

951,628.

Patented Mar. 8, 1910.

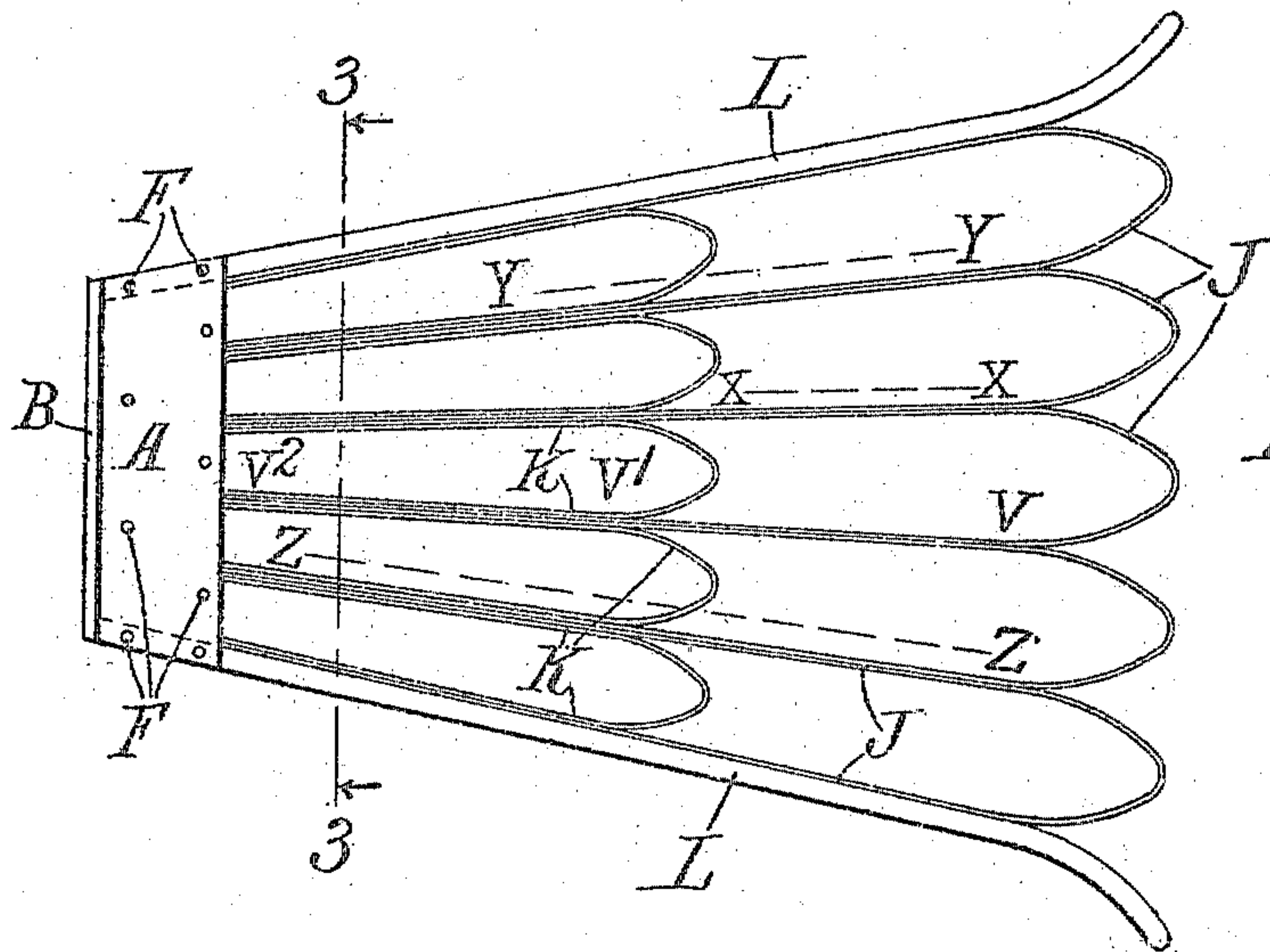


Fig. 1.

