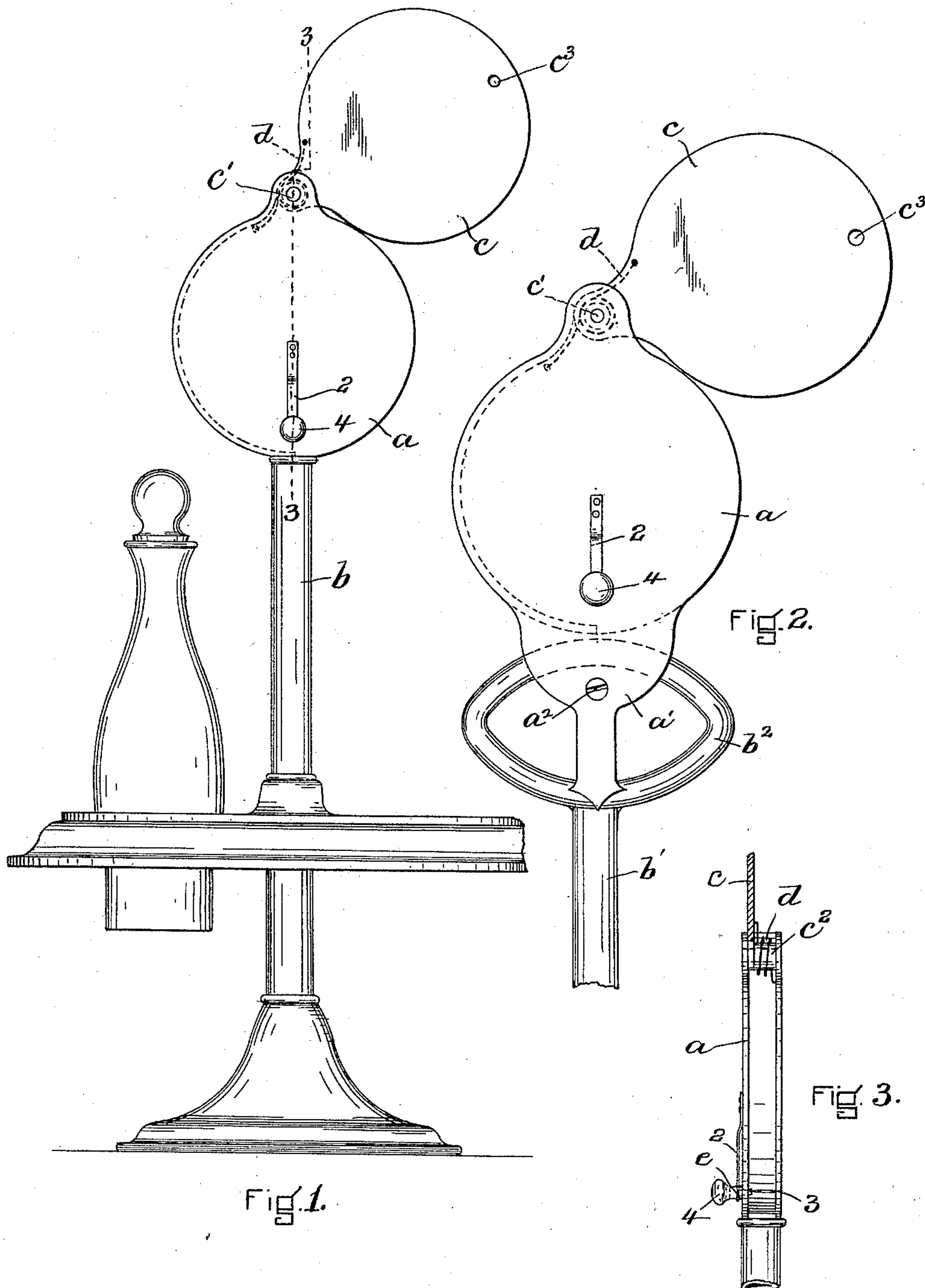


(No Model.)

M. V. B. ETHRIDGE.
WAITER SIGNAL.

No. 475,937.

Patented May 31, 1892.



WITNESSES.
A. D. Harrison.
B. A. McShane.

INVENTOR.
M. V. B. Ethridge
by Knight & Brown Corralby
Atty.

