

No. 616,707.

Patented Dec. 27, 1898.

J. D. HEFLEY.

IMPELLING DEVICE FOR BOWLING HOOPS.

(Application filed May 22, 1897.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

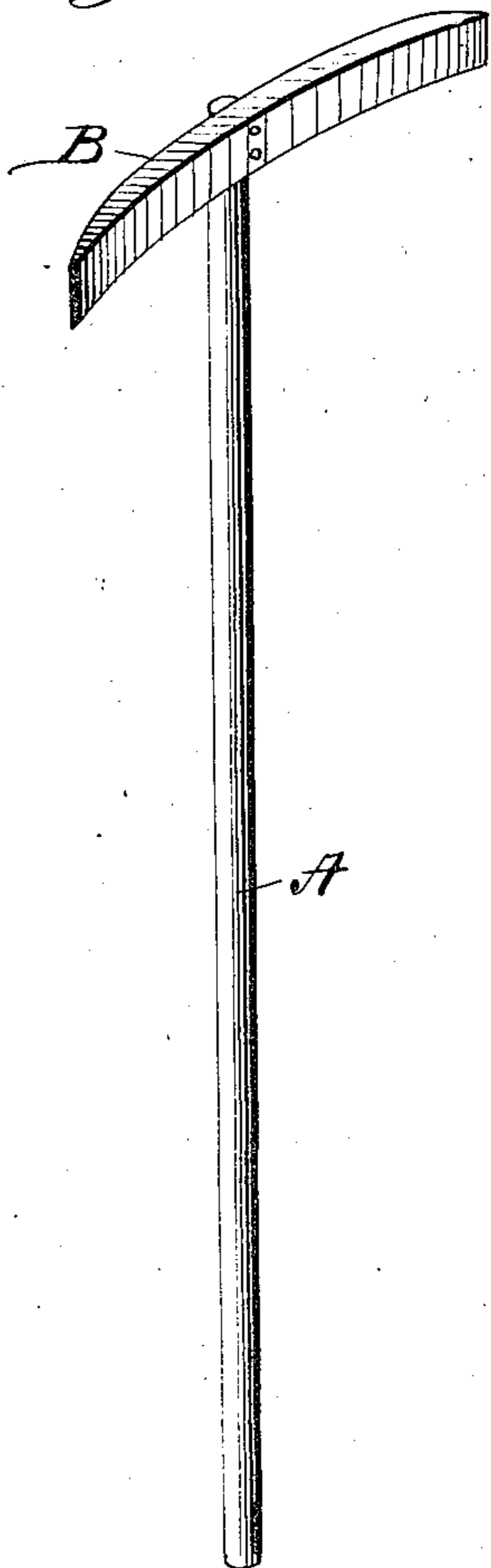


Fig. 2.

