

No. 846,745.

PATENTED MAR. 12, 1907.

J. F. HOPFNER.  
HAME.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 5, 1906.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

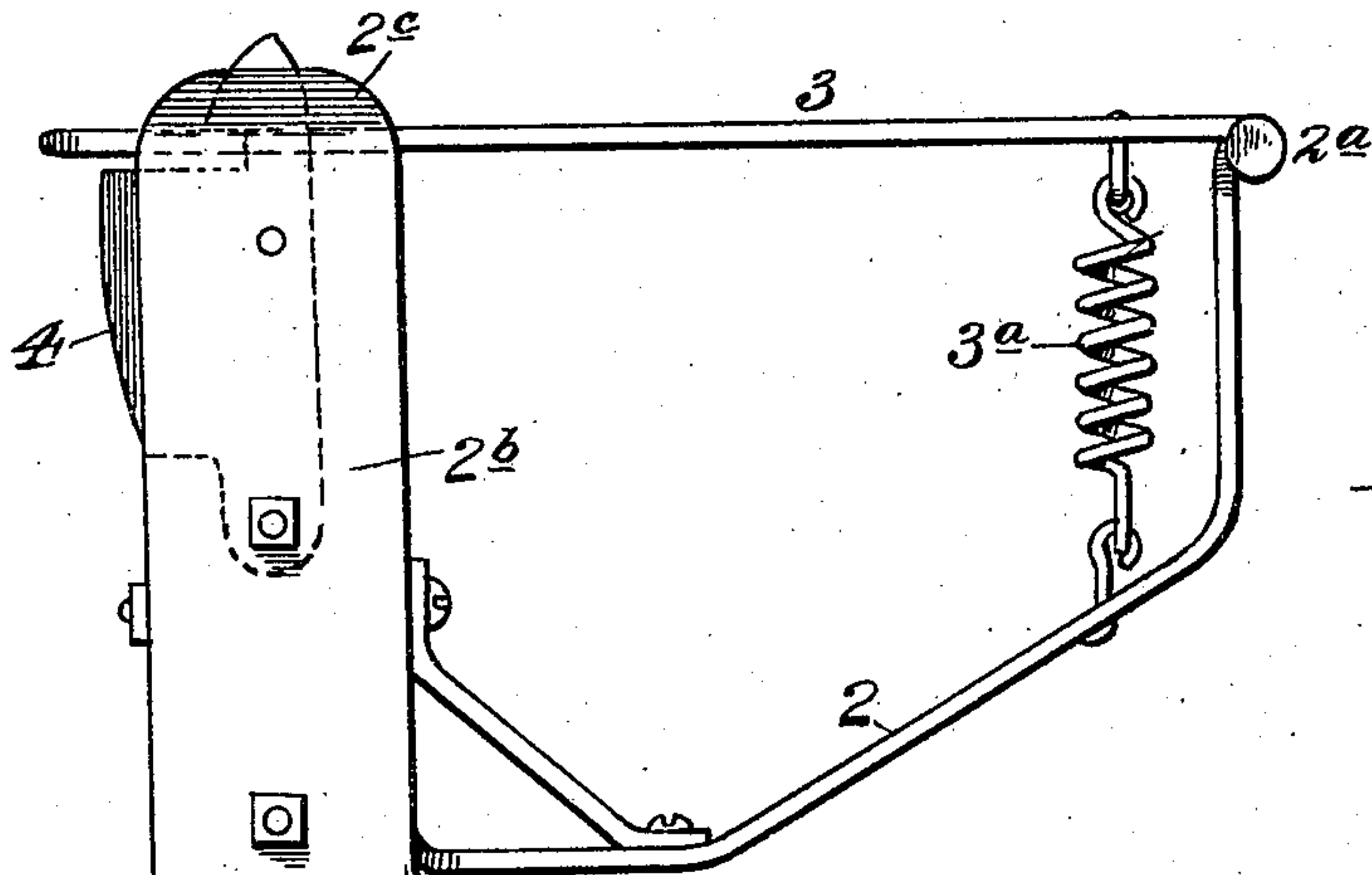


Fig. 1.

