

(No Model.)

F. F. FIFE & W. V. BLÉHA.
HAT GUARD.

No. 414,507.

Patented Nov. 5, 1889.

Fig. I.

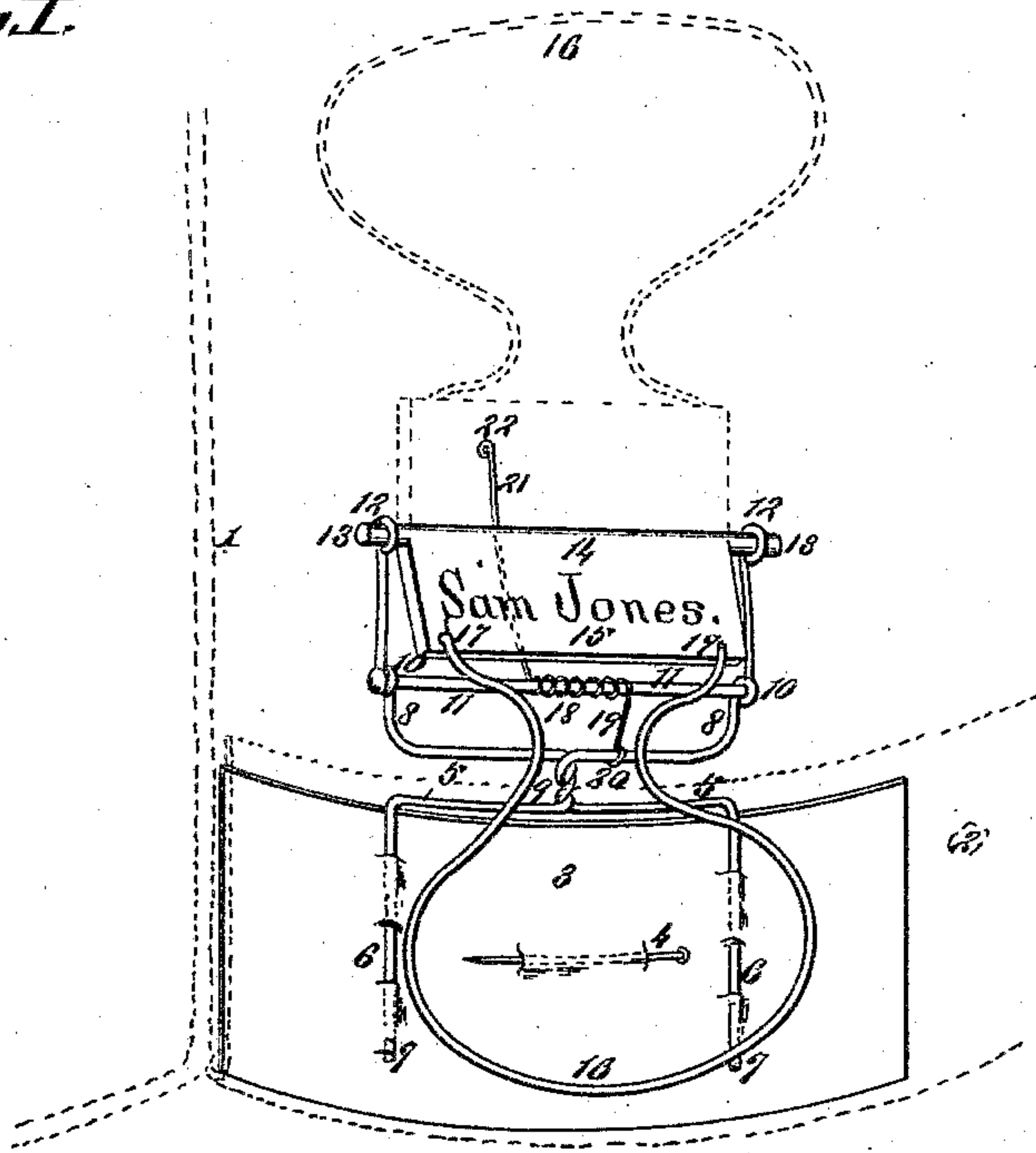
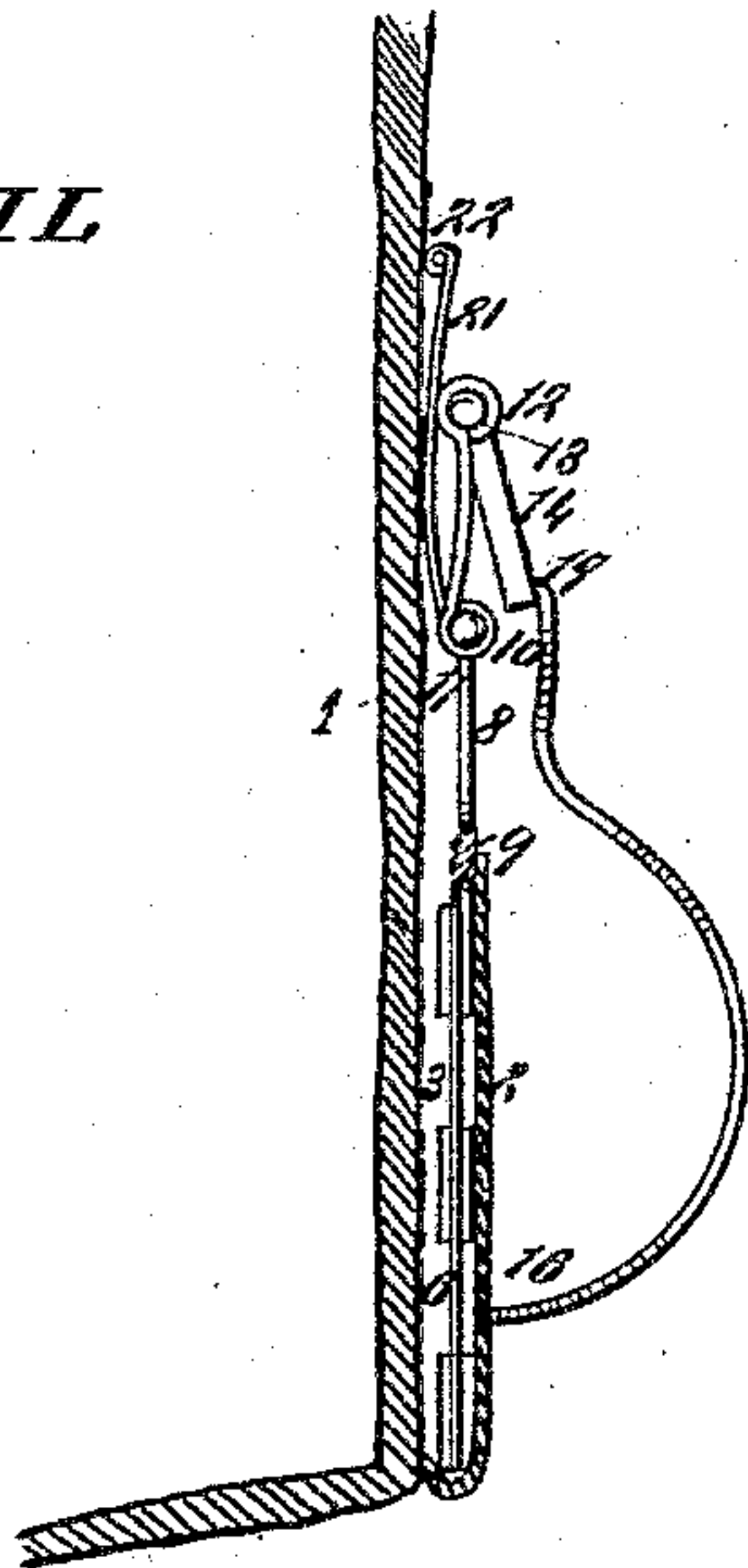


