

L. I. BERKOWITZ.

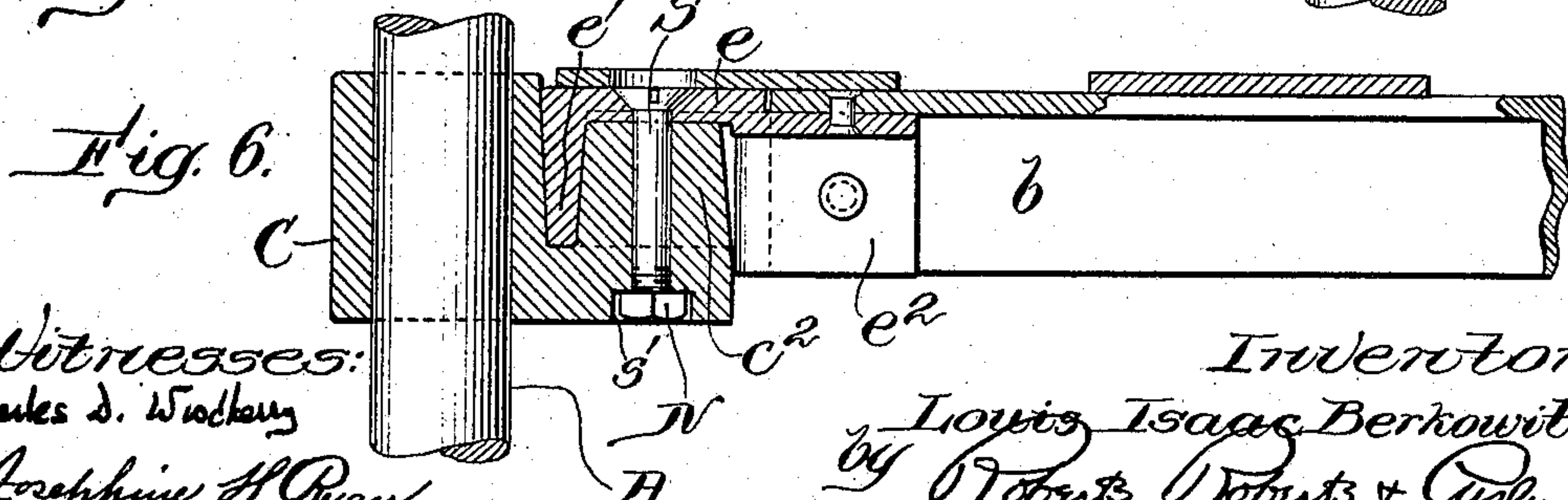
