

No. 749,779.

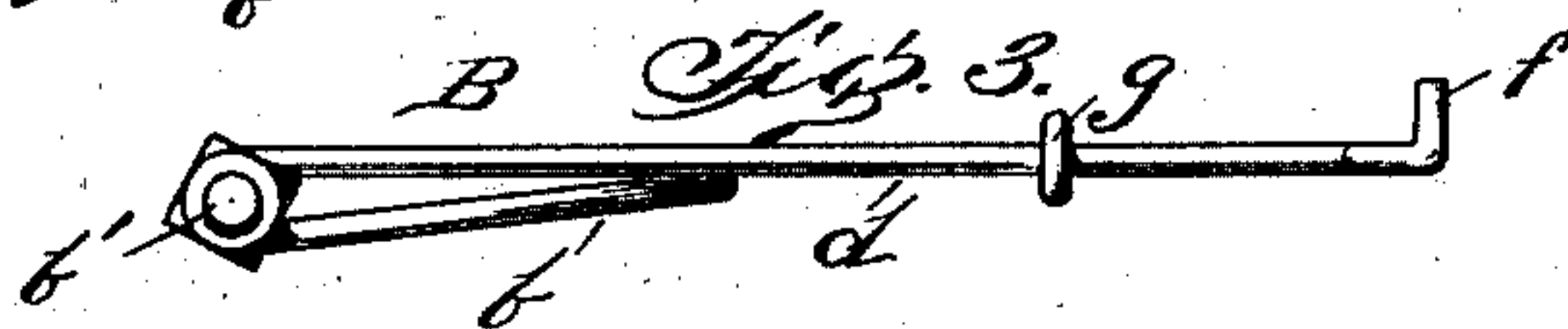
