

No. 693,251.

Patented Feb. 11, 1902.

W. A. FINN.

BAG LOCK.

(Application filed Nov. 9, 1901.)

(No Model.)

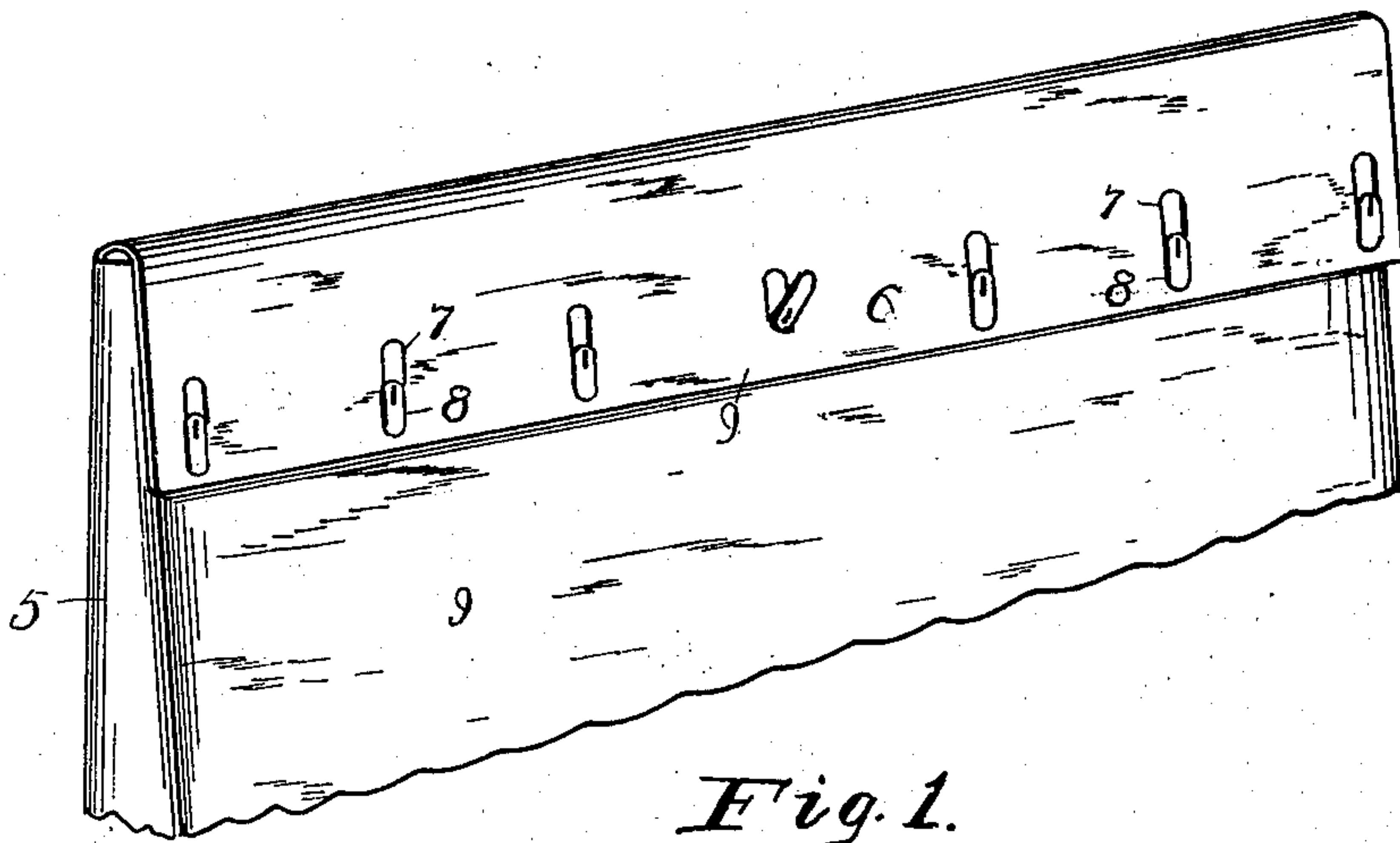


Fig. 1.

