

No. 659,981.

Patented Oct. 16, 1900.

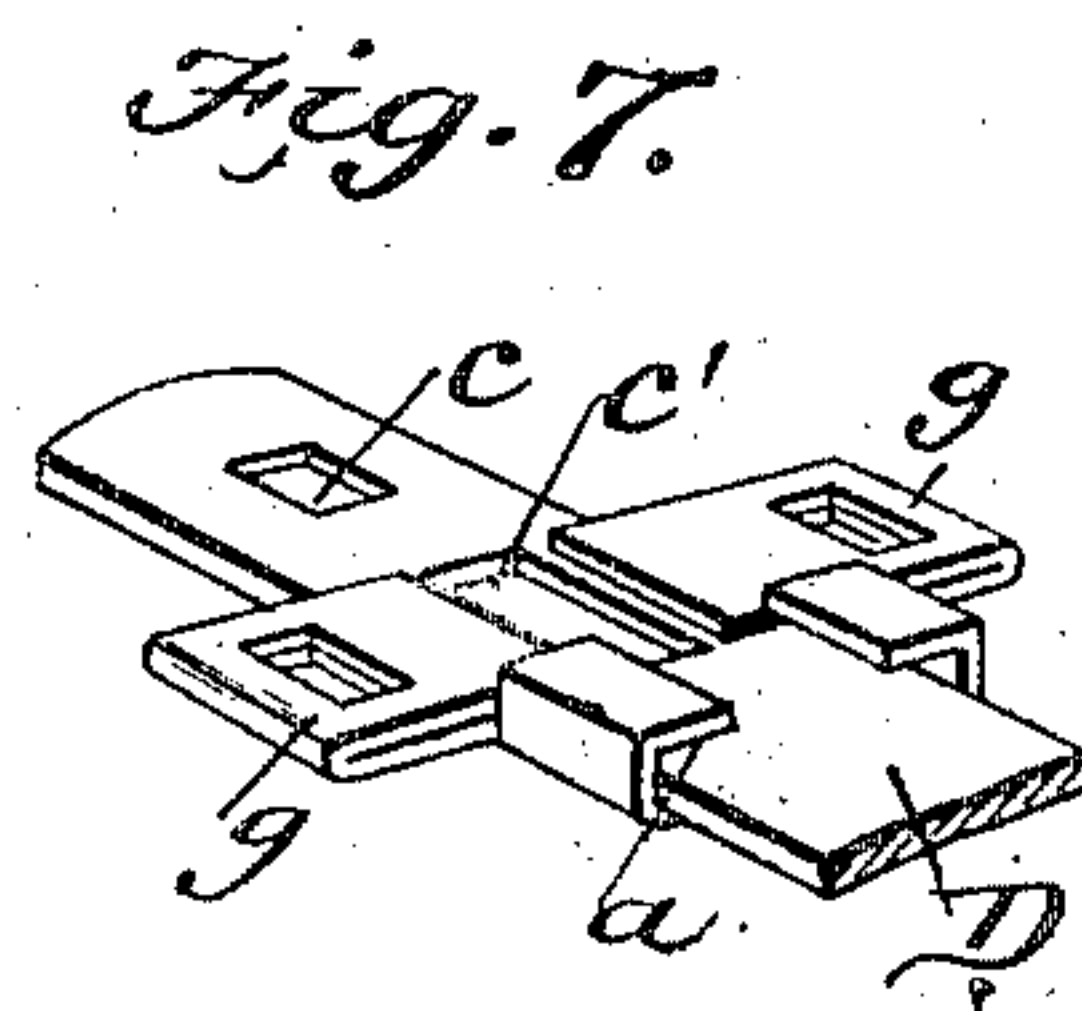