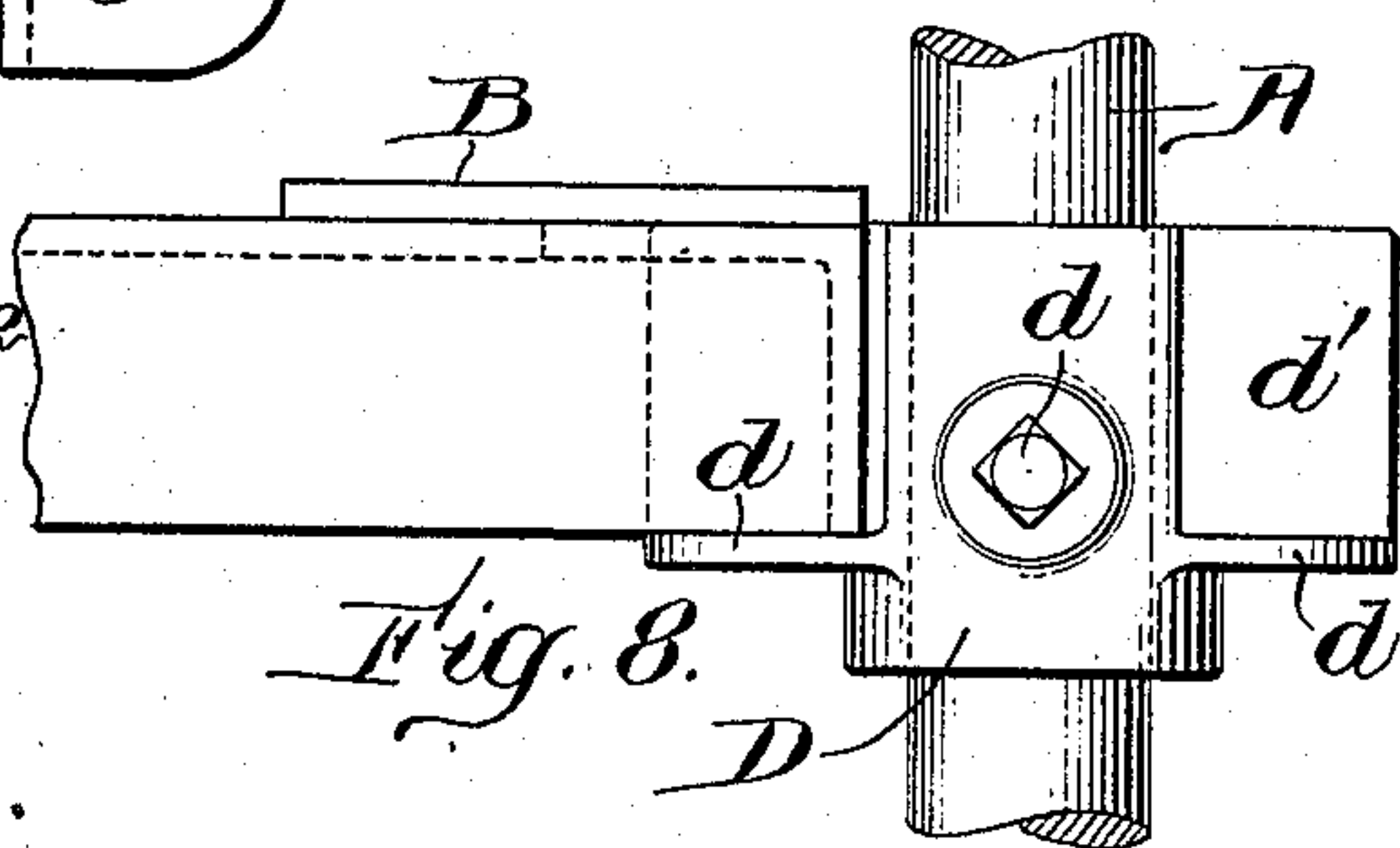
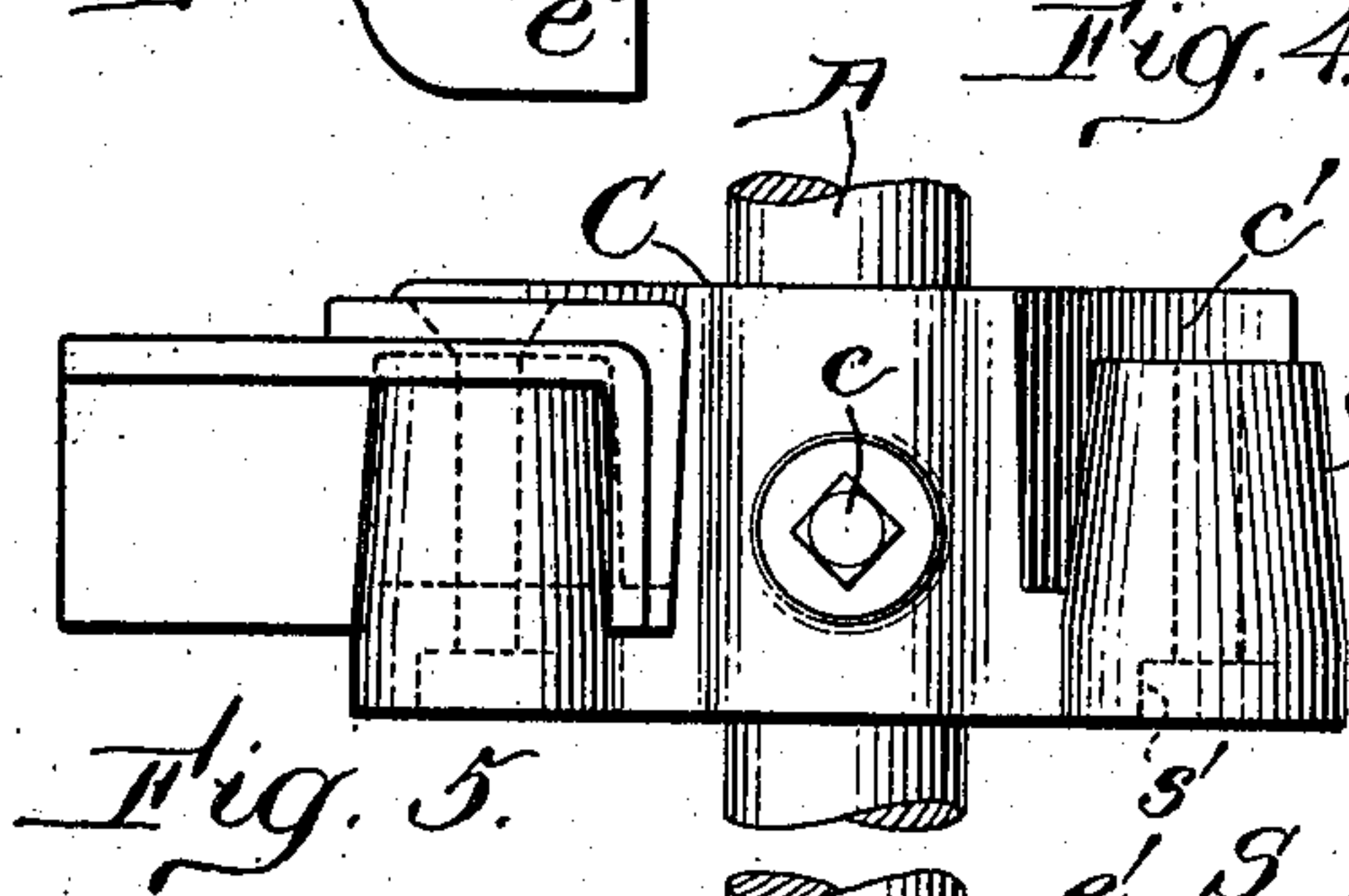
