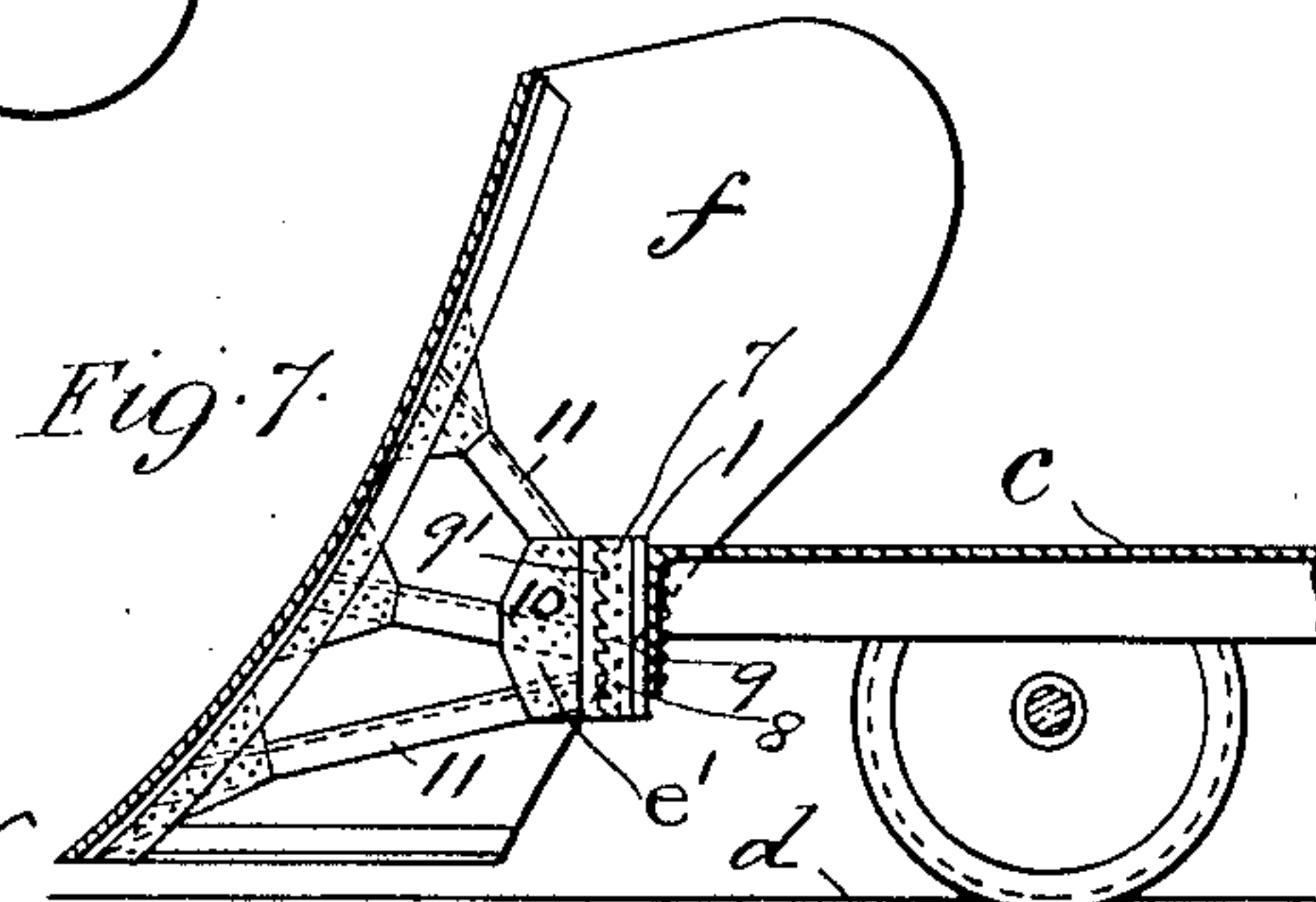
