

No. 629,500.

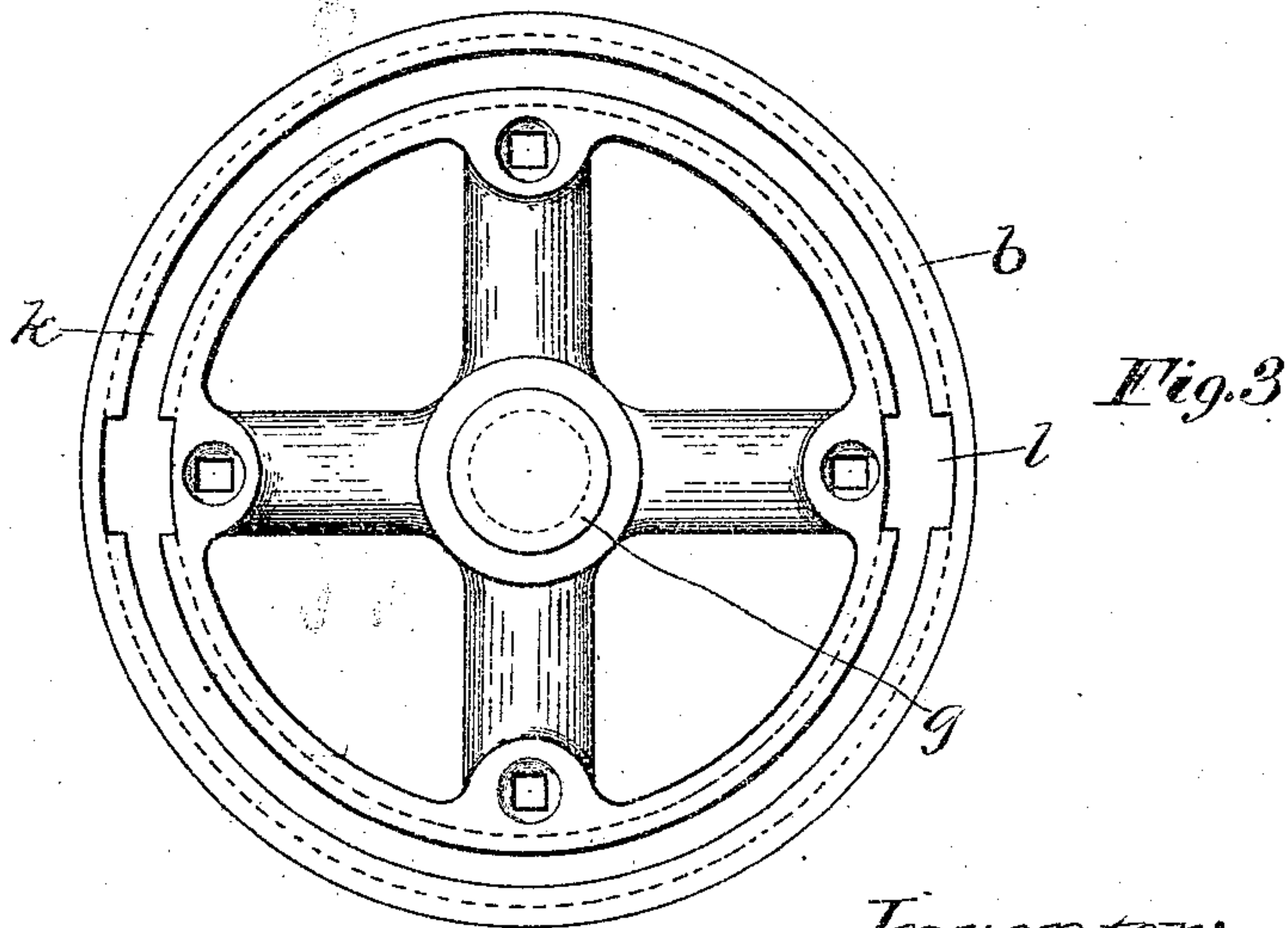
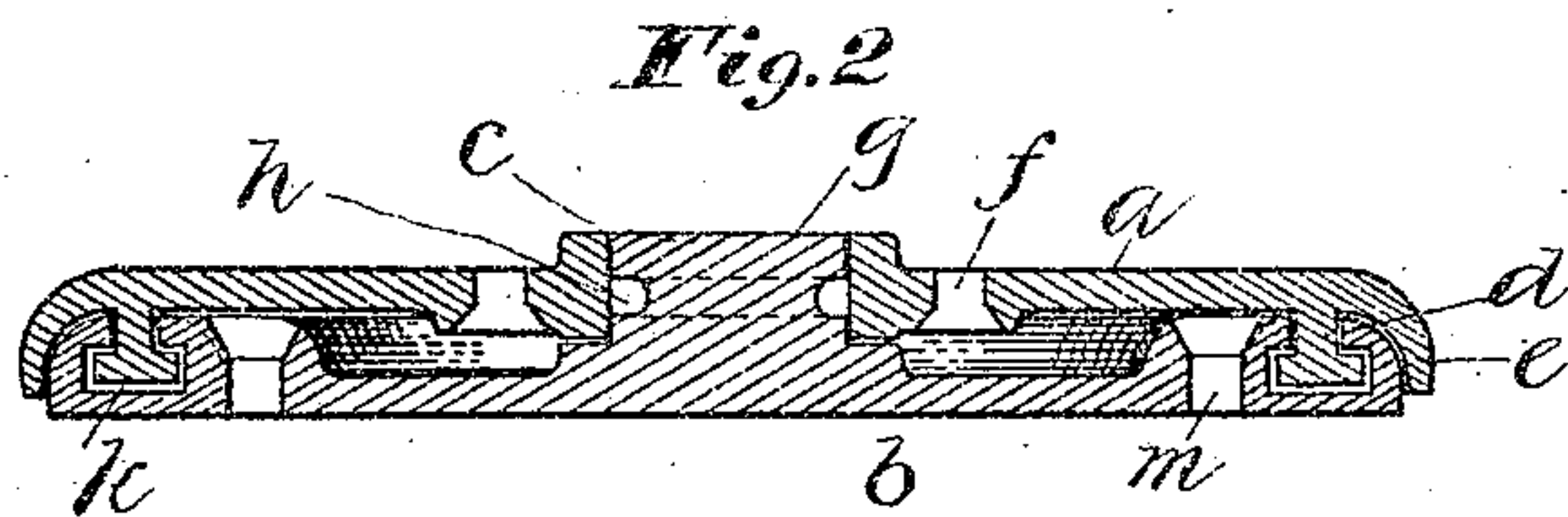
