

No. 666,031.

C. SHOETTLE & F. W. MEYER. Patented Jan. 15, 1901.

HAT HOLDER.

(Application filed Aug. 20, 1900.)

(No Model.)

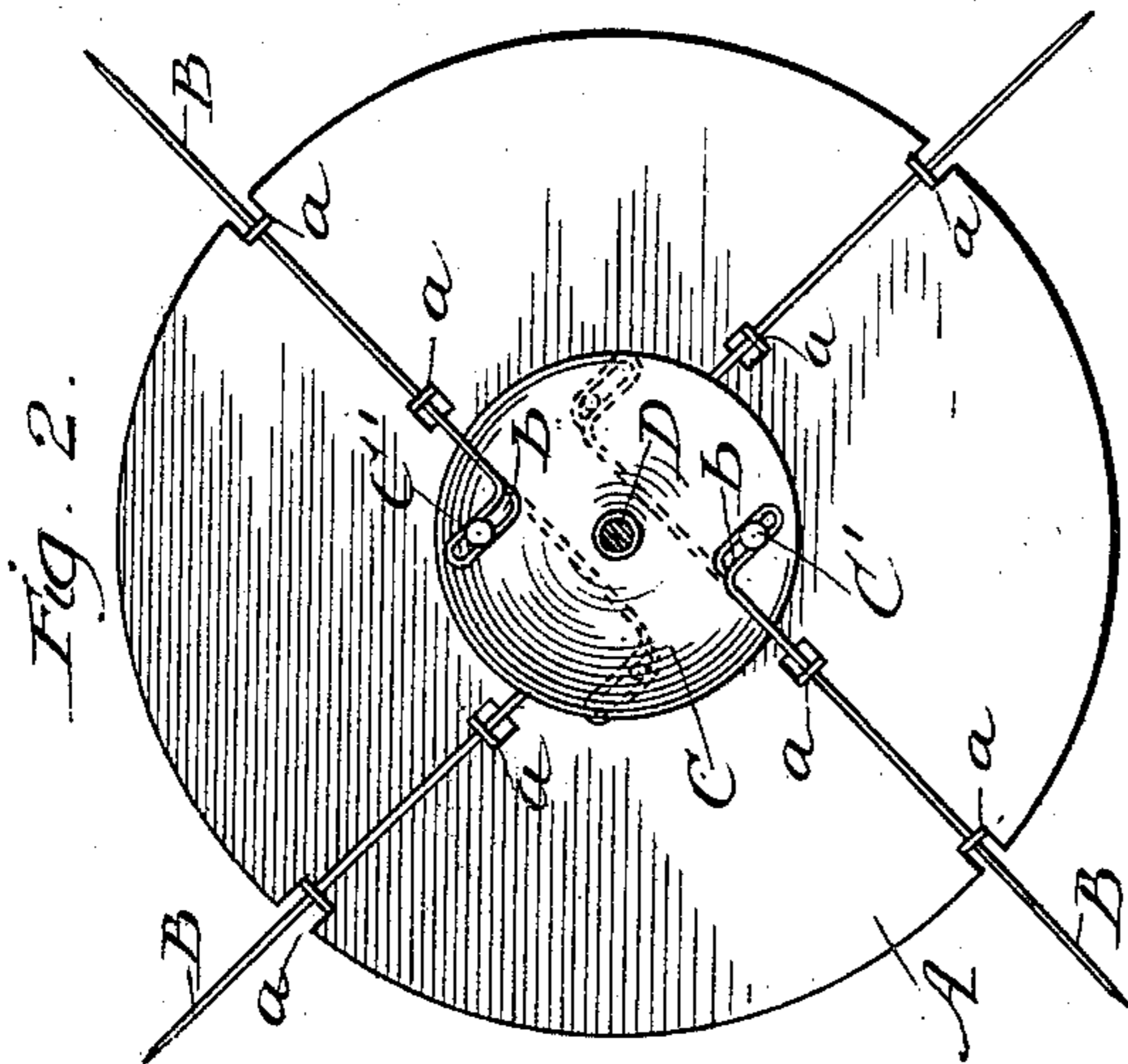


Fig. 4.