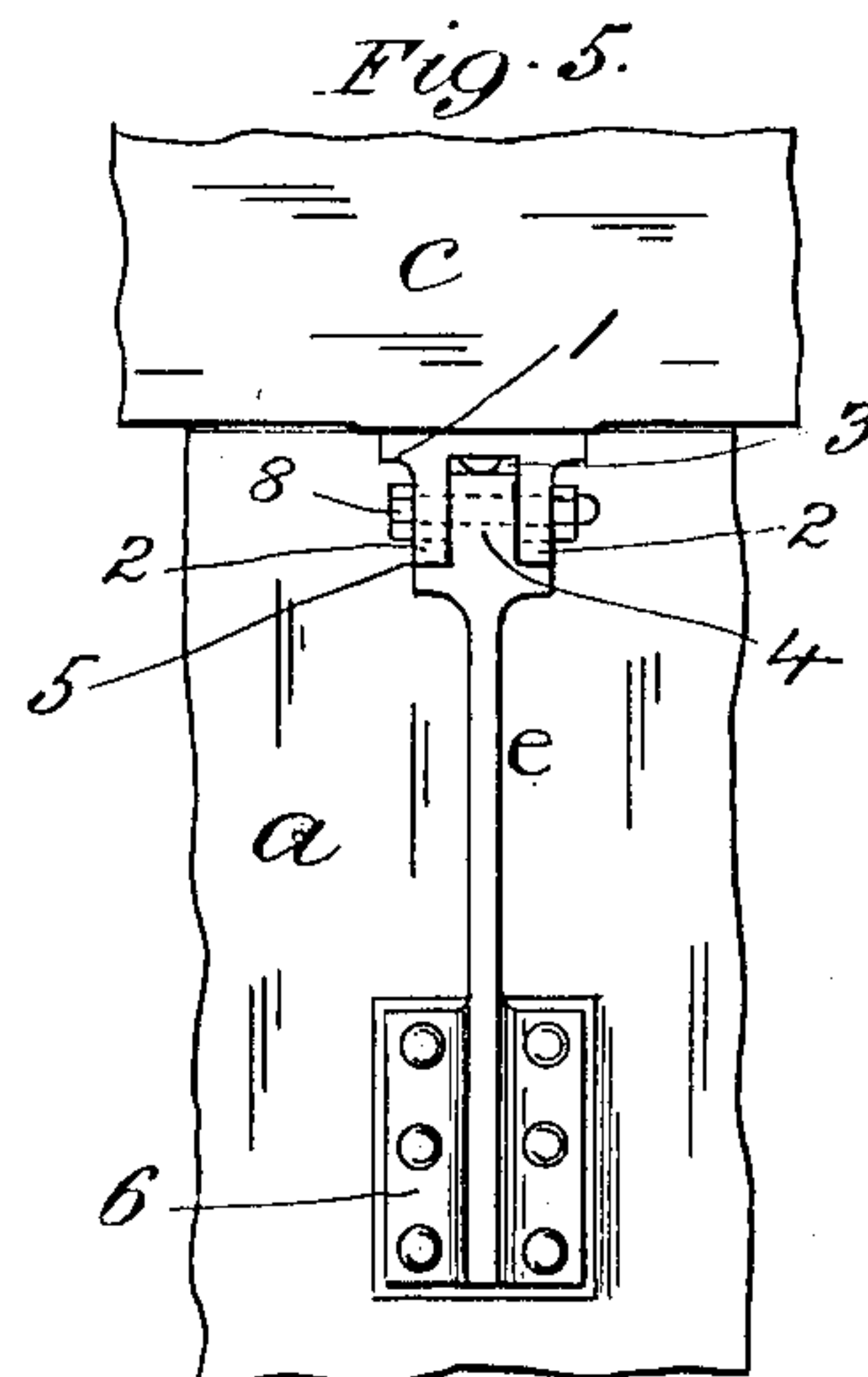
