

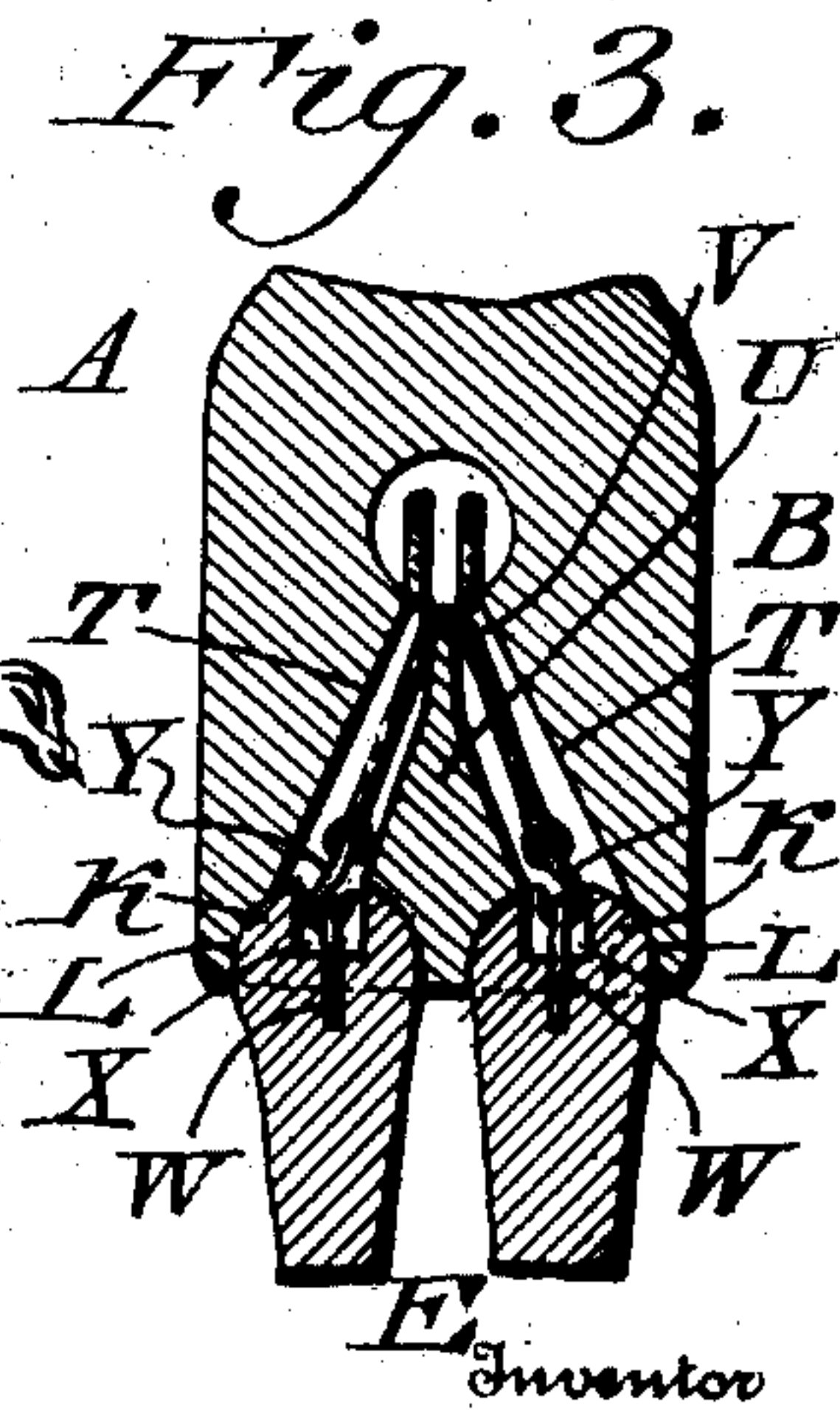