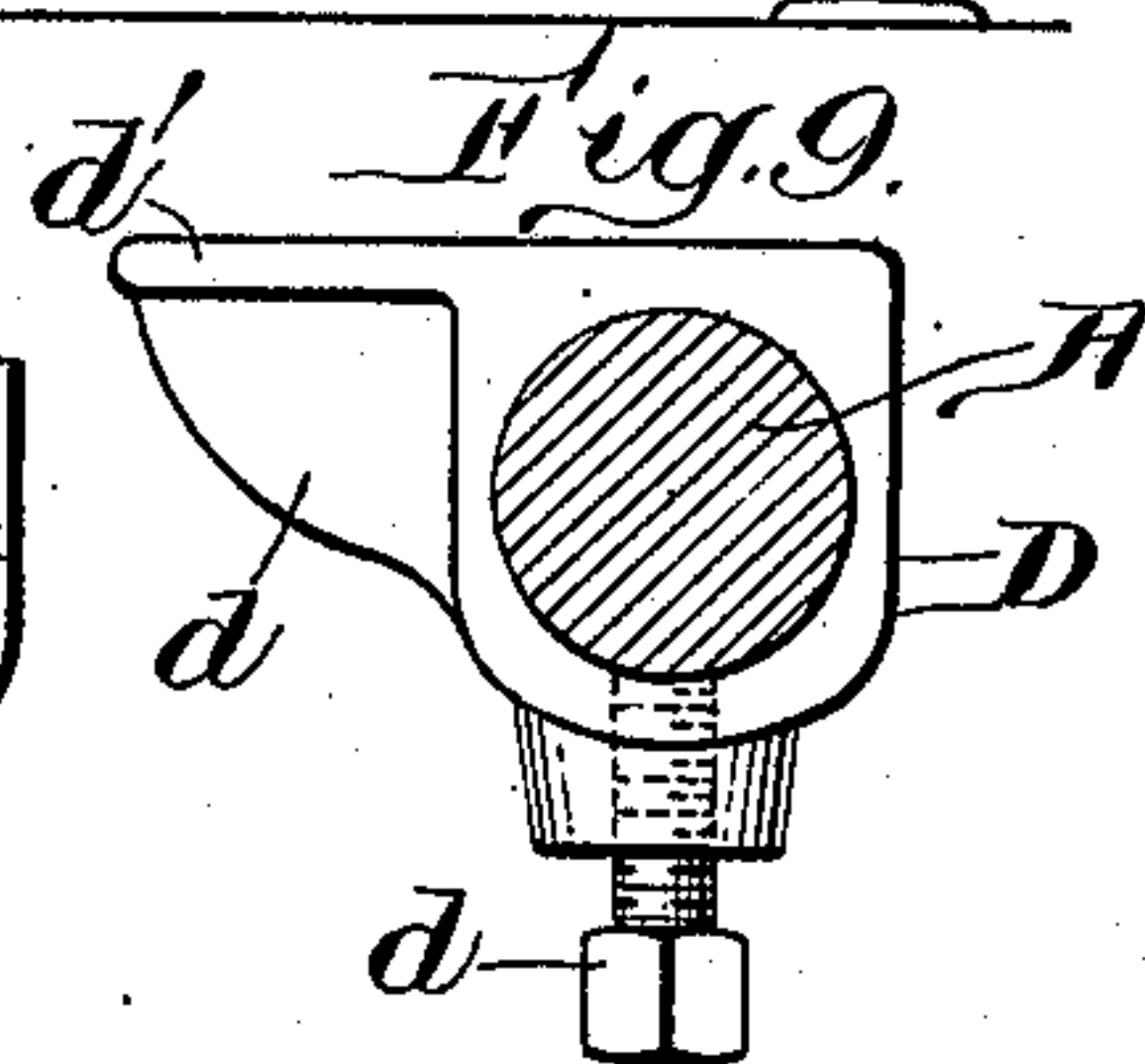
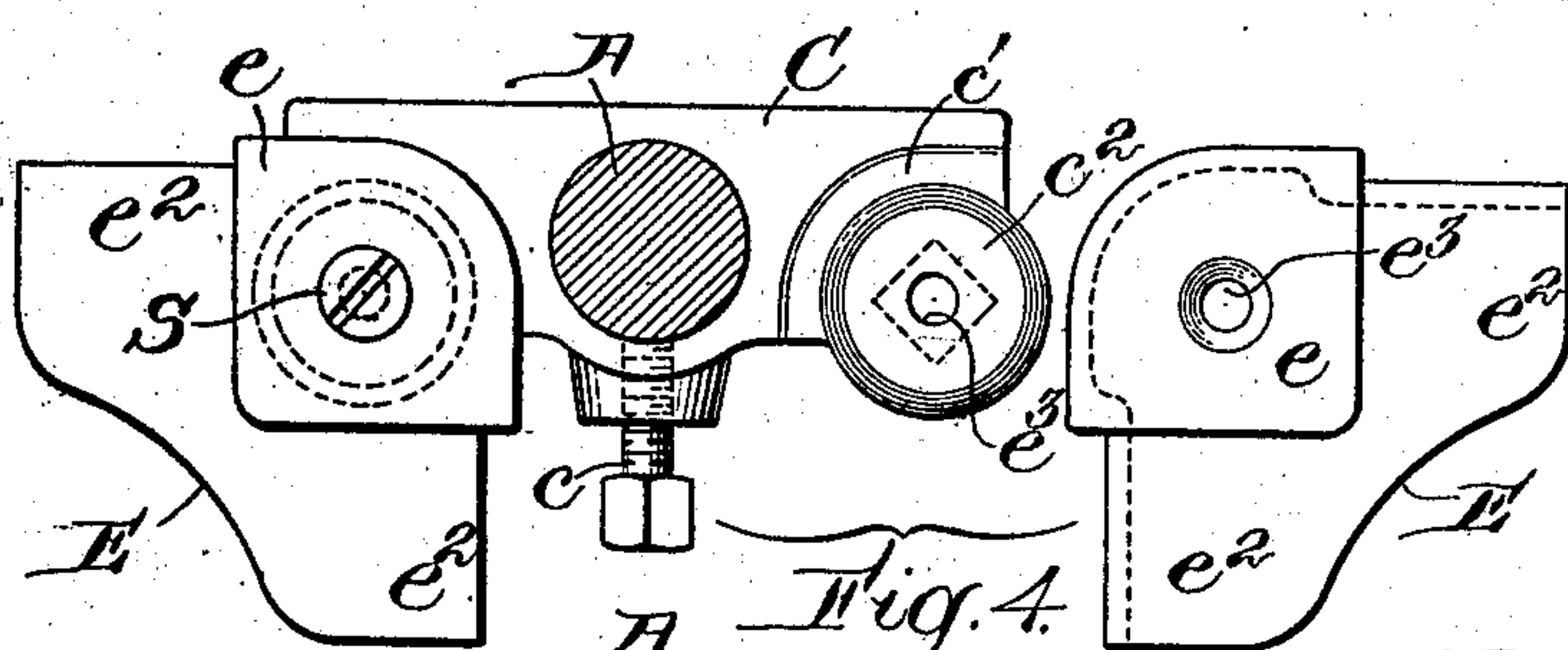