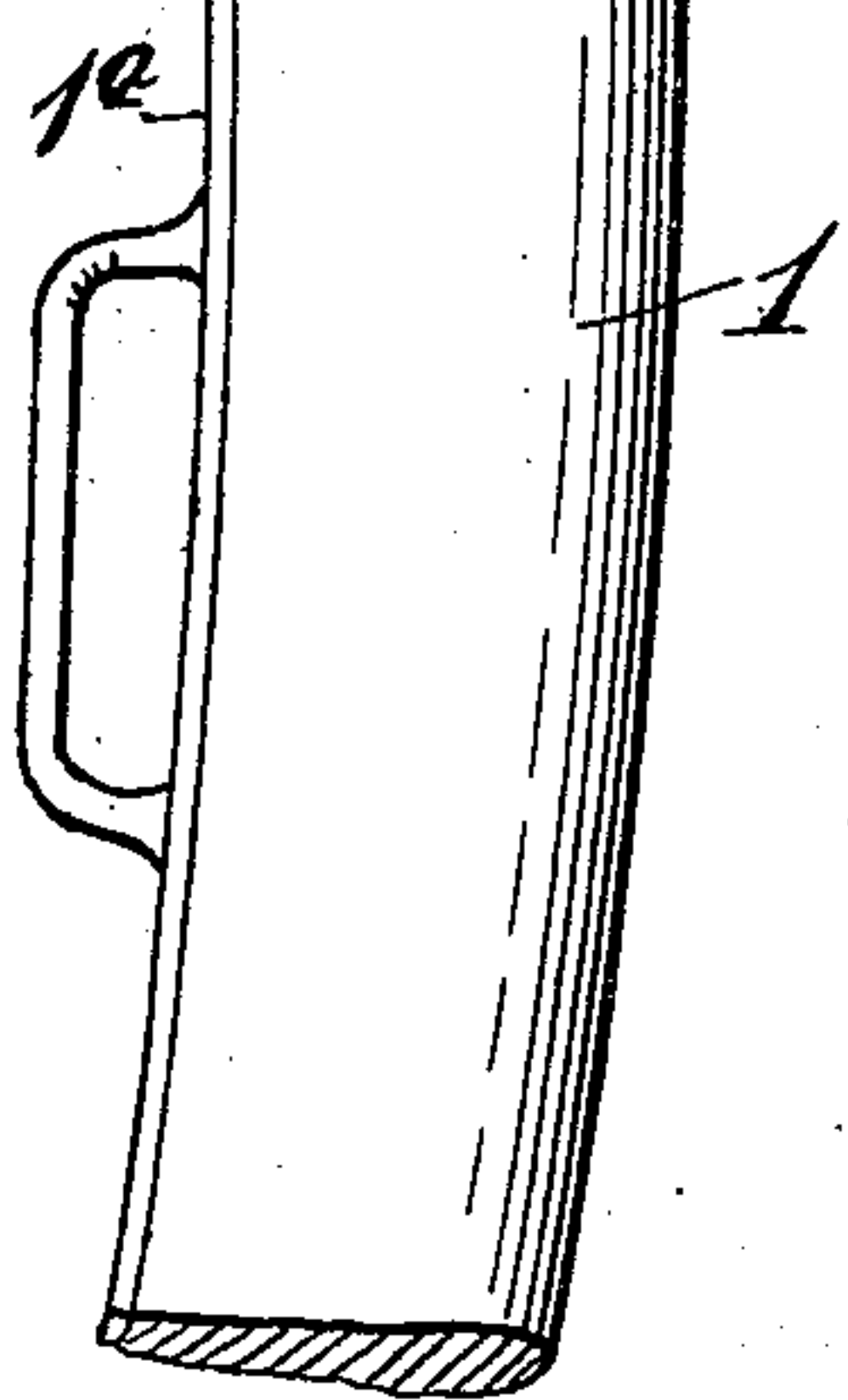