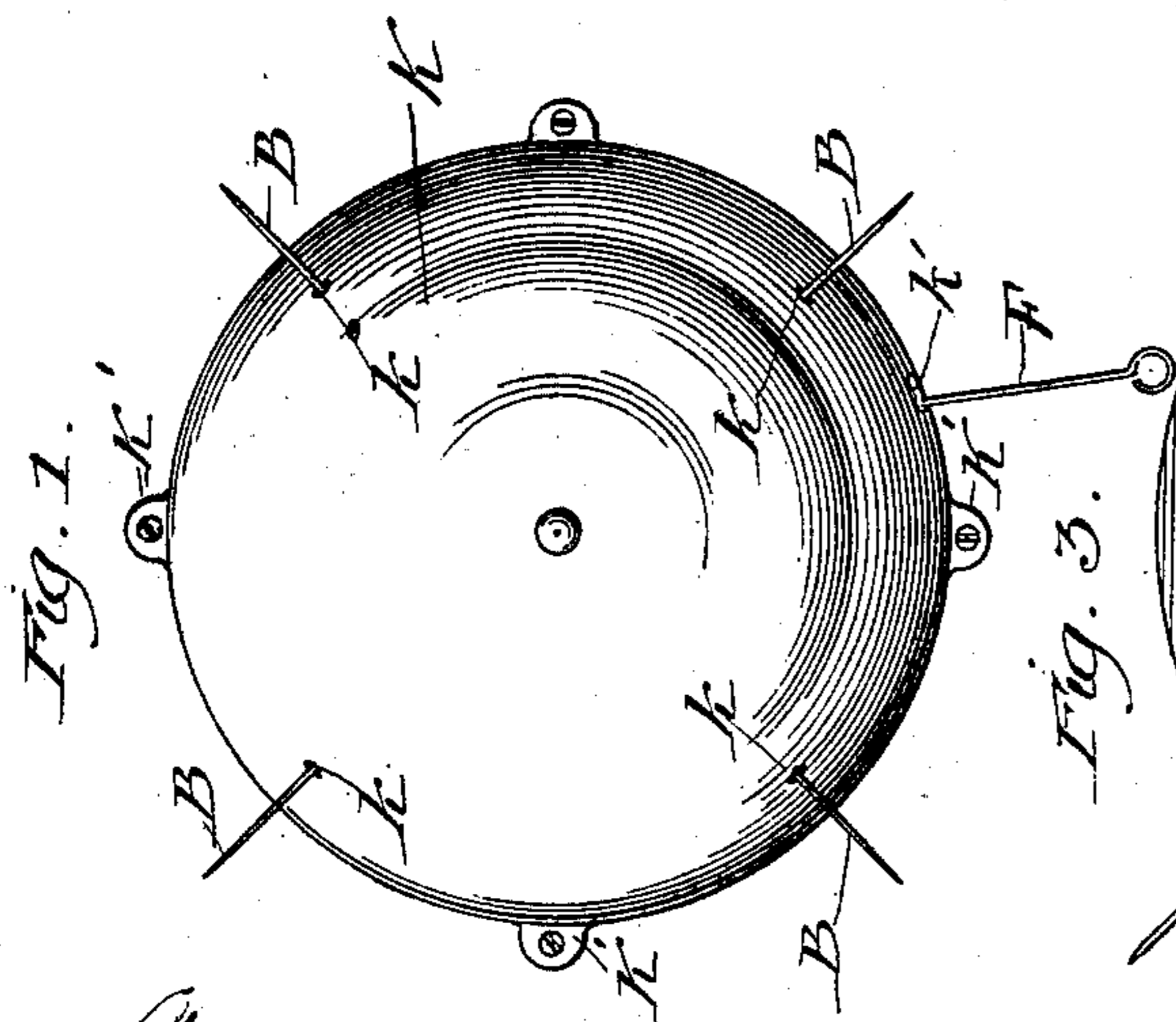
