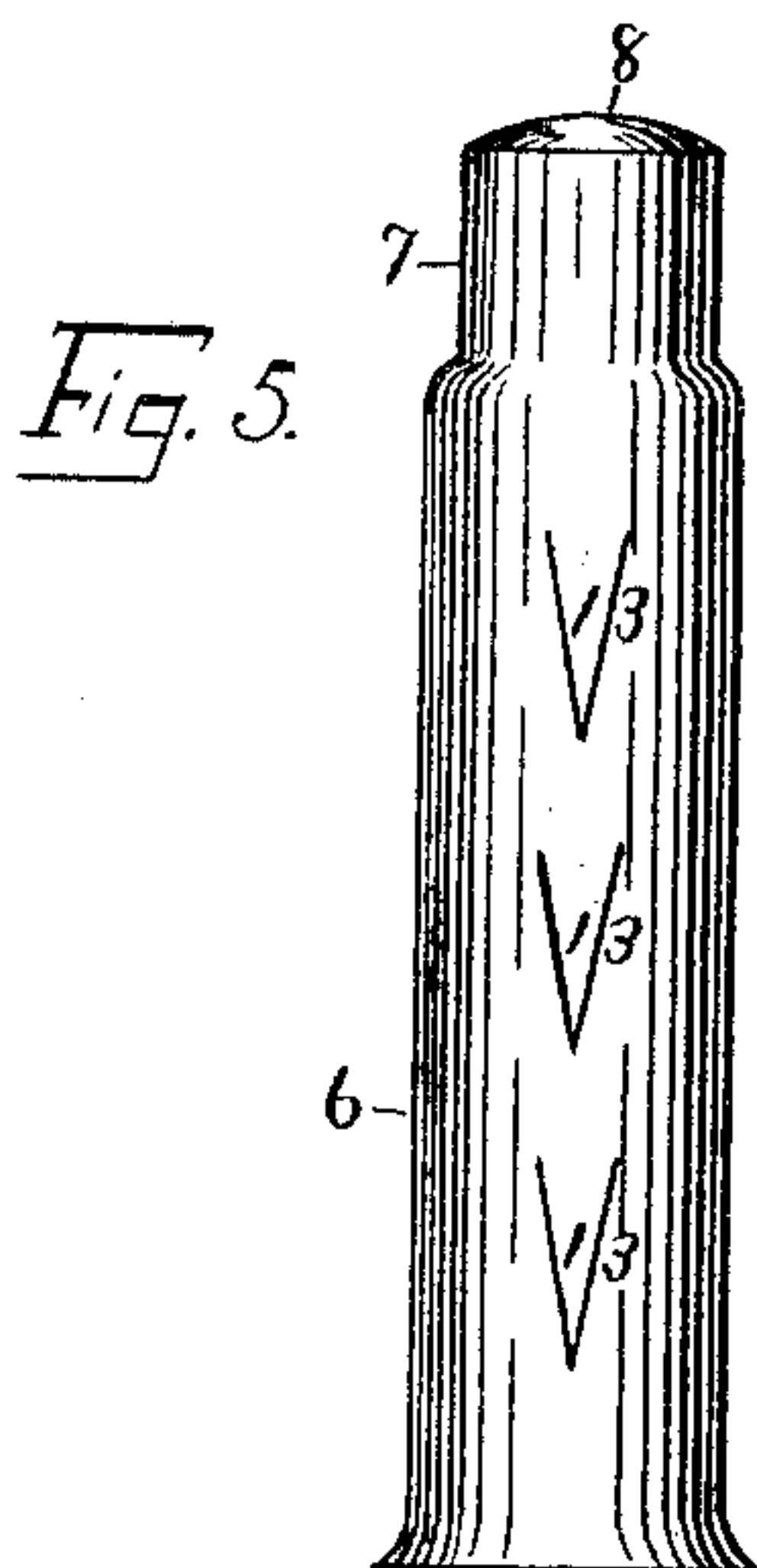