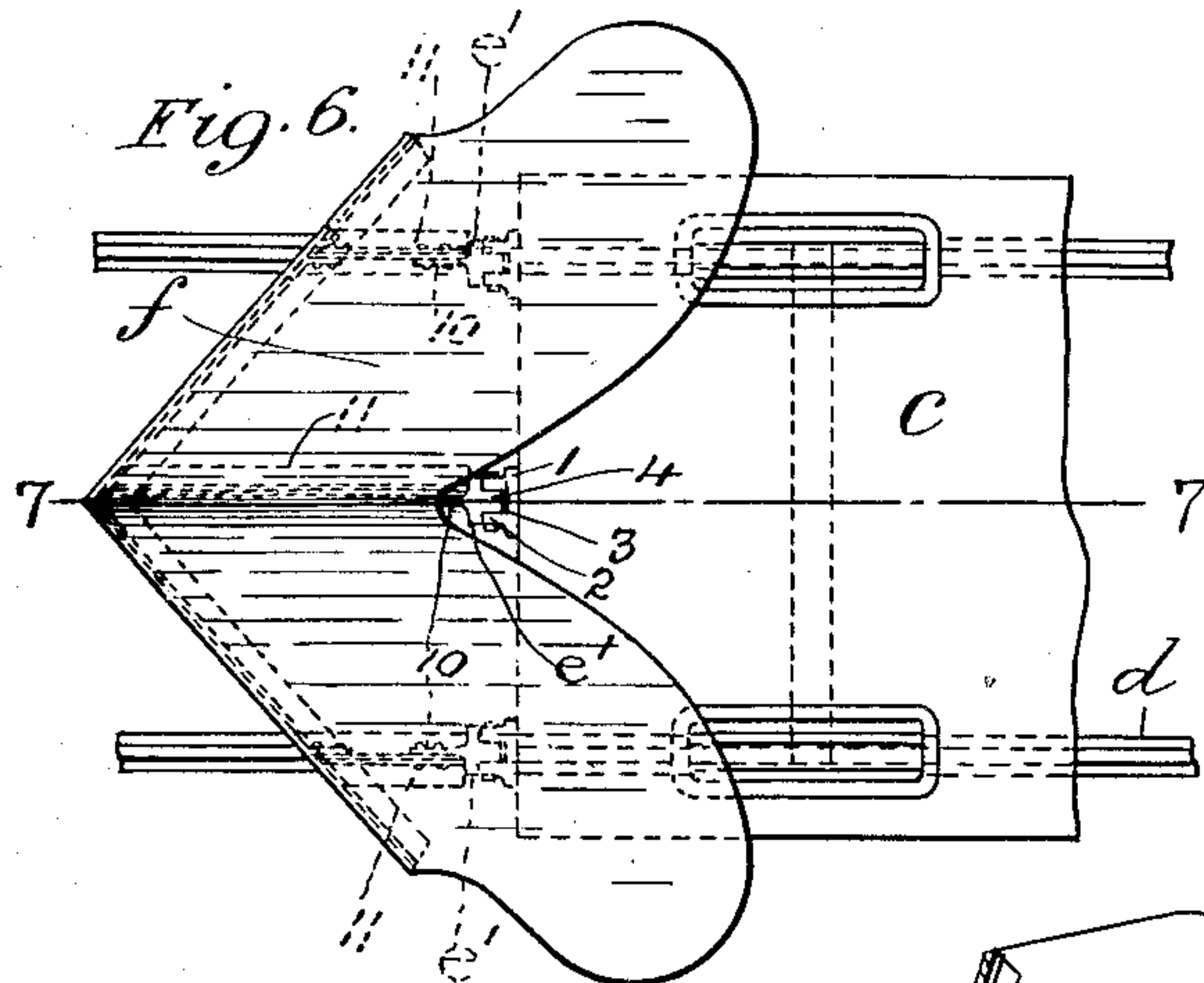
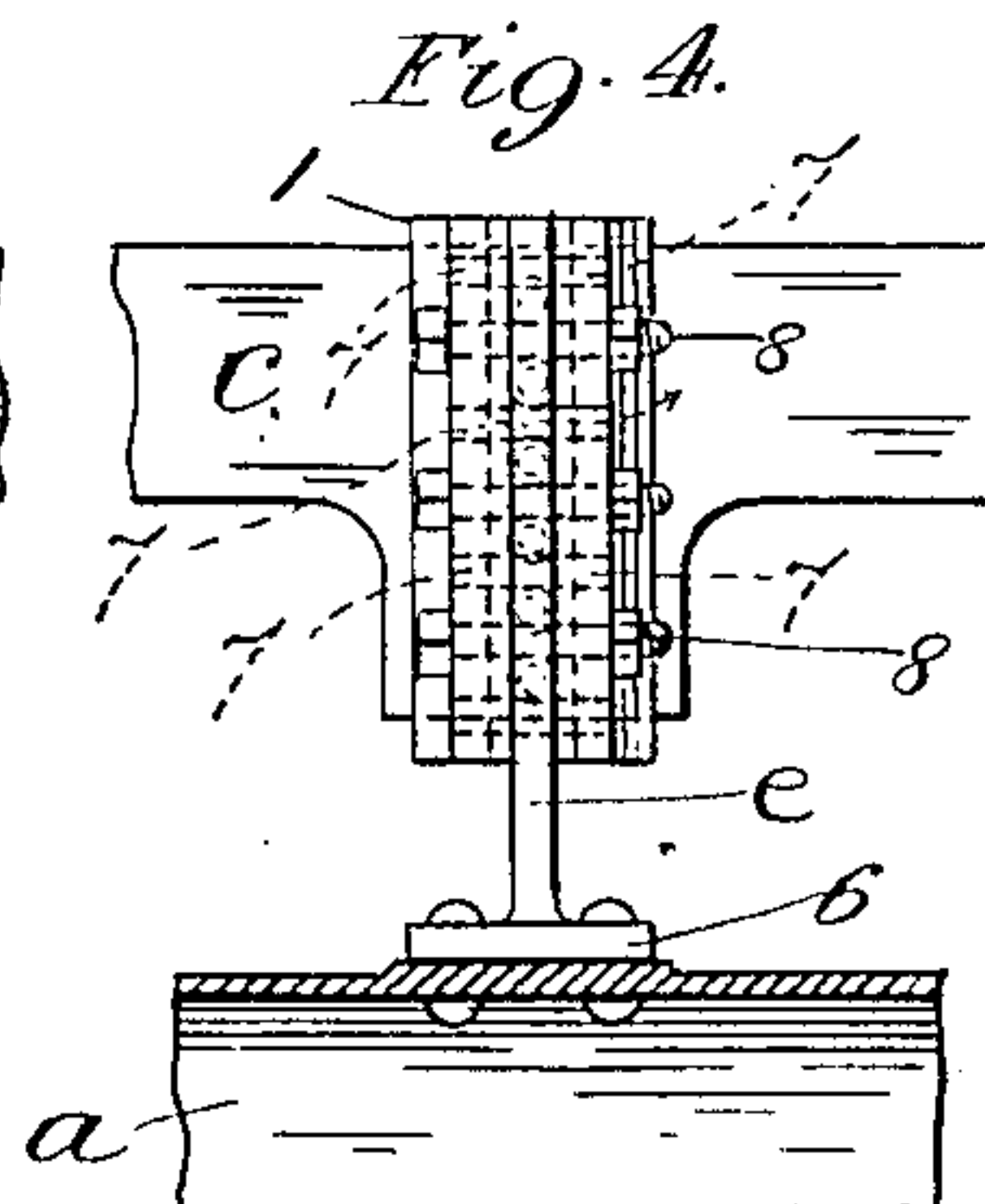