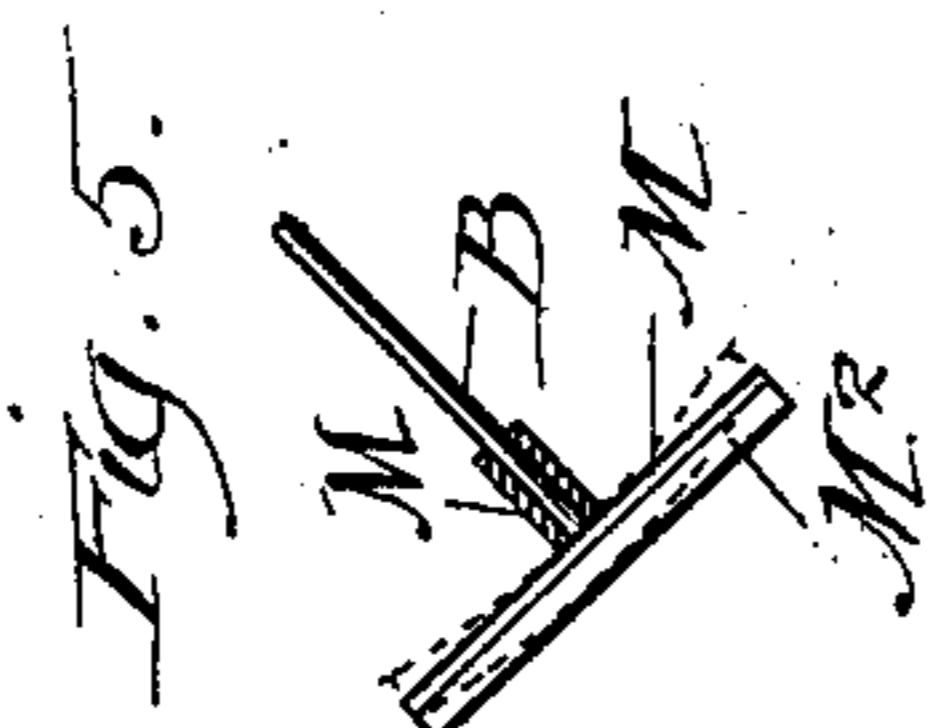
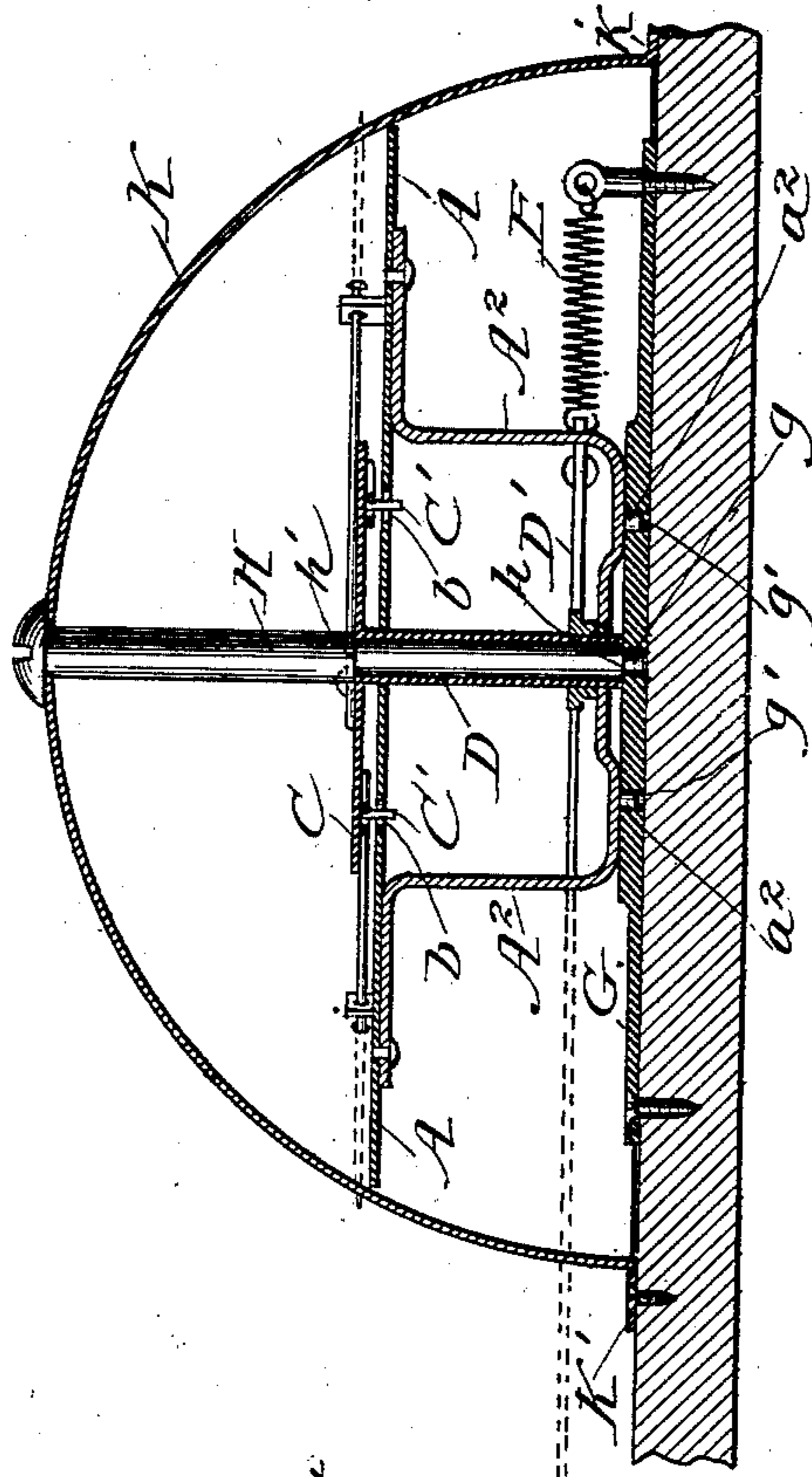
