

No. 703,019.

Patented June 24, 1902.

W. W. THOMAS.
CARNATION SUPPORTER.

(Application filed Feb. 12, 1902.)

(No Model.)

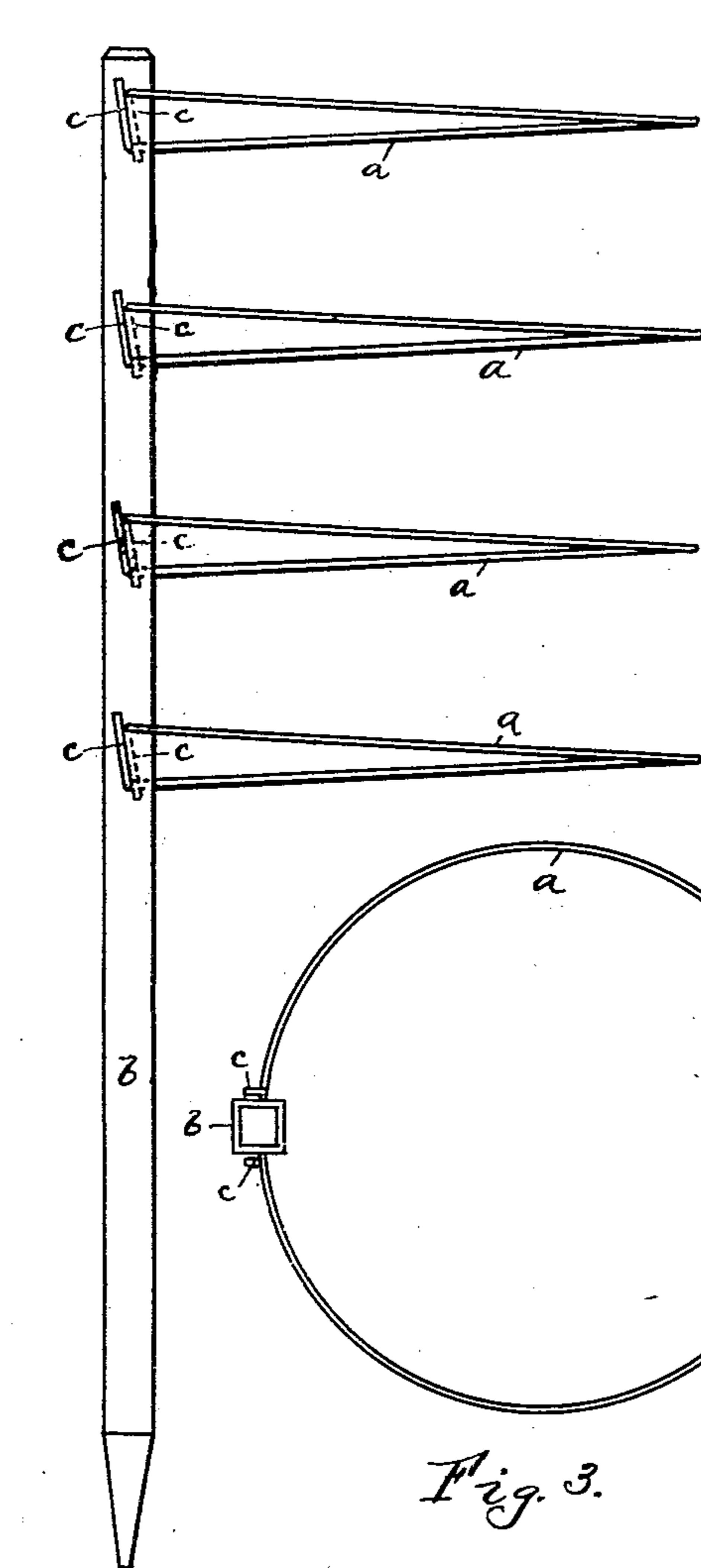


Fig. 1.