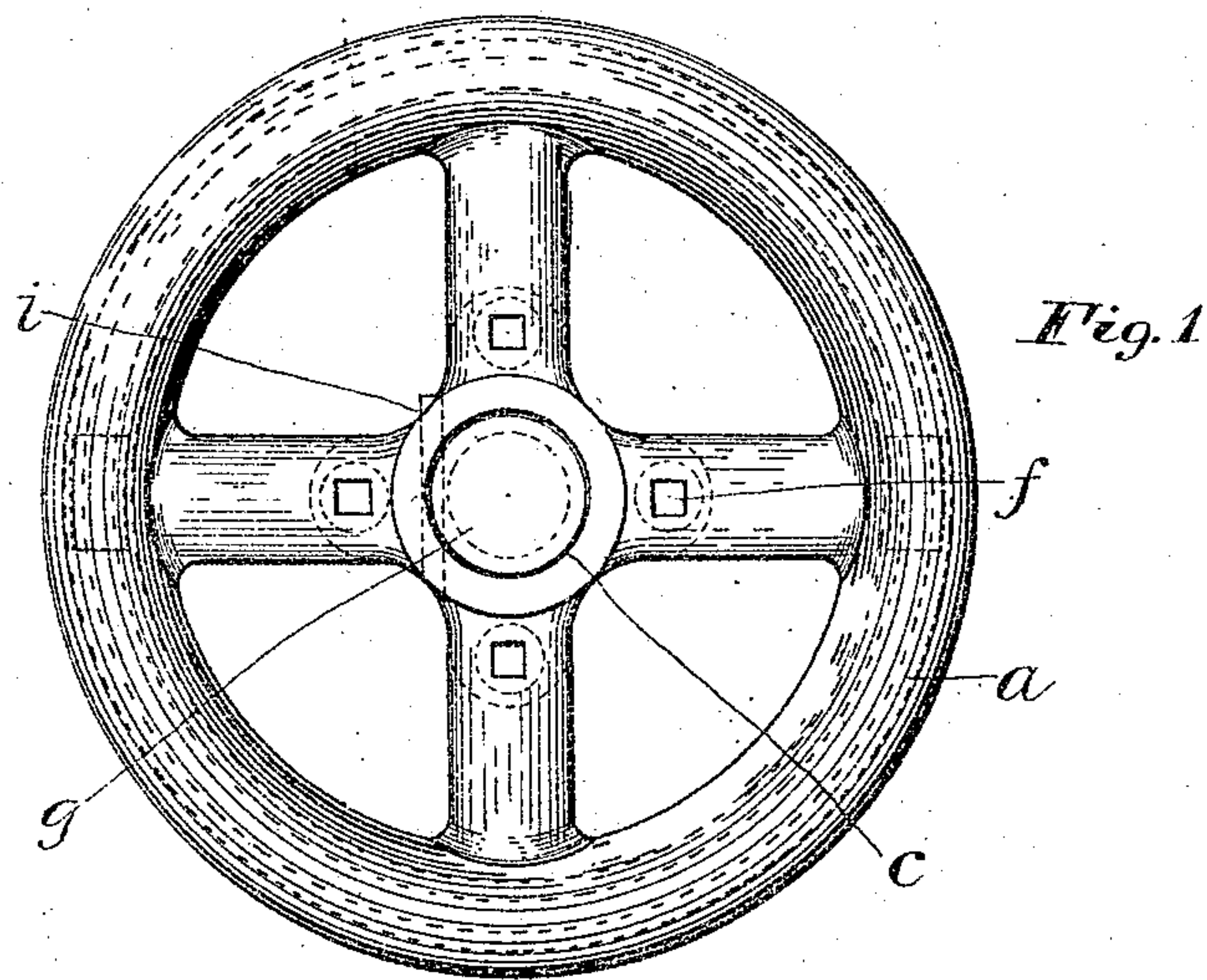
Patented July 25, 1899.

