

W. F. McINTOSH.  
SNARE STRAINER AND MUFFLER FOR DRUMS.  
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911,605.

Patented Feb. 9, 1909.

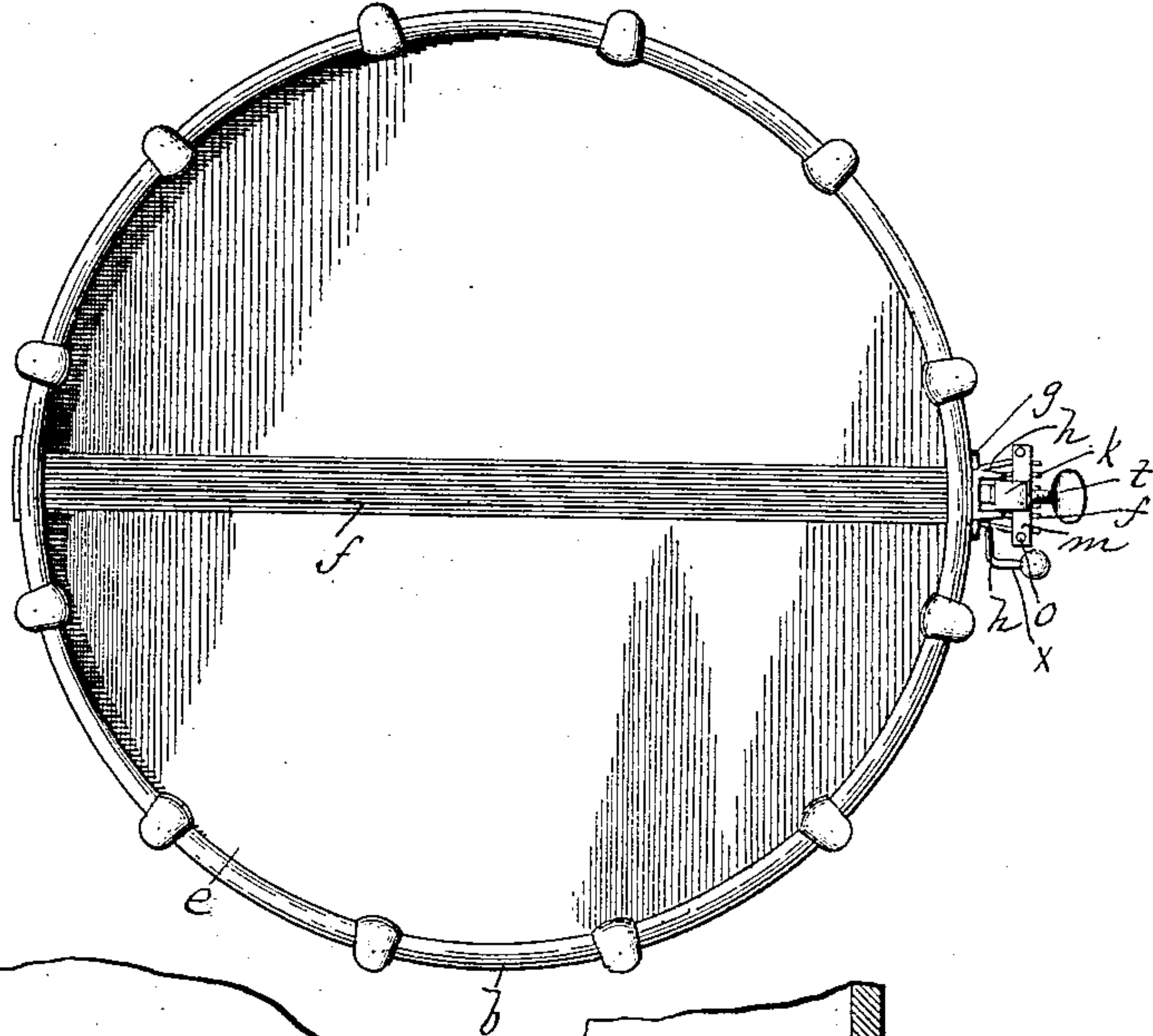


Fig. 1.

