

No. 684,382.

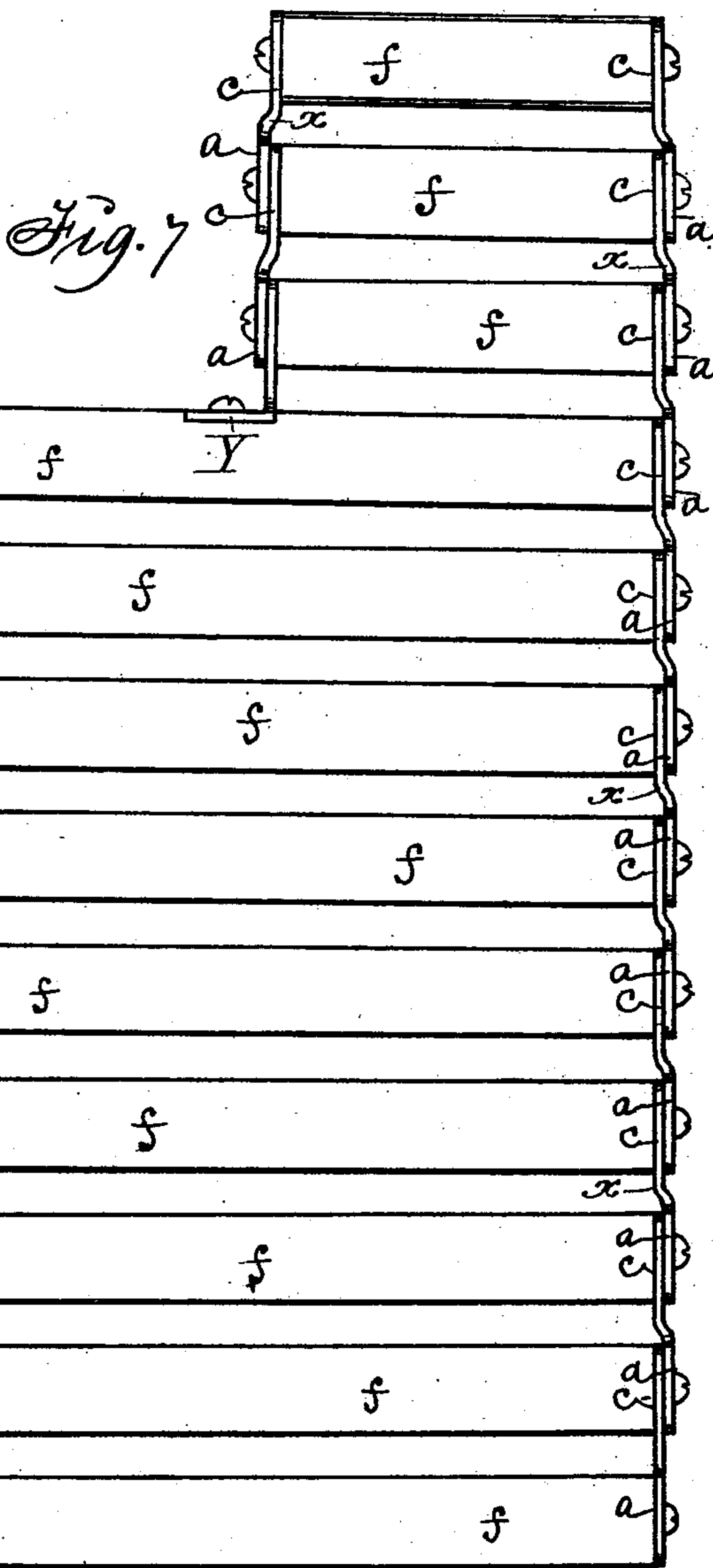
