

938,672.

H. E. LEPPERT.  
BINDING POST.  
APPLICATION FILED APR. 2, 1908.

Patented Nov. 2, 1909.

Fig. 1.

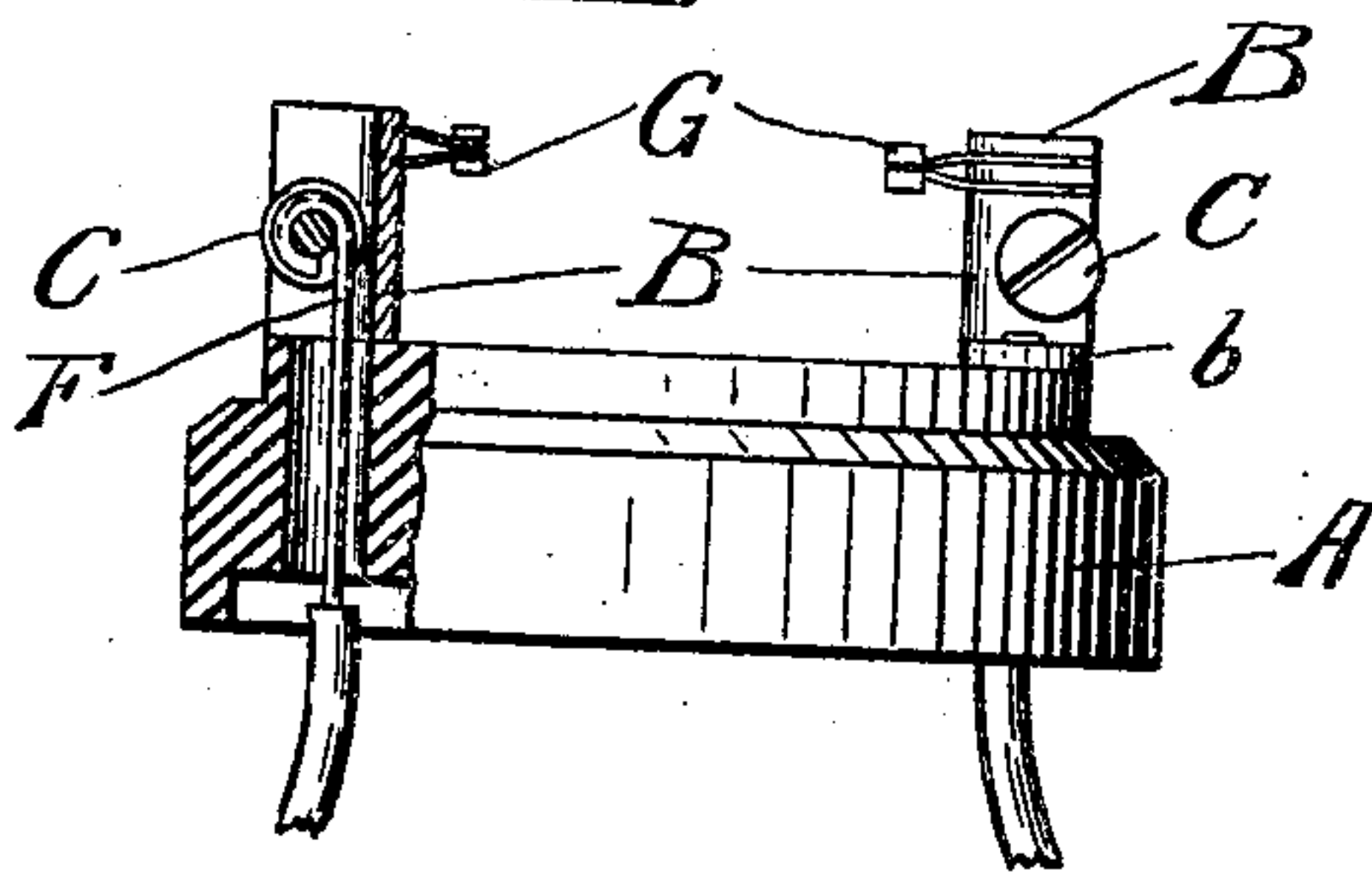


Fig. 5.