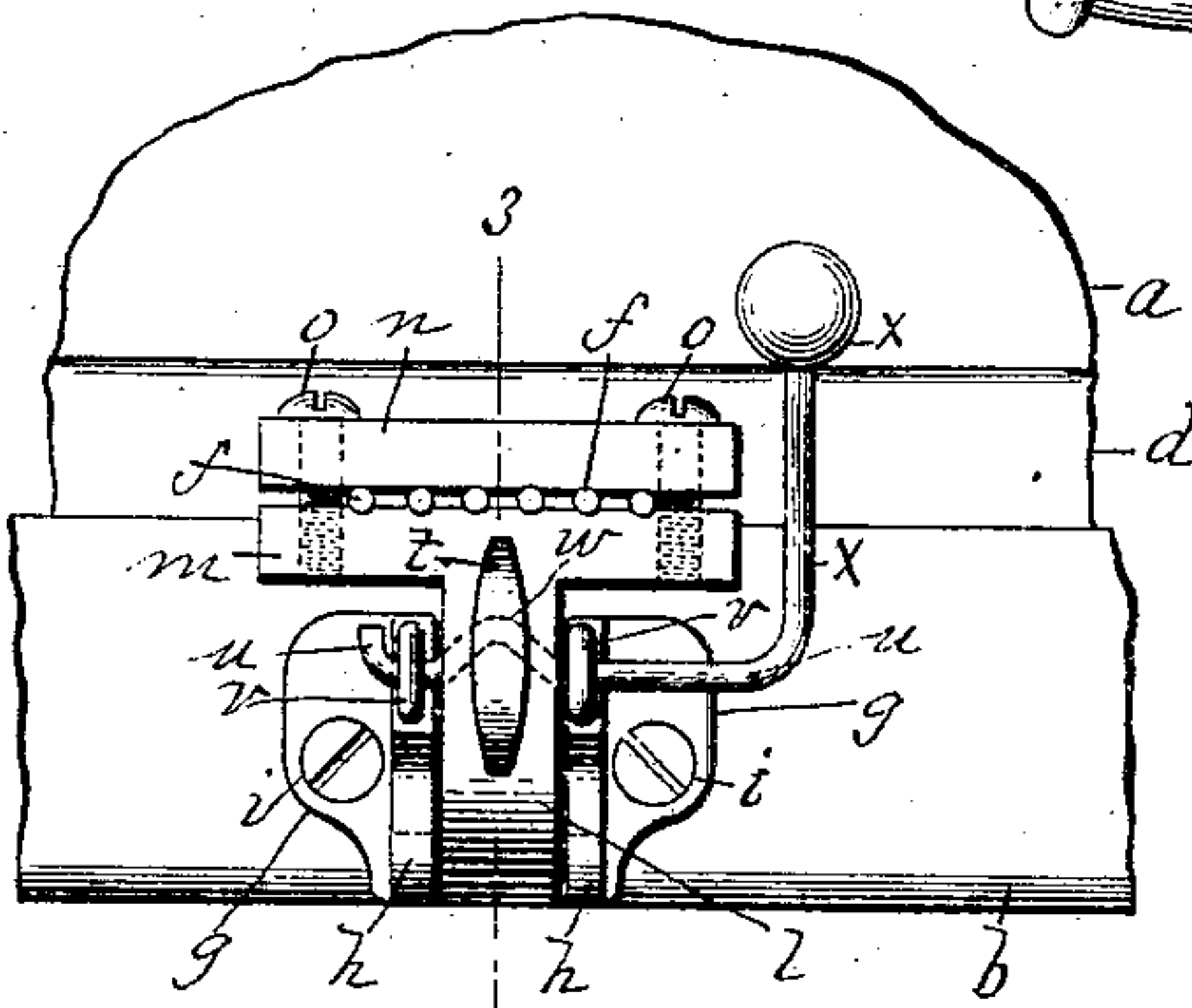


Fig. 2.