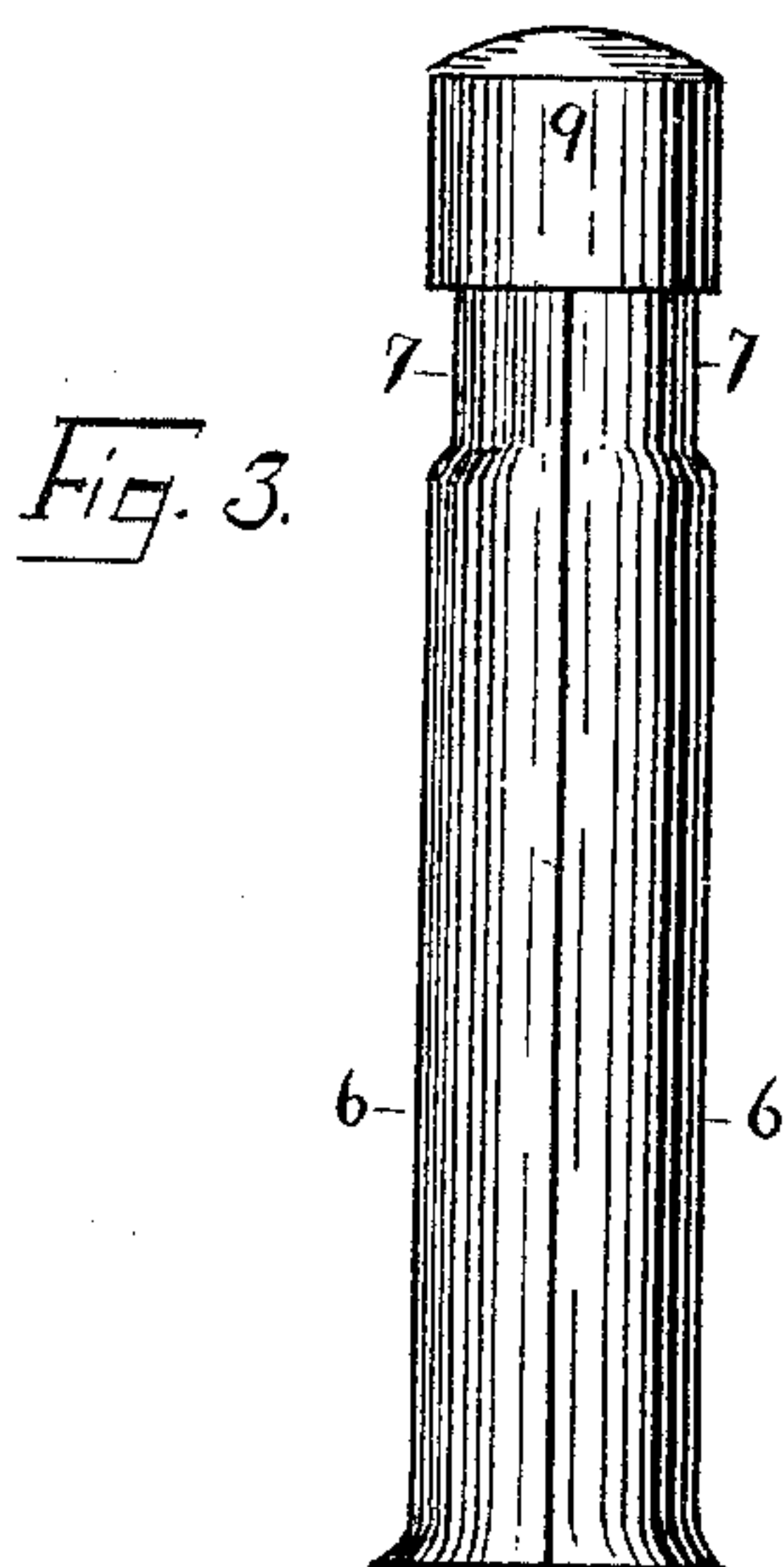
