

No. 666,350.

Patented Jan. 22, 1901.

A. OLSON.

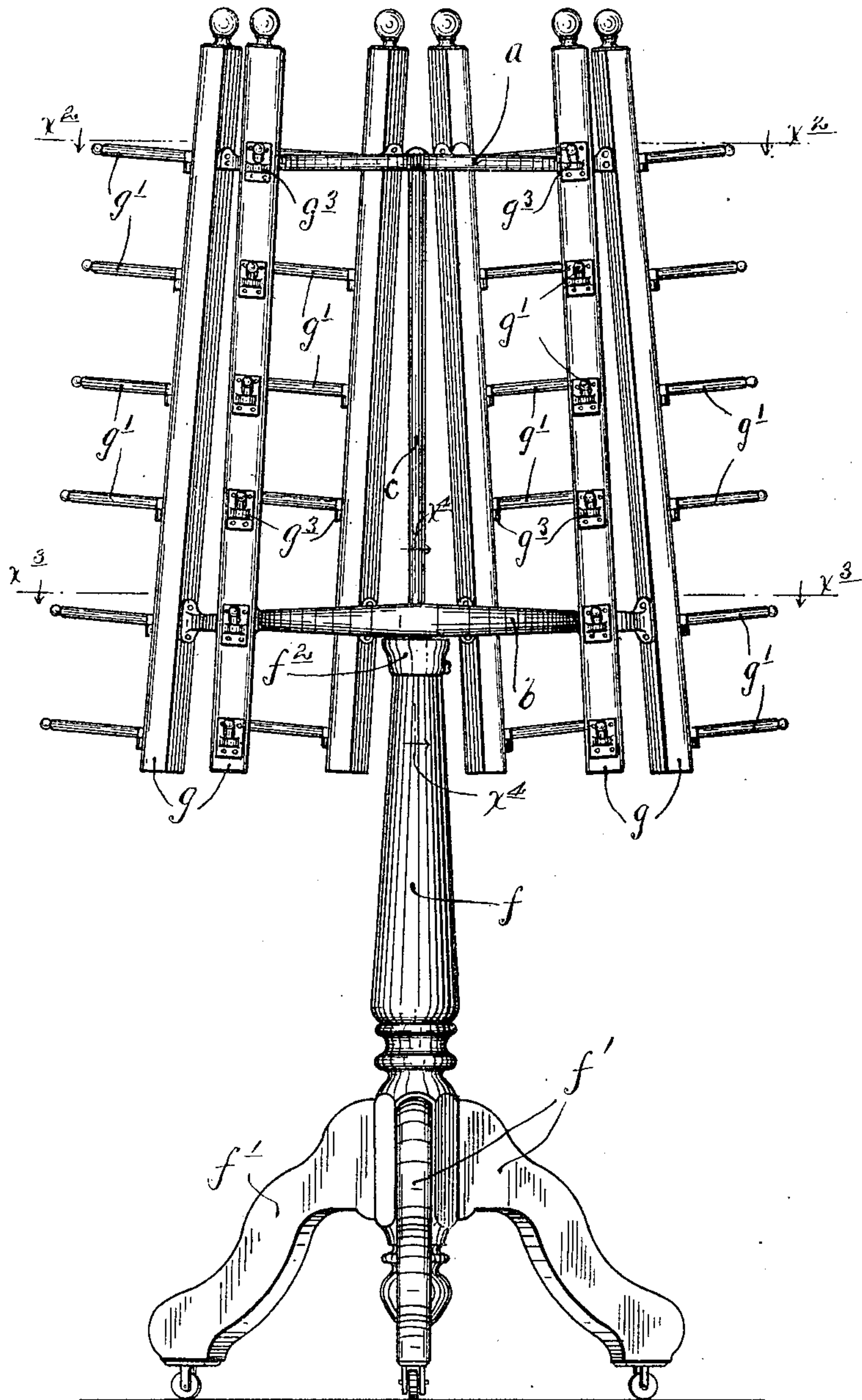
DISPLAY RACK FOR PIECE GOODS.