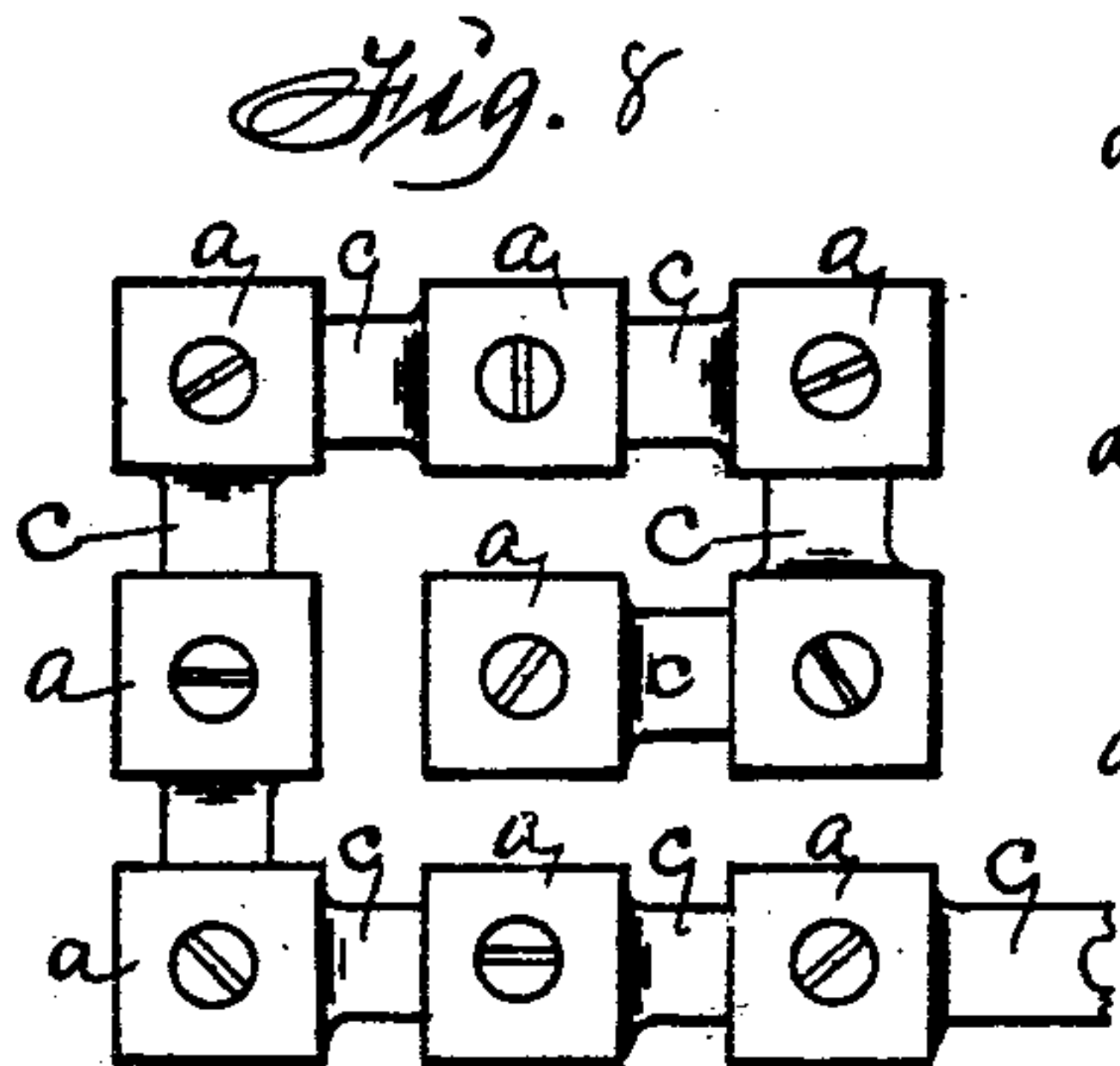
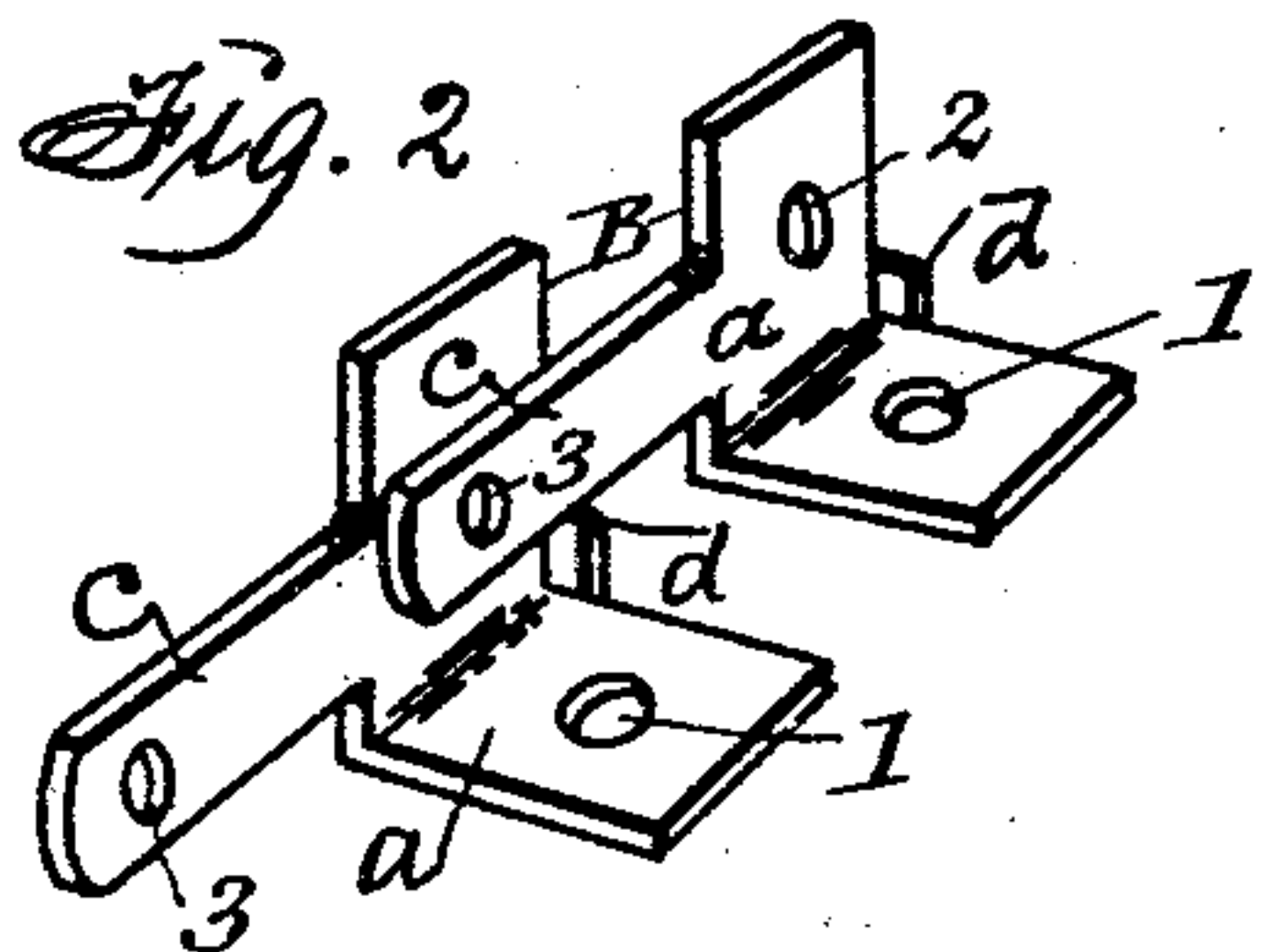