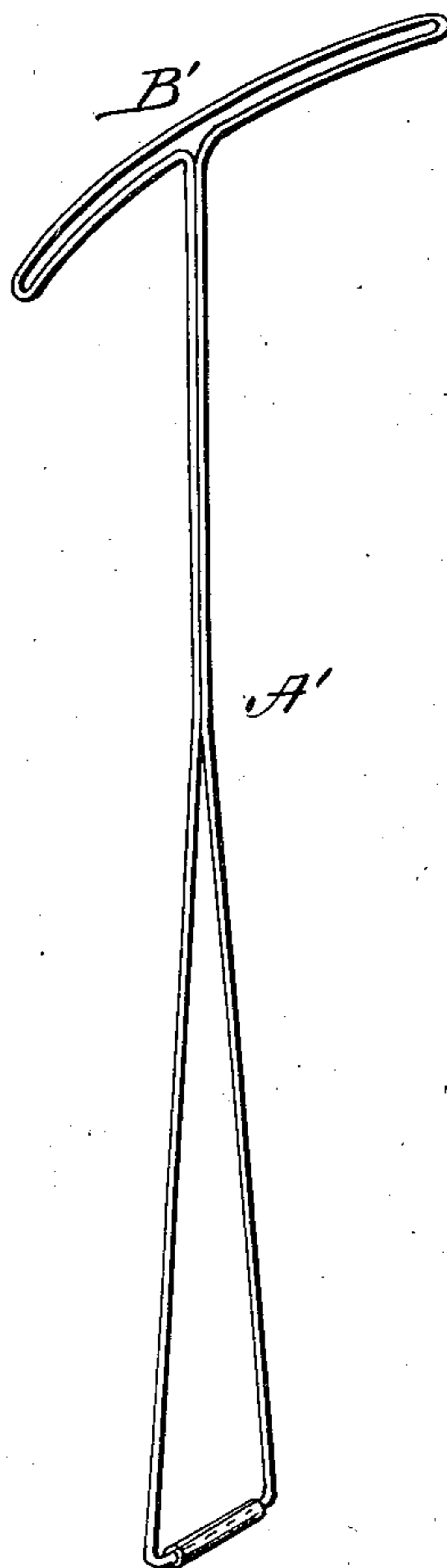
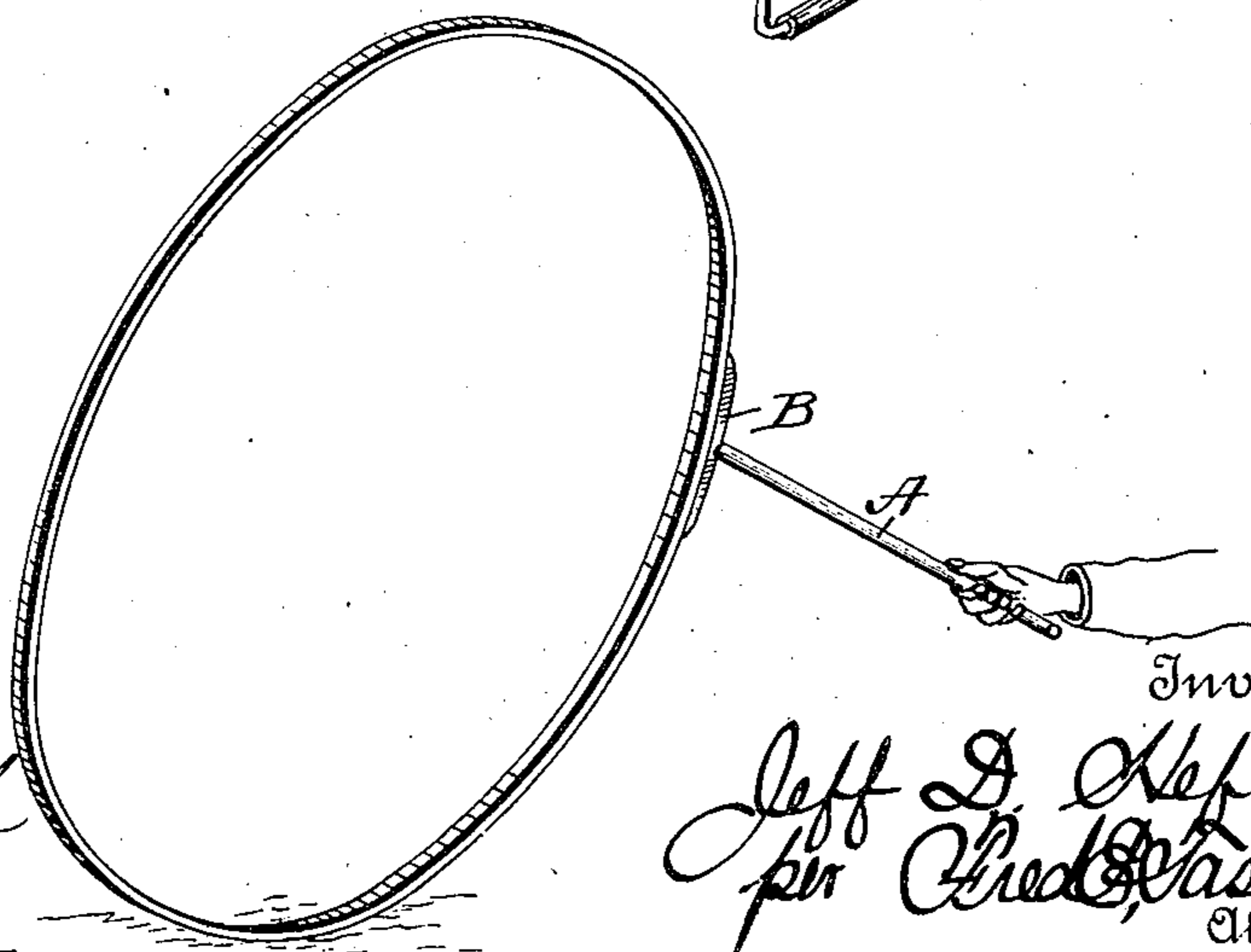


Fig. 3.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JEFFERSON D. HEFLEY, OF CAMERON, TEXAS.

