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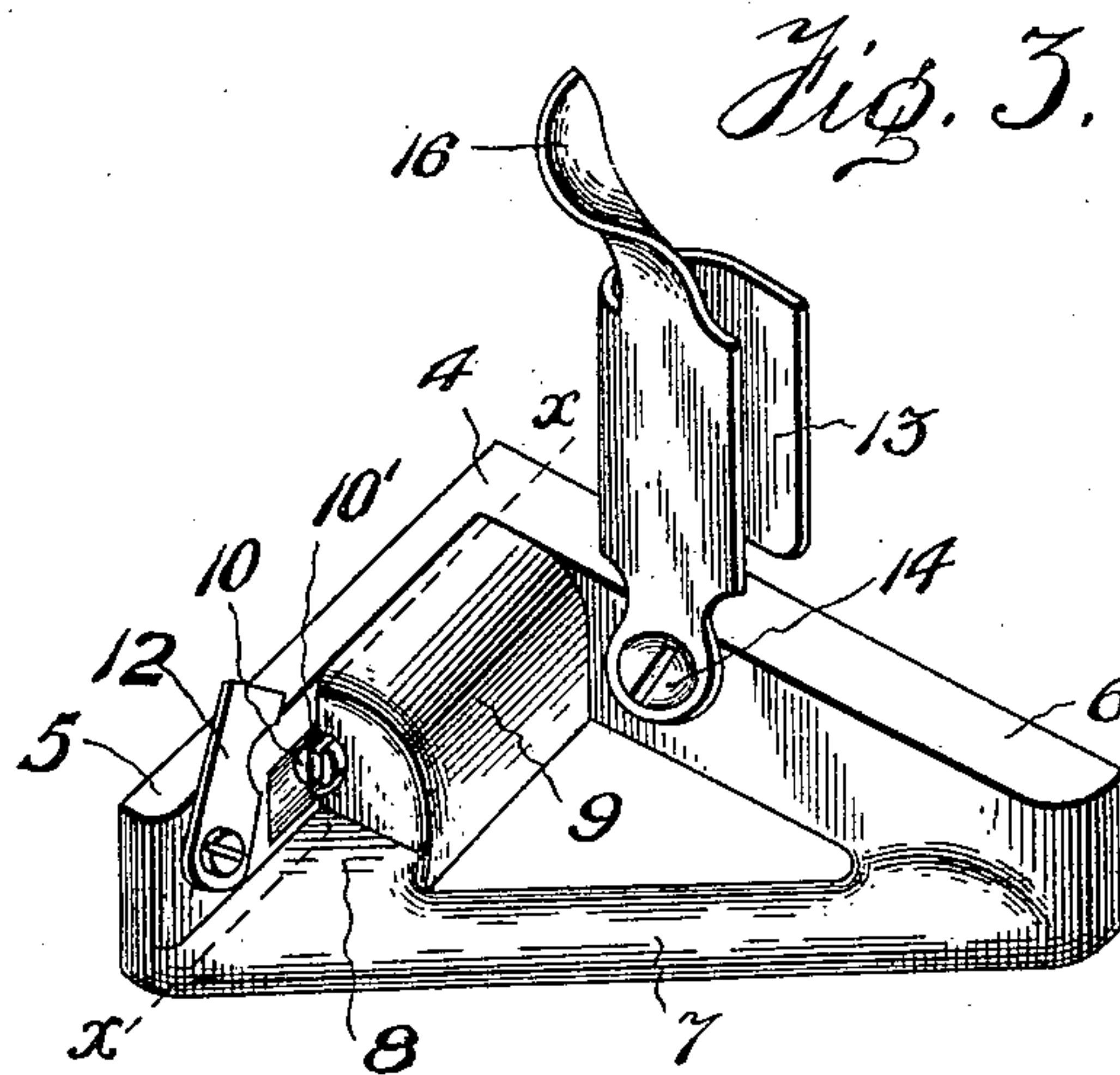