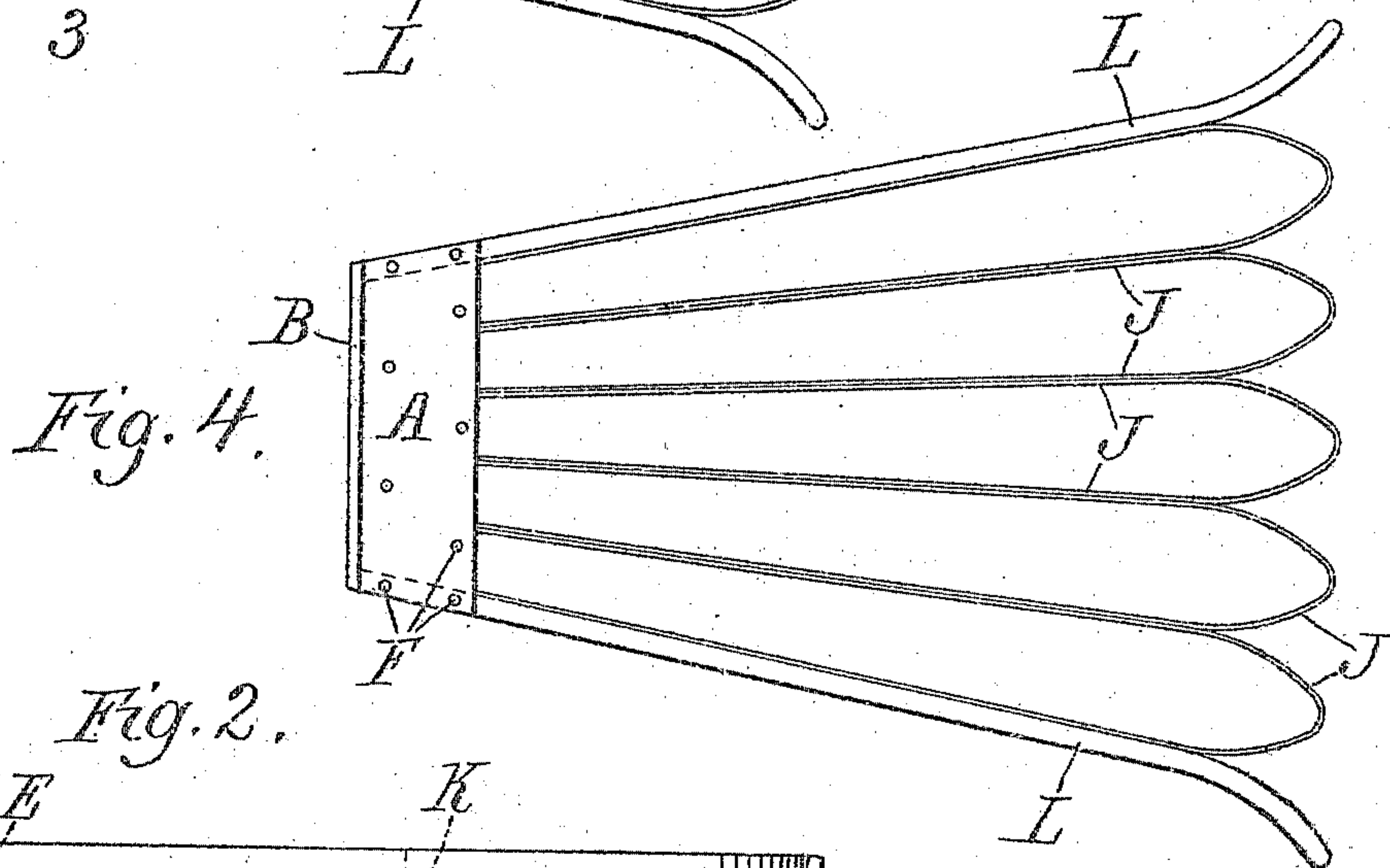


Fig. 4.

