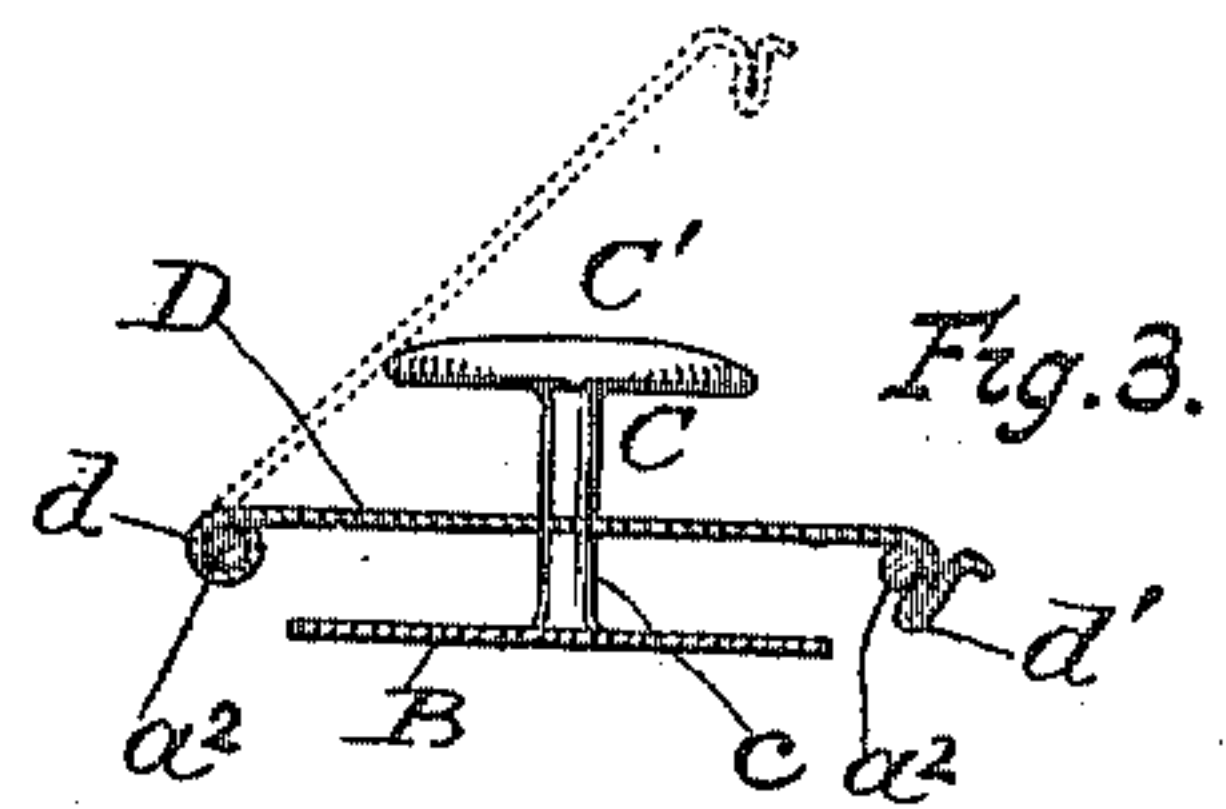
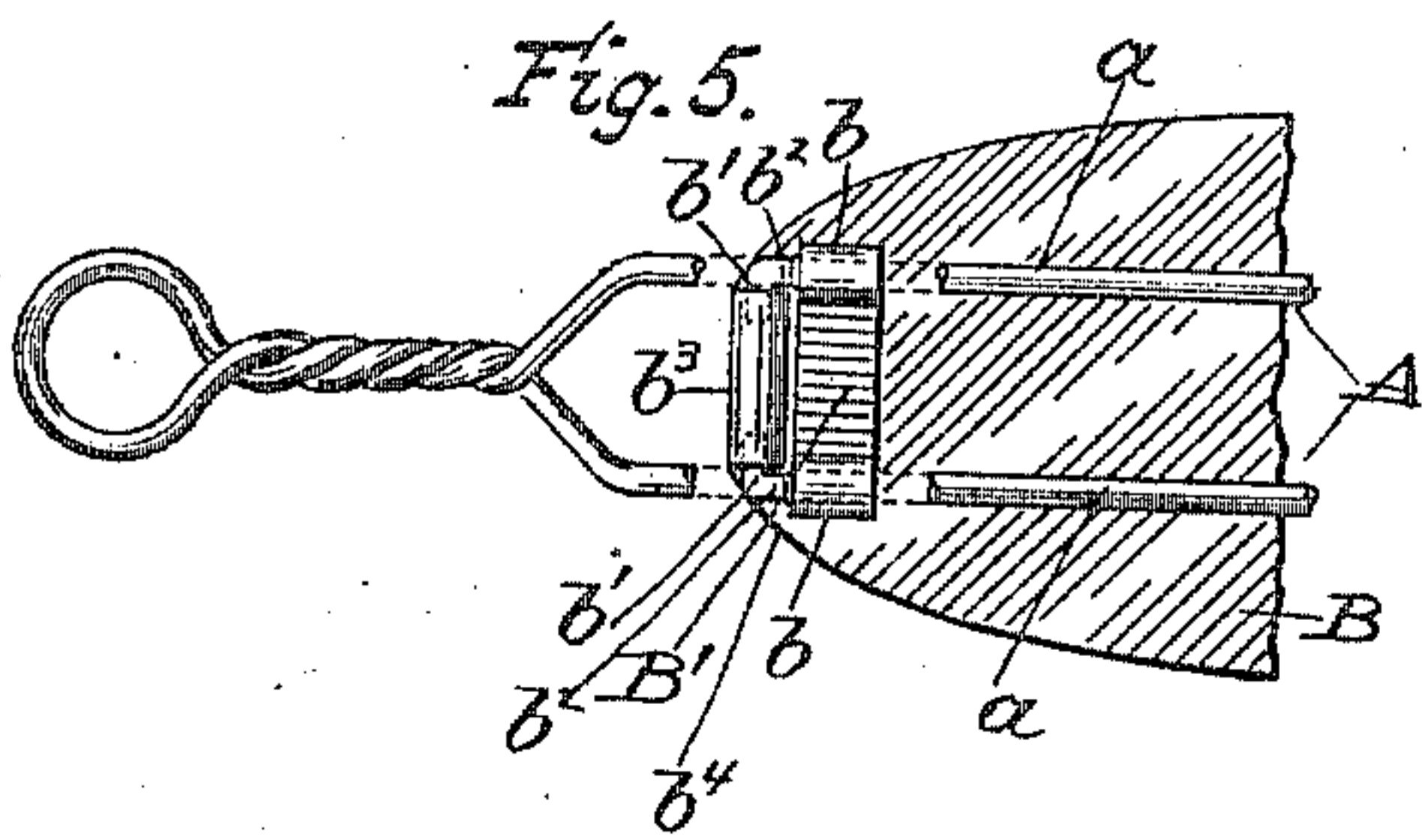