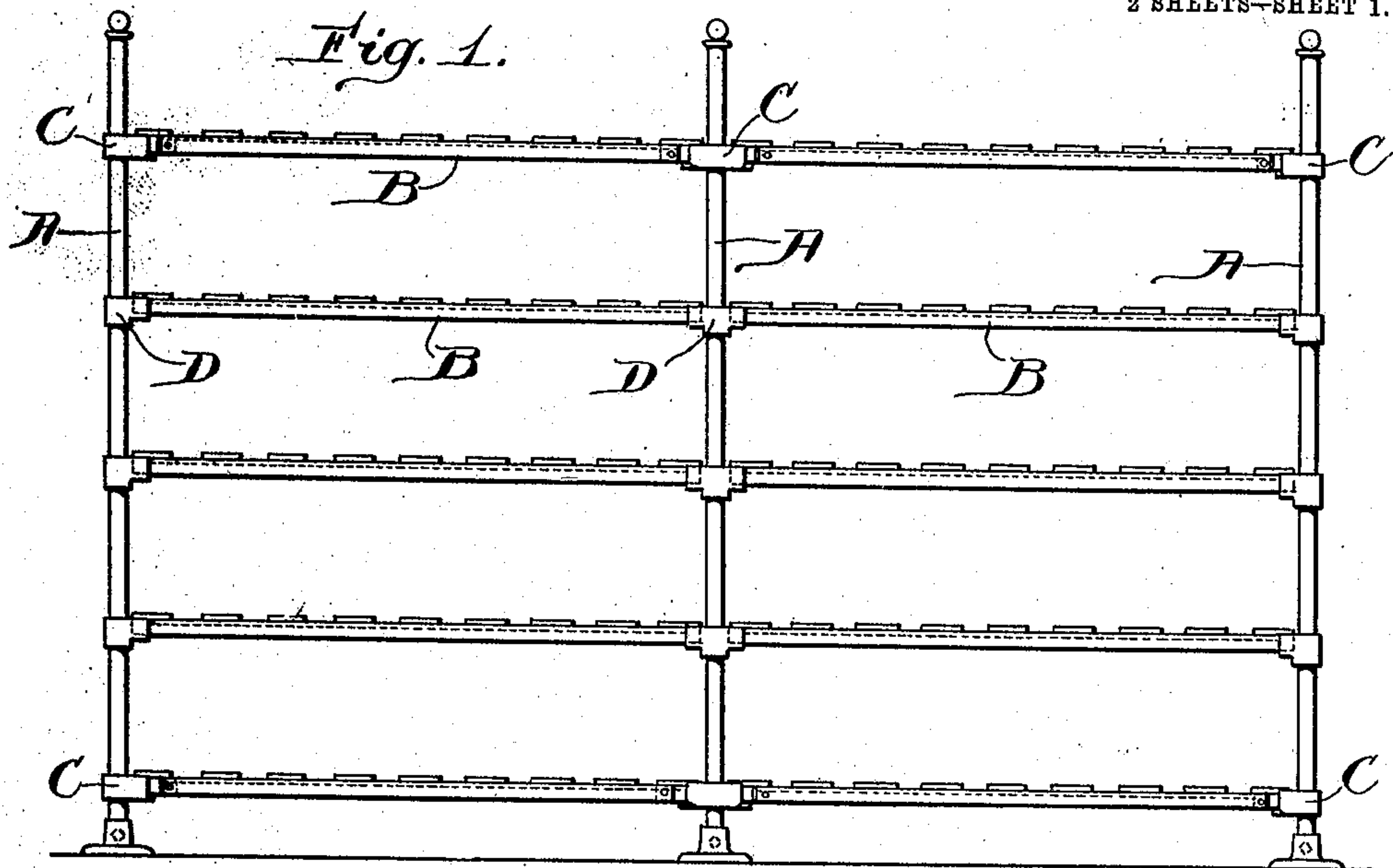
MEAT RACK.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 24, 1908.