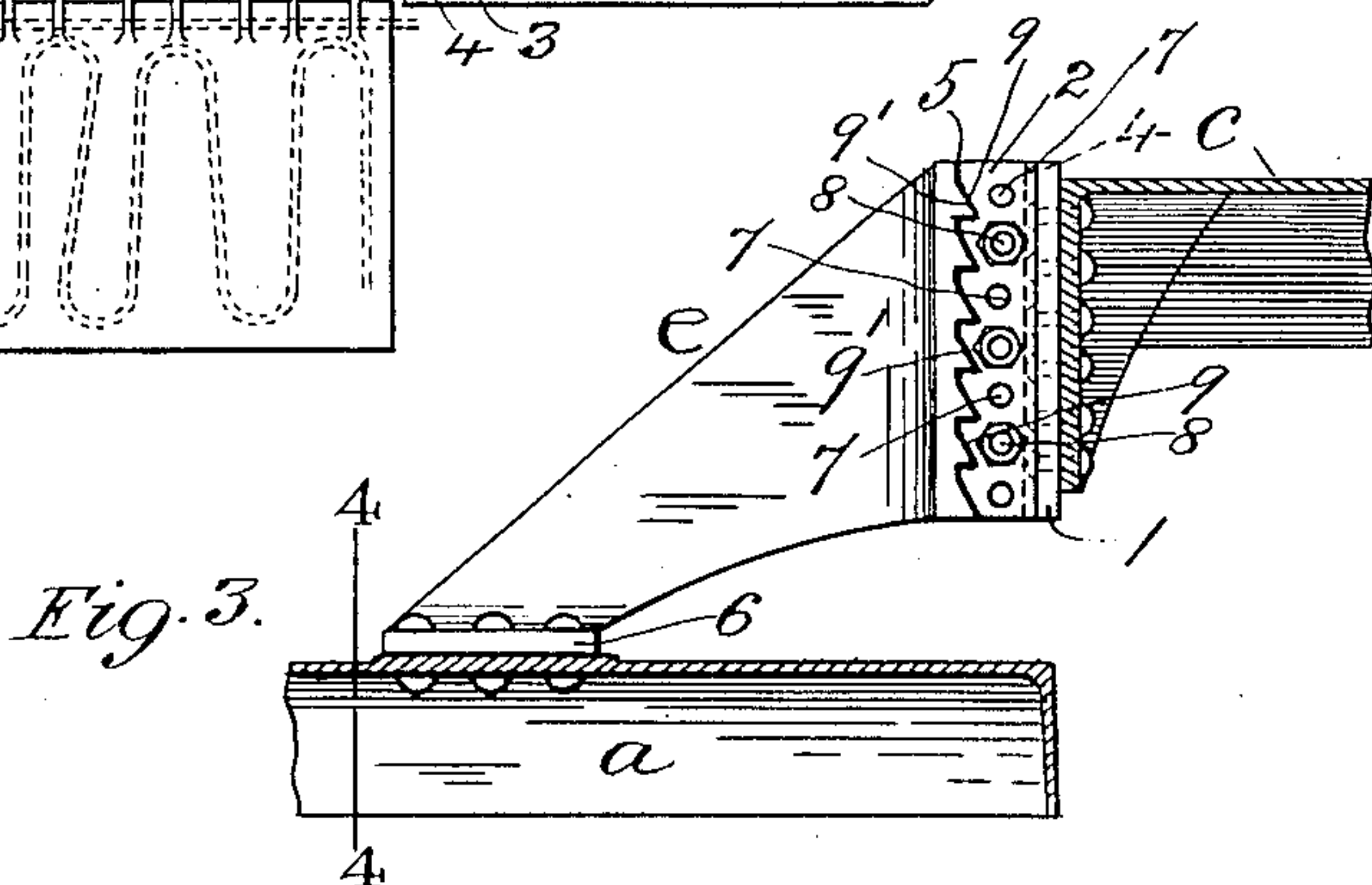
