

H. D. SHAIFFER.  
SKIRT FORM.  
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 10, 1909.

Patented Nov. 15, 1910.

975,724.

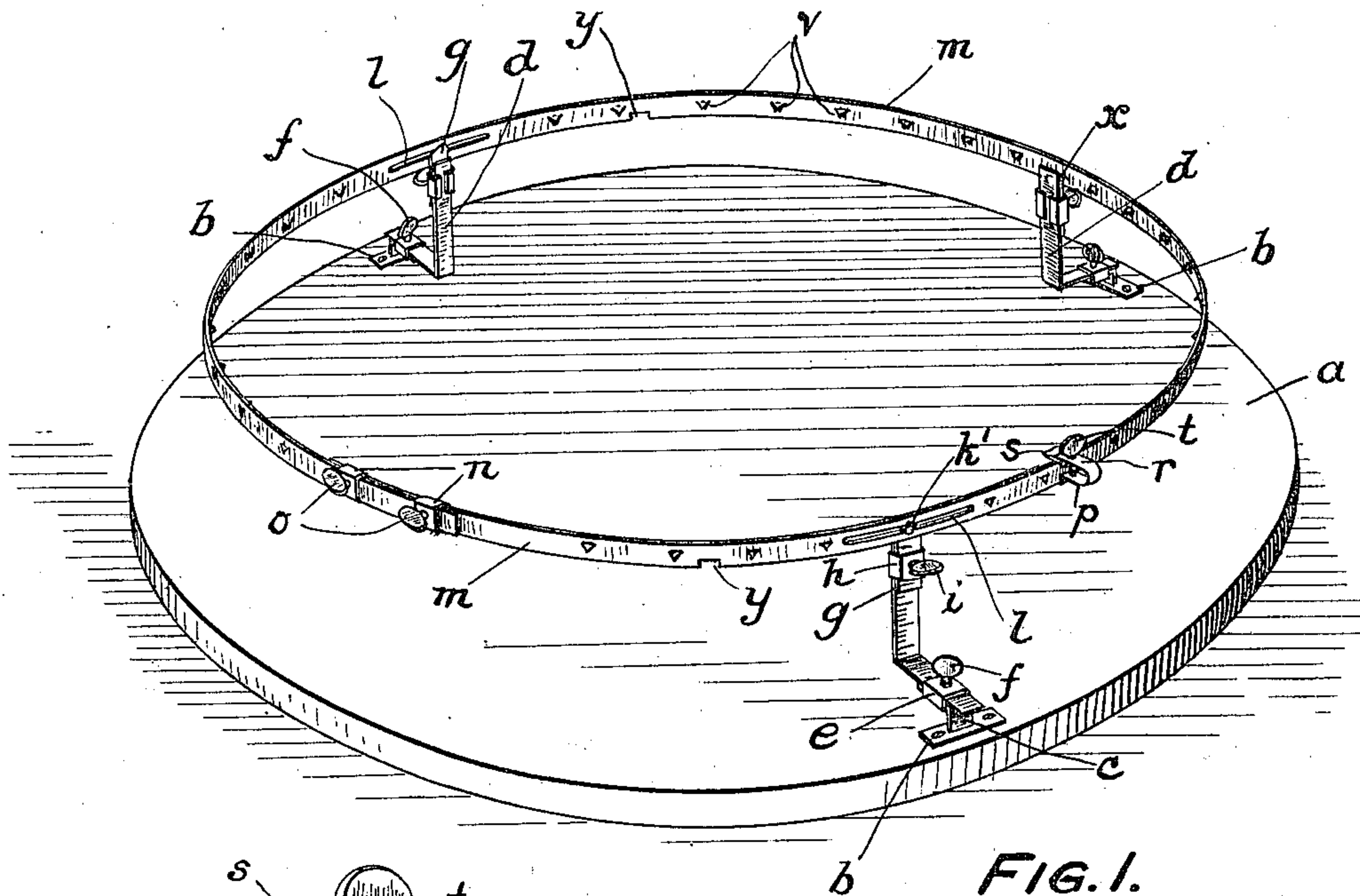


FIG. 1.

