

No. 679,751.

Patented Aug. 6, 1901.

J. T. HOGAN.  
CLAMP FOR HOLDING BUTTONS.

(Application filed Nov. 8, 1899.)

(No Model.)

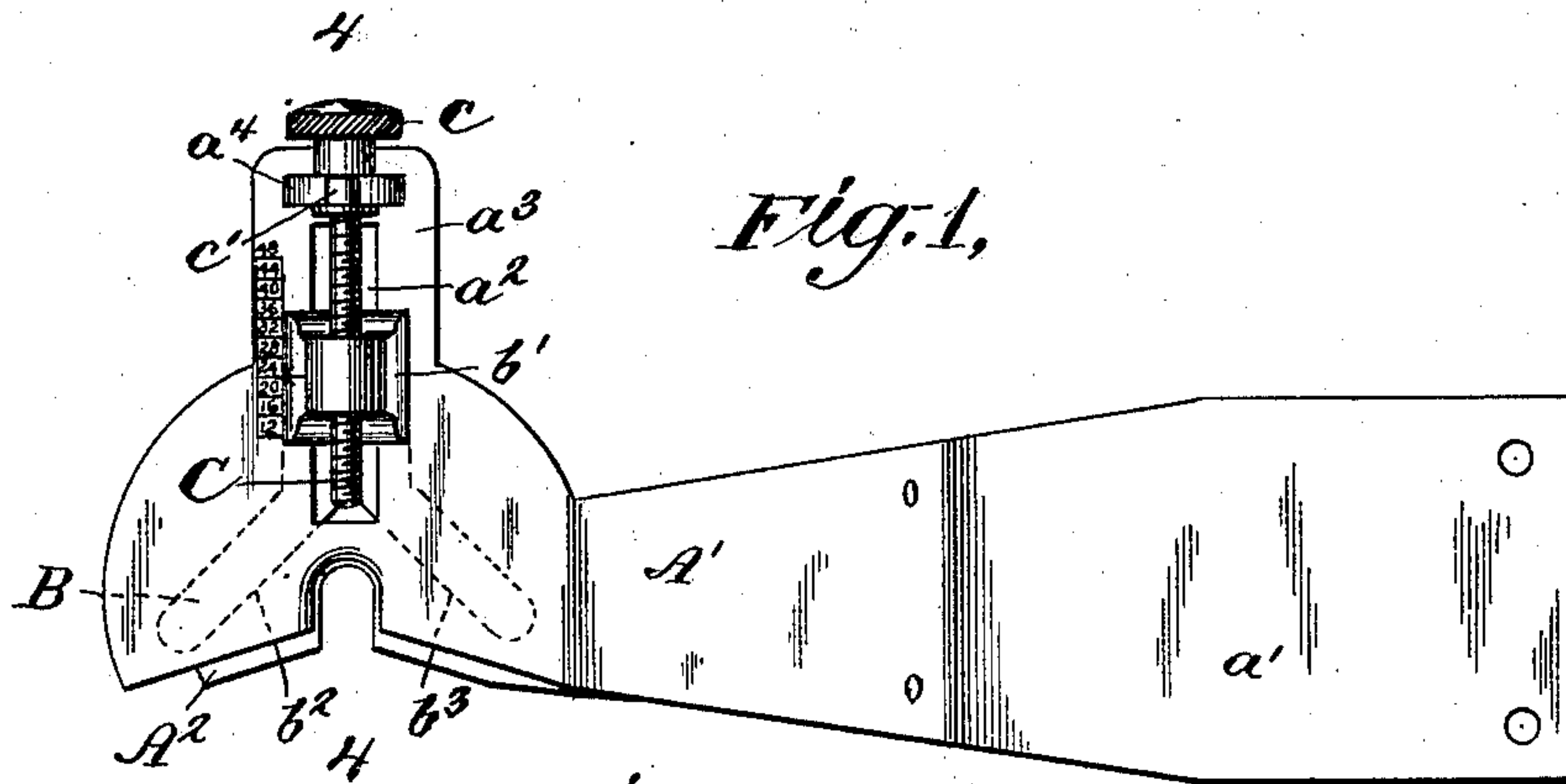


Fig. 1,

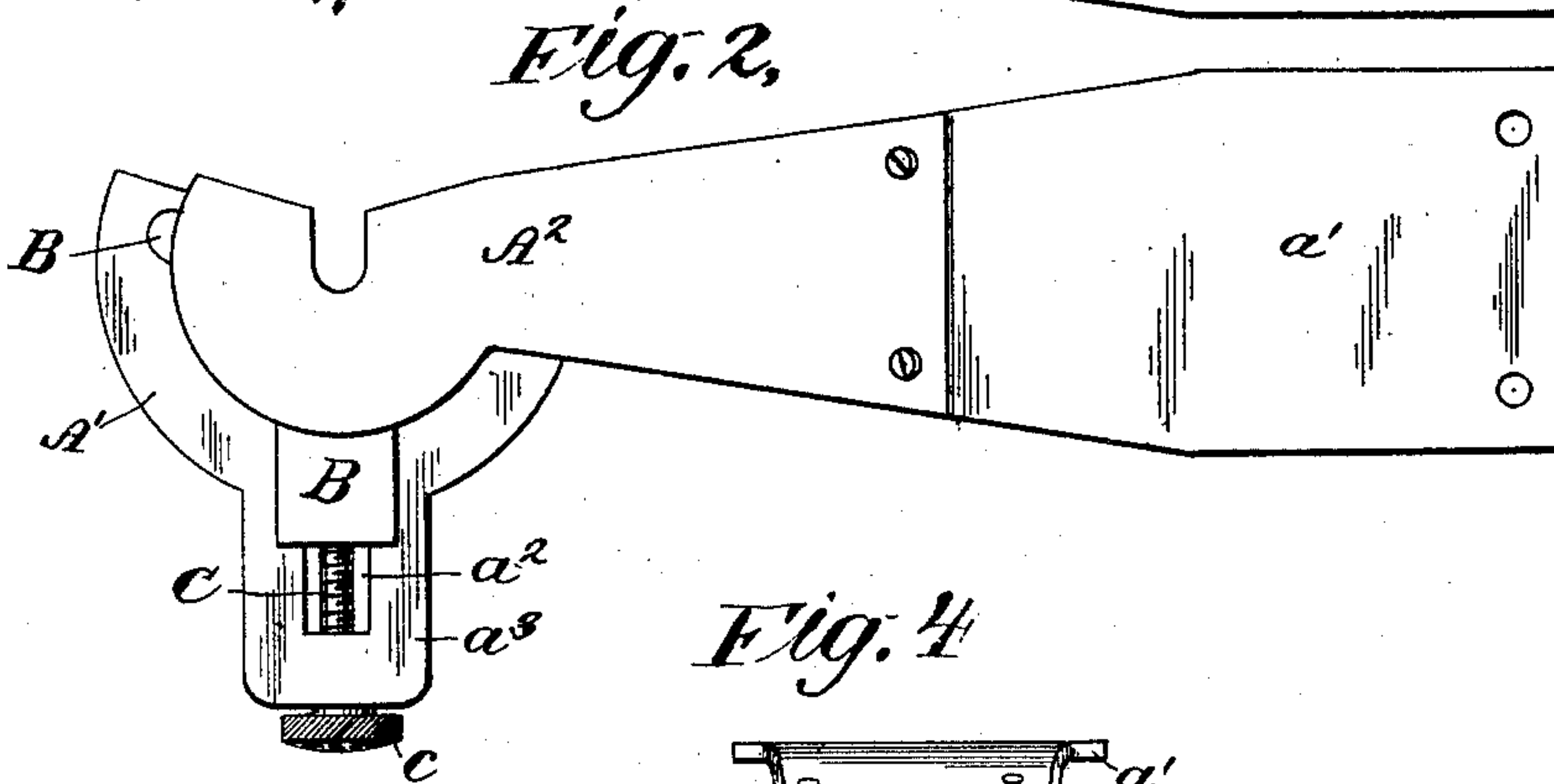


Fig. 2,

