

No. 639,779.

Patented Dec. 26, 1899.

G. R. SHARF.
DISPLAY FORM.

(Application filed Aug. 8, 1898.)

(No Model.)

FIG. 1.

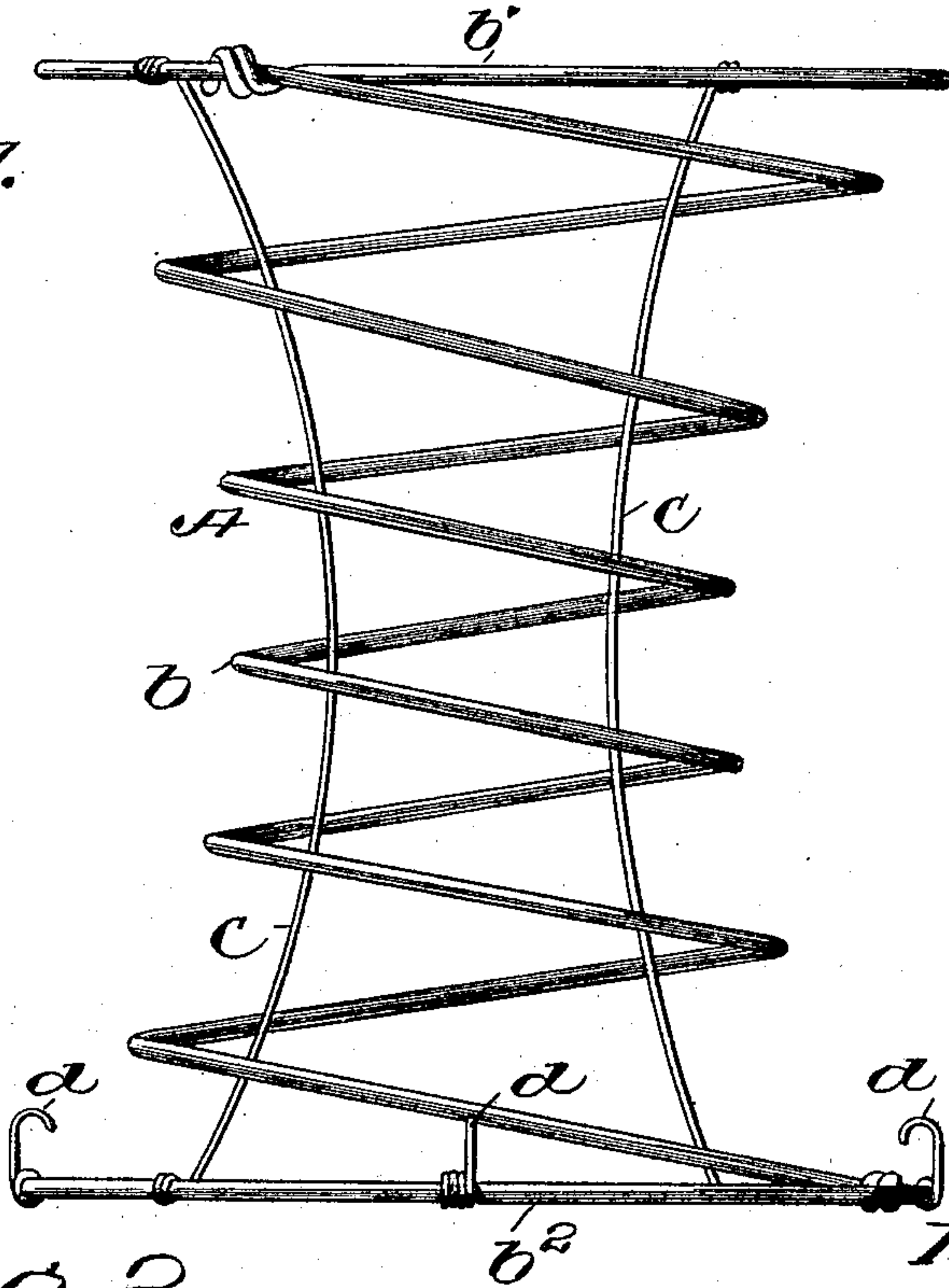


FIG. 2.