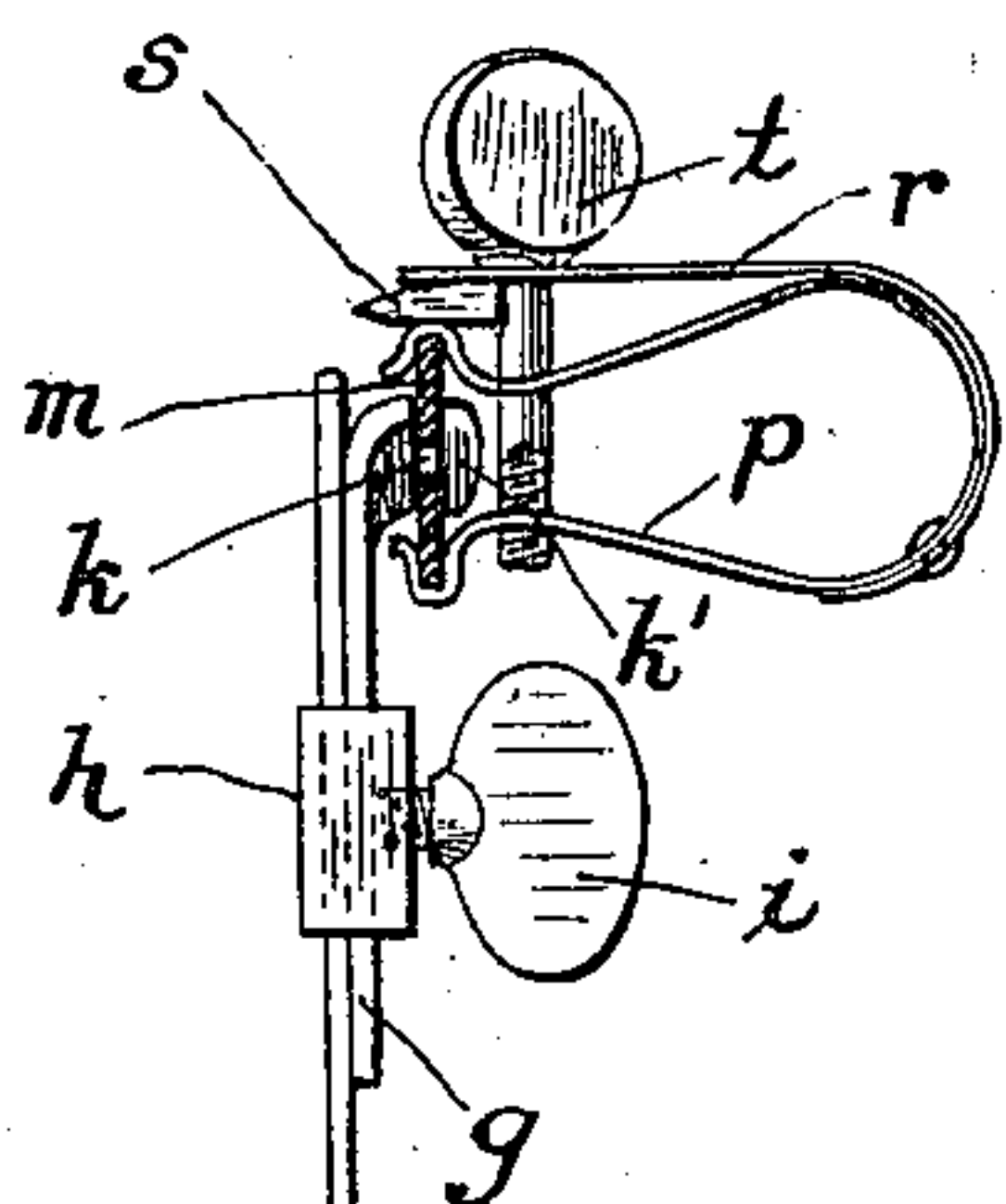


FIG. 2.