(Application filed Apr. 23, 1900.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

Fig. 1.



Witnesses.

Robert Otto

Harry Hilgors.

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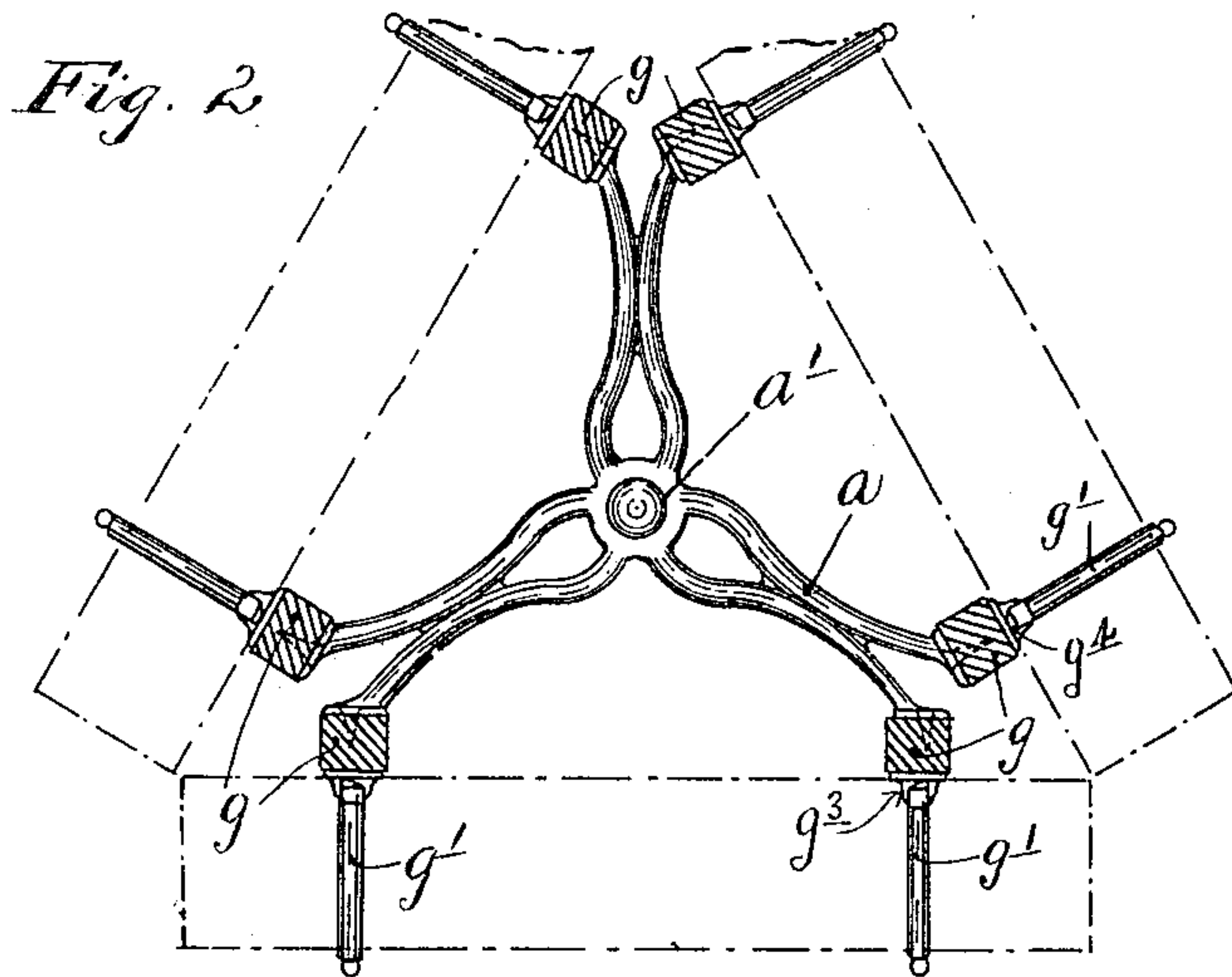