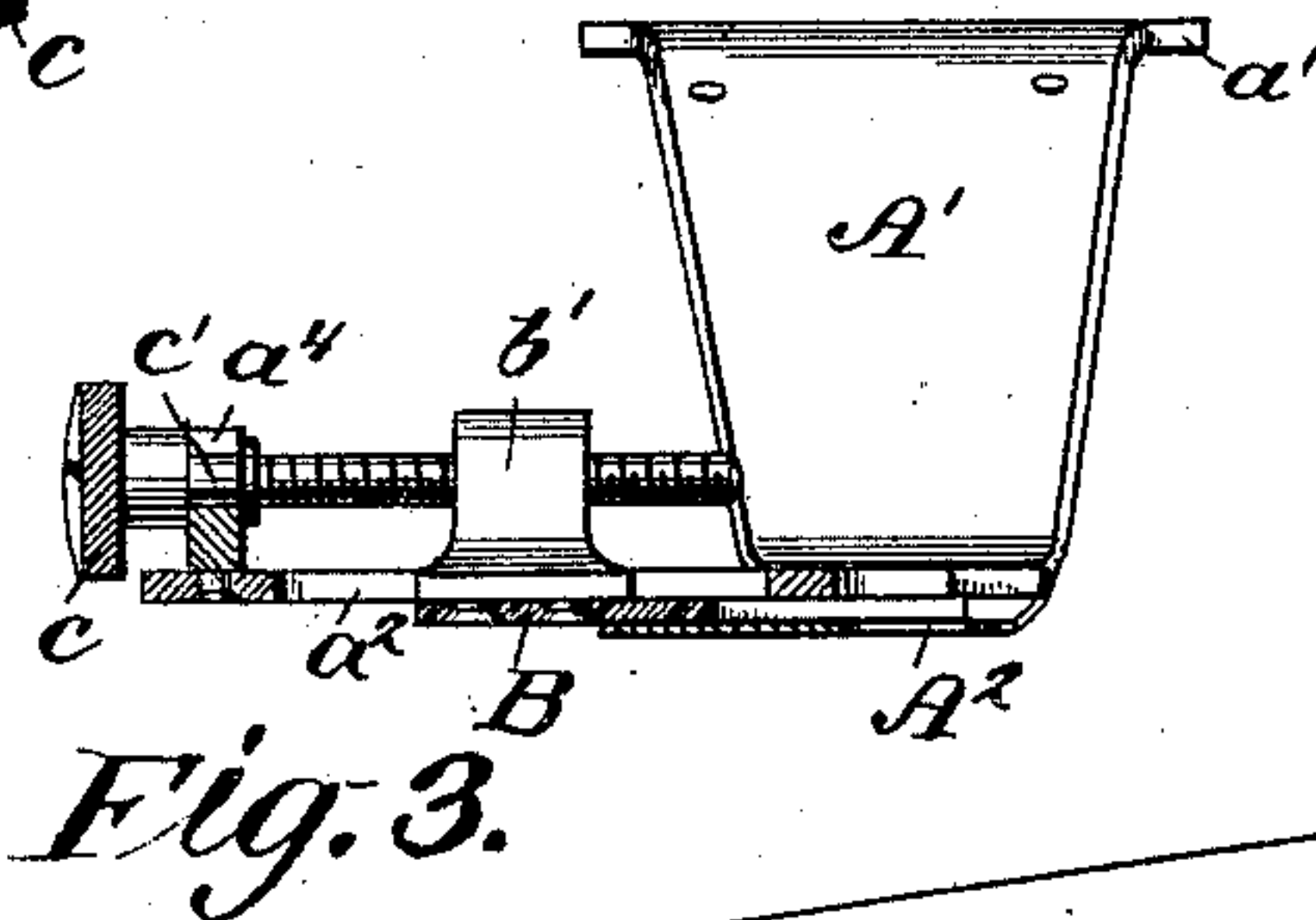
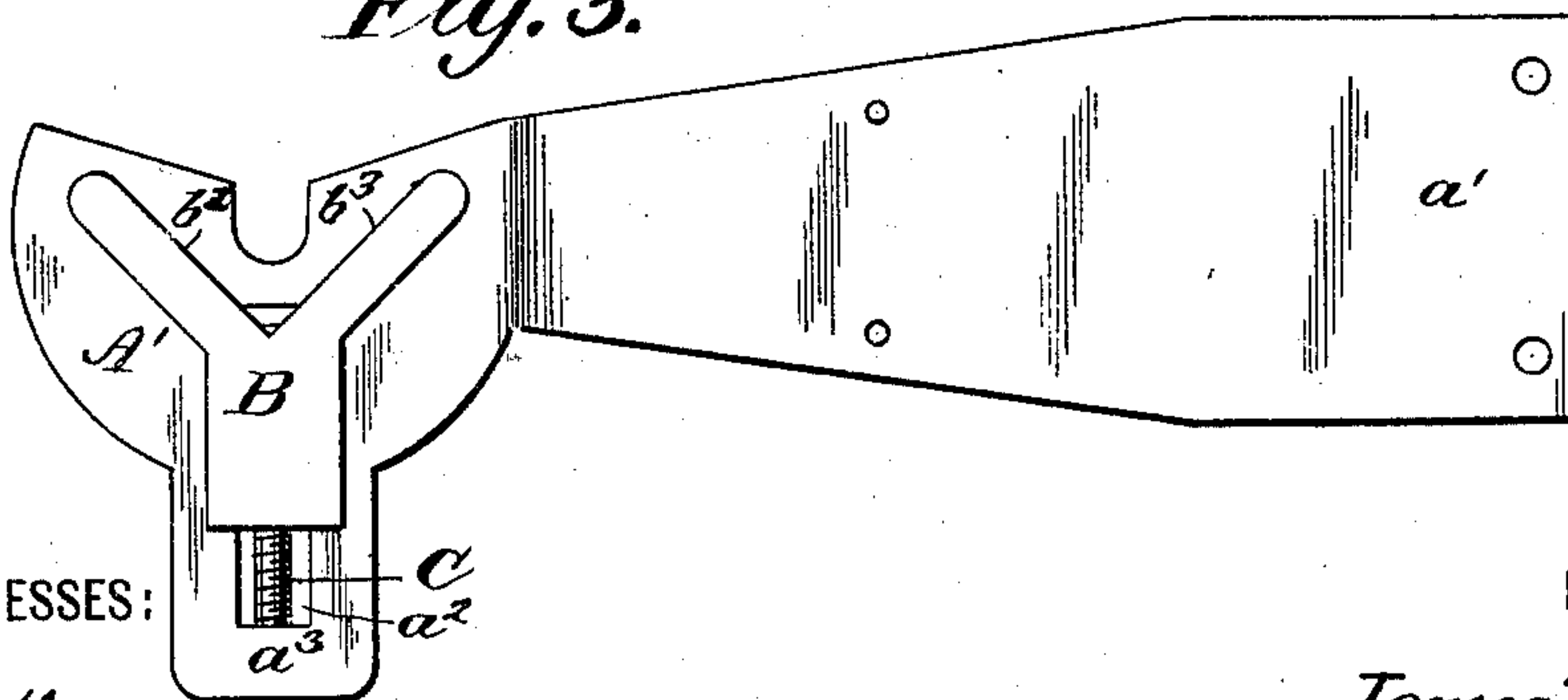


Fig. 3.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## CLAMP FOR HOLDING BUTTONS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 679,751, dated August 6, 1901.