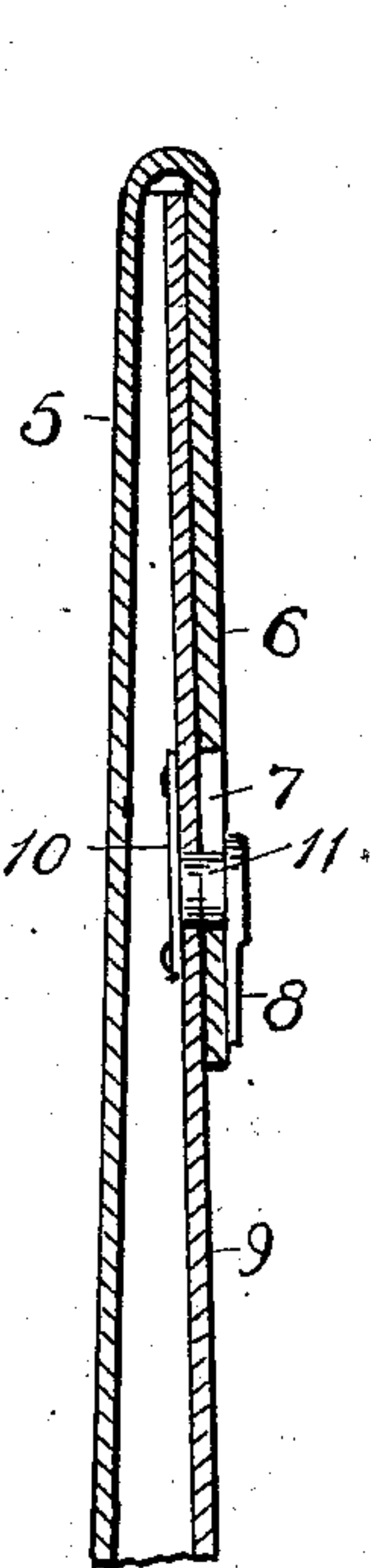


Fig. 2.

