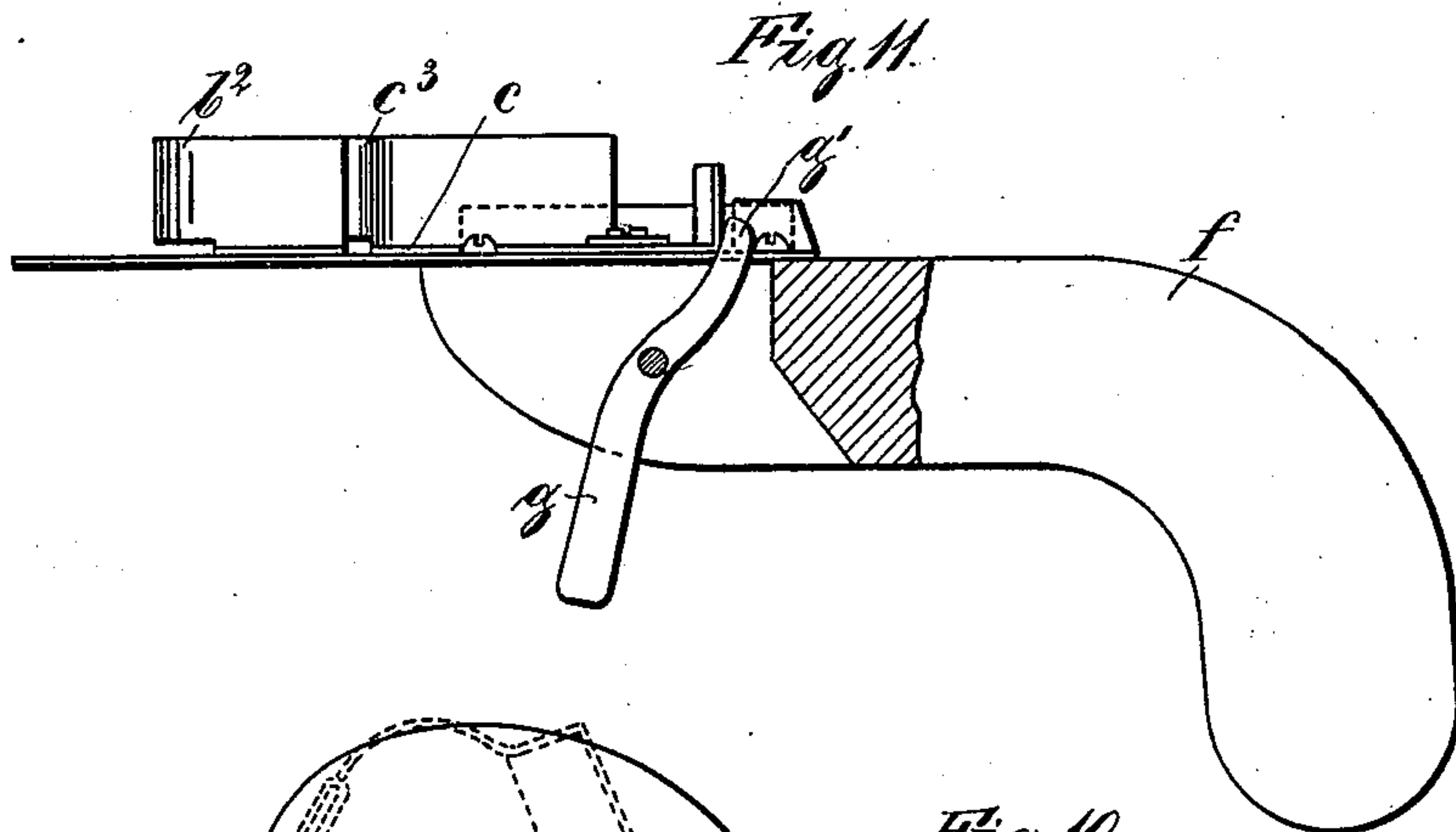


Fig. 11.