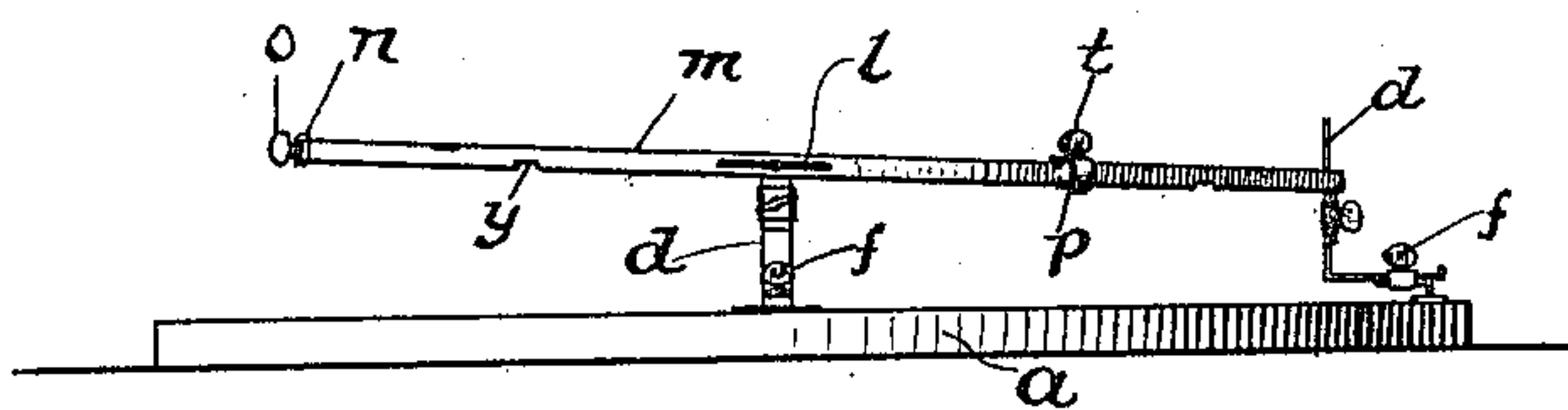
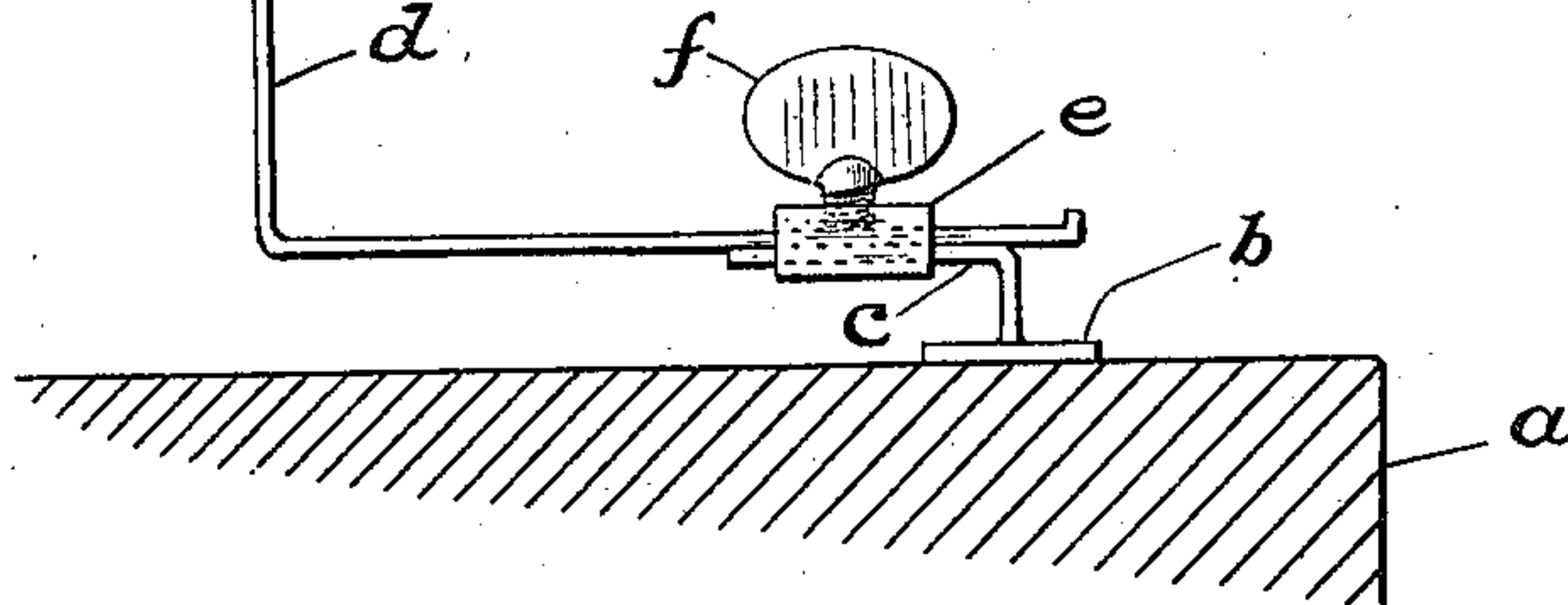