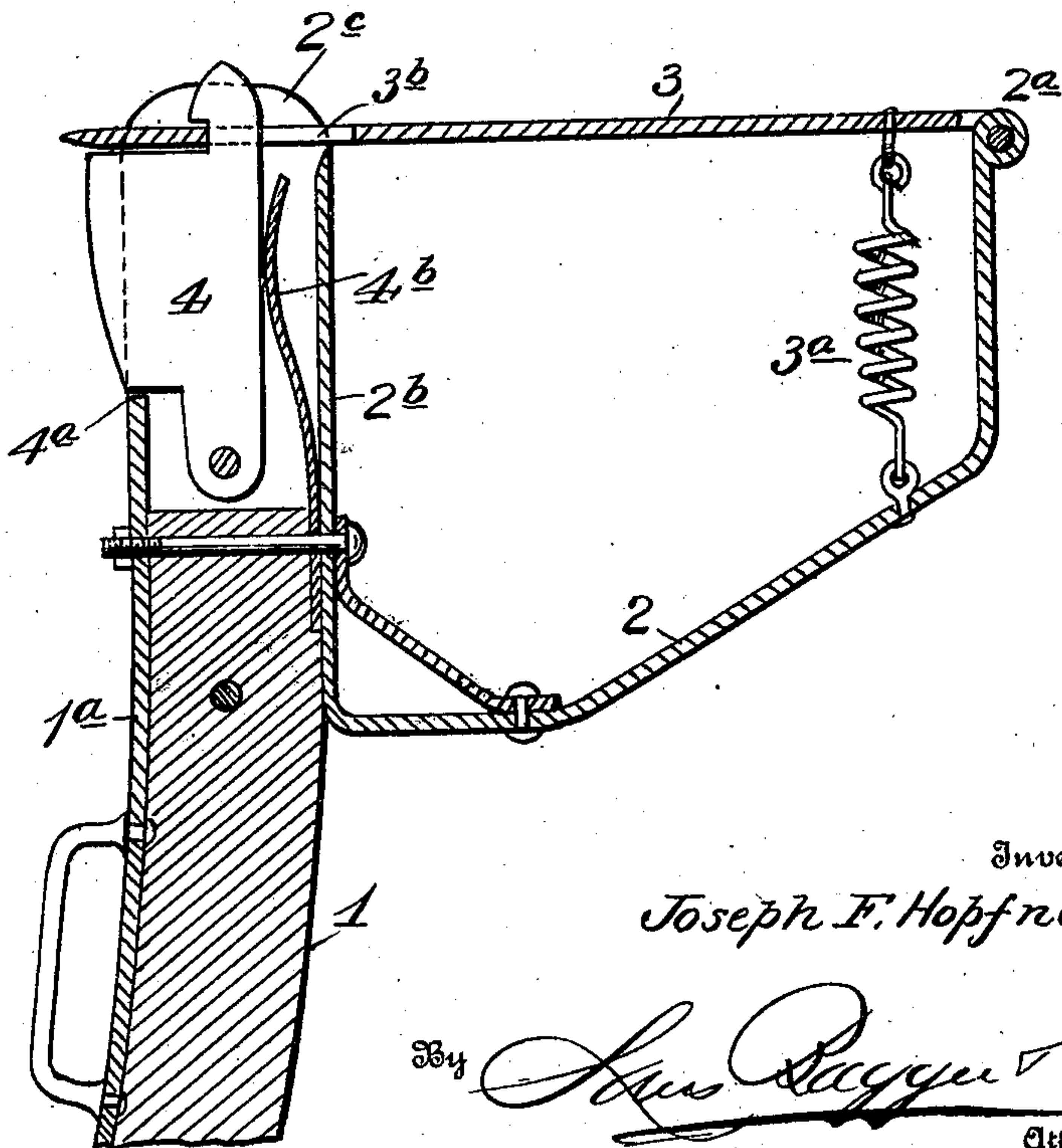