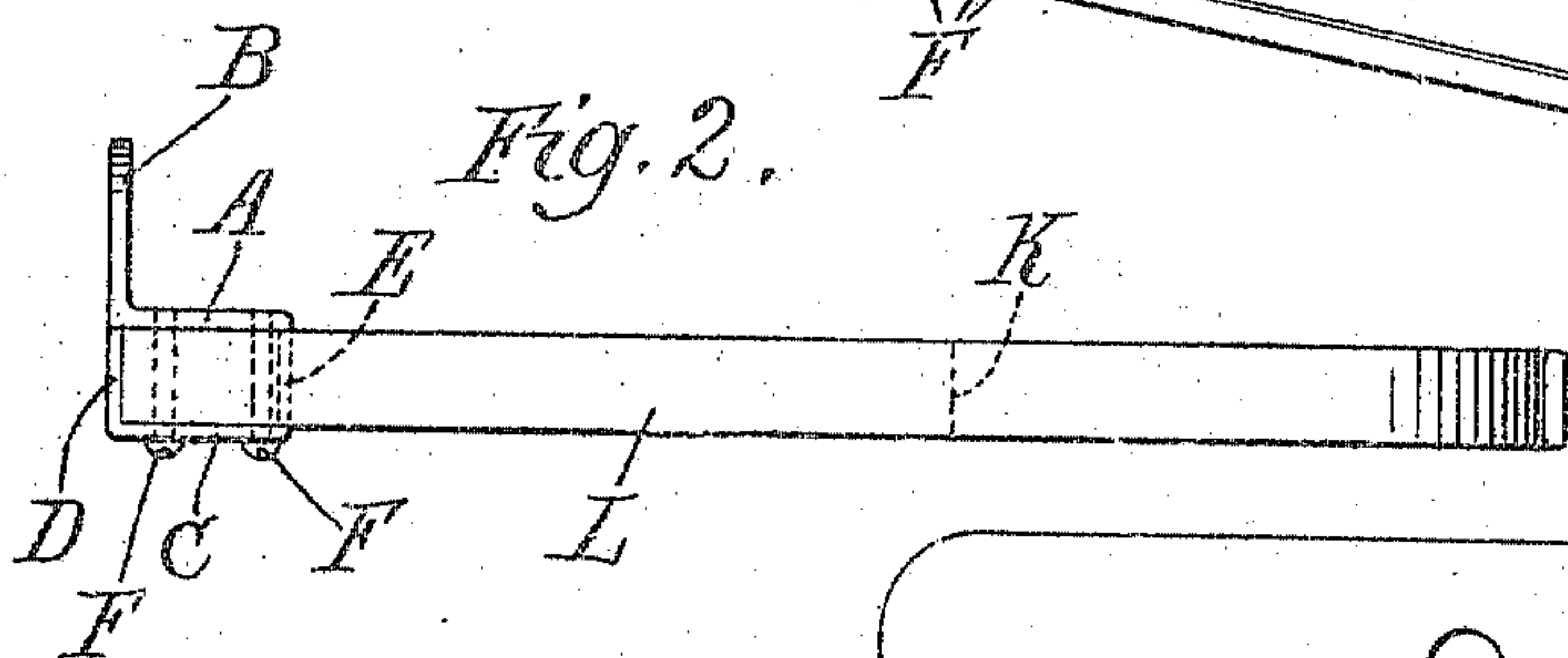


Fig. 2.