FIG. 3.



WITNESSES:

*Robt R. Kitchel*

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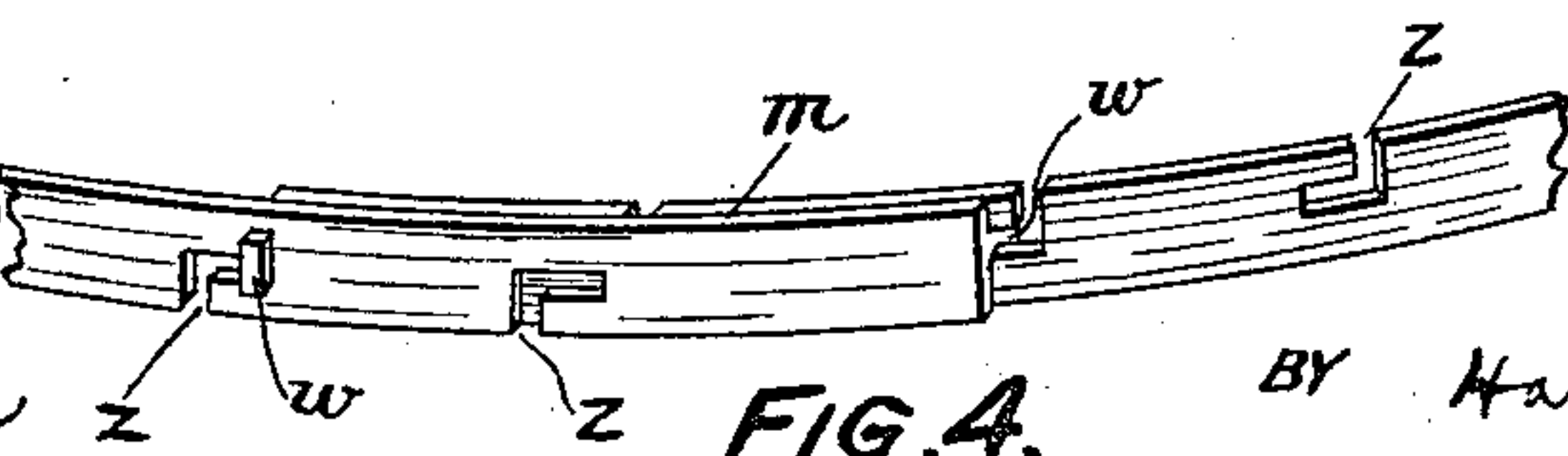


FIG. 4.