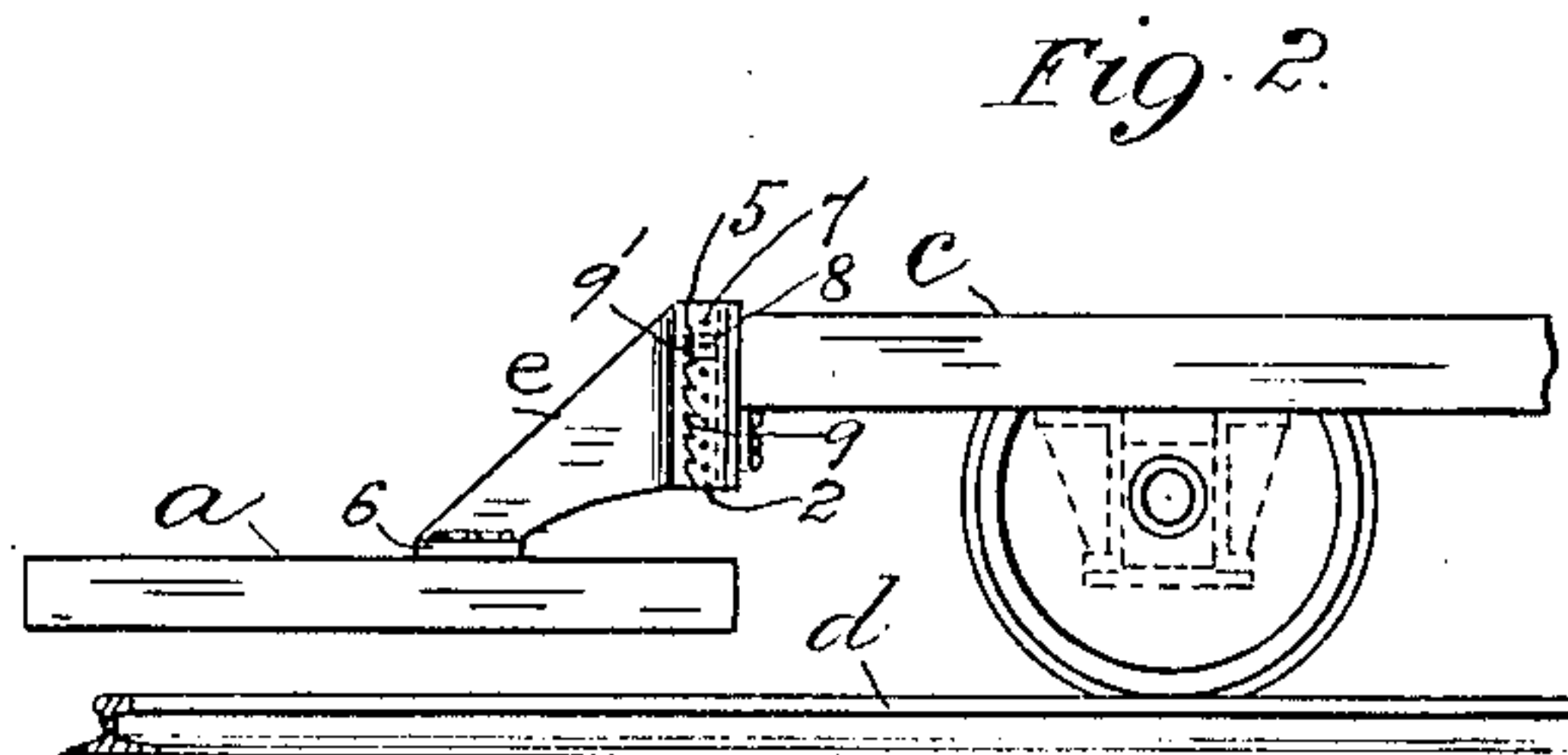
