

No. 692,274.

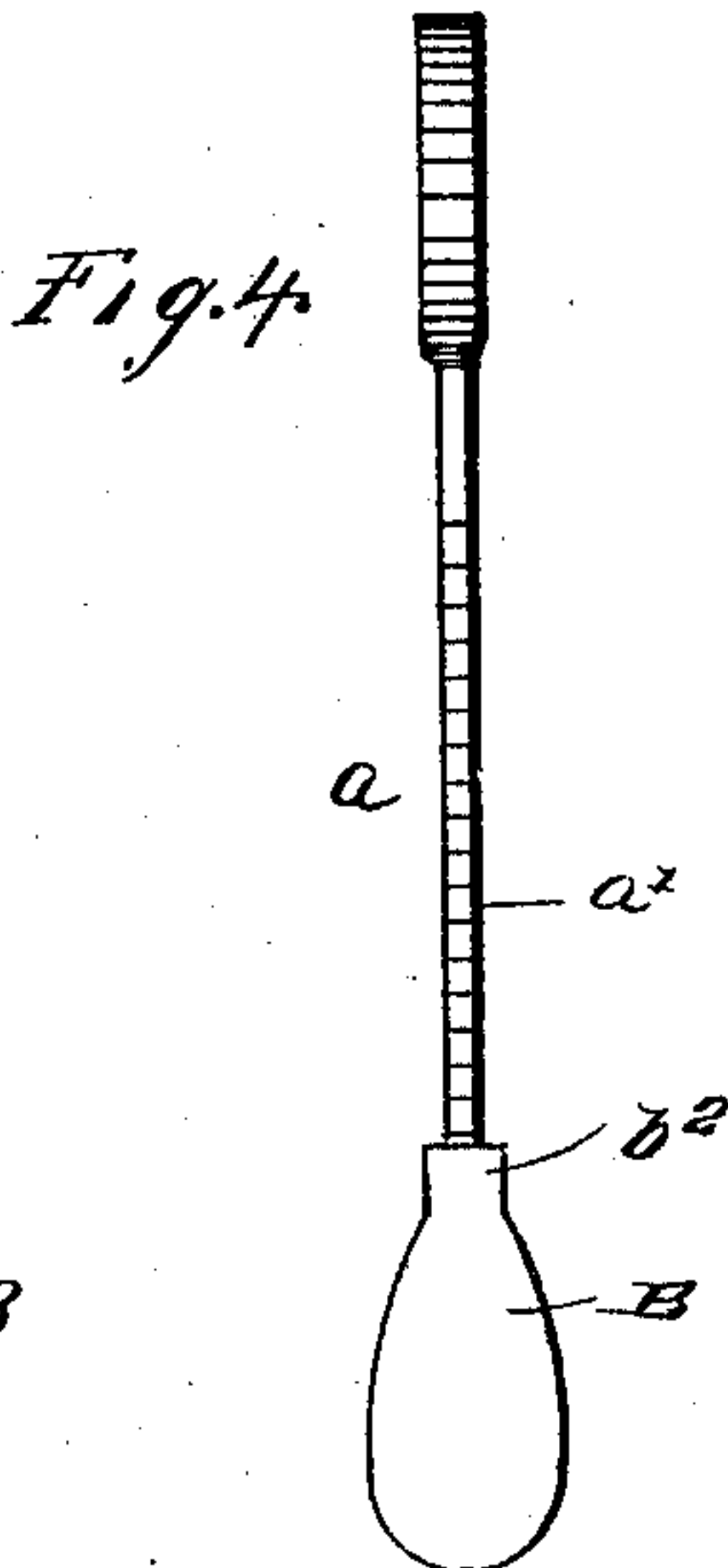
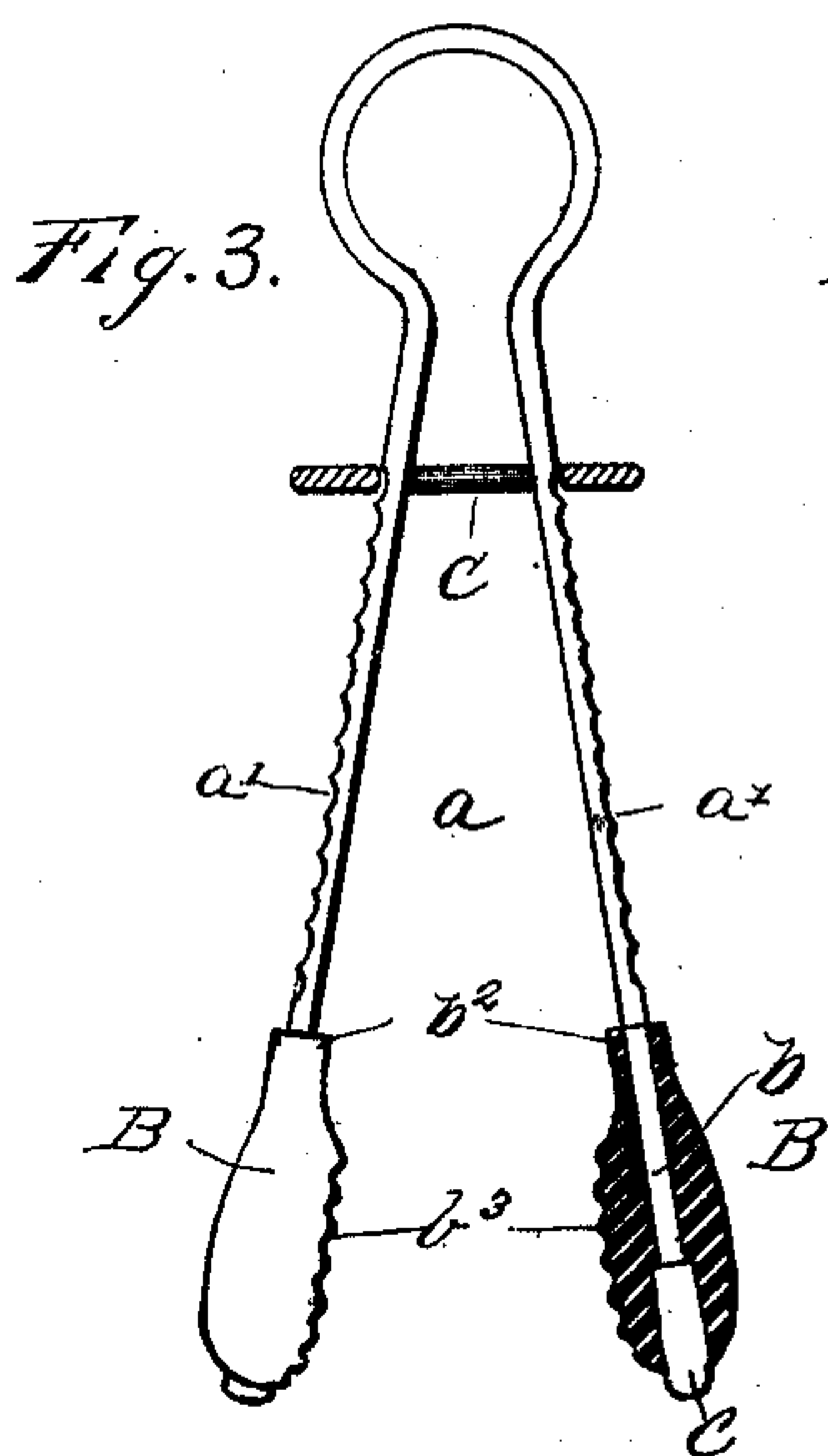