INVENTOR

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARRY D. SHAIFFER, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

## SKIRT-FORM.

975,724.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 15, 1910.

Application filed August 10, 1909. Serial No. 512,110.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HARRY D. SHAIFFER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Philadelphia, county of Philadelphia, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Skirt-Forms, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification.

The object of my invention is to produce a skirt form adapted to surround the lower part of the skirt and to be adjustable to vary its circumference, its shape, its height, and its inclination with respect to a horizontal base.

Another object is to enable the form to be secured to a fixed base.

In the drawings: Figure 1 is a perspective view of the form. Fig. 2 is an enlarged vertical section. Fig. 3 is a side elevation. Fig. 4 is a detail of another form of ring fastening.

On a flat circular base *a* is mounted a series of supports each consisting of a fixed standard *b*, *c*, and a horizontally and vertically adjustable device *d*, *g*. Each standard consists of a foot *b* screwed to the base and a member *c* extending upward from the base and thence horizontally and radially inward. To the inwardly extending arm of each member *c* is clamped an L-shaped member *d* extending horizontally and radially inward and thence vertically upward. The clamping is effected by means of a clamp *e* embracing the horizontal arms of the members *c* and *d*, said clamp being tightened and loosened by means of a thumb-screw *f*. This construction permits the member *d* to be adjusted radially and clamped in its adjusted position. To the upwardly extending arm of each member *d* is clamped a member *g*. The clamping is effected by means of a clamp *h* and a thumb-screw *i*, which permit the member *g* to be adjusted vertically and clamped in its adjusted position. The upper end of each member *g* is bent outwardly and formed into a neck *k* and head *k'*, which head and neck portions are adapted to be inserted in slots *l* in the ring *m*. The bend in member *g* is formed at an angle to the horizontal which prevents its entering the slot *l* any farther than the neck *k*, when clamped in its upright position. The shape

of this portion of member *g* and of the head *k'* is such, however, as to allow free passage of the chalk-carrier, hereinafter described, past the standards.

The ring *m* consists of a strip of spring sheet metal, the ends of which overlap and are secured together by means of a pair of clamps *n* and thumb-screws *o*. By loosening the thumb-screws *o*, the overlapping ends of the ring *m* may be slid longitudinally one upon the other to vary the diameter of the ring, and the thumb-screws *o* may then be tightened to hold the ends fixed relatively to each other.

The chalk-carrier consists of a U-shaped portion of spring metal *p*, which has its inner ends crimped to engage the edges of the ring *m*. This portion *p* has attached to it another strip of spring metal *r* which forms together with one end of the portion *p* a holder for the chalk *s*. The free end of part *r* may be roughened to securely hold the chalk, and the thumb-screw *t* clamps the chalk and holds the crimped ends of portion *p* in proper sliding engagement with the ring *m*.

Extending inwardly and downwardly from the inner face of the ring *m* are claws *v* adapted to engage the skirt. These claws may be formed by punching in at intervals the body of the ring *m*.

The wearer of the skirt steps within the ring *m* and stands on the base *a*. The ring may be adjusted vertically by loosening the thumb-screws *i* and raising or lowering the members *g* and then tightening the thumb-screws. The ring may be varied in diameter and shape by loosening the thumb-screws *o* and *f*, sliding the members *d* inwardly or outwardly, and then tightening the thumb-screws *o* and *f*. The slots *l* permit the ring to slide circumferentially relatively to the members *g*.

As shown at *x*, Fig. 1, the slot may be omitted at one of the standards and the bent-over portion of part *g* firmly secured to the ring *m*, which will support the skirt form more rigidly and still allow every adjustment necessary.

Any number of vertically and radially adjustable supports *d—g* may be employed, and they may be spaced apart as desired; but it is preferred to employ three of such supports, as shown, one located at the back



of the form, and the other two located at the sides. By adjusting the single support at the back of the form, the ring may be tilted as shown in Fig. 3 to enable the skirt to be cut on a bias.