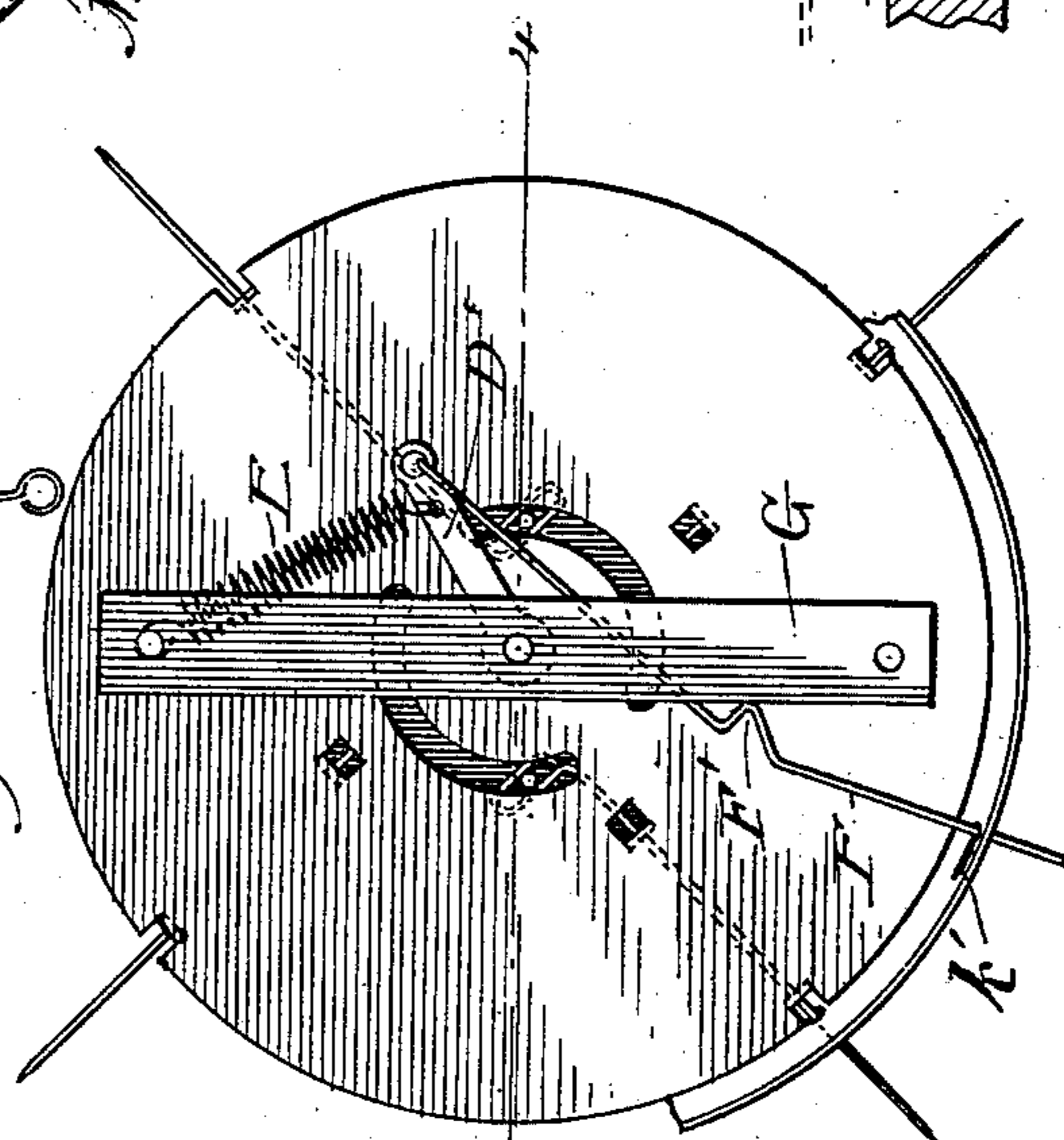


