

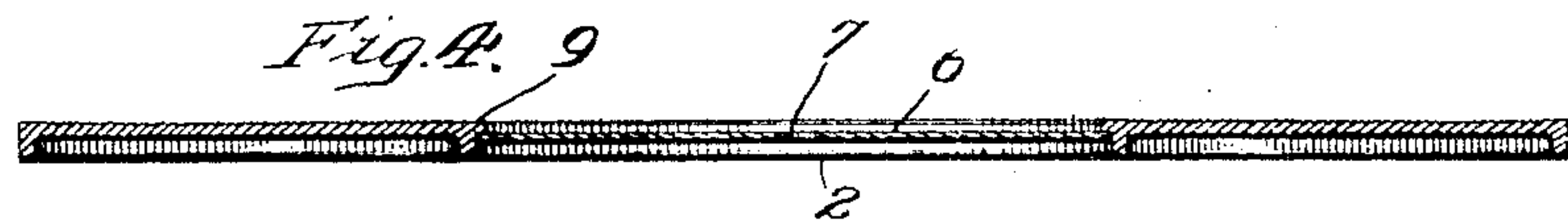
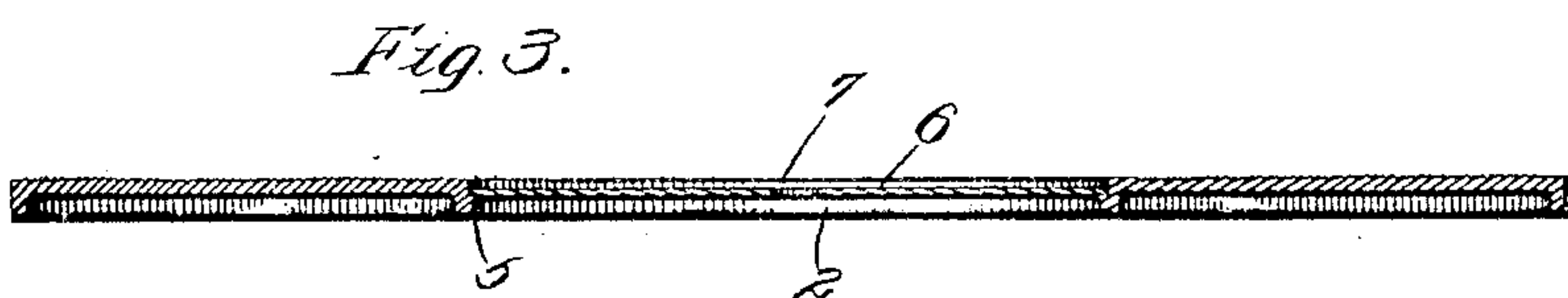