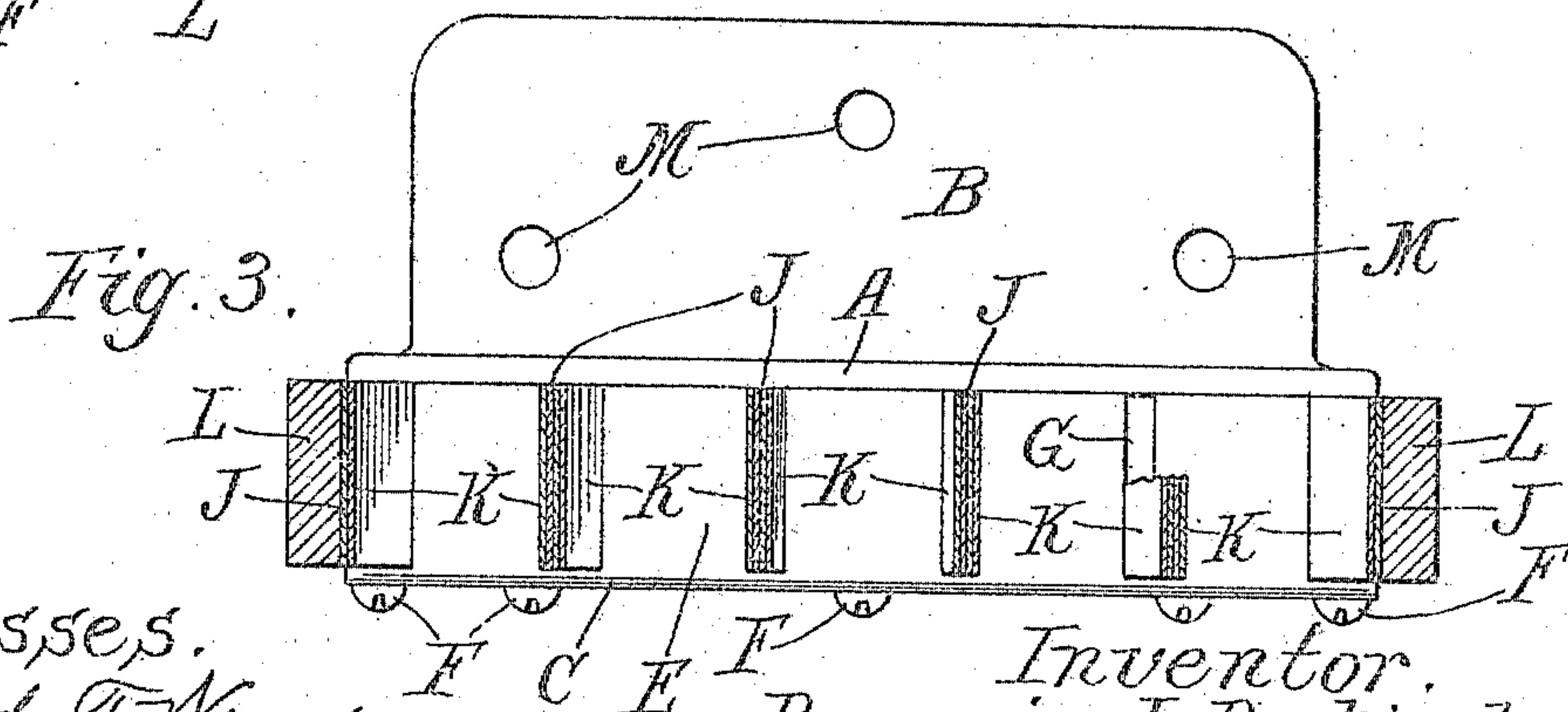


Fig. 3.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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GARMENT-HOLDER.

951,628.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Mar. 8, 1910.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN J. BUCKINGHAM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Garment-Holders, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to garment holders and has for its object to provide a device whereby skirts, trousers and other garments may be supported, particularly when desired to be hung in private homes, rooms, closets and the like.

The device is made in several sizes, but in the accompanying drawings I have shown the invention as applied to hold six large garments.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a plan view of one form of device; Fig. 2, a side elevation of the same; Fig. 3, a cross section on line 3—3 of Fig. 1, and Fig. 4 is a plan of a modification.

Like parts are indicated by the same letters in all the figures.

The support consists, as shown in the illustration, of the upper plate A continuous with the back plate B and the lower plate C continuous with the back plate D, and the upwardly turned front portion E which is also continuous with the bottom plate C. These parts are held together by means of the screw bolts F, F. The front plate E is provided with a series of slots like that shown at G in Fig. 3, to receive the inner ends of the spring fingers J, J and K, K which are formed of flat spring metal like clock steel, arched at the outer ends and formed into loops. The loops K lie inside of and in close proximity to the loops J, J which are in close proximity to each other through substantially all their length. I use the term "loops" and "fingers" interchangeably.