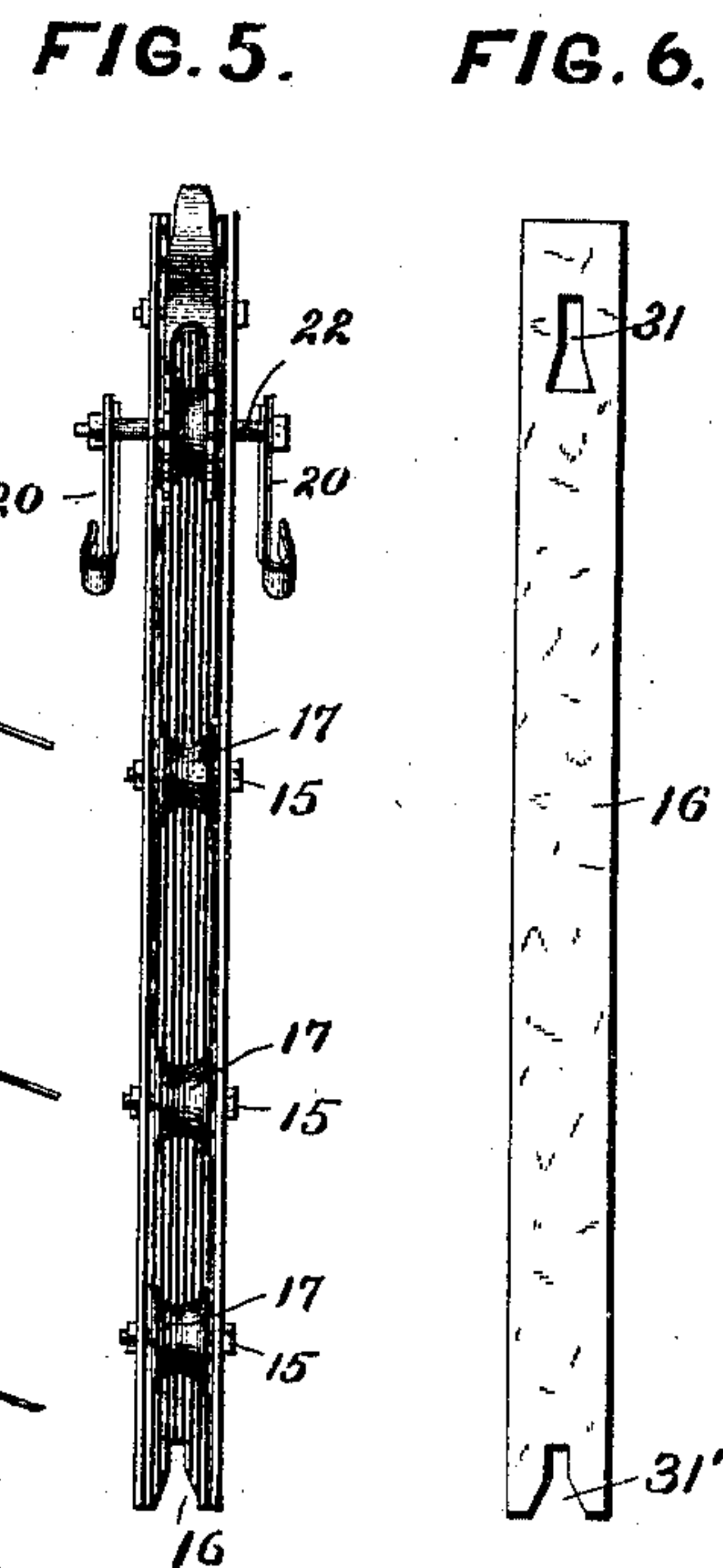
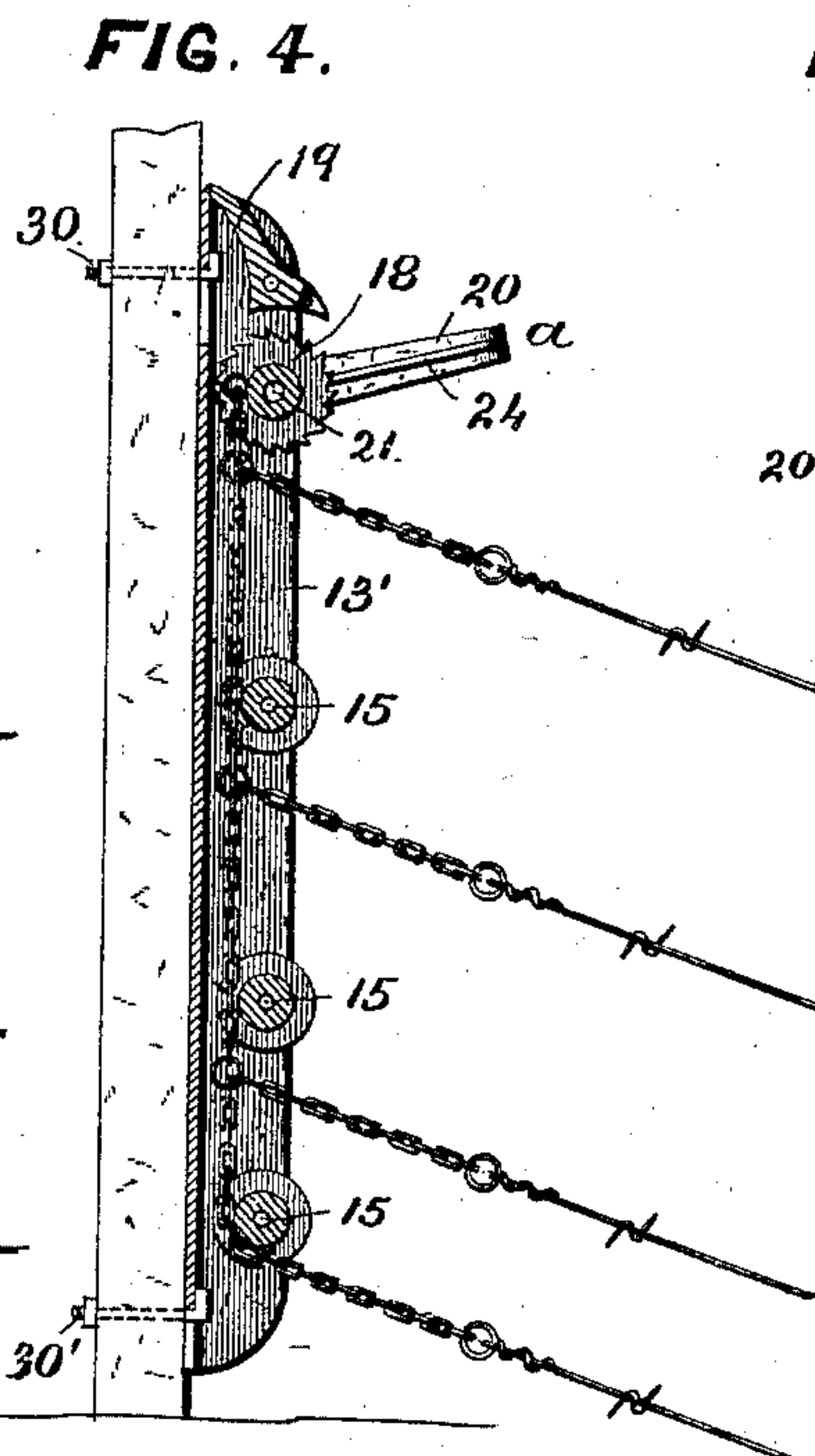