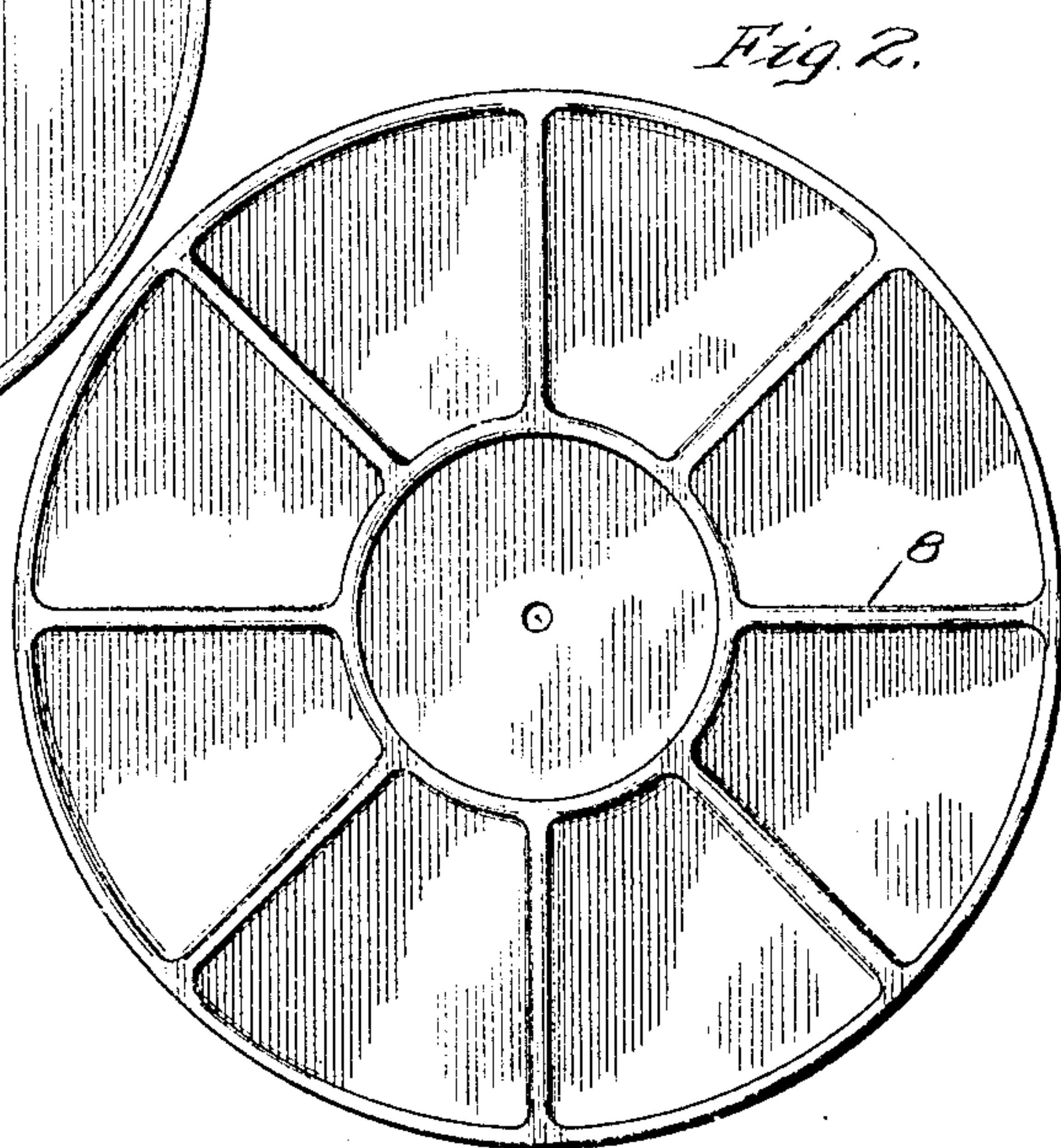
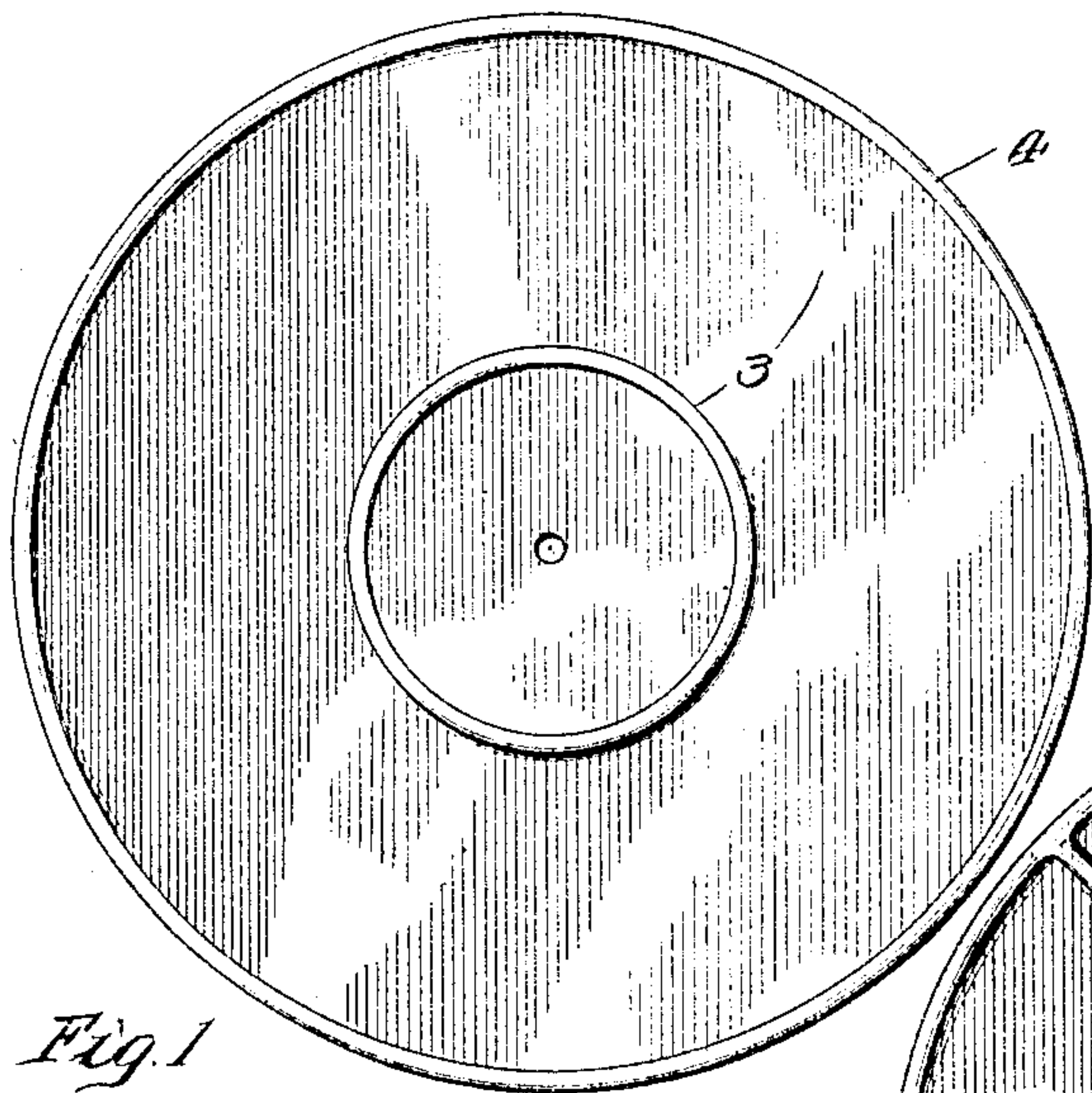
No. 888,089.

