

(No Model.)

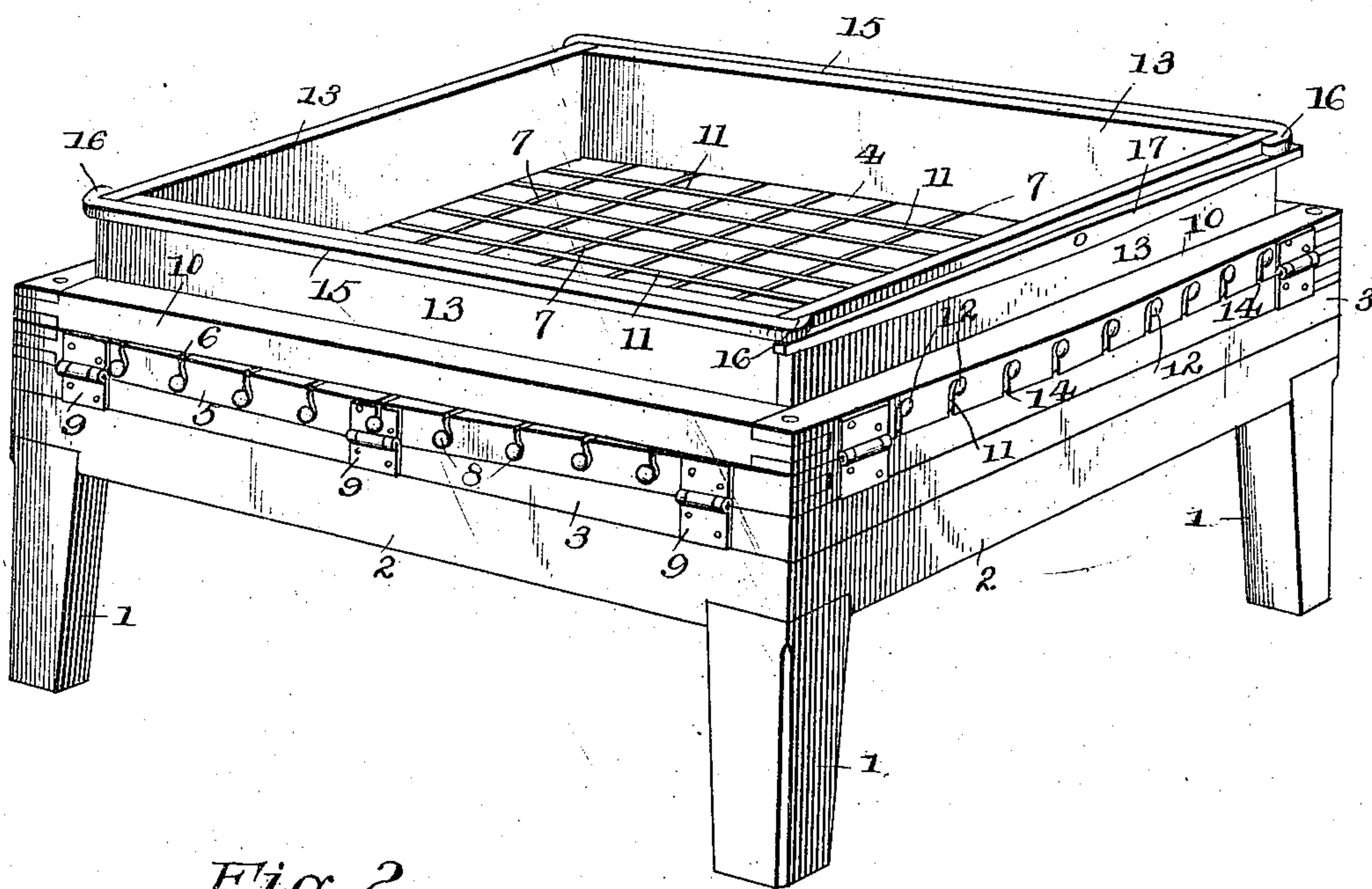
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R. PACKARD.  
BUTTER CUTTER.