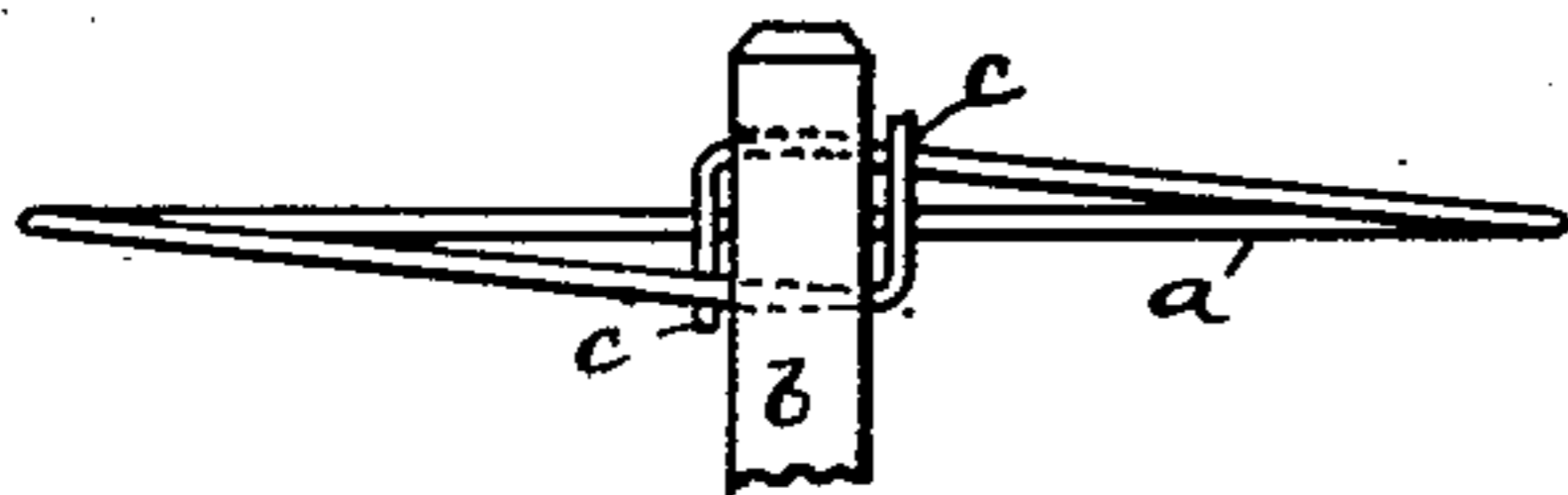


Fig. 4.