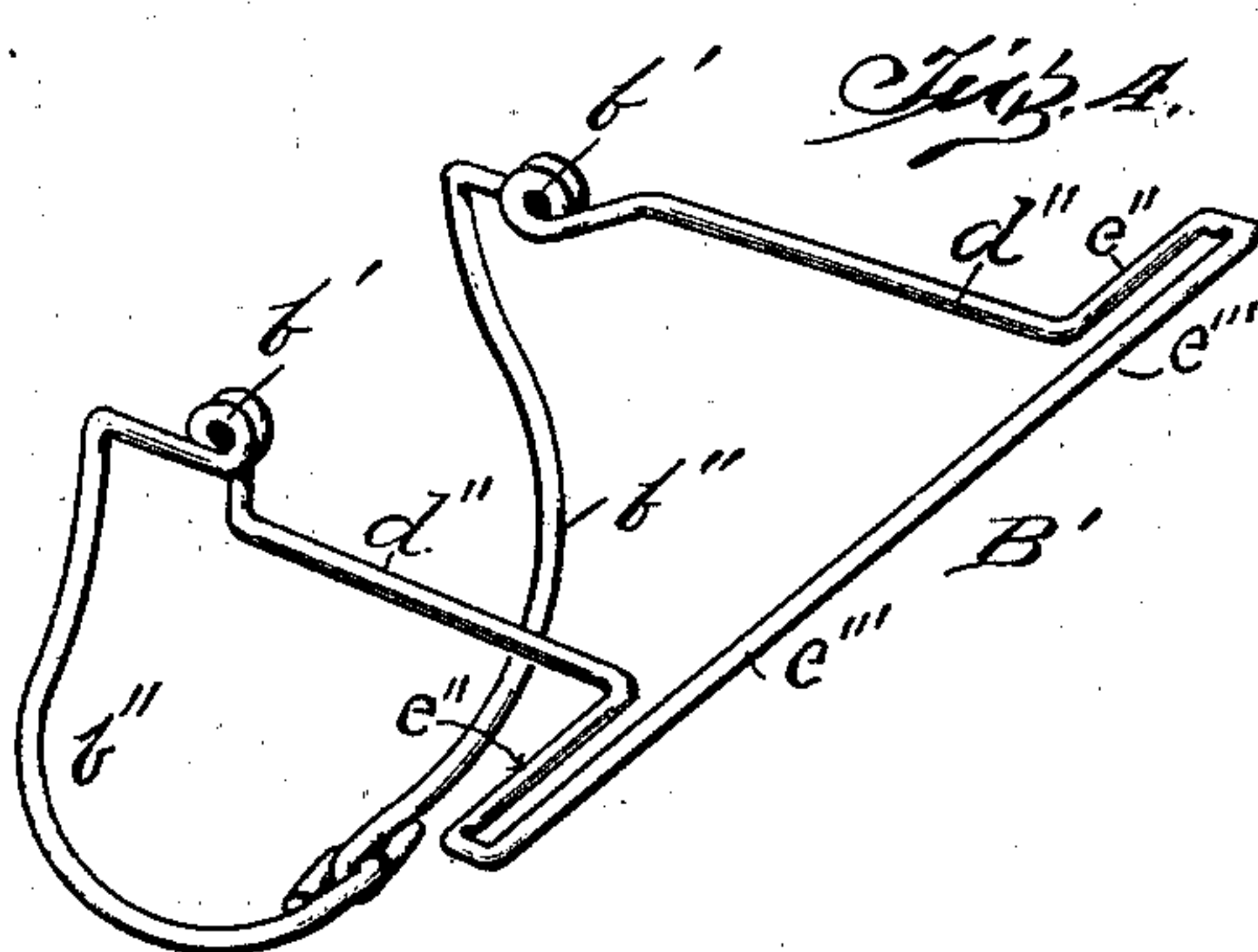
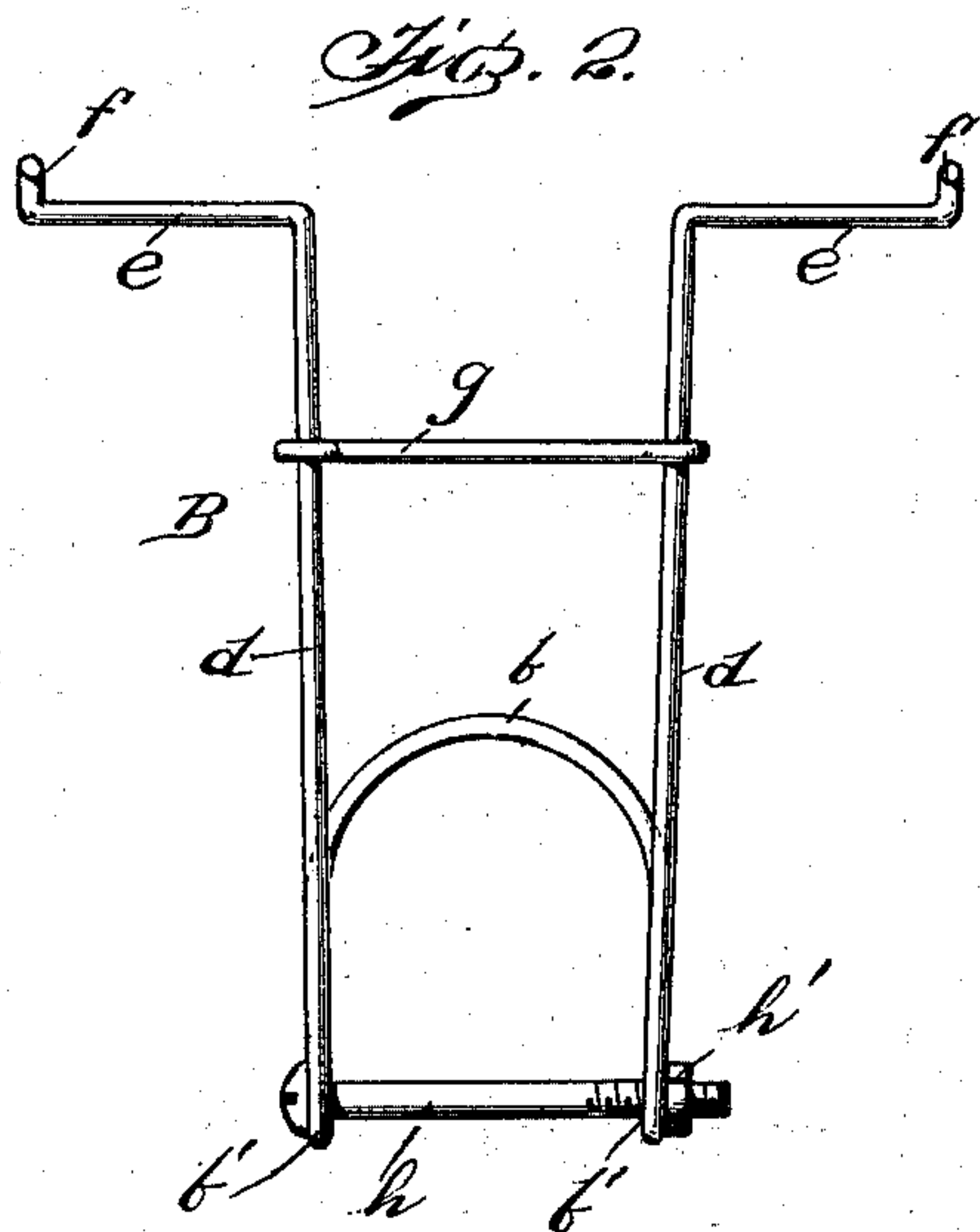