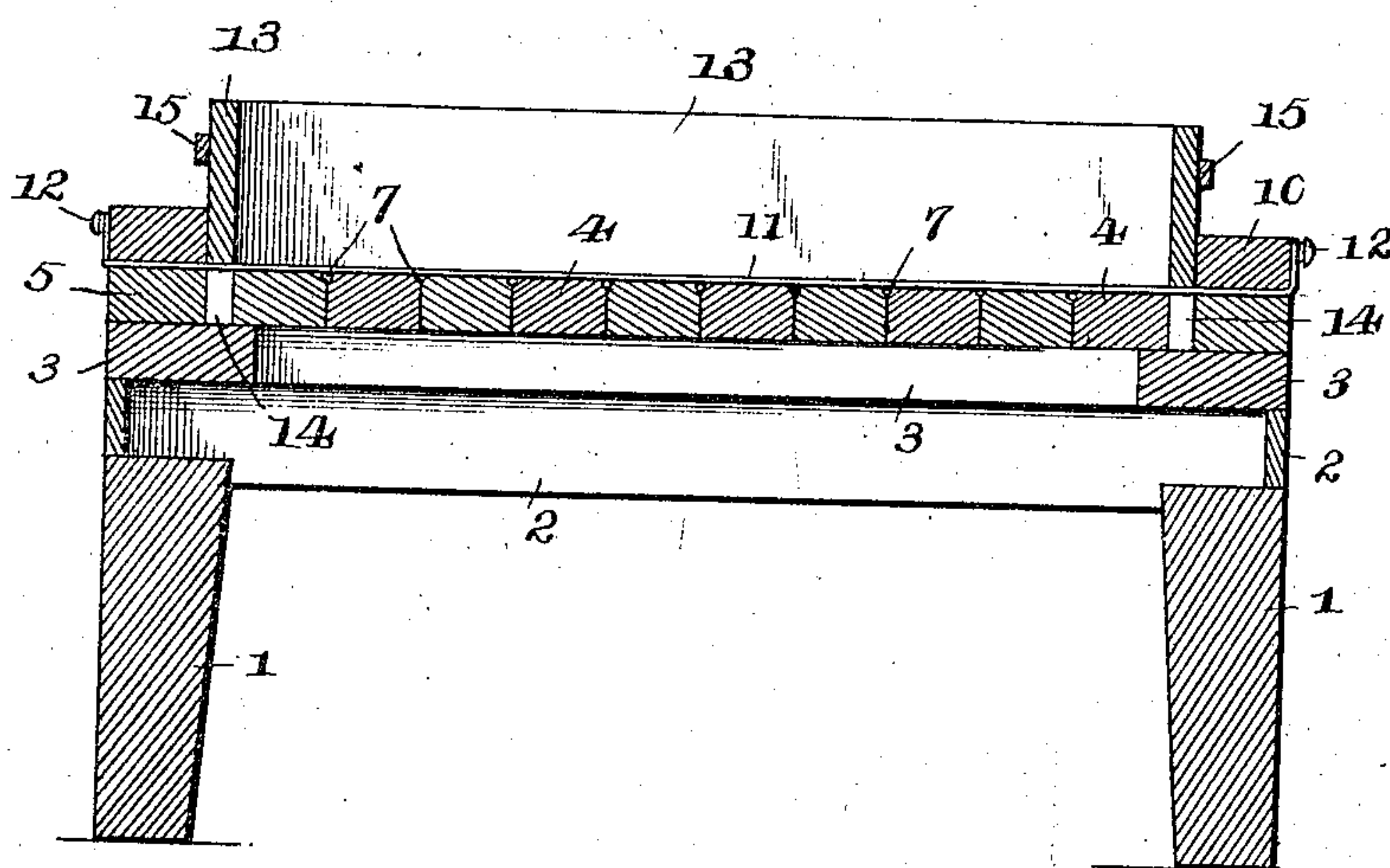
No. 539,144.

Patented May 14, 1895.

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



Inventor

Witnesses

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J. B. O'Brien.

By his Attorneys.

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(No Model.)