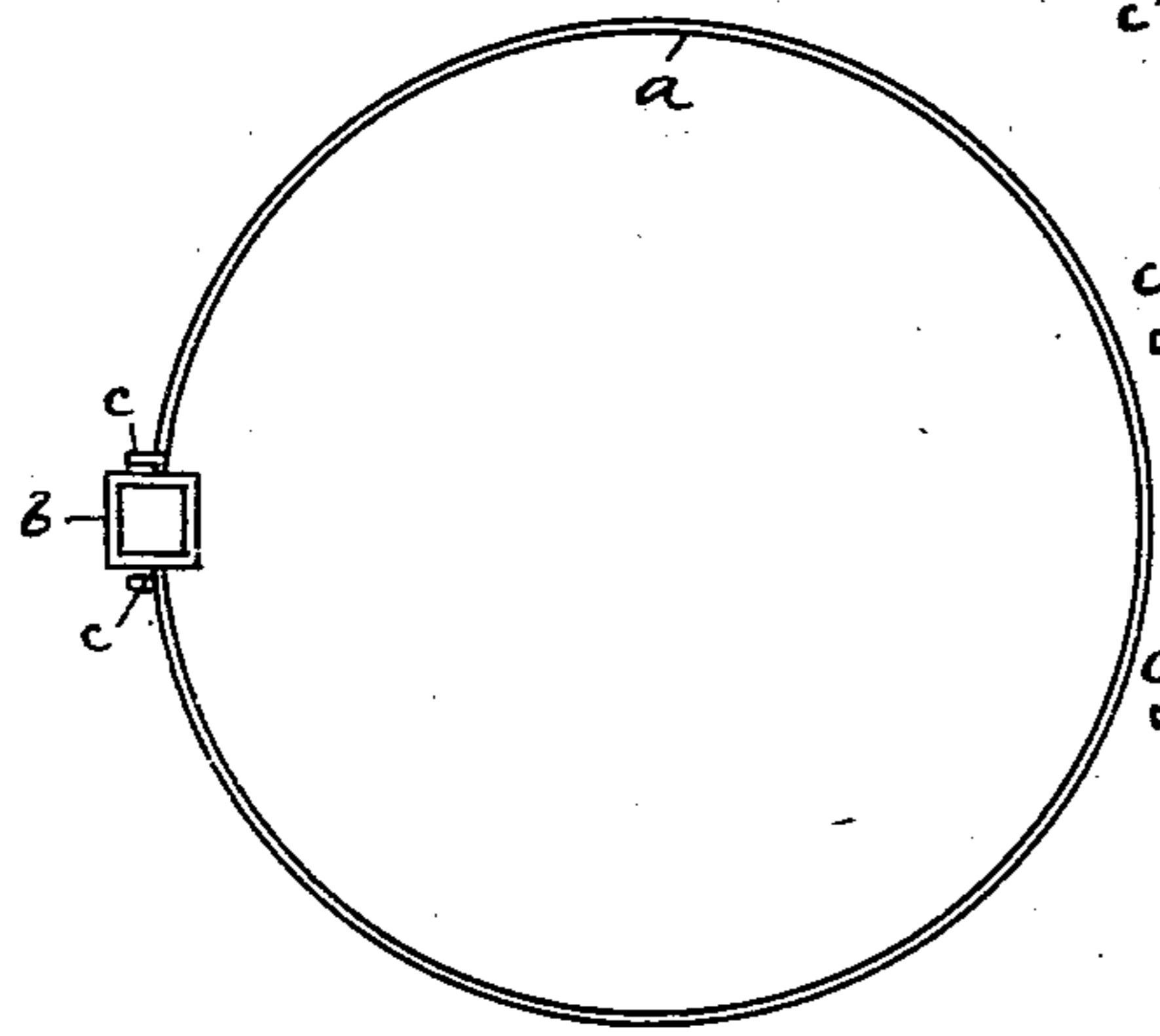


Fig. 3.

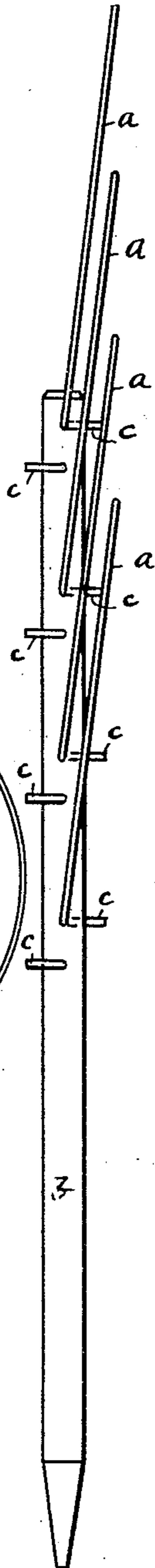


Fig. 2.

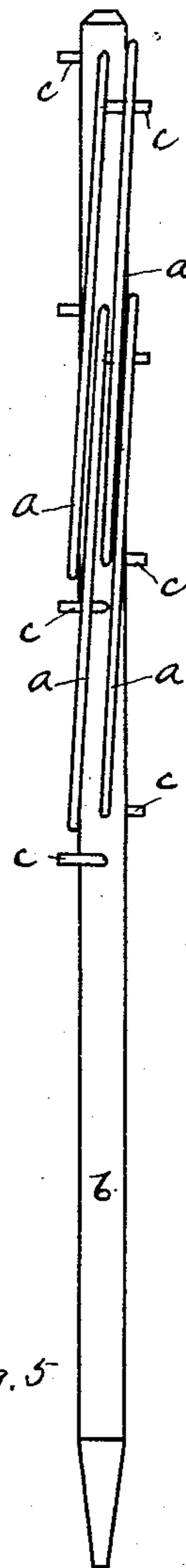


Fig. 5.