911,567.

Patented Feb. 9, 1909.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses:  
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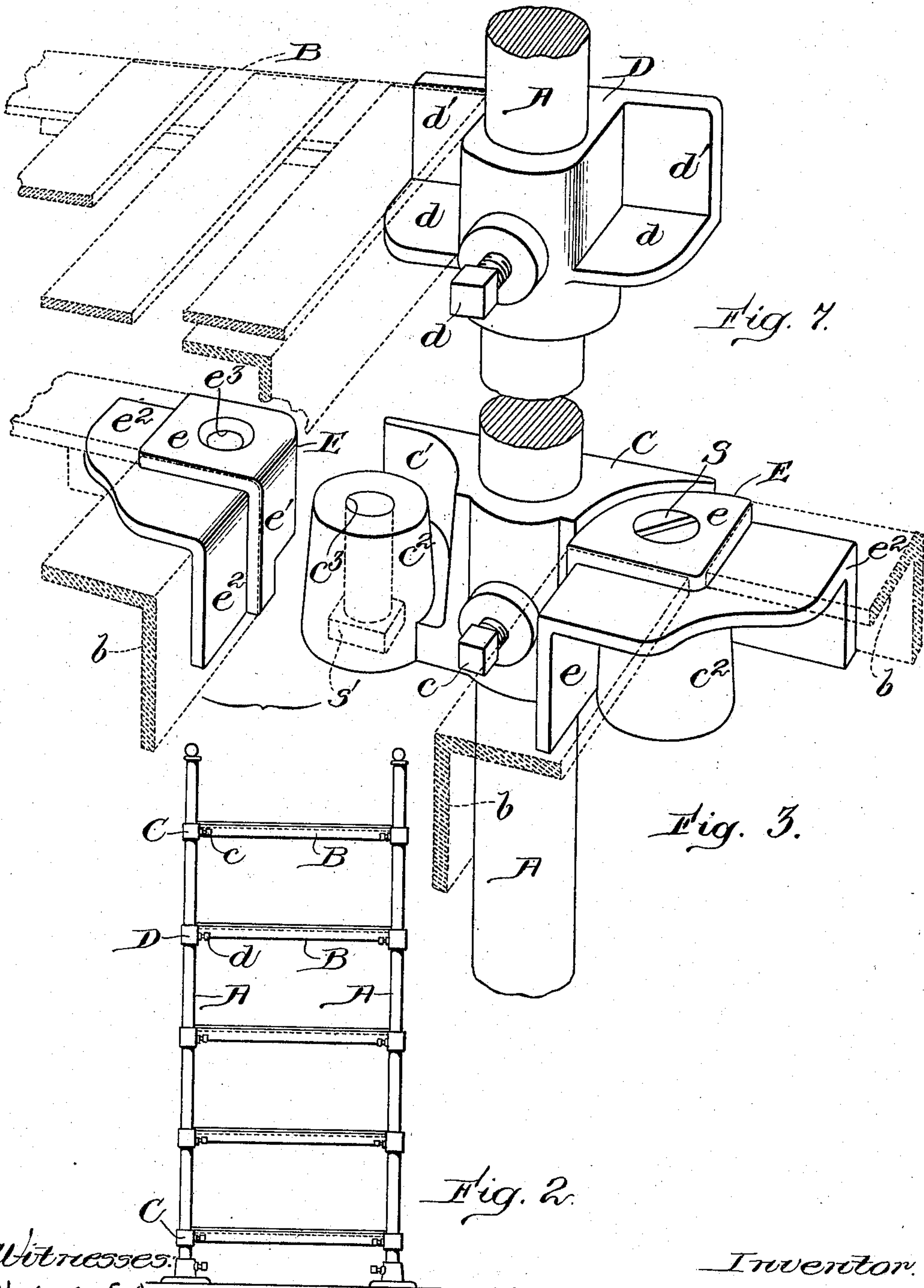
MEAT RACK.