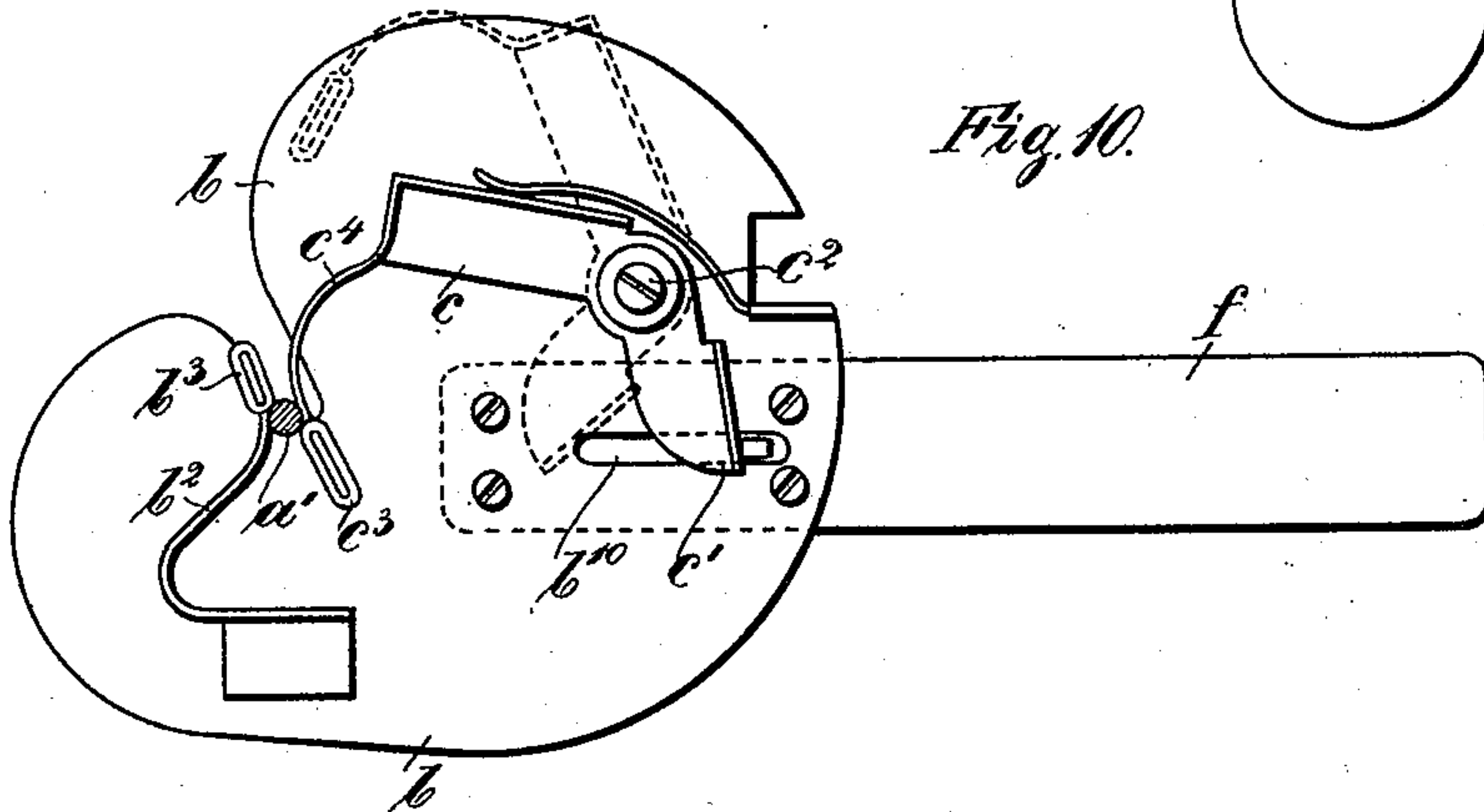


Fig. 10.