WITNESSES.
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CARNATION-SUPPORTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 703,019, dated June 24, 1902.

Application filed February 12, 1902. Serial No. 93,664. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM W. THOMAS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Troy, in the county of Miami and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Carnation-Supporters; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to improvements in carnation-supporters.

The object of the invention is to provide supports of the above character which may be knocked down to such position as will enable them to occupy a minimum amount of space during shipment.

Referring to the annexed drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of my improved carnation-supporter, showing it in position to support the flowers while the latter are growing. Fig. 2 is a view showing the position of the supporter ready to be placed over the plants. Fig. 3 is a top plan view of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a view of the upper portion of the supporter looking to the right on Fig. 1. Fig. 5 is a view showing the supporter knocked down for packing and shipment.

It will be understood while these plants are growing it is necessary to support them in an upright position, so that the weight thereof will not break the stems or permit them to lie upon the ground. The present means for supporting said plants consists of a series of circular rings *a*, a suitable number of which are attached to a post *b* by having the ends *c* of said rings passed through the body of the post at different points a suitable distance apart, the ends *c* of each ring *a* entering openings through the post and being bent at right angles. The openings in the post for each ring are one above the other. One end *c* of each of said rings penetrates the post above the other end *c*, as shown in Fig. 4, and the said ends are turned at right angles and in opposite directions, so that each ring when turned to the horizontal position, as shown in Figs. 1 and 4, will be limited to such horizontal

position by the bent ends *c*, which act as stops and will thus support the ring in such horizontal position. To more clearly describe this feature of supporting the rings in a horizontal position, Fig. 4 of the drawings is referred to, where it will be seen that the bent end *c* on the right acts as a stop against the upper portion of the ring, and the bent end *c* on the left acts as a stop for the lower portion of the ring, one of said ends *c* projecting up while the other projects down when each of said rings is in a horizontal position. This feature is also illustrated in Fig. 1. By thus bending the ends *c* of the rings at right angles after passing them through the openings in the post *b* the said ends are also prevented from drawing out of said opening. It will therefore be seen that the rings are maintained in a permanent connection with the post. The carnations, it will be understood, are surrounded by these rings when in position shown in Figs. 1 and 4.

When a quantity of these supporters are shipped, they may be placed in positions shown in Fig. 5 by placing the rings in parallel positions with the post. When placing the supporter in the position shown in Fig. 5, the rings are manipulated in the following manner: The top ring is moved to an approximately horizontal position, the reverse of that shown in Fig. 1. The next lower adjacent ring is next carried over and is passed below the first ring. Then these upper rings are folded down against the side of the post. The two lower rings are then folded against the opposite side of the post, as shown in Fig. 5.

The essential feature of the invention consists in the manner of uniting each ring with the post, whereby there is a pivotal connection formed between the post and each ring, which enables the rings to be all moved to horizontal and vertical positions.

The supporter, as shown in Fig. 2, is ready to be placed in a serviceable position. The post is driven in the ground adjacent to the plants and the rings are then lowered to inclose the plants.

Having described my invention, I claim—

1. As a new article of manufacture, a carnation-supporter, comprising a post or stake, a series of rings each of which has its ends projected through the openings in said post

or stake out of alinement with each other, the ends thus projected through said openings being turned at right angles in opposite directions to act as supports to the rings when
5 in horizontal positions, substantially as specified.

2. In a carnation-supporter, the combination of a post or stake having several pairs of horizontal openings, a series of rings each
10 having its ends projected through a pair of said openings and overlapping each other, the said ends so projected through the post being bent in opposite directions so as to pro-

vide a pivotal connection for each ring with said post, whereby the rings may be moved 15 to positions parallel with the post, and whereby the said bent ends of said rings form stops to support said rings in horizontal positions, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature 20 in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM W. THOMAS.

Witnesses:

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