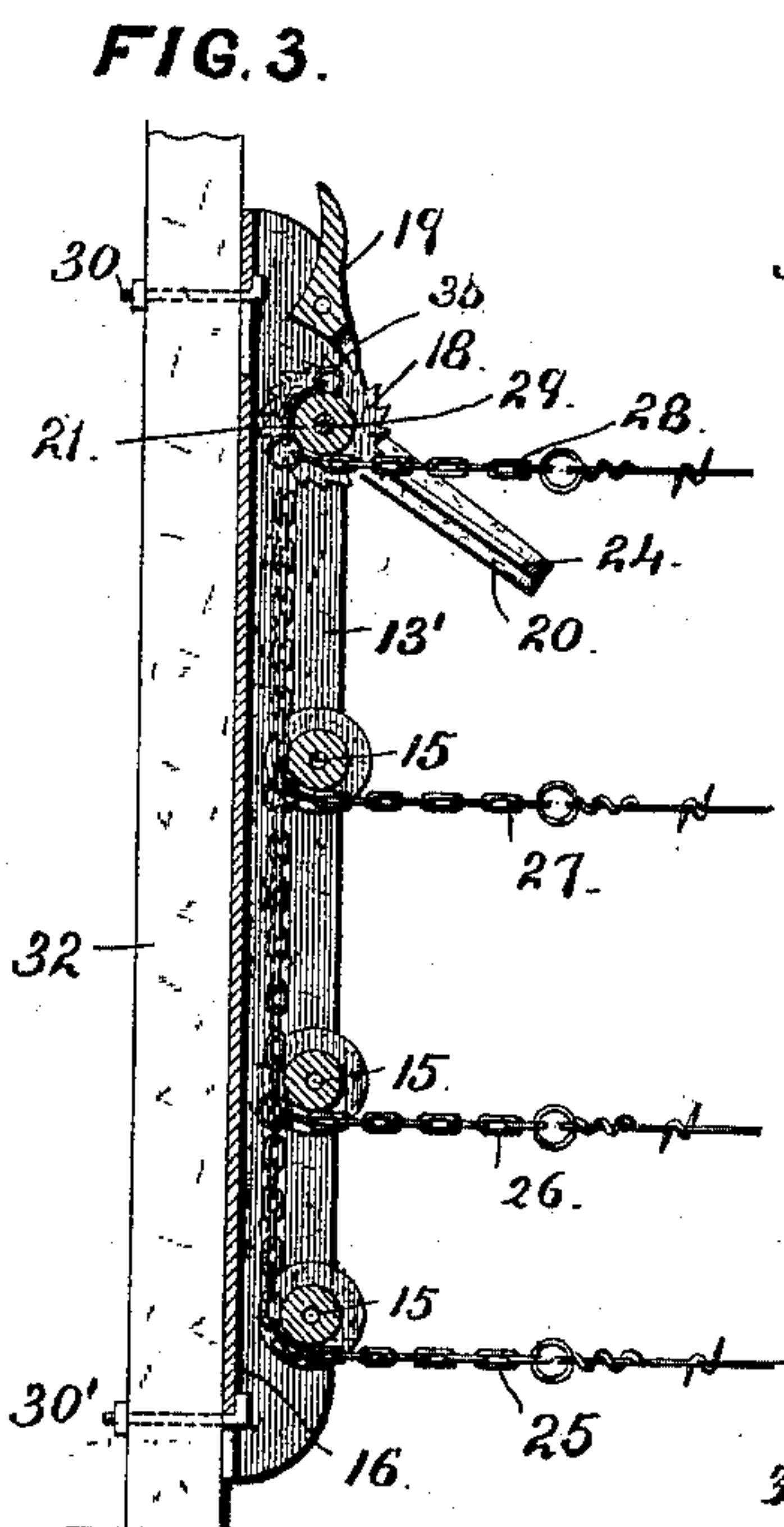
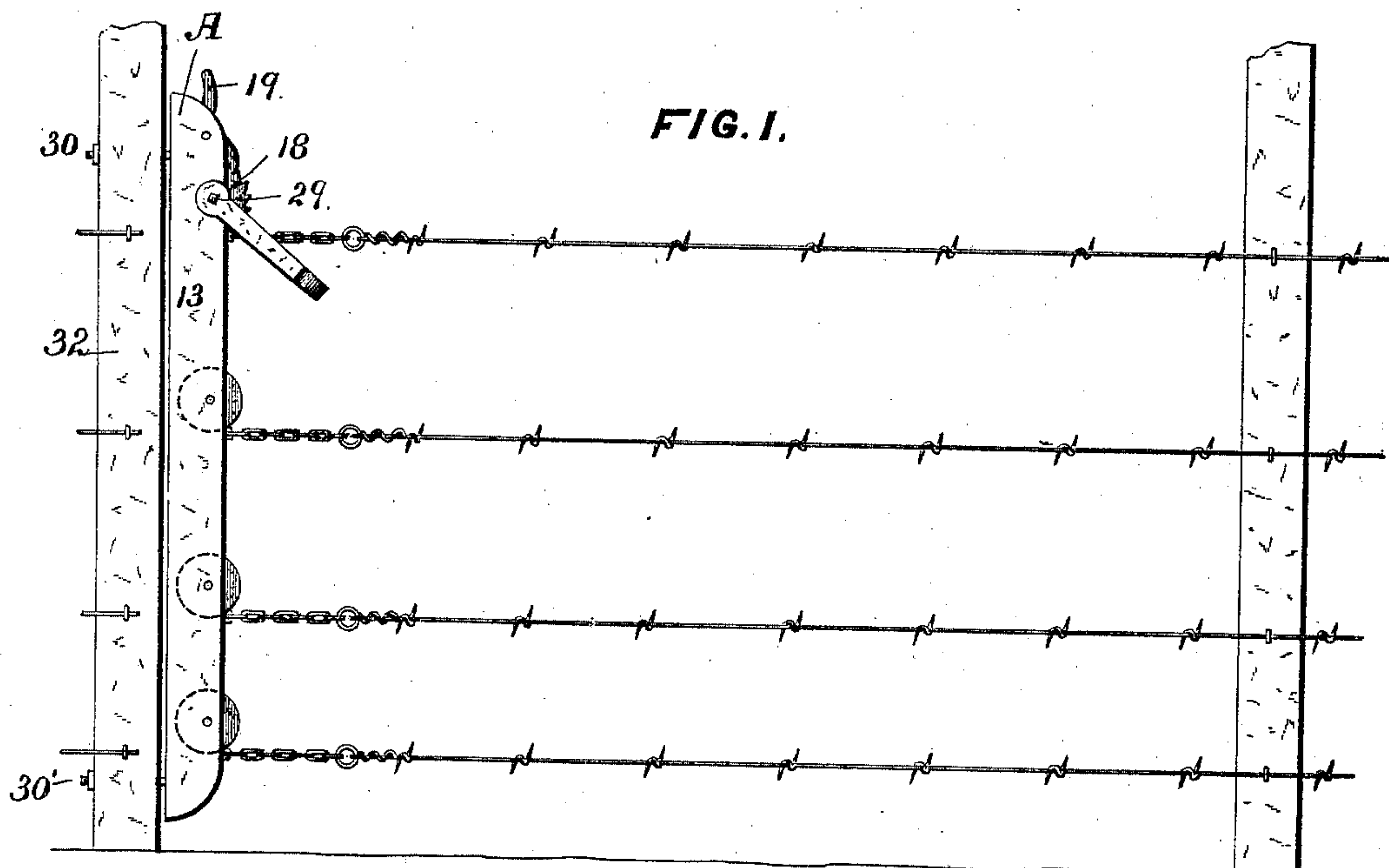
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