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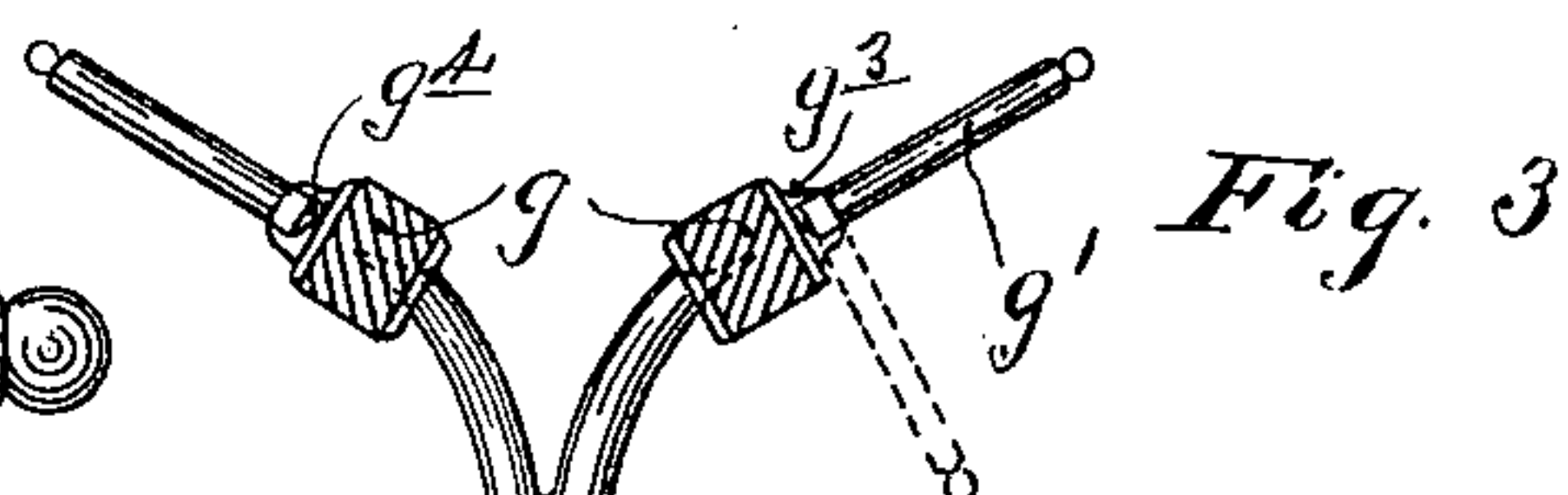
