

No. 698,865.

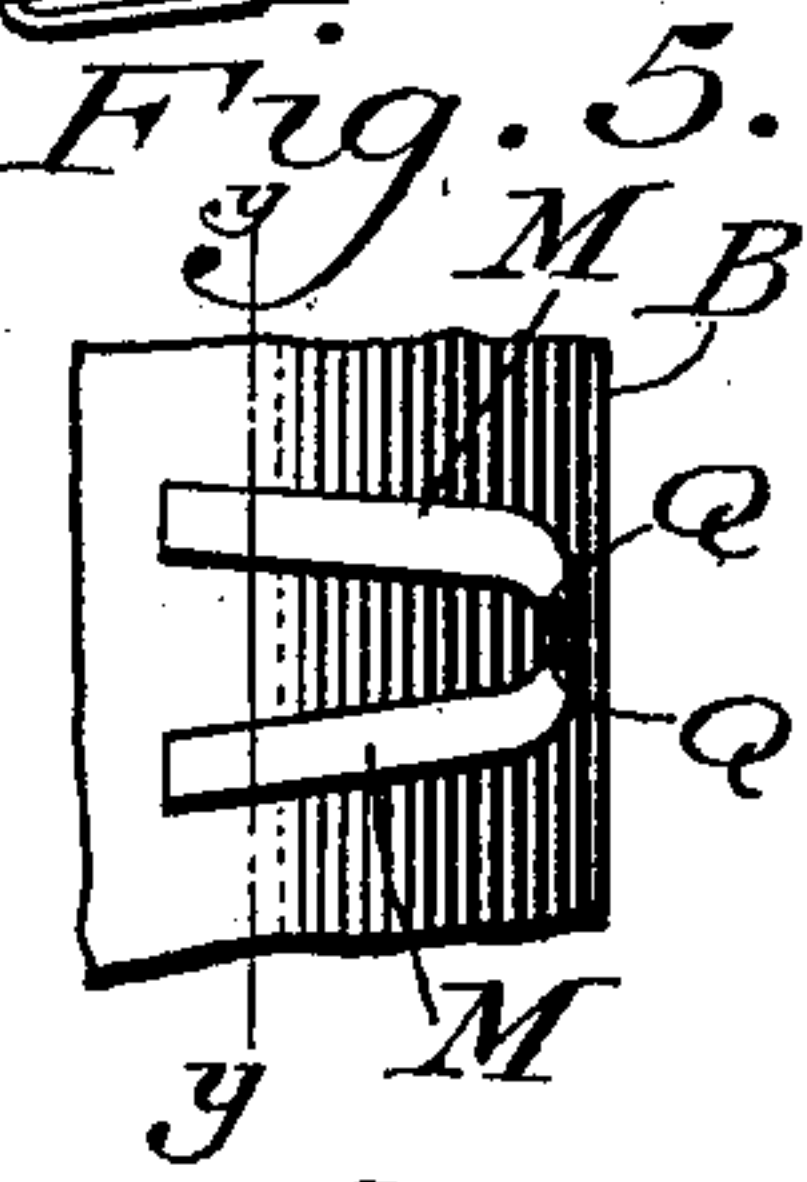
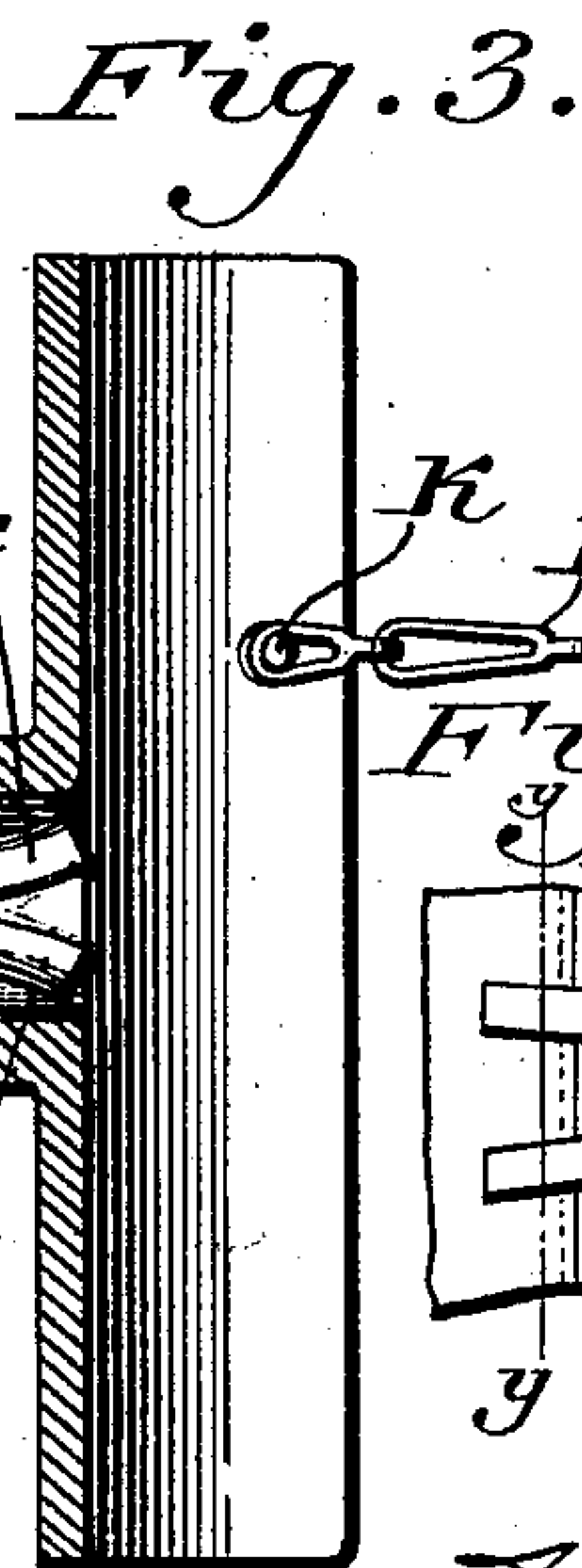
