

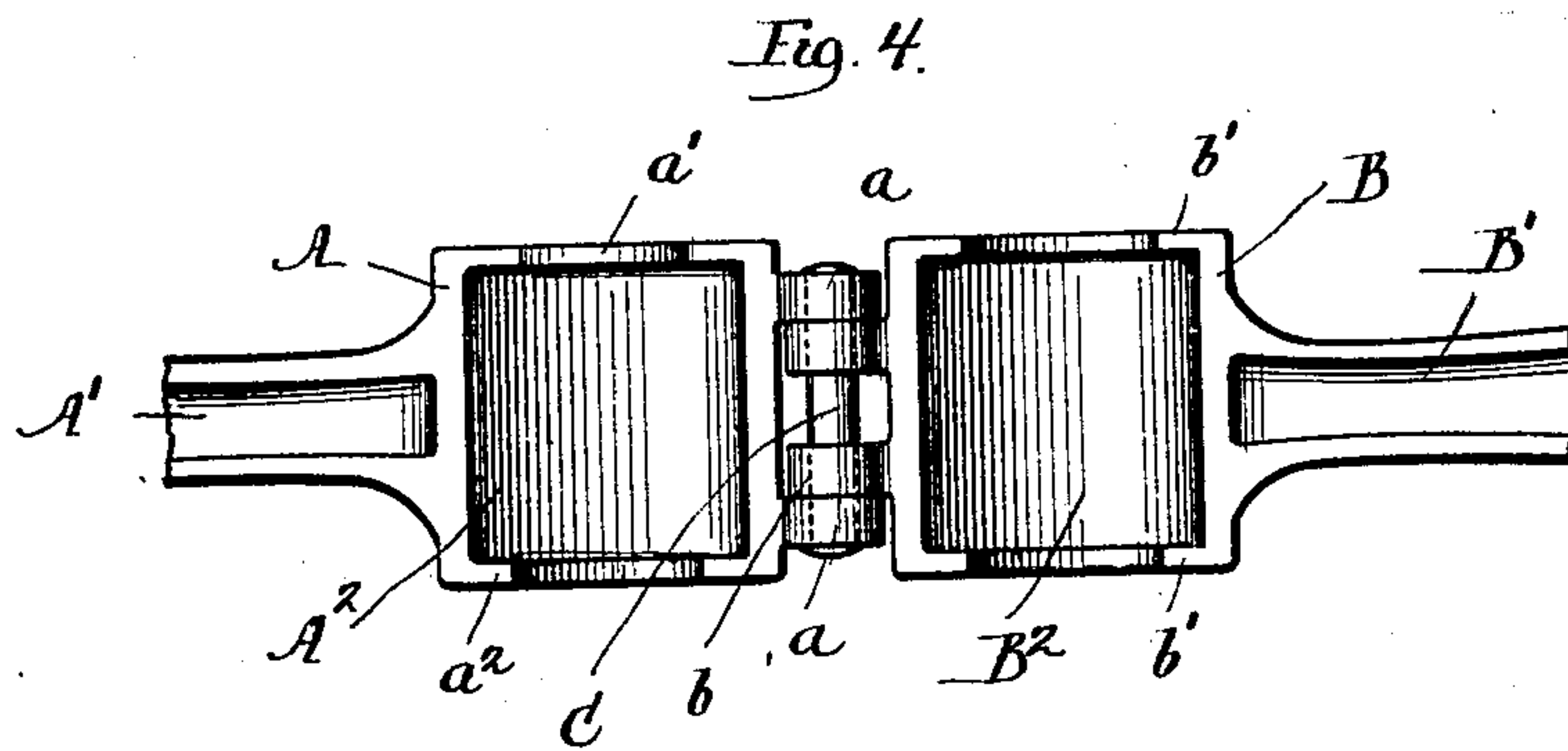