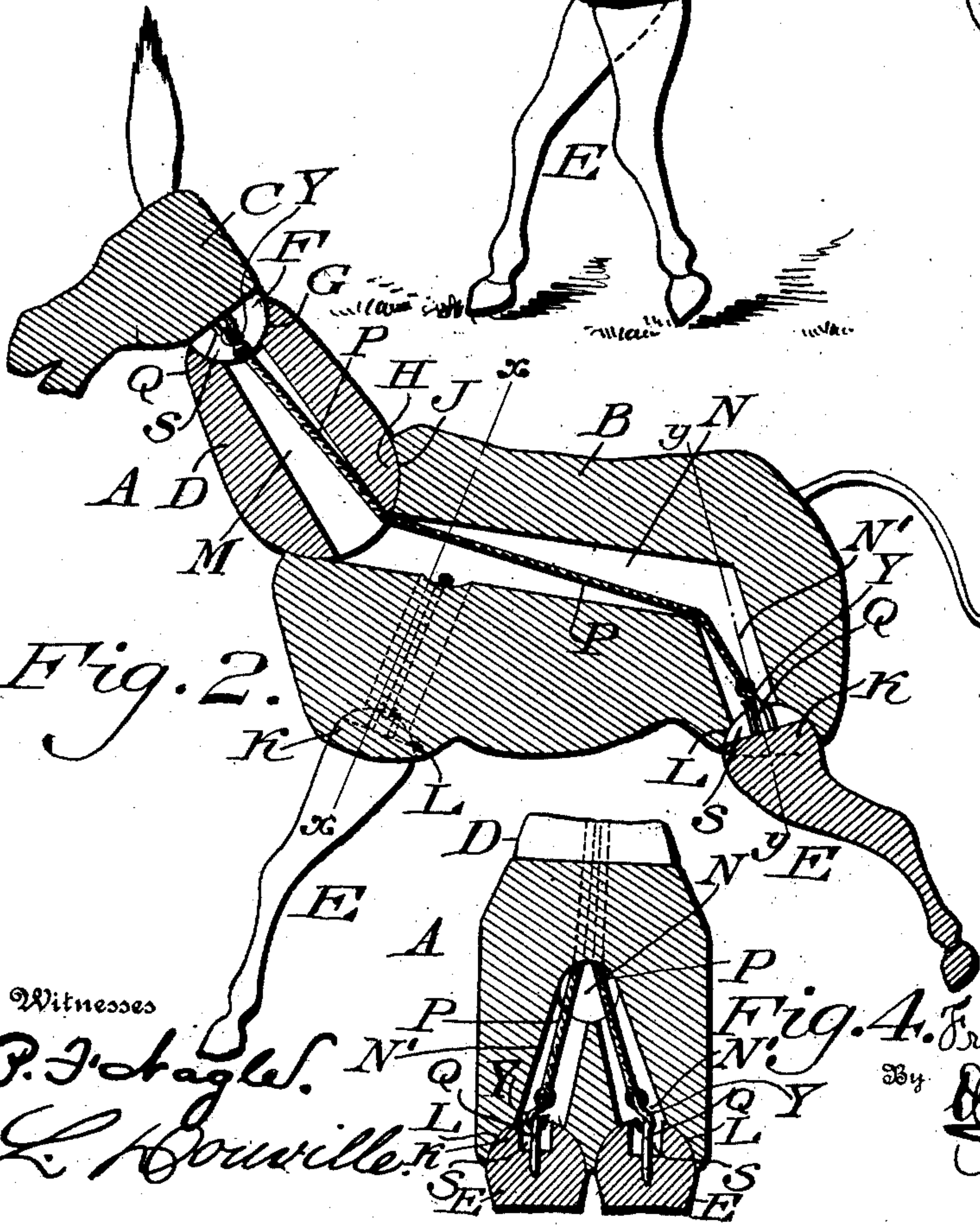