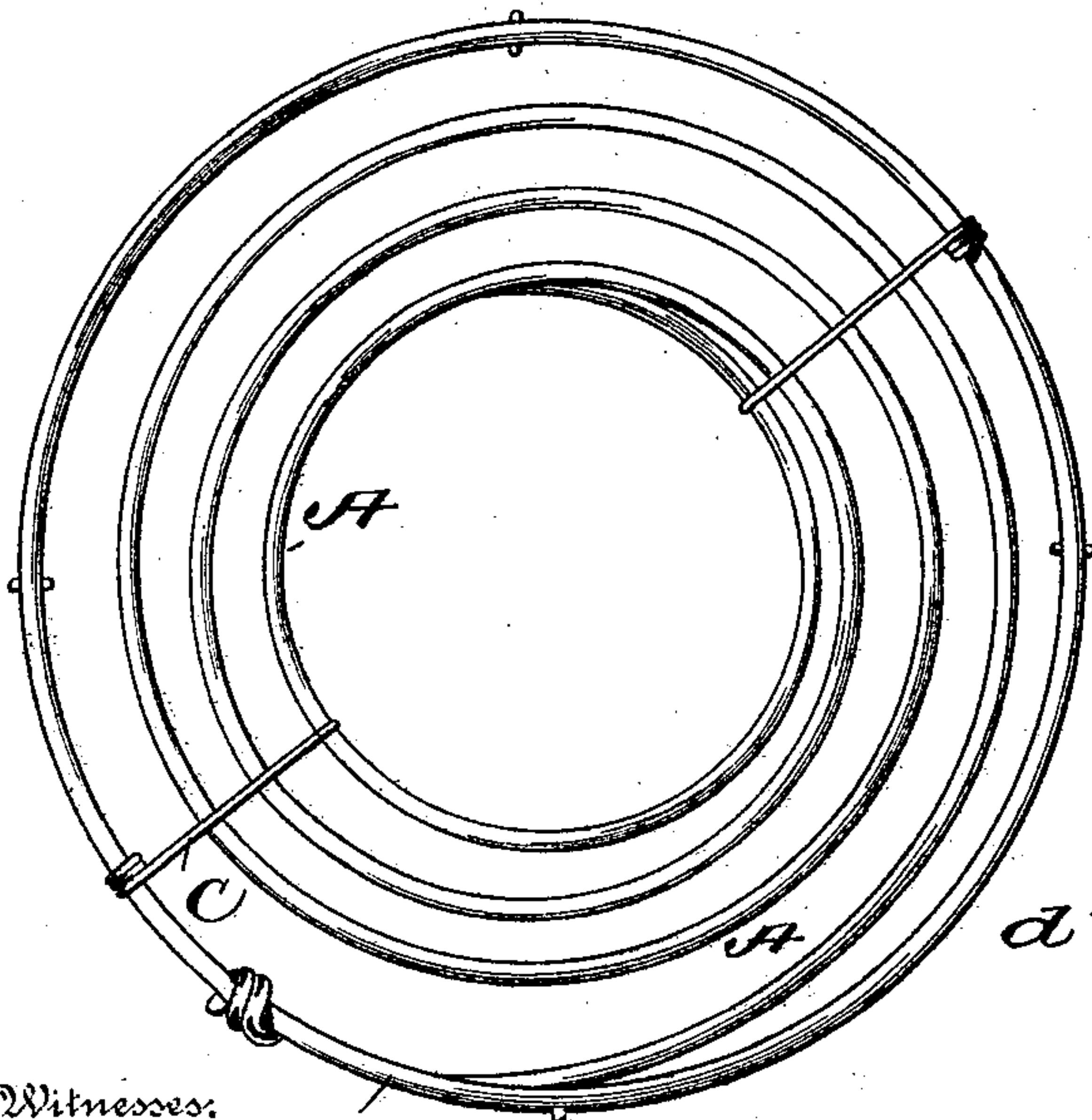


FIG. 4.