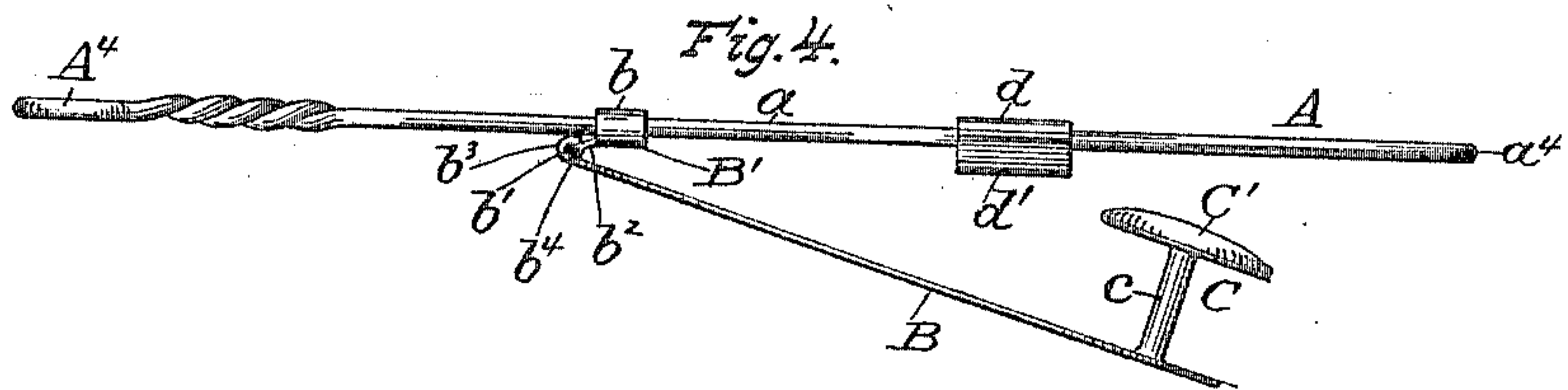