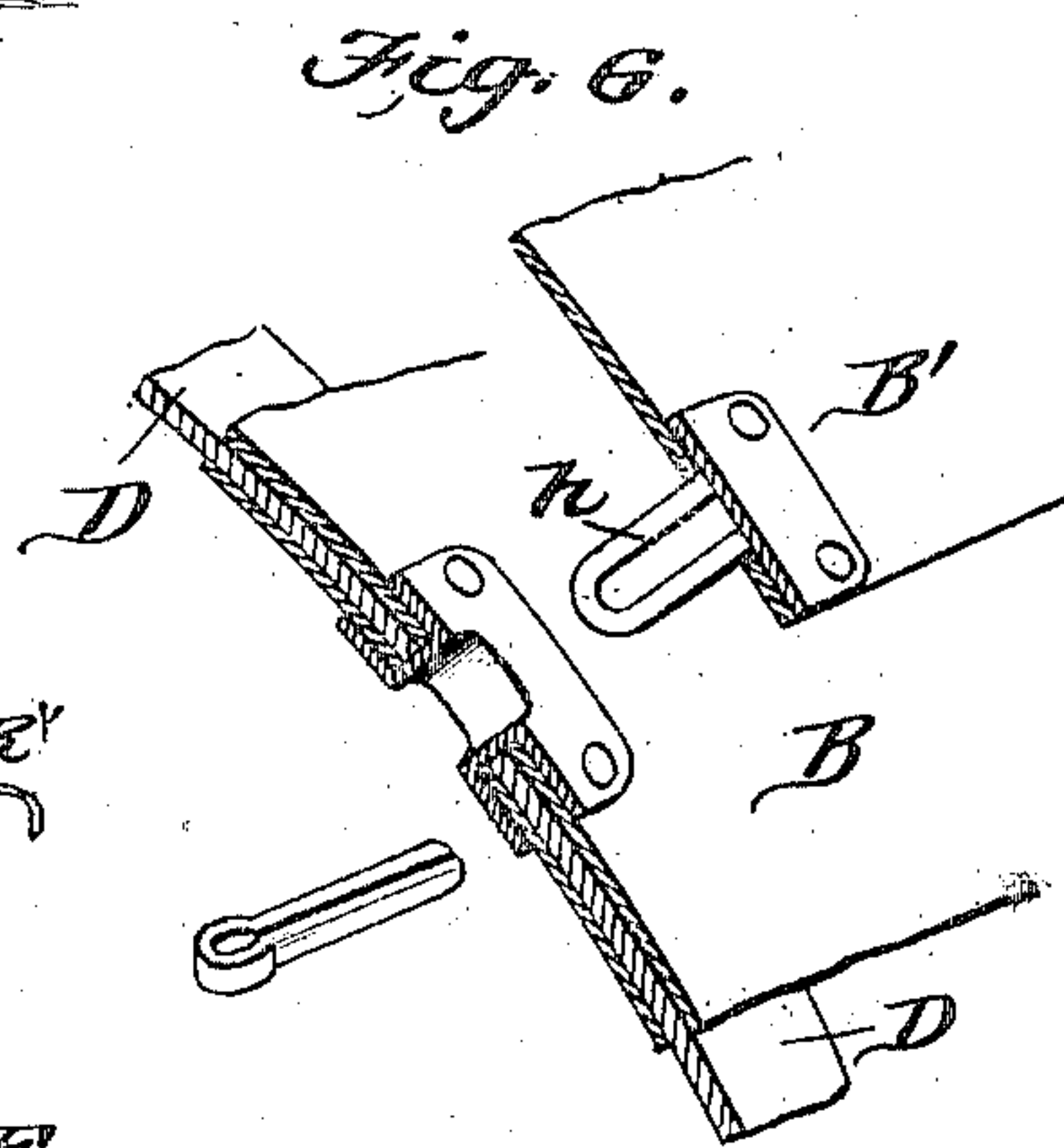
