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PATENTED JAN. 2, 1906.

I. N. PHIPPS.

TOY.

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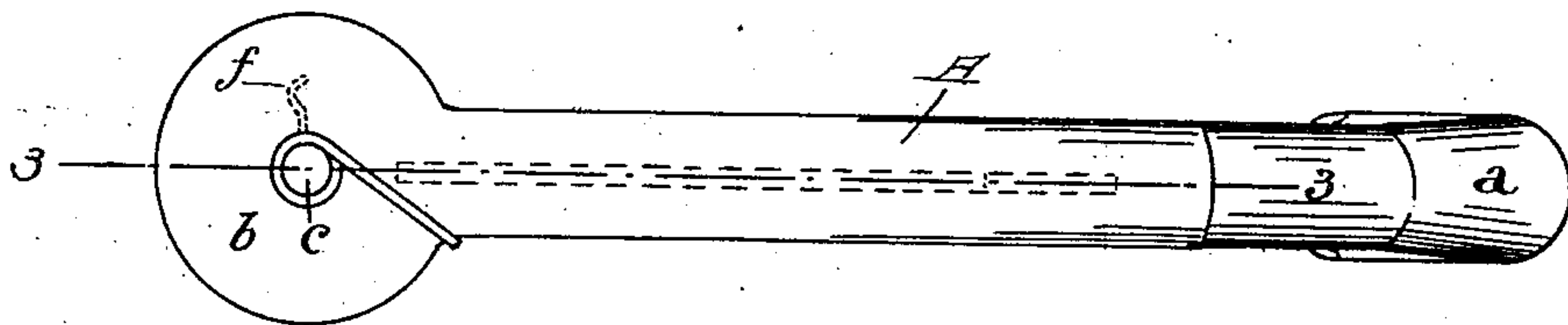


Fig. 1.