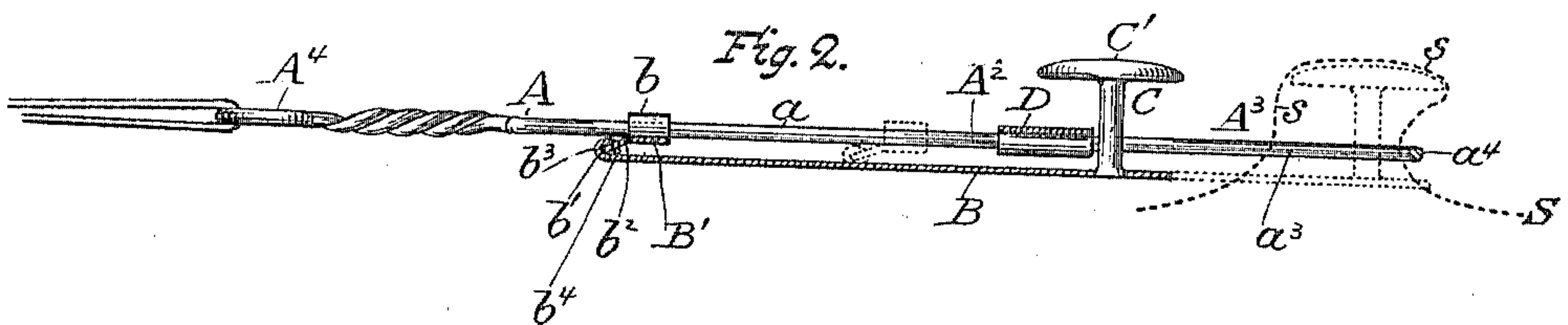
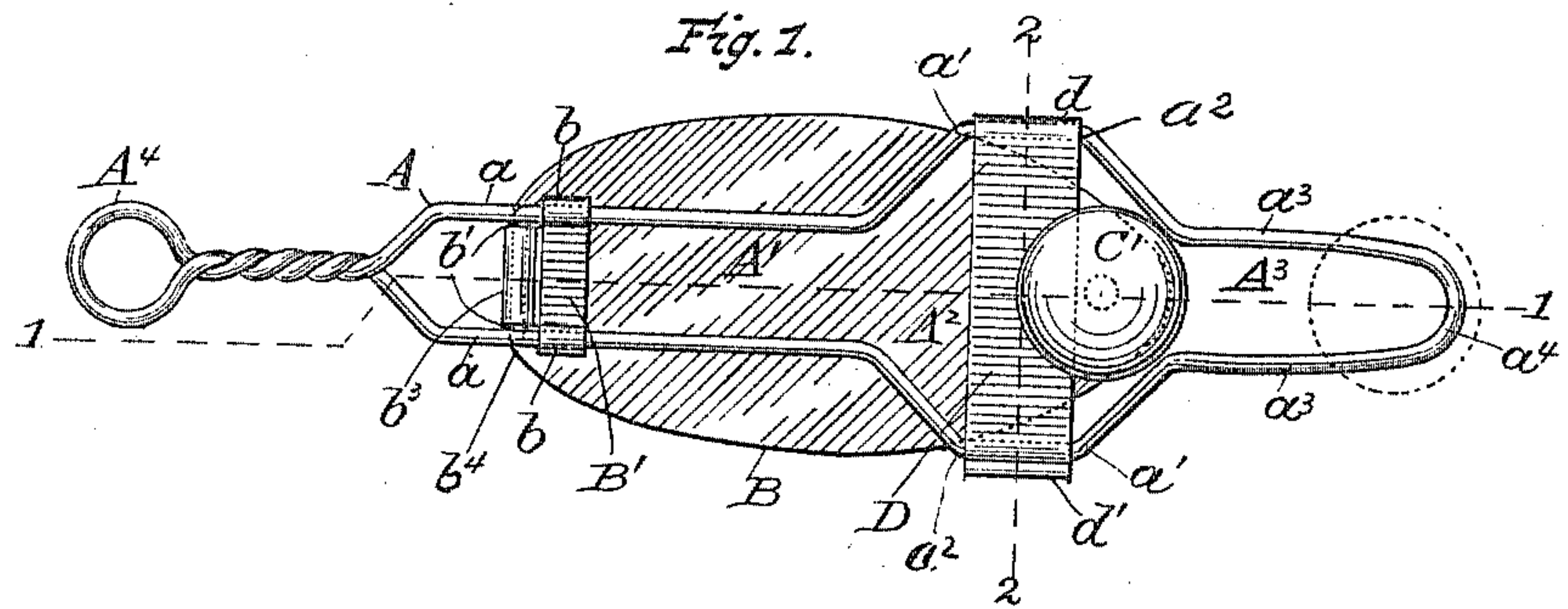


