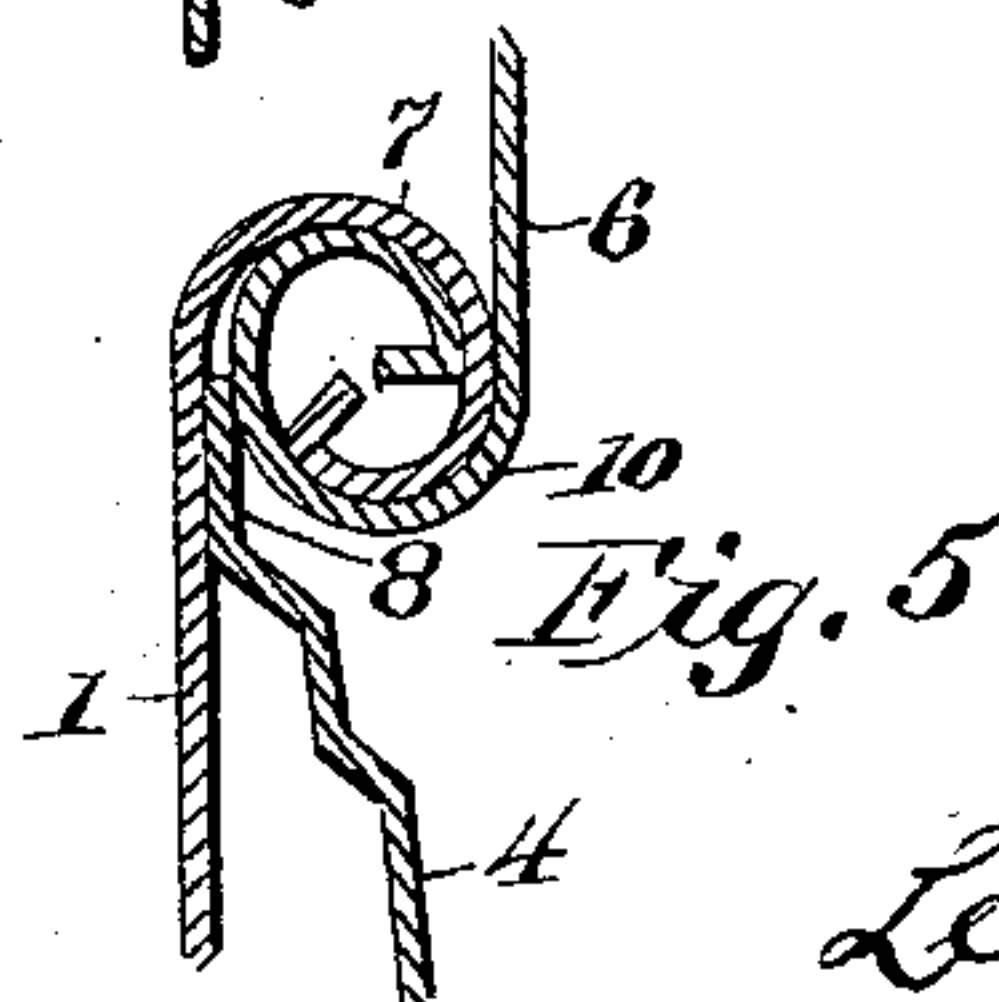
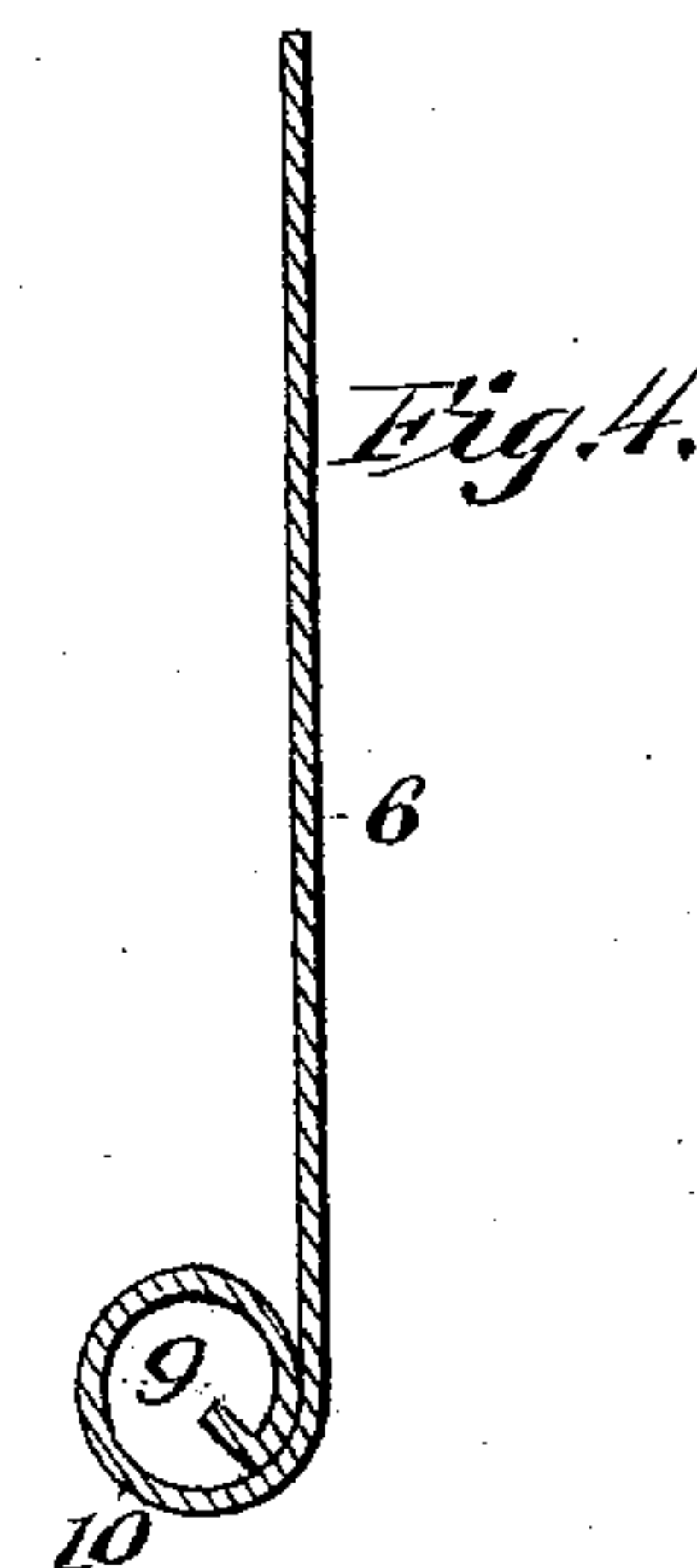