PATENTED MAY 19, 1908.

E. R. JOHNSON.

RECORD FOR TALKING MACHINES.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 30, 1904. RENEWED OCT. 12, 1907.



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## RECORD FOR TALKING-MACHINES.

No. 888,089.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 19, 1908.

Application filed August 30, 1904, Serial No. 222,687. Renewed October 12, 1907. Serial No. 397,168.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ELDRIDGE R. JOHNSON, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Merion, county of Montgomery, State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Records for Talking-Machines, of which the following is a full, clear, and complete disclosure of different forms thereof.

Heretofore in the manufacture of flat disk records for talking machines it has been the practice to stamp out the record disks from a suitable material by means of a die containing a matrix upon the surface of which has been engraved or otherwise placed the record grooves, which grooves in connection with the sound box are adapted to reproduce the sounds impressed upon the original record. The record disks formed by so impressing the matrices have usually been of some hard, durable material which softens under the influence of heat, but which is hard and firm under normal conditions of temperature. The material usually employed for making these records has been in the form of flat sheets and have been of uniform thickness throughout the entire extent of the disk with the possible exception of the central portion where the label has been impressed or countersunk into the material during the pressing or forming of the record. This material, in many instances has been a substance called "duranoid" which consists of shellac and certain other coloring pigments and strengthening ingredients. Other similar materials which have been used are hard rubber and celluloid. It will be realized that these compositions are expensive when used in large quantities, especially in view of the fact that talking machine records now employed in this art have been steadily increasing in size.