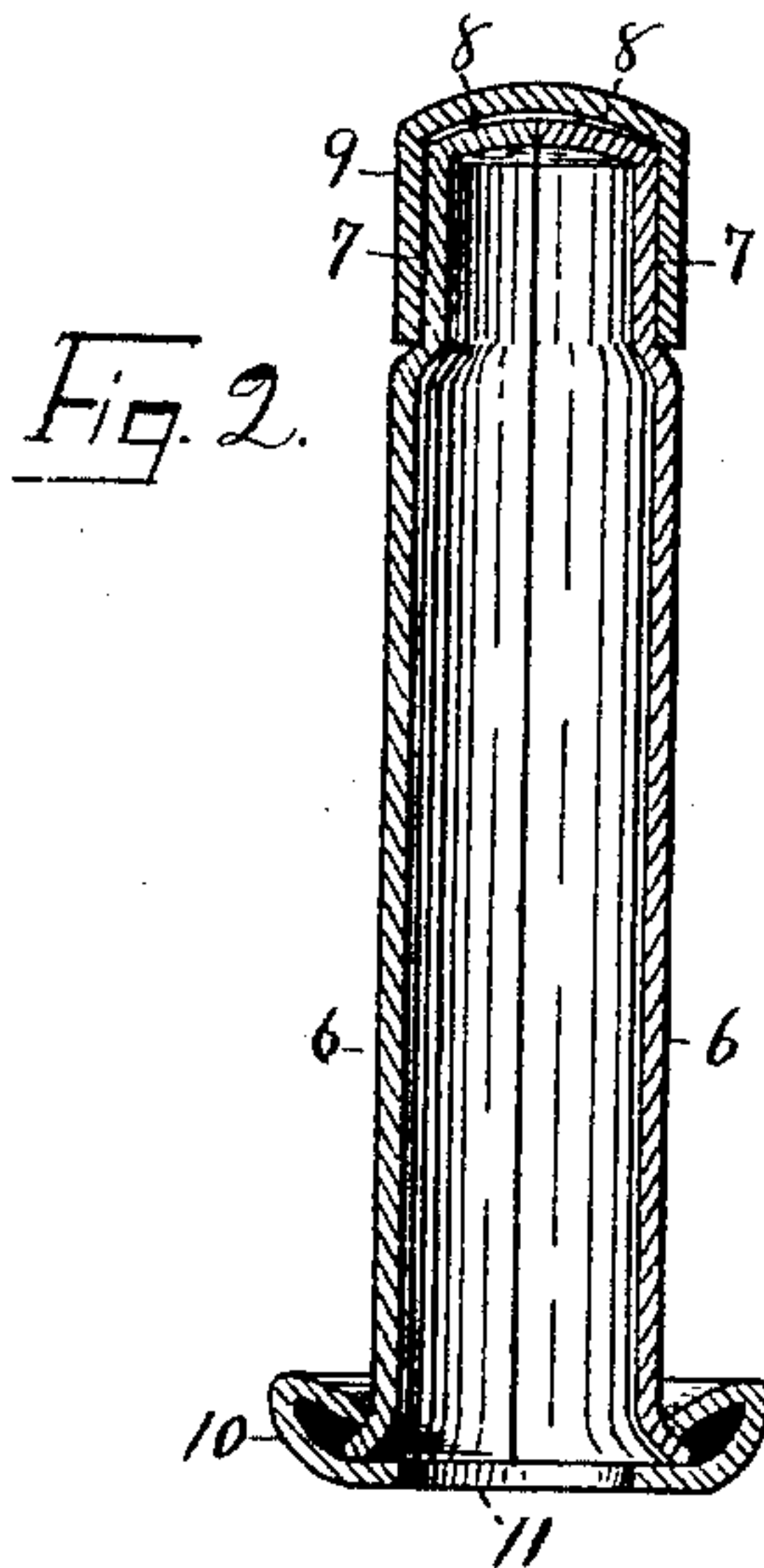