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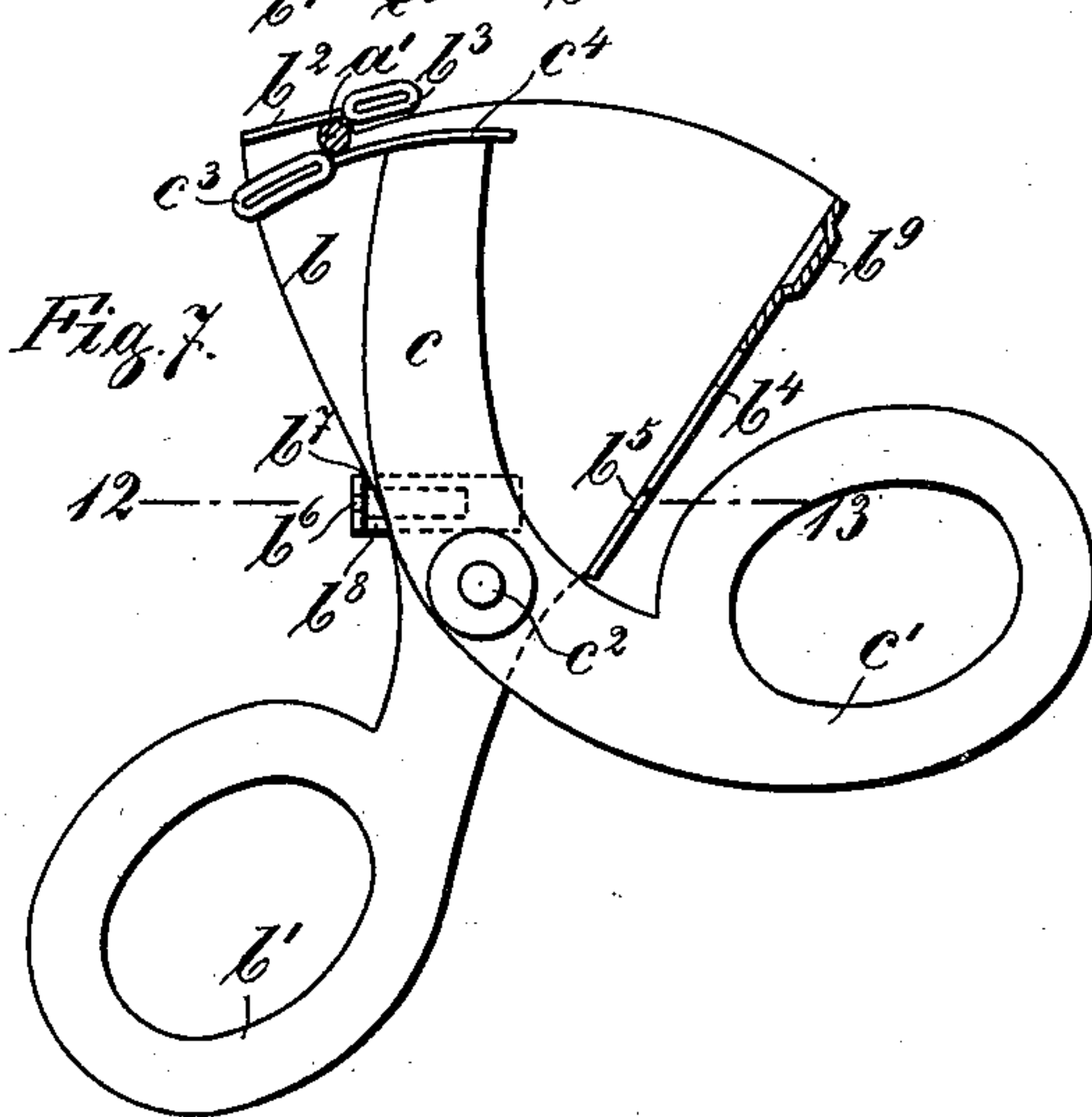