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:
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Inventors,
 Charles Shottle
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES SHOETTLE AND FRANK W. MEYER, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

HAT-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 666,031, dated January 15, 1901.

Application filed August 20, 1900. Serial No. 27,516. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, CHARLES SHOETTLE and FRANK W. MEYER, citizens of the United States, and residents of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hat-Holders, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part thereof.

The purpose of this invention is to provide a device especially adapted for holding a hat in a traveling trunk or bag; but it is also adapted for a like purpose in a wardrobe or as a wall attachment for receiving and holding hats.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a direct front elevation of our hat-holder. Fig. 2 is a front elevation with the shell or dome removed. Fig. 3 is an inverted plan with the shell or dome broken away except as to a small part. Fig. 4 is a section at the line 4 4 on Fig. 3, being in substance a rear elevation of the supporting-plate and parts thereon. Fig. 5 is a detail showing a special form of terminal for a hat-engaging device suited for engagement by pressure or friction without puncture.

Our device comprises a supporting-plate A, upon which are mounted and guided hat-engaging devices, which, as illustrated and in the form preferred, are thrust-rods B B B B, arranged to be thrust in an approximately radial direction outward with respect to the supporting-plate A to engage the hat-crown from within, it being understood that the supporting-plate is of suitable size and otherwise adapted to be encompassed by the hat-crown of a hat placed on the device. We employ, preferably, a plurality of thrust-rods B, but do not limit ourselves to such plurality. Without regard to the number each thrust-rod is spring-actuated in one direction, which is preferably the outward or thrusting movement, to engage the hat-crown, and we provide means for retracting the thrust-rod to disengage it from the hat-crown. As illustrated and in the preferred construction, a plurality of thrust-rods being employed, as already indicated, and these thrust-rods being mounted in guide-bearings *a a* on the supporting-plate A, the spring actuation of the thrust-rods and the retraction of the same are effected by means of a plate C, which by rea-

son of its function we term a "lever-plate" and which is essentially a lever in respect to its action on the thrust-rods, said lever-plate having wrist-pins C' C' C' C', two projecting at diametrically opposite points from each surface, the two at one side being, respectively, ninety degrees removed from the two at the other side and each of the thrust-rods B being pivotally connected to one of the wrist-pins in a slot *b*, extending transversely with respect to the length of the thrust-rod to allow for the curvilinear motion of the wrist-pin as the lever-plate oscillates through a sufficient arc to give each thrust-rod the necessary protrusion and retraction. The lever-plate C in the construction shown is secured to a rock-shaft D, which is journaled in the supporting-plate A and also in a stirrup or footpiece A², secured to the supporting-plate, and on the opposite side of the plate from that at which the lever-plate is secured to said shaft the shaft has a lever-arm D', to which a coiled spring E is attached at one end, the other end of the spring being connected to the supporting-plate or some part rigid therewith. The spring E is arranged to be stretched by the movement of the plate about its axis in the direction which retracts the thrust-rods, and by its reaction, therefore, the spring causes the rods to be thrust out.

F is a link connected also to the lever-arm D' and extending in any direction and to any point where it may be taken hold of when the holder is occupied by a hat to rock the shaft in a direction to stretch the spring.

G is a mounting-plate or wall-plate adapted to be attached to the side or bottom of the trunk, tray, or bag in which the hat-holder is to be placed or to be attached to a wall upon which the hat-holder is to be mounted. At the center it has a threaded hole *g* to receive the bolt H, which may be inserted through the rock-shaft D, which is made tubular for that purpose, to secure the holder to the mounting-plate. The bolt H is secured into the mounting-plate up to the shoulder *h*, and it has a second shoulder *h'*, which serves as a stop for the outer end of the rock-shaft, causing the holder thus to be retained without being bound in any manner to prevent free movement of the rock-shaft and parts thereon about the axis. In order to prevent rotation

of the supporting-plate A, (which would be inconvenient, though not fatal to the operation of the device,) the stirrup or footpiece A² has two pins $\alpha^2 \alpha^3$ projecting from the side
 5 opposite the plate A in position to take into two sockets $g' g'$ in the mounting-plate G.