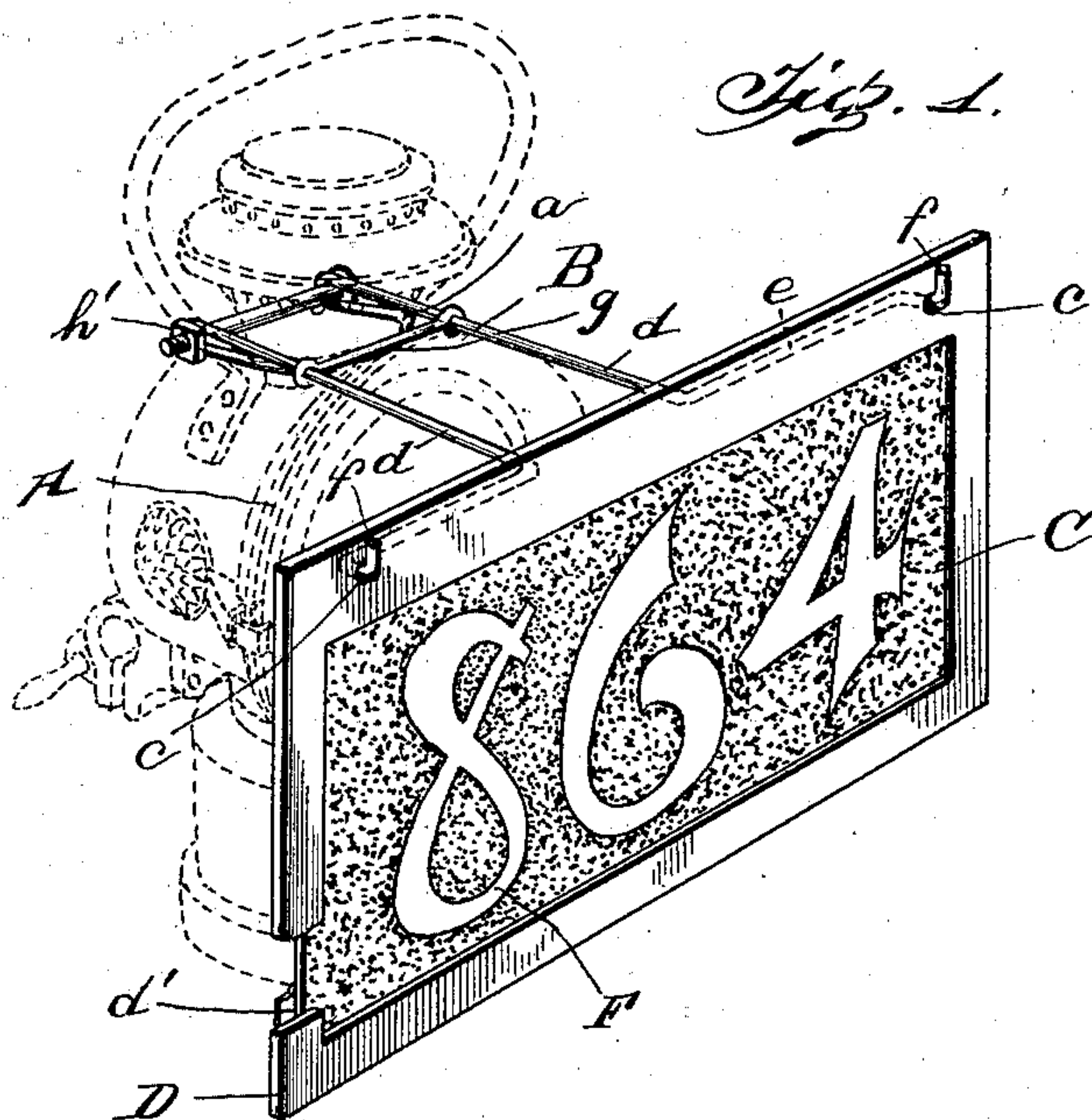
PATENTED JAN. 19, 1904.