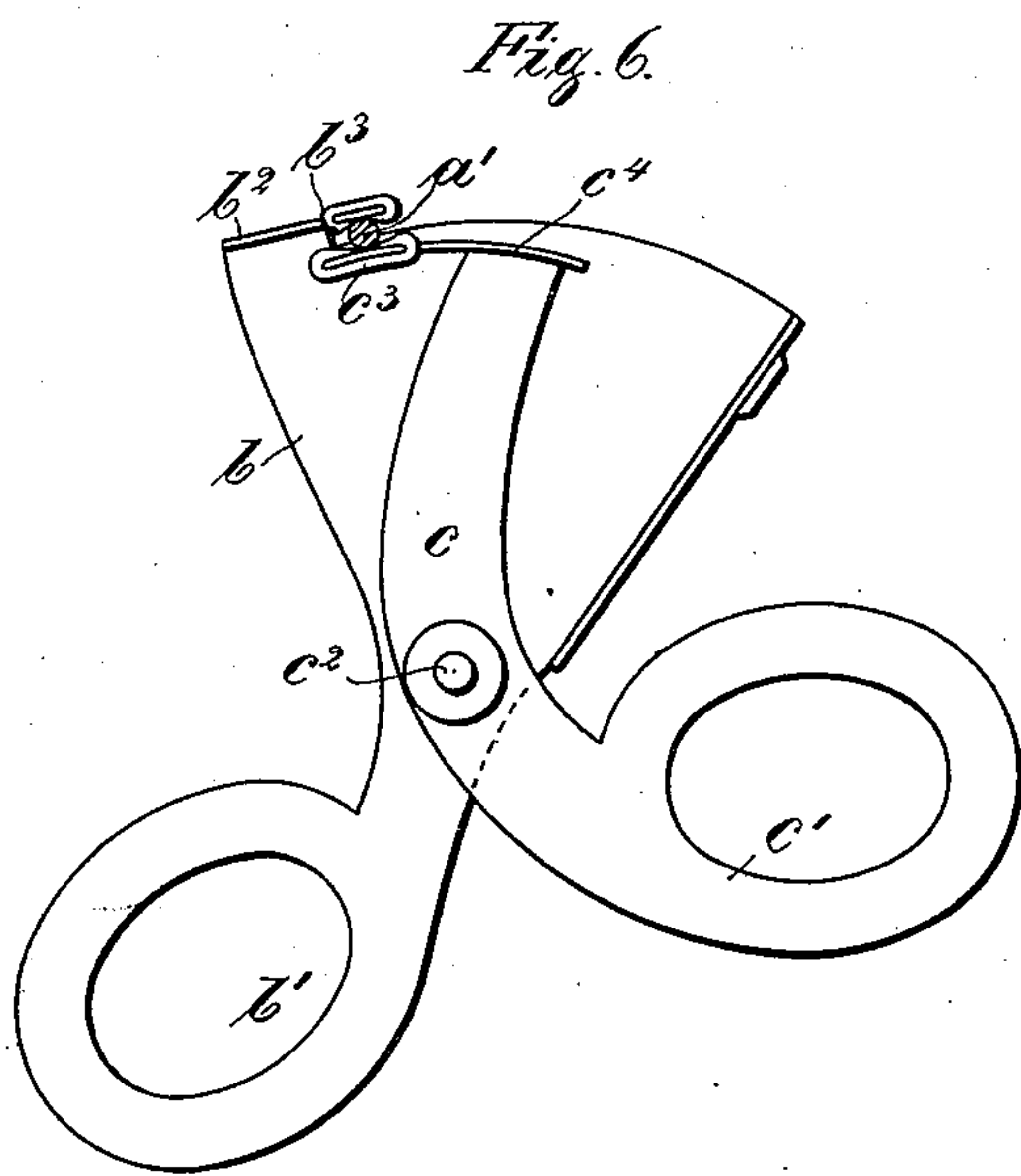
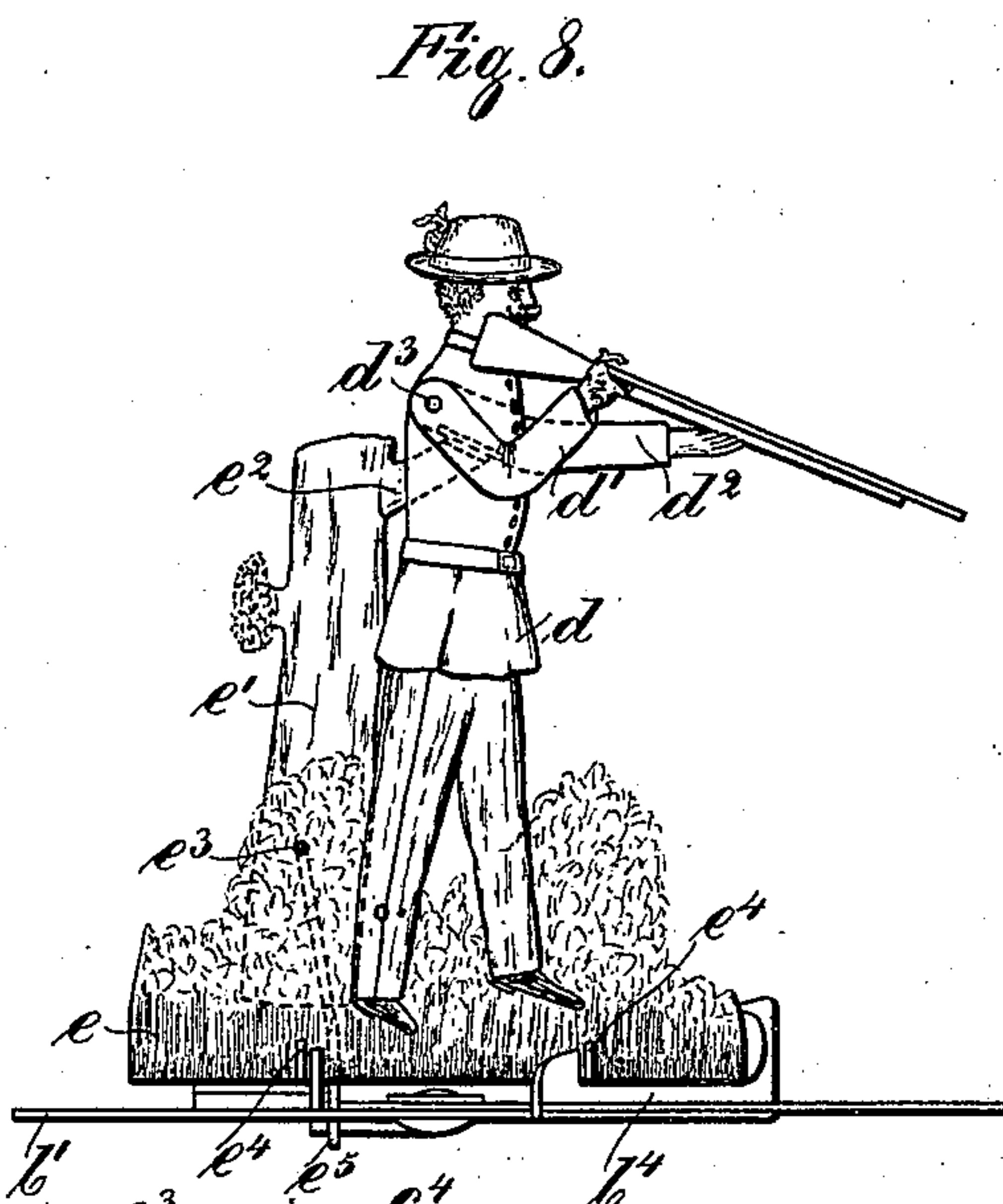
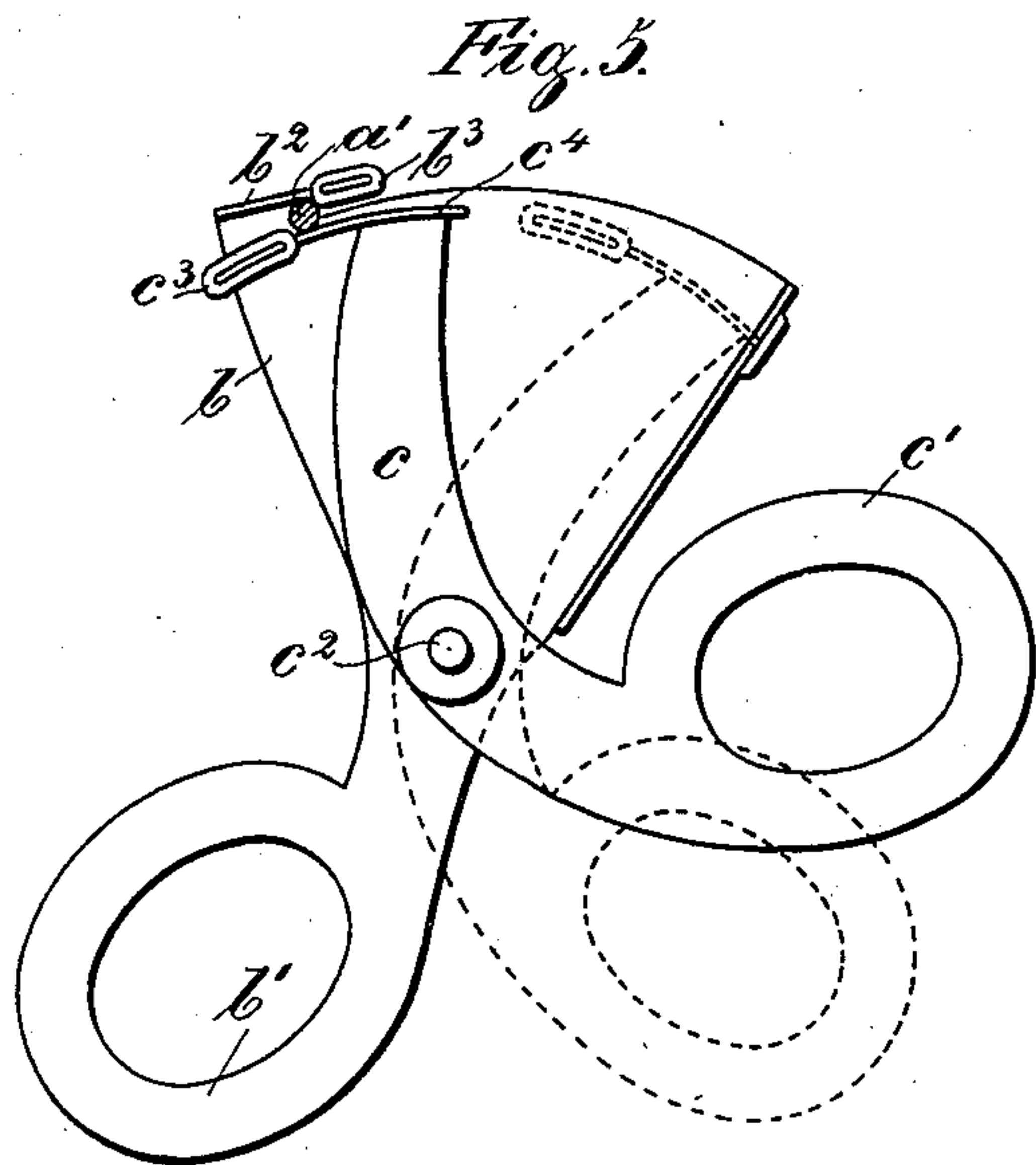
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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