Fig. II.



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HAT-GUARD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 414,507, dated November 5, 1889.

Application filed July 11, 1889. Serial No. 317,130. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, FRANK F. FIFE and WILLIAM V. BLÉHA, both of the city of St. Louis, in the State of Missouri, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Hat-Guards, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming part of this specification.

10 This invention relates to a device for registering the ownership of hats to which it is attached, and as a tell-tale obstruction to the inadvertent appropriation by others than the owner of said registered hat; and the invention consists in features of novelty hereinafter fully described, and pointed out in the claims.

Figure I is a perspective view of the registering device, shown in full lines in its debarring position, in which it obstructs the seating of the hat upon the head. It also shows in broken lines the detail of a hat to which said device is attached and the position of the adjustable loop when unfolded, so as not to obstruct the seating of the hat on the head of the wearer; and Fig. II is a vertical section showing the loop folded in its obstructive capacity.

Referring to the drawings, 1 represents a hat, (a detail of which is shown in both the figures,) to the inside of the sweat-band 2 of which the pad 3 that carries our name-register and tell-tale indicator is attached by the pin 4. 5 represents a duplex bifurcated wire bracket, the lower forks 6 of which are each respectively pinned through said pad passing in and out through the same and the points turned round so as to form a clinch 7 on said pad, and the whole attachment thus effects a firm brace-hold. The lower forks 6 of said wire bracket are united to the upper forks 8, with which they are integral, by a twisted waist 9, and said upper forks have each respectively corresponding looped eyelets 10, in which the spring-carrier pivot-pin 11 has its bearings. Eyelet-loops 12 form the upper terminals of the upper forks. The said eyelet-loops form the bearings for the pivot journals or trunnions 13 of the swinging tablet 14, which may carry the name 15 of the owner of the hat. To the name-tablet is

secured the curvilinear bail-loop 16, the ends of which are looped through perforations 17 in said tablet and are rigidly clinched thereon and secured thereto.

18 represents a coil-spring that coils around the pivot-pin 11 and whose stationary fast lower arm 19 is clinched at 20 around one of the shoulders of the upper fork of the bracket. The upper arm 21 of said spring terminates in a loop 22, that projects the upper terminal of the spring slightly from the side of the hat and spring-buffs the tablet with its curvilinear tell-tale bail-loop 16 into its folded position, in which said tablet shows the name and the curvilinear projecting bail stands guard as it folds over the sweat-band.

Now it will be seen that should any other than the owner, being unaware of the device, inadvertently attempt to place the hat on his head, the curvilinear bail-loop will not allow him to do it; but the owner, being aware of the device and how to operate the same, takes hold of his hat by the rim and gives it a sudden flit, when the centrifugal force thus exercised on the folded loop-bail throws it into its unfolded position without having directly to handle the same. When, again, the owner removes his hat it requires but a slight movement on his part, aided by the spring, to refold the bail and replace it on guard. It will also be seen that when the device is on guard it at the same time exhibits the owner's name, so that with the combined register and tell-tale guard all danger is avoided of others than the owner inadvertently appropriating the hat.

The device is of especial use for travelers, gentlemen boarders in large establishments, and other places where gentlemen largely congregate, and where hats being removed and laid aside are frequently inadvertently mislaid and interchanged with those of others.

We claim as our invention—

1. In a hat register and guard, the combination of the duplex wire bracket 5, and the swinging tablet 14, pivotally attached to the upper forks of said brackets, adapted to bear the name of the owner of the hat and carrying the guard-loop 16, said tablet and guard-loop being adapted to swing upward against

the side of the hat above the lower parts by which they are carried, substantially as described, and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a hat register and guard, the combination of the duplex wire bracket 5, having a twisted waist 9 between the forks of said bracket, the pad to which the lower forks of said bracket are attached that secures said pad to the sweat-band of the hat, the upper forks of the bracket being provided with eyelet-loops 12, and the swinging name-register tablet 14, substantially as described and for the purpose set forth.

3. In a hat register and guard, the combination of the duplex wire bracket, the eyelet-loops 12 on the upper terminals of said bracket, the swinging name-registering tablet having trunnions 13 with pivoted bearings in said loops 12, and the bail-loop 16, rigidly secured to said swinging tablet and that folds with said tablet to guard the hat from the inadvertent usage of strangers and unfolds to clear the way for use by the owner, substantially as described, and for the purpose set forth.

4. In a hat register and guard, the combination of the duplex wire bracket, the eyelet-loops 12 in the upper terminals of the upper forks of said bracket, the swinging name-register tablet whose trunnions have bearings in said eyelet-loops 12, the tell-tale bail guard-loop 16, secured to said tablet, the eyelet-loops 10 in said upper forks of the bracket, the pivot-spring bearer-pin in said eyelets, and the coil-spring 18 on said pivot-pin, the said spring having a lower arm rigidly secured to one of the shoulders that diverge from the waist of said bracket and having an upper arm that provides spring propulsion of the swinging name-tablet and the guard bail-loop it carries, substantially as described, and for the purpose set forth.

FRANK F. FIFE.
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In presence of—

BENJN. A. KNIGHT,
SAML. KNIGHT.