Fig. 2.



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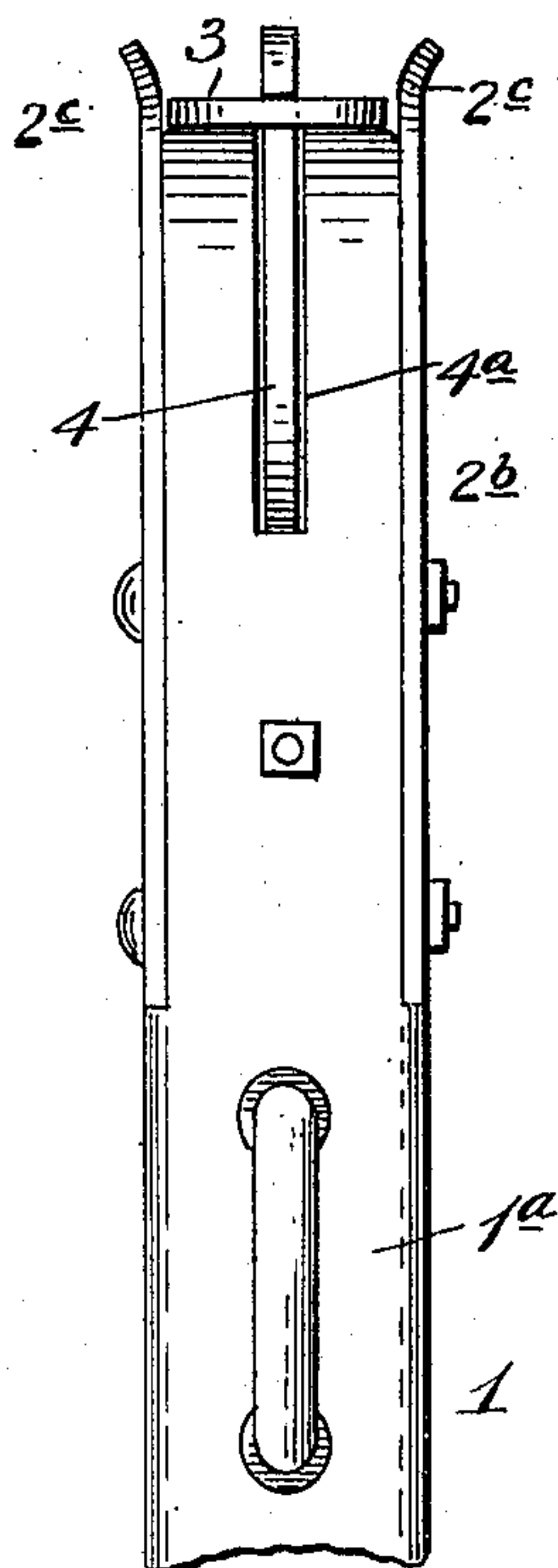
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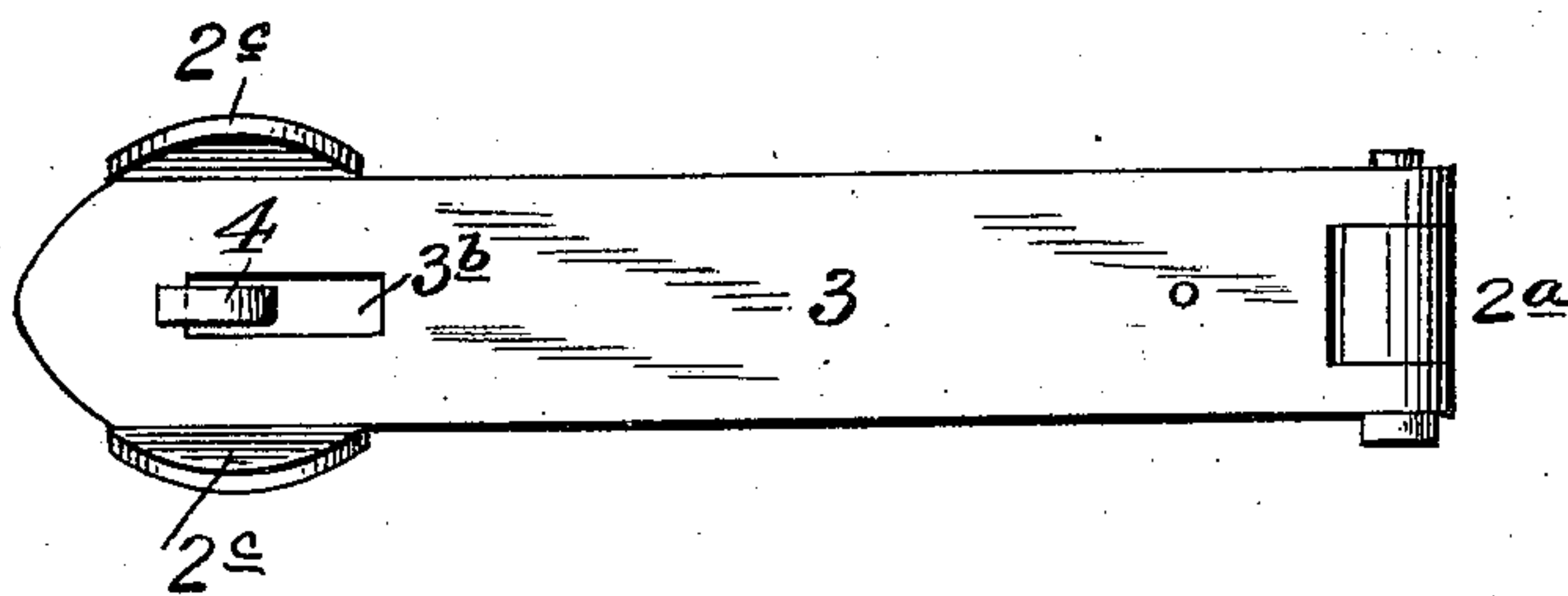
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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

*Fig. 3.*



*Fig. 4.*



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH F. HOPFNER, OF FOSSTON, MINNESOTA.