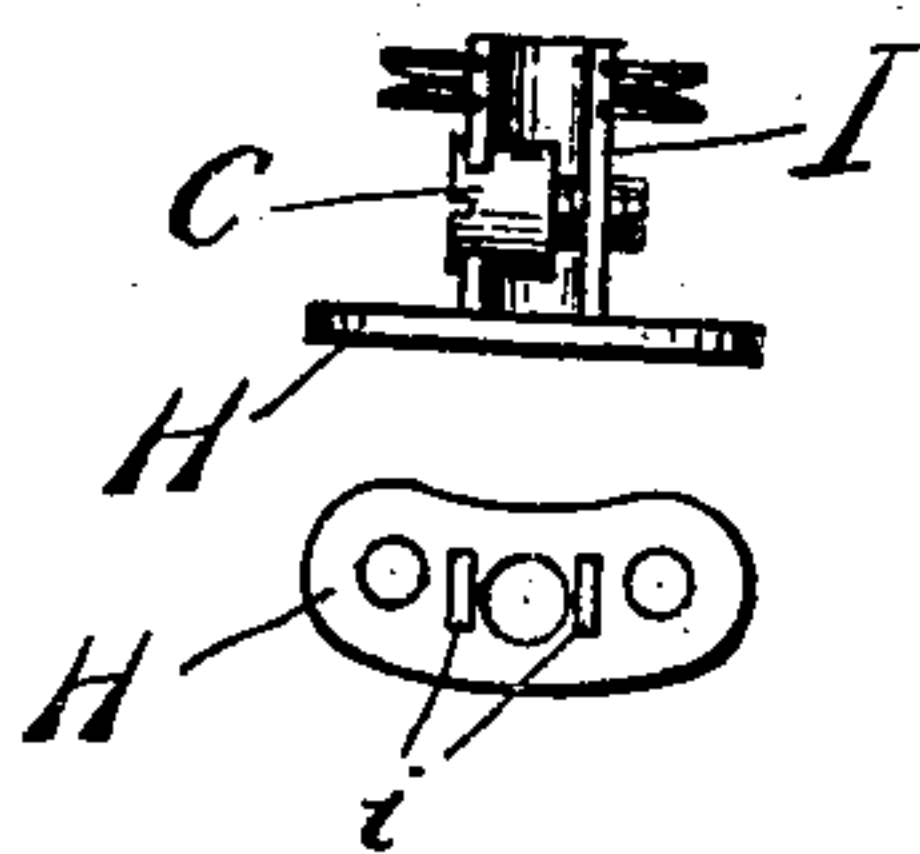


Fig. 2.