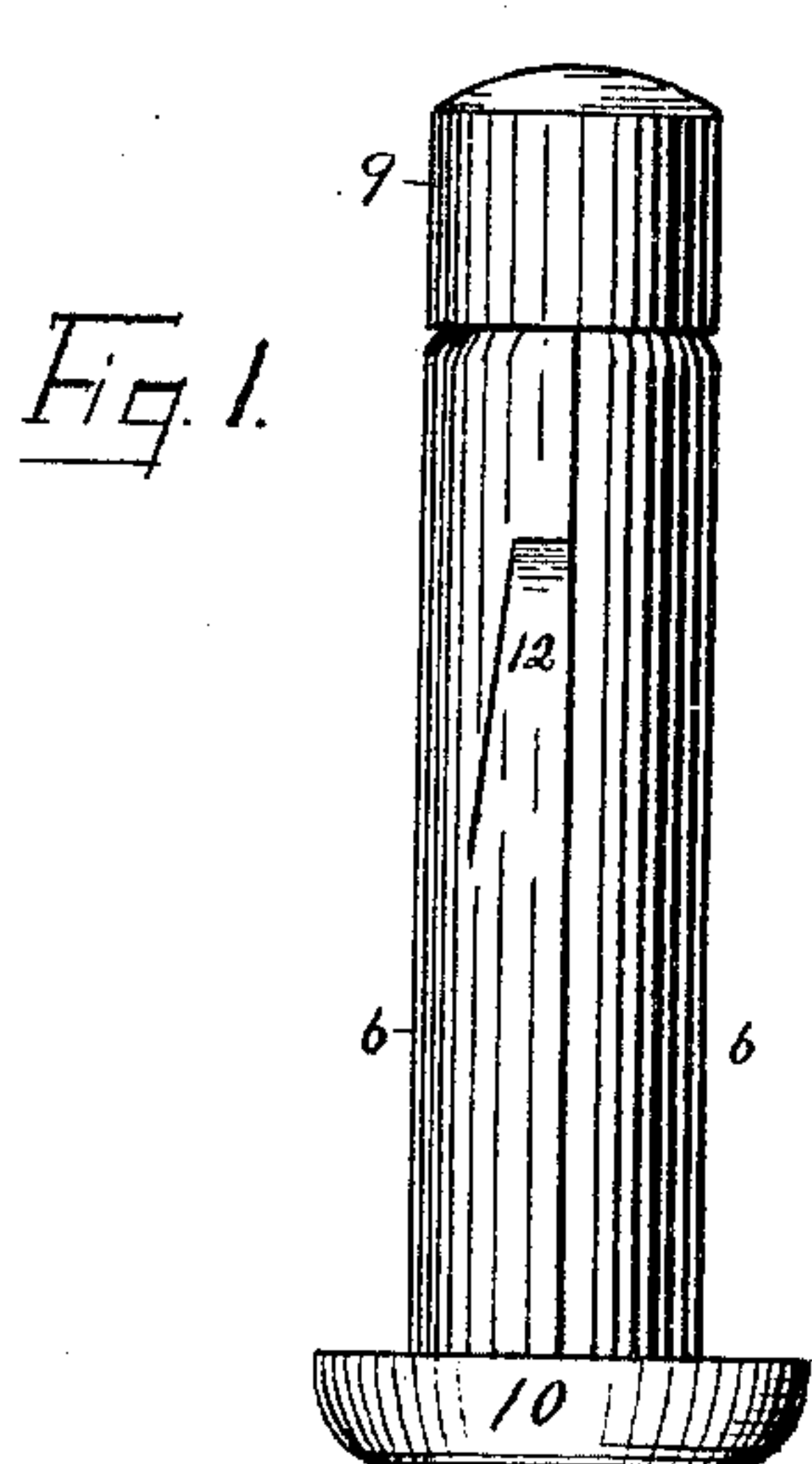