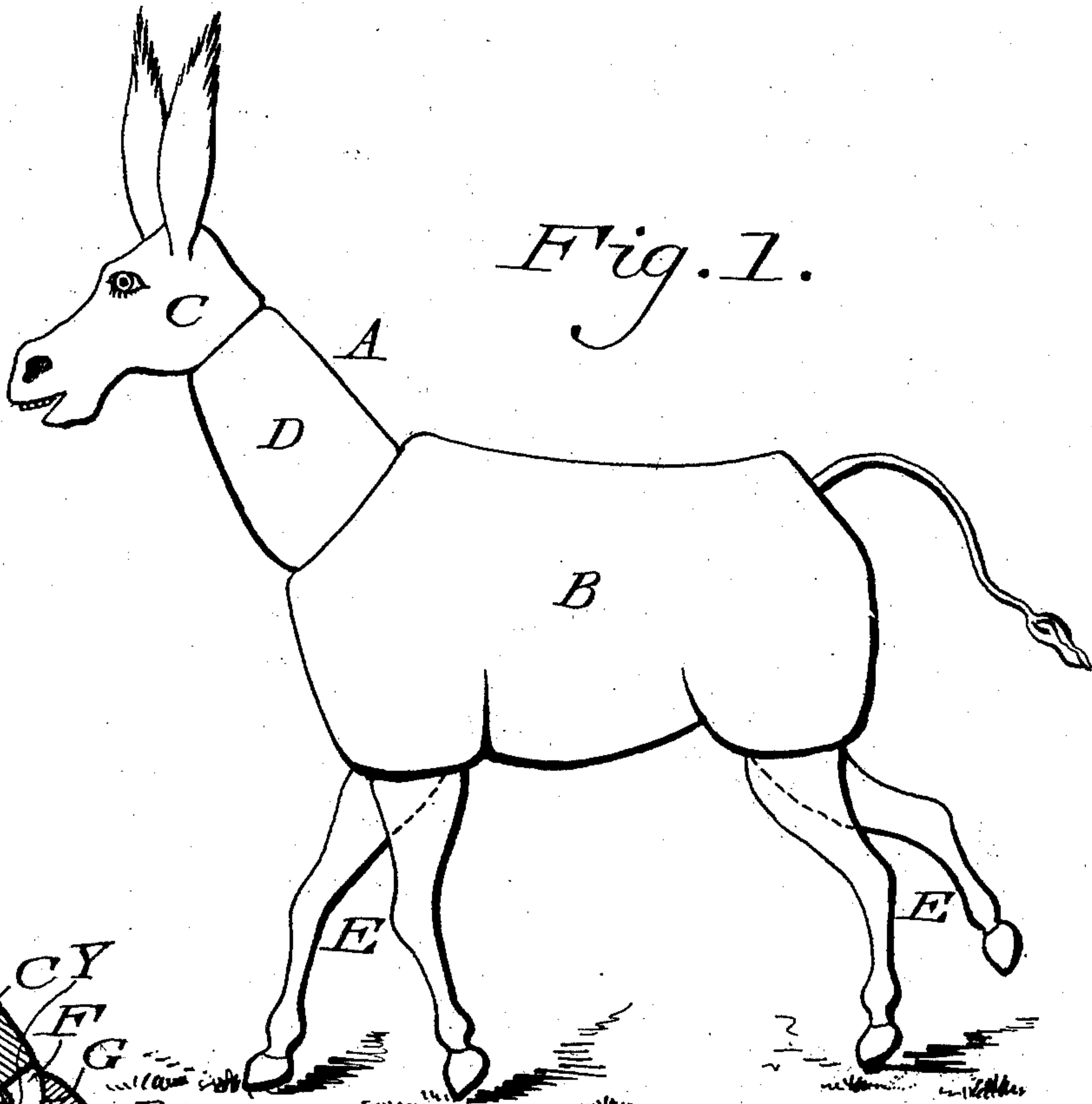
No. 715,106.