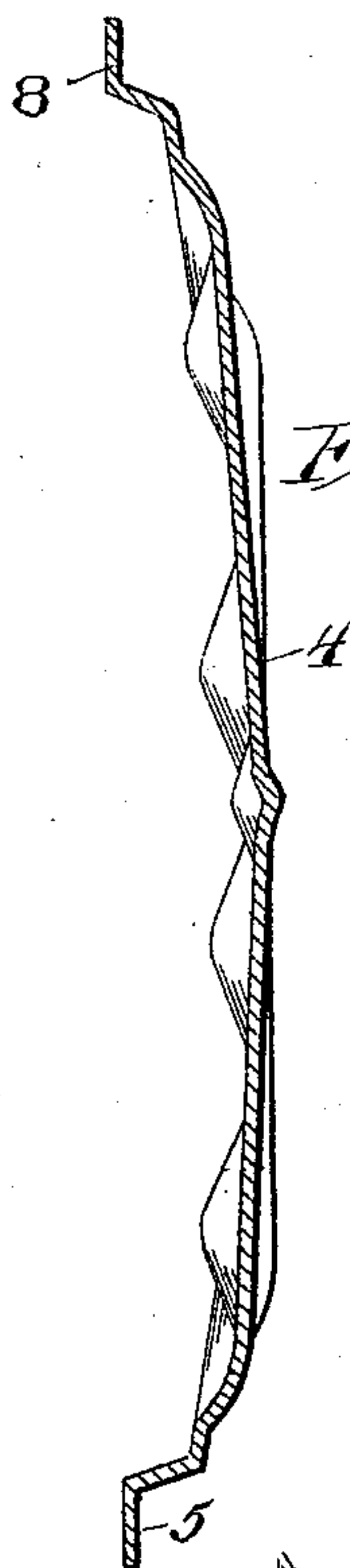