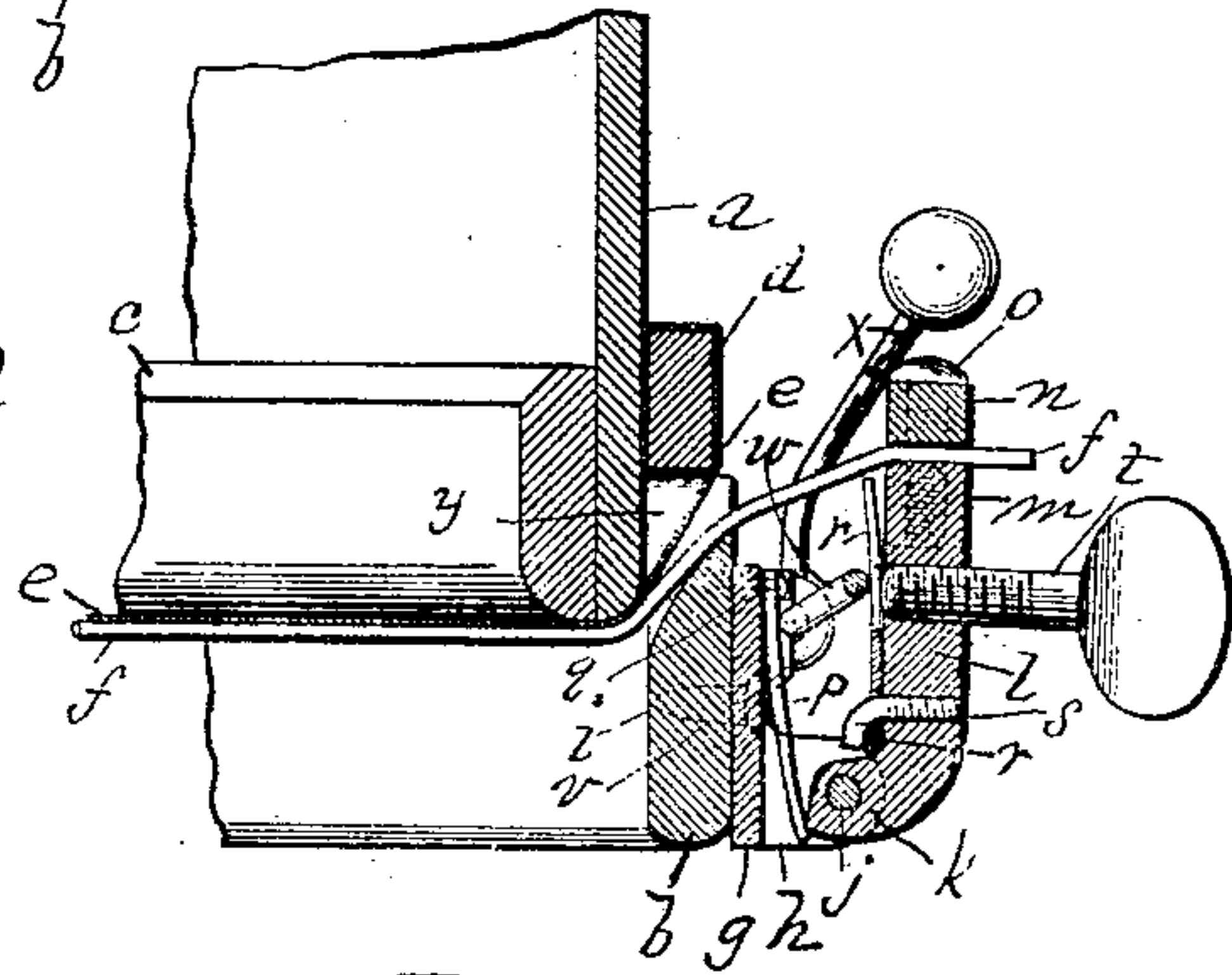


Fig. 3.