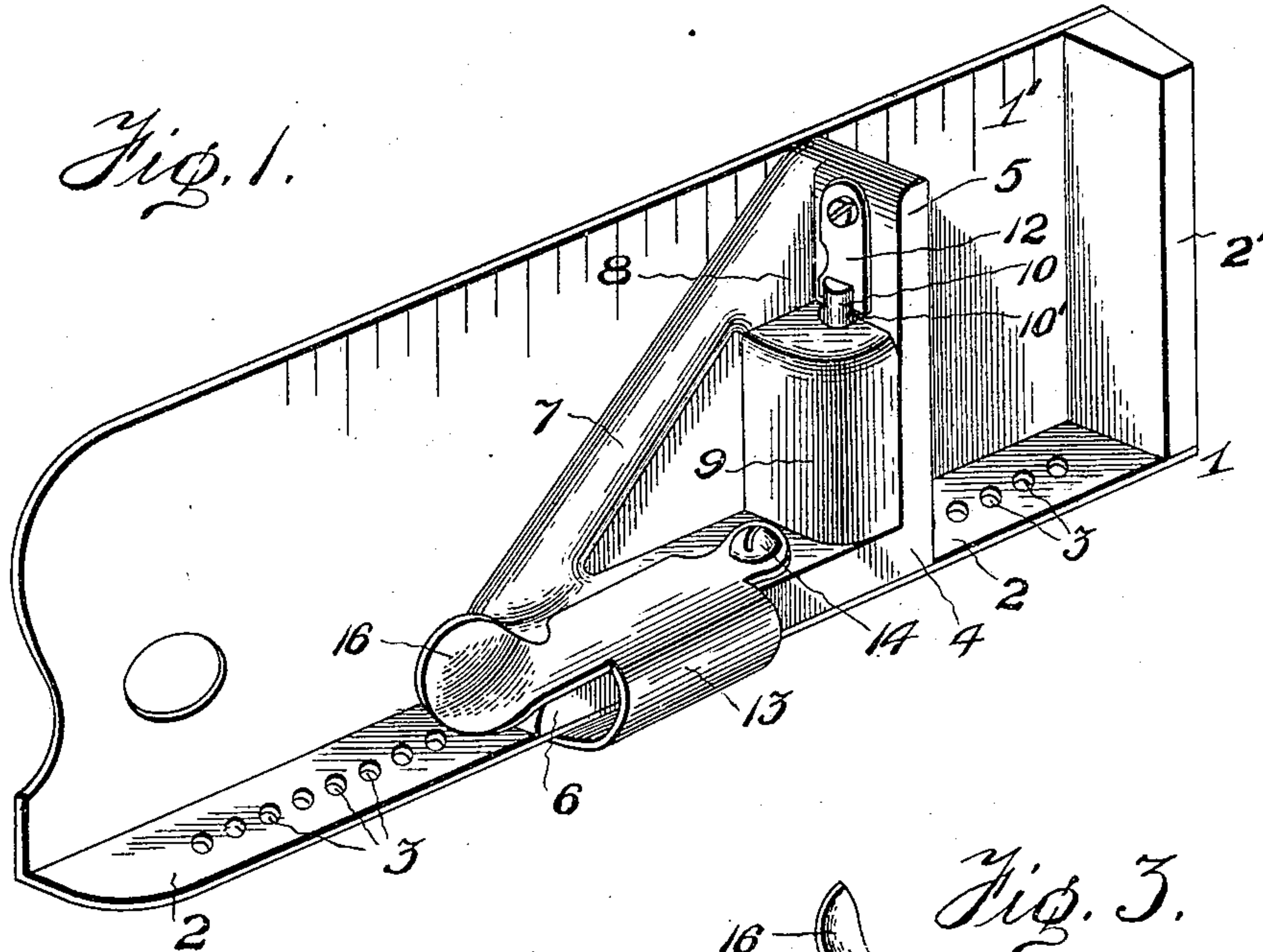
Patented Aug. 13, 1901.