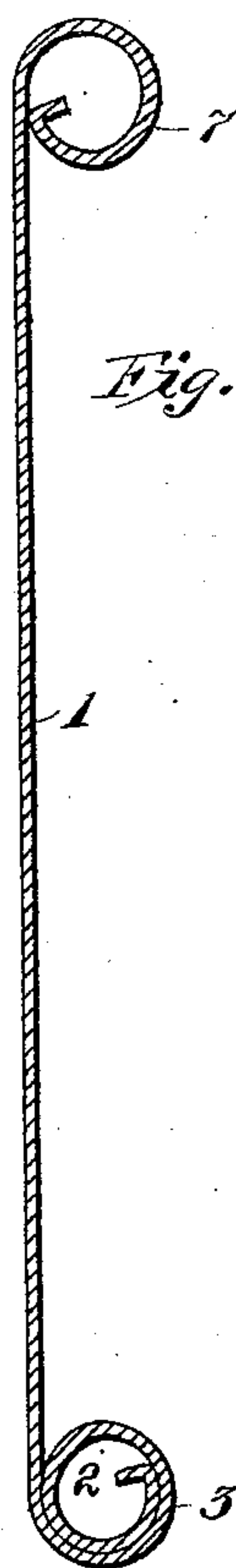
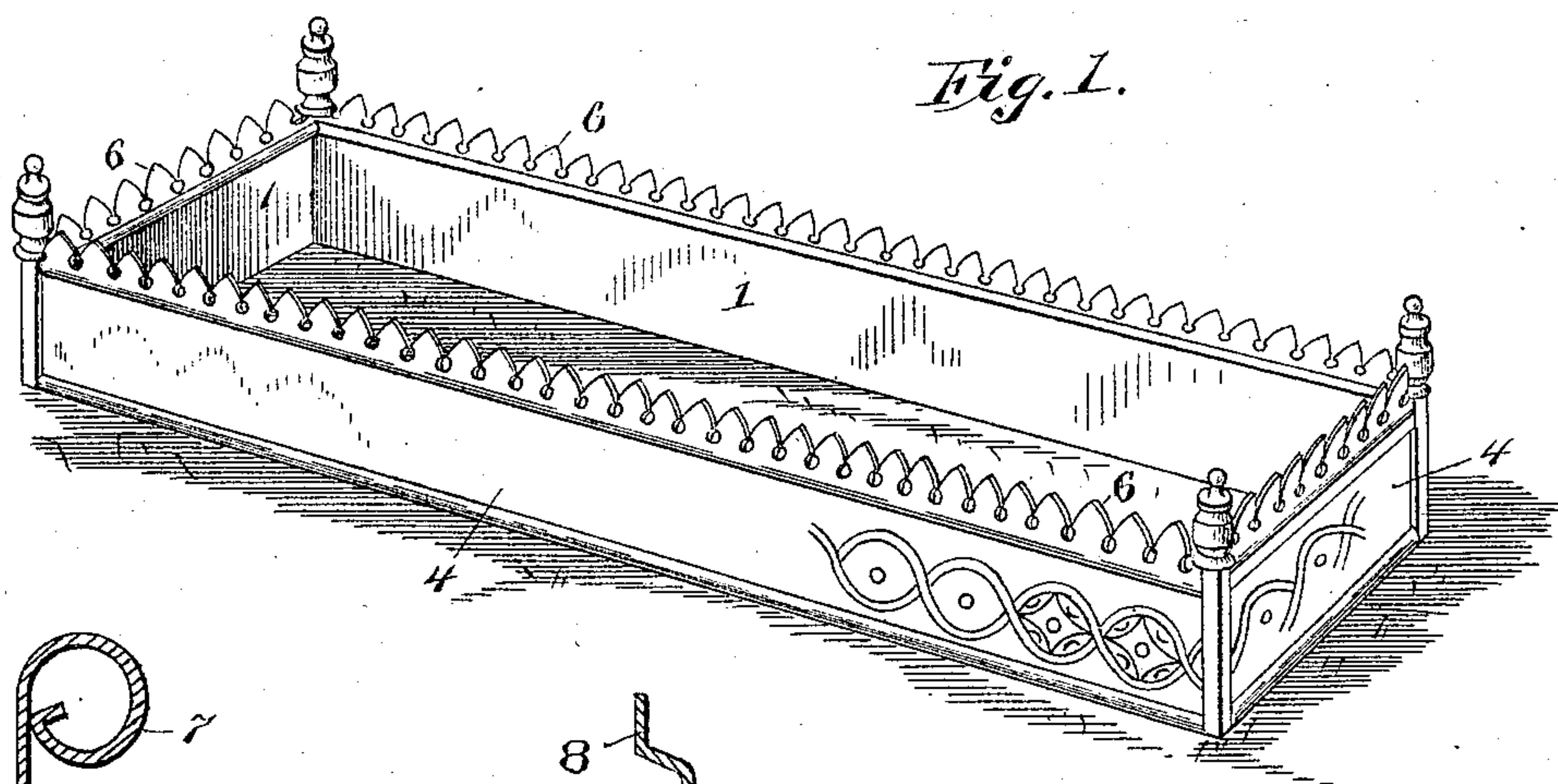