J. HULT.
WIRE FENCE GATE.

No. 475,867.

Patented May 31, 1892.



ATTEST.

J. Henry Kaisers
Joseph C. Stack

INVENTOR.

John Hult

By

J. M. Vale

Att'y.

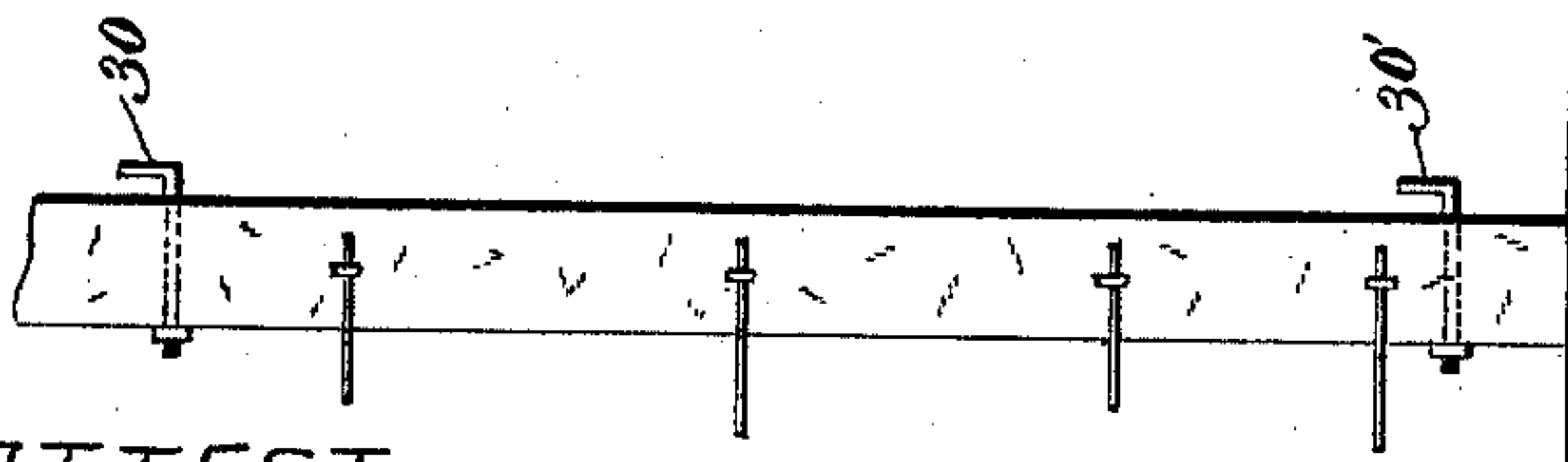
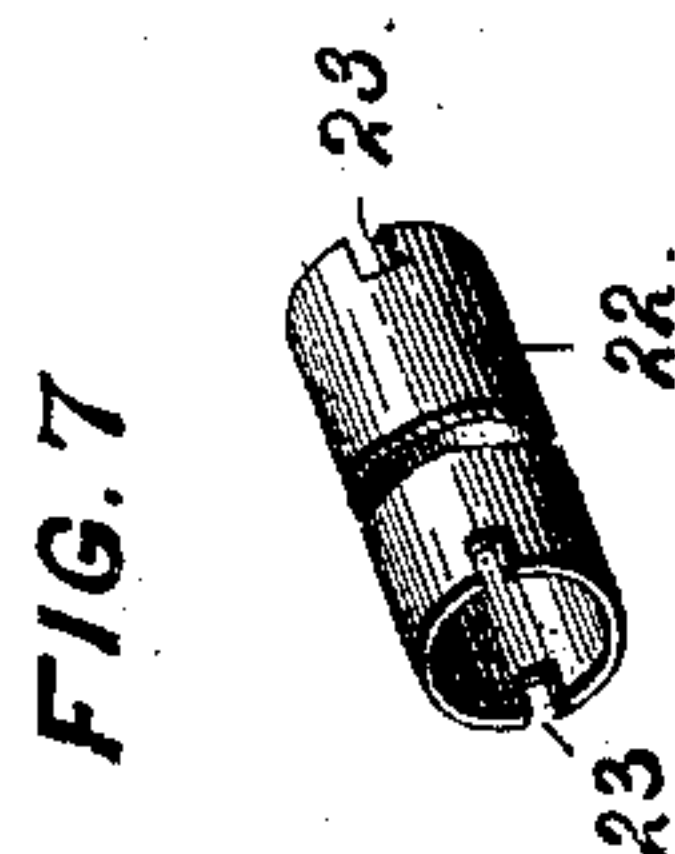
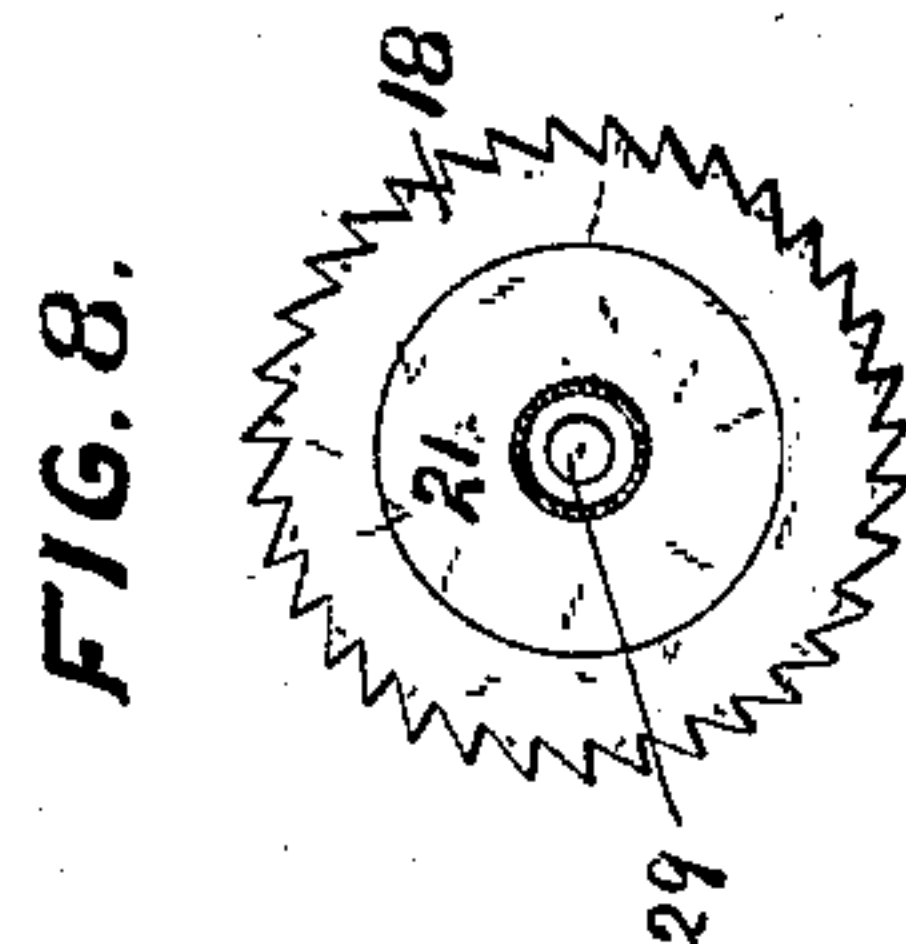
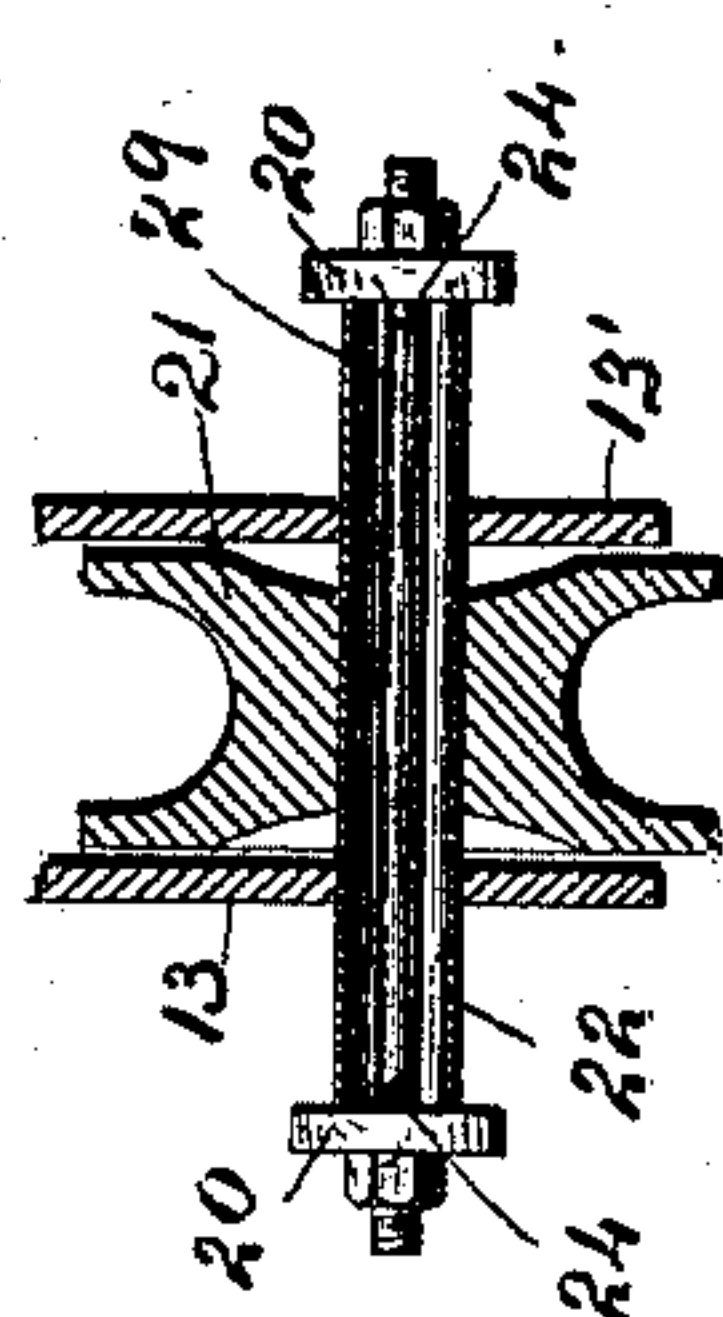
