(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

H. N. COVELL.

DEVICE FOR LAYING OUT TENNIS GROUNDS.

No. 299,625. Patented June 3, 1884.

Fig. 1

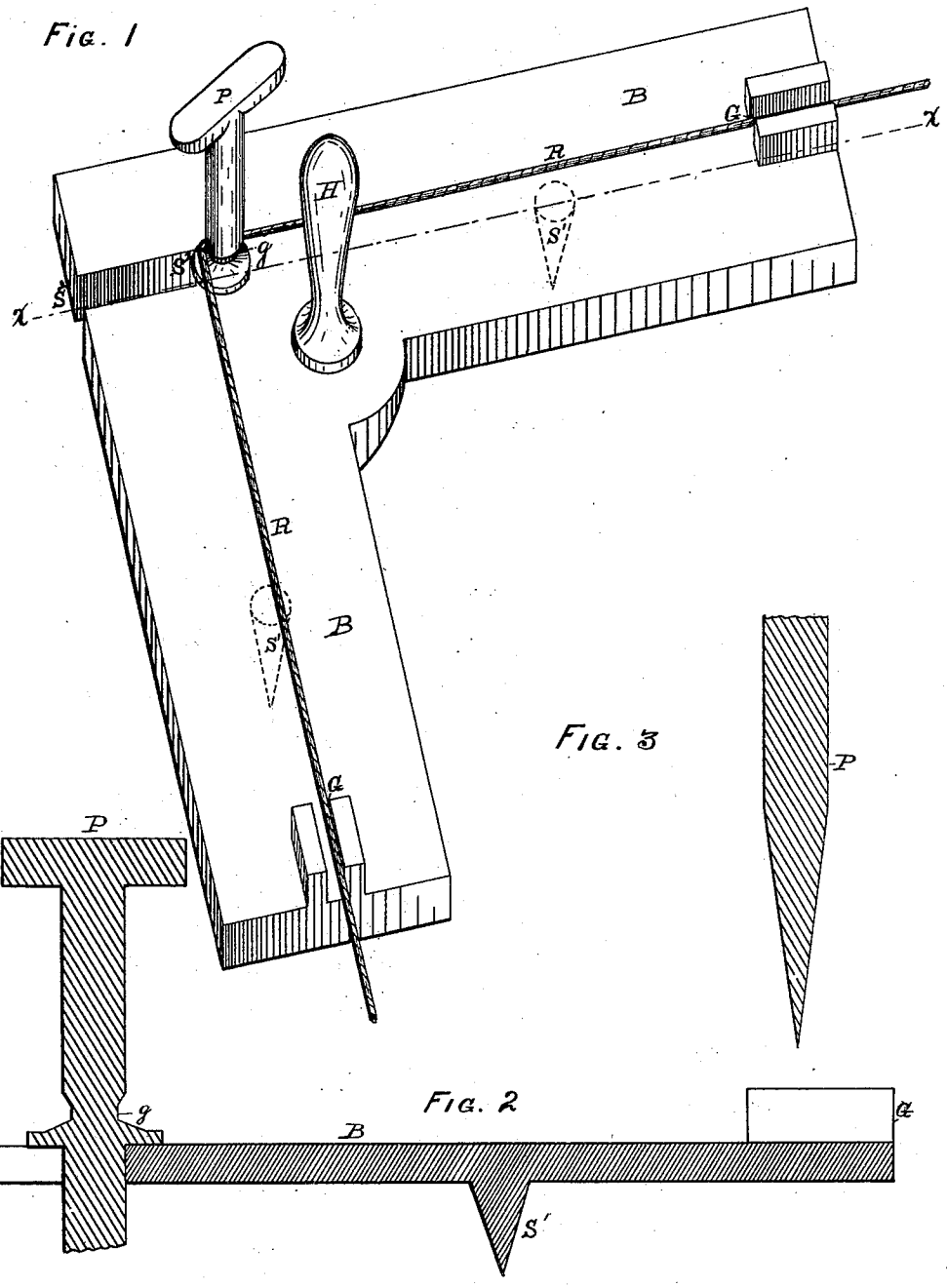


Fig. 3

Fig. 2

WITNESSES:

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(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

H. N. COVELL.

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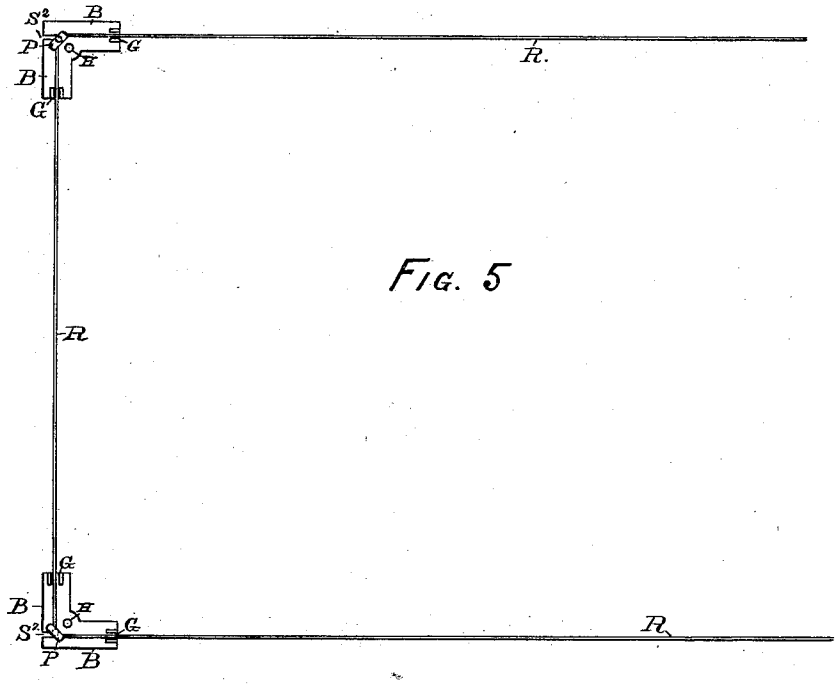