One object, therefore, of my invention is to produce a record which may have all the advantages of a flat disk record of uniform thickness but which will at the same time be much lighter and, therefore, less expensive in original cost and also will be easier to handle and less expensive in transportation either by mail, freight or express.

A further object of my invention is to provide a record disk which will be easily and accurately centered upon the talking machine turntable without the employment of unnecessary material at the center of the record

where the radius is too small for the efficient recording of the sound waves.

A further object of my invention is the production of a record which will have strengthening means of such form as to give a stiff and firm backing for the reproducing surface in connection with the central opening without the necessity of employing the amount of material required in a disk record having a smooth under surface.

Briefly, my invention comprises a disk record having the center which is free from the grooves containing the sound waves cut away or omitted forming an annular plate or surface in the opening of which a card, label or centering plate may be carried for the purpose of fixing the record upon the turntable in the usual manner.

For a full, clear and exact description of these forms of my invention reference may be had to the following specification and to the accompanying drawing forming a part thereof in which

Figure 1 is a reverse plan view of a talking machine record having concentric strengthening ribs on its under surface and having the center of said record provided with a centering plate made in accordance with my invention; Fig. 2, a similar view of a record having both concentric and radial strengthening ribs; and Figs. 3 and 4 are transverse sectional views of the records shown in Figs. 1 and 2, and indicating two ways of attaching the designating label which also serves in these instances as centering means.

Referring to the drawings, the numeral 1 indicates a flat, annular piece of duranoid or other material used in the manufacture of records having a central opening 2 therein and being provided upon the edge of said opening and upon the outer edge by strengthening flanges 3 and 4. The inner edge or surface of the annular plate is provided with a lower flange 5 upon which a disk 6 of metal, pasteboard or similar stiff material is adapted to rest, said disk being held in position within the said opening upon said flange in any suitable manner such as by cementing or being impressed therein during the forming of the record. The center of the disk 6 is provided with an opening 7 which is adapted to receive the central stud or shaft of the turntable spindle in the usual manner.

In Fig. 2, I have shown in addition, to



the concentric strengthening ribs, radial strengthening ribs 7 which give the required stiffness to the record out to its extreme edge. Different forms and arrangements of these 5 strengthening ribs have been described and claimed in a separate application filed herewith Ser. No. 222,685, dated August 30, 1904.

In Fig. 4, I have shown a construction similar to that shown in Fig. 3 except that 10 the centering disk or label rests upon a flange 9 which is at the upper portion of the opening 3, the centering disk or label 6 being forced against the same from the under side of the record and being retained thereon in the 15 manner above referred to.

Having thus described these forms of my invention, what I claim and desire to protect by Letters Patent, is:—

1. In a record for talking machines, the 20 combination of a thin annular record portion, having an internal and an external flange, and radial ribs extending between said flanges; of a centering disk, engaging the inner flange of said annular portion and 25 permanently secured thereto.

2. In a record for talking machines, the combination of a thin annular record portion, having an internal and an external

flange and radial ribs extending between said flanges, with a printed label engaging the 30 inner flange of said annular portion and permanently secured thereto.

3. In a record for talking machines, a combination of a thin annular record portion having an internal and external flange, shoulders or seats on the inner edges of said flange, 35 and strengthening ribs extending between said flanges; with a centering disk, permanently secured to said shoulders or seat.

4. A record for talking machines comprising 40 a substantially flat disk having a central opening therein occupying the space not taken up by the record grooves, a flange upon the inner surface of said opening and a plate of thin durable material retained in position 45 upon said flange having a hole therein for centering the record upon the turntable, said plate also being adapted to receive printed matter in the form of a label or otherwise.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my 50 hand this 29th day of August, 1904.

ELDRIDGE R. JOHNSON.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM F. BRENNAN,  
EDW. W. VAILL, Jr.