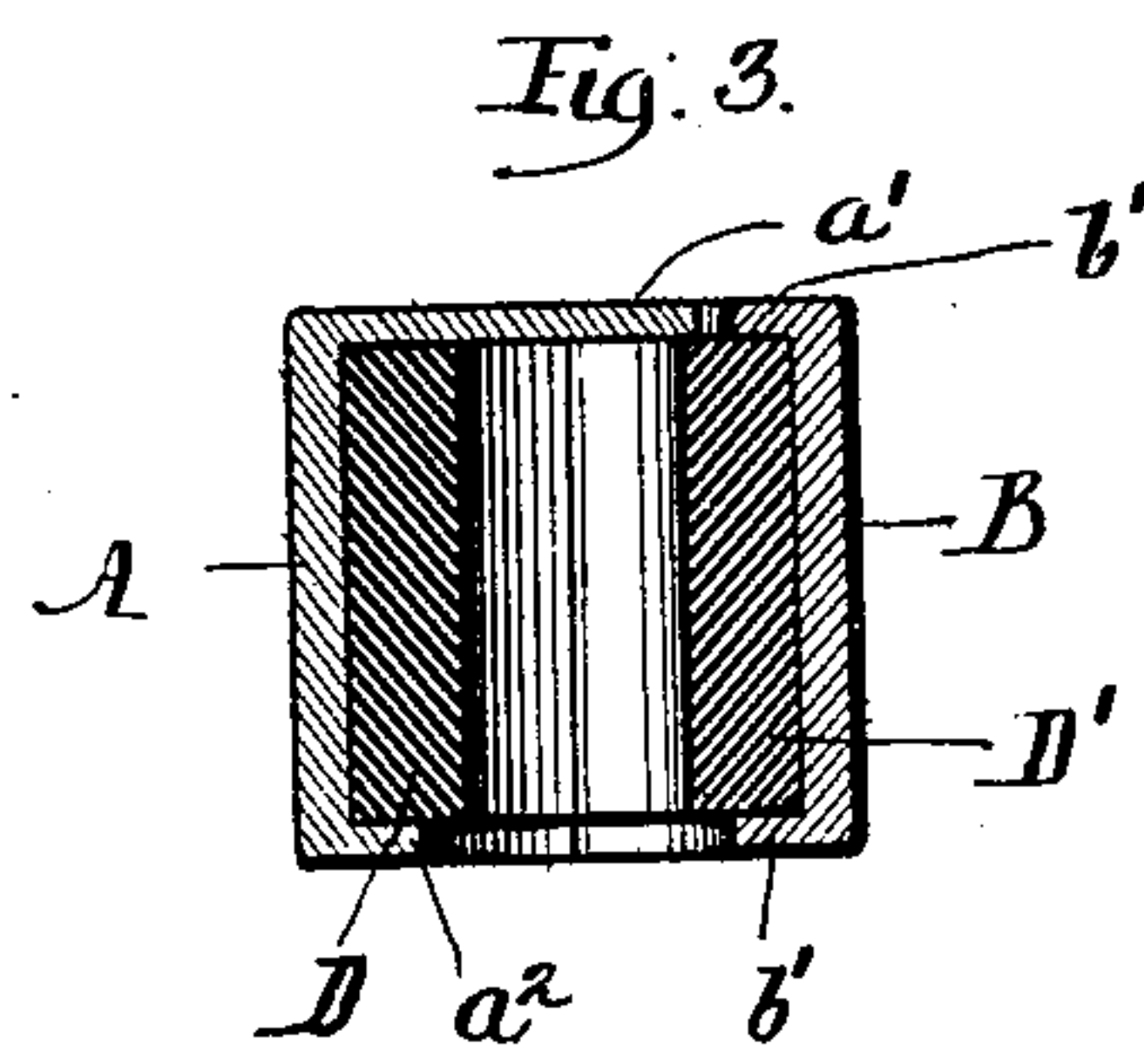
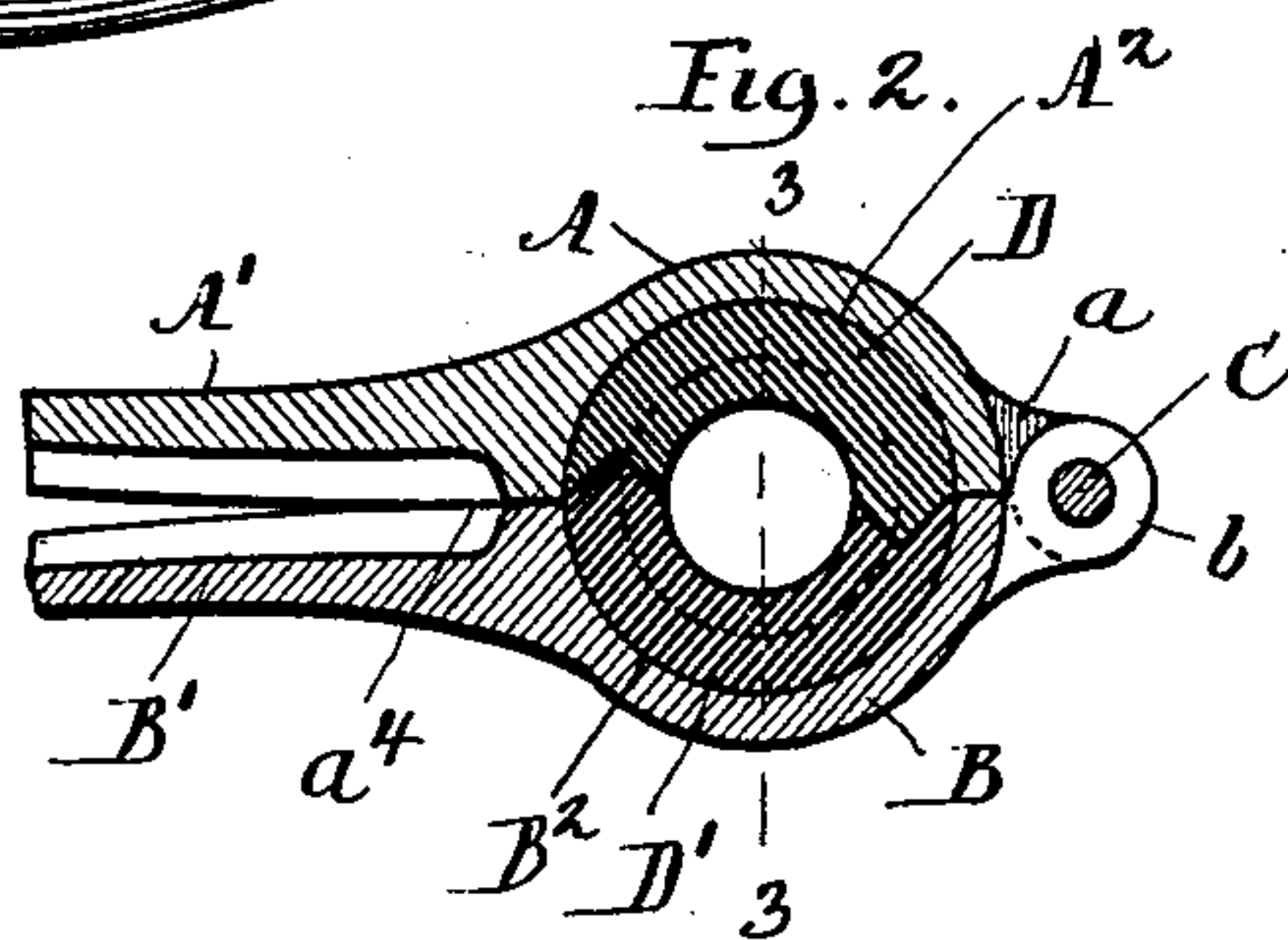