## HAME.

No. 846,745.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 12, 1907.

Application filed March 5, 1906. Serial No. 304,315.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOSEPH F. HOPFNER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Fosston, in the county of Polk and State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hames, of which the following is a specification.

My invention pertains to improvements in hames, more especially attachments therefor. Its object is to provide for readily or conveniently suspending in position upon the hames of the bridle, halter, hitching-strap, or driving-lines when the same may be temporarily out of use and to so effect the retention thereof that they may not become dislodged by the action of the horse or animal and be dropped beneath its feet.

Said invention consists of certain structural features, substantially as hereinafter fully disclosed, and specifically pointed out by the claims.

In the accompanying drawing, illustrating the preferred embodiment of my invention, Figure 1 is a broken view of one of the hame members with my said invention attached thereto. Fig. 2 is a vertical section thereof. Fig. 3 is an edge view of the same, viewing it from the outer surface of the hame member. Fig. 4 is a plan view thereof.

In carrying out my invention I suitably attach to the upper end of a hame member 1 an upwardly bent or curved arm or bracket 2, to the outer upper end of which is pivoted or hinged, as at 2<sup>a</sup>, a hasp-like member or guard 3, adapted to be effectively retained in position against accidental displacement, as presently explained. Preferably the bracket or arm 2 has one end integral with an open-sided socket or clasp-like structure 2<sup>b</sup>, adapted to suitably embrace or receive the upper end of the hame member and secured thereto, said socket having upward-extended lateral terminals or extensions 2<sup>c</sup>, between which is received the forward end of the hasp or guard 3 to prevent lateral displacement of the latter.

The hasp or guard 3 is subjected to the action of the downward pull of a spring 3<sup>a</sup>, whose ends are connected to said hasp or guard and to the arm 2, respectively, for aiding the retention of the former in position.

A latch or dog 4 is pivoted within a vertical slot 4<sup>a</sup> in the upper end of the hame member and held so that its outer vertical edge shall project beyond the corresponding surface of said hame member, for a purpose presently disclosed, by the action of a spring 4<sup>b</sup> suitably arranged within the hame member and delivering its pressure upon said latch or dog. The hame member has its ordinary facing metal portion 1<sup>a</sup> also slotted coincidently with the slot 4<sup>a</sup> in the hame member itself, the edges of said slotted metal facing being arranged to overlie the corresponding edges of the slot 4<sup>a</sup>, so as to guard and retain in place the spring 4<sup>b</sup>. Said latch or dog has its hook-ended portion standing beyond the top edge or end of the hame member to permit the ready engagement therewith of the hasp or guard 3. The latter has an elongated opening 3<sup>b</sup> therein to receive the hook of said latch or dog as the guard or hasp, after having been manually elevated and released, is brought down thereon by the action of its spring 3<sup>a</sup> and as said hook is thus received in said slot to allow the latch to be thrown forward or outward by the action of its spring, and thus be brought into effective engagement with said hasp and that edge or wall of said opening 3<sup>b</sup>. It is therefore apparent that, it being desired to suspend temporarily the bridle, halter, hitching-strap, or driving-lines upon the hames, it is only required that preferably a metallic portion, as a ring or like part, be brought frictionally into contact with the outer projecting edge of the latch or dog, when the latter will be pressed inward and its hook thus be moved into the plane of the opening 3<sup>b</sup>, and by otherwise suitably moving or forcing the first noted said hasp or guard may be lifted, permitting the required disposition of the bridle or other part. The hasp will automatically snap into its initial or normal position, thus effectively securing the article in place against being accidentally dislodged by the movement or action of the horse and dropping under and being tramped upon by the feet of the animal, as is obvious.

I claim—

A device of the character described, comprising a bracket attached to a hame member and having a hasp or guard pivoted to said

bracket, and a spring-pressed latch or dog  
pivoted within the upper end of said hame  
member and having its upper hook-equipped  
end effective for engagement with said hasp  
5 or guard, said latch or dog having its outer  
vertical edge projecting beyond the corre-  
sponding surface of said hame member.

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

JOSEPH F. HOPFNER.

Witnesses:

J. A. HENDRICKS,  
GARY J. MOTZ.