M. J. GRIFFIN & J. PULLAR.

FIFTH WHEEL.

(Application filed Apr. 7, 1899.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MICHAEL J. GRIFFIN AND JAMES PULLAR, OF HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT.

FIFTH-WHEEL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 629,500, dated July 25, 1899.

Application filed April 7, 1899. Serial No. 712,074. (No-model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, MICHAEL J. GRIFFIN and JAMES PULLAR, of Hartford, in the county of Hartford and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fifth-Wheels, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, whereby any one skilled in the art can make and use the same.

Our invention relates to the class of devices used in the connection between an axle and the body part of a vehicle for permitting rotary movement of the former; and the object of our invention is to provide a device of this class that may be easily and quickly assembled or taken apart for any purpose and also one that shall firmly support and connect the parts without lateral movement.

To this end our invention consists in the device as a whole, in the combination of parts, and in the details and their combination, as hereinafter described, and more particularly pointed out in the claims.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a top or plan view of our improved device. Fig. 2 is a detail view, in central vertical section, through the same. Fig. 3 is a detail top or plan view of the lower circle.

In the accompanying drawings the letter *a* denotes an upper circle, and *b* the lower circle, of our improved fifth-wheel. These circles may be formed to shape in any suitable manner, as by casting, and may be made of any desirable material.

The upper circle *a* has a central opening *c* and a projection *d* from its under surface. This projection is of a reverse T shape in cross-section and extends downward from the circle. This circle *a* is of dish shape, forming a flange *e*, extending, preferably, around the circle, and holes *f* are provided for the reception of bolts or screws, by means of which the circle may be secured to a support, as the body part of a vehicle or cross-piece secured thereto.

The lower circle *b* has a central hub *g* closely fitting the opening *c* in the upper circle, and extending around this hub, on the side thereof, is a groove *h*, into which a bolt *i* extends, this bolt being supported in the upper circle *a*.

A groove *k* is formed in the lower circle *b* of a shape to correspond with the T-shaped

projection *d* from the upper circle, the flange on which underlies the lips of the groove and prevents separation of the parts. The lips of the groove *k* are cut away, forming openings *l* of a size adapted to receive the projections *d*. Two openings of this kind are preferably formed, located on diametrically opposite sides of the circle and in such position that the projections *d* shall lie midway between the openings when the two sections of the circle are in their normal position in use—that is, with the axle of the vehicle in position to move it in a direct line. The bolt *i* serves to prevent accidental separation of the two parts of the circle if in use it should happen that the projections *d* should be located opposite the openings *l*. It will be noted that such an instance is liable to happen very rarely, and if such an instance should arise it is improbable that any excessive strain would be brought to bear upon the parts which could not be withstood by the bolt. Openings *m* are formed through the lower circle, through which bolts or screws may be inserted for the purpose of attaching this portion of the circle to its support.

We claim as our invention—

1. In a fifth-wheel, in combination, two circles, one provided with a groove having a narrow mouth, the opposite circle having a projection fitting said groove, an opening into the groove to receive said projection, and a central hub on one of said circles fitting the central opening in the opposite circle.

2. In a fifth-wheel in combination, two circles one having a groove with a narrow mouth, the opposite circle having a projection fitting said groove, an opening into the groove adapted to receive said projection, and a peripheral flange located on one of the circles and adapted to encircle the opposite circle.

3. In a fifth-wheel in combination two circles, one having a groove with a narrow mouth, and the opposite circle having a projection adapted to fit said groove, an opening into the groove adapted to receive the projection, a hub on one of said circles to fit a central opening in the opposite circle, and a peripheral flange on one of the circles adapted to encircle the opposite circle.

4. In a fifth-wheel, in combination two circles, a lower circle having a groove with a nar-

row mouth, an opening leading into the groove, an upper circle having a projection adapted to enter said opening and to fit the groove, a flange on the upper circle adapted to surround the lower circle, and a central hub on the lower circle adapted to fit a central opening on the upper circle.

5 5. In a fifth-wheel in combination, two circles, one of which has a groove with a narrow mouth and an enlarged opening leading into the groove, a projection on the opposite circle adapted to enter the enlarged opening and to fit the groove, a hub on one of the circles fitting a central opening in the opposite circle and having a peripheral groove and a bolt
15 secured to one of the circles and adapted to rest in said groove.

6 In a fifth-wheel in combination an upper

circle having a T-shaped projection, a peripheral flange and a central opening, and a lower 20 circle having a groove adapted to fit said projection and an enlarged opening leading into the groove and adapted to receive said projection, a hub on the lower circle adapted to fit the central opening in the upper circle, 25 and having a peripheral groove, and a bolt secured to the upper circle and adapted to rest in said groove.

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