J. STEPPAN.  
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No. 602,019.

Patented Apr. 5, 1898.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEF STEPPAN, OF PFORZHEIM, GERMANY.

## TOY.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 602,019, dated April 5, 1898.

Application filed July 27, 1897. Serial No. 646,127. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOSEF STEPPAN, a subject of the Grand Duke of Baden, and a resident of Pforzheim, in the Grand Duchy of Baden, German Empire, have invented a new and useful Toy, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a device by means of which a horizontal disk having a downwardly-extending central pin may be caused to rotate upon said pin or to spin, respectively. Said disk is intended to be used in any play to determine which partner shall commence the respective play. For that purpose the disk is provided with numbers, each number designating a partner of the company. When the plate has ceased spinning, it will assume an oblique position and the number located at the top of the disk will indicate the partner who shall commence the play. Instead of using one such disk there may be employed as many disks as there are partners in the company. These disks are colored; but the color of each disk is different from the colors of the other disks, so that the disks may easily be distinguished one from the other. Each disk designates a partner of the company, and he is to commence the play whose disk first assumes the oblique position or ceases spinning, respectively. My invention does not reside in using such disks for the purpose aforementioned; but it resides in the means for making the said disks spin, and in order to make my invention more clear I refer to the accompanying drawings, in which similar letters denote similar parts throughout the different views and in which—