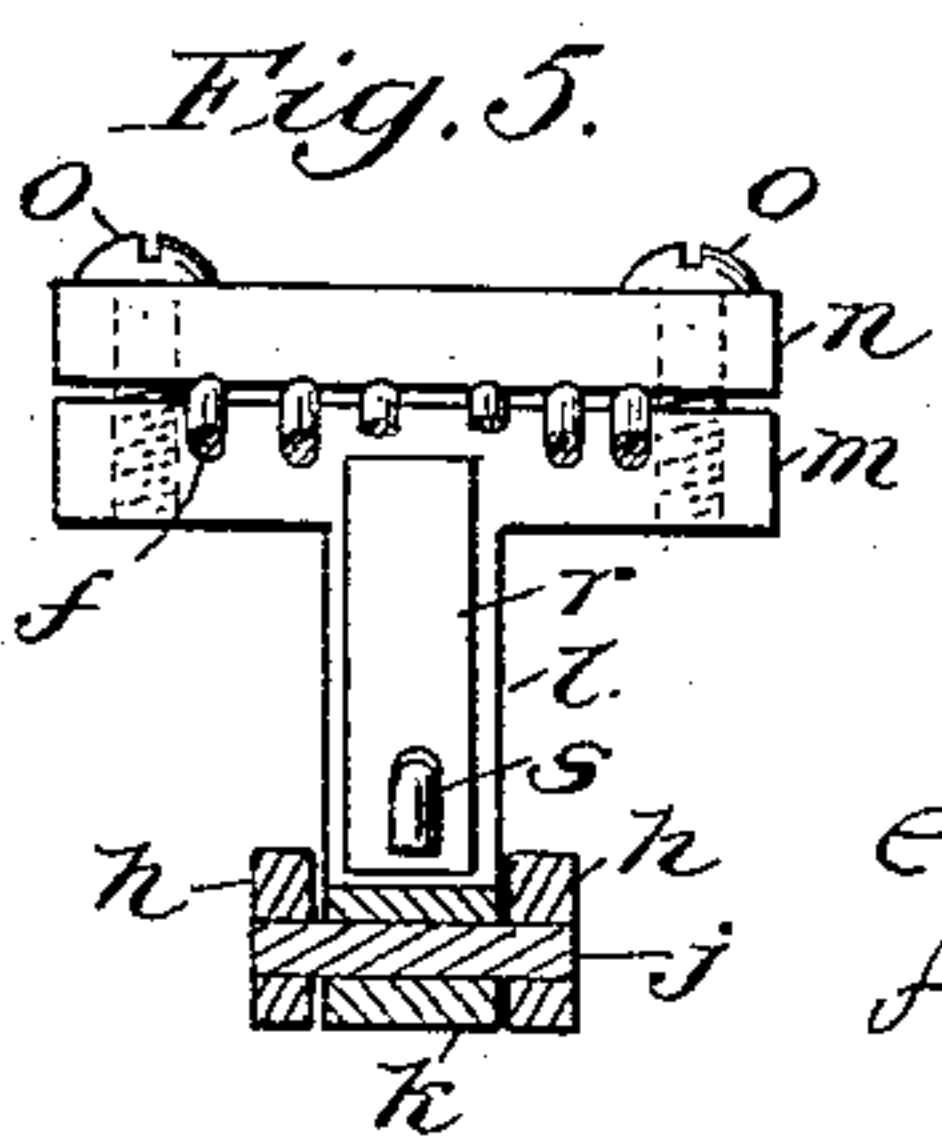


Fig. 5.