At each side of the support is one rigid finger L of approximately the same length as the spring fingers, and outwardly curved at its outer end so as to form between it and the next adjacent spring finger an entry-way of substantially the same size and shape as that between spring fingers when associated together. These outer rigid fingers are received between the top and bottom plates A and C, and secured by two pairs of screw

bolts F, F. The back plate D is perforated at M so that it can be easily hung upon or attached to a vertical support.

My drawing is to be taken as diagrammatic and illustrative of a single form of the invention, or as an illustration of a form of device which contains my invention. Figs. 1 and 4 show modifications, the modification consisting in compressing the inner loops K. These inner loops are approximately one-half the length of the outer, and their arches are considerably removed from the rigid supporting plates A and C. By this arrangement I have means whereby articles having varying holding lengths may be successfully supported. Thus an article of a length approximately equal to the distance between X—X on Fig. 1 is held by elastic grip at each end of its holding length, the arches of the several spring or loop fingers furnishing such elastic grip. If the article has a still greater gripping length, as for example a length equal to the line Y—Y of Fig. 1, it can still be held with an elastic grip approximately at each end of such holding line. An article whose holding line is Z—Z will be held at three points along that line in a more or less satisfactory manner. It will be understood that in such a structure there is a tendency of the springs to open out or weaken their grip between the points V, V¹ and the points V¹, V², and that the principal gripping effect takes place at or near the points V, V¹, V².

The use and operation of my invention are as follows: The garment to be supported as, for example, a skirt, is folded so as to present the desired holding length and then inserted between any two of the spring loops Y, Y or between either of the rigid fingers L, L and the contiguous spring loop or finger. The fingers L, L perform the double function of furnishing, in coöperation with the adjacent spring fingers, a gripping unit, and a support for the entire group of spring fingers. If these spring fingers are used without the rigid supports on both sides of the group they would be free to spread and to be displaced. By the use of these relatively inexpensive rigid fingers I secure, as illustrated in the drawing, six gripping or clamping units with five other spring fingers. The inner spring fingers are auxiliary to the others, although of course, articles can be inserted between

the outer surface of an inner spring finger and the inner surface of the outer or longer spring fingers.

I claim:

5 1. A garment holder comprising a support, a group of flat spring loop fingers projecting therefrom, and two rigid fingers secured to the support and each in contact with one of the outer spring fingers of the
10 group.

2. A garment holder comprising a support, a group of flat spring loop fingers projecting therefrom, and two rigid fingers secured to the support and each in contact
15 with one of the outer spring fingers of the group, said rigid fingers outwardly curved so as to present a series of relatively uniform entry-ways between the several fingers.

3. A garment holder comprising a support, a group of flat spring loop fingers projecting therefrom, two rigid fingers secured to the support and each in contact
20 with one of the outer spring fingers of the group, and one spring loop finger inside of and approximately one-half the length of each of the outer spring loop fingers.

4. A garment holder comprising a support, a group of flat spring loop fingers projecting therefrom, two rigid fingers secured to the support and each in contact
30 with one of the outer spring fingers of the group, said rigid fingers outwardly curved so as to present a series of relatively uniform entry-ways between the several fingers, and one spring loop finger inside of and

approximately one-half the length of each of the outer spring loop fingers.

5. A garment holder comprising a support consisting of two approximately parallel spaced plates, a back plate which projects beyond the planes of the spaced plates
40 whereby the holder may be securely mounted, a slotted front plate, means for securing the several plates together, and a series of flat spring loop fingers placed edgewise between the parallel plates and projecting
45 forwardly from the back plate through the slots.

6. A garment holder comprising a support consisting of two plates, a back plate
50 whereby it may be secured or mounted, and a slotted front plate, means for securing the parts together, a series of flat spring loop fingers projecting forwardly from such support through such slots, and two rigid end
55 fingers in contact each with one of the outer spring loop fingers and both secured to the support.

7. A garment holder comprising a support consisting of two approximately parallel spaced plates, a back plate, a slotted
60 front plate, means for securing the plates together, and a series of flat spring looped fingers set edgewise between the parallel plates and projecting forwardly from the
65 back plate through the slots.

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