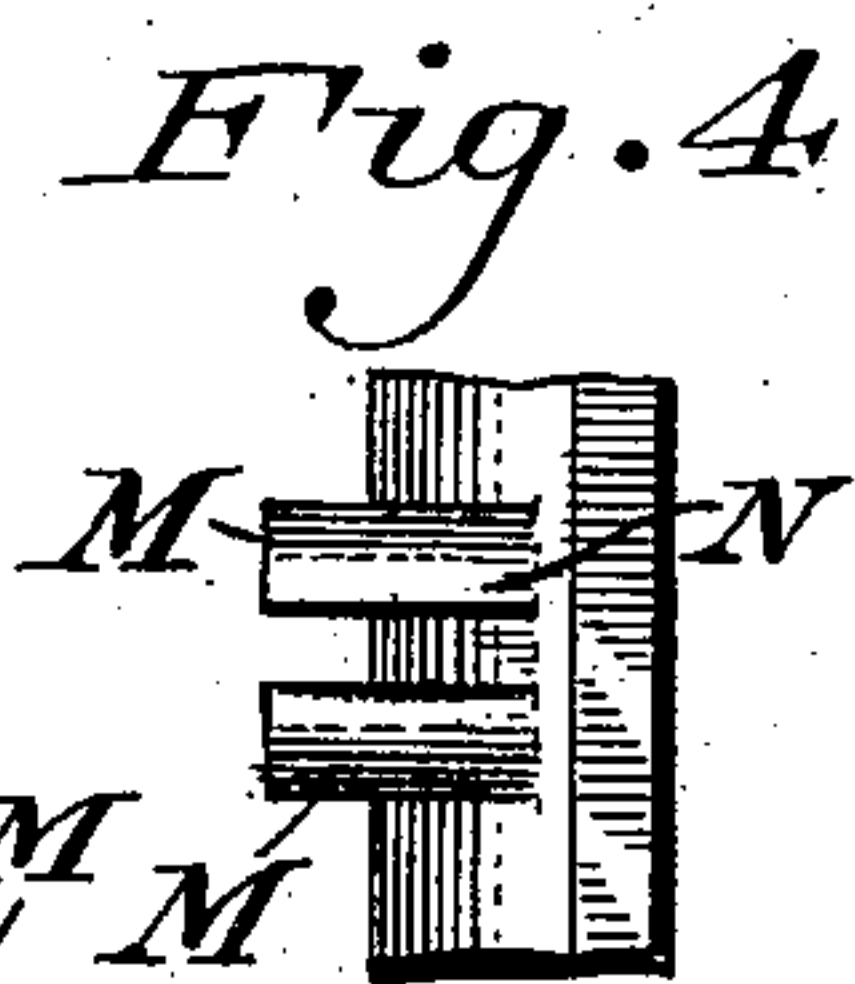
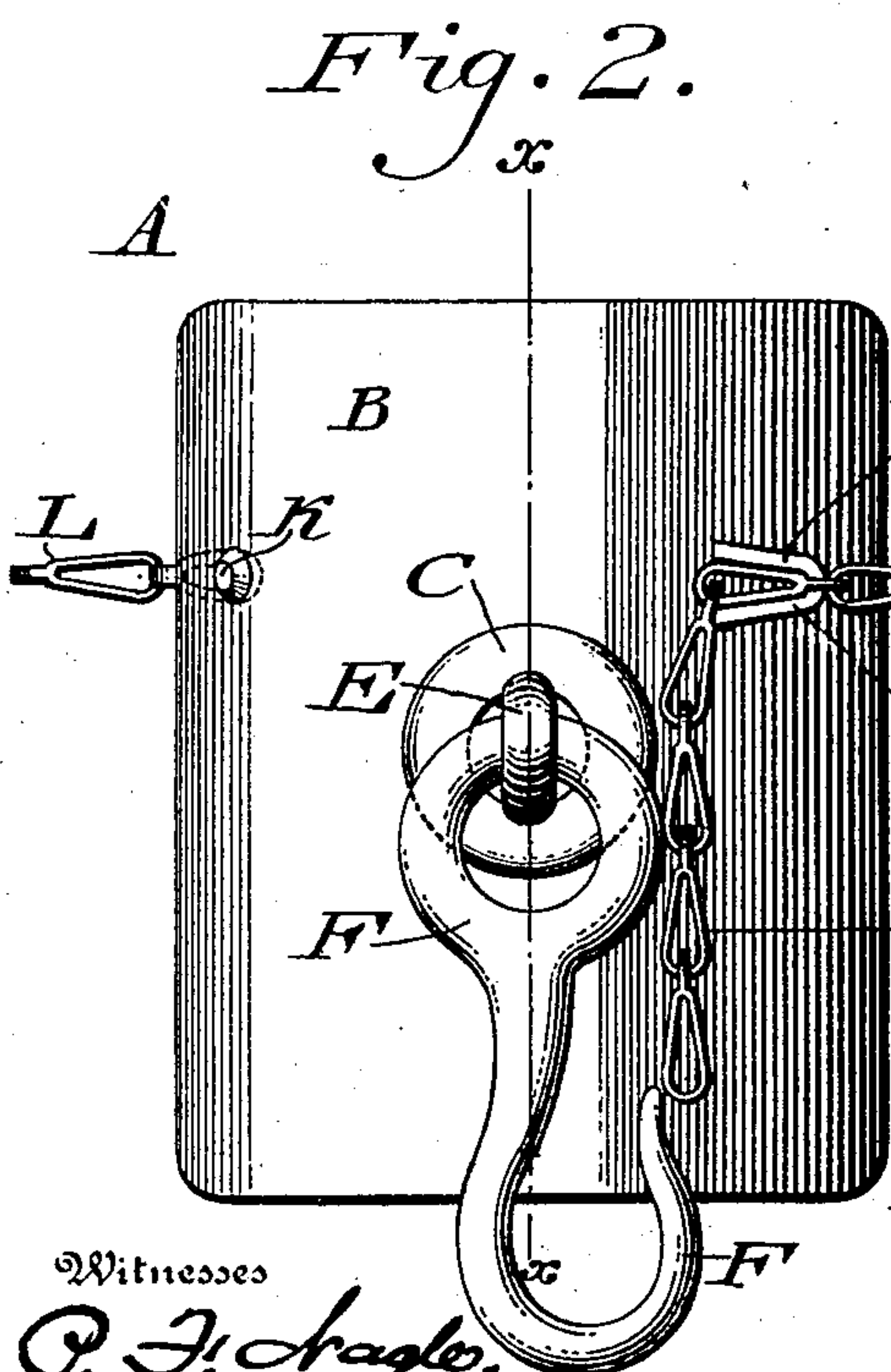