F. K. T. MEINECKE.
TOY FIGURE.

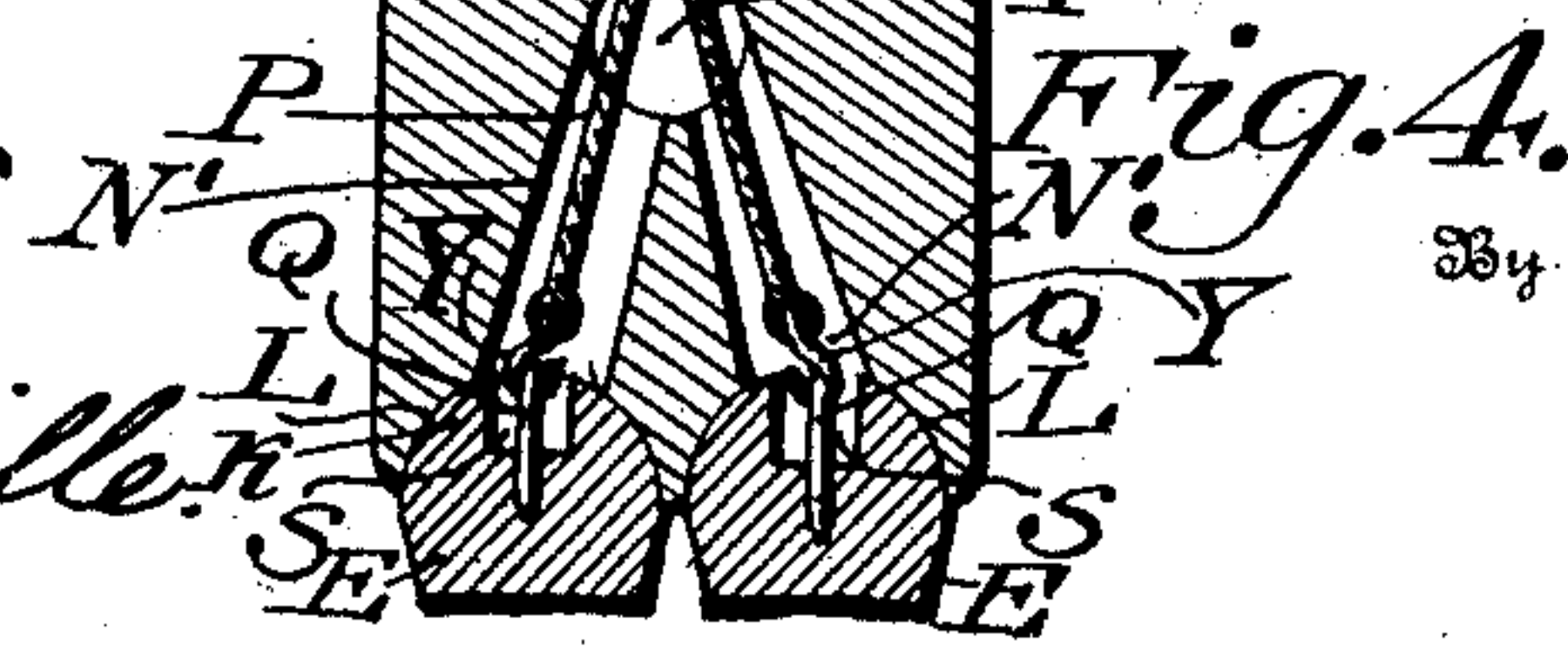
Patented Dec. 2, 1902.

(Application filed Feb. 5, 1902.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses
P. J. Hagel.
L. Bouville.



Fritz J. T. Meinecke.
By Weber, Schein & Thibault
Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRITZ K. T. MEINECKE, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR TO
ALBERT SCHOENHUT, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

TOY FIGURE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 715,106, dated December 2, 1902.

Application filed February 5, 1902. Serial No. 92,701. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRITZ K. T. MEINECKE, a subject of the Emperor of Germany, residing in the city and county of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania, have invented new and useful Improvements in Toy Figures, of which the following is a specification.

My invention consists of a toy figure, such as an animal, formed of a body and articulate parts comprising the head, neck, and limbs and ball-and-socket joints, which permit said parts to be placed in various positions, and means for holding them as placed, the construction of the parts being hereinafter described and the novel features pointed out in the claims.

Figure 1 represents a side elevation of a toy animal embodying my invention. Fig. 2 represents a longitudinal section thereof. Figs. 3 and 4 represent transverse sections thereof, respectively, on lines *xx* and *yy* of Fig. 2.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the figures.

Referring to the drawings, A designates a toy animal, which in the present case is in the form of a donkey, to which, however, I do not limit myself, and which is composed of the body B, head C, neck D, and legs E.

On the head is the hemispherical piece F, the same freely entering a similarly-shaped opening G in the upper end of the neck, forming a ball-and-socket joint for said parts. On the lower end of said neck is the hemispherical piece H, the same freely entering a similarly-shaped opening J in the forward end of the body B, forming a ball-and-socket joint for said parts.