Figure 1 is a plan of a disk provided with numbers. Fig. 2 is a side view of said disk. Fig. 3 is a plan of a disk provided with a colored annular stripe  $a$ . Fig. 4 is a side view of this disk. Fig. 5 is a plan of one form of construction of my novel device. Fig. 6 is a view similar to Fig. 5, but showing the parts in another position. Fig. 7 is also a view similar to Fig. 5, but showing a slightly-modified form of construction. Fig. 8 shows said modified form of construction combined with a figure representing a hunter and a piece of the stem of a tree. These parts are movable and will be fully described hereinafter. Fig. 9 is a section in line 12 13 of Fig. 7. Fig. 10

is a plan of a form of construction resembling a pistol, and Fig. 11 is a side view of this form of construction.

Referring to Figs. 5 and 6, the device consists of a plate  $b$  of about triangular shape, which is made in one part with an ear-like arm  $b'$ . A double-armed lever  $c c'$ , the arm  $c'$  of which is also formed into an ear, is connected at  $c^2$  with the plate  $b$  or with the double-armed lever formed by the parts  $b b'$ , respectively. The whole resembles a pair of scissors and, in fact, the device is operated similar to such a one.

The plate  $b$  has an upwardly-extending projection  $b^2$ , the right-hand part of which is provided with a layer  $b^3$  of india-rubber, said layer being formed by a short piece of tubing. A similar layer  $c^3$  of india-rubber is attached to an upwardly and laterally extending projection  $c^4$ , forming about a rectangle with the arm  $c$  of the lever  $c'$ . The pin  $a'$ , Figs. 2 and 4, of the disk to be spun is introduced between the projections or ledges  $b^2 c^4$  or between the india-rubber layers  $b^3 c^3$ , respectively, in the manner shown in Fig. 5, and thereafter the ears  $b'$  and  $c'$  are moved toward each other, so that the india-rubber layer  $b^3$  passes to the left and the india-rubber layer  $c^3$  to the right, when the pin  $a'$  will be caught up by and enter the space between said two layers, Fig. 6. Owing to the latter moving in opposite directions the pin  $a'$  is rotated, as is also the disk  $a^2$ , Figs. 1, 2, and 4, the speed depending, of course, on the quickness with which the ears  $b' c'$  are moved one in the direction to the other. In the same moment in which the india-rubber layers  $b^3 c^3$  have passed each other the pin  $a'$  is free of the same and drops upon the table or other place about which the device has been operated in the manner just stated. The pin  $a'$  and the disk  $a^2$  then rotate and continue rotating until the power imparted to them has been consumed.

In the form of construction represented in Figs. 7 and 8 the device is combined with a figure representing a hunter who will take aim in the same moment in which the device is in position for use. The two arms  $d' d^2$  of the figure  $d$  are movable. In other words, they are hinged at  $d^3$  to the body of the figure. The latter is made integrally with a



base-piece  $e$ , having hinged to it at  $e^3$  a piece  $e'$ , representing a part of the stem of a tree. The latter has a short branch  $e^2$ , and the arm  $d^2$  of the figure has a ledge-like projection, (shown in dotted lines,) against which said branch  $e^2$  may act. In the position shown in Fig. 8 the parts just mentioned are all in their working position; but when in their position of rest the arms  $d' d^2$  are lowered and the stem  $e'$  is in a true vertical position. To connect the base-piece  $e$  with the device, the right-hand part of the plate  $b$  is bent upward, so as to form a ledge  $b^4$ , Figs. 7, 8, and 9. Said ledge has a recess  $b^5$ . A similar recess  $b^6$  is formed in a part  $b^7$ , secured to the left-hand side of the plate  $b$ , and located near to the place of connection with the lever  $c c'$ . The base-piece  $e$  of the figure  $d$  is inserted into said recesses  $b^5 b^6$ , and to insure a secure position of the base-piece the latter is provided with two pins  $e^4$ , as shown in Fig. 8.

