

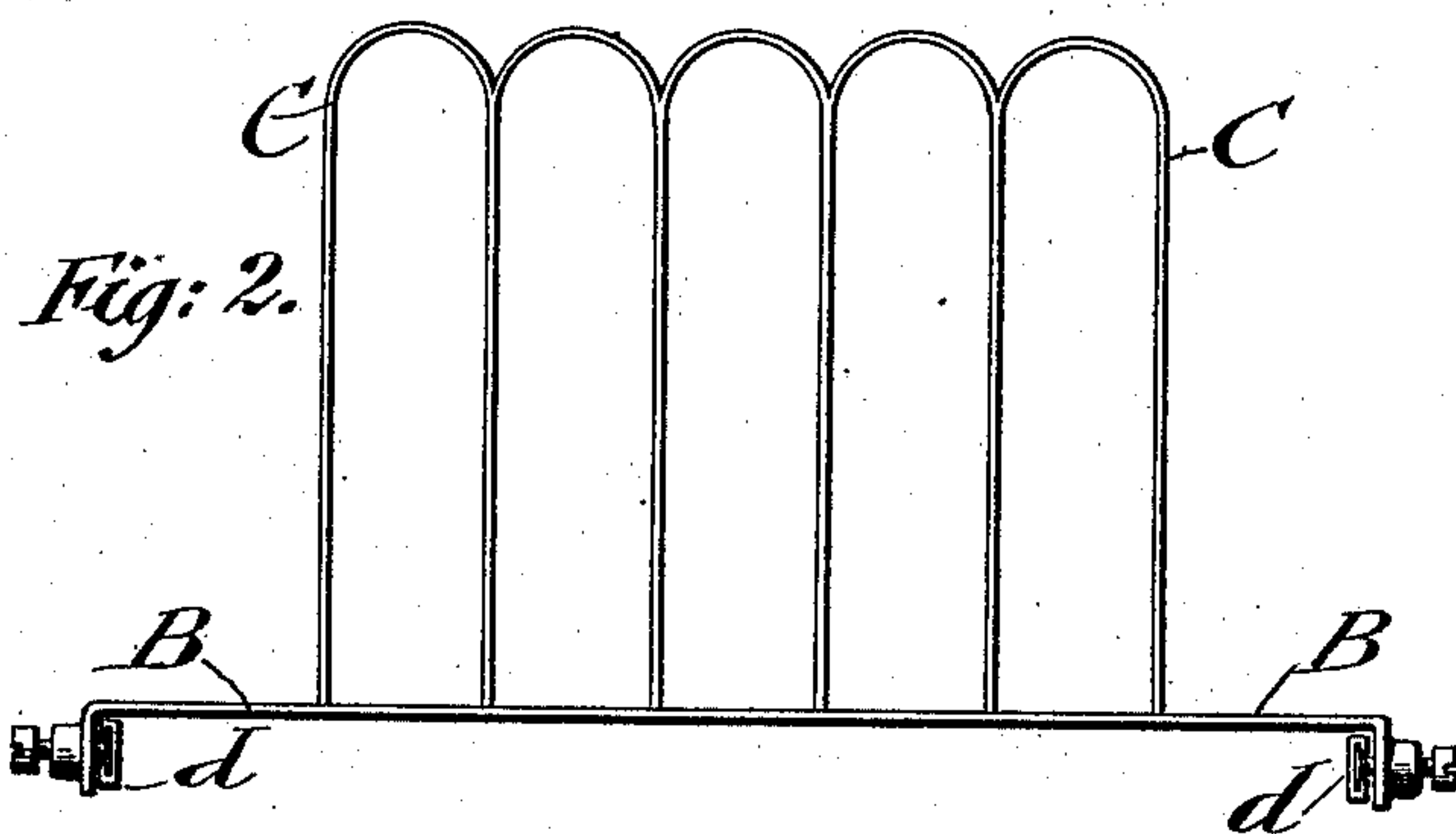
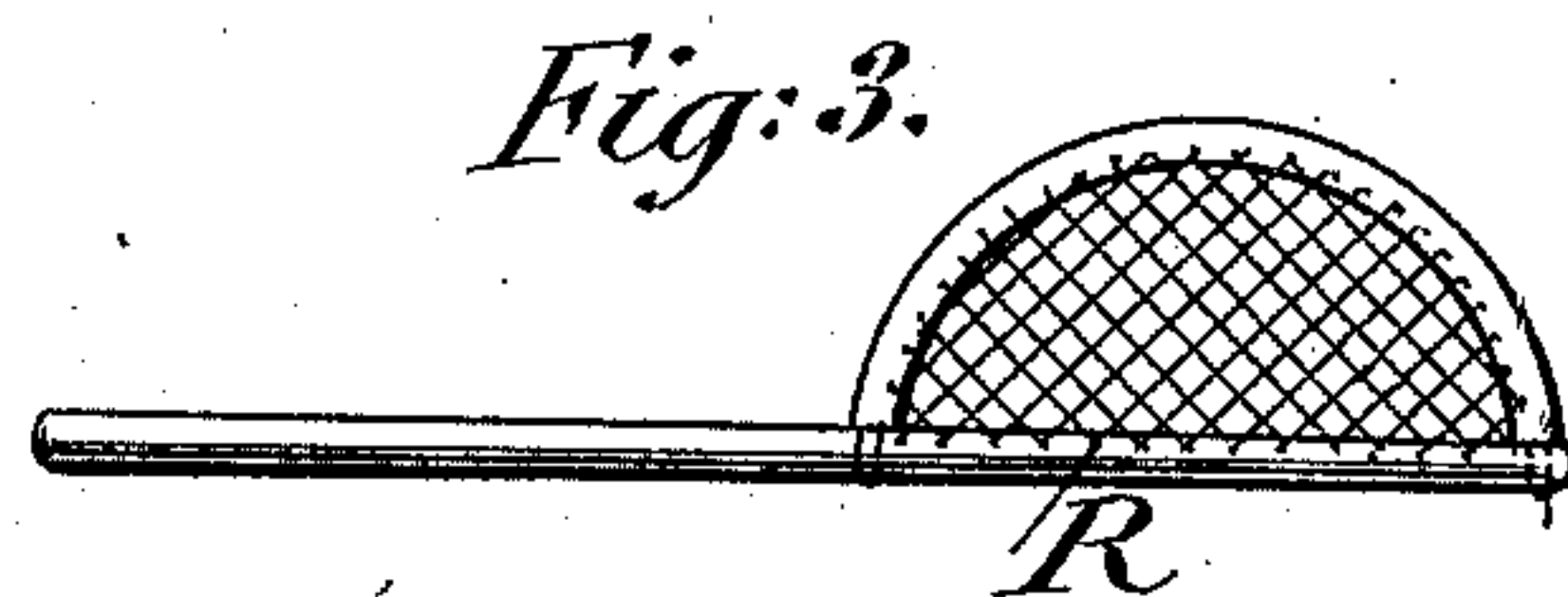