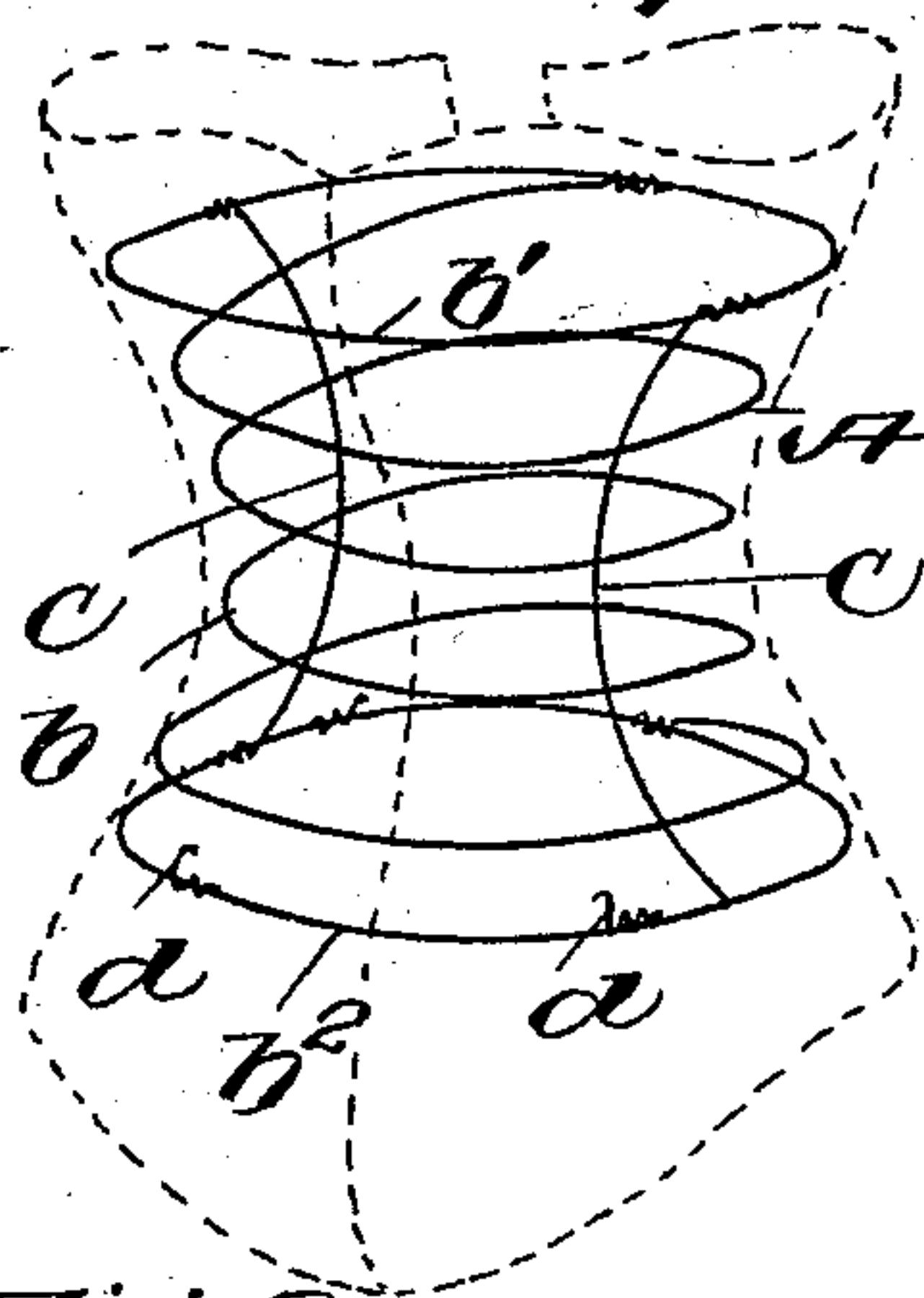
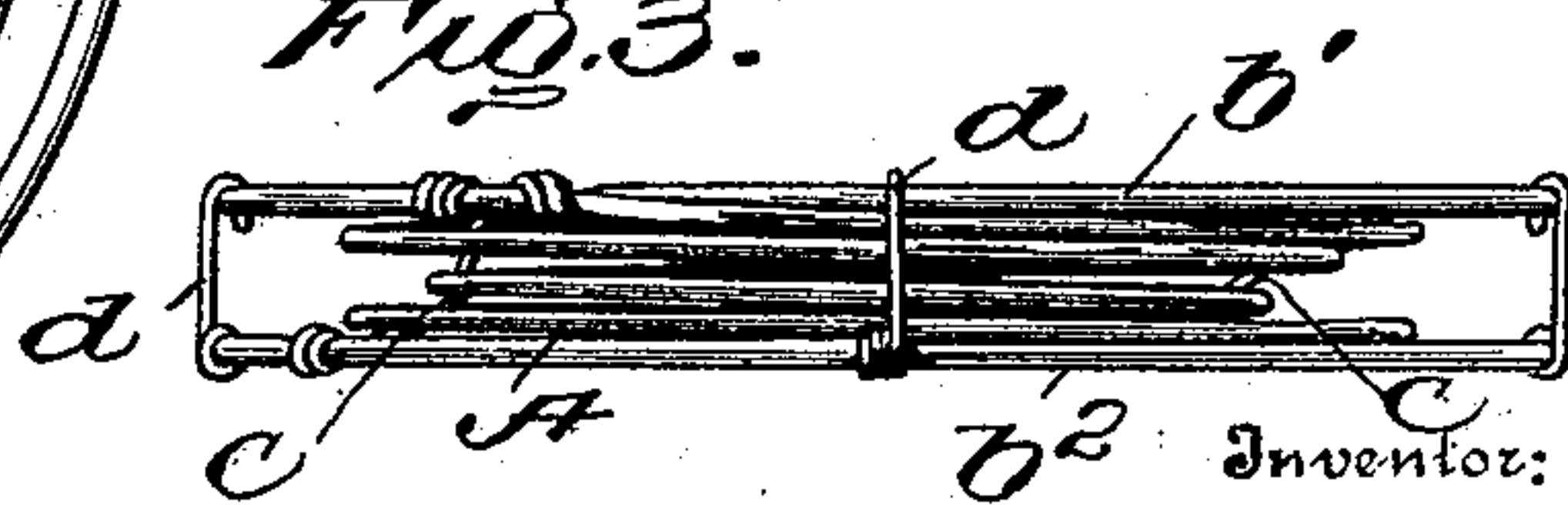


FIG. 3.