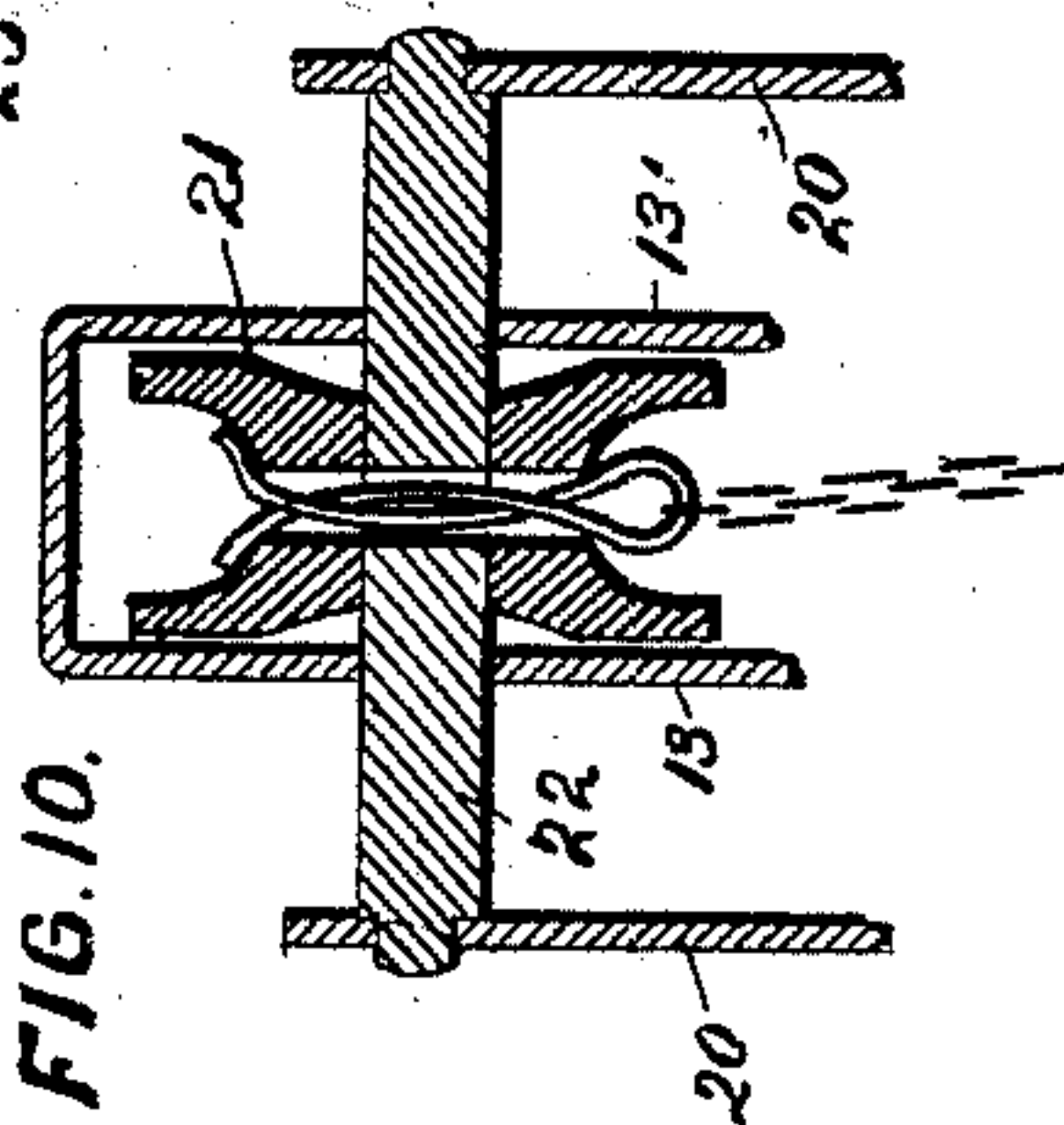
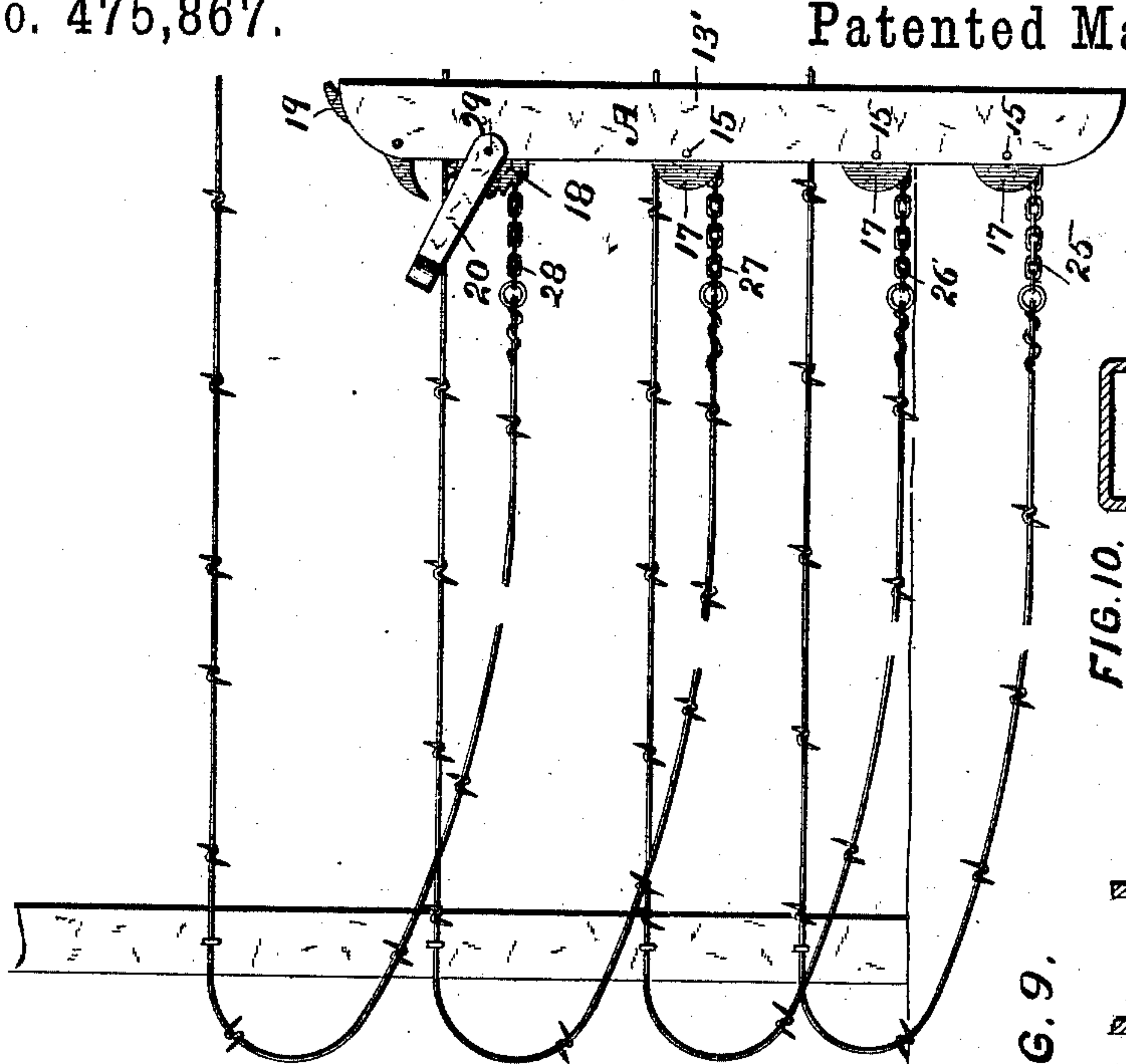
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