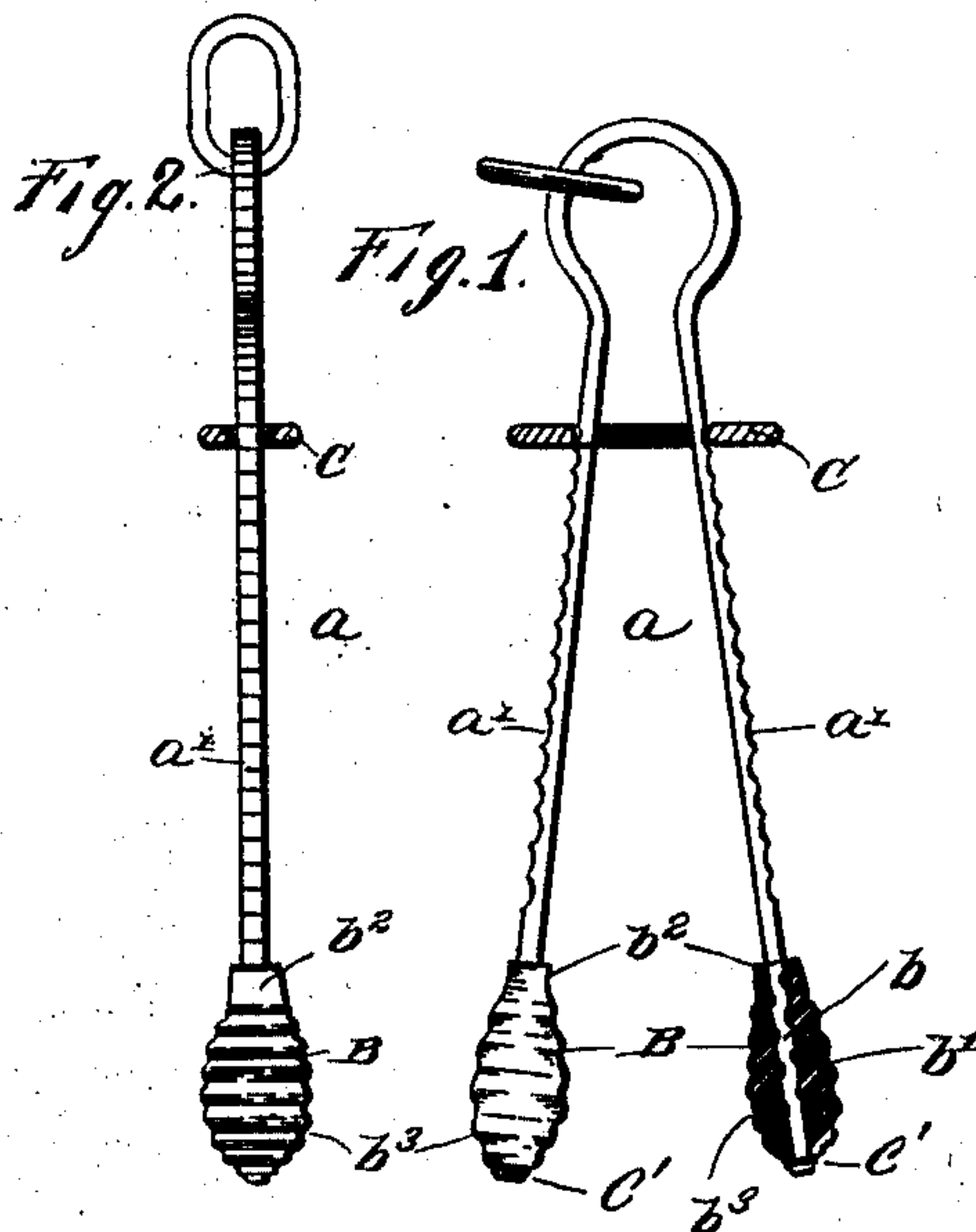
Patented Feb. 4, 1902.