The part  $b^7$  aforementioned has a horizontal slit  $b^8$ , Fig. 7, which extends somewhat into the adjacent part of the plate  $b$ . A pin  $e^5$ , Figs. 8 and 9, fixed to the stem  $e'$ , passes through said slit  $b^8$ , and is displaced to the left by the arm  $c$  of the lever  $c c'$  when this lever is turned from its position of rest, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 5, into its working position, Fig. 7. At the same time the stem  $e'$  is turned upon its pivot  $e^3$ , and the branch  $e^2$  of the stem presses against the arm  $d^2$  of the figure in such a manner that the hunter takes aim with his gun.

In order to bring about the illusion as if the hunter be firing in the moment in which the rotating disk  $a^2$  is set free, the ledge  $b^4$  of the plate  $b$  is provided with a cavity  $b^9$ , Figs. 7 and 9, adapted to receive some detonating composition, and the ledge  $c^4$  of the lever-arm  $c$  is furnished with some pointed projections  $c^5$ , Fig. 9. The position of the cavity  $b^9$  with regard to the pointed projection  $c^5$  is such that the latter may take into said cavity or may strike upon the detonating composition contained within the said cavity, so as thereby to cause the ignition of said composition or to explode the same.

In the form of construction represented in Figs. 10 and 11 the ears  $b' c'$  of the form of construction aforescribed have been dispensed with, and the plate  $b$  is secured to a

handle  $f$  shaped similar to the butt of a pistol. The front end of said handle or butt is forked and holds between the two legs thus formed a lever  $g g'$ , the upper arm of which projects through a slot  $b^{10}$ , formed in the plate  $b$ . The arm  $c'$  of the lever  $c$  takes over said slot, and the arm  $g$  of the lever  $g g'$  serves for operating the lever  $c c'$ —i. e., for moving the elastic or spring-like ledge  $c^4$  with its india-rubber layer  $c^3$  from the left to the right. The cooperation of the india-rubber layer  $c^3$  just mentioned with the india-rubber layer  $b^3$  of the spring or elastic arm  $b^2$  is exactly the same as has been described with regard to the other forms of construction.

Having thus fully described the nature of this invention, what I desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is—

1. As a means for making top-like disks spin, the combination with a plate  $b$ , a ledge  $b^2$  upon said plate, and an elastic cover  $b^3$  upon said ledge, of a lever  $c$  attached to the plate  $b$ , a ledge  $c^4$  upon said lever, an elastic cover  $c^3$  upon this ledge, and means for holding the said plate and operating the lever, as set forth.

2. As a means for making top-like disks spin, the combination with a plate  $b$ , a ledge  $b^2$  upon said plate, and an elastic cover  $b^3$  upon said ledge, of a lever  $c c'$  attached to the plate, a ledge  $c^4$  upon said lever, an elastic cover  $c^3$  upon this ledge, a handle  $f$  secured to the plate  $b$ , and a lever  $g g'$  attached to said handle, and adapted to operate the lever  $c c'$ , as set forth.

3. As a means for making top-like disks spin, the combination with a plate  $b$ , a ledge  $b^2$  upon said plate, and an elastic cover  $b^3$  upon said ledge, of a lever  $c c'$  attached to the plate, a ledge  $c^4$  upon said lever, an elastic cover  $c^3$  upon this ledge, a figure representing a hunter having movable arms and a gun held by said arms, and adapted to be fixed to the plate  $b$ ; a lever reaching down from said arms into the way of the lever  $c c'$ , and means for holding the said plate and operating the lever  $c c'$ , as set forth.

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

JOSEF STEPPAN.

Witnesses:

EUGEN WALZ,  
SAMUEL LIMB.