T. H. EDMONDS.

ILLUMINATED SIGN OR NUMBER PLATE FOR AUTOMOBILE LAMPS.

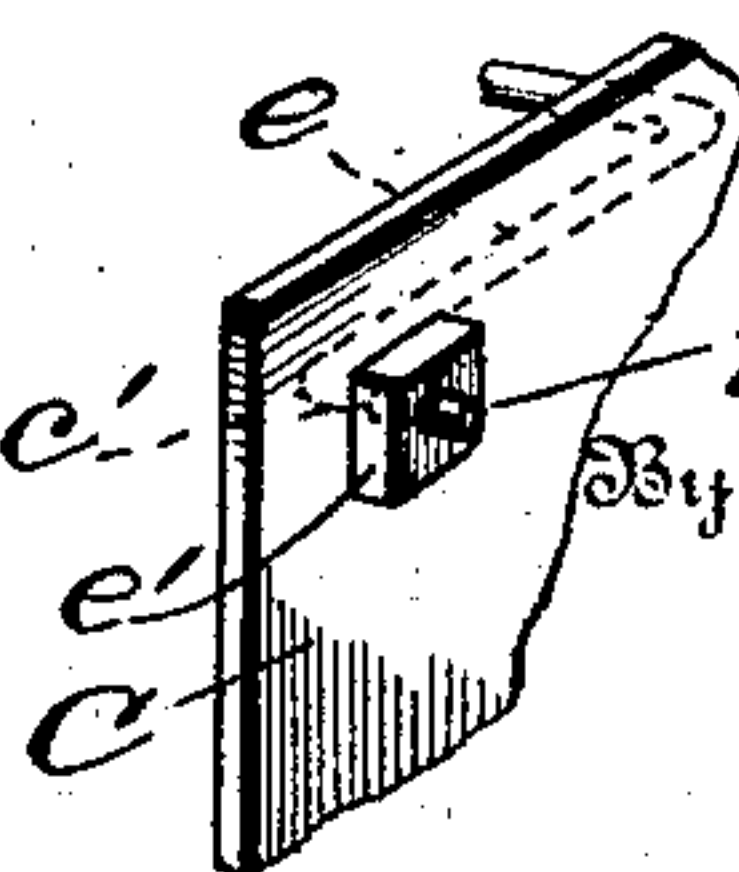
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 23, 1903.

NO MODEL.



Witnesses

Le Grapard Handy
William T. Jones.



Thomas H. Edmonds
E. B. Clark

Inventor

Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS H. EDMONDS, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

ILLUMINATED SIGN OR NUMBER PLATE FOR AUTOMOBILE-LAMPS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 749,779, dated January 19, 1904.

Application filed October 23, 1903. Serial No. 178,236. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS H. EDMONDS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented new and useful Improvements in Illuminated Sign or Number Plates for Automobile-Lamps, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a sign or number plate and an attaching and holding device adapted to be applied to lanterns or lamps for automobiles, carriages, bicycles, or other vehicles.

The object of my invention is to provide a simple and convenient device which may be readily attached to or detached from a lantern of a vehicle for displaying a number or a name by means of a white or red light.

In carrying out my invention I place the letters or numerals of the sign upon a plate of mica, glass, celluloid, or other transparent or translucent material, or I may cut the numerals or letters in a metal plate which will permit the light to shine through. I also use a sign or number plate having a central opening for the light to shine through and with the numbers or letters on the plate adjacent to the opening. I also make the sign or number plate with an inner reflecting-surface.

The matter constituting my invention herein will be set forth in the claims.

The details of construction of my improved device are illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a lamp or lantern with a sign or number plate and my attaching device applied thereto. Fig. 2 represents a top plan view of one form of my attaching and holding device detached from the lantern. Fig. 3 represents a side view thereof. Fig. 4 represents a perspective view of a modification of the attaching and holding device. Fig. 5 represents a detail view showing a slight modification.