M. L. GUMAER.

DRESS HOLDER.

(Application filed Mar. 12, 1901.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES:

Chas S Longhurst,
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARIE LOUISE GUMAER, OF GUYMARD, NEW YORK.

DRESS-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 692,274, dated February 4, 1902.

Application filed March 12, 1901. Serial No. 50,837. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARIE LOUISE GUMAER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Guy-
mard, in the county of Orange and State of
New York, have invented a new and useful
Improvement in Dress-Holders, of which the
following is a specification.

This invention relates to dress-holders or de-
vices intended to be suspended from a girdle
placed about the waist and capable of grip-
ping the skirt to hold it away from the ground.

I am aware that a variety of different hold-
ers have been patented and put into use; but
so far as my knowledge extends the need still
exists for an article of this nature that can be
closed and opened conveniently and that will
grip the material of a dress-skirt firmly and
positively, but without the danger of tearing
or otherwise defacing or injuring the mate-
rial.

In brief, my invention comprises a strand
of wire or the like doubled upon itself, the
opposite ends extending into prong-like mem-
bers which are held normally distended, the
outer edges of said members having serrations
to receive a contracting slide piece or ring
and the tips of the prongs having means en-
abling them to support friction-balls of soft
rubber, which are intended to grip the dress
material between their opposed surfaces.

In the drawings accompanying this appli-
cation, Figure 1 is a front elevation of my im-
proved dress-holder. Fig. 2 is a side view
thereof. Fig. 3 is a front view of a modified
structure. Fig. 4 is a side view of Fig. 3, the
sliding loop being omitted.

As seen in Figs. 1 and 2, a strand of wire or
the like is doubled upon itself to form a ten-
sional bend, said strand extending into the
prongs *a a*, which are normally held apart un-
der the tension of the spring bend. The tips
b b of prongs *a a* are each provided with ser-
rations *b' b'*, enabling them to hold securely
within spheres or pads *B B* of soft rubber,
within which they are inserted. The said
spheres or pads *B B* are preferably provided
with neck portions *b² b²* to furnish retaining-

channels of greater length and security for
said tips *b b*. Corrugations or cross-cut ser-
rations, as *a' a'*, are provided along the outer
edge of the prongs *a a*, and a ring or slide *C*,
which fits loosely over the upper portion of
said prongs, is adapted when forced down-
wardly over said prongs to contract them and
bring the spheres or pads *B B* into frictional
contact over an intervening object, as a dress-
skirt, the serrations *a' a'* causing the ring or
slide *C* to retain the prongs in a desired con-
tracted position until released by the user.
The meeting surfaces of the friction-pads *B B*
are preferably corrugated, as indicated at *b³*,
whereby a more secure grip or hold of the
dress material can be obtained.

As seen in Figs. 3 and 4, the friction-pads
may be secured upon the prong-tips by fore-
ing thereover enlarged head portions, as *c*,
which prevent withdrawal, or washers, as *c'*
in Fig. 1, may be placed over the protruding
tips, which latter are then riveted.

Having now described my invention, I de-
clare that what I claim is—

As a new article of manufacture, a dress-
holder comprising a continuous strand bent
centrally thereof to form a spring and extend-
ed into divergent prongs, said prongs on op-
posite and the outer edges thereof being pro-
vided with serrations and presenting in-
wardly a smooth surface, a slide inclosing said
prongs and adapted to engage said serrations
and contract and hold said prongs against the
tension of said spring, an enlarged resilient
pad encompassing the extremity of said
prongs respectively and a cap adapted to en-
gage the extremity of each prong within each
pad.

In testimony whereof I have signed my
name to this specification, in the presence of
two subscribing witnesses, this 4th day of
March, 1901.

MARIE LOUISE GUMAER.

Witnesses:

CHAS. S. LONGHURST,
AGNES V. KIERNAN.