No. 811,638.

PATENTED FEB. 6, 1906.

P. W. HOFFMAN.  
SKIRT SUPPORTER.  
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 5, 1904.



Witnesses.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PAUL W. HOFFMAN, OF ALBANY, NEW YORK.

## SKIRT-SUPPORTER.

No. 811,638.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 6, 1906.

Application filed March 5, 1904. Serial No. 196,675.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, PAUL W. HOFFMAN, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Albany, in the county of Albany and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Skirt-Supporters, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a skirt-supporter of the class designed for supporting the lower portion of a skirt at a preferred distance above the ground, thereby obviating the necessity of the wearer holding the same with her hands.

It consists of the novel devices and parts and their combinations hereinafter described, and set forth in the claims.

The object of this invention is to provide in a skirt-supporter means for engagement with the skirt from its inner or under side, a stud which is designed to hold with the fabric of the skirt and be itself and with the engaged fabric supported in place by a suitable keeper, which keeper may be readily operated by the wearer for freeing the skirt from its suspended portion by releasing the stud from its keeper, also to provide a hasp and a stud-plate for carrying the stud, which will be movable in relation to the hasp and be supported thereon and hinged with the same for facilitating the operations intended to be had with the drape portion of the skirt, and, further, to provide with a hasp a keeper which is designed to support the stud-plate, with its stud, in place and readily permit the wearer to adjust the device to a new holding with the skirt when desired.

Other objects and advantages will be clearly shown and set forth in the specification when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings in one sheet, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of the skirt-supporter embodying the improvements in this invention. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section of the same. Fig. 3 is a section taken at line 2 in Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a side elevation showing the stud-plate swung back, keeper in place, and manner of hinging the stud-plate to the sleeves, which are movable on the hasp. Fig. 5 is a plan view of the upper end portion of the hasp and stud-plate and transverse sliding piece provided with a hinge member, by means of which the stud-plate is secured to the hasp and made movable on said hasp.