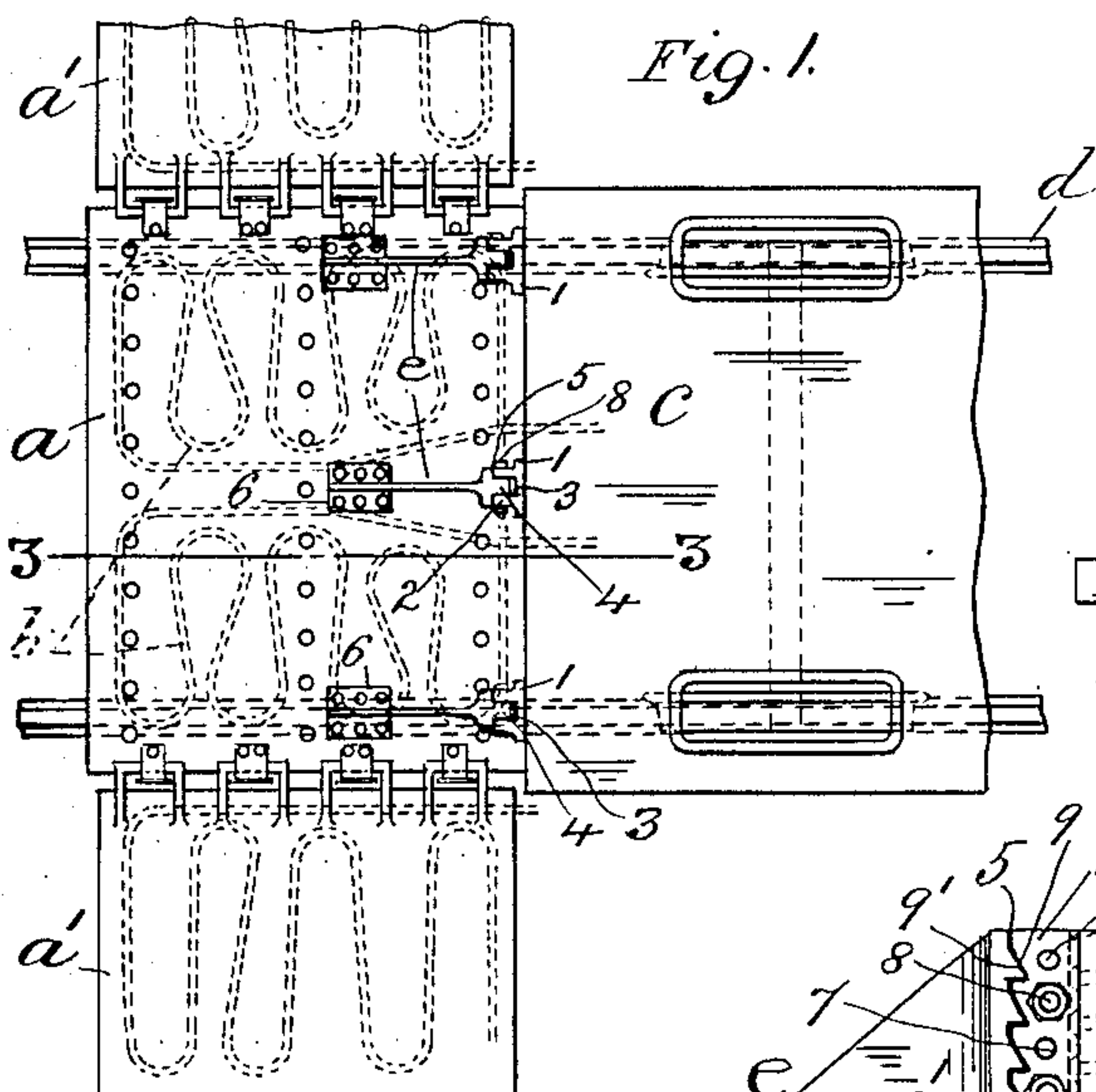