On the upper ends of the legs E are the hemispherical pieces K, the same freely entering similarly-shaped openings L in the under side of the body B, forming ball-and-socket joints for said parts.

In the neck D is the longitudinally-extending recess M, and in the body B is the longitudinally-extending recess N, a portion of the latter extending downwardly, as at N'.

Connecting with the head C and rear legs E are the elastic cords or pieces P, the same passing through the recesses M, N, and N' of the neck and body of the animal, it being noticed

that the means for connecting said cords with the respective parts are in the present case the eyes or staples Q, which are seated in recesses between ears S on the piece F of the head and pieces K of the rear legs, and so prevented from coming in contact with the walls of the adjacent sockets and loosening or being broken off.

In the forward portion of the body over the front legs E are recesses T, which converge upwardly and join the recess N in the body B, said recesses having between them the vertical partition or wall U, over which the elastic cord or piece V passes, the latter extending through the recesses T to the tops of the front legs E, to which they are connected by fastenings, in the present case consisting of staples W, which are seated in recesses between ears X on the hemispherical pieces K of the legs, whereby said staples are prevented from coming in contact with the walls of the adjacent sockets, and thus loosening or being broken off.

It will be seen that the recess M in the neck D is deflected upwardly from the recess N in the body. This causes an abutment of a portion of the elastic cord against the upper front wall of said recess N and a deflection of said cord from the base of the neck, so as to firmly hold the head and neck to the position in which they may be placed without shifting said cord, while generally preserving the elasticity of the entire length of the same. It will also be seen that the recess N' in the rear of the body is deflected downwardly from the recess N. This forms an abutment on the lower front wall of said recess N' for the elastic cord, so that the hind legs E may be moved without actually disturbing the remainder of the cord in front of the said abutment, while the elasticity of the full length of the cord is preserved.

The cord V is doubled over the wall U, which latter forms an abutment for said cord at the top bend thereof, so that one leg may be moved without necessarily disturbing the other, while the elasticity of said cord V is preserved.

It will be seen that owing to the ball-and-socket joints and the articulations of the head, neck, and legs the latter-named parts may be turned in various directions, and thus assume

different positions, and owing to the tension of the different elastic pieces or cords the parts will retain the positions in which they are placed, it being evident that interesting and amusing changes may be made in the angles of the head, neck, body, and legs independent of each other by properly manipulating said parts, when the elastic pieces or cords control the latter and render the ball-and-socket joints immovable until again overcome by the force necessary to move the parts in question.

It will be seen that, excepting the openings or bores M N N' T, made in the neck and body of the toy, said neck and body are each solid and so possess strength and durability.

In order to conveniently connect the last cords with the respective parts, I employ the hooks Y, which are attached to said cords and the staples of said parts. In the present case said cords are each made of a single or continuous piece of material, which admits of greater lengths, and consequently of increased play and resiliency, so that while the movable parts are permitted to yield comparatively easy they firmly hold said parts in their seats or sockets.

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

1. A toy figure consisting of a body, articulated head, neck and legs, said head and legs having recesses in their inner ends, ball-and-socket joints for said head, neck, body and

legs, an elastic piece passing through said neck and body and extending from said head to the rear legs, an elastic piece extending from the front legs into said body and hook-and-eye connections for said elastic pieces, the same being seated in the aforesaid recesses.

2. In a toy figure, a body, an articulated neck thereon, an articulated head on said neck, articulated legs on said body, said neck and body each having a bore therein, the bores being angular to each other, an abutment on the lower side of said bore at the rear portion thereof, and an elastic connection in said bores for said head, neck, body and the hind legs, said connection being deflected in opposite directions by said abutment, the bore of said neck and a bearing of said connection on the upper side of the bore of the body adjacent to the base of the neck.

3. In a toy figure, a body having a longitudinally-extending bore therein, bores over the front legs converging from said legs to said longitudinally-extending bore, a wall between said converging bore and an elastic connection for said legs with said body extending from one leg to the other and being seated on the apex of said wall at the longitudinally-extending bore.

FRITZ K. T. MEINECKE.

Witnesses:

JOHN A. WIEDERSHEIM,
C. D. McVAY.