

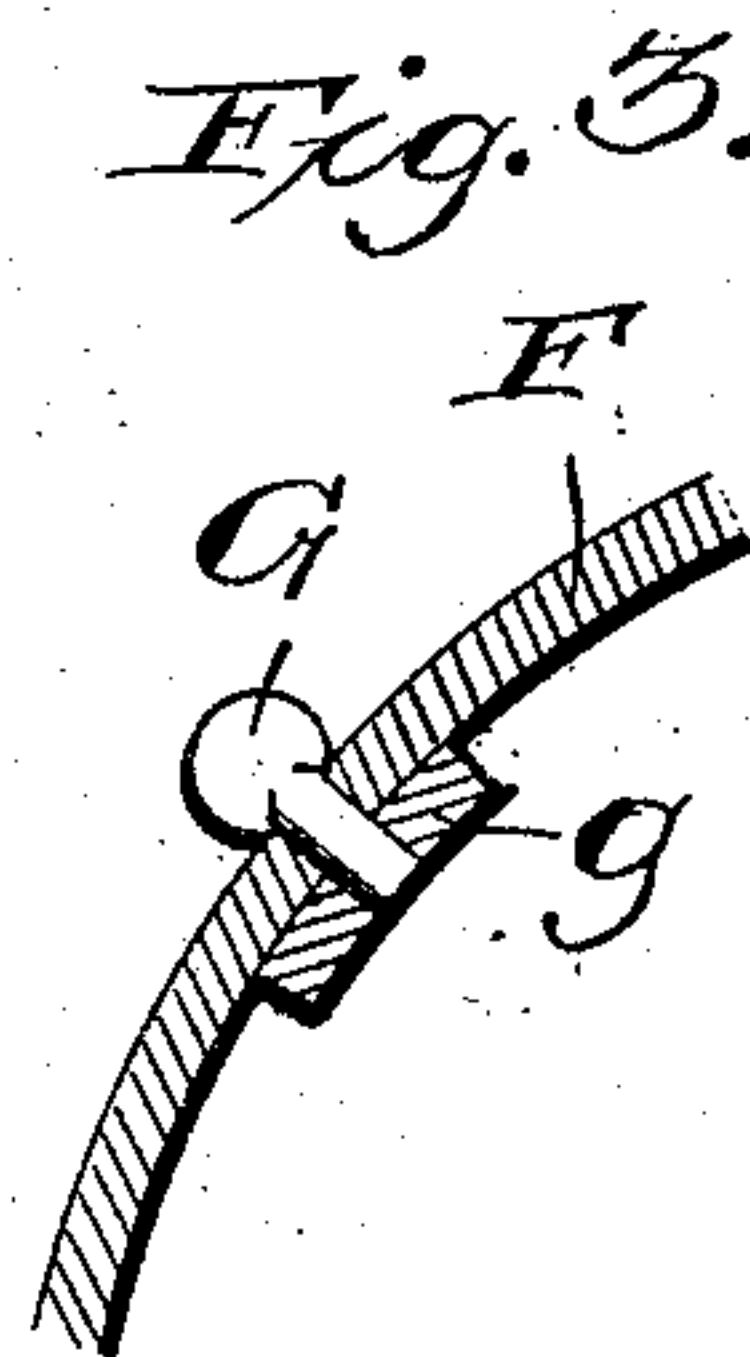
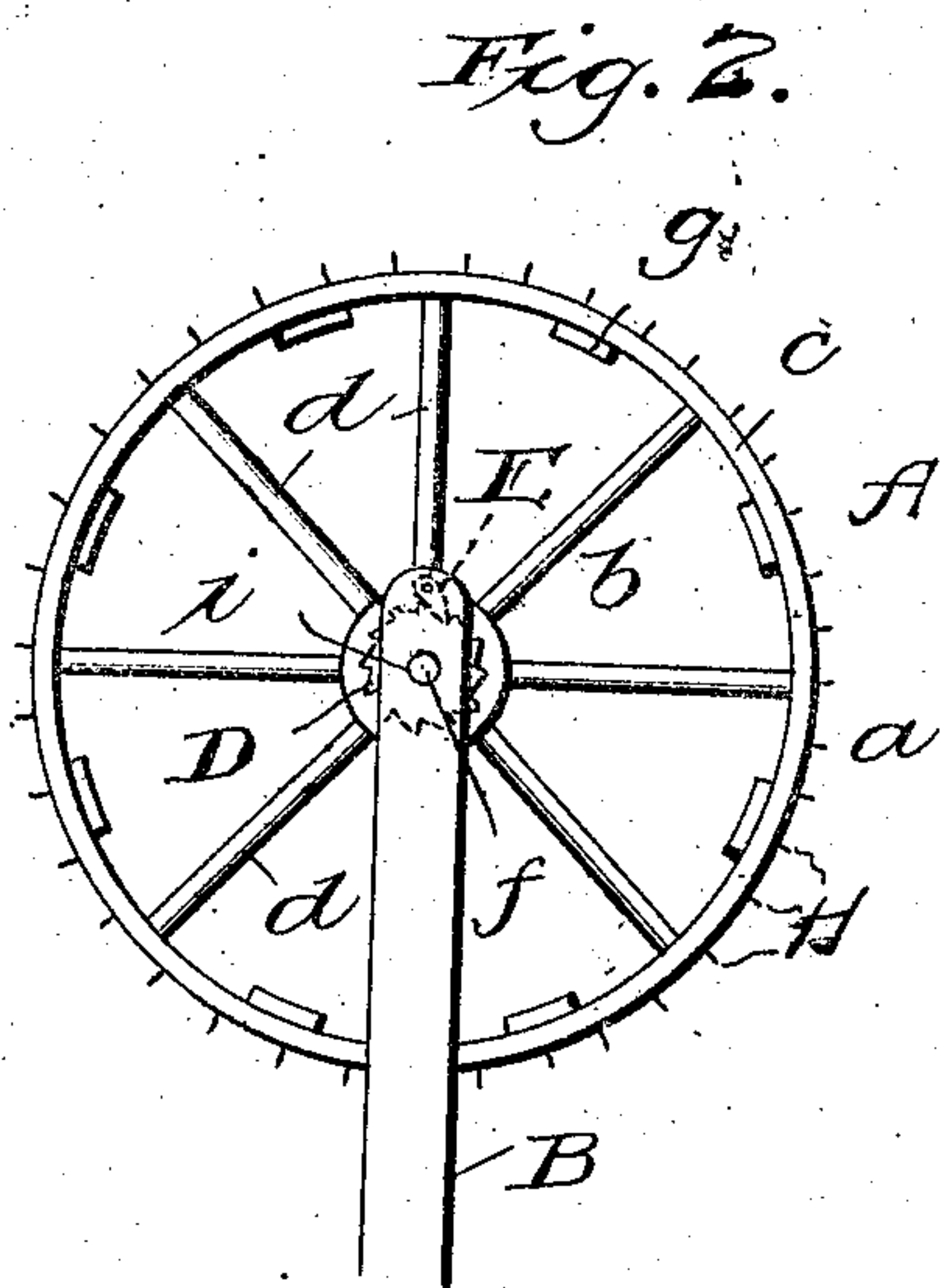