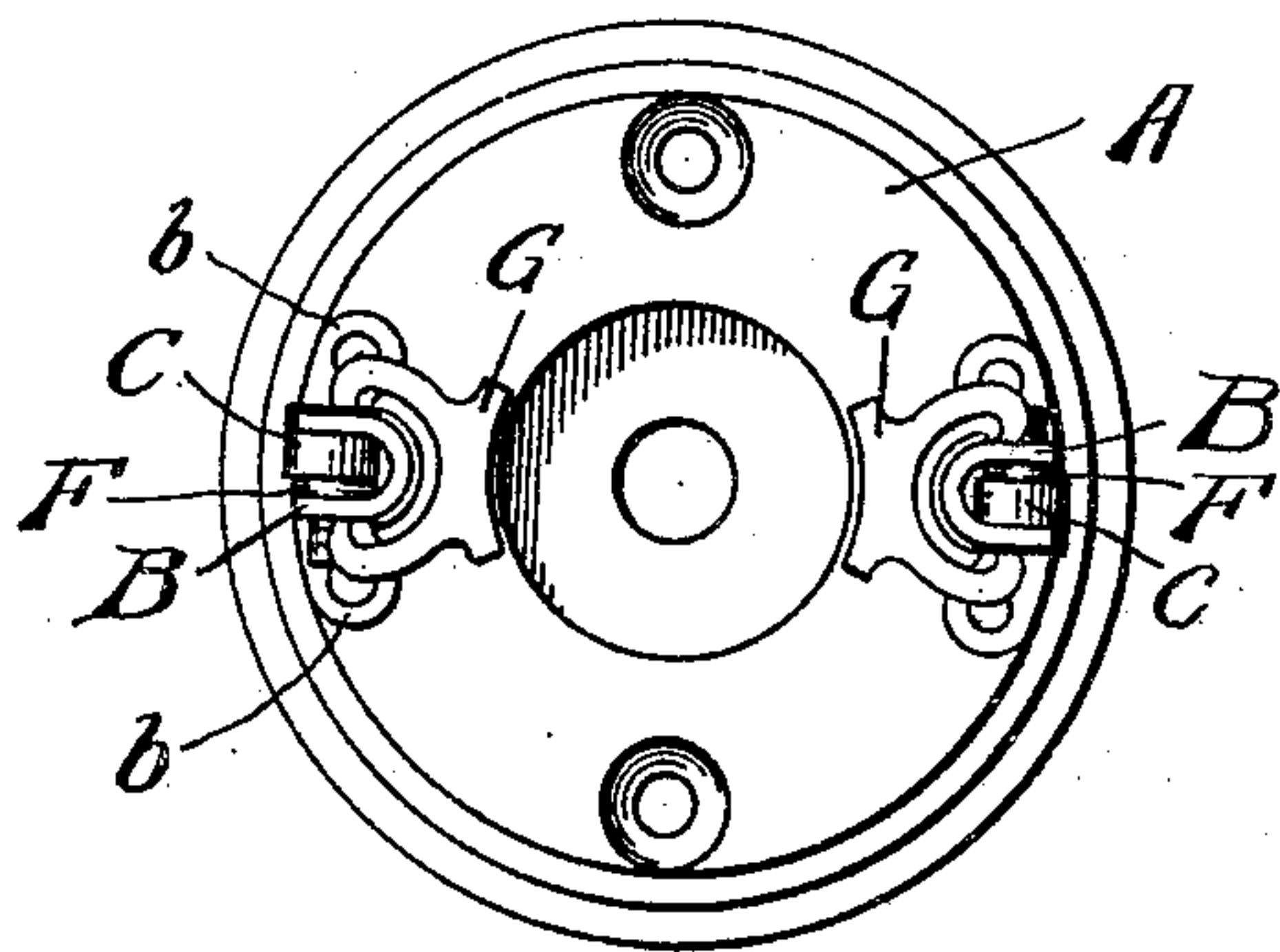


Fig. 4.