One or more notches  $y$  in the ring  $m$  admit of the mounting and dismounting of the chalk-carrier upon the ring.

The horizontally and vertically extending arms of the member  $d$  may each be provided with a scale, as indicated in the drawings, which in any given case permits a record to be made of the various adjustments of the form.

It is of course obvious that the several standards may be screwed directly to the floor instead of to a portable base  $a$ , but it is obvious that the attachment of the form to a portable base presents decided advantages.

Fig. 4 shows an alternative means of adjustably connecting the ends of the ring  $m$ . Each end of the ring is provided with a projection  $w$ , projecting inwardly on one of the ends and outwardly on the other. The ring is also provided near each end with L-shaped slots  $z$ , adapted to engage the projection  $w$  in the manner of a bayonet joint. These slots  $z$  are spaced at close intervals opening upwardly at one end of the ring, and at corresponding intervals opening downwardly at the other end, so that joints will be made at both ends at the same time, securely holding the ring ends together.

Having now fully described my invention, what I claim and desire to protect by Letters Patent is:—

1. A skirt form comprising an expansible and contractible ring, a plurality of fixed standards, vertically and radially adjustable devices mounted on said standards and slidably engaging said ring, thereby permitting the latter to move circumferentially relatively to said devices when the latter are adjusted radially and enabling the height, circumference and angle of the form to be varied.

2. A skirt form comprising an expansible and contractible ring, a plurality of standards, and a plurality of devices mounted on said standards and engaging said ring at points about its circumference and upon which said ring is circumferentially slidable, said devices each comprising members adjustable radially and vertically relatively to the corresponding standard, whereby the height, circumference and angle of the form may be varied.

3. A skirt form comprising a plurality of fixed standards, a plurality of members horizontally adjustable thereon, a plurality of members vertically adjustable on the horizontally adjustable members, and an expansible and contractible ring engaging said

vertically adjustable members and circumferentially slidable relatively thereto.

4. A skirt form comprising an expansible and contractible ring, a base, and a plurality of ring-supports, said supports including members fixedly secured to the base, and members with which said ring engages and upon which said ring is circumferentially slidable and which are adjustable vertically and radially relatively to said base to vary the height, circumference and angle of the form.

5. A skirt form comprising a base, a plurality of standards secured thereto, horizontally adjustable members respectively mounted on the standards, vertically adjustable members respectively mounted on the horizontally adjustable members, and an expansible and contractible ring engaging said vertically adjustable members and circumferentially slidable relatively thereto.

6. A skirt form comprising a plurality of standards, each comprising an upwardly extending arm and an inwardly extending arm, members mounted on the respective standards, each member comprising a horizontal arm adjustable radially upon the inwardly extending arm of the standard and an upwardly extending arm, members vertically adjustable respectively on the upwardly extending arms of the radially adjustable members, said vertically adjustable members each being bent inwardly and formed with a neck and head portion, a strip having slots engaging said neck portion and bent to form a ring, means for securing together the two ends of the ring in different adjusted positions, and clamps adapted to hold the vertically adjustable members and the radially adjustable members in their several adjusted positions.

7. A skirt form comprising an expansible and contractible ring, means for supporting said ring at various heights, a chalk-carrier comprising a portion shaped to engage the upper and lower edges of the ring and slidable upon the ring, a portion secured to the first-named portion and adapted to hold between it and the first-named portion a piece of chalk, and a thumb-screw engaging both portions of the chalk carrier and adapted to confine the chalk in position thereon.

8. A skirt form comprising an expansible and contractible ring, a plurality of fixed standards, and vertically and radially adjustable ring-supporting devices mounted on said standards and engaging said ring.

In testimony of which invention, I have hereunto set my hand, at Philadelphia, on this 9th day of August, 1909.

HARRY D. SHAIFFER.

Witnesses:

A. M. URIAN,

M. M. HAMILTON.