H. B. ROUSE.  
PRINTER'S COMPOSING STICK.

(Application filed Mar. 23, 1900.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.



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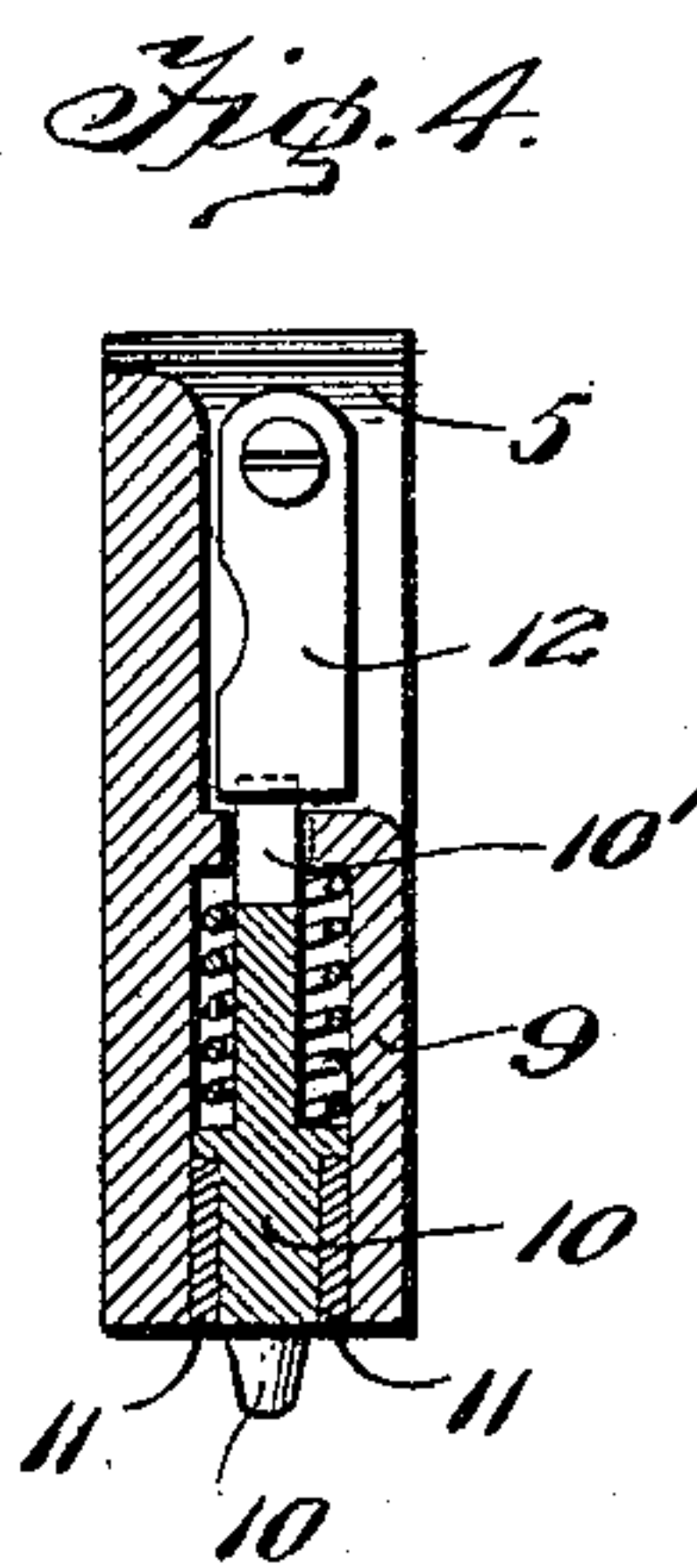