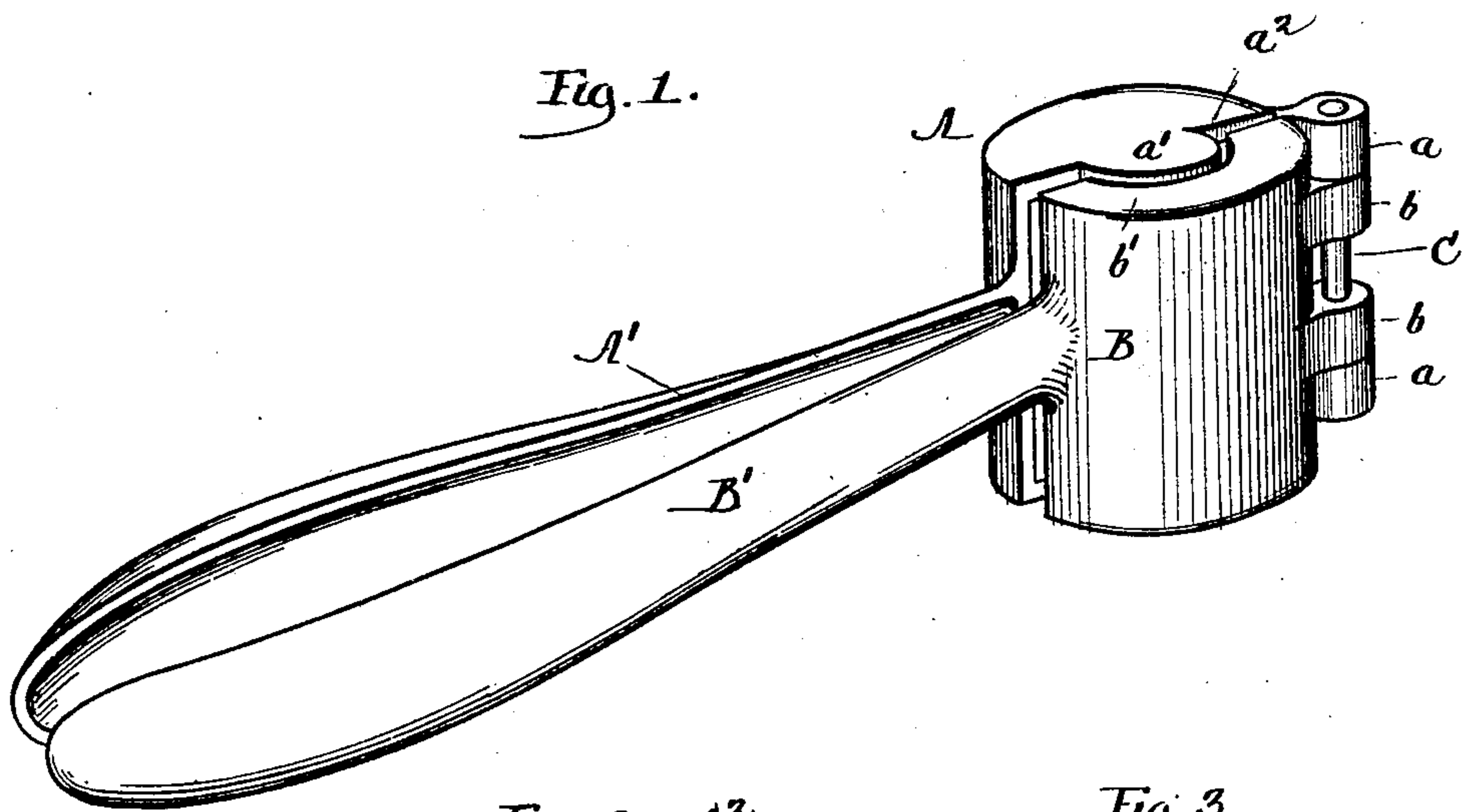
No. 679,012.