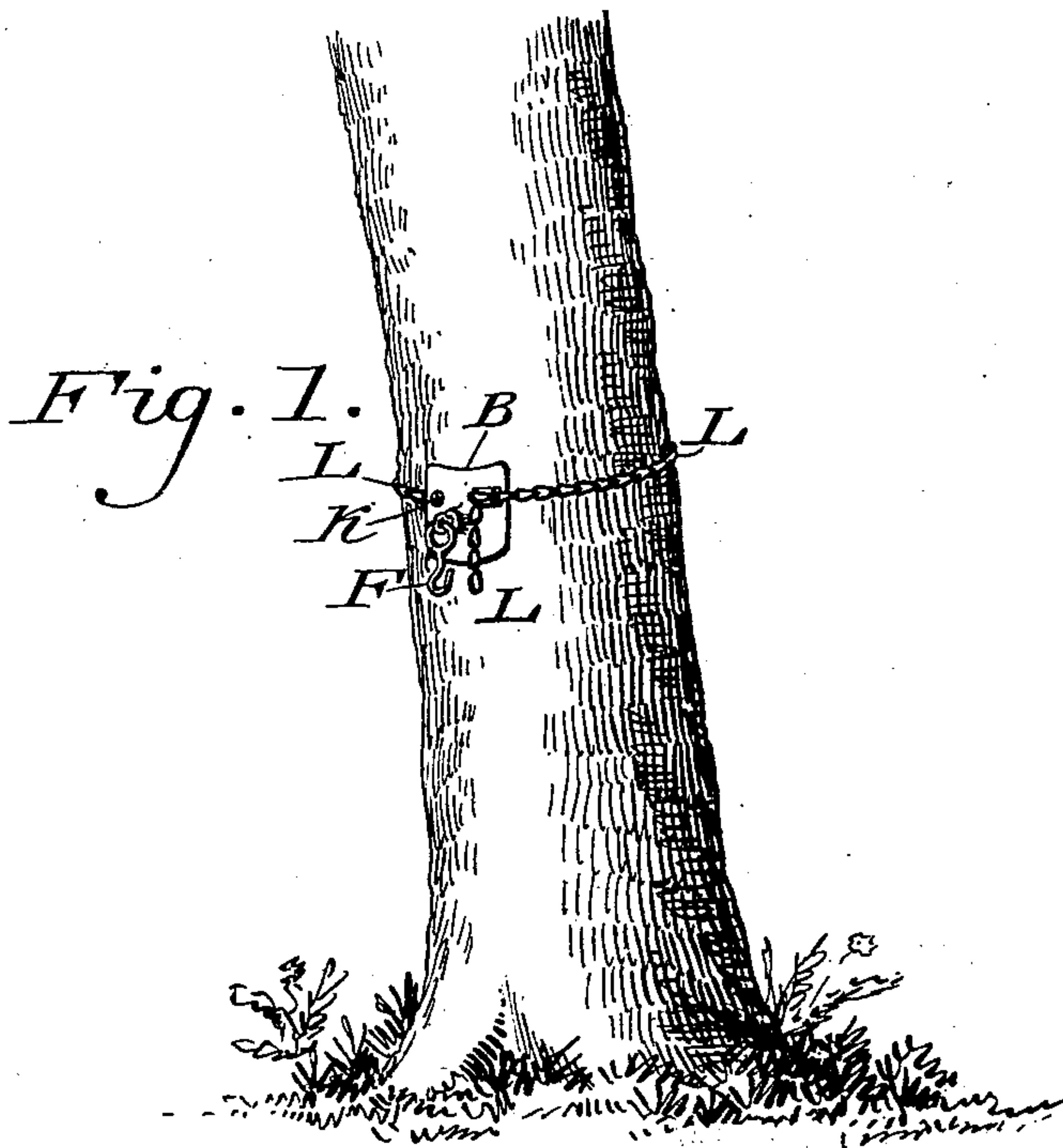
Patented Apr. 29, 1902.