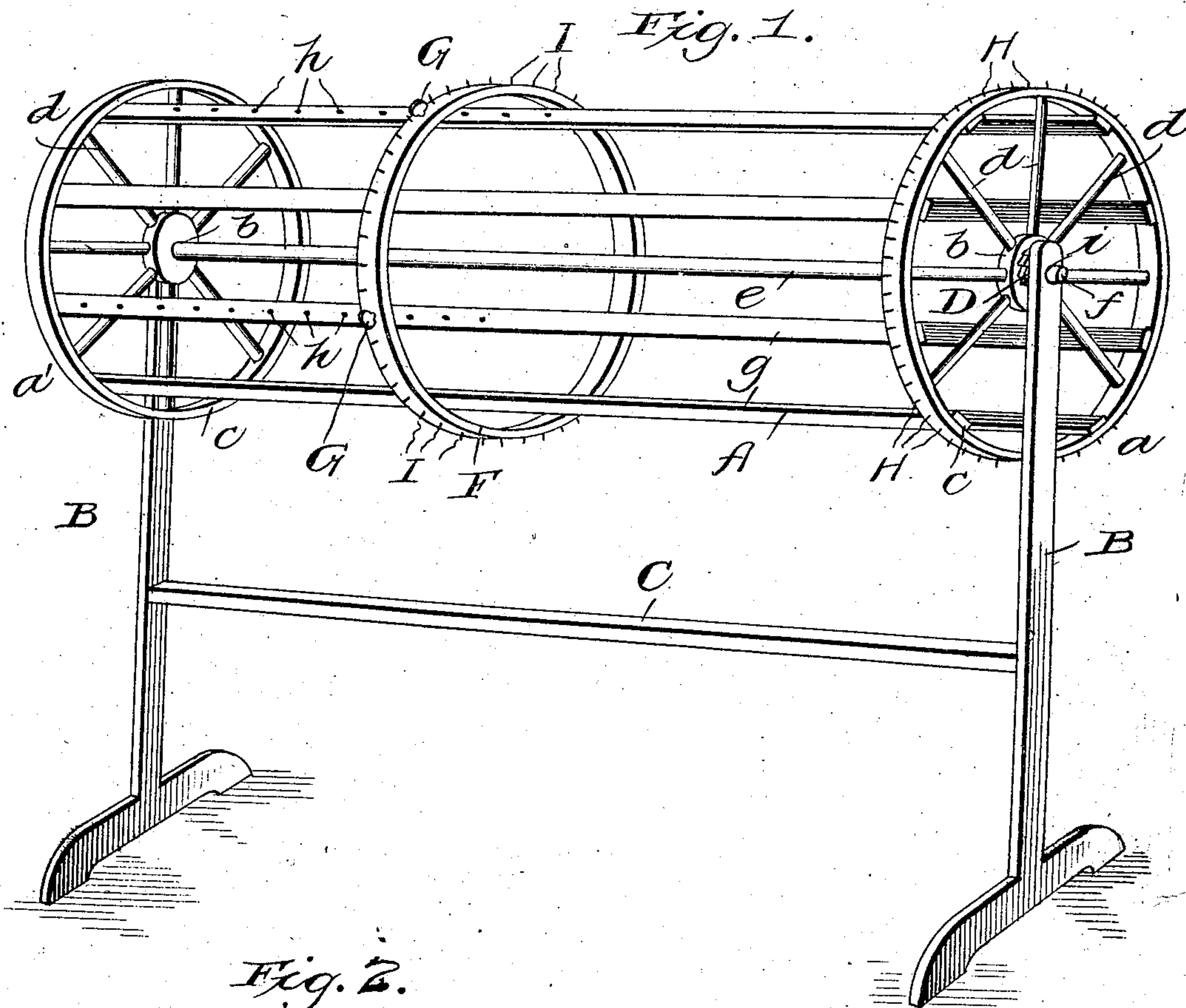
No. 849,853.