J. HULT.
WIRE FENCE GATE.

No. 475,867.

Patented May 31, 1892.



ATTEST.

J. Henry Kaiser.
Joseph C. Stack.

INVENTOR.

John Hult.

By.

Am Hale

1. *Алты*

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARTIN V. B. ETHRIDGE, OF EVERETT, MASSACHUSETTS.

WAITER-SIGNAL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 475,937, dated May 31, 1892.

Application filed January 18, 1892. Serial No. 418,439. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARTIN V. B. ETHRIDGE, of Everett, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Waiter-Signals, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has for its object to provide a signaling device whereby a person in a restaurant can operate a visible signal to attract the attention of a waiter without necessarily making a noise.

The invention consists in a casing or holder mounted upon a standard adapted to rest upon a table and a spring-impelled target formed to be inclosed in and covered by said casing when not in use, said target being held in its concealed position by a detent, the arrangement being such that by displacing the detent the target will be released and caused to be forced out of the casing by its spring into position calculated to attract the attention of a waiter.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, Figure 1 represents a side elevation of my improved signal mounted upon a table-caster. Fig. 2 represents a similar view, showing different means for attaching the casing to its supporting-standard. Fig. 3 represents a section on line 3 3, Fig. 1.

The same letters and numerals of reference indicate the same parts in all the figures.

In the drawings, *a* represents a casing, preferably of circular form, mounted upon a standard *b*, which may be the central stem or standard of a table-caster, or, if preferred, it may be an independent device. The casing is here shown as composed of two circular plates separated by an intermediate space of sufficient width to receive the target *c*. Said target is pivoted at *c'* to ears formed on the casing *a*, one edge of said casing being left open, so that the target can swing into and out of the casing. When the target is swung into the casing, it is concealed thereby, and when swung outwardly it is exposed, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

d represents a spring, one end of which is attached to the casing *a*, the other end to the target, the intermediate portion of the spring being coiled about a hub *e*, affixed to the target, said hub being mounted on the pivot *c'*. The spring is adapted to throw the target outwardly to the position shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

e represents a detent or latch, which is pref-

erably composed of a spring 2, affixed at one end to one side of the casing and having at its other end a stud or finger 3, which projects through a hole in one side of the casing and is formed to enter an orifice *c* in the target, the spring 2 being arranged to normally hold the stud 3 in engagement with the orifice *c*, the arrangement being such that when the target is pushed into the casing it will be automatically engaged and held by the said detent. When a person desires to attract the attention of a waiter, he withdraws the detent-stud 3 by means of a knob or handle 4, affixed to the spring 2, thus releasing the target, which is thereupon thrown outwardly by its spring *d*. The target is preferably of some bright color which will readily attract attention. It will be seen, therefore, that when the target is released the waiter will be likely to become aware of the wants of the customer without the necessity of violent vocal or muscular effort on the part of the customer. It will be seen, also, that this device will do away with the annoyance occasioned by bells commonly used to attract the attention of waiters.

I do not limit myself to the particular details of construction here shown, and may variously modify the construction of the casing, the target, and the holding and releasing devices, as well as the form and arrangement of the spring.

In Fig. 1 I show the casing as forming a structural part of a table-caster, the casing being formed for engagement with the standard *b* of the caster and serving as the usual enlargement or handle at the upper end of said standard.

In Fig. 2 I show the casing as formed to be detachably secured to the handle *b* of the standard *b'*, the casing being provided with downwardly-projecting ears *a'*, formed to bear on opposite sides of the handle *b*, said ears being clamped to engage them firmly with said handle by means of a screw *a*.

The form last described is preferred by me because it enables the signal to be conveniently applied to a table-caster of ordinary construction.

It is obvious that the target may be thrown to its displayed position by a weight instead of by a spring. Hence I do not limit myself to a spring-impelled target, although I prefer

more compact and effective
ing the target.
y be formed to rest directly
stead of being affixed to a

ed waiter-signal comprising
ing secured thereto, said cas-
ening at one edge, a target
ed to said casing and adapt-
ough said opening, a spring
the target out of the casing,
pted to hold the target in the
h.

naling device comprising a
ownwardly - projecting ears
essed together by a screw or

other adjusting device, whereby it may be se-
cured to a suitable support, said casing hav-
ing an opening at one edge, a target pivot- 20
ally connected to the casing and adapted to
pass through said opening, a spring adapted
to force the target out of the casing, and a de-
tent adapted to hold the target in the casing,
as set forth. 25

In testimony whereof I have signed my
name to this specification, in the presence of
two subscribing witnesses, this 11th day of
January, A. D. 1892.

MARTIN V. B. ETHRIDGE.

Witnesses:

C. F. BROWN,
A. D. HARRISON.