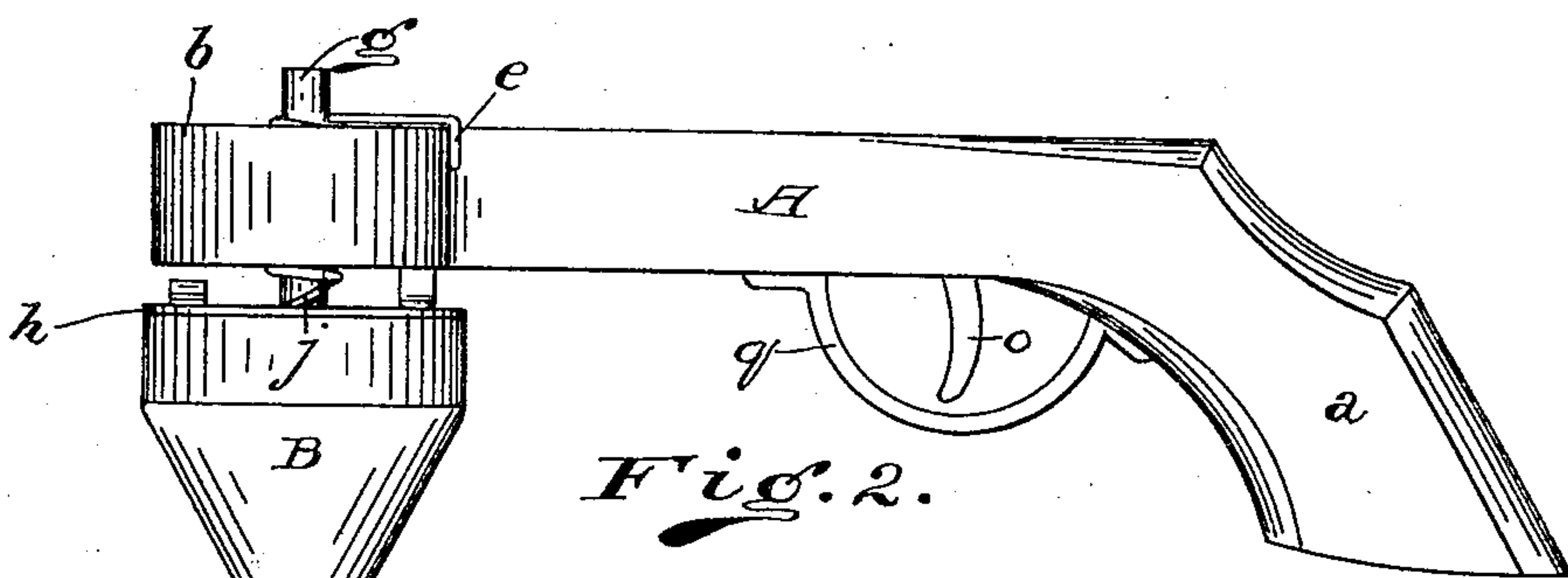


Fig. 2.

