

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SOAP-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 622,873, dated April 11, 1899.

Application filed September 13, 1897. Serial No. 651,556. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES H. WELCH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Washington, District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Soap-Holders, (patented in Great Britain, No. 24,700, December 24, 1895;) 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 holders for soap, and particularly such holders as are designed to be arranged in convenient proximity to the wash basin or bowl of lavatories, bath-rooms, and similar compartments in hotels, railway-stations, and other public and private places.

In most of the constructions hitherto known to me a spindle device of some kind is employed, which spindle passes into or through the soap. I have found that after some use the water enters around said spindle, and thus eventually and indeed very quickly softens the soap about said spindle, thus rendering the soap easily broken.

It is the object of my invention to prevent the access of water around the spindle, thus avoiding all the disadvantages arising from such entrance.

With this object in view my invention consists in providing the spindle which enters the soap with a disk, cap, or plate having an annular depending flange permanently fixed or secured to said spindle at a point intermediate between its ends, which is arranged to cut into the soap around the spindle, and thereby prevent the water from getting to that part of the spindle which is inserted in the soap. Moreover, in addition to this the said annular flange in being forced into the soap compresses that part of the soap surrounded by it, thus still further aiding in preventing the water from entering the soap. In this way the soap cannot be worn away around the spindle to any appreciable extent, since it remains hard up to the last. The aforesaid spindle is provided at the end which does not enter the soap with any suitable means for suspending the same.

My invention, moreover, consists in removably attaching to the lower end of the spindle, preferably by screw-threading, a compressing-plate also provided with an annular flange adapted to enter the soap. This flanged lower compressing-plate may be used when the spindle is caused to entirely penetrate the soap and to project somewhat beyond it. It is caused to engage the lower threaded end of said spindle or stem and is turned until its flanged ends are embedded in the soap and the latter is thereby compressed between the two flanged plates, thus thoroughly preventing the access of water at either point at which the spindle projects from the soap. The depending flanges on the upper and lower plates may preferably be flaring on their interior surfaces. By this means an annular section of soap comprised between the spindle and said flange is thoroughly compressed against said spindle. In some cases—that is, when the spindle does not pass through the soap, but only partially into its body—the lower plate may be dispensed with. In this case the flanged plate, which is permanently secured to the spindle, performs not only the function of keeping the water from contact with the spindle, but also has a means of effectually grasping the soap and holding it against removal when the same is subjected merely to ordinary uses.

My invention consists in such further features as will be hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claims.

My invention will now be described in connection with the accompanying drawings and then particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of a device embodying my invention applied to a cake of soap. Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the same. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of one of the plates or disks.

Referring to the drawings, A is a spindle arranged to be inserted through the cake of soap and provided with a screw-thread a at one end and a plate or disk a' near the other end, said plate or disk having an annular flange a^2 . Above this disk a' the spindle may be provided with an eye a^3 for the attachment of a chain or other flexible securing device,

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(No Model.)

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Fig. 1.