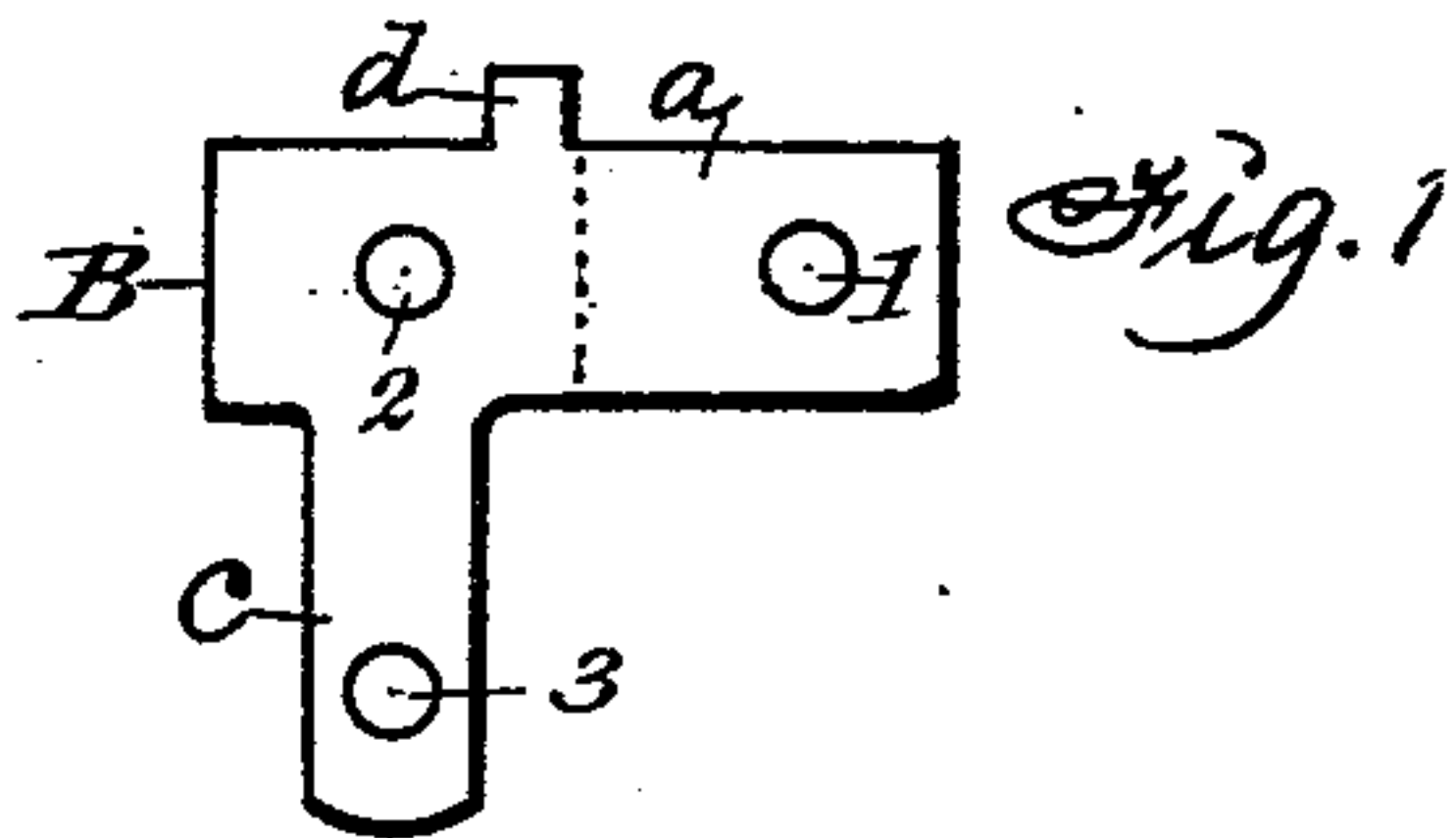
Patented Oct. 8, 1901.