Patented July 23, 1901.

A. BAUMGARTEN.
DEVICE FOR APPLYING CAPS TO BOTTLES.

(Application filed Nov. 23, 1900.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT BAUMGARTEN, OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS.

DEVICE FOR APPLYING CAPS TO BOTTLES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 679,012, dated July 23, 1901.

Application filed November 23, 1900. Serial No. 37,461. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT BAUMGARTEN, a resident of Freeport, in the county of Stephenson, State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Devices for Applying Caps to Bottles and Like Articles, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The invention designs to provide a hand-tool of simple, light, and inexpensive construction which can be conveniently and quickly operated to secure caps (usually made of foil) to bottles.

The invention further designs to provide a simple hand-tool which can be readily placed and positioned over the upper portion of a bottle in vertical position and then conveniently operated to secure the cap to the bottle.

The invention consists primarily in providing a bottle-capper which comprises a pair of jaws, each of which is provided with a handle and which are adapted to be shifted toward each other to press the cap into close contact with the bottle and forming these jaws so they are adapted to be placed over a bottle and cap and providing a part which will rest on the top of a bottle in vertical position to position the capper in readiness for the closing of the jaws. Such a construction provides a simple capper which can be quickly and conveniently positioned over the top of a bottle in vertical position and then quickly and conveniently operated. The invention provides a simple capper which can be used to apply caps while the bottles are in vertical position and without the necessity of grasping a bottle and placing and holding it between the jaws of a capping device and which when placed over a bottle will rest in proper position to be operated.

The invention further consists in the several novel features of construction hereinafter described, illustrated in the drawings, and more particularly defined by the claims at the conclusion hereof.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective of a bottle-capper embodying the preferred form of the invention. Fig. 2 is a view in central horizontal section, a portion of the handles being broken away. Fig. 3 is a view in vertical section on line 3-3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a view in front elevation of the jaws, these

being swung into position to show the interior of both jaws and the elastic bushing being removed.