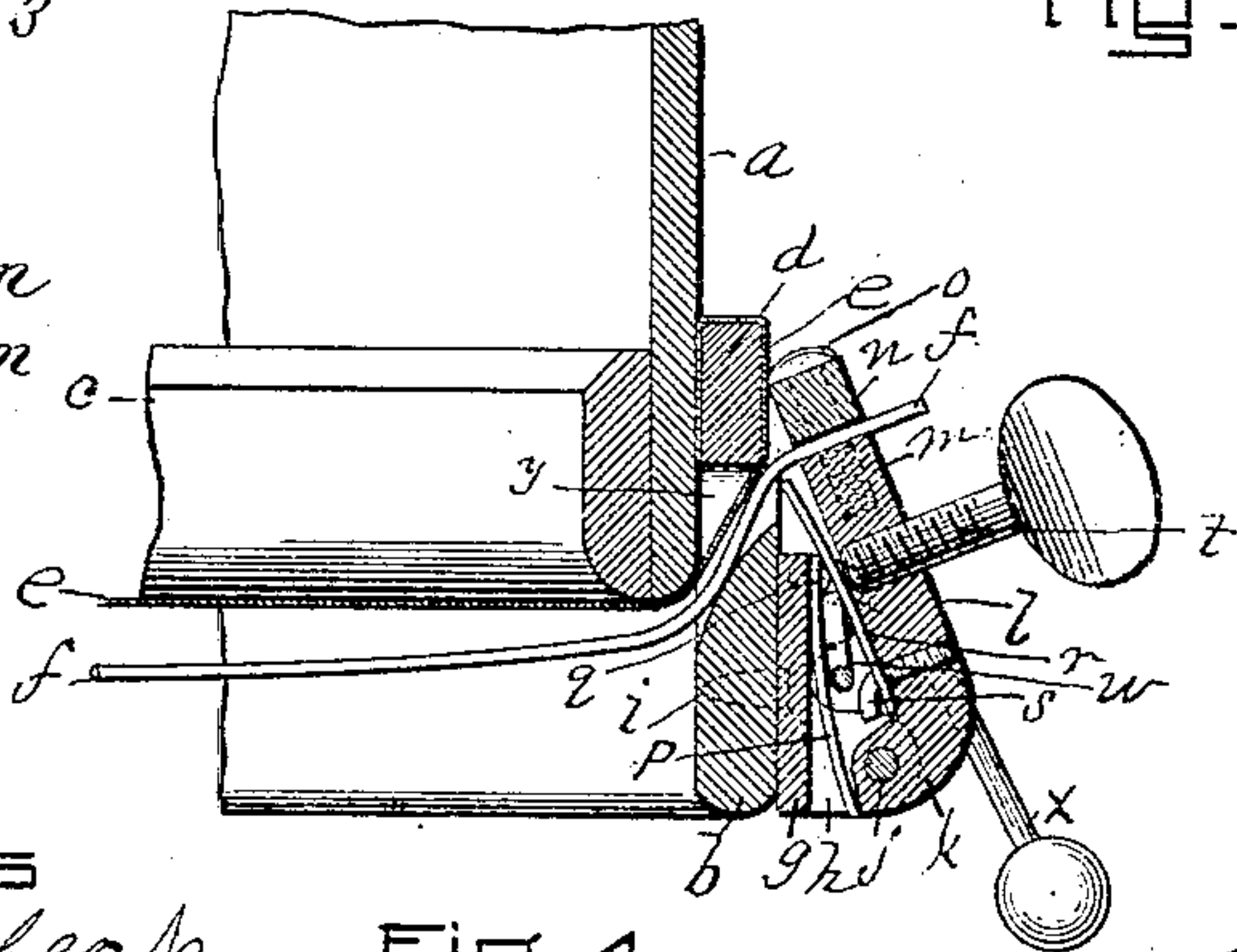


Fig. 4.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## SNARE-STRAINER AND MUFFLER FOR DRUMS.

No. 911,605.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 9, 1909.

Application filed October 6, 1908. Serial No. 456,478.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM F. McINTOSH, a citizen of the United States, residing in Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Snare-Strainers and Mufflers for Drums, of which the following is a specification.

It is frequently necessary, especially when drums make a part of an orchestra or band, to loosen or release the snares in order to stop and prevent vibration and produce the "tom-tom" effect, and to tighten them into their normal strained position again.