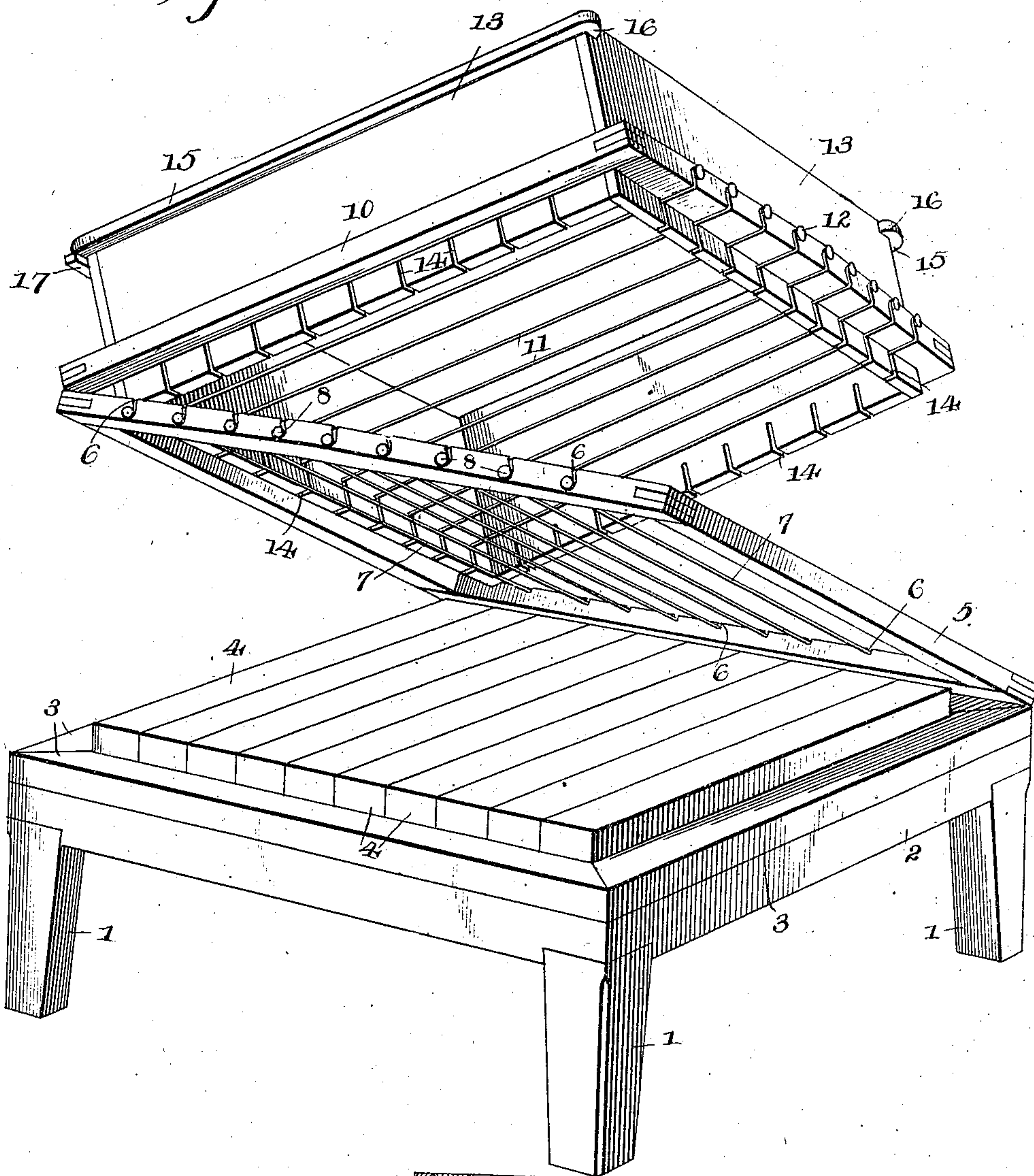
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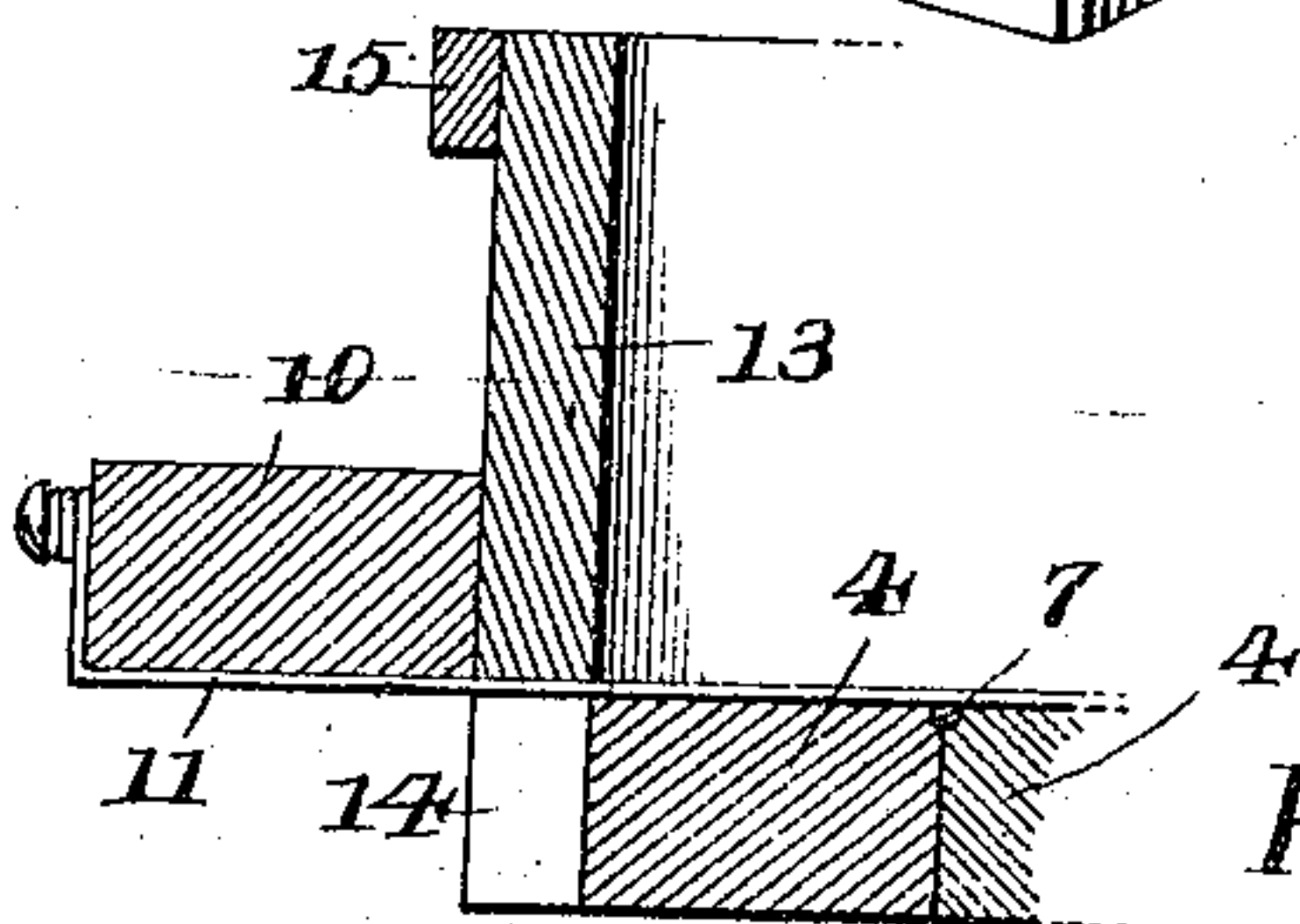
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*Fig. 3.*