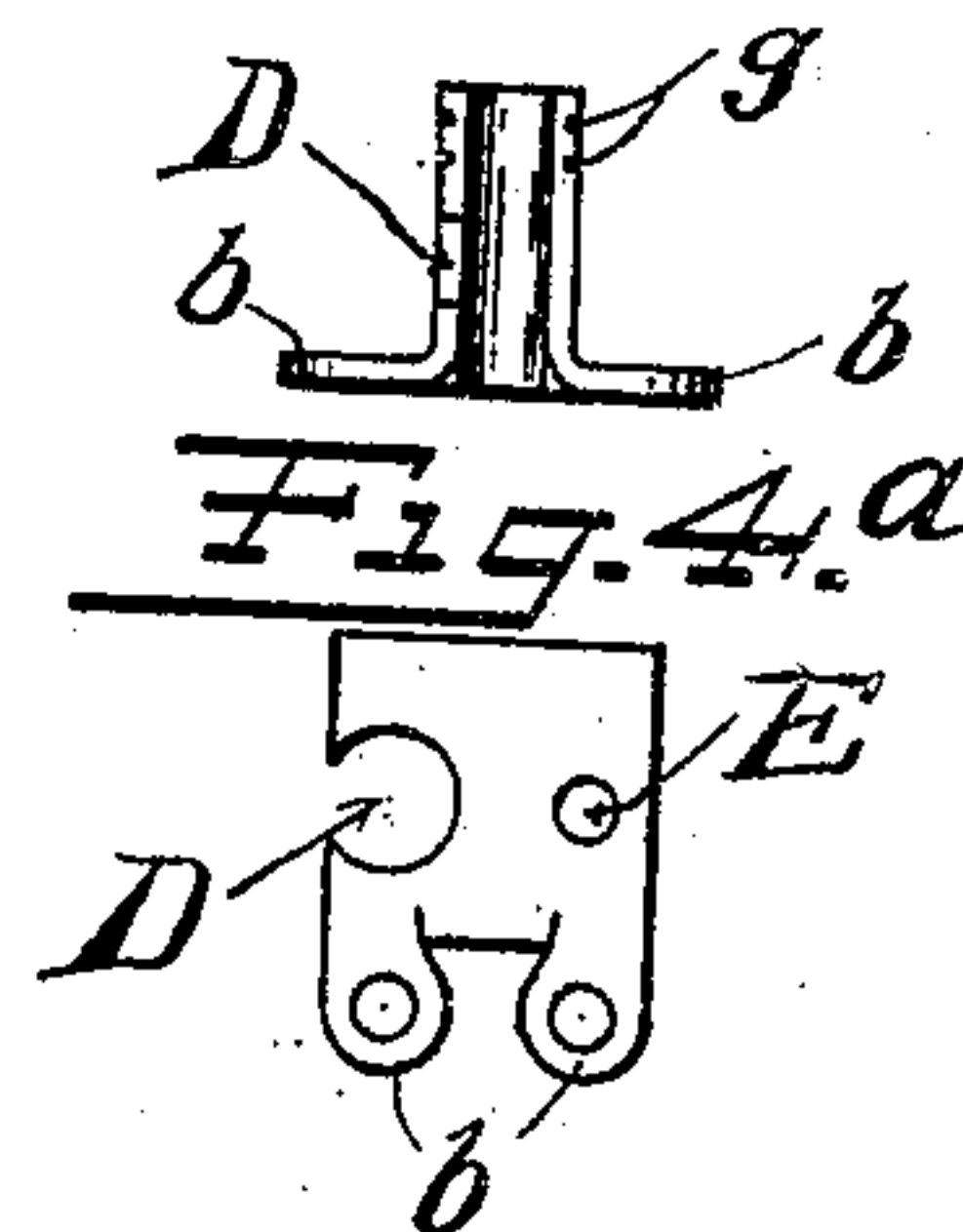
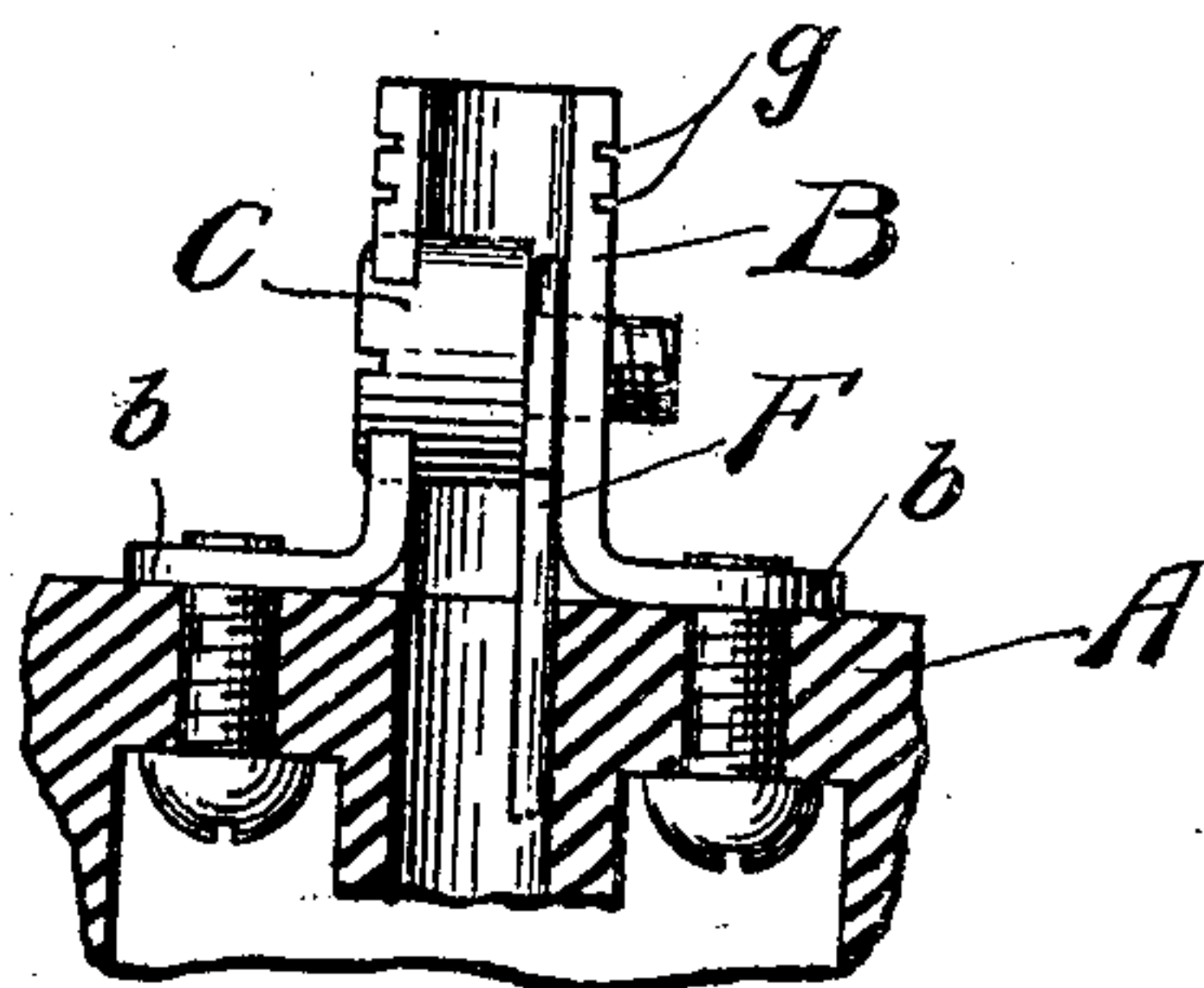