FIG. 5

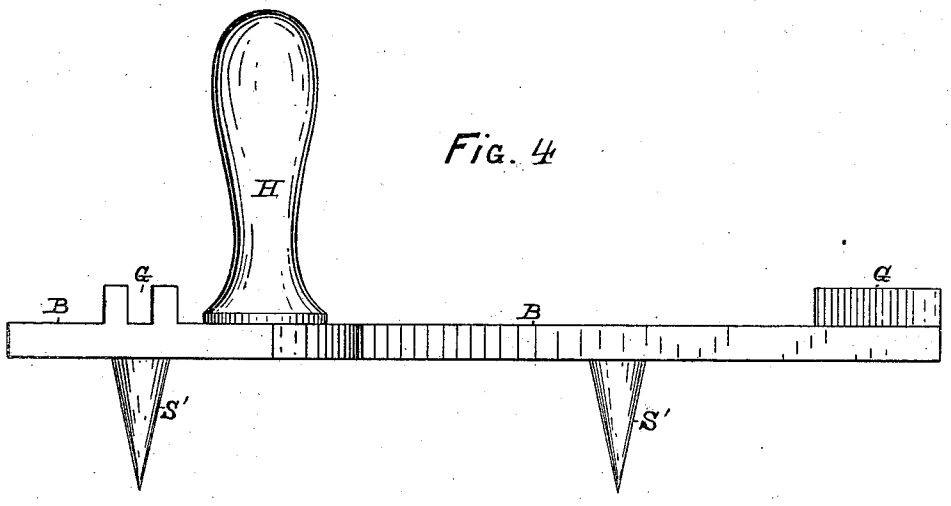


FIG. 4

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARRY N. COVELL, OF GLENBROOK, CONNECTICUT.

DEVICE FOR LAYING OUT TENNIS-GROUNDS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 299,625, dated June 3, 1884.

Application filed April 7, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HARRY N. COVELL, of Glenbrook, Fairfield county, State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Devices for Laying Out Tennis-Grounds, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an apparatus for laying out and defining a tennis-ground or any other rectangular inclosure; and my invention consists, as will be more fully detailed hereinafter in connection with its illustration, of the combination of two bars arranged by their connection at the ends to produce a right angle or corner of a square, of spikes or pins on the under side of the device to secure it in position, guideways centrally arranged at the outer ends of each of the bars, a slot made in the side of one of the connected bars near its end for the insertion of a driving or laying-out pin adapted to be forced into the ground, and a handle attached to the upper part of the device for grasping the same.

Accompanying this specification, and forming a part of the same, are two plates of drawings, containing five figures illustrating my invention, with the same designation of parts by letter-reference used in all of them.

Of these illustrations, Figure 1 shows a perspective of the apparatus. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal vertical section taken on the line *x x* of Fig. 1, the lower end of the laying-off pin being omitted. Fig. 3 shows that part of the laying-off pin omitted from Fig. 2. Fig. 4 represents a side elevation of the mechanism with the angle formed by it turned toward the sight. Fig. 5 illustrates the apparatus as applied to lay out a square.

The several parts of the apparatus constituting my invention are designated by letter-reference and their function is described as follows:

The letters B designate two bars or sides of an angle forming the corner of a square by their connection, and the letters G indicate raised guideways formed in and at the ends of the bars.

The letters S′ indicate spikes or pins formed on the under surface of each one of the bars or sides of the angle.

The letter S^2 designates a slot or opening made in the connected bars on a line parallel to the sides of one of them, and P a laying-off pin adapted to enter said slot and to be forced into the ground thereat; and the letter H designates a handle for grasping the device.

The apparatus is used in the following manner: The desired selection for the location of the square to be laid out having been made, the device is placed in what will be a corner of the proposed square, and it is fixed in position by an applied pressure that will force the spikes or pins S′ in the ground thereat. The laying-off pin is then forced into the ground through the inner end of the slot or opening S^2, and a laying-off string R passed around said pin, for attachment thereto, the said pin being made with an encircling groove, *g*, for that purpose. The string from where thus attached to the said pin is then run out therefrom through one of the guides G to such a distance as it is desired to have form one side of the proposed square, and secured thereat by a pin or stake, with the string in such a position relatively to the laying-off pin in the corner of the angle and the guide in which the string is placed that the latter shall run straight therefrom, which can be determined by the position of the string within the guide as to its being parallel to the sides thereof. When one of the sides of the proposed square has thus been laid out, the adjoining rectilinear side is extended in the same manner, with the apparatus remaining fixed with the string passed through the other guide and extended therefrom, as before described. The two adjoining sides of the proposed square having been thus defined, the apparatus is moved to the end of one of the two laid-off sides, and the same operation is repeated, as before described, and which completes the square.

An apparatus thus made can be used for the purpose of defining a square for lawn-tennis or any other purpose for which it is desirable to lay off rectilinear areas upon the ground.

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

In an apparatus for laying out lawn-tennis grounds, the combination of the bars B B, connected at their ends to form the corner of a square, the guides G on the ends of each of the bars, the slot or opening S^2, arranged as shown, the laying-off pin P, and the spikes S′ on the bottom of the bars, with the said parts constructed to be used in the manner and for the purposes set forth.

Signed at Glenbrook, Fairfield county, Connecticut, this 22d day of March, 1884, and in the presence of the two witnesses whose names were by them hereto written.

HARRY N. COVELL.

Witnesses:
MARY E. COVELL,
SANDS SEELY.