*Fig. 4.*



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Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RILEY PACKARD, OF SMITH RIVER, CALIFORNIA.

## BUTTER-CUTTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 539,144, dated May 14, 1895.

Application filed November 3, 1894. Serial No. 527,805. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, RILEY PACKARD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Smith River, in the county of Del Norte and State of California, have invented a new and useful Butter-Cutter, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improved apparatus for cutting or dividing butter for the purpose of printing or serving, and especially to a device of that class in which are employed wires adapted to be passed through a sheet of butter, to cut or divide the same.

The object sought is to provide an arrangement wherein the cutting operation will result in an increased regularity in the shape of the blocks, and one which will be simple in construction and inexpensive in manufacture.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my complete apparatus; Fig. 2, a vertical longitudinal section thereof; Fig. 3, a perspective view showing the wire-carrying frames raised from above the frame of the machine and in a position which they assume directly subsequent to the cutting operation; Fig. 4, an enlarged section of the upper wire-carrying frame.

The frame of the machine consists of the four legs 1, rigidly secured, by mortising or otherwise, and at their upper ends, to the horizontal side beams 2 and top beams 3, all of which may be seen by reference to the drawings. Mounted upon the top beams 3, and removably arranged thereon, are the slats 4, which are preferably ten in number, though this may be varied to suit the capacity which it is desired to give the machine.

5 indicates the frame for the lower series of wires, and this consists of four wooden beams, mortised together at their ends so as to form a rectangular frame of an outside size equal to the size of the frame or base of the apparatus. Two of the beams composing the frame 5 are each provided on their upper sides with the grooves 6, which are preferably nine for each beam, and which are aligned with each other on their respective beams. Through these grooves 6 the wires 7 pass, said wires being also nine in number and having their several ends arranged in the respective grooves 6. Secured to the outer sides of the beams 5 which are provided with the grooves

6, are the screws or nails 8, said screws or nails being provided to furnish means for securing the wires 7 in place. The screws 8 are, of course, one for each wire on the two beams. By means of the grooves 6 the wires are placed slightly below the upper side of the frame 5, and at the same time are kept in the proper relation to each other. Each of the beams which are provided with the grooves 6 is formed with a slight outward bend increasing toward the middle of the beam, so as to make the beam narrow at its ends and gradually increasing in width toward its center. This may be readily understood by reference to the drawings.