PATENTED APR. 9, 1907.

A. PROCTOR.

DEVICE FOR STRETCHING AND DRYING LACE CURTAINS.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 11, 1905.



Witness.  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

AUGUSTA PROCTOR, OF VIROQUA, WISCONSIN.

## DEVICE FOR STRETCHING AND DRYING LACE CURTAINS.

No. 849,853.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented April 9, 1907.

Application filed November 11, 1905. Serial No. 286,938.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, AUGUSTA PROCTOR, a citizen of the United States, residing at Viroqua, in the county of Vernon and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Devices for Stretching and Drying Lace Curtains, of which the following is a specification.

My invention has reference to devices for stretching and drying lace curtains and analogous pieces of fabric; and it has for its object to provide a simple and light device upon which lace curtains of various widths may be expeditiously and easily secured with a view of stretching and facilitating proper drying of the same and from which the curtains may be as readily removed, and this without liability of the curtains being torn or otherwise injured.

The invention will be fully understood from the following description and claims when the same are considered in connection with the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the lace-curtain stretcher and drier, constituting the present and preferred embodiment of my invention. Fig. 2 is an end elevation of the device; and Fig. 3 is an enlarged detail transverse section taken through the adjustable band of the device, and one of the pegs, through the medium of which the same is fastened to one of the longitudinal strips of the rotatable drum and adjustably positioned on said drum so suit the width of a curtain to be stretched and dried.

Similar letters designate corresponding parts in all of the views of the drawings, referring to which—

A is the rotatable drum of my novel device, and B B are the standards, which are preferably employed to support the drum at such a height as to render it unnecessary for the user of the device to stoop while engaged in placing a curtain on or removing a curtain from the drum. Both the drum and the standards are preferably of wood, though they obviously may be of any other suitable material without in any way affecting the spirit of my invention.