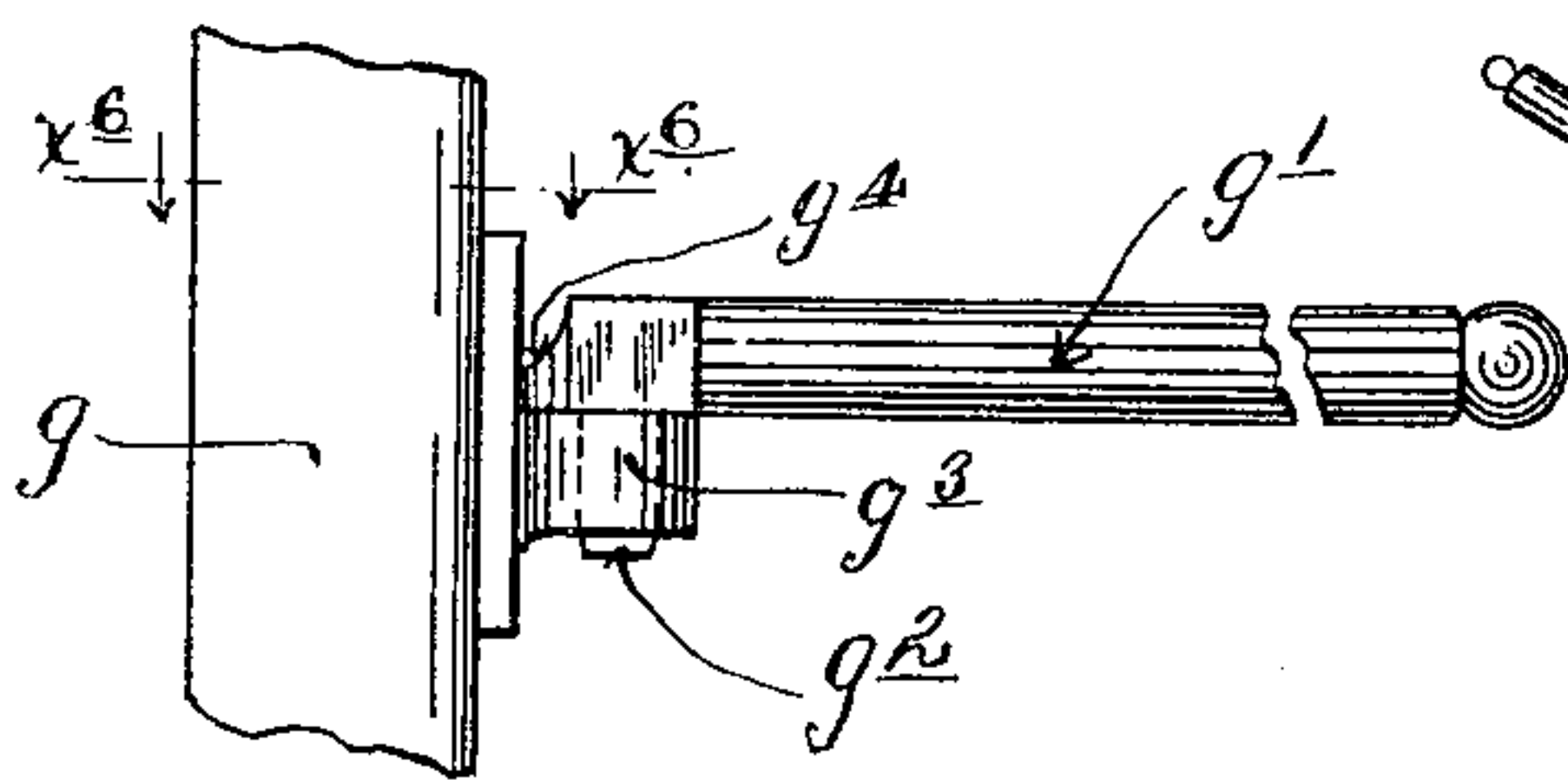
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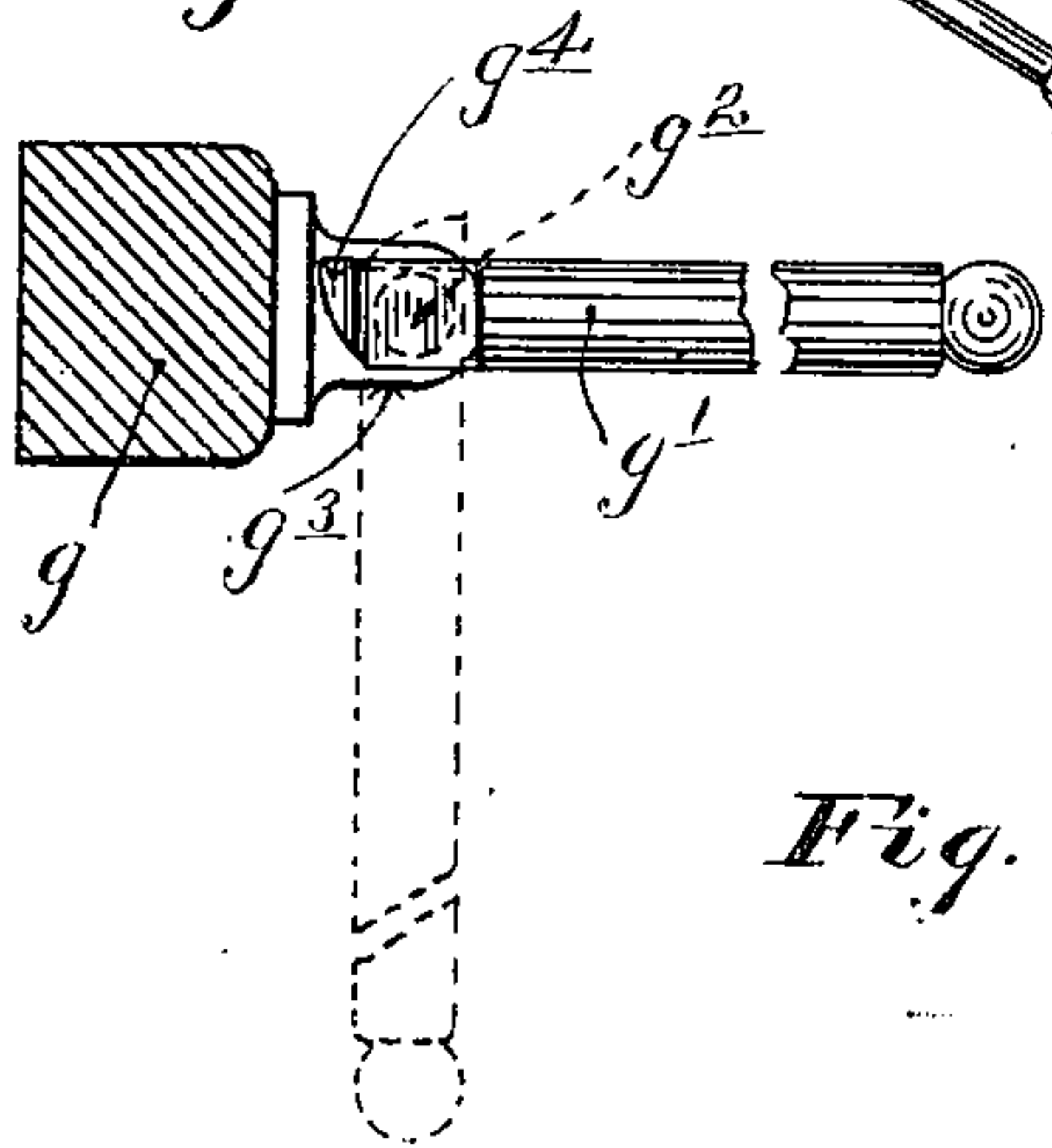