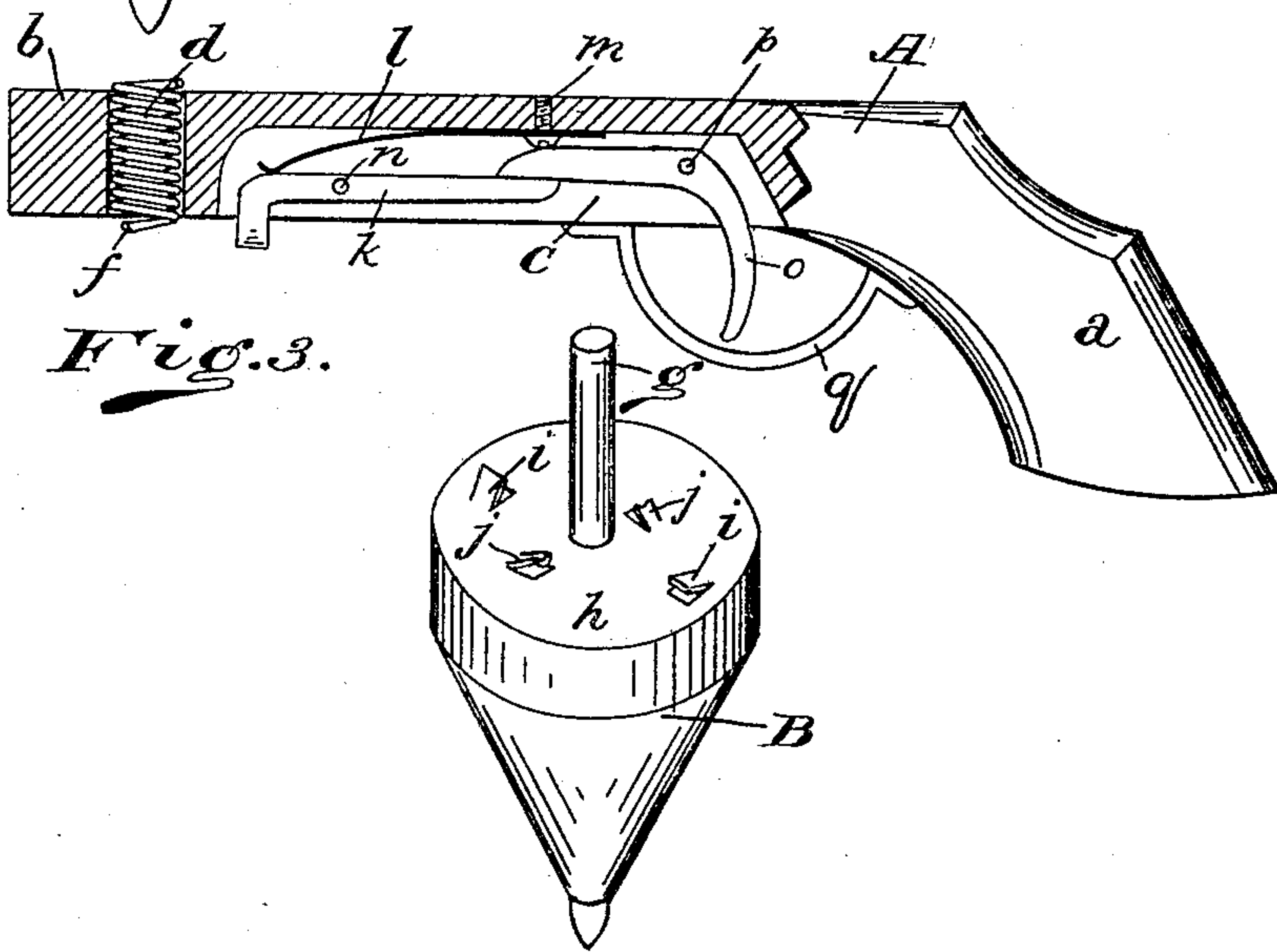
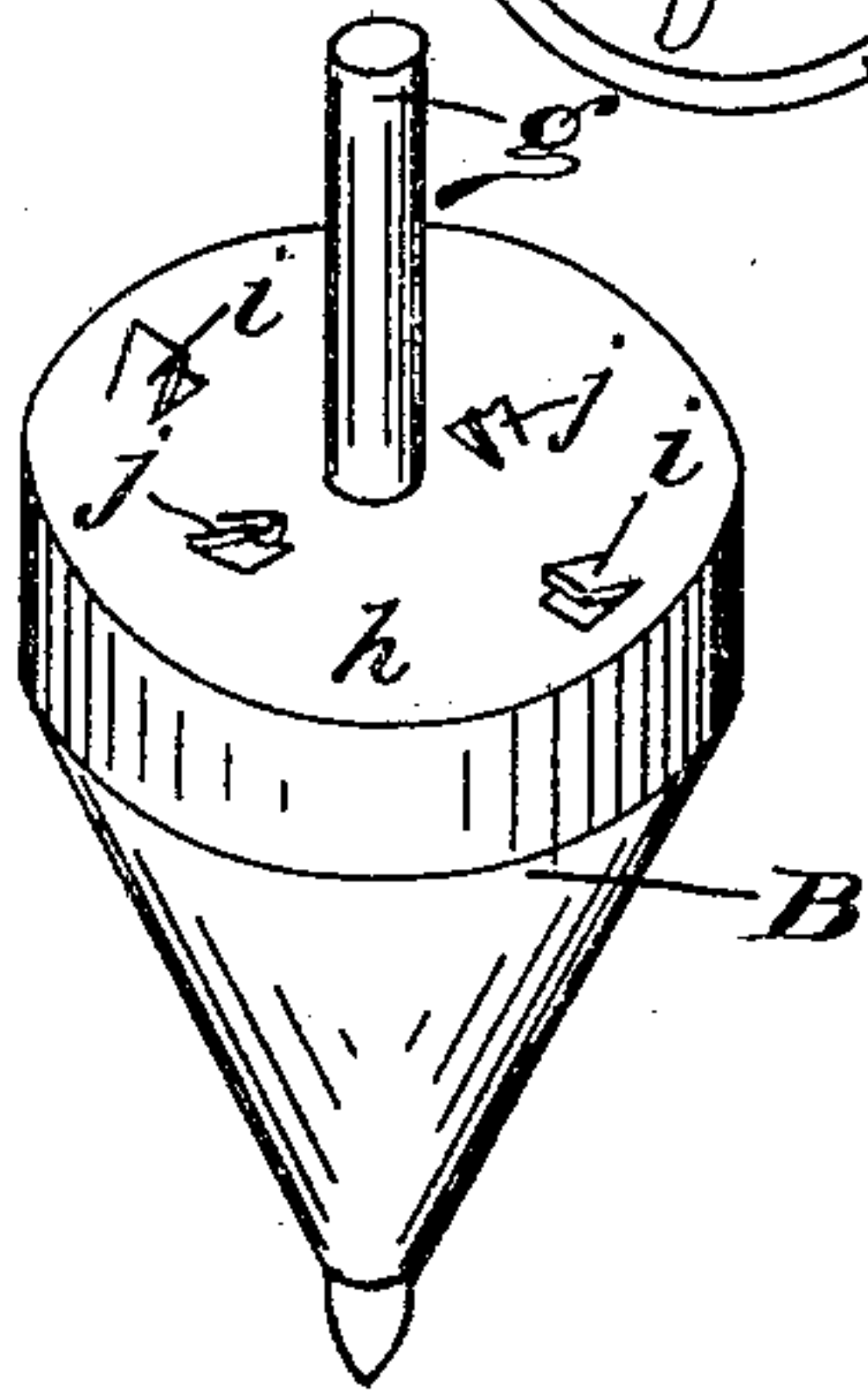