A and B denote the bodies of two jaws pivotally connected at their inner ends to permit the jaws to be opened and closed, and these jaws are each provided with an operating handle or lever, preferably formed integral therewith, as shown at A' and B'. Jaw A is provided at its inner end with ears or lugs *a*, between which fit ears or lugs *b*, projecting from the jaw B, and a pivot pin or bolt C extends through perforations in the lugs *a* and *b*. Such construction serves to pivotally connect the jaws A and B at their inner ends, so the jaws will swing laterally when the handles are operated. The lugs *a* and *b* are preferably formed integral with the jaws A and B, respectively. The body of each of the jaws is preferably of semicylindric shape, and the jaw A is provided with integral inwardly-projecting ribs or lugs *a*². A pocket A² is formed between the side of jaw A and ribs *a*², wherein a section D of an elastic bushing is securely held. Jaw B is provided with inwardly-projecting integral ribs *b*², and in the pocket B², formed between the side of jaw B and ribs *b*², section D' of the elastic bushing is securely held. These sections of the bushing are formed with V-shaped ribs fitting into correspondingly-shaped grooves in the opposite edges of the bushing-sections. When in closed position the jaws A and B and the bushing-sections completely encircle the bottle neck and cap and serve to press all portions of the cap firmly against and around the bottle-neck. The handles are arranged to abut against each other when in closed position, as shown at *a*⁴, to prevent excessive pressure against the bottle. The upper end of the inwardly-projecting ribs *a*² of the jaw A is extended to form a rest *a*¹, designed to engage the top of the bottle or cap and form a rest or stop, which holds the capper in proper position with respect to the bottle-neck. Such rest or stop makes it possible to quickly place the capper over the top of a bottle in proper position and in readiness to be operated. The construction throughout is such that the necessity of holding the bottle with one hand is entirely avoided. The bottles to which caps are to be applied are placed upon a table or

shelf, and by placing the capper successively over each bottle the caps can be quickly and conveniently applied.

The operation is as follows: The cap to be applied, which is usually of "cup shape" and has an annular portion to inclose the side of the bottle-neck and a top to fit over the cork, is placed loosely over a bottle in vertical position. The operator then places the tool, with the jaws A and B in slightly-spread position, over the bottle-neck and so the upper portion of the bottle-neck is within the elastic bushing and so stop *a'* will rest upon the top of the cap or bottle. The handles A' and B' will then be forced toward each other, which shift will cause the jaws A and B to compress the elastic bushing-sections and cause the bushing to firmly press all portions of the cap into close contact with and to fit snugly around the bottle. When the capper is placed over the bottle, the stop *a'* will force the cap downwardly against the top of the bottle and prevent the cap from bulging upwardly while the jaws are being operated. Thus it will be seen that the invention provides a simple hand-tool which can be readily and quickly placed over a bottle in vertical position and when thus placed will always be in proper position to apply the cap. The invention possesses several advantages. It provides a simple hand-tool which can be quickly operated. The necessity of holding a bottle is dispensed with, thus making it possible to apply caps to bottles resting on a table or shelf, and, moreover, the capper need not be secured to a support.

I am aware that elastic bushings have been heretofore used for capping devices and do not wish to be understood as claiming such broadly. So far as I am aware the invention is the first to provide a simple capper which when placed over the top of a bottle in vertical position will rest upon the top of the bottle and be in a proper vertical position in readiness for operation. The invention therefore is not to be understood as restricted to the details of construction shown and de-

scribed, excepting when these are specifically defined in the claims.

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

1. A hand-tool for applying caps to bottles, comprising the combination of a pair of jaws pivotally secured together at one end to swing laterally, each of said jaws being formed of sides and provided with inward projections at the top and bottom thereof, an elastic bushing formed of sections extending and held between said projections, and formed to fit around a bottle, a stop arranged to rest upon the top of a bottle or cap, and an operating lever or handle rigidly secured on each of said jaws.

2. A hand-tool for applying caps to bottles, comprising the combination of a pair of jaws pivotally secured together at one end to swing laterally, each of said jaws being formed of sides and provided with inward projections at the top and bottom thereof, an elastic bushing formed of sections extending and held between said projections, and formed to fit around a bottle, a stop formed on one of said jaws and arranged to rest upon the top of a bottle or cap, and an operating lever or handle rigidly secured on each of said jaws.

3. A hand-tool for applying caps to bottles, comprising the combination of a pair of jaws, each of which is provided with pivot-lugs at one end whereby the jaws are secured to swing laterally, said jaws having sides and integrally-formed inwardly-projecting ribs, an elastic bushing formed to fit around a bottle, a stop formed on one of said jaws and arranged to rest upon the top of a bottle or cap when in vertical position and serving to position the tool vertically and an operating lever or handle on each of said jaws and integrally formed therewith.

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