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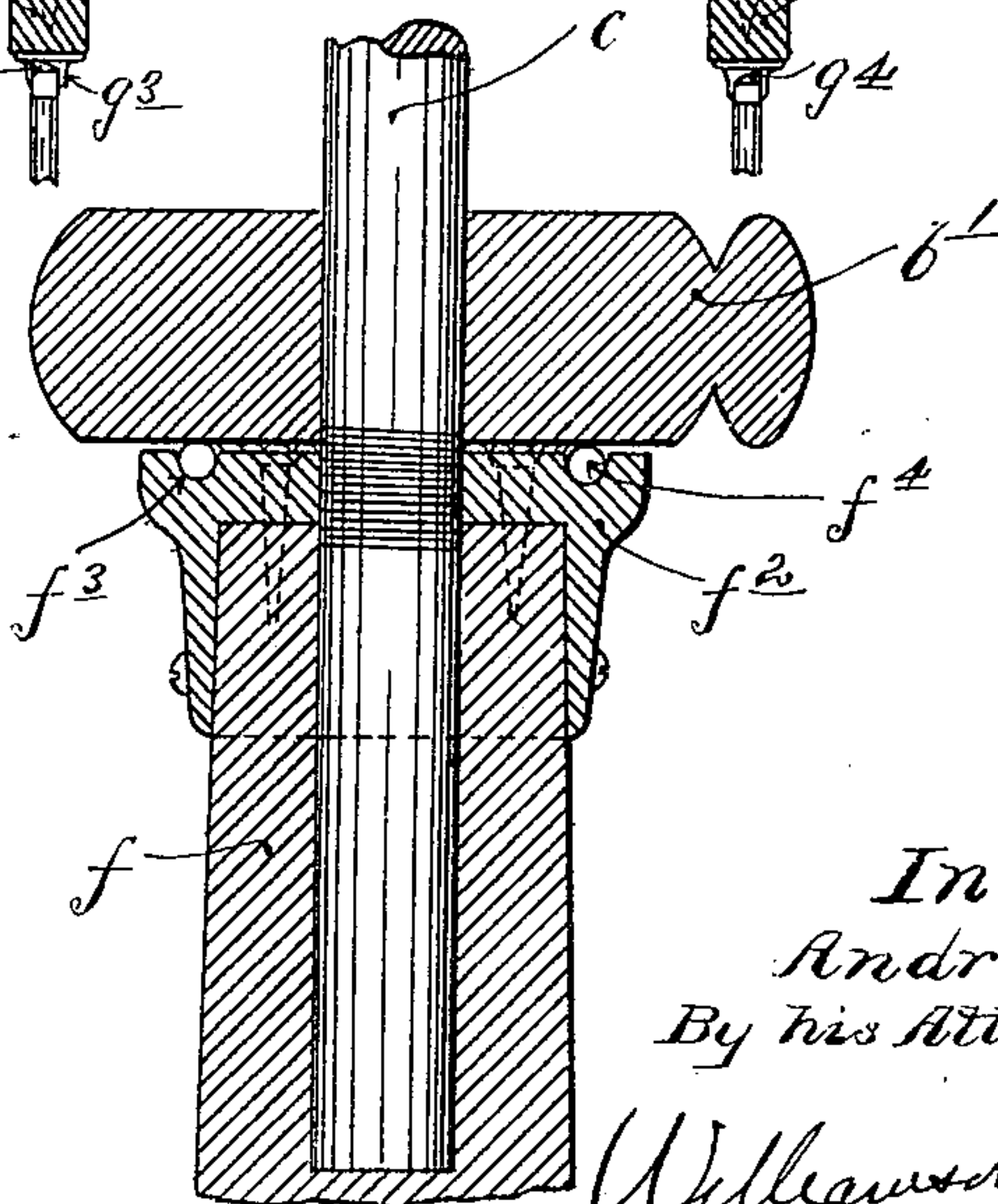
*Fig. 5*