Similar letters of reference refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

In the drawings, A is the hasp, preferably made of hard-drawn round wire of suitable diameter composed of the parallel portions *a* for producing the contracted opening *A'* and the lateral wider-spread portions *a'* for producing the enlarged opening *A<sup>2</sup>* and the contracted portions *a<sup>3</sup>*, extending away from opening *A<sup>2</sup>*, having their ends turned toward each other and suitably joined, so as to form rounded end portion *a<sup>4</sup>* and producing the more contracted opening *A<sup>3</sup>*, as shown in Fig. 1. These several portions of the hasp A are preferably made integral and are suitably joined at their ends and constitute the whole of that part of the device.

B' is a transverse piece extending across the upper portion of the opening *A'* and is provided with sleeves *b b*, which surround portions *a a* of the hasp and freely slide thereon in either direction. Suitably connected with the rear side of each sleeve *b b* is the pin-  
tiple member *b<sup>2</sup>*, on which the upper end of stud-plate B is pivoted by hinge-sleeve *b<sup>3</sup>*. This sleeve *b<sup>3</sup>* is the turned extension of stud-plate B, as shown in Figs. 1, 2, 4, and 5.

Extended across the extended opening *A<sup>2</sup>* is the transverse latch-piece D, having one of its ends, as *d*, hinged on one side *a<sup>2</sup>* of the hasp-body and the opposite end provided with a spring-catch *d'* for engagement with the opposite side, as shown in Figs. 1, 3, and 4. This spring-catch *d'* may readily be released from holding with the side portion *a<sup>2</sup>* of the hasp by a pressure of the finger.

The stud-plate B carries on its free lower end the stud C, having button-head C' for engagement with the fabric of a skirt, and suitable means are provided for securing this device to the upper portion of the skirt or to an undergarment, which means consists of the ring *A<sup>4</sup>*, made integral with the hasp and adapted to receive a cord or chain, the opposite end of which is applied and secured to the upper, outer, or inner portion of the skirt or on a neighboring garment.

This skirt-supporter may be used either inside or outside of the skirt to be supported, and the manner in which it is operated is as follows: The cord or chain engaging with the ring *A<sup>4</sup>* of hasp A is secured to the inside or outside of the upper part of the skirt or other garment in position, as may be desired, so that the whole device hangs from the selected point of suspension. The latch-piece D is thrown up, as indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 3, and the stud C released, as shown



in Fig. 4. The stud-plate is moved upward on hasp A, so that the button-head C' will be about at the center of enlarged opening A<sup>2</sup>, when the fabric of the skirt will be placed between the button-head and the hasp and pressed through opening A<sup>2</sup>. Then by holding the stud-plate B with one hand and pulling the hasp upward the fabric will be forced down into opening A<sup>3</sup>, as shown by dotted lines in Fig. 2, and the latch-piece D turned again into place and held by the spring-catch d', which secures the button-head and fabric and prevents their release. To liberate the fabric, the button-head is moved until free of latch-piece D. Then the latch D is thrown back, the button-head and cloth brought into opening A<sup>3</sup>, and the stud-plate thrown back, as shown in Fig. 4, when the fabric may be withdrawn.

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

1. A skirt-supporter comprising a frame

composed of parallel bars bent to form a narrow opening, an enlarged opening, and a second narrow opening, said three openings communicating, a slide operable on the frame, a plate provided with a shank and a stud, a hinge connection between the plate and the slide, and removable means for preventing the head passing through the enlarged opening.

2. A skirt-supporter comprising a frame formed with a shank-opening and an enlarged shank-head opening, a plate provided with a shank having a head, a slide mounted to operate on the frame, a hinge connection between the slide and the plate, a spring-latch pivoted to the frame adjacent the head-opening, the opposite end of the latch being bent to snap over the frame, to prevent the head passing through the head-opening.

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Witnesses:

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