No. 875,817.

PATENTED JAN. 7, 1908.

C. H. HOWARD.
VEGETATION DESTROYER.
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 18, 1907.



WITNESSES
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Atty

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CLARENCE H. HOWARD, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, ASSIGNOR TO RAILROAD WEED BURNER COMPANY, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, A CORPORATION OF DELAWARE.

VEGETATION-DESTROYER.

No. 875,817.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 7, 1908.

Application filed October 18, 1907. Serial No. 398,019.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CLARENCE H. HOWARD, a citizen of the United States, residing at St Louis, in the State of Missouri, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Vegetation-Destroyers, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to that class of vegetation-destroyer such as described in the United States Letters Patent granted to William R. Mckeen Jr., and Arthur H. Fetters January 23, 1906, Number 810,793, for improvement in vegetation-destroyers, in which an arrangement of gasoline tanks and burners combined with a suitable motor and other appurtenances are mounted on a frame or vehicle provided with wheels and self-propelled along a railroad track, for burning the weeds along and on each side of the same, the burners in the present case being suitably disposed within, and supported by a series of casings open at the bottom and extending beyond the end of the frame or vehicle over the track and ground at each side thereof.

My invention has for its object to provide improved means for firmly securing the burner casings to the end of the frame or vehicle and at the same time enable one of the casings which is directly connected thereto, and to which the other casings are hinged, to be adjusted nearer to or further from the track as desired; the said means being also applicable for securing a snow plow or flanger to the frame or vehicle in lieu of the burner casings when the weed burning apparatus is not in use, and removed from the car.

The invention consists in a connecting device made preferably in two parts, one part being fixed to the frame or vehicle, and the other part to the object to be secured thereto, the said parts being adapted to be fixed together and to interlock at varying distances respectively, of the said object from the track, as hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification, whereon,

Figure 1, is a top plan view of a series of gasoline burners (indicated by dotted lines) with their casings or covers hinged to each other, and one of them secured to the end portion of a frame or vehicle of the class described by our improved connecting device; Fig. 2, a side elevation thereof; Fig. 3, a ver-

tical longitudinal section to enlarged scale through the frame and burner casing to be secured thereto, on line 3, 3, in Fig. 1, omitting the corresponding burners, and showing our connecting device in side elevation; Fig. 4, a vertical transverse section through the burner casing on line 4, 4, in Fig. 3, and Fig. 5, a top plan view thereof; Fig. 6, is a view corresponding to Fig. 1, showing the application of the device for securing a snow flanger or plow to the frame or vehicle in lieu of the burner casing, and Fig. 7, a vertical longitudinal section through the same on line 7, 7, in Fig. 6.

Like letters and numerals of reference denote like parts in all the figures.

a represents a casing or cover inclosing a series of gasoline burners *b* (indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 1), and *c* the end portion of a frame or vehicle to which the casing *a* is to be secured, and forming therewith parts of a vegetation-destroyer of the class described, the casing *a* being arranged in a horizontal plane immediately over the railroad track *d* at a suitable distance therefrom beyond the end of the frame or vehicle *c*, and having hinged thereto at each side, a similar burner casing *a'*, adapted to overhang the ground on the corresponding side of the track *d*.