C. SMITH & J. L. MOUNCE.

SUPPORT FOR HAMMOCKS.

(Application filed Apr. 5, 1901.)

(No Model.)



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHAUNCEY SMITH AND JOSEPH LEON MOUNCE, OF PHILADELPHIA,  
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## SUPPORT FOR HAMMOCKS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 698,865, dated April 29, 1902.

Application filed April 5, 1901. Serial No. 54,502. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, CHAUNCEY SMITH and JOSEPH LEON MOUNCE, citizens of the United States, residing in the city and county of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Supports for Hammocks, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to improvements in supports for hammocks, &c.; and it consists of a plate having a hook suitably attached thereto and means for supporting said plate and hook at a proper place.

It further consists of novel details of construction, all as will be hereinafter fully set forth, and pointed out in the claims.

Figure 1 represents a perspective view showing a tree-trunk and our invention applied thereto. Fig. 2 represents a front elevation thereof, showing a portion of the chain broken away. Fig. 3 represents a sectional view on line  $x x$ , Fig. 2. Fig. 4 represents a side elevation of a portion of the device, showing the means for attaching the free end of the chain to the plate. Fig. 5 represents a plan view of a portion of the device on an enlarged scale. Fig. 6 represents a sectional view on line  $y y$ , Fig. 5.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the figures.