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY E. LEPPERT, OF NEW BRITAIN, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO THE HART MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT, A CORPORATION OF NEW JERSEY.

BINDING-POST.

38,672.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 2, 1909.

Application filed April 2, 1908. Serial No. 424,698.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY E. LEPPERT, a citizen of the United States, residing at New Britain, county of Hartford, State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Binding-Posts, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to binding posts for electrical apparatus, and has for its object to produce a new and improved binding post in which the conductors of the circuit may be easily inserted and securely fastened.

It further has for its object to produce a binding post having the advantages of the tubular form, and in which the conductor is clamped by a broad binding surface such as the head of a screw as distinguished from the point of a screw.

It also has for its object to produce such a binding post in which the conductor can be readily bent around so as to be hooked upon a reduced portion of the clamping means by force applied directly to the tip of the conductor.

The following is a description of my invention, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a switch base with binding posts embodying my invention, one being in section and the other in elevation. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same. Fig. 3 is an enlarged end view of the same, Figs. 4 and 4<sup>a</sup> show the blank for the stationary portion bent and unbent. Fig. 5 is a modification in which the stationary part is made in two pieces instead of being made of a single piece as in Fig. 4.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, A is the insulating base to which the binding post is secured, such for instance as the base of an electric switch. B is the stationary member of the binding post, one portion of which has two walls whose ends are connected on one side and disconnected on the other. This portion is preferably bent into U form, and has a base formed by lugs b—b projecting from each side. This stationary member is secured to the base by screws passing through the base into holes in the lugs.

C is a binding screw which, when the stationary member has a U-shaped part, passes through a hole D in one leg of the U so that the screw-threaded shank engages a screw-

threaded hole E in the opposite leg. The hole D is sufficiently large to permit the shoulder at the base of the head of the screw to pass therethrough. As shown, the hole D is sufficiently large to permit the whole head to pass therethrough.

F is a conductor forming part of the circuit to which the binding post is to be connected. This conductor is passed directly through the hole in the base and up through the stationary member of the binding post within the space inclosed between the screw and the bottom of the U in the stationary member. It is preferably of such size that when the screw is screwed in it cannot escape ahead of the screw, but is necessarily clamped firmly by the head and the inside of the wall of the stationary member containing the screw-threaded hole of which the screw engages. By reason of the fact that the stationary member is open on one side, the end of the conductor can be bent sharply over and forced entirely within the stationary member, thus resulting in getting it out of the way, and also resulting in having it extend beneath a very large portion of the screw head. If the conductor is forced around far enough it will be located beneath substantially all parts of the screw head. Electrically connected to the stationary part is a contact member which I prefer to make separate from the stationary member and secured thereto. The form I prefer to use consists of two spring members G shown more fully in Patent No. 717,657 to G. W. Hart, secured in slits g—g in the same manner as described in that patent. These contacts inasmuch as they do not surround the stationary member do not close or bridge the opening at the mouth of the U, but permit the circuit conductor to be easily bent over. This form of binding post presents the advantages of great security, and great contact surface and permits of easy installation. I prefer to make the stationary portion from a blank such as shown in Fig. 4<sup>a</sup> and bend it up as in Fig. 4.