Preferably, to the end of the frame or vehicle *c* at the middle and on each side thereof respectively, is riveted or otherwise fixed preferably, an upright plate 1, from the outer face of which at right angles thereto project two opposite arms or webs 2 which are suitably spaced apart and form between them a jaw 3, adapted to receive a tongue 4 which projects from the upper end face 5 of a bracket *e*, the face 5 at the sides of the tongue 4 forming shoulders thereto which are adapted to bear against the outer upright edges of the arms 2 when the parts are assembled, the bracket *e* extending outward and downward therefrom and formed at its lower end with a horizontal base-plate 6, which is riveted (or otherwise fixed) to the top of the burner casing *a* as shown. Or if desired the arms 2 forming the jaw 3 may be cast or otherwise formed integrally with the end sill of the frame or vehicle *c* and the plate 1 eliminated.

Transversely through the arms 2 of the jaw 3, and correspondingly through the tongue 4 of the bracket *e* are formed an upright series of bolt holes 7 at equal distances apart and

adapted to register with each other respectively, and through, say three, as shown (more or less) of the series of holes 7 are passed bolts 8, which firmly secure the bracket *e* to the jaw 3 and frame or vehicle *c*. In the outer upright edges of the arms 2 are formed suitably shaped notches or recesses 9 which correspond in distance apart preferably, to the bolt holes 7, and on the upper end face 5 of the bracket *e*, or shoulders of the tongue 4 are formed projections 9' which correspond to and are adapted to engage or interlock with the recesses 9 when the parts are assembled and fixed together by the bolts 8 as described, whereby the bolts 8 are relieved from sheer stress and a positive firm support insured to the burner casing *a*. By this construction, on removing the bolts 8, the tongue 4 with the bracket *e* and burner casing *a* can be raised or lowered to the extent of the distance between two or more of the holes 7, or so that the holes 7 through the tongue 4 register, in the adjusted position, with the corresponding holes of the arms 2 of the jaw 3, and the projections 9' of the bracket *e* with the corresponding recesses 9 of the arms 2, when the parts are again fixed together by the bolts 8 and interlocked as before, thereby enabling the burner casing *a* with its auxiliary casings *a'* to be moved nearer to or further from the track *d* as desired without removal of the tongue 4 from the jaw 3.

Figs. 6 and 7, show the application of our improved connecting device for securing a snow plow *f* to the frame or vehicle *c* in lieu of the burner casing *a*, which with the other parts of the vegetation-destroyer in the winter season may be removed and the frame or vehicle *c* used for removing snow from the track *d*, in which case that portion of the bracket *e'* having its face 5 and tongue 4 in engagement with the jaw 3, is formed with an outwardly extending portion of the bracket *e* fixed to the burner casing as before described, the snow plow *f* having suitable bracing members 11 riveted at one end to the inner face of

the plow *f* and at their other convergent ends to the web 10 of the bracket *e'*.

What I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent is

1. In a vegetation-destroyer of the character described, a connecting device for securing the burner casings to the frame or vehicle, consisting of two parts, one part fixed to the said frame and the other part fixed to one of the said casings and vertically slidable laterally and transversely against the first named part, the said parts having respectively, an upright series of bolt-holes there-through, the holes of one part being adapted to register with the holes of the other part, means for interlocking the parts in the registering position of the said holes, and bolts passed through the said holes and tightened against the said parts, substantially as described and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a vegetation-destroyer of the character described, the means for securing the burner casings to the frame or vehicle, comprising two opposite arms projecting from the said frame and adapted to form a jaw, a bracket fixed at its lower end to one of the said casings, a tongue projecting from the upper end of the bracket and slidable vertically within the jaw, the bracket having shoulders thereat adapted to bear against the upright edges of the said arms, the said arms and tongue having an upright series of bolt-holes formed transversely therethrough respectively, adapted to register with each other, and the said shoulders having projections adapted to engage with corresponding recesses in the said arms in the registering positions of the said holes, and bolts passed through the said registering holes, substantially as described and for the purpose set forth.

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

CLARENCE H. HOWARD.

Witnesses:

H. C. BELLVILLE,
EDWARD W. FURRELL.