Fig. 3.



Witnesses Fig. 4.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ISAAC NEWTON PHIPPS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Mount Sterling, in the county of Montgomery and State of Kentucky, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Toys, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of my specification.

My invention relates to a toy in the nature of a top and the mechanism for spinning the same, the object of my invention being to produce a toy which can be very readily manipulated by any one and does away with the usual string or method heretofore employed, requiring a certain amount of ability on the part of the manipulator to operate. With my improved toy any child may be able to spin the top without possessing any adroitness, as was required with the tops heretofore in use.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a top plan view of my improved toy. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same with the top inserted in place. Fig. 3 is a partial longitudinal sectional view taken on the line 3 3 of Fig. 1; and Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the top, showing the lugs or studs back of which the spring takes and the protrusions or lugs engaged by the releasing mechanism.

Like letters of reference indicate identical parts in the respective figures.

A is a pistol-shaped member, preferably constructed of wood, having the stock or handle *a*, while the barrel portion terminates in the round or disk-like end *b*, which is provided with an opening *c* therethrough. Inserted within said opening *c* is a spiral spring *d*, one end of which extends out over the top of the barrel portion and may either be provided with a bent end, as at *e*, to take over the side of the barrel or secured in any other suitable manner, and thus retain the spring in place. The spring extends on through the opening *c* to the lower side of the barrel, where its end is bent so as to form a small hook *f*.

The top B is provided with a spindle *g*, which is adapted to be inserted through the opening *c* in the barrel and inside of the spring *d*. The upper surface of the top B is preferably provided with a disk or sheet of metal *h*, which may be stamped so as to form the burs or studs *i i'* and *j j'*. The disk or sheet of metal *h* of course is securely fastened on

the top. It will be noticed that the burs or studs *i i'* are farther from the center than are the burs or studs *j j'*, and it being understood that the burs or studs *i i'* are of equal distance from the center and preferably diametrically opposite each other, while the burs or studs *j j'* are of equal distance from the center and preferably diametrically opposite each other. The corresponding burs are made to extend in opposite directions from each other, as can clearly be seen in Fig. 4.

When the spindle of the top has been inserted in the opening *c* in the barrel of the pistol-shaped member A, the hook *f* of the spring *d* will catch back of either the bur *j* or *j'*, depending upon which one happens to be nearest the hook when the top is turned after being inserted in place. After the hook *f* is fastened back of either one of the burs *j* or *j'* the top is given several twists or revolutions in the same direction and against the normal condition of the spring, whose upper end is fastened, as at *e*, to prevent its turning, thereby winding the spring and increasing its tension. After a sufficient amount of tension has been put upon the spring, and which can be accomplished by one or two complete revolutions of the top, the lever *k* is allowed to take back of either of the studs *i i'*, and thus hold the top and keep it from revolving by reason of the tension of the spring. It will be noticed that the burs *i* and *i'* extend in a direction opposite to that of the burs *j j'*. This lever *k* is pivotally mounted in the barrel of the member A in the cut-out portion C. The lever *k* is normally held in the position shown in Fig. 3 by the spring *l*, which is secured to the member A at the point *m* and bears on the lever *k* to one side of its pivotal point *n*. Bearing on the upper face of the lever *k* and pivotally mounted within the cut-out portion C of the member A is a trigger *o*, which is pivoted at the point *p*, and about the lower end of which may be placed a guard *q*, so as to resemble a pistol or revolver in this respect.