Referring to the drawings, A designates a support for hammocks, &c., consisting of the plate B, having an outward projection or boss C thereon and an opening D. Secured in said opening is an eye E, to which is attached the hook F, said eye having the free ends G, which are seated in the projection C and held in position by the washer J. The front opening of said boss or projection C is reduced or of less diameter than the rear one, so that while the washer embraces the contracted portion of the limbs of the eye said limbs, which also occupy said front opening, cannot be driven out through the latter. Again, the rear opening being of greater diameter permits said limbs to be spread to the full extent of said opening without projecting beyond back of the plate and presenting an obstruction to the ready adjustment of said plate on the tree, post, or other support. Fur-

thermore, the boss is integral with the plate, thus avoiding joints or fastenings for said boss and plate, while a cheaper and stronger article is produced.

Secured to the plate B by a pin K or other suitable means is a chain L, and at a suitable point on said plate B, in the present instance on the opposite side from said pin K, are the outwardly-projecting ways M, which are at an angle to each other or converging, as seen in Fig. 5, and the front walls N of which are straight, as seen in Fig. 4, it being noticed that each way has the inclined inner face P and is provided with inturned shoulders Q, with an opening between the same. The inner face of the front wall of the boss C has a shoulder thereon against which the washer J abuts, and the rear of said boss is open through the plate B. The ends or limbs G of the eye E are spread apart after passing through the said washer, by which provision their contracted neck in front of the spread-apart ends is tightly embraced by the inner wall of the washer, and as the latter is rested against the shoulder of the boss the eye E remains firmly in position in the latter without liability of being drawn out of the boss. In assembling the parts the washer is located in position in the boss, and the limbs G in closed condition are passed through said washer, after which said limbs, being accessible at the rear opening of the boss, are spread out, thus interlocking with said washer and occupying the position as has been stated and as illustrated in Fig. 3, it being evident that the limbs of the eye require to be of considerable length in order to possess the necessary strength and purchase on the plate, which is comparatively thin. Hence the provision of the boss and the securing members for the limbs of the eye therein.

The washer J is subjected internally to the strain of the spread-apart limbs of the eye, and it is enabled to endure the same, as it is made of material superior to that of the plate B and boss C, preferably of wrought metal, while said plate and boss may be made of light—say cast—metal, and so the opening D of said boss C would be fractured or broken if said strain were imposed directly thereon,



which is not the case, for, as has been stated, said strain is transmitted to the washer and the latter rests directly flat against the shoulder on the inner face of the boss as its seat, while the limbs of the eye are removed from injurious contact with said opening D.

The operation is as follows: The plate is placed against a tree, as in Fig. 1, or a post, it being noticed that the shape of said plate is in curved contour, and the chain passed around the trunk of the tree, it being noticed that the links of said chain are so shaped that the same will enter between the ways M and that the shoulders Q on the same will prevent the chain from leaving said ways until removed by proper manipulation thereof. In this manner the plate and hook connected therewith will be properly supported and will serve as a hammock-support or a hitching device, as desired.

Owing to the inturned shoulders Q, the end of a link of a chain is adapted to abut against the same, thus taking up the direct linear strain of the chain and avoiding the spreading apart of the ways M by the tapering form of the link between said ways. The opening between the shoulders permits the next link of the chain to project therethrough at a right angle to the one occupying the said ways.

It will be apparent that slight changes may be made by those skilled in the art which will come within the scope of our invention, and we do not, therefore, desire to be limited in

every instance to the exact construction herein shown and described.

Having thus described our invention, what we believe to be new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A plate, an outwardly-projecting boss thereon, said boss being open in front and rear and having a shoulder on its inner face around the front opening, a washer in said boss seated on said shoulder, a hook, and an eye carrying the latter and having contracted limbs which pass through said front opening of the boss and through said washer and are spread at the rear opening within said boss, said boss being integral with said plate.

2. In a support of the character stated, a plate, means for securing the same in position, an outwardly-projecting boss on said plate, the same being open in front and rear, a hook in front of said boss, an eye by which said hook is suspended, said eye being provided with limbs which occupy said boss and are partly contracted and partly spread apart, and a washer which is seated on the inner face of the wall of the front opening of said boss and embraces the contracted portion of said limbs.

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