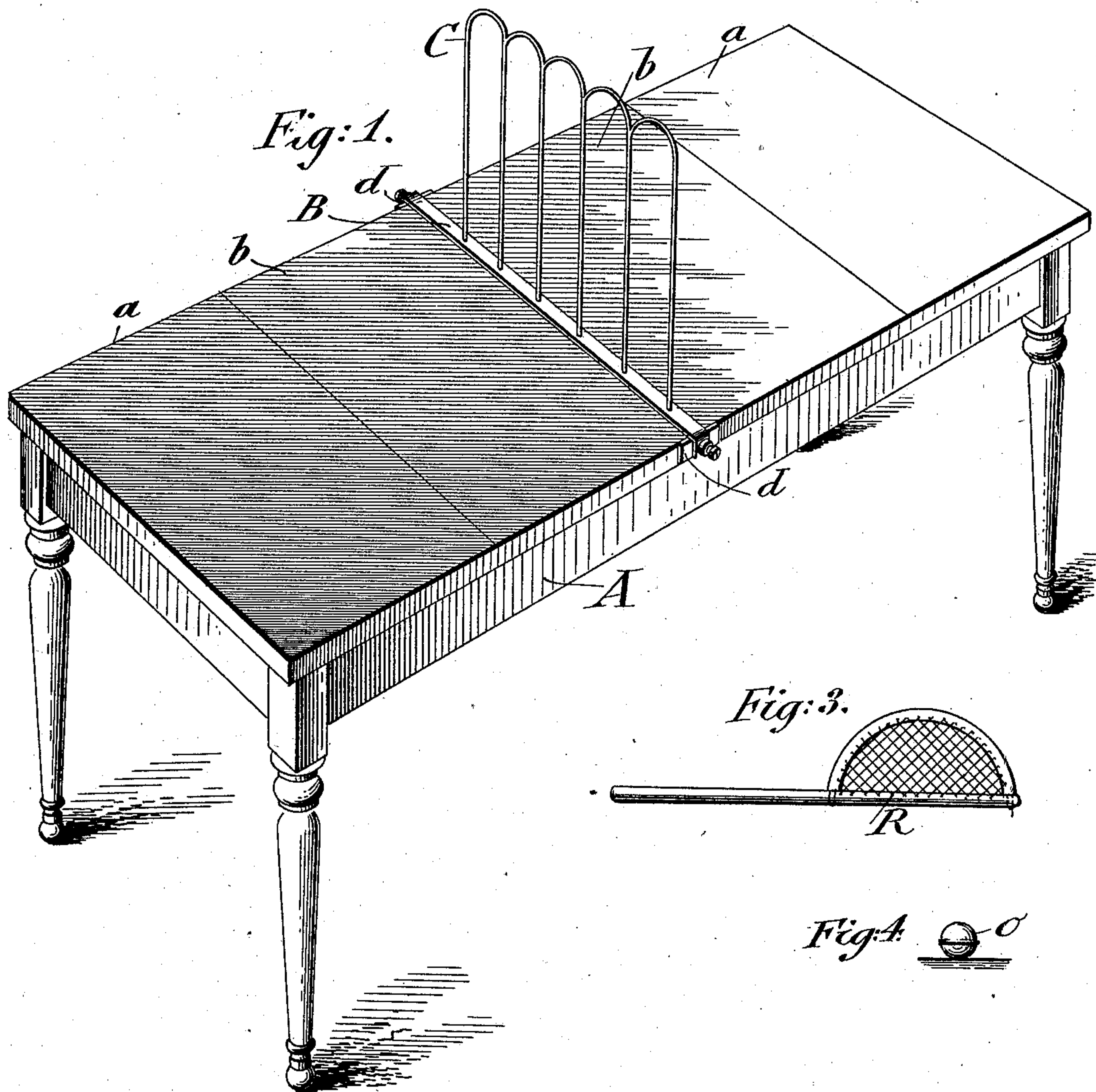
No. 717,366.