As a mere means of holding the hat the device would be complete with the parts already described; but in order to serve the full purpose of such a device in a trunk or traveling-bag it is desirable to provide means for preventing the crushing of the crown of the hat, and for this purpose we add to the device the dome or shell K, which may be put into position over the parts already described when the thrust-rods are withdrawn, the dome having apertures $k k k k$, through which the thrust-rods protrude. When thus protruding, the rods themselves will hold the dome
 20 in place, and since it is not necessary that the rods should at any time in the use of the device be entirely withdrawn into the dome no other means of attaching the latter is absolutely necessary, but preferably it is provided with a flange K' at the margin, by which
 25 it may be attached to the wall or to the board on which the mounting-plate is secured. This dome may be made of any suitably stiff material, as light sheet metal spun or struck with
 30 a die to the proper shape or paper or fabric molded or pressed and suitably stiffened into the desired form. The link F extends out through the aperture k' of the dome K and has a bend forming a shoulder or offset F',
 35 which may be engaged with the edge of the aperture when the link is pulled out to retract the thrust-rods and when the thrust-rods are locked at their inner position out of engagement with the crown.

When the device is used for holding ladies' hats, the thrust-rods B B B B are preferably sharp-pointed, making them of the nature of pins which will penetrate the straw or other penetrable fabric of the hat-crown when they
 45 are thrust out. For holding men's hats, which are usually of material not suitable to be thus penetrated, the end of the thrust-rod may be provided with a footpiece M, adapted to bear against the inner surface of the crown, against
 50 the sweat-band, and hold the hat by frictional engagement. Preferably in order to make the device convertible from one form to the other, so as to hold either ladies' or gentlemen's hats, as required, we make these footpieces with a sleeve or tubular stem M',
 55 adapted to slip over the ends of the thrust-rods and hold tightly thereto. The foot M itself is preferably made of some light and springy material, as spring sheet metal outwardly faced with felt, rubber, or other like material M² to increase the frictional grasp.
 60 The elastic character of the foot is desirable, that each foot may accommodate itself to the curvature of the hat-crown at the point at which it impinges thereagainst and may thus most effectively hold the hat. In the original construction the footpiece may be straight,

as shown in full line in Fig. 5, while in use it becomes curved, as shown in dotted line.

We claim—

1. A hat-holder, comprising a support adapted to be encompassed by a hat-crown; a rock-shaft journaled in said support and having a lever-plate attached to it; wrist-pins on the lever-plate, and thrust-rods pivotally
 75 connected to the wrist-pins and having guides on the supports causing them to be thrust outward with respect to the rock-shaft by the rotation of the plate; a spring which reacts on the rock-shaft to rock it in a direction to cause
 80 the rods to be thrust out; and means for rocking the shaft in the opposite direction at will.

2. A hat-holder, comprising a support adapted to be encompassed by a hat-crown; a rock-shaft journaled in said support and
 85 having a lever-plate attached to it; wrist-pins on the lever-plate, and thrust-rods pivotally connected to the wrist-pins and having guides on the support causing them to be thrust outward with respect to the rock-shaft by the rotation of the plate; a spring which reacts in
 90 the rock-shaft in direction to cause the rods to be thrust out; and a lever-arm on the rock-shaft to rock it in the opposite direction at will.

3. A hat-holder, comprising a support adapted to be encompassed by a hat-crown; a rock-shaft journaled in said support and having a lever-plate attached to it; wrist-pins on the lever-plate, and thrust-rods pivotally
 100 connected to the wrist-pins and having guides on the support causing them to be thrust outward with respect to the rock-shaft by the rotation of the plate; a spring which reacts on the rock-shaft in direction to cause the rods
 105 to be thrust out; and means connected with the rock-shaft and extending remotely beyond the supporting-plate for rocking the shaft in the opposite direction.

4. A hat-holder, comprising a support adapted to be encompassed by a hat-crown; a rock-shaft journaled in said support and having a lever-plate attached to it; wrist-pins on the lever-plate, and thrust-rods pivotally
 115 connected to the wrist-pins and having guides on the support causing them to be thrust outward with respect to the rock-shaft by the rotation of the plate; a spring which actuates the rock-shaft in direction to cause the rods
 120 to be thrust out; a lever-arm in the rock-shaft and a link connected to said arm and extending away from the same to move it in direction opposed to the spring tension to retract the rods.