Application filed November 8, 1899. Serial No. 736,227. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES T. HOGAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Jersey City, in the county of Hudson and State of New Jersey, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Clamps for Holding Buttons, of which the following is a specification.

My improvement relates to clamps for buttons having holes extending through them and for holding and presenting such buttons in proper relation to the sewing mechanism of a machine by which they are to be attached to a fabric.

The improvement comprises two plates, between which the button is held, an intermediate piece having an inclined surface serving as bearings for the edge of a button, and means whereby said piece may be adjusted relatively to the said plates. These means may advantageously consist of a screw and nut, and combined with the nut may be an indicator to indicate the necessary adjustments for buttons of different sizes.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a plan or top view of a clamp embodying my improvement. Fig. 2 is an inverted plan or bottom view of the same. Fig. 3 is an inverted plan or bottom view with the bottom plate removed, and Fig. 4 is a transverse section at the plane of the dotted line 4 4 of Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures.

A' A<sup>2</sup> designate two plates, which may be conveniently made of semicircular outline, with a semicircular or analogous notch or opening at the center. The top plate A' is made comparatively stiff and rigid and is provided with a shank  $a'$  for attachment to any suitable part of a mechanism employed to hold or present a button to be sewed to the sewing mechanism which is to attach it to a fabric. The bottom plate A<sup>2</sup> is resilient and has a tendency to move away from the upper plate, and any upward pressure upon the plate A<sup>2</sup> or any downward pressure upon the plate A' will produce a tendency in the two plates to move toward one another.

B designates a piece arranged intermediately of the plates A' A<sup>2</sup>. It is provided with a shank  $b$ , that fits a slot  $a^2$ , formed in a shank  $a^3$ , extending from the upper plate A'.

The shank  $b$  is made integral, so that it cannot rotate or oscillate in the slot  $a^2$ . The upper end of the shank  $b$  is provided with a head  $b'$ , that overlaps the upper plate A'. This head has a tapped hole with which engages a screw C, whose head  $c$  has a circumferential groove  $c'$ , with which engage lugs  $a^4$ , extending from the shank  $a^3$  of the plate A'. By turning the screw in one direction the piece B may be moved forwardly or toward the central recess of the plates A' A<sup>2</sup>. By turning the screw in a reverse direction the piece B will be moved in the reverse direction. The front of the piece B has two inclined surfaces  $b^2 b^3$ , which are at such an angle to each other as to form for the edge of a button bearings which will centralize the button with reference to the central recesses of the plates A' A<sup>2</sup>, thus securing the proper presentation of the button with reference to the sewing mechanism of the sewing-machine.

All the parts described may be made of metal, preferably of steel.

An indicator may be employed for facilitating the adjustment of the piece B for different-sized buttons. Such an indicator may consist of a number of graduations marked upon the upper plate A', and an index, such as an arrow, marked upon the head  $b'$  of the shank  $b$  and belonging to the piece B.

What I claim as new is—

1. In a clamp for holding buttons, the combination of a stiff upper plate having an opening therein, a resilient lower plate, each of said plates having an open-ended slot and which slots register, a centering-piece intermediate of said upper and lower plates having two oppositely-inclined surfaces forming bearings for a button, a shank provided for the centering-piece which projects through the opening in the upper plate, and a screw for positively moving and controlling the position of said centering-piece.

2. In a clamp for holding buttons, the combination of a stiff upper plate having an opening therein, a resilient lower plate, each of said plates having an open-ended slot and which slots register, a centering-piece intermediate of said upper and lower plates and having two oppositely-inclined surfaces forming bearings for a button, a shank provided



for the centering-piece which projects through the opening in the upper plate, a screw for positively moving and controlling the position of said centering-piece, a scale provided on  
5 one of said plates, and an index carried by the shank.

In testimony whereof I have signed my

name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JAMES T. HOGAN.

Witnesses:

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