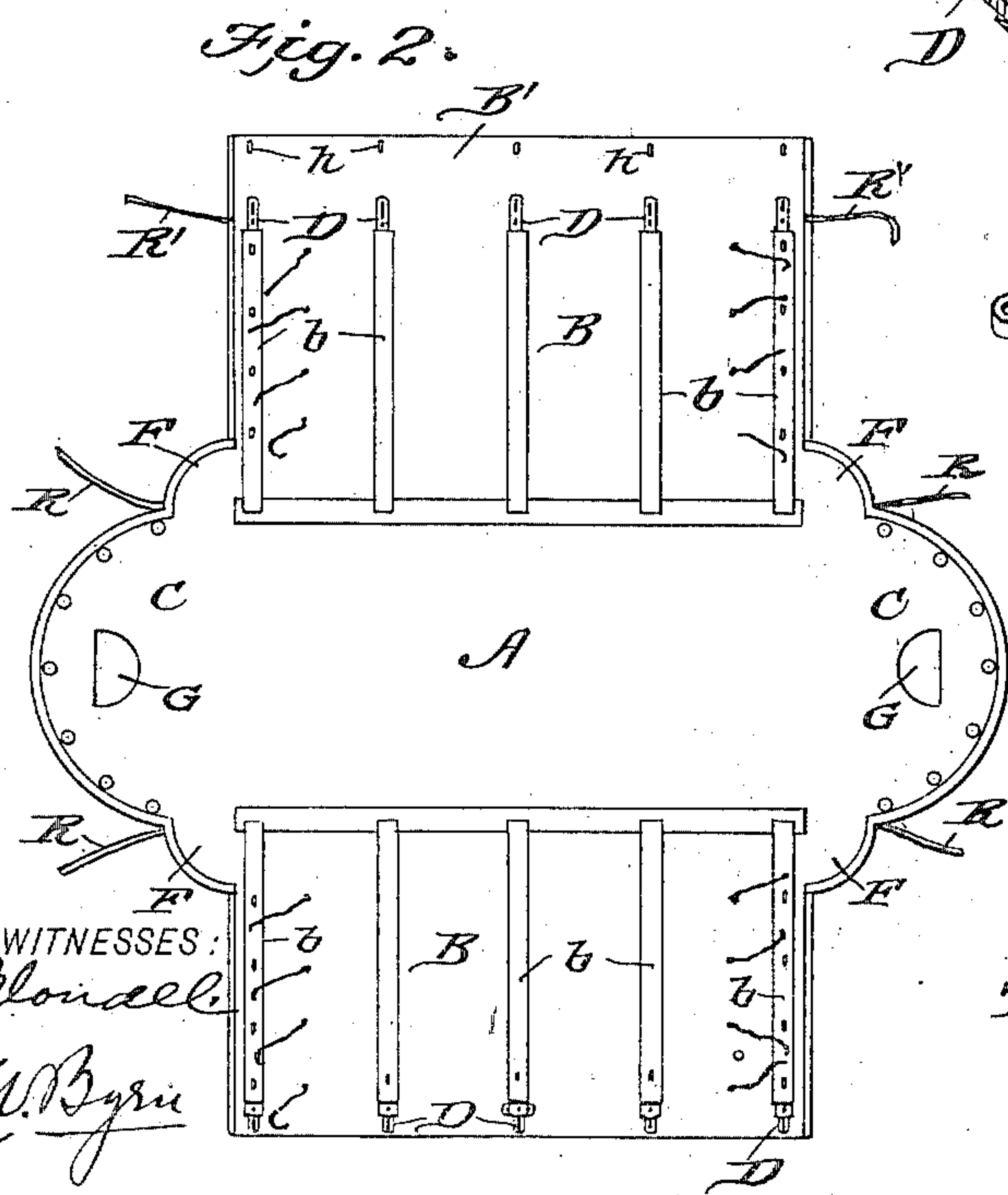
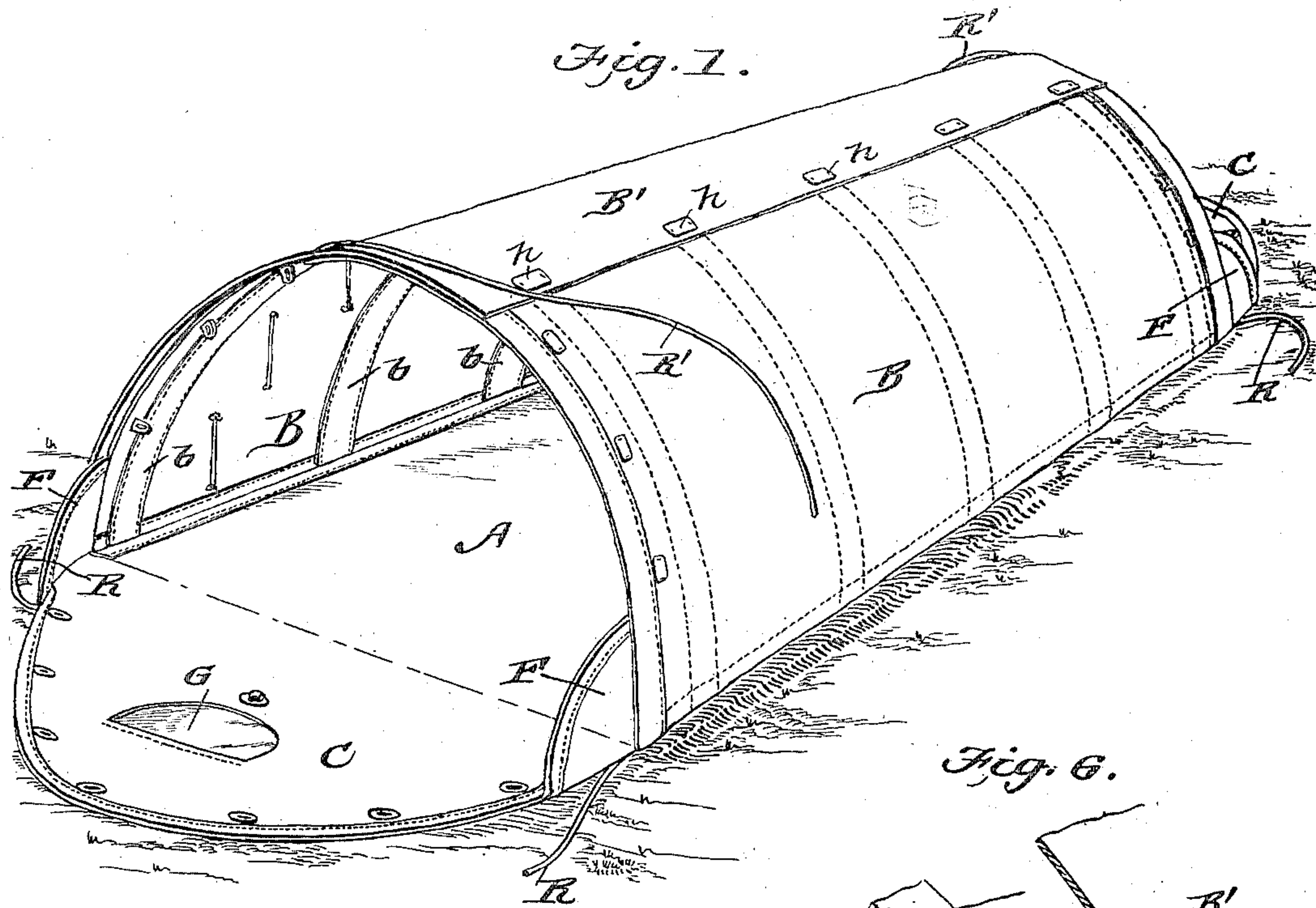
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TENT.