In the modification shown in Fig. 5, the stationary member is made of two parts, a lug bearing part H and a U-shaped part I which is secured thereto by prongs which pass through the holes in the lug bearing member, and are then upset so as to secure the two parts together. The binding screw bears the same relation to the U-shaped part



as does the screw in Fig. 1. This form has the advantages of the form of Fig. 1 so far as the use is concerned, although in manufacture it requires to be made out of two  
5 pieces and necessitates different steps in its production.

I prefer to have the contact made with two legs as described, and also with one open side, as described, but various modifi-  
10 cations can be made embodying my invention and possessing some or all the advantages of the structure above described.

What I claim is:

1. In a binding post, a stationary member  
15 having connected opposing walls, a screw engaging said stationary member and passing through both walls thereof, said screw having an enlarged shoulder passing through one wall and adapted to clamp a conductor  
20 between it and the inside of the other wall.

2. In a binding post, a stationary member having opposing walls, a screw engaging said stationary member and passing through both walls thereof, said screw having an  
25 enlarged shoulder passing through one wall and adapted to clamp a conductor between it and the inside of the other wall, the ends of said walls on one side being connected together and on the other side disconnected.

3. In a binding post, the combination of a  
30 stationary member having horizontal connecting lugs and vertical opposing walls, a screw engaging said stationary member and passing through both of said walls, said  
35 screw having an enlarged shoulder passing through one wall and adapted to clamp a conductor between it and the inside of the other wall, said lugs having an opening between them in line with the space between  
40 said walls for the passage of the conductor to be clamped.

4. In a binding post, the combination of a stationary member having horizontal connecting lugs and vertical opposing walls con-  
45 nected thereto, a screw engaging said stationary member and passing through both of said walls, said screw having an enlarged shoulder passing through one wall and adapted to clamp a conductor between it  
50 and the inside of the other wall, the ends of said walls being connected on one side and disconnected on the other side, said lugs having an opening between them in line with the space between said walls for the passage  
55 of the conductor to be clamped.

5. In a binding post, the combination of a stationary member consisting of horizontal connecting lugs having an opening between  
60 two vertical opposing walls connected there-

to and located on opposite sides of said opening, said walls being disconnected at the top and at one side, and means for clamping the conductor against the inner side of one of said walls, said means passing through both  
65 of said walls.

6. In a binding post, the combination of a stationary member having horizontal securing lugs and a movable member, one of said members carrying a screw-threaded shank,  
70 and the other having screw-threads engaging with said shank, said members having opposing surfaces of greater diameter than said shank between which the conductor can be clamped, said stationary member having  
75 a projection which, together with said opposing surfaces and said shank, incloses a space on one side of said shank, said securing lugs having an opening for said conductor adjacent to them and in line with  
80 said inclosed space.

7. In a binding post, a stationary member having two vertical walls disconnected at their tops and on at least one side and an unobstructed vertical passage between said  
85 walls for the conductor to be clamped and also having horizontal securing lugs adjacent to said passage, in combination with means for clamping the conductor against the inner side of one of said walls, said  
90 means passing through both of said walls.

8. In a binding post a revoluble screw-threaded member having a clamping face larger than the screw-threaded surface, a stationary member having horizontal lugs  
95 between which is an opening for the conductor to be clamped and a screw-threaded portion engaged by the threads on said revoluble member and together with said revoluble member inclosing a space on one side  
100 only of the axis of said revoluble member, said revoluble member being adapted to clamp a conductor between said face and said stationary member.

9. In a binding post for securing electrical  
105 conductors, the combination of a stationary member having horizontal lugs between which there is an opening for the conductor to be clamped and two opposing walls, each of said walls having a hole therein, and  
110 movable screw-threaded means extending through both of said holes and having a face adapted to engage the conductor and clamp it against the inner surface of one of said walls.

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Witnesses:

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