## IMPELLING DEVICE FOR BOWLING-HOOPS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 618,707, dated December 27, 1898.

Application filed May 22, 1897. Serial No. 637,795. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JEFFERSON D. HEFLEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cameron, in the county of Milam and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Impelling Devices for Bowling-Hoops; 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.

This invention relates to an improvement in impelling-handles for bowling-hoops, the object of the invention being to provide a cheap, simple, and efficient device by means of which one of the plain round structures ordinarily denominated "bowling-hoops" may be rapidly trundled or propelled over the ground or such other surface as it may be desired to roll it upon.

The invention consists, essentially, in the handle or propelling-rod constructed in the manner substantially as herein shown and set forth.

In the accompanying drawings, illustrating my invention, Figure 1 is a perspective view of one form of the invention, the same being shown as made of wood or other similar material. Fig. 2 is a similar perspective view of a modified form of the device, the same being illustrated as shaped out of wire. Fig. 3 is a view representing the hoop in the act of being rolled or propelled by my improved impelling-handle.

Like letters of reference designate like parts.

A denotes the main portion of the handle, which is used to guide the hoop. At one end of this main portion A is a curved plate or strip attached to the end of the main part A by means of pins, screws, or other suitable attaching devices or else made integral therewith and situated in a position substantially at right angles to the direction of the main portion A, somewhat after the form of a T shape, it being understood, of course, that the arm of the T shape is curved instead of being straight. This attached or integrally-made end strip of the impelling device is designated by the reference-letter B, and its curvature is in an arc of a circle having the same center as the bowling-hoop, or substantially

in such an arc, in order that the said strip or plate B may be applied to the periphery of a portion of the bowling-hoop and when so applied will be closely in contact with such part of the periphery of the bowling-hoop as it may be opposite to. Of course it will be understood that I do not wish to be restricted to any precise curvature of this right-angled end strip of the impelling-handle; but in general I wish it to be so curved that it will readily act upon the periphery of the bowling-hoop when applied thereto.

A' designates the wire handle of the modified form of my improved impelling device as represented in Fig. 2, and B' denotes the curved right-angled end of said wire-constructed modification, said end B' corresponding to the part B belonging to that form of the invention delineated in Fig. 1. The wire construction is essentially the same in form and function as the solid wooden or other construction shown in Fig. 1, and it is my purpose to lay claim to the two forms as substantial equivalents of each other, both being adapted to serve equally well in actual practice.

The hoop, which in this description I have designated a "bowling-hoop," is the simple ordinary round structure without spoke or arms that are usually propelled by children by means of a hoop stick or handle held so as to periodically strike the periphery of the hoop or engage therewith by being held in close contact at a certain elevation relatively to the center of the hoop for the purpose of guiding as well as pushing or propelling it.

In the actual use of my improved impelling-handle the curved right-angled part of the handle will be placed behind the hoop in contact with a portion thereof, and after the hoop has been started the operator will only have to follow it up with the impelling device from behind. The hoop will maintain its vertical position, as it cannot fall under these circumstances, and the peculiar form of the impelling device will enable the operator to bowl the hoop straight forward in a perfectly straight line indefinitely, the hoop maintaining its equilibrium and pursuing its rectilinear motion without deviation from a true and correct line. When it is desired to stop the hoop, it is only necessary to apply

the device to the same above its center or on its top.

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

The impelling device for impelling hoops, consisting of the handle or rod having a curved plate or arm situated at right angles to the direction of the handle and curved in

an arc of a circle having the same center as the bowling-hoop, substantially as described.

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

JEFF. D. HEFLEY.

Witnesses:

W. T. HEFLEY,  
JOHN WATSON.