5. A hat-holder, comprising a support adapted to be encompassed by a hat-crown; a rock-shaft journaled in said support and having a lever-plate attached to it; wrist-pins on the lever-plate, and thrust-rods pivotally
 130 connected to the wrist-pins and having guides on the support causing them to be thrust outward with respect to the rock-shaft by the rotation of the plate; a lever-arm on said rock-shaft and a spring connected to said lever-

arm and to the support tending to rotate the rock-shaft and the lever-plate in a direction to cause the latter to thrust the rods outward; and a link connected to the lever-arm to move it in a direction opposite to the spring tension to retract the thrust-rods.

6. A hat-holder, comprising a plate, A, a footpiece, A², rigid with the plate; a shaft journaled in the plate and in the footpiece; a lever-plate rigid with the shaft at one side of the plate A, having wrist-pins projecting from it; thrust-rods guided on the plate A pivotally connected to the wrist-pins; a spring acting upon the rock-shaft, tending to hold it yieldingly against rotation in one direction; and means for rocking the shaft at will in the opposite direction.

7. A hat-holder, comprising a supporting-plate; a shaft extending through the plate; a lever-plate on one side of the supporting-plate having wrist-pins projecting from both faces; thrust-rods connected to the wrist-pins respectively and guided on the supporting-plate; a spring acting on the rock-shaft to rotate it in one direction and resist its rotation in the opposite direction, and means for rocking it at will in said opposite direction.

8. A hat-holder comprising a supporting-plate; a footpiece or stirrup for such plate, rigid therewith; a tubular rock-shaft journaled in the plate and in the footpiece; a lever-plate rigid with the rock-shaft at one side the supporting-plate; wrist-pins projecting from the lever-plate and thrust-rods pivotally connected to the wrist-pins respectively and guided on the supporting-plate; a spring which acts upon the rock-shaft to rotate it in one direction and resist its rotation in the opposite direction; and means for rotating it at will in said opposite direction; in combination with a securing-bolt extending through the tubular shaft and means for holding the supporting-plate non-rotatable with respect to such bolt.

9. A hat-holder, comprising a supporting-plate; a footpiece or stirrup rigid with such plate; a tubular shaft journaled in the supporting-plate and in the stirrup or footpiece; a lever-plate rigid with the shaft; wrist-pins projecting from the lever-plate; thrust-rods connected to the wrist-pins respectively and guided on the supporting-plate; a spring acting on the shaft to rotate it in one direction

and resisting its rotation in the opposite direction; means for rotating said shaft at will in said opposite direction; a mounting-plate having means for engaging the stirrup to hold it and the supporting-plate non-rotatable; and a bolt extending through the tubular shaft and screwed into said mounting-plate.

10. In a hat-holder, the hat-engaging devices and their support, in combination with a tubular shaft and connections by which its rotation operates the hat-engaging devices; a mounting-plate, and a bolt extending through the tubular shaft and into the mounting-plate to secure the holder to the latter.

11. In a hat-holder, the hat-engaging devices and their support and a mounting-plate; said support and mounting-plate having engagements tending to prevent their relative rotation; a tubular shaft journaled in the support, and connections therefrom which operate the hat-engaging devices; and a bolt extending through the tubular shaft and into the mounting-plate and rigid with the latter, having a shoulder between which and the mounting-plate said tubular shaft is retained.

12. A hat-holder, comprising a support adapted to be encompassed by the hat-crown; a crown-engaging device on such support; a stiff shell or dome inclosing the support and adapted to reinforce the hat-crown and having an aperture through which the crown-engaging device may protrude; means for moving said device outwardly with respect to the support to cause it to engage the crown from within; means for withdrawing the same inwardly, comprising a link, F, which extends out through an aperture in the dome; said link having a shoulder, F', adapted to be engaged with the edge of the aperture to hold the hat-engaging device retracted within the dome and out of engagement with the crown.

In testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands, at Chicago, Illinois, in the presence of two witnesses, this 9th day of August, A. D. 1900.

CHARLES SHOETTLE.
FRANK W. MEYER.

In presence of—

CHAS. S. BURTON,
EDGAR L. CONANT.