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LOUIS ISAAC BERKOWITZ, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

## MEAT-RACK.

No. 911,567.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 9, 1909.

Application filed February 24, 1908. Serial No. 417,304.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, LOUIS ISAAC BERKOWITZ, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented new and useful Improvements in Meat-Racks, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to meat racks comprising essentially a plurality of uprights and a series of shelves supported thereby, the whole structure preferably being of metallic formation throughout, and being readily separable for the purpose of cleaning or storing the parts.

The invention consists in the improvements hereinafter described and pointed out in the claims.

Referring to the drawings which illustrate one embodiment of my invention,—Figure 1 is a side elevation of a meat rack containing my invention; Fig. 2 is an end elevation of said meat rack; Fig. 3 is a perspective view of an interlocking joint between one of the brackets and the corners of the shelves; Fig. 4 is a plan view of the joint shown in Fig. 3; Fig. 5 is a front elevation of the joint shown in Fig. 3; Fig. 6 is a vertical section of one of the joints shown in Fig. 3; Fig. 7 is a perspective view of one of the intermediate brackets for supporting the intermediate shelves; Fig. 8 is a front elevation of the bracket, and part of the shelf, shown in Fig. 7; and Fig. 9 is a plan view of one of said intermediate brackets.

The uprights of the rack are preferably made of piping and are shown at A.

B, B, are shelves supported between the uprights A.

The rack is made in units comprising four uprights and the shelves therebetween, and its capacity may be increased by adding similar units comprising a pair of additional uprights and shelves between them and the end pair of the adjacent unit.

C, C represent brackets mounted to slide on the uprights A, A and are provided with set screws  $c$ ,  $c$  to hold them in any desired position of adjustment on the uprights. Brackets C, C are provided for the upper and lower shelf and are made with interlocking joint members cooperating with joint members on the corners of the upper and lower shelves to hold the frame rigidly in set-up position, as hereinafter described. Intermediate brackets D, D are also mount-

ed to slide on the uprights A, A and are provided with set screws  $d$  to hold them in any desired position of adjustment on uprights A. The upper and lower brackets C are made with a curved trough  $c'$  open at the top and at both ends, and a post  $c^2$  within the curve of and partially surrounded by said trough as shown. Said trough tapers in width from the top toward the bottom.