The drum A is preferably, though not necessarily, of circular form in cross-section and is made up of heads *a'*, having hubs *b*, rims *c*, and spokes *d*, a longitudinal central shaft *e*, which extends through and outwardly beyond the hubs of the heads to form trunnions

*f*, and longitudinal strips *g*, extending between and fixedly connected to the rims of the heads and arranged about the proportional distance illustrated apart. Some of the strips *g*, preferably the alternate ones, are provided at intervals in their length with apertures *h*, the said apertures being located adjacent to the head *a'* for a purpose presently set forth.

The standards B are preferably connected by a bar C and are provided in their upper portions with suitable bearings *i*, in which the trunnions *f* of the drum A are journaled, as best shown in Fig. 2.

D is a toothed wheel fixed to one end of the drum A, and E is a gravitating pawl pivoted to the adjacent standard B and positioned to normally engage the teeth of the said wheel. By virtue of this provision it will be apparent that the drum A may be freely rotated forwardly to wind a curtain thereon, and yet is securely held against casual retrograde motion. When, however, it is desired to rotate the drum backwardly, as in removing a stretched and dried curtain from the drum, the same may be readily accomplished after the pawl E is lifted out of engagement with wheel D.

F is a band which surrounds the drum A and is adjustable in the direction of the length thereof to suit the width of the curtain to be stretched and dried, as will presently be more fully explained. G G are pegs passed through apertures in said band F and designed to be placed in certain of the apertures *h* in the drum-strips *g* to adjustably fix the band to the drum.

H H are spurs or pins fixed to and extending radially from the rim of the drum-head *a*, and I I are similar spurs or pins fixed to and extending radially from the band F. The spurs or pins H and I have to do with the fastening of the curtain or other article to be stretched and dried on the drum A and constitute important features of my invention, as will be presently appreciated.

In the practical use of the stretcher and drier the band F is first positioned on the drum A to suit the particular curtain to be stretched and dried. The curtain is then placed on the drum, and its edge portions are pressed down on the spurs or pins H and I, when, as will be readily apparent, it will be securely fastened to the periphery of the drum, though in such manner that there is no liability of it being torn or otherwise in-



juréd. Subsequent to this initial fastening of the curtain to the drum the drum is slowly rotated forward to take up the curtain, and as each layer of the curtain assumes a position above the spurs or pins H and I such layer is pressed down on the said spurs or pins, with the result that when the entire curtain is wound on the drum the curtain will be held in a taut and smooth state and proper drying of the same will be assured. The toothed wheel D and pawl E contribute materially to keeping the curtain taut while the same is being placed on the drum, and yet said toothed wheel and pawl do not interfere with the ready removal of the curtain, for when the pawl is lifted out of engagement with the wheel the drum A may be freely rotated backward to facilitate such removal. The curtain is removed by simply pulling it in a gentle manner backwardly, the drum gaining its movement from the curtain and the spurs H and I permitting the layers of curtain to freely leave the periphery of the drum.

It will be gathered from the foregoing that as a whole my novel device permits free circulation of air through a curtain mounted thereon and in that way accelerates drying of the curtain.

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

1. In a device for the purpose described, the combination with a drum having one or more spurs or pins on its periphery adjacent to one of its ends; of a band surrounding the drum and adjustable in the direction of the

length thereof and having one or more spurs or pins on its periphery, and means for adjustably fixing said band to the drum.

2. In a device for the purpose described, the combination with a drum comprising heads, one or more spurs or pins on the periphery of one head, and longitudinal strips connecting the heads and provided at intervals in their length with perforations; of a band surrounding the longitudinal strips of the drum and adjustable in the direction of the length thereof and having one or more spurs or pins on its periphery, and pegs carried by the band and arranged to be placed in apertures of the strips of the drum.

3. In a device for the purpose described, the combination with standards; of a drum comprising heads having hubs, spokes and rims, trunnions extending from the hubs of the heads and journaled in the standards, and longitudinal strips connecting the rims of the heads, a band surrounding the longitudinal strips of the drum and adjustable in the direction of the length of the same, means for adjustably fixing the band to the drum, one or more spurs or pins on the periphery of one head of the drum, one or more spurs or pins on the periphery of the band, and coacting devices on one standard and the drum for holding the latter against retrograde movement.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

AUGUSTA PROCTOR.

Witnesses:

H. E. PACKARD,  
WM. G. WEBB.