Patented Dec. 30, 1902.

E. S. ELLIS.  
GAME APPARATUS.

(Application filed Sept. 19, 1902.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## GAME APPARATUS.

**SPECIFICATION** forming part of **Letters Patent No. 717,366**, dated **December 30, 1902**.

Application filed September 19, 1902. Serial No. 124,011. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, EDWARD S. ELLIS, a citizen of the United States, residing in Montclair, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Game Apparatus, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improved game apparatus which is in the nature of the well-known game of ping-pong, in which a table, balls, and rackets are employed, but which obviates the monotony of the game of ping-pong by supplying a greater variety of "runs," so as to be more entertaining and attractive; and the invention consists of a game apparatus which comprises a rectangular table divided into fields, contiguous arches formed of thin metal and extending transversely of the table, a base-plate supporting said arches, said base-plate being turned down at its ends, clamping-screws in said ends for clamping the base-plate on the table, and cushion devices on said screws, as will be fully described hereinafter and finally pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved game apparatus. Fig. 2 is a side view of the detachable arches, and Figs. 3 and 4 are respectively a side view of the racket and of the ball used in my improved game.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

Referring to the drawings, A represents a table, which forms the support of my improved game apparatus. This table may be an ordinary plain table or a specially-constructed folding table, such as is used in the well-known game of ping-pong. The table is divided by transverse lines into four fields. At the transverse center line of the table is arranged a transverse metallic band or base-plate B, which is bent in downward direction at the ends and attached by means of clamping-screws to the table A. Between the clamping-screws and the edge of the table are preferably interposed two suitable cushioning devices *d*, so as to prevent the clamping-screws from marring the edge of the table. On the metallic band B are supported a plurality of arches C, of which five are shown in the drawings, said arches being

about six inches in width and fifteen inches high. They are preferably formed either of wire or of sheet metal, so as to offer the least possible obstruction or impediment to the passage of the ball.

The playing is accomplished by striking a regulation-ball O with a racket, preferably as shown in Fig. 3. The playing of the balls has to be done in the end panels *a a*, and they should never be played from the intermediate fields *b b*, thus imposing a restriction. The ordinary ping-pong balls can be used with my improved game apparatus, the object of which is to play the balls successively through the spaces inclosed by the arches.

The game is played by two persons according to the following rules: A complete game consists of a single run, which consists in bounding the ball successively through the plurality of arches, beginning from the left toward the right, in regular succession without break. A grand run consists in sending the ball twice through each arch in the same manner, and a royal run consists in bounding the ball three times in regular succession without break through the arches. Either one of the players is allowed to play from any part of the spaces or fields *a a*.

When the player who opens the game—*i. e.*, the "server" or "opener"—has passed the ball through the five arches in the regular order, so as to complete a single run, he is entitled to again serve before beginning the second or grand run and similarly before beginning the third or royal run. The opponent has to return the ball to the player who opens the game. The opponent has the right to do so through any one of the arches. Whenever the opener fails to drive the ball through the proper arch, the ball passes to his opponent, who is entitled to score in his favor all the points made by the opener. When the opponent makes a similar failure, the opener is entitled to count all the points already made by the two together to himself. Change of ball takes place whenever either player makes a break, and in every instance when the player takes the ball he is entitled to all the scores that the two together have previously made. The player who last passes the ball properly the required number of times

through the proper arches wins. The game may be considered complete at the end of a single run, a grand run, or, when the players are sufficiently expert, at the end of a royal  
5 run. The opener of the game is determined by lot at the beginning, after which the opening is arranged alternately.

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

In a game apparatus, the combination, with a flat-top rectangular table divided into fields, of contiguous arches formed of thin metal

and extending transversely of the table, a base-plate supporting said arches, said base- 15 plate being turned down at its ends, clamping-screws in said ends for clamping the base-plate on the table, and cushion devices on said screws, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as 20 my invention I have signed my name in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

EDWARD S. ELLIS.

Witnesses:

RALPH S. NORTON,  
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