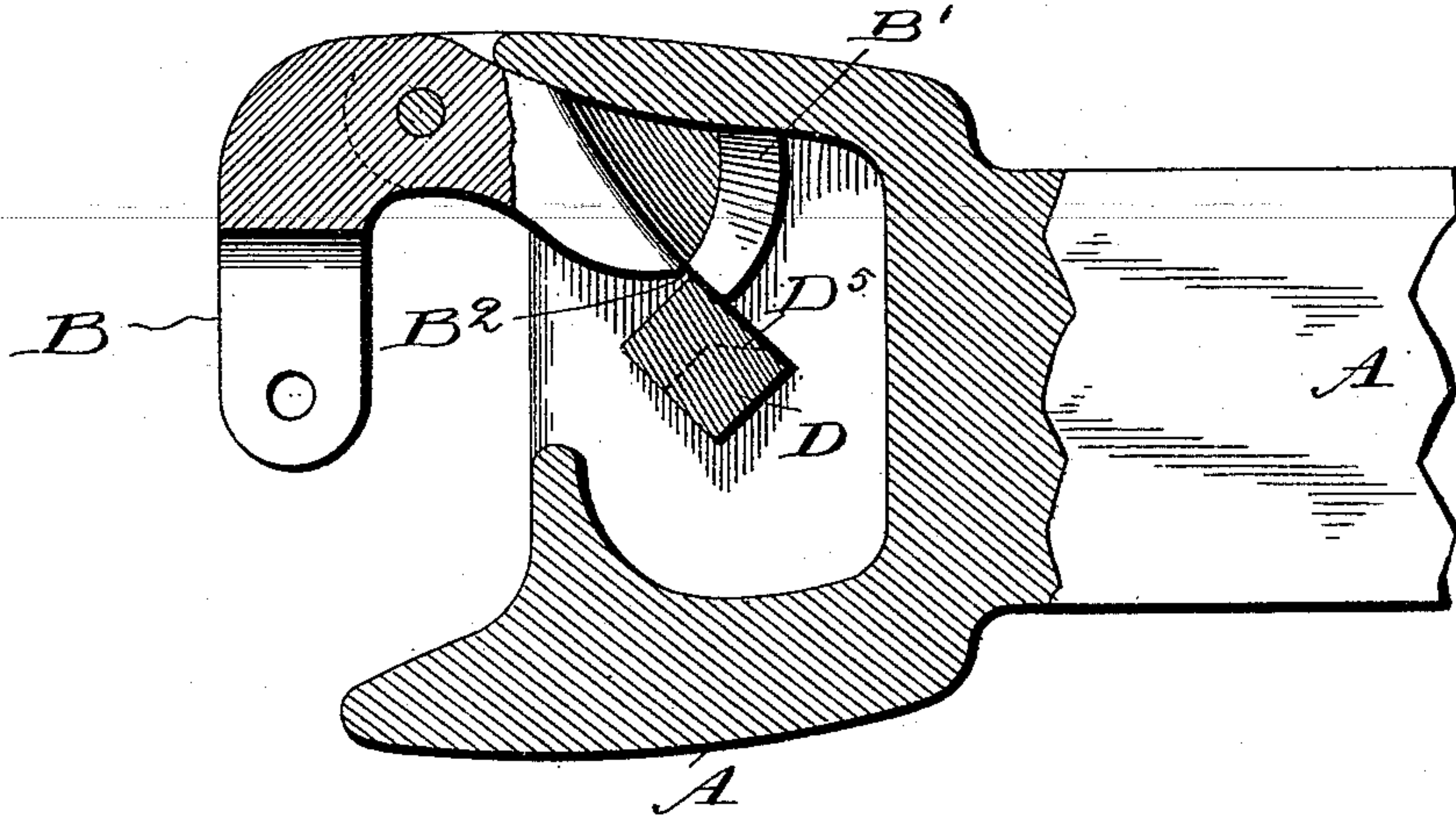


Fig. 2.