The object of this invention is to provide a snare-strainer and muffler in which the snares can be loosened or tightened instantaneously, between two notes, or at a given point or signal, thereby making a quick change without adjustment at the time of either of the changes; and the invention consists in the novel construction and arrangement of parts, fully described below, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a view of the under side of a drum with my device applied thereto and in its normal position, that is, with the snares taut. Fig. 2 is a side view of the device in its normal position, a portion only of the drum being illustrated. Fig. 3 is a section taken on line 3—3, Fig. 2, the upper portion of the plate *r* being shown in elevation or edge view, but the lower portion being shown in section on said line 3—3, in order to illustrate its connection with the hook *s*. Fig. 4 is a section taken on line 3—3, Fig. 2, the plate *r* being shown wholly in elevation or edge view. Fig. 5 is a vertical section taken through the pivot *j*, looking toward the right.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

Reference letter *a* represents the shell of an ordinary drum, *b* the straining-hoop, *c* the lining-hoop, *d* the flesh-hoop, and *e* the head—all the parts referred to being at the lower portion of the drum.

*f* represents the snares, usually constructed of wire or catgut.

All the above parts are constructed substantially as usual.

In my attachment, *g* represents a plate secured at *i* to the straining-hoop near its lower end. The plate is provided near its lower edge with ears *h* between which there

is pivotally secured at *j* the horizontal foot *k* of an upwardly extending T-shaped arm *l* whose upper end *m* constitutes the lower portion or member of a clamp the upper portion or member *n* of which is secured tightly at *o* against the end portions of the snares *f*, holding them firmly. A vertical spring *p* is secured at one end at *q* to the outer face of the plate *g*, and its lower end bears against the end of the foot *k*. A thin bar *r* is held in swinging engagement with the inner face of the arm *l* by means of the downturned hook *s*, and an adjusting screw *t* extends through the arm *l* against said bar *r*. A cam-wire *u* is pivotally held in eyes *v*, the central part *w* of the horizontal portion thereof being formed up into cam-shape, and said cam-wire is provided with a handle *x*.

When the parts are in the position illustrated in Figs. 1, 2 and 3, the handle *x* is in an approximately vertical position, and the cam portion *w* of the cam-wire *u* is extended and bears against the bar *r*, forcing said bar outward and, of course, swinging the arm *l* outward into an approximately vertical position, and thus stretching the snares *f* taut across and close to the drum-head *e*—said snares extending from between the clamp members *m* and *n* through a passage *y* in the straining-hoop *b*. Now if it is desired to suddenly loosen the snares so that the tom-tom effect will be produced, the handle *x* is swung quickly down and the cam portion *w* of the wire *u* is turned down, thus enabling the spring *p* which bears against the foot *k* to quickly swing said foot outward and, of course, the arm *l* inward into the position indicated in Fig. 4. A quick lifting of the handle *x* swings the cam outward and upward past the center into the position illustrated in Figs. 1, 2 and 3 and the snares are again strained taut against the drum-head. The screw *t* is purely an adjusting screw, and it in connection with the thin bar *r* regulates the length of the throw of the arm *l*. By means of the hook-connection *s* which extends through a suitable hole in the bar *r*, danger of breakage thereof, which is apt to occur if the bar is rigidly connected with the arm *l*, is obviated.

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

1. In a snare-strainer and muffler for drums, a plate adapted to be secured to the drum, an arm or lever pivotally connected



near its lower end to said plate, a spring intermediate of the plate and arm or lever and bearing against the latter below its pivotal connection with the plate, a snare-clamp supported by said plate above said pivotal connection, a cam supported above said pivotal connection between said plate and arm or lever, and means for swinging said cam into and out of engagement with the arm or lever and thus straining and loosening the snares, for the purpose set forth.

2. In a snare-strainer and muffler for drums, a plate adapted to be secured to the drum, an arm or lever pivotally connected near its lower end to said plate, a spring intermediate of the plate and arm or lever and bearing against the latter below its pivotal connection with the plate, a snare-clamp supported by said plate above said pivotal

connection, a cam supported between said plate and arm or lever, a thin bar loosely connected at its lower end to the inner surface of the arm or lever and extending up said surface in the path of rotation of the cam, an adjusting screw extending through the arm or lever against the thin plate, and means for swinging said cam and thereby moving the arm or lever and strainer-clamp outward against the power of the spring and allowing the spring to force it inward, for the purpose set forth.

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

WILLIAM F. McINTOSH.

Witnesses:

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