To the lantern A is secured the attaching and holding device B for supporting the sign or number plate C in front of the lantern, as shown in Fig. 1. The attaching and holding device B is preferably made of a suitable length of wire which is bent centrally to form

the yoke *b*, which is to embrace the neck *a* of the lantern, and the two side wires *d d* are bent backward to form the two eyes *b'* at the angles or rear end of the yoke. The two side wires *d d* are folded over the sides of the yoke and are extended forward to form the supporting-arms for the sign or number plate. At their forward ends the side wires *d d* are bent at right angles outward to form the laterally-extending arms *e e*, and the extreme outer ends of said arms are bent upward to form the hooks *f f*, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The hooks *f* are for the purpose of engaging with holes *c*, either in the frame or directly in the number-plate C. The outer ends of the arms instead of being bent upward to form the hooks *f* may be bent outward to form the projections *f'*, as shown in Fig. 5, which projections may be screw-threaded for receiving a holding-nut *e'*. To the side wires *d* is applied the cross-brace *g*, which may be a wire bent at its ends around the wires *d*. When the attaching and holding device B is applied to the lantern, the curved yoke *b* will embrace or partly encircle the neck *a* of the lantern, and then a screw-bolt *h* is inserted through the eyes *b'* and a nut *h'* screwed onto the threaded end, as shown in Fig. 2.

The side wires *d* of the device will rest upon the top of the door-frame or rim of the lantern and project forward in front of the door a sufficient distance for supporting in front of the light the number-plate C. The number-plate C may be slid in the grooved guideways *d'* in the frame D, which is provided at its top with holes *c*, with which are engaged the hooks *f*, as shown in Fig. 1. Holes *c'* may be made directly in the number-plate C for engagement with the hooks *f* or with the outwardly-bent and screw-threaded end *f'* of the arms *e*.

The number-plate C may be made of glass, mica, celluloid, or other transparent or translucent material and painted on one surface, so as to leave the numerals F plain and clear for transmitting the light of the lamp. In this case the paint or other coating will be opaque. In case a metal number-plate C is used the numbers may be cut in the metal, the material being cut out to represent the numbers or letters and permit the light to shine through.

The letters or numbers may be of red glass or other material which will show a red light.

In the modified construction of my attaching and holding device B', Fig. 4, an enlarged yoke *b''* is provided and so arranged as to partly encircle the body of the lantern just behind the door-frame, the wire being coiled at the ends or angles of the yoke to form the eyes *b'* and then extended on both sides approximately at right angles to the yoke to form the supporting-arms *d''*, which are bent at their outer ends to form the laterally-extending arms *e''*, at the outer ends of which the wire is bent to form the engaging cross-bar *e'''*. In this construction the engaging hooks instead of being applied to the outer ends of the supporting-arms will be applied to the number-plate or its frame and caused to engage with the cross-bar *e'''*. It is within the spirit and scope of my invention to apply engaging hooks either at the outer ends of the supporting-arms of the holding device or to the number-plate or its frame. In either case my attaching and holding device serves to support the number-plate in front of the lamp, so that the numbers will be illuminated by the light. This modified construction of attaching and holding device is provided more particularly for lanterns or lamps which do not have a neck or chimney at the top. The yoke *b''* having been adjusted to the body of the lantern just behind the door-frame, the screw-bolt *h*, such as shown in Fig. 2, will be passed through the eyes *b'* at the top of the lantern-body and secured in place by a nut.

My attaching and holding device can be quickly applied to a lamp or lantern and secured in place by the screw-bolt *h* and nut *h'* and then the sign or number plate C hung upon the supporting-arms, as above described.

This device is very convenient for application to the lamps of automobiles, carriages, and other vehicles and is quite effective for displaying the number of the vehicle at night.

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

1. The combination with a lamp or lantern, of an attaching and holding device constructed with an embracing-yoke, having eyes at its outer ends, two outwardly-projecting arms having bent ends, and a sign or number plate having holes adapted to be engaged with said bent ends, substantially as described.

2. The combination with a lamp or lantern, of an attaching and holding device constructed with an embracing-yoke, having eyes at its outer ends, two outwardly-projecting arms having bent ends, a securing-bolt and nut in the eyes, and a sign or number plate having holes adapted to be engaged with said bent ends, substantially as described.

3. In a device for holding an illuminated sign or number plate for lamps, an attaching and holding device, consisting of a wire bent centrally to form an embracing-yoke, coiled or bent upon itself to form eyes at the angles of the yoke and recurved or folded on each side along the sides of the yoke to form supporting-arms, and said arms having their outer ends bent to engage with a sign or number plate, substantially as described.

4. The combination with a lamp or lantern, of an attaching and holding device constructed with a yoke adapted to embrace part of the lantern and having eyes for receiving a securing-bolt, two arms projecting outward beyond the eyes and having means at their outer ends for engaging with and supporting a sign or number plate, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

THOS. H. EDMONDS.

Witnesses:

E. B. CLARK,
WILLARD H. MYERS.