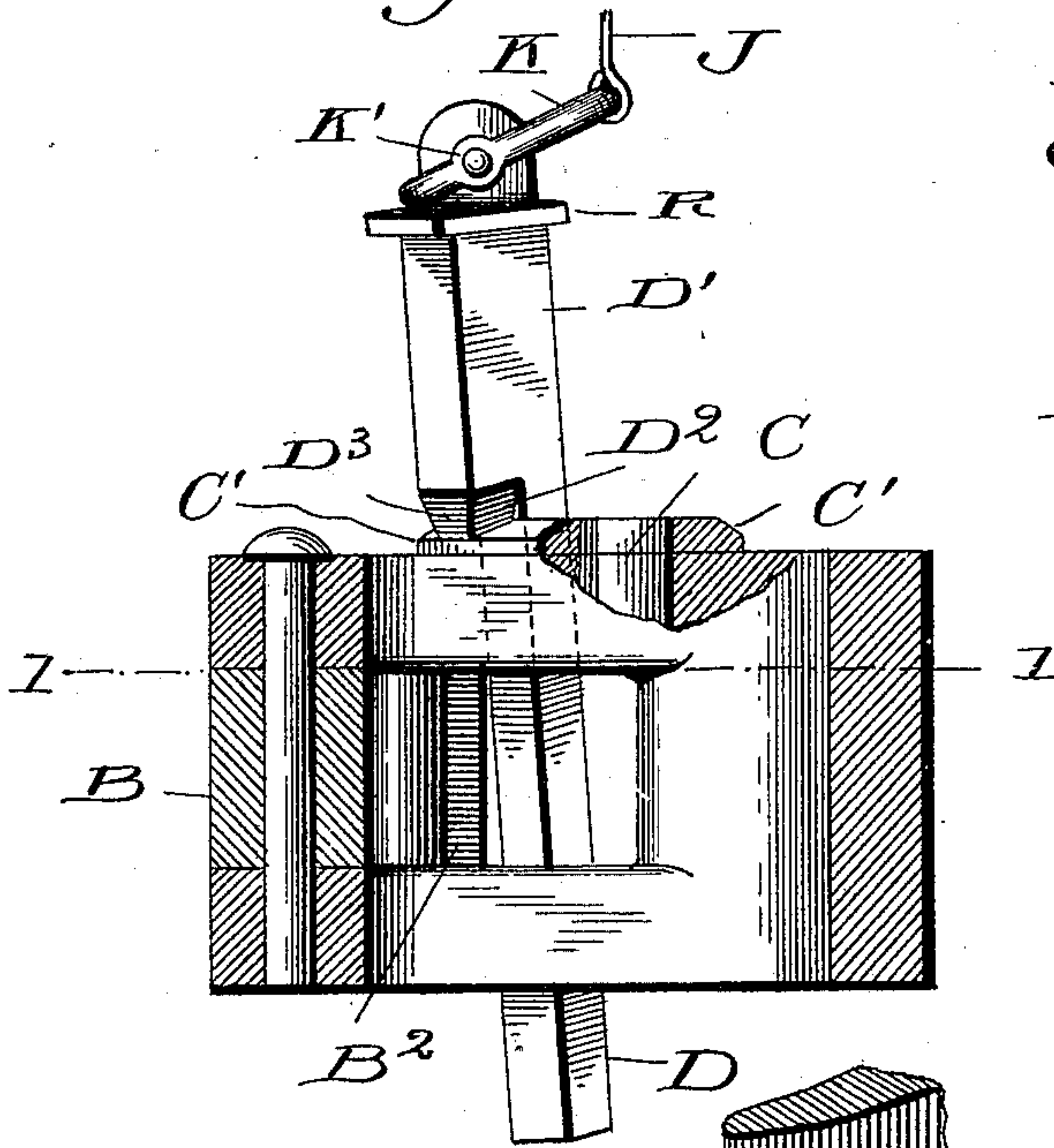


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