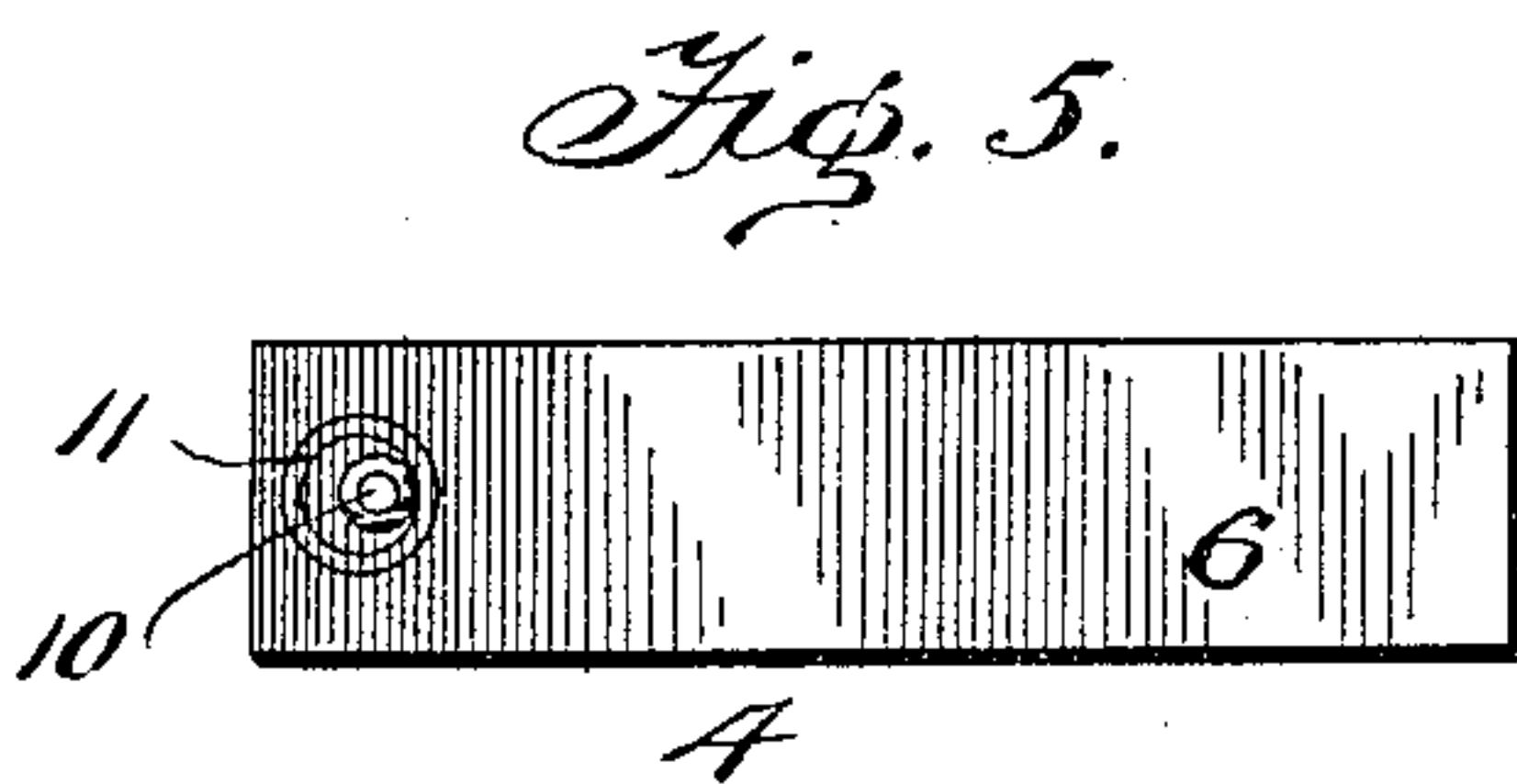
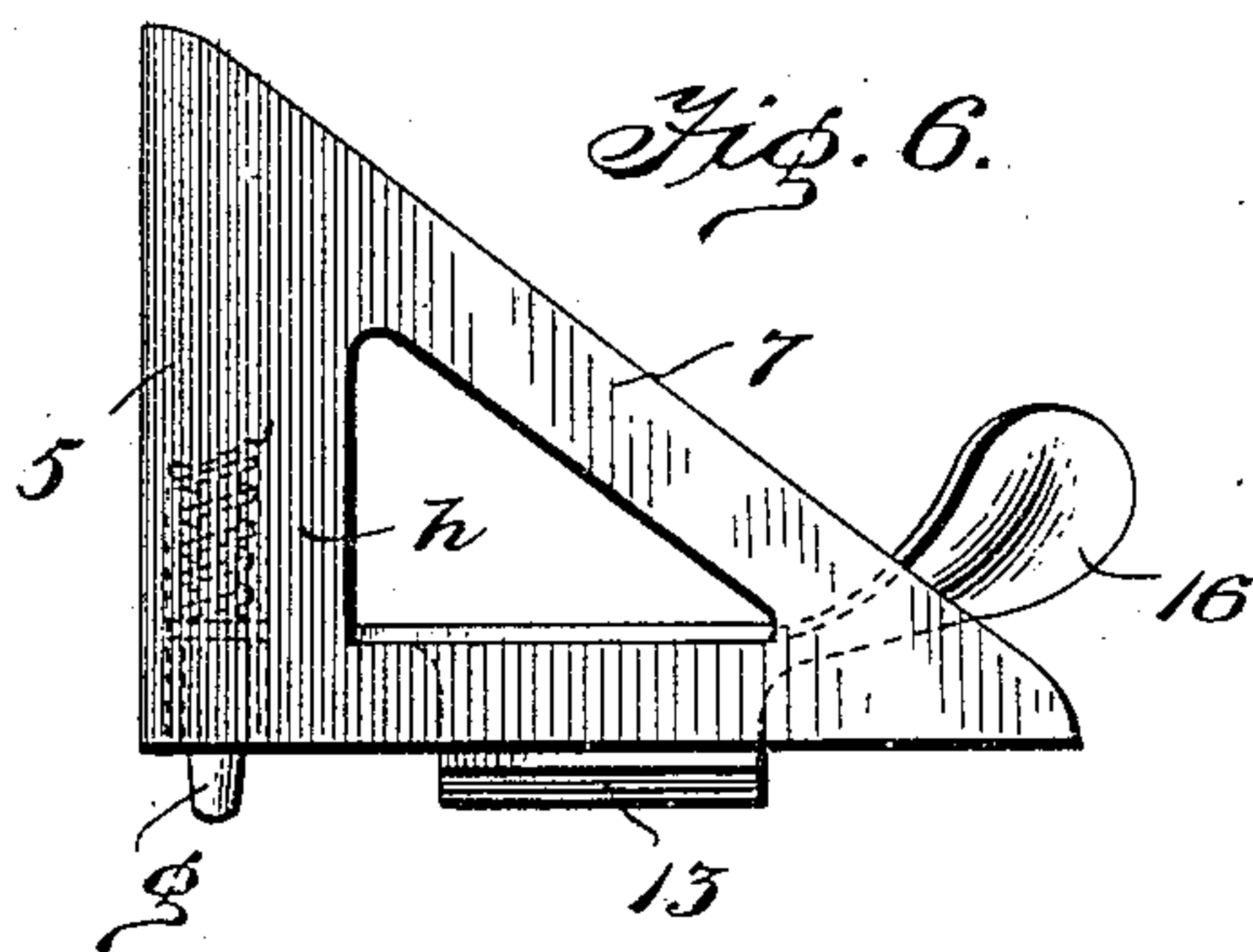
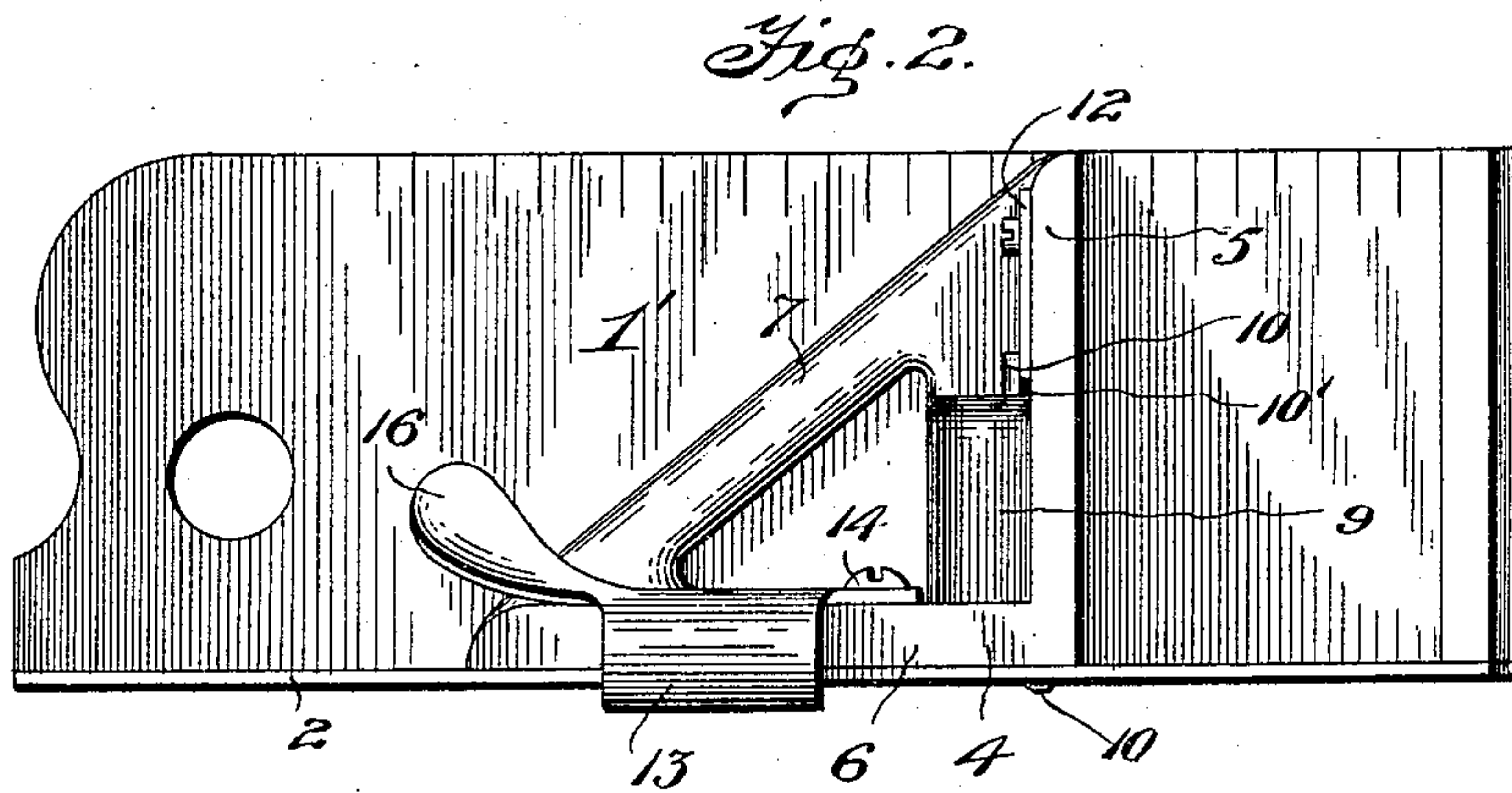
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(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.



Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARRY B. ROUSE, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

## PRINTER'S COMPOSING-STICK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 680,546, dated August 13, 1901.

Application filed March 23, 1900. Serial No. 9,922. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HARRY B. ROUSE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Mont Clare, Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Composing-Sticks for Printers' Use; and I do 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.

The invention relates to printers' composing-sticks, and more particularly to that class known in the art as "job-sticks," in that they are especially adapted for quick adjustment to different widths of columns.

One object of the invention is to provide a printer's stick of this character which shall be of such construction as to dispense with the custom of adjusting the stick to a lead or rule of the desired measure, which are frequently inaccurate in length, thus producing various measures where the greatest accuracy is needed.

Another object of the invention is to provide an adjusting-stick which will compensate for wear, thus materially increasing the life of the stick and insuring exact accuracy in use.

Another object is to provide a printer's stick which shall be of such construction as to permit of its instant adjustment to any standard measure, such as picas or half-picas, and finally to provide a printer's stick which shall be simple of construction, durable in use, comparatively inexpensive of production, and efficient in operation.

With these as well as other objects in view the invention consists in certain features of construction and combination of parts, which will be hereinafter fully set forth.

In the accompanying drawings, in which I have shown several different forms of my invention, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a composing-stick embodying one form of my invention. Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the same. Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view of the knee. Fig. 4 is a vertical sectional view on line  $x x$  of Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is a side elevation of the knee to show the eccentric dog.

Fig. 6 is a top plan view of the knee, illustrating another form of my invention.

Referring to Figs. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 of the drawings, 1 denotes the body of the stick, comprising a base 1', a side wall 2, and an end wall 2'. The side wall is formed with a longitudinal row of dog-seats 3, which in the present instance are shown in the form of apertures, each of which is spaced a pica apart.

4 denotes the knee of the composing-stick, comprising the integral arms 5 and 6, arranged at right angles and connected near their outer ends by the integral diagonal brace 7, which extends from the arm 6 to the laterally-projecting integral flange 8 on the lower portion of the arm 5. The arm 5 of the knee is provided on its inner face with a casing 9, within which is seated an eccentric dog 10, incased within a sleeve 11 within said casing 9 and forced outward by a spring 9'. The rear end of said dog 10 is provided with a notch 10' to receive a retaining-lever 12, pivoted to the outer face of the arm 5 immediately above the flange 8, so that said retaining-lever 12 may be turned down into engagement with the notch 10' in said dog. The retaining-lever may be turned up out of the notch 10' to permit said eccentric dog to be revolved one-half a revolution to bring said dog to a point diametrically opposite its former position and changing the distance between the face of the knee and the center of the eccentric dog, thereby increasing or decreasing the measure by one-half pica.

As before stated, the seats 3 in the side wall are one pica from center to center of said seats, and it is found to be impracticable to have them closer. Consequently if a straight dog—that is, one not eccentric—is used the stick could be set only one pica apart. Hence I have resorted to the employment of the eccentric dog, which is placed one-fourth pica off the center, so that when the dog is moved one-half revolution it changes the measure one-half pica.

The end of the dog that engages the seats is preferably tapered, as shown. This insures a firm seat on the sides of the dog and at the same time centers the knee at the desired measure. The tapering of the dog also



compensates for wear, for as the seat becomes larger and the dog smaller the tapered end of the dog will sink farther into the seat. I thus produce an automatically-centering and wear-compensating dog.

While I have shown the dog provided with a notch and have also shown the pivoted lever for engaging the notch to hold the dog in its adjusted position, I would have it distinctly understood that I contemplate as coming within the scope of my invention any means which I may employ for securing this result.

13 denotes a clasp or fastener which is pivoted on a screw-stud 14, secured to the arm 6 of the knee and is provided with a handle 16, with which to operate it. When swung down in position, the clasp embraces the arm 6 of the knee and the side wall of the body of the stick and securely holds the two in place.

In Fig. 6 I have shown the knee provided with a spring-actuated dog *g*, mounted in a casing *h* and provided with a tapering end to compensate for wear. This dog is adapted to engage seats similar to those shown in Fig. 1 and is self-centering and wear-compensating.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, the construction, operation, and advantages of the invention will be readily understood without requiring an extended explanation. The sticks shown and described are simple in construction, durable in use, and can be placed upon the market at a comparatively low cost and may be easily and quickly operated.

Various 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 thus fully described my invention, what is claimed, and desired to be secured by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. The combination with the body of a composing-stick provided with seats, of a knee provided with a self-centering and wear-compensating dog having a conical end to engage said seats.

2. The combination with the body of a composing-stick provided with seats, of a knee provided with a spring-actuated self-centering and wear-compensating conical dog to engage said seats.

3. The combination with the body of a composing-stick provided with seats, of a knee provided with a dog having an eccentric axial adjustment, and means for locking it in adjustment to engage said seats.

4. The combination with the body of a composing-stick provided with seats, of a knee provided with an eccentrically-mounted spring-actuated dog to engage said seats.

5. The combination with the body of a composing-stick provided with seats, of a knee provided with an eccentrically-mounted tapering dog to engage said seats, and means for locking said dog in its axial adjustment.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

HARRY B. ROUSE.

Witnesses:

LOUIS SCHAUPPER,  
GEORGE R. SMITH.