*Fig. 6.*



*Fig. 4.*



Witnesses  
Robert Otto.  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANDREW OLSON, OF MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA.

## DISPLAY-RACK FOR PIECE GOODS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 666,350, dated January 22, 1901.

Application filed April 23, 1900. Serial No. 13,903. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ANDREW OLSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Minneapolis, in the county of Hennepin and State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Display-Racks for Piece Goods; 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 has for its object to provide an improved display-rack especially adapted to hold a large number of bolts of cloth in such position that they may be readily displayed to the customer.

To this end the invention consists of the novel devices and combinations of devices hereinafter described, and defined in the claims.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein like characters indicate like parts throughout the several views.

Figure 1 is a view in side elevation showing my improved display-rack. Fig. 2 is a horizontal section on the line  $x^2 x^2$  of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a horizontal section on the line  $x^3 x^3$  of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a vertical section on the line  $x^4 x^4$  of Fig. 1. Fig. 5 is a detail showing a portion of one of the upright bars of the rack and one of the supporting-rods, and Fig. 6 is a horizontal section on the line  $x^6 x^6$  of Fig. 5.

The body of the rack is made up of a pair of horizontal spider-like brackets  $a$  and  $b$ , the hub portions  $a'$  and  $b'$ , respectively, of which are loosely mounted on a vertical shaft  $c$ . The lower end of the shaft  $c$  is seated in the upper end of a pedestal  $f$ , which, as shown, is provided with supporting-legs  $f'$ . On the upper end of the pedestal  $f$  is a metallic cap  $f^2$ , provided on its upper face with a ball-runway  $f^3$ , in which bearing-balls  $f^4$  are placed. The hub  $b'$  of the bracket  $b$  rests directly upon the bearing-balls  $f^4$ , so that the entire weight of the rack and its load is supported by the said bearing-balls. The upper end of the shaft  $c$  is mounted loosely in the hub  $a'$  of the bracket  $a$  and simply steadies the rack

against lateral movement. Hence the rack is mounted in such manner that it may be easily turned.

The outer prongs of the brackets  $a$  and  $b$  are rigidly connected by bars  $g$ , that are not quite vertical, being gathered or drawn closely together at their upper ends. To each bar  $g$  a plurality of supporting rods or fingers  $g'$  are secured. In order that the rods or fingers  $g'$  may be turned or folded laterally, they are provided at their inner ends with depending studs  $g^2$ , that work pivotally in bearing-lugs  $g^3$ , that are rigidly secured by screws or other means to the bars  $g$ . Preferably these pivoted rods or fingers are provided with stop-lugs  $g^4$ , which engage the base portions of the lugs  $g^3$  and permit the said fingers to be moved or folded in one direction only. By reference to Figs. 2 and 3 it will be noted that the cooperating pairs of fingers or supporting-rods may be folded only by movements in reverse directions or toward each other. This is important for the reason that when a bolt of cloth is supported thereby an endwise force on the bolt cannot cause the folding of the said fingers.

In Fig. 2 three bolts of cloth are shown as supported by three pairs of fingers or supporting-rods  $g'$ , and it will be noted that when thus supported the ends of the bolts come approximately together, so that there is no waste space. The ends of the lower bolts of cloth would not come quite together, but would be very closely spaced. If a very large or wide bolt of cloth is to be supported by the rack, it may in some cases happen that it will more than fill the space between vertically adjacent supporting-fingers, and in this case the pair of supporting-fingers which would come in the way may be turned or folded inward, as shown by dotted lines in Figs. 3 and 6.

The device above described is capable of considerable modification within the scope of my invention.

The triangular arrangement of the supporting devices of the rack is important for the reason that it affords a rack which, for the amount of floor-space occupied, will support a maximum amount of goods.

My improved display-rack will be found serviceable wherever cloth, wall-paper, or various other materials which come in the bolt or in rolls are to be displayed to the  
5 trade. The rack is, however, especially serviceable for displaying cloth in tailoring establishments.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is as follows:  
10

1. A display-rack, comprising upper and lower brackets tied together by upright bars, the supporting rods or fingers independently mounted for pivotal movements on the frame  
15 formed by the said brackets and tie-bars, and stops limiting the opening movements of said rods or fingers, and permitting the same to be thrown into inoperative positions only

by reverse folding movements, substantially as described. 20

2. A display-rack comprising the brackets *a* and *b*, the bars *g* tying said brackets together, the bearing-lugs *g*<sup>3</sup> on said bars *g*, and supporting rods or fingers *g*<sup>1</sup> pivoted to said lugs *g*<sup>3</sup> and provided with the stops *g*<sup>4</sup> limiting their  
25 opening movements and permitting the same to be thrown into inoperative positions only by reverse folding movements, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature  
30 in presence of two witnesses.

ANDREW OLSON.

Witnesses:

M. M. McGRORY,  
F. D. MERCHANT.