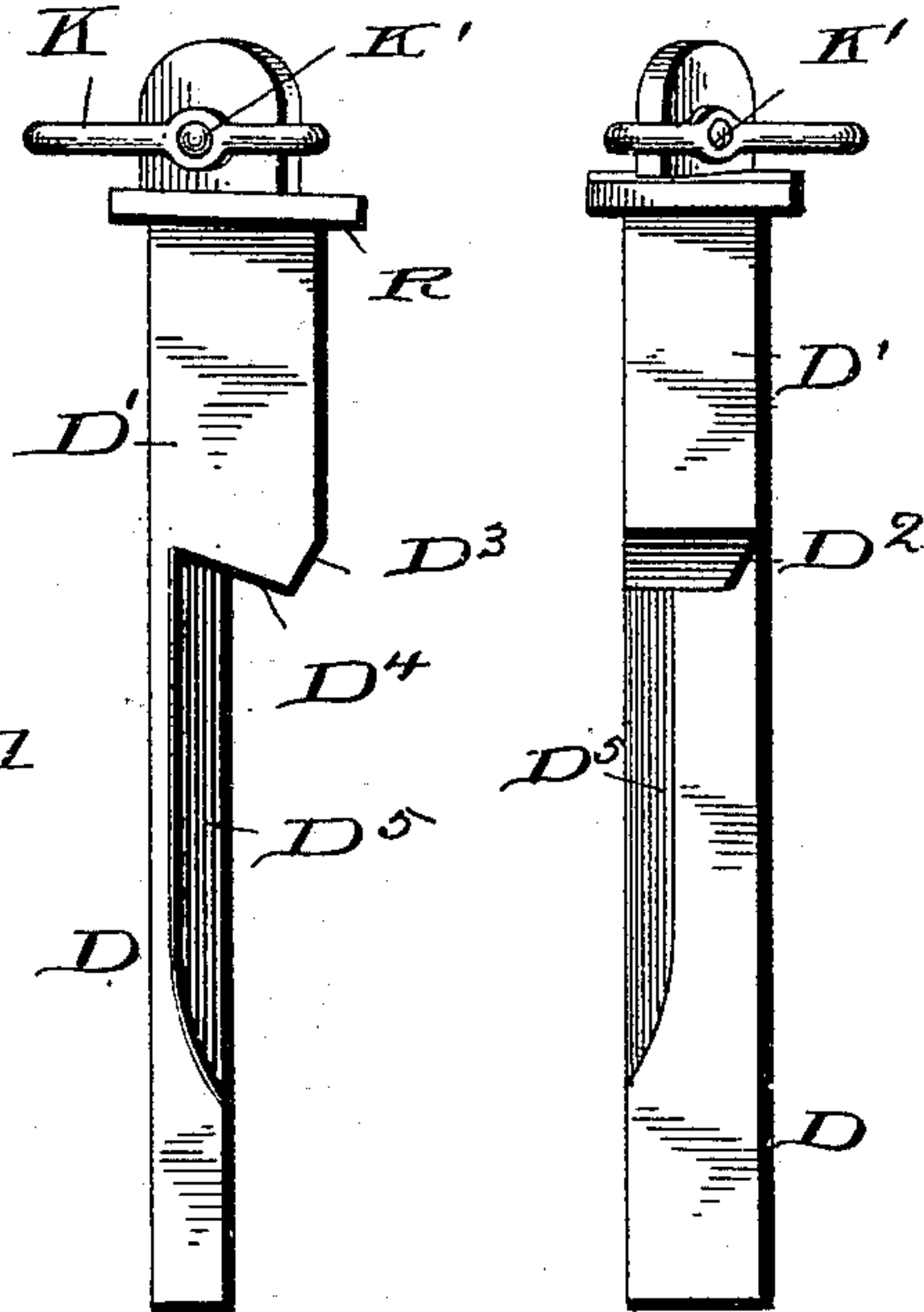
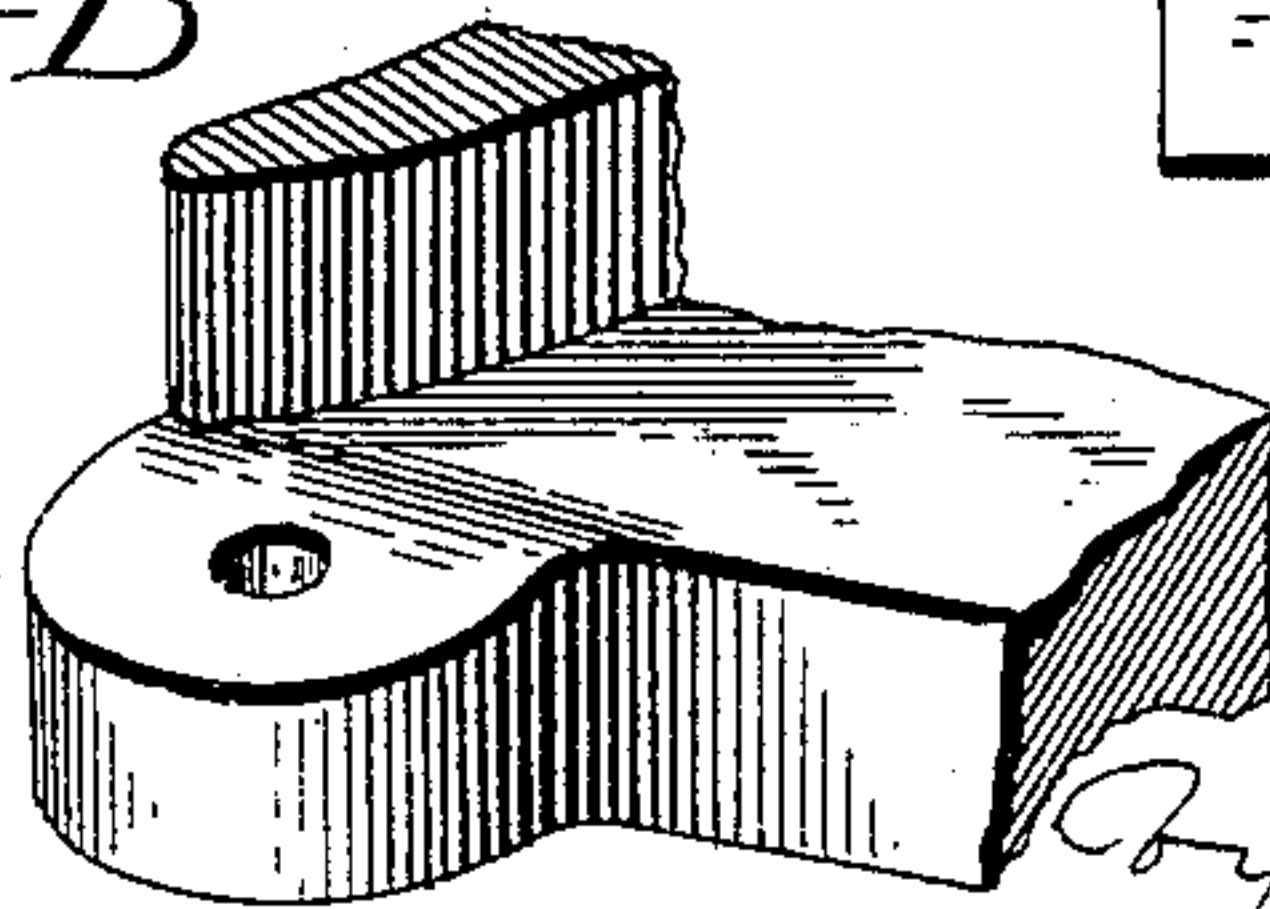