G. ROSS.

WOODEN FLEXIBLE MAT FOR FLOORS.

(Application filed Aug. 24, 1900.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses:  
R. B. Orwig.  
J. C. Stuart.

Inventor: Grant Ross,  
By Thomas G. Orwig, atty.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GRANT ROSS, OF DES MOINES, IOWA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO JOHN C. TATE, OF SAME PLACE.

## WOODEN FLEXIBLE MAT FOR FLOORS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 684,382, dated October 8, 1901.

Application filed August 24, 1900. Serial No. 27,896. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GRANT ROSS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Des Moines, in the county of Polk and State of Iowa, have  
5 invented a new and useful Wooden Flexible Mat for Floors, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a portable removable wooden flexible floor-mat.

10 The object of my invention is to provide a flexible floor-mat which may be readily fashioned to fit any floor-space, the aim of my invention more particularly being to provide a light portable inexpensive flexible floor-mat  
15 which can be readily removed, so that the floor-space under the same may be cleaned, as will be described more fully hereinafter.

In the accompanying drawings I have shown in Figure 1 a view of one of the blanks  
20 forming one of the keepers as used in my invention. Fig. 2 shows a perspective view of two keepers, showing their relative position when connected. Figs. 3, 4, 5, and 6 show cross-sectional views of the various-shaped  
25 bars as used in my mat. Fig. 7 shows a top view of a mat embodying my invention, while Fig. 8 discloses a side view, with portions broken away, of a mat embodying my invention as partly rolled up.