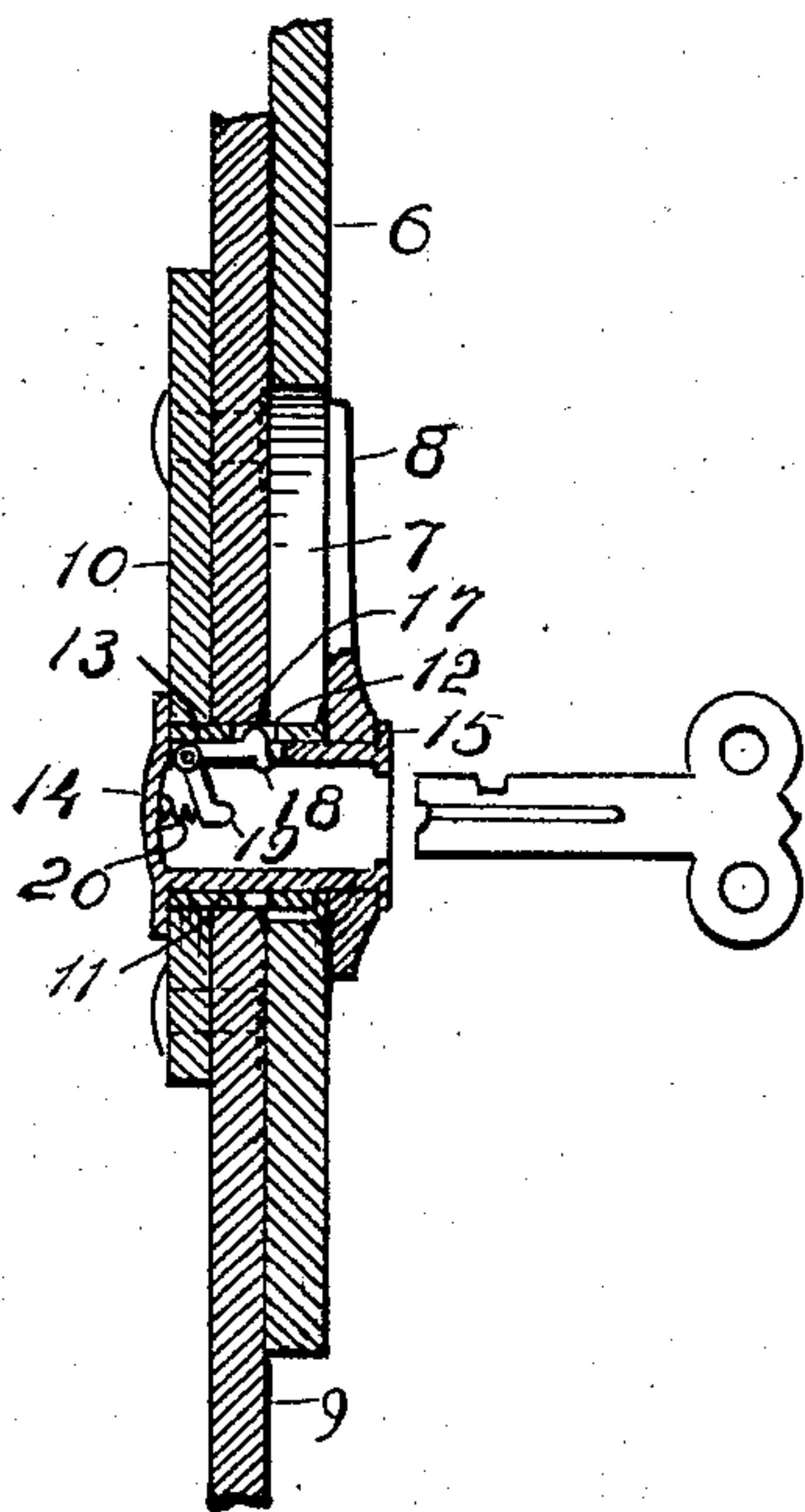


Fig. 3.

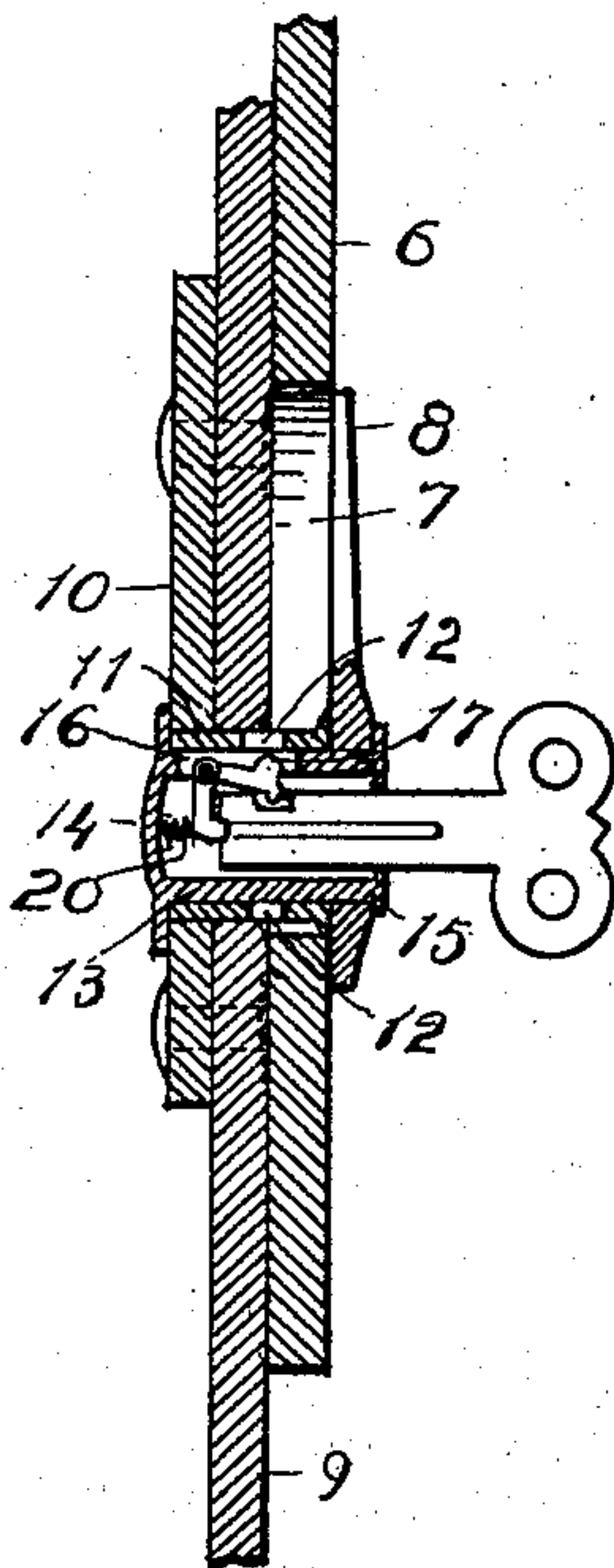


Fig. 4.

WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## BAG-LOCK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 693,251, dated February 11, 1902.

Application filed November 9, 1901. Serial No. 81,712. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM A. FINN, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Locks for Mail-Bags and other Purposes, of which the following is a specification.

The object of this invention is to provide a cheap, simple, efficient, and easily-operated fastener for mail-bags or like articles; and it comprises a lock so arranged in connection with the flap that no strap is required in closing and locking the bag; but it is so arranged that the lock itself has a finger which passes through the slot or opening in the flap and is then turned around in such a position that it locks and holds the flap, all of which will now be set forth in detail.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the upper end of a mail-bag, showing the locking-fingers in position; Fig. 2, a vertical cross-section of a bag with the locking-finger turned down and showing the relative position of the slot in the flap; Fig. 3, a sectional view of the lock attached to the body of the mail-bag with the finger locked in one position, and Fig. 4 a sectional view of the lock with the key applied to unlock same.

In constructing my invention I prefer to have the mail-bag 5 provided with a flap 6, which has a series of vertically-disposed slots 7 near its lower end, these slots being so located that the fingers 8 of the lock will readily pass through when the fingers are turned up to a vertical position, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4.

The lock itself is attached to the front body 9 of the mail-bag. It comprises a base-plate 10 of suitable size, to which is attached or cast therewith the tubular shell 11, which is of sufficient length to provide for the thickness of both flap 6 and body 9 of the bag. This shell has oppositely-disposed notches or detents 12. Within this shell is fitted a cylinder 13, having at its rear end a disk head 14, and its forward end projects beyond the end of the shell 11 and passes through and is rigidly

attached to the finger 8 by being riveted thereto, as at 15, or otherwise. This cylinder is so placed within the shell 11 that it will readily turn. A longitudinal slot 16 is formed on one side of the cylinder 13, within which is hinged a bell-crank lever, one end of the bell-crank lever having a point or nib 17, which is designed to enter the notches 12 in the shell, and opposite thereto is a point or nib 18, which enters the notch 19 of the key 20. The other limb of the bell-crank lever has a nib, which is designed to engage with the end of the key, and behind this limb is a spiral spring 20, designed to normally throw out the other limb of the lever and keep the nib 17 in engagement with the notch in the shell. The key 20 is so designed that when it is placed in the slotted aperture of the lock the end thereof will press against one limb of the bell-crank lever, thus disengaging the other limb of the lever and permitting the cylinder to turn, and when the cylinder is thus rotated one-half of a revolution the nib 17 on the bell-crank lever will engage the other notch in the shell.

Any form or character of lock and keys suitable for the purpose may be employed, and I merely show a typical form herein to illustrate the manner of applying and operating the same.

What I claim as new is—

1. A fastener for mail-bags comprising a tubular shell attached to the body of a mail-bag, having therein a rotatable cylinder provided with a projecting finger on its outer end, and locking mechanism within said cylinder, in combination with a flap on said locking-cylinder, said slot being so located as to receive the finger therein only when the cylinder is unlocked, as set forth.

2. A lock for mail-bags or similar articles, comprising a tubular shell open at both ends integral with a base-plate, having interiorly oppositely disposed detents, in combination with an interior rotatable cylinder provided at its forward projecting end with a finger, a bell-crank lever within said cylinder hinged within a recess, one limb of said lever hav-

ing a nib to engage with the detents of the  
outer shell and a nib to enter the notch of a  
key on its other side, and the other end of  
said lever having a nib to engage with the  
5 key, and a spring to normally keep the bell-  
crank lever in engagement with the detents  
in the outer shell, as set forth.

Signed at New York, in the county of New  
York and State of New York, this 4th day of  
October, A. D. 1901.

WILLIAM A. FINN.

Witnesses:

J. S. ZERBE,

R. THOMPSON.