The bracket C formed as above described constitutes the lower member of a locking joint between it and the corner of the shelf. When used at the outer corners of the frame, the bracket is made with but one such joint member, as shown in Fig. 6. When used on an intermediate upright with shelves at each side, it is made with a pair of such joint members, one on each side, as shown in Figs. 3, 4 and 5. The upper and lower shelves are provided with corner pieces E forming the upper joint member to interlock with the lower joint member formed on brackets C. The corner pieces E comprise the top plate  $e$  adapted to cover and rest on the top of the post  $c^2$ , the curved web  $e'$ , depending from the top plate  $e$ , tapered and adapted to form a close fit with the curved and tapered trough  $c'$ , and the angle extension members  $e^2$ . The side and end bars of the shelves are composed of angle-iron  $b$ . The surface of the top plate  $e$  and of the web  $e'$  are elevated with relation to the surface of the extension members  $e^2$ , to the extent of the thickness of the angle bars  $b$ , so that when the extension members  $e^2$  are secured to the inner surfaces of the angle bars  $b$  at their ends, the outer exposed surfaces of the angle bars and of the corner piece E are flush. The joint thus formed when the two members are interlocked constitutes a rigid connection between the uprights and the top and bottom shelves, readily separable when it is desired to "knock-down" the structure, and exposing few cracks and crevices to become fouled by the accumulation of objectionable matter. In order the more permanently to hold the rack together when set up and to prevent accidental dislodgment of the upper and lower shelves when the rack is in use, I provide the posts  $c^2$  with a center bore  $c^3$ , and the top plate  $e$  of the corner pieces E with a perforation  $e^3$  registering with the bore  $c^3$ . A screw or bolt S passing through said perforation and bore holds the upper and lower members of the joint together. The screw S is provided with a nut N, the lower end of



bore  $c^s$  being countersunk at  $s'$  to receive said nut.

The intermediate brackets D for supporting the intermediate shelves, are provided with a ledge or support  $d$  and a vertical wall  $d'$  to prevent the lateral dislodgment of the shelves. The intermediate shelves may be merely rectangular frames without any special corner piece such as that used in the top and bottom shelves, and rest loosely upon the supports  $d$ . The brackets D at the outer corners of the rack need be provided with only one ledge  $d$  (as shown in Fig. 9); but when used upon the intermediate uprights with shelves at each side they are provided with a pair of supports  $d$  one at each side (as shown in Figs. 7 and 8). The rack as a whole is held rigidly together by the joints between the uprights and the upper and lower shelves. The intermediate shelves rest loosely in place, and more or less of them may be used as desired.

I claim:

1. A knock-down rack comprising uprights, brackets thereon and shelves extending between the brackets, each upper and lower bracket having a trough on its upper side open at the top and at the ends and forming the lower member of a separable joint, and each corner of the upper and lower shelves being provided with a downwardly extending web forming the upper member of such separable joint and adapted to fit within said trough and the joint thus formed between said members being adapted to prevent relative movement of the members when the latter are assembled.

2. A knock-down rack comprising uprights, brackets thereon and shelves extending between the brackets, each upper and lower bracket having on its upper side a curved trough open at the top and at the ends, said trough tapering in width from its top toward its bottom, forming the lower member of a separable joint, and each corner of the upper and lower shelves being

provided with a downwardly-extending curved web tapered in thickness forming the upper member of such separable joint and adapted to fit within said curved and tapered trough and to form therewith a rigid but separable joint.

3. A knock-down rack comprising uprights, brackets and shelves, some of the brackets and the corners of the shelves supported thereby having separable joints therebetween, each joint comprising a lower and an upper member, the lower member being formed from the bracket with a curved trough open at the top and ends and tapered in width from the top toward the bottom, and a post partially surrounded by said trough, and the upper member being formed at the corner of the shelf and comprising a top plate and a curved tapered web depending therefrom and adapted to fit into said trough, and a removable bolt or screw passing through said top plate and said post to hold the upper and lower members of said joint together.

4. In a knock-down rack of metallic formation, a plurality of uprights, brackets on said uprights having a curved trough open at the top and ends and tapered in width from the top toward the bottom, and a post within the curve of said trough, a shelf comprising side and end angle bars, and corner pieces having angle members secured to the inner surfaces of said side and end angle bars at their ends, a top plate at the corner adapted to cover the post of the bracket and projecting above the angle members flush with the upper surface of the side and end angle bars, and a curved web tapered in thickness depending from said top plate and adapted to fit into the trough of the bracket.

Signed by me at Boston, Massachusetts, this fourteenth day of February, 1908.

LOUIS ISAAC BERKOWITZ.

Witnesses:

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