Witnesses:

Medicine
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE R. SHARP, OF SIDELL, ILLINOIS.

DISPLAY-FORM.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 639,779, dated December 26, 1899.

Application filed August 8, 1898. Serial No. 688,135. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE R. SHARP, a citizen of the United States, residing at Sidell, in the county of Vermilion and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Display-Form, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in forms for displaying corsets, shirt-waists, and the like in show-windows and other places and for maintaining the same properly in shape for a neat and attractive display of their make and outline.

The object of the invention is to provide a form of this character which is simple, cheap, and durable in construction, capable of being easily adjusted to fit the different styles and sizes of articles to be displayed, and adapted when in use to be concealed from view and when not in use to be conveniently compressed or collapsed in close compass for storage or transportation.

With this and other minor objects in view the invention consists of a display-form embodying certain novel features of construction, combination, and arrangement of parts, which will be hereinafter more fully described, and particularly set forth in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings Figure 1 is a view in side elevation of a display-form constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a top plan view thereof. Fig. 3 is a side elevational view showing the form compressed or collapsed for storage or transportation. Fig. 4 is a perspective view showing the manner of applying the form for displaying a corset, the latter being illustrated in broken lines.

Referring now more particularly to the drawings, A represents the body portion of the display-form, which is made of coiled wire, substantially in the shape of a double helical spring, having intermediate coils or convolutions *b*, increasing in diameter upward and downward from the point of smallest diameter at the center to conform to the configuration of the waist portion of the corset, shirt-waist, or other article to be displayed, and top and bottom coils *b'* and *b''* of different diameters to correspond to the variation in the size of the article at the bust and waist portions thereof. Spring-steel wire No. 10 is prefer-

ably employed in the construction of the coiled body portion, as this grade of wire is stiff enough to hold the corset or other article to which it is applied distended to the desired fullness and yet resilient enough to allow the coil to be readily compressed in folded or collapsed condition and maintained in such condition for a long period without affecting its expansive qualities.

The top and bottom coils of the body portion are connected by independent retaining-wires C, which are preferably made of some soft pliable metal, such as copper, and placed on the interior of the body portion and looped at their ends about said coils. These retaining-wires serve to stay the coiled body portion and at the same time prevent undue extension of such portion when partially compressed. The form may be readily adjusted to receive corsets and shirt-waists of different lengths by simply detaching the retaining-wires from one end of the coil, compressing the coil to the desired extent, and then looping the free ends of said retaining-wires about the coil again to retain the latter in compressed condition, and the soft pliable character of the retaining-wires permits of this being conveniently done with a minimum amount of labor and without the use of tools or danger of breaking said wires. This pliability of the retaining-wires also avoids the necessity of removing said wires when the coiled body portion is fully compressed into a folded or collapsed condition, as they are adapted to bend and fold between the convolutions and may be easily straightened out when the coil is allowed to expand.

Hooks *d* are arranged upon one end of the coiled body portion to hook over the other end thereof and hold the coiled portion in compressed or collapsed condition in the manner shown in Fig. 3. In the present instance I have shown the hooks arranged upon the bottom coil *b''* to engage the top coil *b'*; but this arrangement may be reversed, if desired. By this means the display-form may be folded in close compass, so that it may be conveniently carried and a large number packed within a minimum amount of storage-space.

The manner of employing the form for displaying an article of the character described—such as a corset, for instance—is

clearly shown in Fig. 4, from which it will be seen that the form when applied is concealed from view and holds the corset distended in an efficient manner to attractively exhibit the make and outline thereof.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is—

1. A form for exhibiting shirt-waists and the like comprising a body portion made of coiled wire, and an independent retaining-wire looped around the wire of said body portion for preventing undue extension of such portion.

2. An exhibiting-form of the class described comprising a body portion of coiled wire, and

hooks upon one end of the coil and adapted to hook over the other end to hold the coiled portion in compressed or collapsed condition.

3. An exhibiting-form comprising a body portion made of coiled spring-wire, and independent pliable retaining-wires on the interior of the body portion and looped about the wire of said body portion for preventing undue extension of such portion.

GEO. R. SHARP.

Witnesses:

FRANK PARHAM,
R. L. POWELL.