(No Model.)

G. D. CLARK.
CASTER SOCKET.

No. 461,070.

Patented Oct. 13, 1891.



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE DWIGHT CLARK, OF PLAINVILLE, CONNECTICUT.

CASTER-SOCKET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 461,070, dated October 13, 1891.

Application filed July 15, 1891. Serial No. 399,659. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE DWIGHT CLARK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Plainville, in the county of Hartford and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Caster-Sockets, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in sheet-metal sockets for casters, and the objects of my improvements are simplicity and economy in construction and the production of a neat and substantial article.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of my caster-socket. Fig. 2 is a central longitudinal section of the same. Fig. 3 is a side elevation of the two shells and holding-cap. Fig. 4 is a central section of the partly-formed flange, and Fig. 5 is a detached side elevation of one shell as provided with holding-barbs.

I form the body of the tubular socket in two semi-cylindrical shells 6 6, of sheet metal, by striking them up in dies, the same being formed with a reduced portion 7 and solid upper end 8, as shown in Figs. 2 and 5. The lower end of each shell is also turned or flared outwardly a little, as shown. These two shells are placed together, so as to form a tubular socket-body, and a holding-cap 9 is firmly driven upon the reduced portion 7 for holding their upper ends together. I prefer to make the external diameter of the holding-cap and tubular socket about equal. I secure the lower end of the shells together by means of the flange 10, with their flared lower ends resting on the upper surface of the metal in the flange which surrounds the central hole 11, while the metal in the edge or outer part of said flange is doubled upon itself and rests against the outer surface of said shells, as shown in Fig. 2.

The holding-cap may be easily drawn up in dies, and the flange may be first formed in cup form, as shown in Fig. 4. The cap can be set on the upper end of the shells, as shown in Fig. 3, and the flaring end of the shells properly placed in the partly-formed flange, Fig. 4, the same being seated in a die whose surface corresponds with the desired under surface for the finished flange. The die may

be provided with a post for extending up through the hole 11 and into the shells for properly holding them in position. The parts may then be struck by an upper die to force on the cap and turn in the edge of the flange to change it from the form shown in Fig. 4 to that shown in Figs. 1 and 2. If desired, the flange may be struck by two different upper dies, requiring two operations for turning in the edge.

I have shown in Fig. 1 a spring 12, formed in one of the shells by slitting a portion thereof, the end of which spring is bent so as to project within the socket and engage a shoulder on the caster-spindle for holding it in; but the same is not of my invention, and may be used or omitted at pleasure without changing the nature of my improvements. I also show in Fig. 5 barbs 13, formed by making V-shaped slits in the shells to better secure the socket when it is driven into place for use; but the presence or absence of such barbs is not material to my invention.

While I prefer to form the two semi-cylindrical shells of two separate pieces of sheet metal and to connect their upper ends by means of a holding-cap, it is evident that the construction of the flange and the manner of securing it to the tubular sheet-metal body may be the same as herein shown and described, whether said body is split or solid or made in one or two pieces. It is also evident it is not absolutely essential to employ a holding-flange at the lower end, inasmuch as the holding-cap alone will hold the shells together for transportation, &c., and that when the socket is driven into a hole in the furniture the lower end of the shells will be held thereby.

The socket is used in the ordinary manner to receive a caster-spindle, either with the solid upper end serving as the step on which the extreme upper end of the spindle bears or with said upper end of the socket perforated to receive a headed tenon on the upper end of the spindle.

I claim as my invention—

1. The herein-described caster-socket, consisting of two semi-cylindrical shells, the holding-cap at their upper ends, and the flange at their lower ends, said flange and cap serving

to secure said shells together, substantially as described, and for the purpose specified.

2. In a caster-socket, the combination of a tubular socket-body and the flange 10, doubled
5 upon itself, and bound upon the lower end of said body, substantially as described, and for the purpose specified.

3. In a caster-socket, the combination of two semi-cylindrical shells having the reduced

portion at their upper ends and the holding- 10 cap secured upon said reduced portion, substantially as described, and for the purpose specified.

GEORGE DWIGHT CLARK.

Witnesses:

JAMES SHEPARD,
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