9 indicates three hinges which are secured to the frame 5 and to one of the top beams 3 of the main frame of the apparatus, whereby the frame 5 is mounted on the main frame so as to be capable of swinging thereon. By this arrangement the frame may be raised or lowered as shown in the drawings.

Hinged to one side of the frame 5, and adjacent, though at right angles, to the hinged side of said frame, is the frame 10, which is a duplicate of the frame 5 in size and structure, and which has the wires 11 secured thereto by means of the pins or screws 12, fixed to the outer sides of two of the beams composing the frame. The wires 11 are preferably nine in number, it being essential that they correspond with the number of wires 7, and also that the wires 11 extend at right angles to the wires 7. Since the wires 11 are arranged on the under side of the frame 10, and the wires 7 on the upper side of their respective frame, the two series of wires are placed closely together. It will be observed that the slats 4 are of such a size and shape that their upper sides will lie flush with the upper side of the frame 5, and that when properly disposed on the main frame or base of the apparatus, a space will be left between the aligned ends of the slats and the adjacent sides of the frame 5.

Arranged within the frame 10, and held removably therein, are the boards 13, which are four in number and which are duplicates in size and construction. Each board is provided at its lower edge with the equidistant and vertical slots 14, through which the wires 7 and 11 are respectively adapted to pass,



according to the position of the boards in relation to said wires. The number of slots 14 in each board correspond, of course, to the number of wires in the two frames, the purpose of which will be obvious. The boards 13 are held in place within the frame 10 and are connected to each other by means of the clamp-bars 15, which are two in number and which are provided at their ends with hooks 16, adapted to take over the sides of the boards and draw the same together, as may be seen by reference to the drawings.

17 indicates a bar, which is rigidly and permanently secured to one of the boards 13, and which has its ends projected beyond the corresponding ends of the board to which it is attached, the purpose being to prevent excessive downward movement of the clamp-bars 15.

By reference to the drawings, it may be seen that the boards 13 when assembled in the proper position form substantially a hopper, having for its bottom the slats 4, and having an open top.

In the use of my invention, the apparatus is placed in the position shown in Fig. 1, and the butter to be divided placed within the space inclosed by the boards 13 and spread evenly upon the slats 4, after which the frame 10 should be raised, swinging on its hinges so as to bring the wires 11 upwardly and through the butter. This will form the butter into a series of strips corresponding in size to the space between the several wires 11. These strips of butter will lie upon the slats 4 and with the wires 7 extending under them and across their longitudinal line. The next movement in the operation of the apparatus should be a swinging of the frame 5 on its hinges, which will be followed by a corresponding movement of the wires 7, thereby dividing the strips of butter into squares, all of an equal size, such size being commensurate with the size of the squares formed by the crossing wires 7 and 11. When this has been done, the butter will rest upon the slats 4, and each slat will have thereon a number, in the present case ten, of blocks. This will permit the easy removal of the butter, owing to the removable arrangement of the slats 4, which makes it possible to lift the slats off, carrying with them the blocks of butter.

My apparatus is useful principally in preparing butter for table use, that is, for divid-

ing it into portions of sufficient size. It may, however, be used for dividing butter before the same is printed, or for putting it into the form necessary for the market, as a substitute for the usual process of printing. All of these various uses will, however, be obvious and do not require any further description here. The apparatus will be constructed of any suitable material, wood being preferred.

Changes in the form, proportion, and the minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the principle or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention.

Having described the invention, I claim—

1. An apparatus for cutting butter, consisting of a main frame or base adapted to have the butter placed thereon, a movable frame hinged to the main frame or base, a wire stretched across the said movable frame, and a second movable frame hinged to the first movable frame, and a wire extending across the second movable frame and at right angles to the wire of the first frame, substantially as described.

2. An apparatus for cutting butter, consisting of a main frame or base adapted to have the butter placed thereon, a movable frame hinged thereto, a series of wires stretched across the movable frame, and a bottomless hopper carried by said movable frame and consisting of a number of boards clamped within the same, said hopper being adapted to primarily surround the butter to be cut, substantially as described.

3. An apparatus for cutting butter having a base for supporting the butter, a plurality of independently movable frames adapted to fit one within another and to move toward and from the plane of the base, and a plurality of parallel wires carried by each frame, the wires on one frame being disposed at an angle to those on the other, and the wires being arranged in such positions upon the frames that when the frames are telescoped they are disposed approximately in a common plane, substantially as specified.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

RILEY PACKARD.

Witnesses:

WALTER BROOKING,  
F. O. PEARSON.