(Application filed July 12, 1899.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.



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TENT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 659,981, dated October 16, 1900.

Application filed July 12, 1899. Serial No. 723,568. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THADDEUS DALE MCCALL, of Wichita, in the county of Sedgwick and State of Kansas, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Tents, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a convenient and easily-portable tent for the use of campers and others which requires no poles, has a canvas floor, and may be suspended and used as a hammock when desired.

It consists in the peculiar construction and arrangement of the cloth with stays and fastening devices, as will be hereinafter fully described with reference to the drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the tent set up, but with the end flap open. Fig. 2 is a view, on a reduced scale, of the tent laid out flat, ready to be rolled up. Fig. 3 is a view of it rolled up. Fig. 4 is a vertical transverse section through one of the rib-stays. Fig. 5 is a vertical longitudinal section through the ridge-pole, and Figs. 6, 7, 8, and 9 are details of the fastening devices.

The tent-body is composed (see Fig. 2) of three sections of canvas A B B, each of about equal width and any desired length, firmly secured together. At the ends of the middle section A, which constitutes the floor of the tent, are attached the two end flaps C C of curved form to correspond to the cross-section of the tent when set up.

In the side sections B B of the tent there are formed, by rows of stitching at suitable distances apart, transverse channels *b* to receive flexible spring-stays D, which form the ribs of the tent and distend its side walls when set up, as in Fig. 1. These rib-stays are springs of elastic material and may be made of hard wood, metal, rubber, or any other desired material. These stays are arranged in pairs, the stay on one side being immediately opposite to a corresponding one on the other side, so as to be connected to it at the top when the sides are erected to form the inclosure. For the purpose of this connection one of the ribs has a socket *a*, Figs. 8 and 9, on its end, into which slips the end of the corresponding stay. The connecting ends of the two stays of each pair are provided with corresponding holes *c*, which reg-

ister with each other, and also slots *c'*, which register with each other. The holes *c* are designed to receive a key or staple *d*, Fig. 4, and the registering slots *c'* receive staples *e* on a sectional ridge-pole E E', Figs. 4, 5, and 9. This ridge-pole may be made of wood, metal, or any desired material and is in two parts, one part E of which has a socket *f* in its end to receive a tongue or tenon *f'* on the other, so as to connect them in alignment to form a stiff and continuous ridge-pole. The inner ends of these two sections of the ridge-pole are provided with staples, which are passed through slots on each side of a plate *g*, Figs. 5 and 7, attached to the middle stay.

One of the side sections B, of canvas, is made a little wider than the other, so as to form a flap B', Figs. 1, 2, 4, and 6, that folds over the top of the ridge-pole and closes in the joint of the tent at the top, and for this purpose it has staples *h*, that pass through slots in the stays and are secured on the inside of the tent by rope ends passed through the said staples.

The end sections C have corner-pieces F, which when the ends are turned up form joints that keep out the water. The end pieces C are secured along their edges to the side walls of the tent with staples and keys or rope ends like the top flap B', and said end pieces also have ventilating-windows, with protecting-flaps G.

In longitudinal seams *s s*, near the line of junction between the floor and sides of the tent, there are arranged strong ropes R R, whose ends project beyond the ends of the tent and are designed to be attached to the ends of the ridge-pole or tops of the end stays, at which point of connection there is at each end a third rope R', Fig. 1, which, together with the ropes R R, forms suspending attachments by which it may be slung from two trees or two posts, so as to form a hammock. When so used, it forms an inclosed hammock, which may be either closed at the ends by the end flaps C or be opened and, if desired, provided with a curtain of mosquito-netting, so as to secure protection from insects and still allow a comfortable circulation of air.

In large tents the spring stays or ribs D may be each made in two sections, articulated

with knuckle-joints, as shown at *a* on the left side of Fig. 4, so as to enable large tents to fold more compactly.

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

1. A floor-tent consisting of a middle section having attached along each of its longitudinal edges a separate rectangular side piece, each side piece having a series of parallel and transversely-arranged pockets or keepers with spring-stays in them, and the stays having locking devices at their outer ends and adapted to be alined and joined in pairs when the side pieces are turned up to form the tent-inclosure as set forth.

2. A floor-tent consisting of a middle section, two attached side pieces with flexible transverse rib-stays, detachable locking devices for connecting the stays in pairs, one side of the tent having a flap extension *B'* substantially as and for the purpose described.

3. A floor-tent consisting of a middle section having attached along each of its longi-

tudinal edges a separate rectangular side piece, each side piece having a series of parallel and transversely-arranged pockets or keepers with spring-stays in them, the stays having locking devices at their outer ends and adapted to be alined and joined in pairs when the side pieces are turned up to form the tent-inclosure, and a ridge-pole arranged at right angles to the series of stays and detachably connected to each pair of stays at their joined or lapped ends substantially as described.

4. A floor-tent consisting of a middle section, and two attached side pieces with longitudinal suspending-ropes incorporated at the side edges of the middle section, means for distending the side section, a ridge-pole, and means for suspending the tent at its ends substantially as described.

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Witnesses:

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