It will be seen that by pulling on the trigger *o* the lever *k* will be tilted against the action of the spring *l*, thereby releasing the lever *k* from either one of the burs *i* or *i'*, as the case may be, permitting the spring to resume its normal condition, which will result in giving the top B a spinning motion and permit it to drop out of the opening C in the barrel of the member A.

I have shown and described what I believe

to be the preferable construction of my improved toy; but it can be readily understood that instead of providing the top with the disk of sheet metal *h* in order to have the burs or studs *i i'* and *j j'* stamped therein the top itself might be provided with studs or protrusions constructed similarly to the ones shown and described, and instead of having the trigger or releasing mechanism inserted within a cut-out portion in the barrel of the member A the releasing mechanism might be mounted on the side thereof and the top might have notches cut in the top surface, into which the end of the lever *k* might take, thus doing away with the studs *i* and *i'*; but I do not believe such a construction to be as good as the one first described; but

What I wish to claim as my invention, and secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A toy comprising a member provided with an opening, a spring within said opening whose one end is secured to said member, the free end of said spring extending beneath said member, a second member provided with studs or protrusions adapted to engage the free end of said spring, a portion of said second member adapted to take into the opening in said first member and through the spring therein, mechanism secured to said first member, said second member provided with a second stud or protrusion adapted to engage with said mechanism on the first member, means secured to said first member and engaging with said mechanism whereby said mechanism is disengaged from the second stud or protrusion and the second member released and subjected to the action of the spring, substantially in the manner shown and for the purpose described.

2. A toy comprising a member having an opening therein, a coil-spring secured within said opening, the free end of said spring extending beneath said member, a second member, two sets of studs or protrusions on the upper face of said second member, the second member provided with a spindle portion adapted to take through the opening in the first member, the free end of the said spring adapted to engage with one set of said studs or protrusions, a spring-controlled lever secured to said first member and adapted to engage with the other set of said studs or protrusions, and a trigger adapted to engage with said spring-controlled lever whereby the latter may be disengaged from the stud or protrusion on said second member, and the latter subjected to the action of the spring, substantially as shown and for the purpose described.

3. A toy comprising a member having an opening therein, a coil-spring within said

opening, one end of which is secured to said member and its free end extending slightly outside of said opening, a second member provided with a stud or studs on its upper surface, said second member adapted to take into the opening in said first member and adapted to be engaged by the free end of said spring, spring-controlled mechanism on said first member and adapted to engage with said second member to retain it in the desired position, and means secured to said first member for releasing said spring-controlled mechanism from the second member, whereupon the latter is subjected to the action of the spring, substantially as shown and for the purpose described.

4. A toy comprising a member having an opening therethrough, a coil-spring within said opening, one end of which is secured to said member, while the other end terminates in a hook, a second member provided with studs or protrusions on its upper surface, said second member provided with a spindle adapted to take through the opening in said first member and inside of the coil-spring, said studs or protrusions being in line with the hook end of the said spring and adapted to engage therewith, mechanism pivotally secured to said first member and adapted to engage with said second member and retain it at the desired point, and means pivotally secured to said first member, and adapted to engage said mechanism to release the second member and subject it to the action of the spring, substantially in the manner and for the purpose described.

5. A toy comprising a member having an opening therethrough, a coil-spring within said opening, whose one end is secured to said member and the other terminating in a hook, a second member provided with studs or protrusions on its upper surface in line with the hook end of said spring, said second member also provided with a stud or studs at a different distance from the center from the first-mentioned stud or studs, a spring-controlled mechanism pivotally secured to said first member and adapted to engage with the last-mentioned stud or studs, and means secured to said first member and adapted to engage with said mechanism to release it from engagement with the stud or studs whereupon the second member is subjected to the action of the spring, substantially as shown and in the manner described.

ISAAC NEWTON PHIPPS.

Witnesses:

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JOSEPH R. ROHRER.