(No Model.)

L. C. MOE.  
GRAVE GUARD.

No. 538,788.

Patented May 7, 1895.



WITNESSES.  
Howard N. Orr.  
C. E. Jones.

INVENTOR.  
Lewis C. Moe.  
By Chas. J. Gooch  
Attorney.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEWIS C. MOE, OF ST. ANSGAR, IOWA.

## GRAVE-GUARD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 538,788, dated May 7, 1895.

Application filed December 19, 1894. Serial No. 532,347. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, LEWIS C. MOE, a citizen of the United States, residing at St. Ansgar, in the county of Mitchell and State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Grave-Guards; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates, as hereinafter set forth, to a novel grave-guard.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of one of my improved mound or grave guards. Fig. 2 represents a vertical edge view of the foundation or main frame. Fig. 3 represents an end elevation of the removable ornamental face-strip. Fig. 4 represents an end elevation of the removable ornamental top or cap strip. Fig. 5 represents a sectional detail view of the upper portion of the guard.

The design of my invention is to produce a novel frame for guarding the mounds of graves, retaining in position and maintaining the symmetrical appearance of the earth composing the same, and preventing the earth washing or crumbling away, said frame being adapted to be used either with or without the ornamental cap or top scallop strip or plate or the ornamental face strip, as may be desired.

1 represents the frame proper which may be formed of any suitable metal or composition and of any desired or suitable shape. The lower edge, 2, of this frame is re-curved or coiled as shown at 3, for the purpose of receiving and grippingly holding the lower edge, 5, of an independent ornamental face-plate, 4.

When it is desired to construct the frame to be used without either any ornamental face-plate or ornamental cap strip, such as the scalloped strip shown in the drawings, said frame may be formed with only its bottom edge coiled or curved, as shown at 3. When, however, it is desired that either an ornamental face-plate, as 4, or an ornamental top, or cap, strip, as the scalloped strip, 6, for instance, or both of them, shall be employed in connection with the frame, 1, the top edge of said frame, 1, is coiled or curved, as at 7, similarly to the bottom edge thereof for the purpose

of receiving and grippingly holding the upper edge, 8, of the independent ornamental face-plate, 4, and, when it is used, the lower edge, 9, of the ornamental top, or scalloped strip, 6. It will be observed that the upper and lower portions of the ornamental face-plate or strip, 4, extend angularly inward, and that the edges 5 and 8 thereof are vertical so as to be readily slid between and snugly and grippingly fit between the rear portion of the respective coils at the upper and lower edges of the frame, 1, and the adjacent portion of said frame, 1. By this construction, it will be apparent that an independent ornamental face-plate, as 4, can be readily placed in and removed from position at any time. The lower edge, 9, of the ornamental cap strip, 6, is curved or coiled, as shown at 10, and said coiled portion slipped into gripping engagement with the coiled or curved portion at the upper edge of the frame, 1, whereby said ornamental cap portion, 6, is likewise capable of being readily placed in and removed from position as desired. By my construction, not only is the symmetry of the mound preserved, but any desired ornamental features may, from time to time, be imparted thereto by removing the ornamental plate or plates or strips, or either of them, heretofore mentioned, and substituting others therefor, which can be readily accomplished by simply slipping out those already in position and slipping others in their place without disturbing the frame, 1.

As an anchored, plain, frame, the frame, 1, minus the ornamental strip or strips, can be very cheaply constructed and placed in position, while even with such ornamental strips, my improved mound-guard can be cheaply constructed and readily placed in position. The frame and the ornamental strips may be each formed in either a single piece for each side and end, or in sections as desired. By forming the frame, 1, with coiled or curved upper and lower edges it is rendered reversible.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. A grave-guard, consisting of a rectangular frame composed of vertical front, rear and end plates, each having coiled upper and lower edges, and an independent ornamental face-plate having rearwardly-extending, an-

gular, upper and lower portions and vertical upper and lower edges seated between said coiled portions and the vertical portion of the frame and frictionally gripped to said frame  
5 by said coiled portions, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. A grave-guard, consisting of a frame having a coiled or curved top edge, and an independent ornamental cap plate or strip having  
10 a lower edge adapted to engage said curved top edge of said frame, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

3. A grave-guard, consisting of a frame having coiled or curved upper and lower edges,

an independent ornamental face-plate removably engaged at its upper and lower edges with the curved or coiled upper and lower portions of said frame, and an independent ornamental cap-plate removably engaged at its lower portion with the upper curved portion of said frame, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

LEWIS C. MOE.

Witnesses:

MARTIN MOE,  
C. T. TALLIPSON.