30 My invention embodies, essentially, a plurality of suitable bars, which bars are provided at the ends with fixed keepers having perforated ears. These bars are then movably and pivotally connected in series one to  
35 the other, so as to form a flexible structure of the character described.

In carrying out the aim of my invention I use a plurality of bars *f*, which may be of any  
40 suitable length and of any desired cross-section. These bars *f* are preferably made of wood. Secured to each bar *f* is a set of keepers, these keepers being in the form of right and left handed counterpart members and are secured to the ends of the bars. These  
45 keepers comprise, essentially, a perforated base *a*, through the perforations 1 of which passes a suitable nail, rivet, or screw, and by means of which these keepers are secured to the mat-bars. Extending at right angles  
50 from the perforated bases *a*, the keeper-blanks being approximately L-shaped in out-

line, as is shown in Fig. 1, is an end plate B, within which is a suitable opening 2, and extending from each end plate B is a perforated extending ear *c*, provided near the  
55 end with an opening 3, while at a point opposite the plate is further provided with an imperforate laterally-extending lip *d*, so bent that the same extends above and rides upon said base portion *a*. This lateral extension  
60 *d*, it will be noticed, is positioned a suitable distance below the opening 2. In Fig. 7 I have shown a plurality of bars *f*, provided with these right and left handed counterpart keepers, which have been connected to form a flexi-  
65 ble structure. To show that the mat may be made to conform to the structural peculiarities of various-shaped floors, the bars near the the upper end have been made considerably shorter. In linking or securing these bars in  
70 series the perforated extending ears of one bar are placed adjacent the plates B of the keeper secured to the bar adjacent and upon one side, as is indicated in Fig. 2, when a nail or screw is  
75 passed through these united members to movably unite them. From this it will be seen that each bar has fixed or immovably secured to it one set of keepers, while a second set is further pivotally secured to each bar *f*. In  
80 order to bring these united keepers in proper alinement, a portion of each extending ear *c*, as is shown at *x*, is bent approximately in the form of an ogee, as is shown in Fig. 7. An additional bar is then united to these first bars;  
85 and this construction is continued to suit the requirements, so that a continuous flexible mat of any suitable length or width is provided.

In case it should be desired to construct a mat of various widths, so that a keeper is se-  
90 cured to a bar intermediate of the ends, the perforated extending ears *c* may be bent at right angles to form bases Y, as is shown in Fig. 7.

Referring to Fig. 2, it will be noticed that the laterally-extending lip *d* is so positioned  
95 that it rides and extends immediately below the extending ear *c* of the adjacent connected keeper, while it rides upon its base *a*, so that it forms a supporting member for the connected ear, as is clearly shown. These pro-  
100 jecting lips prevent the mat from buckling upward should any end pressure be applied



to the same and insures the mat being held in a straight condition, while at the same time being capable of being rolled up upon the side opposite the lips.

5 Now when a mat constructed according to my invention is to be removed it is simply necessary to roll up one end and form a roll, when a neat compact mass is formed.

10 This flexible floor-mat may be rolled exactly in the manner that a strip of linoleum or carpet would be rolled up.

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

15 1. In a mat of the character described a plurality of bars, counterpart keepers fixed to said bars, each keeper comprising a perforated end plate, a perforated base extending at right angles to said end plate, and a  
20 perforated extending ear, said keepers being secured by means of their bases, each ear further being linked to an adjacent bar by means of a pin passing through its connected ears

and the end plate of the adjoining bar, as and for the purpose set forth.

25 2. In a mat of the character described, a plurality of bars, counterpart keepers fixed to said bars, each keeper comprising a perforated end plate, a base extending at right angles to said end plate, a laterally-projecting lip extending from said end plate and  
30 resting upon said base, a perforated extending ear projecting from said end plate, said keepers being secured by means of their bases, each bar further being linked to an adjacent  
35 bar by means of a pin passing through its extending ear and the end plate of the adjoining bar, said instrumentalities being so arranged that the extending ear of one keeper  
40 rides upon the projecting lip of the adjacent keeper, as and for the purpose set forth.

GRANT ROSS.

Witnesses:

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