Fig. 5.



Witnesses

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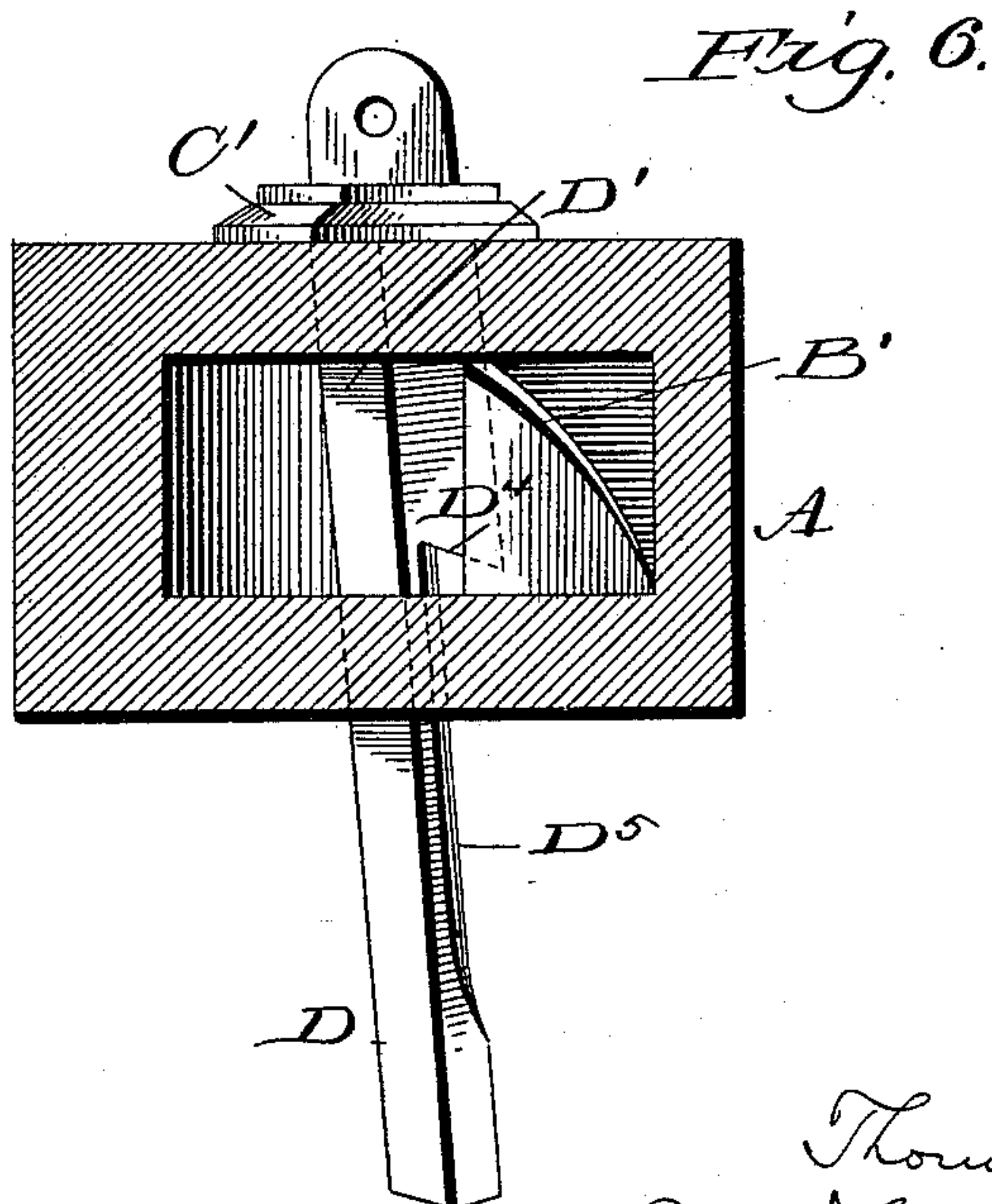
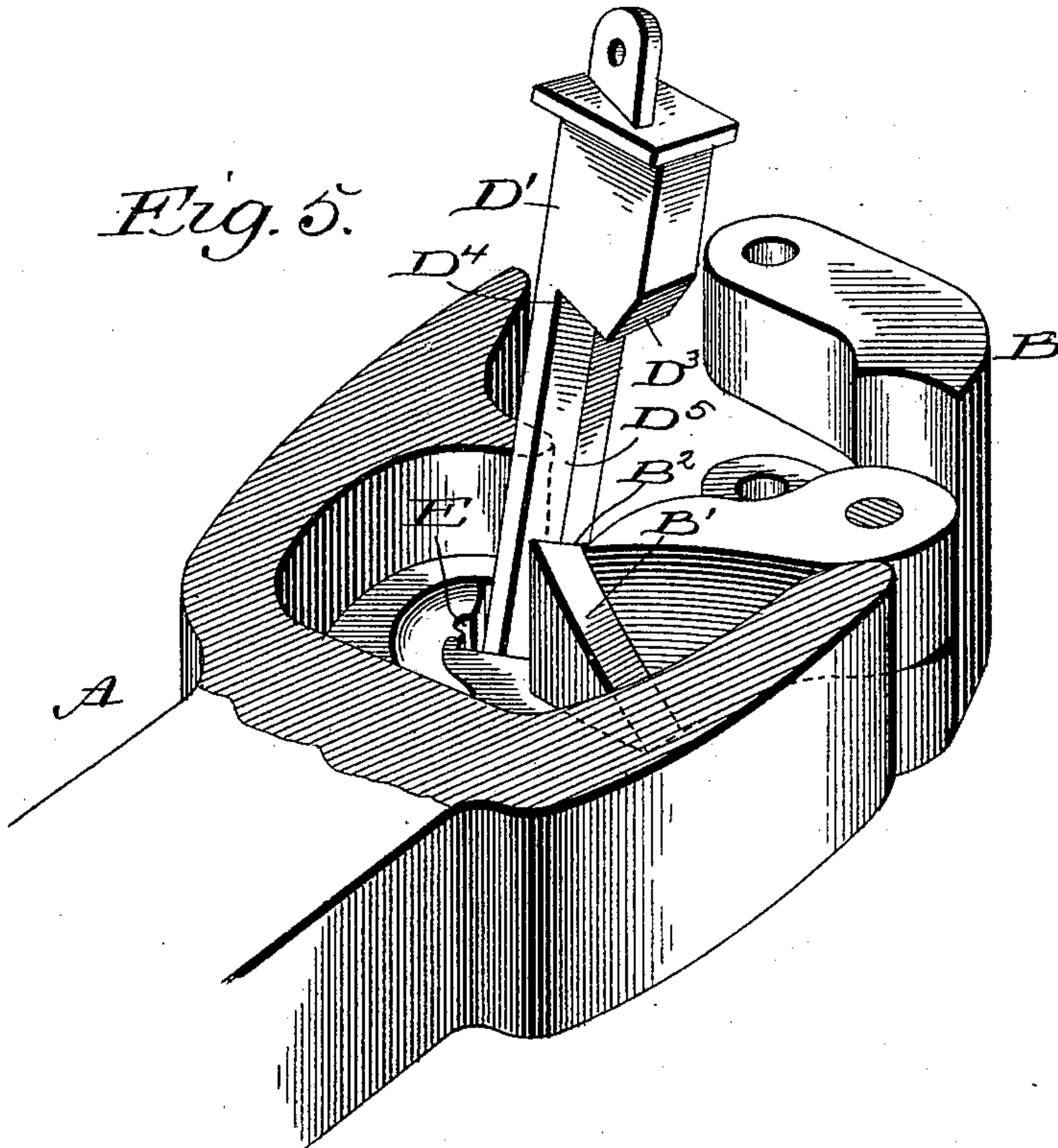
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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.



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